

KEASBEY & MATTISON CO., GARAGE
125-127 W. Butler Pike
Ambler
Montgomery County
Pennsylvania

HABS NO. PA-6048-B

HABS
PA
46-AMB,
10B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

KEASBEY & MATTISON COMPANY, GARAGE

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Location: 25-27 Butler Street, Ambler, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Significance: The Keasbey and Mattison Company Garage was part of the company's industrial complex. It was built in 1916 to house vehicles of the company. It is somewhat ornamental for a garage facility, with the company and owners initials incorporated into the design.

Description: The garage is a one story brick building; all but the main facade is covered with stucco. It is a one-story L-shaped building with a gable roof. The main facade is composed primarily of red brick set above a course of cut stone watertable. Limestone is inserted in diamond shapes as part of the ornamental design. Four limestone-capped towers define the three bays on the west elevation. Two additional columns on the north and south elevations allow the ornamental brickwork to 'wrap around'. Large carved limestone crests adorn the top of each tower. The "M" of the crest signifies Mattison, the primary partner of the firm which erected the garage. Three bay openings are set into the brick facade. The middle bay is flanked by large light fixtures.

The stucco covered walls of the remainder of the building are interrupted by pilasters capped with limestone. Casement windows are set between the pilasters. Metal muntins separate thirty-six panes of glass per window. Steel I-beams serve as lintels above two of the windows.

History: The garage were erected in 1916 by Keasbey & Mattison to serve as a garage for company vehicles. Located on the main street of town, it reflects the influence of the Keasbey & Mattison Company within Ambler. It is currently an auto body shop.

Sources: Preliminary Historical Site Survey of Ambler, PA,
Wissahickon Valley Historical Society, 1990.

Historian: Thomas Heard, HABS, summer 1994.