

414 SOUTH SIXTH STREET (Rowhouse)
Jeannette
Westmoreland County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6134

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PA
65-JEAN,
29-

PHOTOGRAPHS

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

ADDENDUM TO:
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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

414 SOUTH SIXTH STREET (ROWHOUSE)

HABS No. PA-6134

LOCATION: 414 South Sixth Street, Jeannette, Westmoreland County,
Pennsylvania

SIGNIFICANCE: A high concentration of window, tableware, bottle and specialty glass plants distinguished Jeannette as “The Glass City” early in its history. Significant housing stock consists of company-built row and detached double houses, and several privately constructed dwellings.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Western Land & Improvement Company sold the row houses on this side of South Sixth Street to McKee Glass Company President A.J. Smith, who in turn sold them to the McKee Realty Company. Company officer Ray Sachs later held title to these row houses, but the units were eventually sold to residents on easy terms beginning around the time that Thatcher Glass took over McKee Glass Company in 1950.

Early tenants included Mary McNally, her four sons and her daughter, who lived here in 1900. The sons, ranging in age from 19 to 32, were all listed as laborers. In 1910, in contrast to the row house being shared by six adults, the young Gillespie family, including Peter (a gatherer in the flint works), his wife Isabelle and their young son Doyle, were the residents. According to available city directories, the Gillespies lived here until at least the late 1920s. Domenic Petrill, who worked for McKee and later Thatcher Glass companies, was the first owner-resident here with his wife Lucy.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

No. 414 provides a good example of the row house’s appearance from the 1910s until the late 1940s. The front façade is generally original, except for the concrete porch. An early addition is intact to the rear with narrow, horizontal wood siding.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Insurance Maps of Jeannette, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1891, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1916, 1925, 1950.

Deed Books. Recorder of Deeds, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. 721/171, 1393/265, 2178/1012, 2736/272.

City Directories, 1897, 1913, 1923, 1928, 1948, 1960.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 1900, 1910 census manuscripts on microfilm.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

In February 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HABS and HAER undertook a comprehensive documentation of Jeannette, documenting industries, housing and cultural institutions.

PART V. RELATED INFORMATION

For an overview of the row houses, see HABS No. PA-6091, Western Land & Improvement Company Rowhouses.