

11 PERNOD STREET (House)
Pittsburgh
Allegheny County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6197

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2-PITBU,
87-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

11 PERNOD STREET (HOUSE)

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Location: Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

USGS Pittsburgh West Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
17.584150.4478890

Significance: 11 Pernod Street is representative of the smaller scale brick rowhouses that were constructed in this section of Allegheny between 1874, when a devastating fire cleared four acres of some 199 buildings, and 1884, by which time the neighborhood was densely built up.

Description: As part of a row of four brick houses fronting directly on the sidewalk (9-15 Pernod Street), this three bay, two-and-a-half story structure is fully attached to 13 Pernod Street on the west and separated from 9 Pernod to the east by a street-level segmental arched passageway. It measures 17'-10" in width and 31'-5-1/2" in depth. The gable roof is pierced by a brick chimney (shared with 13 Pernod) and a single gabled dormer. Its original window openings with segmental brick arches and wood sills have been partially filled in and fitted with smaller double hung replacement sash. The casing for the original transomed entry door survives, but the door and the hood on brackets have been removed.

On the interior, each floor consists of a front room and a rear room separated by a transverse stair. Most of the interior architectural details have been removed. Accumulated debris and unsafe conditions make access to the basement impossible, but it is believed to resemble that of 13 Pernod Street.

History: Based on map research confirmed by stylistic analysis, the building's construction date is estimated at ca. 1874-1884. The attached 1851 Day & Cramer map of Allegheny, Pennsylvania, is the first to show that by that date Pernod Street, first called Margaret Alley and later West Pearl Street, had been built through the block between the commercial and residential Federal Street hub on the east and Middle Alley (later called Race Street and today Reddour Street) on the west. Construction of Pernod Street opened the block to residential and commercial construction by the mid-nineteenth century. Nevertheless, by 1872, the G.M. Hopkins & Company atlas shows that only one row house (possibly at 15 Pernod Street) had been constructed fronting on Pernod Street. The west side of the block near Reddour Street was then largely vacant or lightly built upon, while the east side was taken up by residential and commercial buildings facing on the important Federal Street corridor. One long-time owner of property in this area was Samuel B. Grove, who owned three residences or stores fronting on Federal Street near the corner of Federal and Pernod. By 1872, Grove also owned several empty lots along Pernod Street, probably where 9, 11, and 13 Pernod Street are today. On July 4, 1874 a serious fire began in the carpenter shop of Cresswell and Burgoyne at 255-257 Federal Street, about one block northeast of the subject property. It spread west and south over four acres and consumed some 199 buildings, including the area of the subject property. The extant architecture in the Pernod-Federal-Eloise-Reddour Street block thus dates after the 1874 fire. In the aftermath of this fire, George Grove apparently expanded his property holdings west along Pernod Street. Between 1874 and 1884, he may have built the current row houses at 9, 11, 13, and 15 Pernod Street, all of which are shown on the 1884 Sanborn Insurance Company map. Grove continued to own these properties, as well as his Federal Street holdings, at least into the 1890s. In the intervening years, few architectural changes

have been made to the houses built along the south side of Pernod Street between by 1884.

The 1925 G. M. Hopkins & Company atlas shows that 11 Pernod Street was then owned by W. B. Nelson. More recent owners of the property have included Michael Earl Dunn and Myrtle Antonopoulos, who sold it to Darryl Cook in 1975. The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh obtained the house and property from Mr. Cook in 1996.

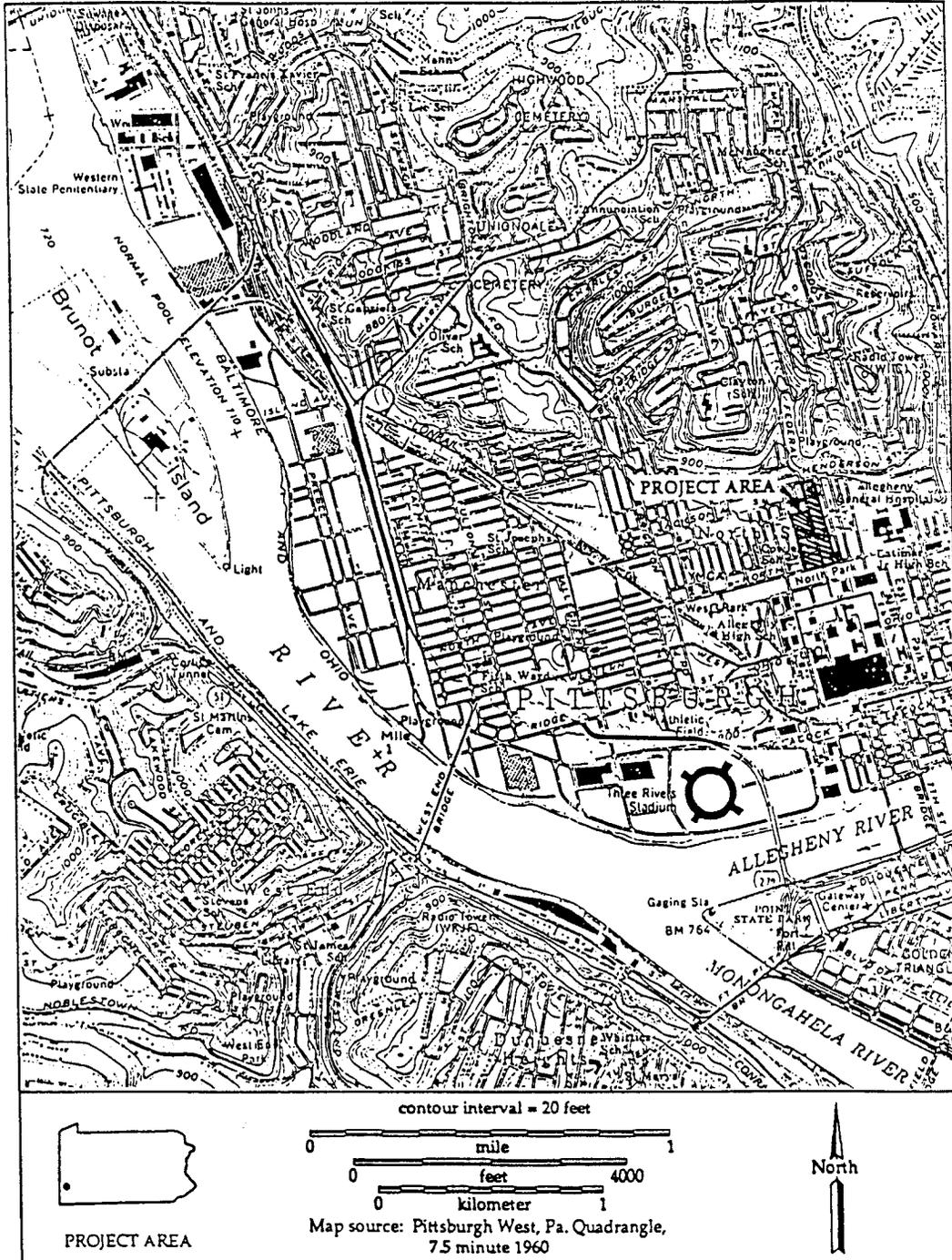
The three-block Federal North Redevelopment Area in the Central Northside Historic District of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was certified in 1989. In 1995, Pittsburgh adopted a redevelopment plan for this neighborhood. In consultation with the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (PASHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), it was determined that proposed redevelopment in the Federal North neighborhood would affect National Register of Historic Places-eligible historic properties. One condition of the project's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) provided for Historic American Building Survey (HABS) recording of 14 buildings in a portion of the redevelopment project called "Block #2." Block #2 includes the area bounded by Federal Street on the east, Eloise Street on the south, Reddour Street on the west, and Pernod Street on the north. The dwelling at 11 Pernod Street is located in Block # 2.

Sources:

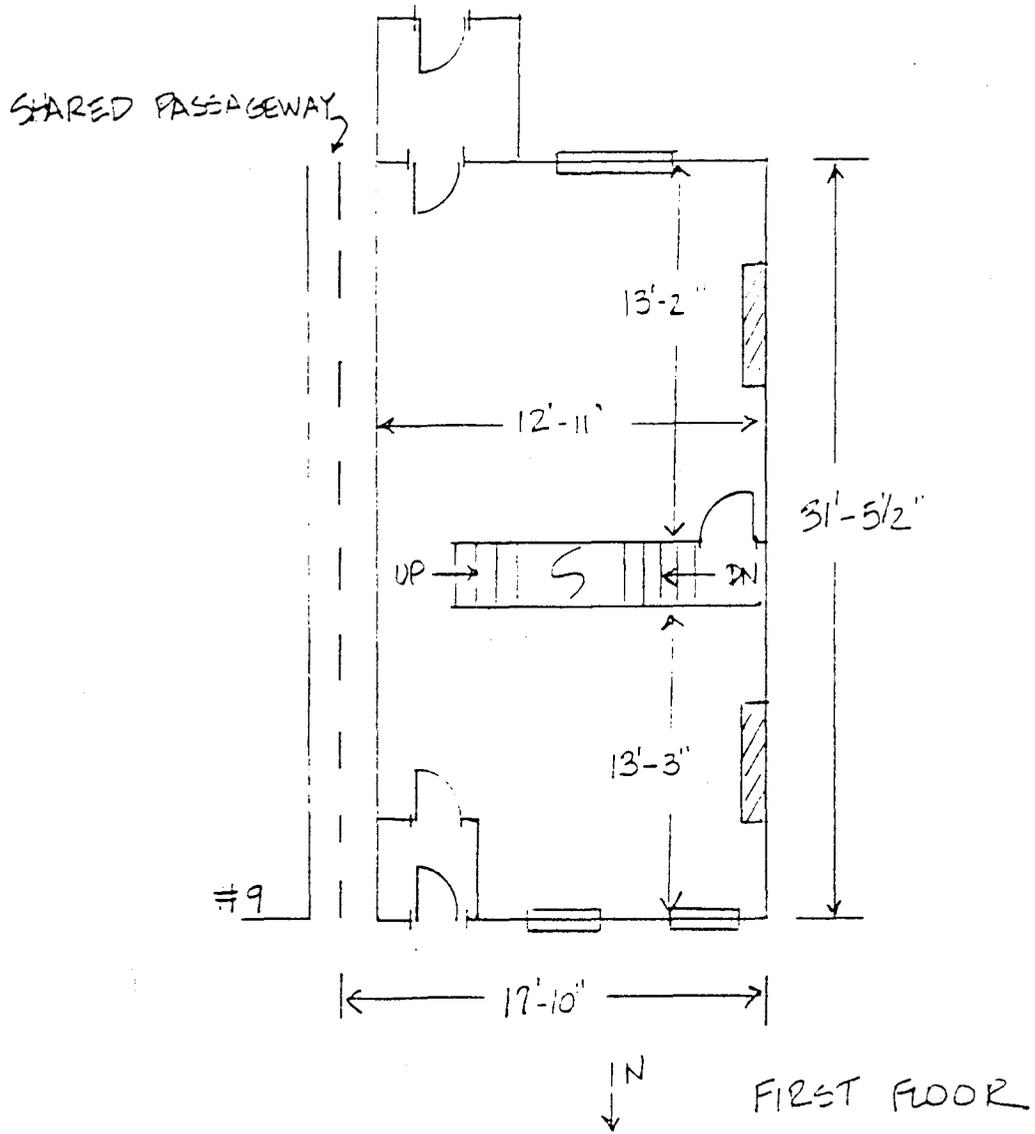
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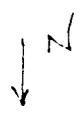
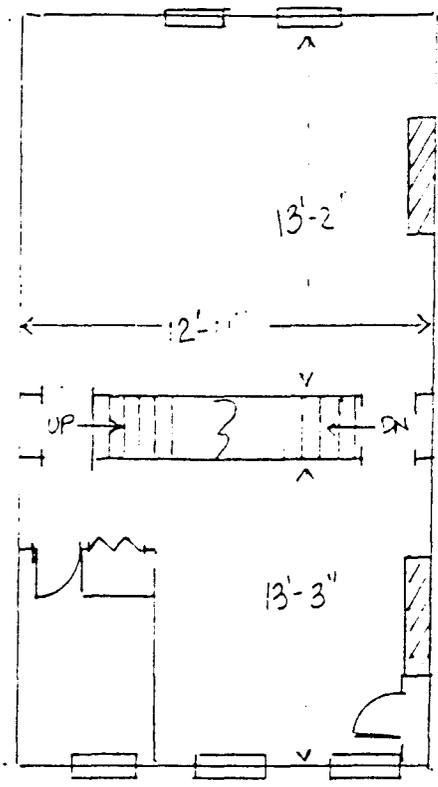
Historians:

Ronald C. Carlisle, Ph.D, and Eliza Smith Brown
Brown Carlisle & Associates, Inc.
November 1996

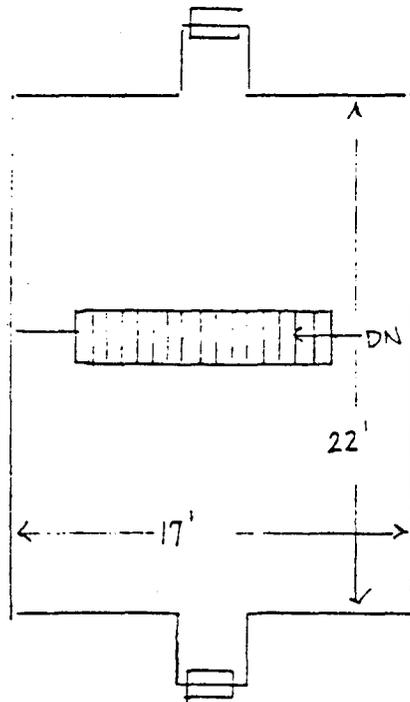


Location of the Federal North Redevelopment Area in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Source: USGS Pittsburgh, West 7.5 minute quadrangle map. After Millis (1995: 2, Figure 1).





SECOND FLOOR



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THIRD FLOOR