

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC GEORGE ORMROD HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
218 West Broad Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
Tamaqua

VICINITY OF 6th

STATE
Pennsylvania

CODE
42

COUNTY
Schuylkill

CODE
027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Elizabeth Kaup O'Malley

STREET & NUMBER
218 West Broad Street

CITY, TOWN
Tamaqua

VICINITY OF STATE
Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Schuylkill County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Second Street & Laurel Boulevard

CITY, TOWN
Pottsville

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
William Penn Memorial Museum, Box 1026

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ormrod House is a 2½ story frame building constructed c. 1870. Thy physical layout of the house is quite irregular with 27 different angles included in the perimeter of its outside wall. The exterior decoration is quite elaborate displaying a variety of shingle designs as well as a decorative use of wood siding.

The main facade of the house has a projecting wing into the corner of which is butted a 3 story square tower. The porch across the recessed section is flat roofed with nicely carved posts and lattice work. The windows are tall and narrow and are set off by flat wood frames. The framing is carried into the area above the windows forming a band of rectangular panels. The 2nd floor band of panels has siding laid in diagonal design while those on the 1st floor have the same narrow horizontal siding as the main sections of the house. Shingles laid in an alternative pattern are used across the 2nd story level while a diamond shingle pattern is used on the west side of the tower. The 3rd story of the tower has an open balcony with chinese lattice work railing. The gable of the wing as well as the dormer in the front slope of the main roof have curved crook beams over horizontal siding. The main section of the house has a hip roof with a wide over hanging cornice. However, the roof line is broken in several areas by the various gabled roof wings, projections and dormers.

The east and west sides of the house have a series of projecting square and octagonal bays as each room has a different exterior wall alignment. Only the rear of the house has a straight wall treatment. Exterior decoration on the sides of the house is similar to the main facade. Stained glass windows are found throughout the house. Those on the two staircase landings on the west side are particularly outstanding.

The interior of the house (see floor plan) is also irregular in layout. The vestibule opens onto a large reception room with the staircase located on the west end of the room. The staircase has a nicely carved newel post as well as a balustrade set with trefoil panels. The woodwork throughout the house is original. The paneling in the vestibule is particularly noteworthy as it is carved in a variety of geometric designs. The interior appointments are largely original down to the wallpaper and gas lighting fixtures (recently, converted to electricity). The music room fireplace has ceramic tiles of various pictorial designs as well as cast iron platework on the sides and rear of the fireplace.

The house is in good condition and in sympathetic ownership. The only changes to the original fabric have been the installation of a new roof and the updating of the utility systems.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George Ormrod

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ormrod House is a finely crafted and beautifully preserved Victorian building. Architecturally, it illustrates a wide variety of styles and influences. The use of wood shingles and siding to form decorative motifs is outstanding. Interior woodwork and appointments from crystal chandeliers to wall paper to hand carved paneling are all excellent examples of Victorian craftsmanship. The house is perhaps best preserved Victorian home in the coal regions of north-eastern Pennsylvania.

The house was built by George Ormrod, c. 1870, while he was superintendent at the nearby Raven Run Colliery. Ormrod was a prominent and very successful entrepreneur of the Schuylkill and Lehigh Valleys. He is particularly noted for his success in the coal trade and as a founder of the Lehigh Portland Cement Company.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE

Annual Proceedings of the Lehigh County Historical Society: Allentown, Pennsylvania 1936.

Annual Proceedings of the Lehigh Co. Historical Society: Allentown, Pa., 1930.

Jordan, John W. Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania: Biography. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1914.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .17

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8	4	1	7	8	6	0	4	5	1	6	4	4	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

C

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

D

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William K. Watson, Office of Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

October, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

William Penn Memorial Museum, Box 1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER