

NOV 1 REC'D

OMB NO. 1024-0010 EX-10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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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 Grey, Zane, House

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number Roebling Road

[N/A] not for publication

city, town Lackawaxen vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Pike code 103

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial (inn) <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Davis, Albert & Helen

street & number P.O. Box 42

city, town Lackawaxen vicinity of state Pennsylvania 18435

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pike County Courthouse

street & number Broad Street

city, town Milford state Pennsylvania 18337

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pennsylvania Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated just 300 feet south of the confluence of the Lackawaxen and Delaware Rivers in northeastern Pennsylvania, the Zane Grey House is a two-story detached rectangular building of frame construction on a bluestone foundation. 30 feet wide by 66 feet long, it is three bays wide and six bays long with wood clapboard siding and corner posts. A square plan hip roof caps the original 1905 south portion of the existing building. This roof has 2 large pedimented dormers facing east & south and 1 jerkin head dormer facing east as well as a centrally located brick chimney. In contrast, a squatter or lower pitched hip roof of rectangular plan with 3 small jerkin head dormers and centrally located chimney caps the later 1912 north wing of the house. These two roof structures are joined close to the eave in a valley which runs perpendicular to the east and west facades of the building. The entire roof is shingled in white diamond-shaped asbestos cement.

In addition to the main house block, there are two porches. An uncovered front porch, 52 feet by 8 feet, runs almost the entire length of the east facade. A flood in 1955 ripped off a portion of the north end of this porch which originally ran the entire length of the east facade. This porch has two sets of new approach steps, one at the north end and one midway along its length. The porch flooring and balustrade are original but the turned posts with scroll brackets which supported a spindled porch frieze and slant roof were removed in 1977. The original turned posts are presently stored on site. At the rear of the house or west facade, at the south end, is a screened-in porch, 28 feet by 9 feet. Although the scroll brackets and spindled porch frieze were removed at some previous date, the turned posts, balustrade and slant roof are intact. In 1912, an enclosed sleeping porch with sliding casement windows on 3 sides was added atop this screened-in porch. Access to the sleeping porch is from the 2nd floor SW corner bedroom.

Sash windows with one over one clear glass lights are used throughout the building except for sliding casement windows on the sleeping porch, on the three 1912 dormers and on the second floor, north end, of the 1912 addition where Zane Grey had his writing studio. The 1905 dormer windows have dentillated lintels and exhibit decorative upper sashes in a clear glass geometric pattern.

Two doors lead into the house on the east facade and two doors open out onto the screened-in porch at the rear of the house or west facade. In accordance with the construction evolution of this building, the interior of the Zane Grey House can be divided into two sections, the square-plan 1905 south section and the rectangular-plan 1912 north section. The original 1905 front door, at the SE end of the uncovered porch, leads into the parlor with dining and kitchen areas behind. Directly opposite the front door and centrally located in the parlor wall is an unglazed terra cotta brick fireplace trimmed with egg and dart molding of the same material. When facing this fireplace, to the south are sliding parlor doors which open into the dining area. To the north, a T-plan staircase with decorative balustrade and 2 heavily carved newel posts leads up to 4 second floor bedrooms and a bathroom. Throughout this 1905 section the door surrounds, interior trim and hardware are intact. Many of the original wall and ceiling gas fixtures are in place although electrified.

The 1912 front door, at the NE end of the uncovered porch, leads into the rectangular-shaped wing designed by Zane Grey and built by his neighbor, Gottlieb Kuhn. This door leads into a living area which runs the length and half the width of the addition. Directly opposite this door is the second fireplace, 8 feet wide by 3 feet deep by 7 feet high, of plain red brick topped with a built-in beveled edge mirror. The room behind...

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... the fireplace is the library with built-in bookshelves and window seating. All of the interior wall finishes, Beaver Board and brown slat trims, are original although some of the Beaver Board has been painted white by the recent owners. There is a 2 foot 4 inch deep painted frieze in these two rooms which depicts Katchina Dolls and other Southwest American Indian motifs in a spectrum of colors. This decorative frieze was executed in 1915 by Lillian E. (Smith) Wilhelm, an illustrator and cousin of the Grey's. These two rooms now house an extensive collection of Zane Grey memorabilia. Upstairs in this 1912 section of the house are two bedrooms and Zane Grey's writing studio at the North end.

There are no outbuildings on the property. There is a large wood sign which advertizes the museum hours next to a small unpaved parking lot for visitors on site.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1905 **Builder/Architect** Romer Cedar Grey (Zane Grey's brother)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Zane Grey House, built circa 1905 with 1912 addition, is significant for its historic association with America's most popular novelist of the Old West, Zane Grey (1872-1939).

Zane Grey was born on January 31, 1872 in Zanesville, Ohio and moved east when he entered the University of Pennsylvania Dental School on a baseball scholarship. After receiving his degree, Grey opened a dental office in New York City on West 74th Street but became increasingly dissatisfied with his practice and profession. As a result, he spent increasing amounts of time playing semi-pro baseball, going fishing and pursuing his childhood aspiration to be a writer. In 1903 Grey completed his first novel, BETTY ZANE, a critical success but monetary failure.

By 1905, Grey had lost all interest in his dental practice and moved to this house in Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania with his new wife, Lina Elise "Dolly" Roth, to pursue his writing career. That same year, Zane's brother Romer Grey had finished building the house in Lackawaxen at the confluence of the Delaware and Lackawaxen Rivers where the two had frequently gone on fishing and hunting expeditions. Zane and Dolly had first met in the area and it was here, from 1905 to 1918, that the aspiring author composed a dozen of his early Western novels.

Between trips to the Southwest in 1907 and 1911, Zane wrote the HERITAGE OF THE DESERT (1910) and the classic, RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE (1912), in a bungalow formerly adjacent to the Zane Grey House. In 1912 following the huge popular and critical success of RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE, Grey added the "Study" or north wing onto the main house built by Romer. Surrounded by artifacts and memorabilia from trips out West, Grey continued writing best sellers based on his Western expeditions. On a lap board and in longhand Grey composed nine of his novels in his beloved "Study." They are: DESERT GOLD (1913), THE LIGHT OF THE WESTERN STARS (1914), THE LONE STAR RANGER (1915), THE RAINBOW TRAIL (1915), THE BORDER LEGION (1916), WILDFIRE (1916), THE MAN OF THE FOREST (1917), THE U.P. TRAIL (1917), and THE DESERT OF WHEAT (1918).

Grey reached the height of his popularity in the U.S. between 1919 and 1928. That period was marked by war and then social change in the 1920s. The middle class American looked to Grey's novels as an escape from the assembly line and a reminder of vanishing rural America. Those who revolted against industrialization and liberalized thinking also turned to Grey. Grey's contribution to the Western novel in American literature was his greatest accomplishment. No other writer in this genre has approached his output or popularity. He wrote in a more descriptive and philosophical style than do most contemporary writers on the West. Although the critics oftentimes dunned his works, Grey was a writer for the masses who have long been fascinated with the American West.

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To estimate the total number of readers who enjoyed Zane Grey's work is an impossible task. A total of 89 books are credited to Zane Grey. His books have sold about 30 million copies in the U.S. alone and several more million abroad, in 20 languages. In his day he was the third best seller after the Bible and McGuffey's Readers. 49 of Grey's novels were serialized in magazines of huge circulation including Popular Magazine, Munsey Magazine, The Country Gentleman, Ladies' Home Journal, McCalls, Colliers, American Magazine, Pictorial Review and Cosmopolitan. Zane Grey books were tremendous sellers in their original hardcover editions as well as in the cheaper reprint editions.

Zane Grey's career as America's most celebrated writer of the Old West began in Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania. Although the last 20 years of his life were spent elsewhere the Delaware River Valley was a setting he continued to hold dear. To an old friend, Alvah D. Jones, with whom he once fished the Delaware, Grey wrote years later from California, "...Just to get your letter made me see the old familiar places as vividly as if I had been there. I could see the October colors of the hills and the old Delaware winding down from the mountains, and the purple asters blooming along the trails, the smoky Indian summer colors and the smell of the pine...."¹

Zane Grey died on October 23, 1939 and is buried in Union Cemetary next to his Lackawaxen home. Mrs. Grey, who survived him by 18 years is buried beside him.

¹Shoop, Mike. "On the Delaware - Where Zane Grey Most Loved To Be." Zane Grey's West. Vol 2., No. 3, 1982.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 0.9

Quadrangle name Shohola

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	5	0	1	0	3	0	4	5	9	2	4	1	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property nominated is a rectangular lot, 248 feet by 175 feet, bounded on the north and east by land of the PA Fish Commission, on the south by land of Mrs. John P. Moran and on the west by land of Mary Nelson.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Nancy Carrs Roach, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization N/A date October 15, 1982

street & number 1050 Knollwood Road telephone (914) 592-7765

city or town White Plains state New York 10603

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 *Larry E. Tise*

title Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/13/83

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Director of the National Register

Attorney

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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. "A Visit to Zane Grey's Home." Antique Angler,
Vol 3, No. 2, Spring 1982.

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Gruber, Frank. Zane Grey. The World Publishing Co., Cleveland (1970).

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Zane Grey's West, Vol. 2, No. 3, 1982.

