


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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED 
DATE ENTERED

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC IDDINGS-BALDRIDGE HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Railroad Street

CITY, TOWN Milesburg VICINITY OF 23rd  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY Centre 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Andrew M. and Hannah Murgas

STREET & NUMBER  
Railroad Street

CITY, TOWN Milesburg VICINITY OF STATE Pennsylvania

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Centre County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER  
High Street

CITY, TOWN Bellefonte STATE Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Historical Reflections of Centre County

DATE  
--FEDERAL --STATE  COUNTY --LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Centre County Planning Commission  
Centre County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Bellefonte 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Iddings-Baldrige House was built just prior to 1860 by Austin C. Iddings, local land-speculator, contractor, and merchandizer, and is a 2½ story rectangular brick building of generally classical inspiration. A frame outbuilding, probably of the same era, stands next to the house and exemplifies the American Gothic tradition.

The house offers several Greek Revival characteristics, a low-pitched gable roof, a square plan, a frieze beneath the eaves on the facade, and a platform created by the partially exposed basement. (Note especially the carefully cut stones below the water-table on the facade.) The window frames on the facade, too, are ultimately classical in inspiration. Mixed with this are certain Victorian features such as the articulation of the frieze; the paired, rounded windows at the gable ends, brackets, and the treatment of the main entrance. The house also features quoined brick corners.

The interior of the house does not rival the conception of the exterior and lends credence to the tradition that Mr. Iddings was building a wedding house but was jilted before its completion. Mantlepieces are made up of simple, squared boards. The interiors of the double-brick walls are covered with horse-hair plaster. Windows have interior louvered shutters. The principal interior feature is the hall which offers the refinement of a semicircular stained glass window over the main door. At the center of this window is a pane of birght blue glass, in the shape of an inverted teardrop, etched with a foliate/snowflake design. Around this pane are four panes of bright red glass of foliate/scroll pattern.

The house today is in good condition. Removal of the large Victorian side porch is the greatest alteration. Window caps and brackets have been removed from the ends of the house, but the original window panes (1 by 2 feet), for the most part, remain.

On the interior some <sup>wood</sup> hardware floors were laid atop old floors about 10 years ago and an interior door (second floor) with stained glass light was removed.

The outbuilding measures 12 by 16 feet and has a second story under the steeply pitched roof. The building is about 15 feet high above its squared stone foundation. The building is board and batten construction with consistent Gothic trim. There are stairs along the rear wall. The building today has a tin roof and has lost all window glass.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Austin Iddings

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Iddings-Baldrige property offers, side by side, instructive examples of two contemporaneous architectural styles. The house is basically Georgian in plan with a wide variety of Victorian styles used for ornamentation. The outbuilding on the other hand is typical Gothic Revival and bespeaks the whimsical charm of that tradition. It is similar in conception to the small office buildings of the era (known to us only through illustration) and is the sole survivor of its type in the area.

The history of the property and biographies of its owners are sadly unrecorded. We do know from the 1860 wall map of Centre County (S. D. Tilden) that A. C. Iddings occupied the site at that time. Deed records show Iddings purchasing a tract of 100 acres in the area in the Spring of 1857.<sup>1</sup> Later, in collaboration with James T. Hale of Bellefonte, this land was partially divided into lots for settlement and sold. The sale of Iddings' own house does not appear to be recorded, but in January of 1874, the property was exposed at Sheriff's sale as that of one W. W. McLenahan. The property was owned briefly by Moses Thompson; but, in the same year, was sold to Catherine Baldrige of Westmoreland County.<sup>2</sup>

Austin Iddings is known for having built a brick schoolhouse in Milesburg in 1860; and through the sale of lots would have been responsible for the settlement of that part of Milesburg once known as Central City.<sup>3</sup> It is very possible that the small frame building was the hub of his real estate and construction activities. It is said that in later years the Baldrige children used the small building as a playhouse; and that for a short time in the 1890's, the building served as a meeting place of the Milesburg Fire Company.

<sup>1</sup>Centre County Courthouse, Deed Book V, page 184.

<sup>2</sup>Deed Book, L-2, page 440.

<sup>3</sup>Linn, page 370.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Linn John Blair. History of Centre and Clinton Counties. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. L. H. Everts, 1883.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 264590 45135970  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gregory Ramsey, Coordinator; Michael Halm, Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Historic Registration Project

DATE

July, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse, 203 North Allegheny Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bellefonte

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

DATE

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

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

# Iddings-Balbridge House & Outbuilding

18/264560/4562060 - HOUSE

18/264600/4562065 - OUTBUILDING

