

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jones, Benjamin F., Cottage

other names/site number Braemar Cottage

2. Location

street & number Third Street  not for publication

city or town Cresson (Cresson Township)  vicinity

state Pennsylvania code PA county Cambria code 021 zip code 16630

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)	_____	_____

Jones, Benjamin F., Cottage  
Name of Property

Cambria County, PA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

VACANT

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/sandstone

walls WOOD/shingles

WOOD/weatherboard

roof ASPHALT/shingles

other BRICK

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1887/88 - 1903

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Jones, Benjamin Franklin

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Cresson Area Historical Association

Jones, Benjamin F., Cottage  
Name of Property

Cambria County, PA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 0.474 acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	7	7	0	4	2	2	0	4	4	8	1	1	2	0
Zone	Easting						Northing							

3 

Zone	Easting						Northing							

4 

Zone	Easting						Northing							

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Suzanna E. Barucco

organization Martin Jay Rosenblum, R.A. & Associates date 13 June 1994

street & number 346 South 15th Street telephone (215) 985-4285

city or town Philadelphia state PA zip code 19102

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Cresson Area Historical Association

street & number P.O. Box 75 telephone (814) 886-2348

city or town Cresson state PA zip code 16630

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW COVER SHEET

Nomination Number: 4

Name of Property: Braemer (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage

Location: Third Street, Cresson (Cresson Twp.), Cambria County

Meets Criteria:  A. reflects historical event or theme  
 B. associated with significant individual  
 C. distinctive design or construction  
 D. yielded or likely to yield information

Area(s) of Significance: Social History, Industry, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1887-1903

Previous Determinations, Site Visits, Etc.:

Property identified in Cambria County Historic Sites Survey in 1980 (NPS/PHMC Survey and Planning Grant). Previous draft of nomination returned with BHP comments on 5/31/94. Preparation of nomination and a historic structures report assisted by Southwestern PA Heritage Preservation Commission grant administered by BHP.

Priority: Preparation on nomination assisted by grant.

Historic Preservation Board Comments:

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Board Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Braemar (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage  
Cambria County, PA

The Braemar (Jones) Cottage,<sup>1</sup> built in 1887-1888, is a three story building of balloon-frame wood construction erected on a sandstone rubble foundation.<sup>2</sup> Designed in the Queen Anne style, the building is characterized by the complex massing of hipped and gable roof forms, corbelled brick chimneys, half-timbering in the dominant north facade gable and round turrets at each corner. The combined use of wooden clapboards and shingles on the exterior walls provide texture and contrast. Porches and balconies (both beyond and within the wall plane) on the north (front), west (side) and south (rear) elevations enliven the wall planes and open the house to the landscape. (#1, #2, #3, #4) The interior plan features a large stair (living) hall on the first floor, a hallmark of the Queen Anne style, which provides the primary path of circulation to other rooms. The house is the grandest and most intact survivor of a group of cottages from the late nineteenth century resort community which developed around the Mountain House at Cresson Springs.

The cottage roof is a picturesque arrangement of gables, hips, and round turret roofs in the Queen Anne style. The north facade is dominated by a large hipped roof over the main block with a prominent half-timbered gabled dormer at the center and a turret at the northwest corner which rises from the foundation through and above the roof plane. A half-hipped roof is set back from the main block on this elevation. Another large hipped roof defines the southeast corner of the building. The hipped roofs have low metal pinnacles at their peaks. Small round turrets at the northeast and southwest corners, and the southwest corner turret, have tall, slender metal pinnacles. There are a total of six dormers, on the side (east and west) and rear (south) elevations, with steeply pitched gable roofs with rounded or canted slopes at the flat or canted (respectively) dormer gable ends.

The roof is covered with brown three-tab asphalt shingles, applied in the 1970s over red asphalt shingles still visible on the turret and dormer roofs. The red shingles (possibly single-tab) post-date the 1920s when granulated asphalt shingles came into common use. Wooden roofing shingles observed underneath the red asphalt shingles in two locations are probably remnants of the original roofing material which would be consistent with the building's architectural style. The pattern of cut nail holes on a piece of roof sheathing board indicate that the shingles may have been random widths, applied with a six inch exposure.

Fragments of the original pole gutters survive on the east, south and west elevations. The pole is comprised of two pieces of wood: a molded base and a protruding rounded cap with a notched drip on the underside of the downward-slope face. Fragmentary evidence indicates that the pole gutter flashings wereterne metal. All exterior downspouts have been removed. However, a few downspout tubes survive behind the cornice. Additional downspout locations are marked by sheet metal patches in the eaves soffits. Based on the remaining downspout tubes, the front of the building had rectangular copper downspouts and the sides and rear round terne downspouts, an inconsistency which cannot readily be explained.

There are four brick chimneys, one on the north elevation, one on the west elevation and two on the south elevation. All of the chimneys have decorative corbelling at the top and sandstone slab caps. On the two principal elevations, the west and north, the stacks have decorative recessed, blind, round-headed arches above the roof line.

The north porch is one story in height with a shallow pitched, half-hipped roof. Nearly all of the original elements and detailing of this porch have been lost. Most of the porch foundation has been reconstructed with concrete blocks, and all of the original wooden columns have been replaced with steel pipe columns bearing on concrete block piers.<sup>3</sup> A stairway originally located at the center of the facade has been removed and replaced with a concrete block run at the west end of the porch. The porch ceiling was originally enclosed with tongue-and-groove boards, most of which have been removed, exposing the porch roof rafters.

Photographs from the 1940s show the north porch to have been similar in construction to the existing west porch. (#5) The center stairway to the north porch aligned with the principal doorway into the building. At the top of the stairway a large rounded arch extended above the line of the porch cornice and terminated at a deep molded horizontal cornice, still extant. Brick piers supported four pairs of wooden columns, framing the arch on either side, and at each exterior corner. At the foundation

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level between the piers were plain lattice panels. A wooden railing with turned balusters encompassed the porch at the perimeter between the piers.

There are two balconies at the second story level on the north facade. One is located at the center of the porch roof, the other is recessed behind a round-arched opening at the west end of the elevation. The top of the porch roof balcony has been covered over. A sheet metal (probably terne) water-proof barrier and two small metal drain spouts, at the rounded southeast and southwest corners of the balcony framing, can be seen on the underside of the porch roof. These features confirm that the balcony floor was intended to be open to the weather.

A one story porch on the west elevation has a half-hipped roof presently covered with brown, three-tab asphalt shingles. The ceiling is enclosed with tongue-and-groove boards. The porch roof was originally supported by three pairs of wooden columns bearing at railing height on brick piers. An original brick pier and pair of columns survive at the center of the porch elevation. A brick pier at the southwest corner has only one column. The columns and pier at the northwest corner of the porch have been replaced by a steel pipe column bearing on an east-west steel beam supported by a concrete block pier set slightly outside the porch footprint. Notches in the sides of the brick piers originally supported a wooden stringer. The configuration of an original railing is not known. The porch, originally open, has been enclosed on the north, and half of the west side, with temporary walls framed with modern 2x4s. Two window sash in this enclosure are original to the building, although their previous locations are not known. Several of the original sandstone column bases survive on the grounds.

A temporary corrugated fiberglass roof structure and plastic sheeting on the south (rear) elevation of the main block, up to the wall return of the southeast block, protect remnants of twentieth century apartment alterations which included covered porches at the second and third stories and an exterior stairway.<sup>4</sup> (#6) Only the second story porch structure remains, in deteriorated condition. At the east end of the enclosure (the center of the elevation), at the first floor, the original wall construction has been replaced with chipboard on modern 2x4 studs. The south wall jogs back at the west end of the elevation, where there is a canted bay window.

At the east end of the enclosure, at the second floor, the south exterior wall is recessed, creating an exterior "room" enclosed on three sides (east, north and west). A wood frame partition, partially enclosing the south wall, is a later alteration. The walls are covered with wood shingles and the ceiling is beaded boards. This area was originally a balcony, although the extent of the feature is not known. A continuous sheet metal (probably terne) waterproof barrier, visible above the north-south ceiling joists of the first floor room below, indicates that the second floor structure was open to the weather. A passage window on the wall return of the southeast block (west elevation) would have provided access to the balcony from the second floor service stair hall. This configuration would also explain the location of a landscape window on the south exterior wall, which is the north interior wall of the main stairway; the window would have shed light on the interior stair.

There may have also been a second floor balcony at the west end of the present enclosure, as evidenced by remnants of a former passage window; the original wooden sill and ghosts of the full-height opening survive on the south wall. The east and west balcony structures may have been connected across the south elevation, however field investigation to date has not been conclusive.

Diagonal scar lines in the shingle siding at the east end of the south elevation and a remnant of metal flashing embedded in the adjacent chimney masonry indicate the former existence of a roof at this location. The sequence of paint layering on the chimney supports this finding. The roof may be visible in an early (pre-1940s) photograph of the house.<sup>5</sup> A line visible in the same photograph marks the location of a shallow shed roof at the center of the elevation. Remnants of metal flashings are evidence of a roof deck in this location.

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Braemar (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage  
Cambria County, PA

Sheathing on the exterior building walls is wooden ship-lap clapboard on the first story and wooden shingles on the second story and dormer walls, with the exception of the southwest corner turret which is entirely sheathed with wooden shingles. Shingles on the flat building walls have square butts and are applied in a staggered pattern with exposures of 6 1/4 and 8 inches. The shingles are all approximately 4 inches wide at the butts, giving the wall a neat and regular appearance. On the turrets the round-butt shingles are also approximately 4 inches wide, laid with a 6 inch exposure.

Original foundation openings on all sides of the building are now covered over or infilled with brick, concrete, or stone. The east and north walls appear to have consisted of stone piers separated by large openings, possibly originally enclosed with lattice panels, similar to the north and west porch foundations as seen in 1940s photographs. The rounded concrete wall of the northwest turret is a later modification. An oval concrete pool structure on the south side of the house and a connected concrete slab deck at the west end of the south wall were added after 1940.

Nearly all of the Cottage's windows are double-hung Queen Anne sashes. Small lights of the top sash are transparent pink, green, or blue "art" glass in first and second story windows, and clear glass in the dormer windows. There are two landscape windows, one on the north facade adjacent to the doorway, and one at the top of the main stair hall. A second story window on the west elevation has a bottom sash divided into six horizontal lights, which appears to be in its original location. There is a small single pane casement window on the east elevation which appears to be a later alteration. Most original window sash remain, either in their original openings or stored in the building. Three second story windows on the north facade and one on the east side have been replaced with small modern sliding sash window units. Three first story windows in the southwest corner turret have also been replaced, although the original window frames survive. Another first story window on the east wall has been replaced by a door. A narrow Queen Anne casement window on the south elevation, visible in 1940s photographs adjacent to the doorway, is missing; the area of the former opening is protected with plywood. A modern exterior door on the east wall replaces an original window opening.

The house featured "passage windows," which linked the building interiors to the mountain landscape. With the sills at floor level, these windows could be fully opened to provide access to exterior porches and balconies. Only the two passage windows at the second floor balcony at the west end of the north elevation are intact. Sills and portions of the window frames indicate the locations of other passage window openings. Both windows in the northwest first floor room were passage windows which opened onto the west and north porches. A passage window at the second story provided access the north porch balcony. Two passage windows opened to balconies or roof decks at the second story of the south (rear) elevation.

All first and second story windows had exterior shutters except for the windows in the quarter turret on the west elevation, which had interior shutters. The exterior shutters, visible in a circa 1940 photograph of the south side of the building, shows them to have had three vertical panels of nearly equal size, the bottom two louvered and the top solid.<sup>6</sup> No shutters remain.

The principal entrance to the cottage, on the north facade, contains the original pair of wooden doors. They are in good condition. The door on the south wall is also original, and in good condition. The doorway at the west porch entrance is a later alteration. This was originally a window with interior shutters, ghosts of which survive on the interior frame.<sup>7</sup>

The Cottage interiors are mostly intact and a significant portion of the original finishes survives. With the exception of the stair (living) hall, the millwork is consistent throughout the house. Baseboard, trim, and casing survives in most rooms. The walls and ceilings are plastered; the floors are wood. A handwritten note in pencil, found on unfinished plaster in the northwest second floor chamber, reads, "This house papered through June 1st to 10th 1888, W. W. Nesbitt, Pitt. Allegheny, PA Paper furnished by J. R. Hughes, 503 Market, Phg." The wording suggests that all, or at least most, of the rooms were originally decorated in this manner.<sup>8</sup> Lines of nail holes on the ceilings and walls in major rooms, approximately 6 inches out from the corner on both surfaces, may be ghosts from applied moldings similar to those still extant on the ceiling in northwest turret on the first floor.



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The stair hall is located at the center of the north (front) half of the building, and other first floor rooms surround it on the east, south and west sides. Beginning at the northeast corner, these rooms are: Mrs. Jones' room, a bathroom, the kitchen, the service stair hall, dining room(?), parlor(?) and library.<sup>9</sup> The second floor plan corresponds closely with the first floor plan. The area to the west of the service stair on the third floor, originally a large open room, has been divided into four rooms with beaded board partitions. There are two original chambers on the east side of the service stair on this level. There are fireplaces in all principal first and second floor rooms.

The main stairway, on the south wall of the living hall, terminates at the second floor. The service stairway, in the southeast quadrant of the house, provided access from the cellar through to the third floor. At the cellar level this stairway has been reversed (the original stairway had a north-south rise), resulting in the removal of a portion of the adjacent stone wall. The remainder of the stairway, between the first and second, and second and third floors, has been removed. Remnants from the stairway enclosure on the first floor include a chamfered post at the southwest corner of the former stairway location, and ghosts for a thin wall (possibly of beaded boards) on the floor. A remnant of beaded board wainscot with a reeded and molded cap at the southwest corner of the room is indicative of the original wall treatment in this space. A similar wainscot fragment survives at the southwest corner of the second floor bathroom (at the center of the east wall). The original varnished finish survives on the bathroom door and trim at the service stair hallway.

The first floor stair hall has elaborate wood panelling on the walls and ceiling, an identifying feature of the Queen Anne style. (#7, #8, #9) The ceiling is comprised of beaded boards with boxed-in beams, all of which is original and in excellent condition. The walls are plastered above flat paneled wainscotting. The woodwork in this room has been stripped of all finishes, however, there are traces of the original shellac or varnish finish. A fireplace on the east wall is constructed of machine-fabricated brick laid with fine joints. The hearth is 4 x 4 inch terra cotta tiles with a molded sandstone edging.

The southeast room on the first floor was the kitchen. The walls have 2 1/4 inch beaded board, tongue-and-groove wainscot, 3'-5" high. Remnants of wainscot cap survives within a later cabinet at northwest corner of the room. Profiles of several cooking stoves are visible on the south brick chimney wall. A large slate slab on the floor, adjacent to a brick hearth, would have served as a stove base. A small room on the north side of the kitchen may have been a pantry.

Most of the original features in the center rear room have been lost due to moisture infiltration, although original stud framing survives on the east, north and west walls. The south (rear) wall is modern framing in poor condition. The shelf is missing from the original mantel at the northwest corner fireplace. This room may have been the dining room, based on its location adjacent to the kitchen and the stair hall. Nearly all the plaster in the southwest first floor room has been removed, exposing the stud wall framing. The east fireplace wall is exposed brick with remnants of later modern finishes. A hole for a stove pipe is located about six feet above the floor. All hearth tiles are missing. The doorway opening between this and the adjacent center rear room is a later change. The northwest chamber may have been a library or parlor. A large opening between this chamber and the stair hall is fitted with pocket doors. An applied egg-and-dart ceiling molding survives in the northwest turret. The original mantle is in place on the west wall.

The third floor originally consisted of one large space which occupied the center and western third of this level (including present Rooms 301, 305, 306 and 307). Four small rooms were created by the erection of beaded board partitions. Boxed-in piers support the roof framing. The service stairway and two chambers (Rooms 302 and 303) in the eastern third of this level are original.

Benjamin F. Jones owned the cottage up until the time of his death in 1903, and willed the Cresson property to his wife, Mary McM. Jones. She, in turn, assigned the property to the State of Pennsylvania in 1910 for reasons that are unclear but which may have had to do with the dissolution of the Cresson Springs Company (see Section 8.). The state returned the property to private hands in 1923, selling the cottage to DeLloyd Thompson for \$2,101.<sup>10</sup> The cottage remained a single family residence until the

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1940s when it was divided into apartments. The most significant alteration during this period was the addition of an exterior stairway and new porches on the south (rear) elevation.

The Cresson Area Historical Association, Inc. purchased the Braemar (Jones) Cottage in 1990 with the intention of restoring the site as a house museum. At the time of the purchase the house had been vacant for eleven years. Over a decade of neglect resulted in some deterioration, such as the weathering of exterior elements and water infiltration from the roof at the south elevation. The Association has taken steps to stabilize these conditions. Portions of the roof and the exposed south wall have been covered with tarps. All first floor window and door openings have been carefully fitted with plywood panels to protect the house from vandalism. Easily reversible intrusions such as sheet rock partition walls and appliances, the remains of 1940s alterations, have been removed. Despite these events the cottage retains a high degree of integrity. Most original materials and features are intact and the essential character of the house remains evident. The Cottage represents the ambitions of its owner and stands a reminder of the time when Cresson was the Allegheny Mountain retreat for iron master Benjamin Franklin Jones and others of Pennsylvania's industrial elite.

## Endnotes

1. It has long been believed that the Braemar (Jones) Cottage was owned by Andrew Carnegie, who was born in Braemar, Scotland. Carnegie, in fact, owned the house to the east, on Lot 14. The association between the "Braemar Cottage" and Carnegie developed locally in the mid-twentieth century and has even appeared in well-regarded Carnegie biographies. The origins of the name "Braemar" are not known, and no historical evidence has been found to link the name to Benjamin F. Jones. However, the name "Braemar Cottage," with the parenthetical "Benjamin F. Jones," is recorded in this nomination to reflect the strong associations in the Cresson community (at least since the 1950s) between the name and the cottage.
2. This is probably locally quarried Morgantown sandstone (also called Ebensburg sandstone), indigenous to the Cresson area, see Stone, Ralph W., Building Stones of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Internal Affairs, 1932), p. 85.
3. The grade in the north (front) yard was raised sometime after the 1940s. Earth within the present porch foundation was evidently removed to create a parking garage. This resulted in an approximately 4'-0" difference in grade height on either side of the concrete block porch foundation walls, and explains the need for the addition of a concrete buttress wall along the north foundation wall of the house.
4. The space within the temporary enclosure is identified as Room 208 and Room 209 on the Second Floor Plan.
5. A 1967 property survey shows an earth drive in the shape of a horseshoe, along each (east and west) side of the house and across the rear (south) elevation. If this drive was an original feature, diagonal scars at the east end of the south wall may mark the location of a porte-cochere, although this type of structure on a rear elevation is atypical.
6. According to Charles Miller, President, Cresson Area Historical Association, the original shutters survive in private ownership and may one day be returned to the property.

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Bracmar (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage  
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7. A square "downspout" observed in the frame of this doorway is associated with a water tank located in the attic on this (west) side of the house.

8. Some wallpaper remnants found in first and second floor rooms are conjectured to date from the late 1880s based on pattern, type of paper, and method of manufacture. Where original plaster has been removed so has any possible evidence of original or early wall treatments. No historic papers were found on the third floor, and the basement is unfinished.

9. Room use attributions are based on floor plans, architectural features, and notes written on the back sides of original fireplace mantles. These notes appear to have been written prior to, and during, installation. For example, on the mantle in the second floor northeast chamber, "Over Mrs. Jones Room," "OK WVH," indicates that the first floor northeast chamber was Mrs. Jones room. "Over Library," "OK WVH" on the mantle in the second floor northwest chamber indicates that the first floor northwest room was the library.

10. Brief of Title:

Cresson Springs Co. to Benjamin F. Jones, 1887.  
Benjamin F. Jones to Mary McM. Jones, 1903.  
Mary McM. Jones to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 1910.  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to DeLloyd Thompson, 1923.  
DeLloyd Thompson to Anna V. Anderson, 1927.  
Anna V. Anderson to Polo C. Azzara, 1940.  
Polo C. Azzara to Samuel J. Azzara et al., 1941.  
Samuel J. Azzara et. al. to Junitta Azzara Sterbini, 1945.  
Junitta Azzara Sterbini to Daniel P. O'Donnell et al., 1947.  
Daniel P. O'Donnell et al. to Charles A. Miller, 1950.  
Charles A. Miller to Merle J. Marlett, 1966.  
Merle J. Marlett (through Sheriff) to Hubert C. Hammond, 1971.  
Hubert C. Hammond to Kenneth Murray, 1979.  
Kenneth Murray to Cresson Area Historical Association, 1990.

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Braemar (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage  
Cambria County, PA

The Braemar (Jones) Cottage, erected in 1887-1888, is historically significant for its association with Benjamin Franklin Jones, one of the most important American iron masters of the nineteenth century. Jones is notable as a founder of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company and for introducing the sliding wage scale concept which tied the wages of workers to the market price for iron. Jones' Queen Anne style cottage is architecturally significant as the most ambitious in design, and the most intact survivor, of a neighborhood of cottages erected around the Mountain House resort at Cresson Springs in the second half of the nineteenth century. Development of the resort was closely tied to the westward expansion of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Mountain House resort was a destination for upper class patrons from eastern Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey, but the community, and the cottages in particular, were primarily the domain of wealthy Pittsburghers (Andrew Carnegie's cottage still stands on the lot to the east of the Braemar Cottage), in search of the healthful pleasures of this Allegheny Mountains retreat.

Benjamin Franklin Jones was born in Claysville (Washington County), Pennsylvania, 8 August 1824. He entered the business world in 1843 as a shipping clerk with Mechanics' Transportation Line, owned by Samuel Kier of Pittsburgh, Henry Patterson of Hollidaysburg, and Messrs. Koons, Williams and Stees of Philadelphia. Initially Jones' position was non-salaried; his earnings were based on commissions of goods shipped on the Pennsylvania Canal. The clerk quickly impressed the owners and in 1845 Jones was made manager of the Line, and two years later he became a partner in the firm.<sup>1</sup>

From this position Jones made his starting fortune, and more importantly, he made business contacts that were critical to his future success. Samuel Kier was particularly impressed with Jones. Together, Kier and Jones opened a second canal shipping company, the Independent Line. Kier and the Independent Line are credited with being among the first to use section boats on the Pennsylvania Canal. Adaptable to rail or canal transport, the section boats allowed the movement of goods through the mountains on the Allegheny Portage Railroad section of the Pennsylvania Canal, and thus added flexibility in shipping patterns.<sup>2</sup>

Despite this early success, impending construction of the Pennsylvania Railroad threatened the economic viability of the canal as a shipping route. During the late 1840s Jones, Kier and others in the canal shipping business looked for new investment alternatives.<sup>3</sup> In 1846-47 Kier and Jones purchased an iron furnace in Armagh (Indiana County), Pennsylvania. Although the venture was not financially successful, with the furnace closing in just a few years, it marked Jones' entry into the iron business.<sup>4</sup>

Jones' involvement in the iron industry expanded dramatically in 1851 when he and Kier bought into the American Iron and Steel Works in Pittsburgh. Beginning in 1852 the company was known as Jones & Lauth, American Iron Works. This company had been started by Bernard and Francis Lauth, creators of the cold-rolled technique, which made bar iron of uniform strength. This iron was particularly well-suited for such products as shafts and piston rods, and for use in construction due to cold-rolled iron's superior resistance to stress compared with conventional turned iron. This iron would become the foundation of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company, and was considered "one of the most valuable commodities in the realm of iron."<sup>5</sup>

Like numerous other inventors before them, however, the Lauths needed an infusion of capital to operate the company. Typical of industrial expansion of the period, Lauth looked to merchants for capital investment in his firm, and Jones and Kier invested over \$12,000 in the company. Three years later, when the company needed larger amounts of capital, James Laughlin, a meat packer and commission merchant from Pittsburgh, also entered the company. By 1857 the company name had been changed to Jones and Laughlin (J&L) to reflect the primary financial backers.<sup>6</sup>

Kier chose not to be actively involved in the company. Jones, however, took on a dynamic role in the management of the Jones & Lauth, American Iron and Steel Works from the beginning. In 1854, one year after purchasing the Monongahela

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Iron Works in Brownsville, Pennsylvania, Jones had the works dismantled and reassembled at their Pittsburgh plant, on the south side of the Monongahela River. This greatly increased the size of the company's production operations.<sup>7</sup> Under Jones' leadership the company continued to expand and became one of the first vertically integrated iron and steel production facilities in the country. During the Civil War the company added to its rolling and finishing mills with the purchase of a blast furnace in Youngstown, Ohio, and in 1861, with the construction of Eliza Furnace on the north bank of the Monongahela River. By this time, the company was capable of producing one hundred tons of iron per day, a dramatic increase from the seven tons produced just eight years earlier.<sup>8</sup>

J&L was among the earliest users of coke from the Connellsville coke fields, where the company owned land, and iron ore from the Lake Superior region. J&L was also among the earliest iron and steel companies to utilize the local rivers for mass transportation to southern and southwestern markets.<sup>9</sup> Under Jones' tutelage J&L introduced important new organizational, technological and labor relations concepts that had an impact on the entire American iron and steel industry. Although J&L was primarily known as an iron producer, in the 1870s Jones was the first iron master in Pittsburgh to build a Bessemer convertor, several years before Andrew Carnegie's famed J. Edgar Thomson works. Throughout the nineteenth century, J&L was the largest independent (non-Carnegie controlled) iron and steel works in the Pittsburgh region.<sup>10</sup>

Despite all of the technological and business success achieved by J&L under the presidency of Benjamin Jones, it is for his sliding scale wage concept that Jones is, perhaps, best remembered. In 1865, with the industrial downturn at the conclusion of the Civil War, Jones was faced with a strike by the workers at his plant. After an eight month stalemate Jones created the sliding scale concept which tied the wages of workers, particularly the skilled workmen and puddlers, to the market price of iron. The concept was popular with both workers and owners, although it certainly did not end steel strikes. Furthermore, Jones was influential in convincing other iron masters to adopt the system, which laborers viewed as an more equitable pay plan.<sup>11</sup>

As befit a man of Jones' status his actions were not confined solely to the iron business. He also served on the board of directors of several Pittsburgh banks and railroad companies. He was elected president of the American Iron and Steel Association in 1884. In the same year he served as chairman of the Pennsylvania delegation to the Republican convention, and later, as chairman of the Republican National Committee.<sup>12</sup>

Along with Jones' business success came enormous personal wealth. Although J&L company policy was to minimize dividends, plowing the money back into the company, by the 1880s Jones' income was reported to be \$325,000 annually. Benjamin Jones' wealth and lifestyle were representative of the iron and steel elite.<sup>13</sup> His primary residence in Pittsburgh, a Second Empire mansion on Irwin Avenue (now Brighton Road) in Allegheny City (now the North Side), was demolished in the 1950s.<sup>14</sup> Jones also built four country houses at 'Franklin Farm' in Sewickley, a fashionable turn-of-the-century summer community outside of Pittsburgh, for himself and his three children. Jones' Sewickley house, "Fair Acres," is no longer standing.<sup>15</sup> Jones' mountain retreat at Cresson also placed him in the company of Pittsburgh's elite, although he was apparently the last of his class to build there.

Development of a resort community at Cresson Springs was made possible due to the extension of the Pennsylvania Railroad's main line from Lewistown, Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh (the Mountain Division), by 1854 when the famous Horseshoe Curve west of Altoona was completed. Just west of the Curve the line passed near the summit of the Allegheny Mountains. Cresson's clean mountain air, beautiful scenery and medicinal mineral springs, and renowned trout fishing in nearby mountain streams offered a convenient escape from the grime of industrial Pittsburgh. Dr. Robert Montgomery Smith Jackson (1815-1861), a native of nearby Huntingdon County, bought 375 acres of mountain land around the springs, had an 1850s hotel building moved to the site, and obtained a charter from the Pennsylvania Legislature for the Allegheny Mountain Health Institute in 1854.<sup>16</sup> The Institute's purpose was,

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...to provide suitable buildings and grounds for the treatment of invalids and the amusement of persons seeking recreation; also to found a museum, library, observatory and other facilities for the promotion of natural sciences.<sup>17</sup>

Through financial reversals Dr. Jackson lost control of the Allegheny Mountain Health Institute by 1859. The new directors (among them Joseph Pennock and A.S. Bell) made improvements to the hotel and site with funds borrowed from the Penn Central Railroad Company. At that time the hotel accommodated about 100 people, and it was reported that an additional 1,000 people were turned away each season.<sup>18</sup>

In 1861 the Health Institute changed its name to the Cresson Springs Company and, at the same time, began to pay its debt to the railroad with Cresson Springs Company stock.<sup>19</sup> This, and successive loans, encumbered the Institute's finances and would eventually lead to a take-over by the railroad. By the mid-1870s the company secured an additional loan from the Pennsylvania Railroad Company through the issue of preferred stock in the Cresson Springs Company, entirely purchased by the railroad. By 1876 the railroad controlled 90 percent of Cresson Springs Company stock.<sup>20</sup> Like other railroads of the time, the Pennsylvania Railroad encouraged Cresson's development with an eye toward increasing ridership while also profiting from their investment in the hotel.

In addition to the public hotel, private individuals built cottages as mountain retreats.<sup>21</sup> It is unclear just when the first cottages were built at Cresson. The deed trail of leases that can be traced to the present begins in 1862, however the minutes of the Cresson Springs Company make clear that at least a few cottages had been built prior to this date. Cottages and lots were obtained through 99 year leases.<sup>22</sup> Many of the early cottages were built by the company, although some may have been built by lot holders.<sup>23</sup> Even if a private owner built the cottage, the company retained an interest in it, and the lot holder's deed agreement stipulated that all meals would be purchased at the Mountain House. Cottage owners and their guests and servants were also required to register at the Mountain House upon arrival at Cresson.<sup>24</sup>

A map of Cresson from 1867 depicts the small settlement at this time (see Map of Cresson, attached). The large, H-shaped Mountain House -- with its attendant bowling alley, bath house and other service structures -- dominated the community and commanded a view down a broad path to the railroad where there was a small station. Paths, laid out in the currently fashionable picturesque landscape style, wound around the hillside and through the woods behind the hotel. Two rows of cottages lined a path north of the hotel. Another path, up the hill (to the right in the map), had already been projected for more cottages (including Jones' and Andrew Carnegie's), although it was not opened until somewhat later. A company plan of the town from 1865 shows these additional lots, as well as two rows of lots on the south side of the Mountain House.

In its early days Cresson was almost exclusively the haunt of wealthy Pittsburgh natives, and this was particularly true of the cottages. Marianna G. Van Rensselaer noted that it was called the "Pittsburgh Nursery," peopled almost exclusively by a sociable coterie from the Smoky City in search of health and pleasure for troops of pretty children.<sup>25</sup> This homogeneity tempered as the century wore on, so that by 1880 the guests of the Mountain House Hotel were almost equally divided between those from western Pennsylvania, those from the eastern half of the state, and those from out of state, particularly from Ohio and New Jersey, locations on the Pennsylvania Railroad's lines.<sup>26</sup> However, the cottages remained the preserve of the older Pittsburgh wealthy throughout the heyday of Cresson as a fashionable resort, which lasted through the end of the nineteenth century.<sup>27</sup>

By 1880 the need for new accommodations was expressed in a communication from the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company "suggesting" that plans for a new building be drawn.<sup>28</sup> The Cresson Springs Company asked the Pennsylvania Railroad for a \$200,000 loan, noting that the Company would make the railroad a return on this investment, both from profits through revenues of the hotel and from increased passenger traffic on the railroad. The request

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acknowledged the reality of the Cresson Spring Company's situation, calling Cresson the railroad's property and noting that the railroad held 5,286 out of 5,522 total shares of Cresson Springs Company stock.<sup>29</sup>

The New Mountain House was designed in the Queen Anne style by Wilson Brothers, architects and engineers of Philadelphia and built at a cost of \$90,000.<sup>30</sup> (#10) The hotel was a five story, wood frame structure, with the lower two stories wrapped by verandas. Slender turrets marked the corners of end pavilions; gabled pavilions at the center of each elevation were half-timbered. The walls were covered with clapboard and wood shingles and the roof also with wood shingles. Its Queen Anne style of architecture and ornamentation were lauded as belonging, "to the new revival of good taste, the creed of redwood shingles and olive green, so that it harmonizes with the landscape."<sup>31</sup> The new Mountain House had 162 chambers to accommodate 204 guests, and like the old hotel, was lit by gas (1,500 burners) made with a local gas machine.<sup>32</sup>

Despite the building of the new hotel and other improvements, business dropped off over the course of the following decade. The hotel was closed permanently after the 1897 season, at which time the company recorded a loss of \$13,281.18.<sup>33</sup> Foreclosure forced the sale of all company property on 12 September 1898. In 1910 the Board of the Cresson Springs Company resolved to dissolve the company, a dissolution ordered by a court in 1911.<sup>34</sup>

The reasons advanced for the hotel and company's failure have been many, including the growing popularity of seaside resorts at the turn of the century and the flight from mountain resorts in the Alleghenies after the Johnstown flood of 1889. However, the Cresson Springs Company may also have been a victim of its own success. In 1867 the resort at Cresson Springs was virtually all there was to Cresson. By 1890 the rustic solitude of the resort community had been radically altered by the Cresson Coal and Coke Company mining operations nearby, and the laying out of the town of Cresson itself. Cresson Township was organized in 1893 and Cresson Borough in 1906.<sup>35</sup> In 1890 there were no less than seven resort hotels and boarding houses in Cresson in addition to the Mountain House: Callan House, Globe Hotel, Mapleton House, Junction Hotel, St. Elmo Hotel, and Summit House. As the generation of wealthy patrons of the Mountain House resort either sold their cottages or deeded them to the next generation, Cresson was converted to a middle class resort unable to support the size and lavishness of the Mountain House.

Benjamin Jones visited Cresson Springs in the summer of 1885 staying in a cottage with his daughter, the Misses Oliver, Messrs. Singer and York, and J.O. Home and his wife and maid.<sup>36</sup> He must have been impressed with the resort as a year later he requested information on a lot with the intention of building a cottage. In 1887 he obtained a lease for Lot 13 (for the standard 99 year period) and paid \$500 to remove an existing cottage on the lot to Lot 12 (adjacent to the west); an earlier cottage on Lot 12 was demolished.<sup>37</sup> In June 1888 the Ebensburg Cambria Freeman reported that "Mr. B.F. Jones, of Pittsburgh, is building a \$35,000 cottage at Cresson."<sup>38</sup> This represented a large amount of money for a wood framed house in 1888, and of all the known houses in Cresson, only the Jones cottage could have cost so much.

The Braemar (Jones) Cottage, like the Mountain House built just eight years prior, was designed in the "new" Queen Anne style. It is an imposing two and a half story structure with wood clapboard and shingle siding. The wall planes are enlivened by turrets (at each corner), porches (on the front and side elevations) and balconies (on the front, side and rear elevations) which tied the interior to the landscape and provided mountain views. In comparison, neighboring cottages are one and a half story structures with porches on the front and rear elevations. These smaller cottages exhibit typical features of the Carpenter Gothic style popular at mid-century: decorative gable barge boards, wooden finials, and board and batten siding.

The registers of the Mountain House hotel record the arrival of the Jones family and friends and relatives to the house each season. Although it varied from year to year, the Jones family party generally included Mr. and Mrs. B.F. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. B.F. Jones, Jr., and two maids and a manservant.<sup>39</sup> The cottage could easily hold this group and four or five guests,

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with room remaining on the third floor for the servants. For example, hotel records show that the Wilcocks family from Pittsburgh spent most of the 1892 season at the Jones' Cresson cottage, and were frequent visitors throughout the 1890s. In 1897 the Wilcocks party included a "Master Franklin Jones Wilcocks," whose name suggests a familial relation to B.F. Jones.

During the later half of the nineteenth century Benjamin Franklin Jones was one of the most powerful and influential industrialists in Pennsylvania. Under his leadership the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company became one of the largest American producers of iron and steel and among the first vertically integrated plants in the country.<sup>40</sup> Jones' sliding scale wage concept also set a standard for the industry. Benjamin Jones stepped aside from active management of J&L in 1900 and his son, Benjamin F. Jones, Jr., took over the presidency of the company. The J&L Steel Company was in operation until 1979 (by then a subsidiary of the LTV Corporation of Dallas, Texas). The Eliza Furnaces were demolished in 1983, and by 1987 most nineteenth century buildings associated with the company had been demolished and the integrity of remaining twentieth century structures was considered threatened.<sup>41</sup>

At the time of his death on 19 May 1903, Benjamin Jones was remembered as "one of Pennsylvania's most prominent iron and steel manufacturers," and for his "great influence on the public affairs of Pennsylvania."<sup>42</sup> Andrew Carnegie summed up his importance in a telegram that read: "Benjamin Franklin Jones, the Nestor [wise old man] in manufacturing has gone."<sup>43</sup> Jones is buried in Allegheny Cemetery in Pittsburgh. His grave, an underground mausoleum, is marked by a stela with classical female figures carved by an unidentified artist.

The Braemar (Jones) Cottage is significant both for its associations with Benjamin Jones, and with the Mountain House resort at Cresson Springs, the development of which was made possible through the westward expansion of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Queen Anne style of the Cottage reflects the renewed, albeit short-lived, popularity of the resort embodied in the construction of the new Mountain House in 1880. Although the Mountain House has since been demolished and the once rural landscape obscured by later residential and industrial development, the Braemar (Jones) Cottage survives as a reminder of Cresson Spring's heyday as an upper class summer resort "among the wilds of the Alleghenies."

## Endnotes

1. Dumas Malone, ed., Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 5 (New York: Charles Scribners' Sons, 1932-1933), pp. 162-163; Seeyle A. Wilson, "The Growth of Pittsburgh Iron and Steel," Magazine of Western History, vol. 2 (October 1885), p. 567.
2. "Benjamin Franklin Jones," Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, vol. 1 (New York: 1889), p. 42.
3. George Rogers Taylor, The Transportation Revolution (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1951), p. 165; Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, p. 42.
4. Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, p. 42; Malone, Dictionary of American Biography, p. 162.



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5. Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, p. 43; Malone, Dictionary of American Biography, p. 162; John N. Ingham, Making Iron and Steel: Independent Mills in Pittsburgh, 1820-1920 (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1991), p. 31;5. and Robert H. Thurston, Report on Cold-Rolled Iron and Steel as Manufactured by Jones and Laughlins' American Iron Works, Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh: Stevenson, Foster and Company, 1878), pp. 5, 12, 80-81.
6. Glenn Porter and Harold C. Livesay, Merchants and Manufacturers: Studies in the Changing Business Structure of Nineteenth Century Marketing (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1971), p. 65; Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, p. 31. The Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form gives the year 1854 as the date the company name changed to Jones & Laughlin.
7. Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, p. 31; George T. Fleming, History of Pittsburgh and Environs (New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1922), p. 833.
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9. Malone, Dictionary of American Biography, p. 162; Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, pp. 43-44; Frank C. Harper, Pittsburgh of Today: Its Resources and People (New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1931), p. 681.
10. Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, pp. 92-93.
11. Malone, Dictionary of American Biography, pp. 162-163; Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, pp. 103-104.
12. Erasmus Wilson, ed., Standard History of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania (Chicago: H.R. Cornell and Company, 1898), p. 569; Wilson, "The Growth of Pittsburgh Iron and Steel," p. 569; Dictionary of American Biography, p. 163; Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania, p. 44.
13. Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, p. 93.
14. Ingham, Making Iron and Steel, p. 93; John N. Ingham, The Iron Barons: A Social Analysis of an American Urban Elite, 1874-1965 (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1978), p. 110; also see Walter C. Kidney, Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, 1985), p. 51.
15. James D. Van Trump, Life and Architecture in Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, 1983), p. 346-347.
16. Biographical files, Cambria County Historical Society, Ebensburg, PA. P.L. 1855: 691.
17. Ibid.
18. T. Ketenhein, "The Story of the 'Old Mountainhouse and the New Mountainhouse' Cresson Springs, Cresson, PA. 1855-1916," (Cresson, PA: Cresson Area Historical Association, 1991); and Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 1, 1859-1876, (4 August 1862, 20 October 1863, 21 August 1865, 25 September 1865, and 14 November 1866), Pennsylvania Railroad Collection, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg (hereafter PRR Collection).

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19. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1859-1876 (11 September 1859, 2 November 1859, 5 August 1861, and 4 August 1862), PRR Collection.
20. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 1, 1859-1876 (7 May 1874 and 19 November 1874); and vol. 2, 1876-1911 (7 August 1876), PRR Collection.
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22. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 1, 1859-1876 (4 August 1862), PRR Collection.
23. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 1, 1859-1876 (20 October 1863), PRR Collection.
24. Mountain House Day Registers, Blair County Historical Society, Altoona, PA.
25. M.G. Van Rensselaer, In the Heart of the Alleghenies, p. 8.
26. Day Registers of the Mountain House, Cresson, PA, at Blair County Historical Society, Altoona, PA.
27. Ibid.
28. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (22 September 1880), PRR Collection. A map in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, Deed Book vol. 25, pp. 36-37 shows the relationship between the existing hotel and the site of the proposed new hotel.
29. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (12 October 1880), PRR Collection.
30. The Mountain House is illustrated in Wilson Brothers & Co., Catalogue of Work Executed (Philadelphia: Wilson Brothers & Co., 1885), n.p. Wilson Brothers was the architect of the Pennsylvania Railroad, another indication of the railroad's control of Cresson.
31. Harpers New Monthly Magazine, (August 1883), 399: 337.
32. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (28 December 1880, 31 December 1880, 11 February 1881, and 13 April 1881), PRR Collection. These entries also provide more detailed information on the evolution of the design. Wilson Brothers' original design was for a much larger and grander structure. The Cresson Springs Company board not only reduced the overall size, but eliminated several more costly architectural materials and finishes.
33. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (29 December 1896 and 1 January 1898), PRR Collection.
34. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (21-22 December 1910 and 24 April 1911), PRR Collection.

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35. Henry Wilson Storey, History of Cambria County, Pennsylvania (New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1907), pp.39 and 42.
  36. Day Registers of the Mountain House, 6 July 1885, at Blair County Historical Society, Altoona, PA.
  37. Minutes of the Cresson Springs Company, vol. 2, 1876-1911 (22 September 1886 and 20 September 1887), PRR Collection.
  38. Ebensburg Cambria Freeman (22 June 1888), p. 3.
  39. Day Registers of the Mountain House, Blair County Historical Society, Altoona, PA.
  40. A vertically integrated plant was one responsible for all manufacturing processes; from raw material to marketable finished product.
  41. See Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form, "Pittsburgh Works -- J&L Steel (LTV), 29th and East Carson Streets, Allegheny County, Pittsburgh," survey code 003-P-ssf-295-8 (June 1987).
  42. The New York Times (9 October 1903); The Pittsburgh Gazette (19 May 1903).
  43. Pittsburgh Post (21 May 1903).

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10. Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at iron pin of northwesterly corner of land [lot] No. 403-1 on southeasterly side of Third Street, which point is also a southwesterly corner of Lot No. 403-1 herein described; thence along the edge of Third Street North 40 degrees 30 [50] minutes East a distance of 97.09 [106.06] feet to a corner; thence South 56 degrees 33 minutes East a distance of 171.15 [171.48] feet to a corner on the westerly side of 20 foot Alley; thence along 20 foot Alley South 33 degrees 27 minutes West a distance of 115 feet to a corner; thence along the Lot of No. 404 North 56 degrees 33 minutes West a distance of 124.8 feet to a corner; thence along the land of No. 403-1 North 47 degrees 20 minutes West a distance of 75 feet to a place of the beginning. Containing 0.474 acre.

Boundary Justification

The boundary reflects the legally recorded property boundary which is the original lot, containing the nominated building, with the exception of a small triangular portion at the northwest corner (0.019 acre) which was transferred to the adjacent (west) property owner. Bracketed dimensions were recorded during a survey of the site in 1993 by Martin Jay Rosenblum, R.A and Associates, Philadelphia.

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Unless noted otherwise, the following information applies:

Property Name: Braemar (Benjamin F. Jones) Cottage, Cresson, Pennsylvania

Photographer: Suzanna E. Barucco

Negative Location: Martin Jay Rosenblum, R.A. and Associates, Philadelphia

December 1991

North (front) elevation, view from northeast.

(1)

December 1991

West (side) elevation, view from northwest.

(2)

July 1992

South (rear) elevation.

(3)

December 1991

East (side) elevation, view from northeast.

(4)

c. 1940

Photographer unknown

Collection of Cresson Area Historical Association,  
Cresson, PA

North (front) elevation, view from northwest.

(5)

c. 1940

Photographer unknown

Collection of Cresson Area Historical Association,  
Cresson, PA

South (rear) elevation.

(6)

July 1992

First floor stair hall, view to south.

(7)

October 1992

First floor stair hall, detail of square column capital at  
base of stair; stair hall cornice and ceiling visible at top  
photo.

(8)

July 1992

First floor stair hall, view to northwest.

(9)

c. 1900

Collection of Cresson Area Historical Association,  
Cresson, PA

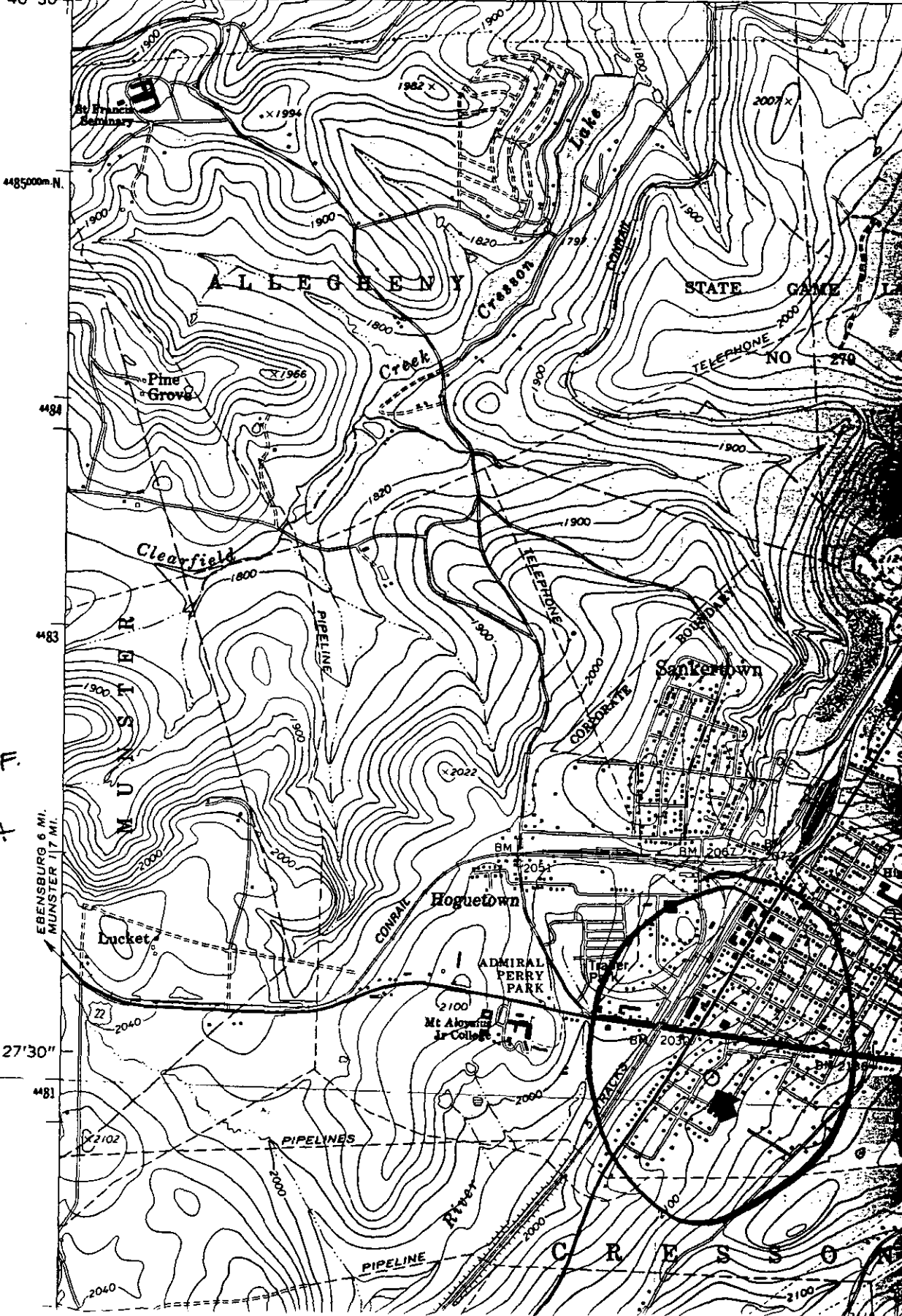
Mountain House, Cresson, Pa. (postcard).

(10)

5265 1/2 SW  
(CARROLLTOWN)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

78° 37' 30" 1702000m.E. 1703 1704 35'



BRAEMAR (BENJAMIN F.  
JONES) (OTTAGE  
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PA.  
CRESSON QUAD.  
UGS ZONE 17  
EASTING 704220  
NORTHING 4481120

EBENSBURG 6 MI.  
MUNSTER 17 MI.