

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hoene-Werle House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1313-15 Allegheny Avenue

___ not for publication

city; town Pittsburgh

___ vicinity of

state PA

code

county 15233

code

3. Classification

Category

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

Ownership

- ___ public
 - private
 - ___ both
- Public Acquisition**
- ___ in process
 - ___ being considered

Status

- occupied
 - ___ unoccupied
 - ___ work in progress
- Accessible**
- ___ yes: restricted
 - ___ yes: unrestricted
 - ___ no

Present Use

- ___ agriculture
 - ___ commercial
 - ___ educational
 - ___ entertainment
 - ___ government
 - ___ industrial
 - ___ military
- ___ museum
 - ___ park
 - private residence
 - ___ religious
 - ___ scientific
 - ___ transportation
 - ___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lyceum Associates

street & number 1437 Western Avenue

city, town Pittsburgh

___ vicinity of

state PA

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Office Building

street & number Forbes & Ross Streets

city, town Pittsburgh

state PA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Architecture Resource Survey has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

of Allegheny County

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg

state PA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The big double house at 1313-1315 Allegheny Avenue, the Hoene-Werle house, is one of the most resplendent buildings on Pittsburgh's Northside. The building is a full three story six-and-one-half bay brick house with a central courtyard in the rear. the structure's most unusual feature is the massive molded brick and millwork cornice.

The unique cornice features an intricately millworked pediment, echoed by three smaller pediments on the porch below. Under the cornice a molded brick dentil course supports brick squares of a sunburst pattern. Above the sunbursts is a frieze panelled with molded brick in a basketweave pattern. Wooden brackets support the pediment. The pediment features a large wheel radiating baluster-like spokes, with jigsaw fretwork in a leafy pattern applied to the lower corners. On the outer sections of the building's cornice the brickwork corbels out to support millwork brackets in an extremely skillful melding of the two different building materials.

The rest of the building reflects the attention to detail obvious in the cornice. Pressed brick of a very uniform color was used on the facade of the structure. The third floor window hoods are arches of rough faced stone blocks. The sandstone lintels over the doors and windows of the first and second floors are incised with a simple anthemion pattern. The full-width porch is one of the unusual and outstanding features of the building. It consists of two separate elements under the same roof, divided by an at-grade arched breezeway that leads through the building and into the courtyard. Three small pediments, modeled on the cornice, are incorporated in the porch roof, one above each door and the breezeway. The porch features a large amount of carefully-made millwork.

The courtyard behind the building is an early example of a design providing some quiet and controllable space in an urban environment. The bays and many windows on the courtyard provide light and air to every room in the double house.

The building suffered the fate of many structures on Pittsburgh's Northside: it was abandoned and ownership passed to the City in the early 1970's. By the time the structure was acquired to be rehabilitated late in 1982, the ornate porch had collapsed. Fortunately, one of the pediments of the porch was salvaged, and with the shadow lines remaining on the building and the memories of local residents, the porch was accurately rebuilt by Allegheny Millwork, Inc., a local firm with a great deal of experience in similar restorations.

The size, unique cornice, large porch, and protected courtyard, mark the Hoene-Werle house as one of the outstanding structures on Pittsburgh's Northside. The City of Pittsburgh has recognized the prominence of the property by including it in the Manchester City Historic District.

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 ca 1887 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Historically a part of the Manchester section of Pittsburgh, the large double house at 1313-15 Allegheny Avenue architecturally has no peer in the neighborhood. The building's unique cornice sets it apart from the pattern book architecture prevalent in the Manchester Historic District. The Hoene-Werle house was built during the peak period of Manchester's development for a pair of prosperous German immigrants, and appears to represent a change in the approach to designing city houses. Although the 1313-15 Allegheny Avenue is a double house, it is not merely two buildings joined by a party wall. The "U"-shaped building defines its own protected courtyard, access to which is through a breezeway from the front of the building. The building is separated from the other residential sections of the Manchester Historic District. A paint pigment factory on the western half of the block predated the earliest residential buildings, and has been succeeded by a high-rise building for the elderly.

Allegheny Avenue, site of the Hoene-Werle house, has served as Manchester's eastern boundary for 145 years. Manchester began along the Ohio River, and grew eastward as individuals appended plans of blocks to the original scheme. The first plan to reach the western side of Allegheny Avenue, and hence help define the street, is dated 1839. In 1843 Manchester became a borough. The growing City of Allegheny annexed Manchester in 1867, forming the 5th and 6th Wards of the City from the new area. Allegheny Avenue was the eastern boundary of the new wards; a function it still serves.

Manchester grew from west to east, with residential development reaching Allegheny Avenue in the 1870's. East of the street the City of Allegheny was growing west to meet Manchester. Mansions and ornate city houses were built during this period along Beech, Western, Lincoln, and Ridge Avenues in what is today the Allegheny West Historic District. Architect Henry H. Richardson's Emmanuel Episcopal Church was built on the corner of Allegheny and North Avenues in 1886. Although the Hoene-Werle house was built in this period, its architecture sets it apart from the few surviving mansions and many row houses of Allegheny West, and the mass-produced housing of Manchester.

Research into deeds leads to the conclusion that 1313-15 Allegheny Avenue was built in 1887. The house and its immediate neighbors were owned by German immigrants. Herman H. Hoene, owner of half of the building was a partner in a large retail piano and organ business in downtown Pittsburgh. Hoene came to America in the great wave of German immigration in the late 1840's and early 1850's. Fred H. Werle, a druggist with a store in the City of Allegheny, owned the other half of the building. Along with his professional activities, Werle sponsored German immigrants for American citizenship.

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The architectural precedent for this unique structure has not been discovered, but it shows a stage in the development of large city residences in Pittsburgh. Despite a street frontage of less than 48 feet, the design of the double house permits a large number of air-and-light-providing windows facing a semi-private courtyard. Only one other nearby building, 1324-6 Sheffield Street in Manchester, has the same "U" shape. The protected courtyards created by buildings of this configuration resemble the early 20th century apartment "courts" of Pittsburgh's East End.

The Hoene-Werle house is an exceptional example of late 19th century city housing in Pittsburgh. The cornice, full-width porch, breezeway, and courtyard, distinguish the building from the mass-produced pattern-book architecture common in the Manchester Historic District. The recent careful restoration of the building has increased its prominence on the street, bringing the house back to its rightful place as one of the outstanding structures on Pittsburgh's Northside.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Books

Baldwin, Leland D. Pittsburgh The Story of a City 1750-1865. (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1937)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .15

Quadrangle name Pittsburgh West

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is located along Allegheny Avenue 95 feet south of its intersection with Pennsylvania Avenue. At this point the property line runs west 140 feet to Beymer Alley. The line turns and runs south along the alley 47.8 feet at which point it turns and runs

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

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Uhl

organization Tom Mistick & Sons, Inc. date

street & number 1437 Western Avenue telephone (412) 322-1121

city or town Pittsburgh state PA

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

title date

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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- Bates, Samuel P. Our Country and Its People (W.A. Fergusson & Co., 1899)
- Burgoyne, Arthur G. All Sorts of Pittsburghers (The Leader All Sorts Co., Pittsburgh, 1892)
- Jordon, John W. Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biographies (Lewis Publishing Co., New York, 1916)
- Miller, Annie Clark Chronicles of Families, Houses and estates of Pittsburgh and Environs (Pittsburgh, 1927)
- Moore, Alex, Ed. Book of Prominent Pennsylvanians (Leader Publishing, Pittsburgh, 1913)
- Nevin, Adelaide The Social Mirror (T.W. Nevin, Pittsburgh, 1888)
- Pittsburgh and Allegheny City Directory (1874, 1880, 1893, 1896)
- Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form, Manchester Historic District
- Story of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Gazette Times, 1908)
- Van Trump and Ziegler Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, Pittsburgh, 1967)
- Warner. History of Allegheny County (A. Warner & Co. Publishers, Chicago, 1889)

Public Records

Allegheny County Deeds of Property

Allegheny County Plan Books

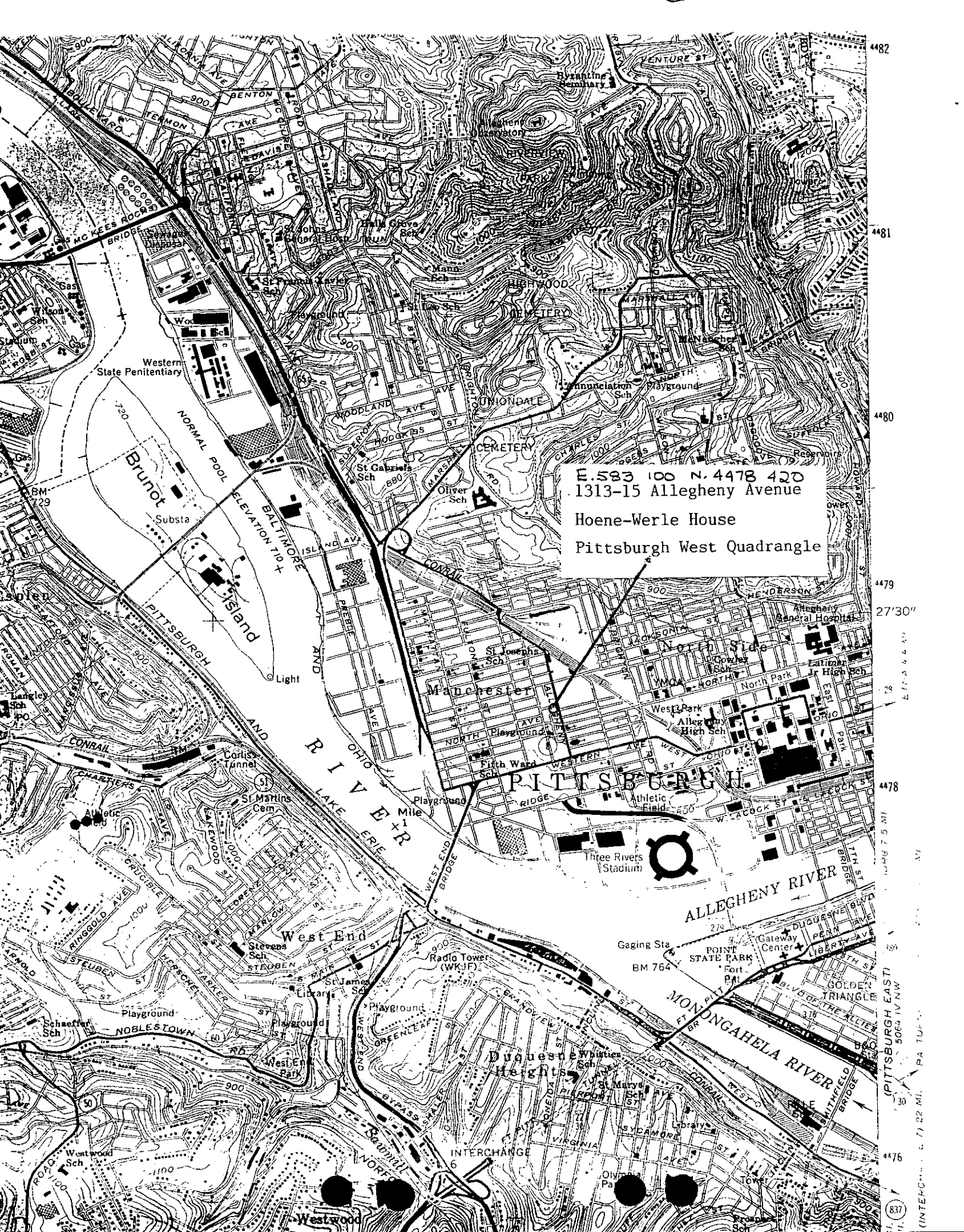
Laws of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Published by Authority, Harrisburg 1828-1867

Maps

Atlas of Pittsburgh and Allegheny (G.M. Hopkins Co., Philadelphia 1872, 1882, 1890, 1901)

Newspapers

"The Pittsburgh Gazette" March 14, 1867



E. 583 100 N. 4478 420
1313-15 Allegheny Avenue
Hoene-Werle House
Pittsburgh West Quadrangle

4482
4481
4480
4479
27'30"
4478
4477
4476
837
PITTSBURGH EAST
6064 N.W.
PA TUF
7.22 MI.
INTERC...