

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

received

date entered

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

## 1. Name

historic Gauff-Roth House

and or common N/A

## 2. Location

street & number 427 to 443 Auburn Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Allentown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state PA code 042 county Lehigh code 077

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Michael W. Ziegler

street & number 437 Auburn Street

city, town Allentown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state PA

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds at the Lehigh County Courthouse

street & number 455 Hamilton Street

city, town Allentown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state PA

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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

This grand Gauff-Roth building is a single dwelling, Queen Anne in style. It stands on the original eight tracts of land which are 185.5 feet wide by 190 feet deep, irregular in shape. On the lot are a variety of trees, including black walnut, willow, mulberry, white birch, and dogwood. In the center of the tear-shaped drive is a large rose bush, a large yew, a willow, and a cedar tree. All around the lot is a fence, an iron fence in the front and a wooden picket fence for the balance. The landscaping adds much beauty to the neighborhood as they accentuate this Victorian house, bringing out the beauty of the Queen Anne period.

Most of the elements of the Queen Anne style are evident in this beautiful Gauff-Roth House. The building has an irregular rectangular plan and massing, and a variety of texture. The building has a full basement floor, a first floor, a second floor, a third floor, and an attic (the north section goes from 2nd floor to attic). There is a bay (with windows of two different sizes) on the east side extending to the third floor where a balcony is located. The north end of the building is narrower than the front by the width of the side porches. The building is of brick construction with a higher quality, closer mortared, brick veneer on all but the north end. The north end has common brick exterior. The wall surfaces are stone on the basement level, brick walls, and wood shingles in the gables and on the balcony. The roof is hipped, with exception of the east section, and has multiple ridges with some meeting at right angles. There are multiple gables, multiple dormers, and a polygonal turret. The roof also consists of slate and patterned slate. The dormer on the southeast corner projects slightly beyond the stories below. There is half timbering of the roof rafters, on the west gable and the balcony. There is a front wraparound porch on the south and front east side, as well as two rear porches on the west and east sides.

There are sixty windows (66 including windows over some doors). Three are triangular shaped in the roof peaks (north, east and west). Fourteen windows have colored light panes in the sash. There are forty-three doors of which two pairs are oak pocket doors, one pair to the vestibule has beveled glass in it and the balcony door has colored light panels (the kitchen has six doors and seven windows).

There are two functional chimneys and two interior non-functional chimneys which do not protrude through the roof, or extend on the outside of the building. The functional chimney on the west side is paneled in brick designs. There is a large gable on the wraparound porch. There are carved lintels and porch carvings. Extensive wood decoration exists on the balcony, the eaves, the wraparound porch and what somewhat resembles a frieze and guttae in the classical doric order. The cellar windows have iron grills on them.

The interior has an oak staircase, with 116 balusters reaching three floors. On the first floor there are carvings on the stairs. The woodwork throughout the house is decorative with window trim, doors, doorways, baseboards and vestibule on the first floor which is all oak. Only the kitchen has been painted over on the first floor. There are two decorative fireplaces, one is in the dining room and one is in the parlor. These fireplaces have oak carvings with plain and patterned tile. Most doors have decorative cast hinges and the door knobs are decorative cast or wood. There are ornamental plaster arches on the second floor and ornamental wall moldings on the first and second floors. The bathroom has wainscoting completely around.

All of the above items retained their original fabric except for a few minor changes. The two rear side porches were enclosed with windows and a frame constructed attached garage added circa 1943<sup>1</sup>. The woodwork from the wraparound porch has been saved for redecorating,

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Gauff-Roth House, Lehigh County

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

Page 2

although some missing woodwork will be replaced. The metal roof cresting decoration disappeared sometime between 1947 and 1982. The wooden louvered shutters on the rear sides of the second floor are missing, but could be replaced. The entire grounds originally surrounded by fence consisting of an iron fence on the southside of the house and wooden pickets on the remaining sides<sup>2</sup>. Both types of fence have been replaced and look very similar. The old iron Victorian fence is on the slopes of the property. It is similar to the iron grates on the cellar windows. These grates on the windows are the original ones. The carriage drive leading to the house is tear-shaped and it is located on the west side of the house. The carriage drive's location has never been altered. It adds a quaint charm to the house, and gives visitors a feeling of grandeur, beauty, elegance and extravagance which is synonymous with the Victorian era.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

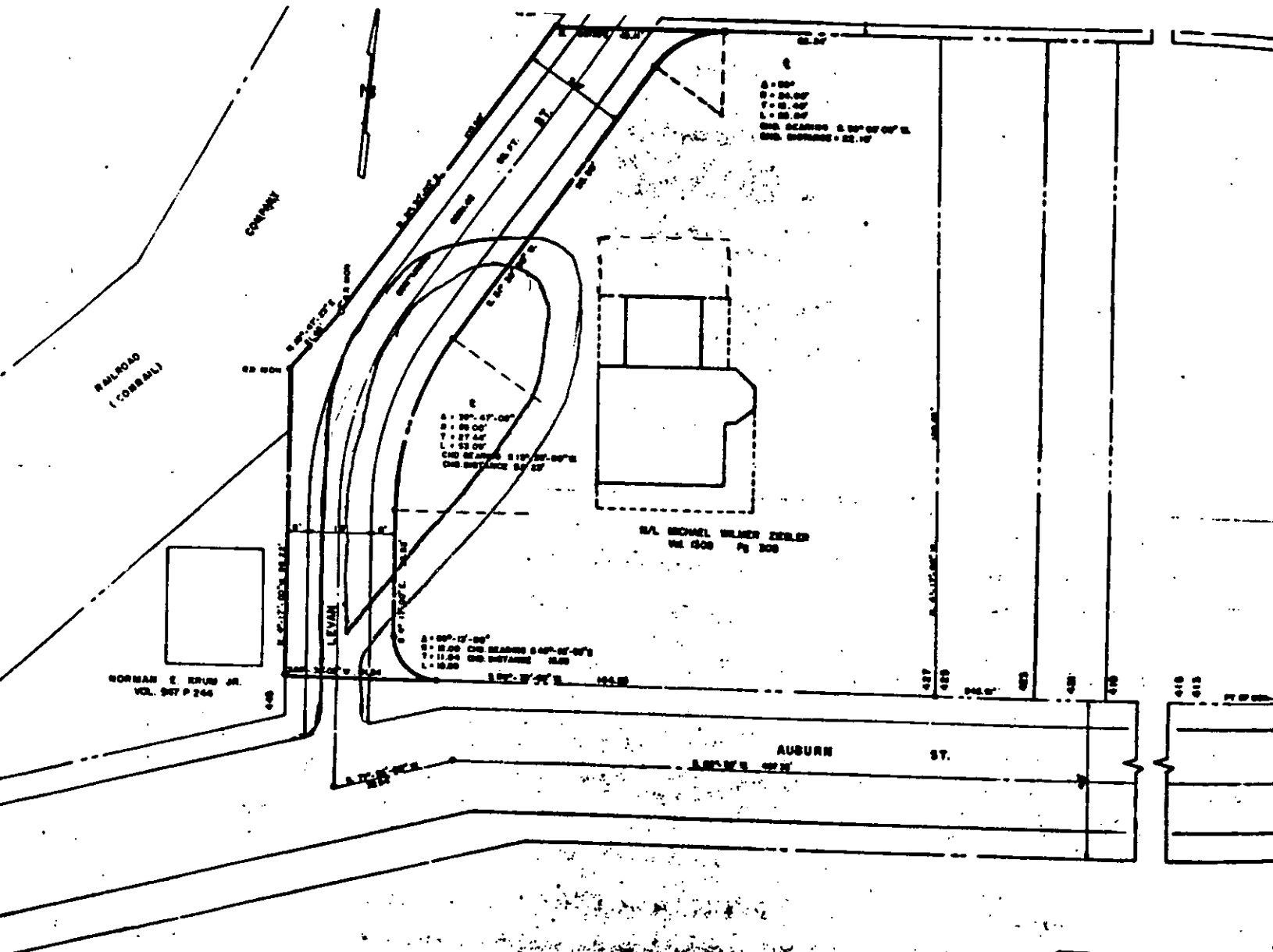
For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet Description

Item number 7

Page 3

Sketch of site plan with the proposed road destroying the original carriage and entrance.



NORMAN E. KIRBY JR.  
VOL. 987 P. 246

CITY OF ALBANY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED  
FOR  
STREET

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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** 1880 **Builder/Architect** William H. Gangewere

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Gauff-Roth House is a good example of a Queen Anne style house. The size and scale of the lot and landscape, including the tear-shaped carriage drive, are in harmony with the architecture. Many architectural elements found in various houses built in Allentown in this era are exemplified on a grander scale through the Gauff-Roth House. This building, complemented by it's setting, is one of the few vernacular Queen Anne style mansions extant in Allentown.

The Victorian house was a popular style in Allentown as can be seen by the many houses possessing Queen Anne style elements of architecture. Most houses were built in the urban area of Allentown where the houses were predominately built as row houses. The Gauff-Roth House built on eight tracts of land in what was then the suburbs of Allentown, showed a move from the urban to a more rural setting where the Queen Anne style grand massive architecture could be heightened by it's vast surroundings.

The Gauff-Roth House is not the most elaborate house in Allentown, however the design strongly reflects the architectural style and characteristics of the houses in Allentown of this period. The exterior and interior of the building are nearly intact, with few alterations obscuring their original appearance. The lot size and tear-shaped carriage driveway and entrance are original, complementing and enhancing the house as when it was designed.

William H. Gangewere (born 1858) the builder/architect of the Gauff-Roth House, was one of the prominent builder/architects in Allentown. He built over twelve hundred homes in Allentown since his employ at age sixteen. This house was one of his first, after he was admitted into partnership of Abraham Gangewere & Son, and one of the largest extant.

Mary Craig and Elizabeth (Craig) Gauff are the sisters who commissioned the house to be built. The money came from their inheritance from their grandfather, Jacob Geisinger, a land baron owning much of Allentown, who raised them. Mary Craig and William H. Gangewere, through the construction of the house, met and were wed. Therefore, Mary Craig did not live at the house long, if at all. There have been only three major families residing at this property consisting of the Gauff's (1880), the Roth's (1936), and the Ziegler's (1982). Before the Roth's moved in, there was a short period of time the house was rented to a couple who were raided by the FBI for making illegal "moonshine".

The Gauff-Roth House is significant as a good example of a grand scaled vernacular Queen Anne style house and setting in the development of Allentown housing. The architectural detail in this house is typical of houses in Allentown of this era.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Attached

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .7 of an acre

Quadrangle name Allentown East

Quadrangle scale 1=24,000

UTM References

A 

1	8	4	6	0	7	0	0	4	4	9	3	8	2	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

See Attached

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael W. Ziegler

organization private individual date April 16, 1985 originally 2/23/84 secondly 7/28/84

street & number 437 Auburn Street telephone 215-435-6920

city or town Allentown 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 Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2/11/85

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

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Gauff-Roth House, Lehigh County

Continuation sheet Major Bibliographical Refs. Item number 9

Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

- (1) Kulp, Randolph L., "Allentown Original 12th Ward", Proceedings Lehigh County Historical Society, Allentown, PA, Volume 34, pages 217 and 219, 1980.
- (2) Miller, Karie (Gauff), daughter of Lizzie (Craig) and Wallace Gauff, interviewed March 5, 1 83.
- (3) Greenawalt, Evelyn S., niece of Katie (Gauff) Miller, interviewed August 12, 1983.
- (4) Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles, the M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, MA, copyright 1969.
- (5) Roberts, Charles H., History of Lehigh County Pennsylvania, (three volume set) Volume II, pages 411-412, 1914.
- (6) Roth, Kenneth B., son of Wilbur C. Roth (who lived their in 1936), interviewed May 14, 1983.
- (7) Janson, H.W., History of Art, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, page 115 second ed. 1977.
- (8) Fries, Charles (Chas) W., neighbor to Gauff-Roth House since 1914 when he was 7 years old, interviewed July 6, 1984.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only received date entered
--

Gauff-Roth House, Lehigh County

Continuation sheet Verbal Boundary Description Item number 10

Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning a point on the North side of Auburn Street in line of land now or late of Gustave Laurent, and extending westward along the northern side of said Auburn Street one hundred eighty-five and eighty-five one-hundredths (185.85) feet to a point at the intersection of said Auburn Street and property now or late of William H. Gangewere; thence extending northwardly along the eastern side of said property now or late of William H. Gangewere to a point eighty-three (83) feet more or less, in line of land late of Auburn Railroad Company; thence along the same, the various courses and distances and along lands of said Auburn Railroad Company in a northwardly direction one hundred and twenty-eight (128) feet, more or less, to a point on the south side of Max Street; thence along the same in an eastern direction one hundred and ten (110) feet, more or less, to a point in line of land now or late of said Gustave Laurent; thence along the same in a southern direction one hundred and ninety (190) feet to the place of beginning.

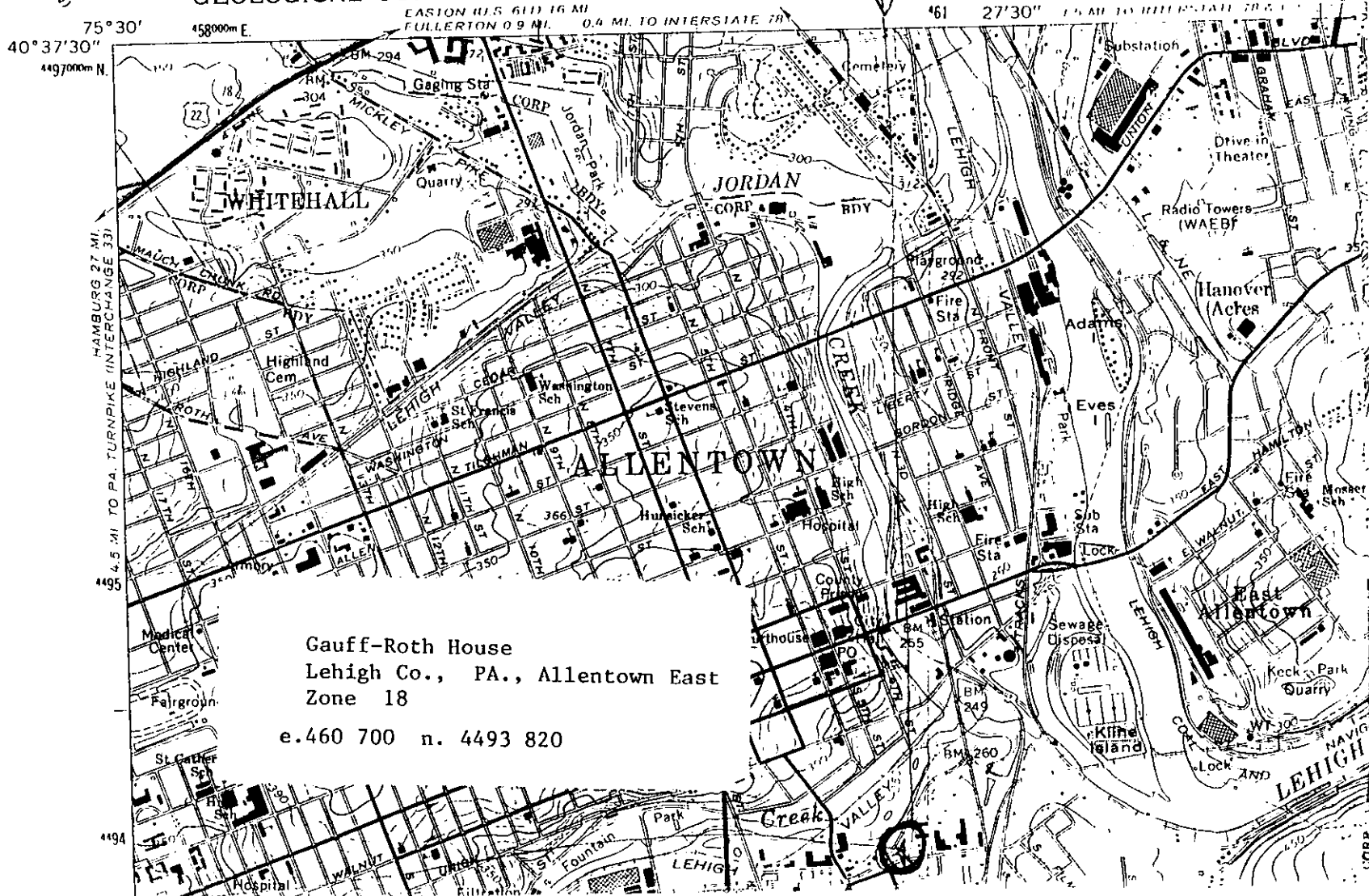


5865 II NE  
(CEMENTON)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



STATE  
DEPARTMENT  
TOPOGRAPHIC



Gaugf-Roth House  
Lehigh Co., PA., Allentown East  
Zone 18  
e.460 700 n. 4493 820