

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Colerain Forges Mansion

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: west side of Route 45, .75 mi. S of Franklinville

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Franklinville

vicinity: N/A

state: PA county: Huntingdon code: 061

zip code: 16686

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Buildings

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
2	3 buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
2	3 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Industrial Resources of  
Huntingdon County

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Dr. Brent Glass

[Handwritten Signature]

November 30, 1989

Signature of certifying official

Date

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Federal

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation stone            roof asphalt  
                 walls            brick            other  
   weatherboard

Describe present and historic physical appearance.   X   See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance: Industry  
                                 Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1810-1874            -

Significant Dates        : c.1810        \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Alterations: c.1840 c.1860

Significant Person(s): N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder:   unknown    
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.   X   See continuation sheet.

## =====

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

X See continuation sheet.

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 # PA-615
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # PA 061.071

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Huntingdon Co. Historical Society

## =====

## 10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: approx. 5 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing  
                  17    745240    4502515

\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

The boundaries are defined by the tax parcel # 14-14-06.

Boundary Justification: X See continuation sheet.

## =====

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Deborah L. Suciu - Historic Preservation Specialist

Organization: PHMC - BHP

Date: July 1989

Street &amp; Number: Box 1026 State Museum

Telephone: (717) 783-5796

City or Town: Harrisburg

State: PA ZIP: 17108-1026

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   7  

Colerain Forges Mansion

Page #2

DESCRIPTION OF APPEARANCE:

This resource is a Federal style mansion built in four major sections between the late eighteenth century and the mid to late nineteenth century. The front/south facade appears as a symmetrical 5-bay building with sidelights surrounding the south entrances on the first and second floors. There are four outbuildings on the property only one of which can be dated within the period of significance. The house was occupied by the family of the ironmaster at Colerain Forge which was located along Spruce Creek on the south side of the road. There are no visible remains of the forge operation. Colerain Forge was constructed in order to process the iron produced at Huntingdon Furnace, a National Register eligible iron plantation located north of this resource. The Colerain Forge mansion was drawn by students in the Department of Architecture of Carnegie-Mellon University according to HABS standards in 1968.

The mansion is set in a grove of old trees. Basically T-shaped, the house was apparently built in sections at different times, of three different building materials, all now unified by a coating of white paint. The top of the T is the front or main part of the house -- 3/5th frame to the east and 2/5th brick to the west -- but in its painted state giving the impression of a conventional five-bay, two-story house, with a round-columned one-story porch across the entire south-facing facade. The frame portion to the east dates to the 1830's while the brick to the west dates to the 1840's. The small ell to the west of the stone portion and the north of the west half of the front facade is constructed of the same material as the western half of the front facade and appears to have been erected at the same time. Construction of the front or south face of the house at two different times is the apparent cause for the slightly off-center placement of the entrance and the second-story door above it. The minor violation of strict symmetry would be almost unnoticed if not for a single centrally-positioned front dormer in the gable roof. There are two double chimneys on the gable ends of the front facade and a single chimney at the northern gable end of the stone section of the house.

The two-story plastered stone mid-section is the oldest part of this structure. Access from the main block of the house is through doors at the back of the first-floor hall and from the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   7  

Colerain Forges Mansion

Page #3

stair landing. Its long east side, with a full-length porch, was probably the original front when the stone portion of the house stood alone, the porch is accessible from that part of the house. There is also a small porch on the west side of the stone portion of the house which probably dates to the construction of the western half of the south facade. The stone portion of the house probably dates from the late 1700's.

The rear portion of the house is a two-story board-and-batten-covered section joined to the north end of the stone mid-section. It appears to be the newest addition to the structure, dating probably from the 1860s-1870s. [See HABS drawings PA-615 for further details on this ironmaster's mansion.]

The front entrance opens into a wide center hall with an open staircase. Both the second story and first story entries have sidelights. Neither the exterior of the building nor the interior space has not received major alterations since the last addition.

A two and a half story, gable roofed, stone outbuilding with 6 over 6 windows is located east of the mansion. It is three bays wide measuring 18 x 28 feet and has one internal gable end chimney. The west or front faces the mansion house with two entrances on the first floor. Although several structures appear on this property on the 1873 Atlas of Huntingdon and Blair Counties this may be the only one that remains standing. Although its location and footprint do not exactly match any outbuildings on the map, the construction method suggests a date prior to 1874. It is a contributing building to the nomination.

To the east of the stone outbuilding is a small board and batten shed with a central dormer on the west face. It appears to have been constructed after the period of significance and is therefore noncontributing. To the west of the mansion house is a small one story frame structure with a smaller three sided canopy to its back or west. It is a double outhouse. It appears to have been constructed after the end of the period of significance and therefore is counted as a noncontributing building. A double timber frame garage has been constructed just north of Route 45 in 1989. It does not contribute to the nomination.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   8  

Colerain Forges Mansion

Page #2

SIGNIFICANCE:

The ironmaster's mansion at Colerain Forges, located on a bend of Spruce Creek and Route 45, at the intersection with a side road to Huntingdon Furnace, is the only surviving resource of the forge operations once located just south of the mansion, across the road. It is significant as an example of Federal style architecture constructed during the nineteenth century and as a relatively unaltered ironmasters mansion once associated with a major iron production facility in the northern part of the county. It is being nominated under Criteria A for its association with the local iron industry and C as a fine example of mid nineteenth century Federal architecture in Huntingdon County.

Three forges were constructed in the vicinity of Spruce Creek in the 1810s: Upper and Lower Sligo, in 1810 and 1814, by Patton and Roach; and Marshall's, in 1814, by Samuel Marshall. Control of the forges changed frequently in their early years. Between 1819 and 1826, John Lyon and Robert T. Stewart, owners of Pennsylvania Furnace, gradually acquired and consolidated them under the name Colerain Forges. About 1828, Lyon and Stewart began taking in additional partners, and in 1831 acquired Huntingdon Furnace from John Gloninger & Co. During this period, various aspects of their vast iron holdings operated under a variety of names: Barnett & Shorb; Lyon, Shorb & Co.; Lyon, Foster & Co.; and Shorb, Stewart & Co. The latter name was longest associated with Colerain Forges, and David Stewart was the long-time manager, residing in the ironmaster's mansion from about 1830 until his death in 1869. Thomas S. Lyon managed the forge operation from that point until 1874 when the last of the forges closed although the heirs of Stewart still owned and occupied the residence.

The account of Colerain Forges in Africa's History reports the forges' total production of blooms between 1828 and 1860 was 29,661 tons, or an average of nearly 1000 tons annually. These figures are confirmed by the manufacturers' censuses for 1850 and 1860, which place a value of more than \$60,000 on a year's production. This amount exceeded by \$13,000-\$18,000 the value of pig iron produced at Huntingdon and Pennsylvania Furnaces, individually, and thus provides some perspective on the size of this forge operation.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   8   Colerain Forges Mansion Page #3  
=====

The extent and profitability of the Colerain Forges enterprise is reflected in the size and grandeur of the ironmaster's mansion, which is exceeded in Huntingdon County only by the Lyon mansion at Pennsylvania Furnace. It is one of the few remaining ironmasters mansions in Huntingdon County which retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. In the absence of surviving industrial structures -- a typical situation at forge operations -- the Colerain mansion and its extensive grounds represent the great wealth associated with Spruce Creek Valley's iron enterprises.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   9  

Colerain Forges Mansion

Page #2

SOURCES:

Africa, J. Simpson. History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1883), pp. 274-75.

Atlas of Blair and Huntingdon Counties, Pennsylvania  
(Philadelphia: A. Pomeroy & Co., 1873), pp. 104-5.

Documents Relative to the Manufactures in the United States  
[1832] (New York: Burt Franklin, 1969), vols. III and IV (printed  
as one), pp. 323-25.

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic  
Engineering and Industrial Sites, Historic American Building  
Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park  
Service(unpublished, 1988).

Huntingdon County Tax Assessments for Franklin Township, 1800-  
1876. [at Huntingdon County Historical Society]

Shedd, Nancy S. HAER consultant, President Huntingdon County  
Historical Society, 1988-89.

U.S. Census. Products of Industry, 1850, 1860.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   10  

Colerain Forges Mansion

Page #2

---

---

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

Two edge of the boundaries follow the east edge of Legislative Route 31106 and the north edge of State Route 45. The third side of the approximate triangle excludes three structures to the east with which association with the forge operation cannot be positively documented.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Colerain Forges Mansion

Section number 11 Page 1

---

This nomination contains material taken directly from the unpublished report prepared in 1988 for the Historic American Engineering Record (see Bibliographical References).

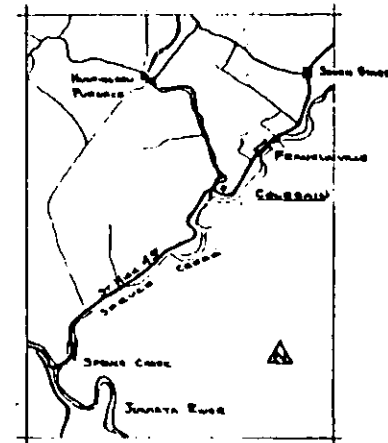
The author of that report, Nancy Shedd, is a major contributor to the text of this nomination although not the preparer.

RECEIVED

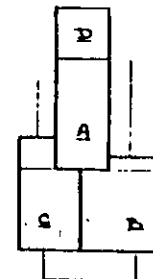
MAR 17 1989

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

# COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE



FROM U.S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY - 1955  
 SCALE - 1/48000



STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION

- STAGE A - 1787
- STAGE B - 1830
- STAGE C - 1840
- STAGE D - 1860-1870

MEASURED & DRAWN IN JUNE, 1968 BY  
 JOHN E. DENNETT, ROGER A. BUSCH,  
 RICHARD A. ECKHAERT, JOHN P. PEKURNO,  
 WILLIAM C. WINKLER, JAMES W. MASCH, AND  
 FREDERICK S. MANN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
 ARCHITECTURE OF CARNEGIE-MELLON UNIVERSITY

DRAWN BY: R. A. BUSCH - CARNEGIE INST. OF TECH

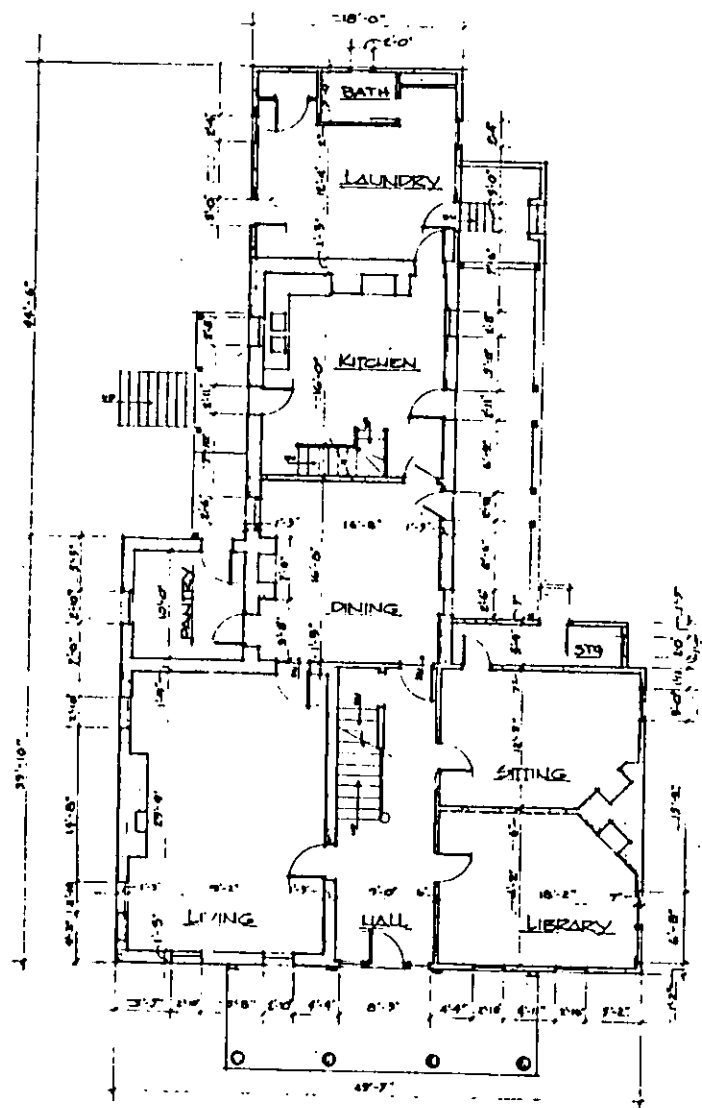
UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,  
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
**COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE**  
 FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY - PENNSYLVANIA

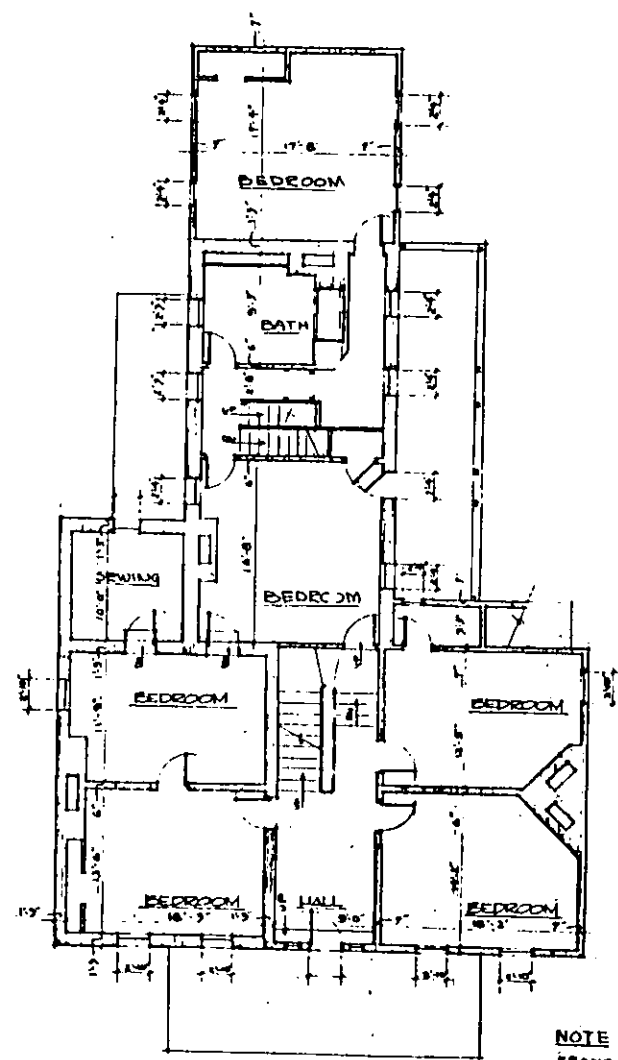
SURVEY NO.  
 PA-615

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 1 OF 7 SHEETS

The documentation was developed as a student project and donated to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). It was not completed under HABS supervision or edited by HABS staff.



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



• SECOND FLOOR PLAN •  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



NOTE: 7" WALLS ARE OF FRAME - PLASTER INSIDE. GOOD OUTSIDE: 11-5" WALLS ARE EITHER SOLID BRICK OR SOLID STONE - PLASTER INSIDE.

DRAWN BY: JE. FENWICK & RADUEN - CAROLDALE INST. OF TECH.

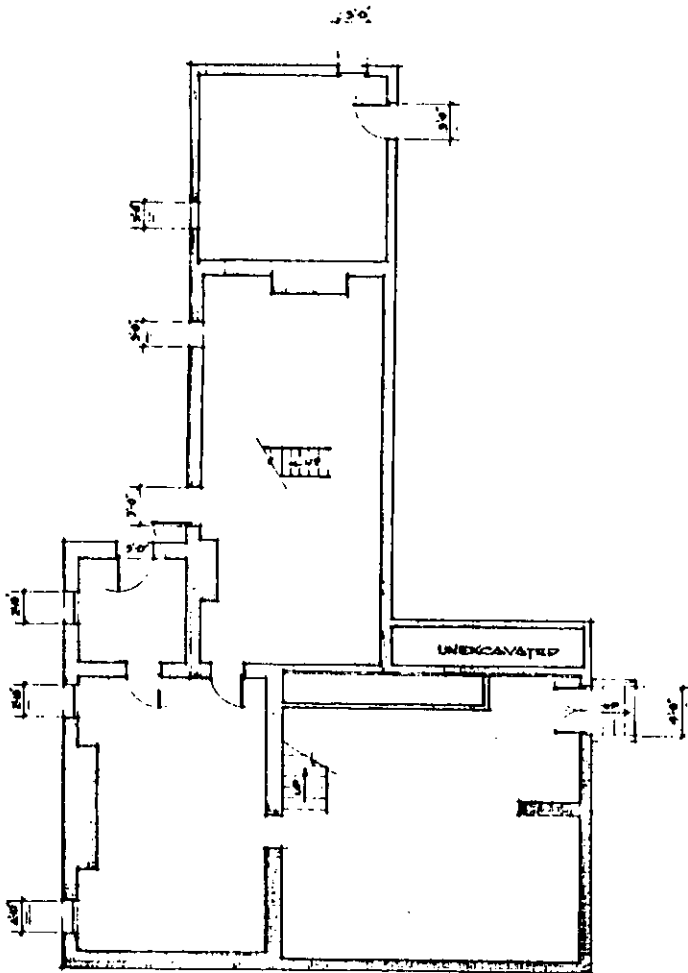
UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
**COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE**  
FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY - PENNSYLVANIA

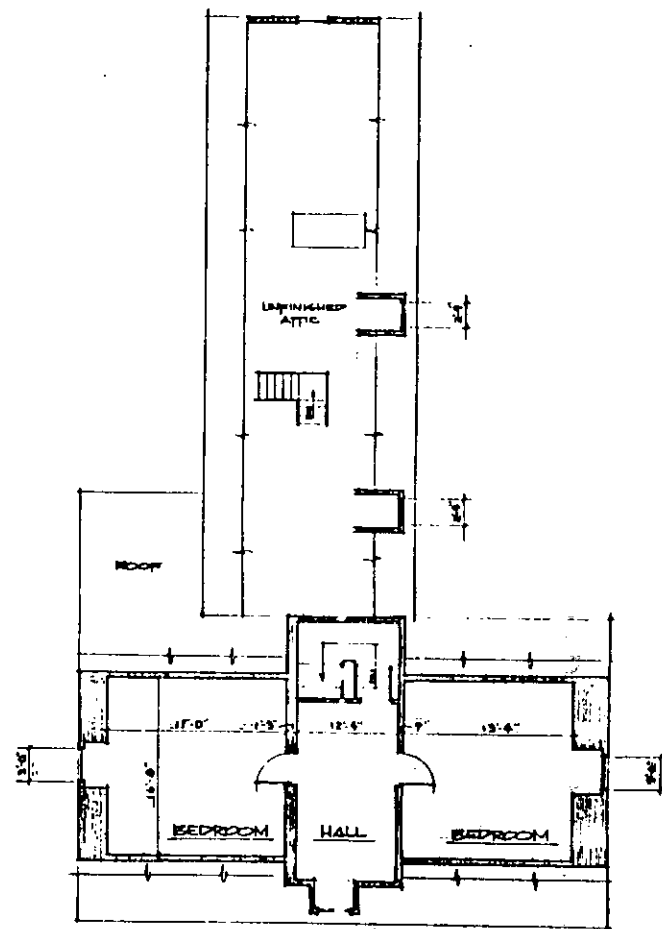
SURVEY NO.  
PA-615

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 2 OF 7 SHEETS

This documentation was developed as a student project and donated to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). It was not completed under HABS supervision or edited by HABS staff.



BASEMENT PLAN  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



ATTIC PLAN  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



DRAWN BY: J.S. BENNETT - CARNEGIE INST. OF TECH.

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

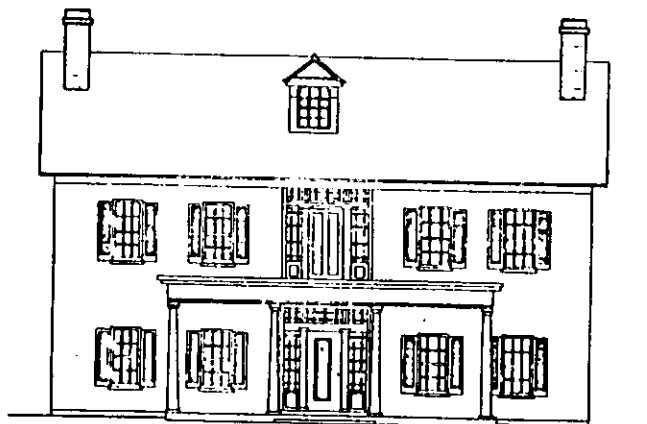
NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE

COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE  
FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY - PENNSYLVANIA

SURVEY NO.  
PA-615

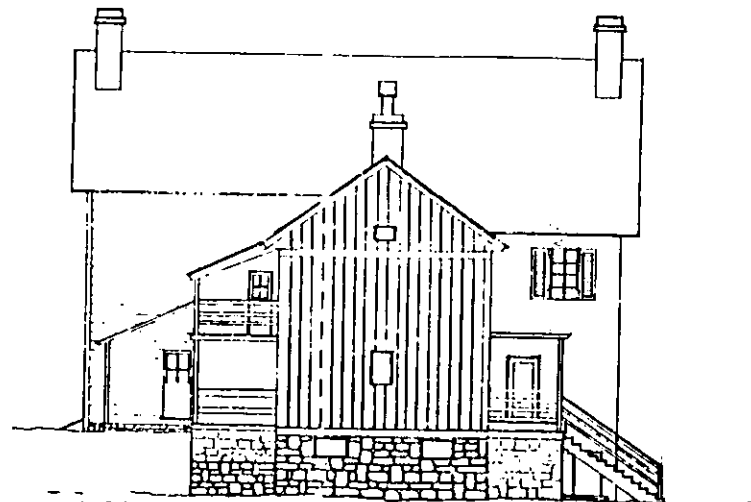
HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 3 OF 7 SHEETS

This documentation was developed as a student project and do-  
noted to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) it was  
not completed under HABS supervision or edited by HABS staff



SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY: E. ESCOBAR 6/19/80

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FRANKLINVILLE

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE

COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE  
VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY - PENNSYLVANIA

SURVEY NO.  
PA-615

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 4 OF 7 SHEETS



EAST ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

DRAWN BY: WILLIAM WINKLER

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE

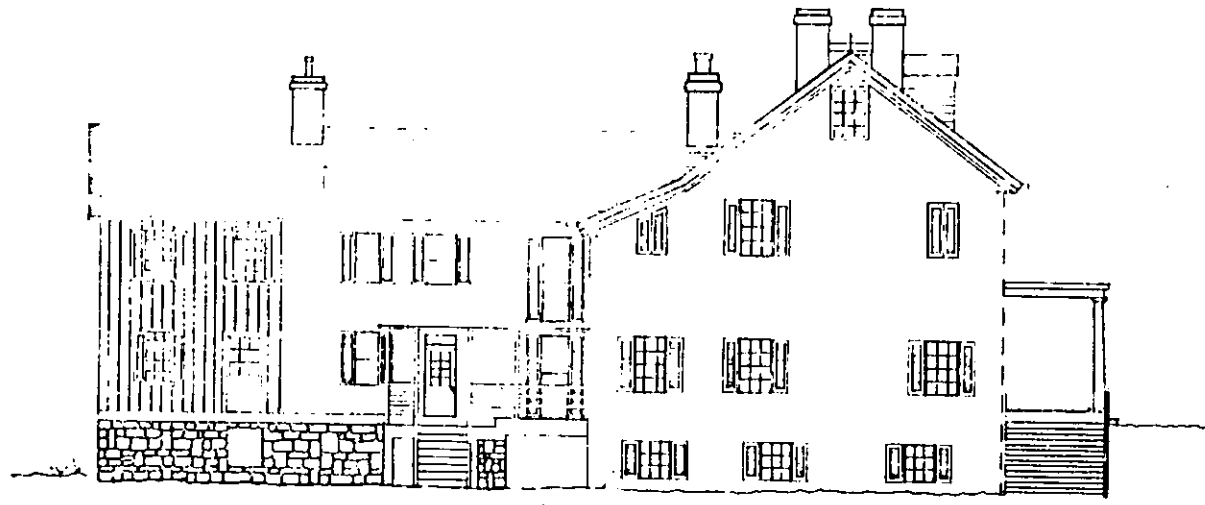
COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE  
FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY - PENNSYLVANIA

SURVEY NO.  
FA-615

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 5 OF 7 SHEETS



This documentation was developed as a student project and donated to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). It was not completed under HABS supervision or edited by HABS staff.



WEST ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY: L. STECCUM - 642165 Z - 122101 LHM

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

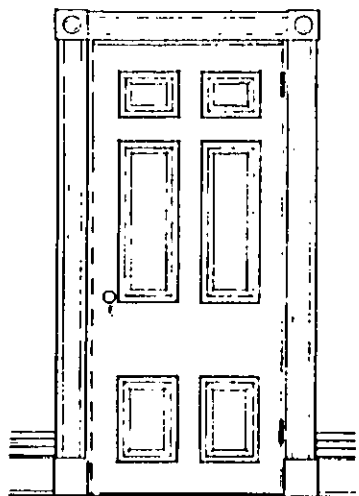
NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE

COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE  
FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY-PENNSYLVANIA

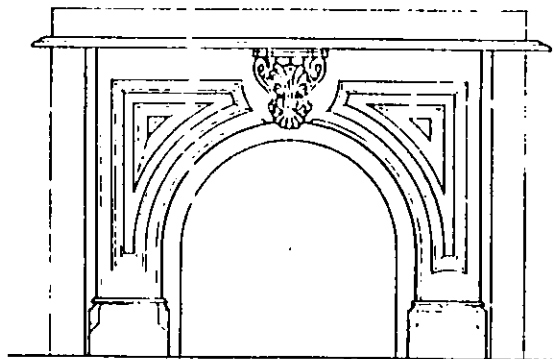
SURVEY NO.  
FA-615

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 6 OF 7 SHEETS

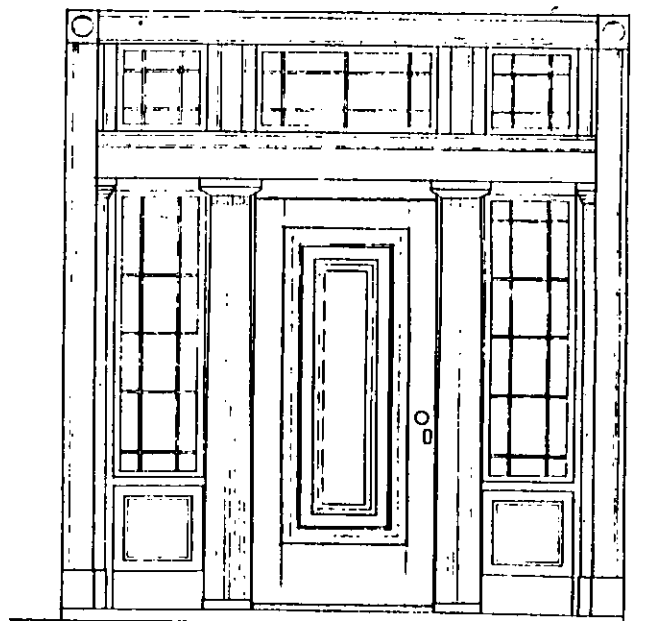
This documentation was developed as a student project and do-  
noted to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). It was  
not completed under HABS supervision or edited by HABS staff.



TYPICAL INTERIOR DOOR



LIVING ROOM FIREPLACE



MAIN ENTRANCE

DETAILS  
SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"

DRAWN BY: J. W. MADDEN - CADRETON - MRL. OF I. UNIV.

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE  
COLERAIN FORGE HOUSE  
FRANKLINVILLE VICINITY (FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP) HUNTINGDON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SURVEY NO.  
FA-616

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 7 OF 7 SHEETS

480 000 FEET  
(SOUTH)

4503

4502

4501

40°37'30"  
78°07'30"

4.5 MI TO PA. 350 | 1 900 000 FEET (SOUTH)

746

5'

747

748

COLERAIN FORGES MANSION  
WINNINGDON CO.  
FRANKLINVILLE QUAD  
ZONE 17  
E 945240 N 4502515

(SPRUCE CREEK)  
3285 11 SW

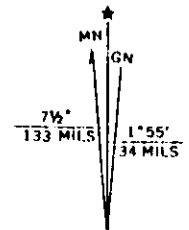
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

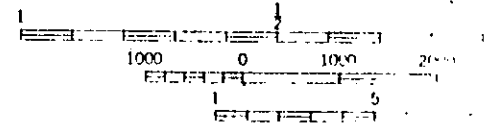
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1963

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south  
and north zones  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1972 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CON:  
NATIONAL

THIS MAP COMPLETS WITH 11  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS