

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Given, James Tavern
other names/site number Two Mile House

2. Location

street & number 1189 Walnut Bottom Road not for publication
city, town Carlisle (S. Middleton Twp.) vicinity
state Pennsylvania code PA county Cumberland code 041 zip code 17013

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Dr. Brent D. Glass Brent D. Glass 6/11/92
Signature of certifying official Date
PA 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLICAN/Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/Limestone

walls STONE/Limestone

roof METAL/Tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The James Given Tavern, also known as the Two Mile House, is one of the best preserved Federal style buildings in central Cumberland County. Located on the Walnut Bottom Road, South Middleton Township in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, the James Given Tavern is in a rapidly developing area. The house sits on almost six acres and is bounded by farm fields on the north and south (across the road), an early twentieth century barn and house to the east, and an office building to the west. In addition to the house, three other buildings stand on the property--a wagonshed (now garage), a chicken coop and a tool shed--and are all non-contributing due to their early twentieth century date of construction. These three buildings are small in scale and are located to the rear of the house.

The James Given Tavern exhibits excellent integrity and retains its Federal-era appearance. All interior woodwork and finishes are intact; only a small ca. 1840 portico added to the building's facade and a 1920s small, one-story addition built to the rear of the house are the only alterations to the exterior.

The house consists of a five-bay, two-and-a-half story, double pile, limestone main block, a two-story, two bay, single pile, limestone kitchen ell, and a one-and-a-half story, single pile, stone addition built onto the northwest corner during the 1920s. The facade is ashlar masonry; all other elevations are rough cut stone laid in courses. The gable roof is covered with tin. Window sashes on the facade, east elevation and west elevation are six-over-six lights, while the windows on the rear elevation are twelve-over-twelve lights with the exception of a six-over-six light sash window for the staircase landing. The first floor shutters, except on the rear elevation, feature applied molding and appear to post date the construction of the house (these shutters, however, can be seen in a ca. 1920 photograph of the house). The first-floor shutters on the rear elevation have four panels and match the window reveals. Second-floor shutters are louvred.

A Doric columned portico (ca. 1840) now highlights the building's primary entrance. The portico was originally on the facade of the Lamberton House on West High Street in the Borough of Carlisle (Cumberland County); the portico was removed from the Lamberton House when the building was converted from a residence to a commercial use. The portico does not appear in a photograph of the house printed in Architectural Record of December 1920. The primary entrance is topped with a fanlight and features a reeded wood surround with a

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keystone and rosettes. The arch is further delineated by a cut limestone arch visible above the wood surround. The door jamb is decorated by wood panels which match those found on the eight-panel door. A bead divides the door vertically. In addition to the central door on the facade, another door was located to the east. This door was transformed into a window sometime prior to 1920. Another door, which opens into the northeast room in the main block, is an eight-panel door with the upper four panels replaced with glass; this door may be the door removed from the facade.

The rear kitchen ell, measuring 22' X 20', is two bay, single pile with a shed roof. A door is located on the east elevation; a window has also been shortened on this elevation. No windows are found on the north elevation. The west elevation features a door and a six-over-six light sash window on the first floor, and eight-over-twelve sash windows on the second floor.

In the 1920s, a stone addition was built onto the northwest corner. Fourteen feet of the addition (featuring French doors) is visible from the road. The addition is covered with a gable tin roof, except where the addition overlaps the main block on the rear elevation by six feet; here the roofline continues from the main block as a shed. Both the east and west elevations of the addition feature multi-light windows. At the peak of the gable on the west elevation is a lunette.

A basement only exists under the main block of the house. Instead of a summer beam, a stone wall runs the length of the basement. A board and batten door hung on strap hinges provides access to the south half of the basement. Joists were cut with an up-and-down saw.

The first floor plan of the main block consists of a central passage flanked by double parlors. A bath and coat closet were divided (perhaps in the 1920s) off from the west end of the northeast room. All floors in this main block are pine and all of the window reveals are decorated with panels. Other common treatments include 3" chairrail (except in the halls) and a 6" baseboard. All walls and ceilings are plastered.

The central passage is dominated by a stair which turns once before reaching the second floor. The stair rises in the southwest corner of the hall and features straight balusters and a simple newel. A door to the exterior is located below the landing of the stairs on the north elevation. Each of the downstairs parlors features a fireplace on the gable wall. All of these mantels feature Doric-style pilasters and a central panel with an oval medallion

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(see photo V). The fireplace mantel in the northwest parlor was featured in Architectural Record in July 1921. The fireplaces in the front upstairs chambers have simplified versions of the first-floor mantels. The first-floor parlors on the east half of the house are separated by a wall with a door providing access between the rooms. The western parlors are only partially divided. All interior doors on the first floor, with the exception of a six-panel door to the basement stairs, are eight panel. Only the southwest parlor exhibits corner blocks on the door and window surrounds; all other surrounds are very simple. The northeast parlor is wainscotted. According to the present owner, the Moores (owners from 1904 to 1941) used this room as a butler's pantry.

The plan of the main block's second floor contains six rooms: two baths and four bedrooms. The plan on the west half mirrors the first floor, except that a full wall (with door) separates the two rooms. The south end of the hall has been made into a bath. The two bedrooms on the east half are split by a bath which appears to have been created in the 1920s.

The kitchen ell is one room on the first floor with a large cooking fireplace on the north wall. A bakeoven door remains intact although the oven has been removed. An enclosed stair to the second floor is located on the south wall. The second floor of the kitchen ell contains two small bedrooms, a partial bath and a small hall.

The first floor of the 1920s addition is one room with an exposed stone fireplace on the north wall. The floor is narrow oak boards and the ceiling has exposed joists. The second floor of the addition is divided into a small room with plastered walls and a small storage space.

8. Statement of Significance

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

- nationally
- statewide
- locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Commerce _____

Period of Significance

ca. 1820-1857

Significant Dates

ca. 1820

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The James Given Tavern is an excellently preserved Federal style house. The house is significant for its fine architectural detailing and its excellent state of preservation. The house also served as a tavern on an important transportation route, the Walnut Bottom Road (which ran from Carlisle to Shippensburg, Pennsylvania), during the first half of the nineteenth century.

James Given acquired 307 acres of land along the Walnut Bottom Road in South Middleton Township in 1816. He purchased approximately 194 acres from the estate of John Steele in 1814 and the remaining acreage from James Hunter in 1816. Both parcels of land were originally patented to Ephraim Blaine in 1793. The owners of the acreage in 1798 (John and James Hunter, John Steele, Ephraim Blaine) were not listed with stone houses with the dimension of the subject structure (or kitchen ell) on the Federal Direct Tax.

James Given owned the property from 1816 until his death in 1841. First mention of a building on the property which could be the subject structure occurred in the triennial tax assessment of 1826; in that year, Given was taxed for "one tavern stand and other improvements". The triennial tax assessments of 1829 further described the building as a "stone house." The house appears on the 1858 atlas of the county as the "Two Mile House."

According to a paper given before the Cumberland County Historical Society by John Miller in 1904, the

...only evidence we can gather of its (the Two Mile House) ever having been a tavern prior to 1849, is that of Philip Pile, who was landlord that year, who says in his application that he succeeds John Snyder. [1]

Miller also states that the tavern closed in 1857 when Given sold the house to Andrew K. Searight. Tax assessment records verify this assertion; the

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property is not described as a tavern in later records. Searight's estate divided the land and sold the house and 129 acres to A.K. Seavers. The Seavers family owned the property until Thomas and Alice Moore purchased the house in 1904. The Moores restored the house and built an addition during the 1920s. Alice Moore sold almost six acres of land (the property's present acreage) to J. Donald and Isabel R. Carpenter in 1941. Five years later, J. McLain and Mary Wheeler King purchased the ~~house~~ and land.

The James Given Tavern is an exceptionally fine example of stone, five-bay, double-pile, Federal architecture, a form found throughout Cumberland County. The exterior of the house still exhibits its Federal appearance, while the interior presents its early appearance in both the formal and working spaces. The formal rooms feature eight Federal fireplace mantels, a formal staircase, and panelled widow reveals, while the kitchen ell retains its cooking fireplace, bakeoven door, enclosed ~~winder~~ stairs and original partitions on the second floor.

A similar example of Federal architecture is the McManus House (built in 1813, in a National Register District) in the Borough of Carlisle on North East Street. The McManus House, however, exhibits a transom over the primary entrance rather than a fanlight. Another Federal style, limestone house with a central passage and double-pile plan, Cumberland Hall or the Moore House, sits west of the James Given Tavern on the Walnut Bottom Road. Like the Given Tavern, this house was built to accommodate the many people who travelled the Walnut Bottom Road. Cumberland Hall first operated as a tavern in 1796 and thus predates the Given Tavern and as a result, Cumberland Hall features more Georgian-style detailing. [2] In addition to Cumberland Hall and the Given Tavern, the Cumberland County Historic Resource Survey found other early stone taverns, including the Pollock Tavern, the Junkin Tavern, the Hogue Tavern, the Bell Tavern, and the Bowman Tavern, but the Given Tavern is unusual in its post-1800 date of construction and its outstanding architectural integrity. [3]

The Walnut Bottom Road was one of the earliest roads in the county, and was an important route to the west. According to John Miller, the Walnut Bottom Road "was a great avenue over which the wagoners of the Alleghenies, the drovers from the west, and the stage coach lines passed." [4] Along with the Given Tavern and Cumberland Hall, mentioned above, approximately eighteen other buildings served as taverns on the Walnut Bottom Road from the 1790s through the late nineteenth century; [5] other taverns identified which still stand

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along the Walnut Bottom Road include two brick tavern buildings, the Weakley Taven and a tavern in Centerville. [6]

ENDNOTES

[1] John R. Miller, "Reminiscences of the Walnut Bottom Road" (Carlisle, PA: Cumberland County Historical Society, 1904), 30.

[2] Miller, 24.

[3] See Cumberland County Historic Resource Survey Files, Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, Pennsylvania and Nancy Van Dolsen, Cumberland County: An Architectural Survey (Carlisle, PA: Cumberland County Historical Society, 1990).

[4] Miller, 31.

[5] Miller, 5-30.

[6] Cumberland County Historic Resource Survey Files; Van Dolsen, 246.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5.67

UTM References

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary is the current legal parcel as set in 1941 and encompasses the house and its immediate setting, and three early twentieth century non-contributing out-buildings

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Van Dolsen
 organization N/A date February 1992
 street & number R.D. 1 Stone House Road telephone (717) 789-4735
 city or town Green Park state PA zip code 17031

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Cumberland County Historical Society, 1987 (rpt 1858).

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County Historical Society, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Cumberland County Deed Boods. Cumberland County Court House, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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Federal Direct Tax, 1798 (microfilm). Cumberland county Historical Society.

Flower, Milton E. Carpenter's Companies and Carlisle Architecture. Carlisle, PA:
Cumberland County Historical Society, 1955.

Miller, John. "Reminiscences of the Walnut Bottom Road". Carlisle, PA:
Cumberland County Historical Society, 1904.

Van Dolsen, Nancy. Cumberland County: An Architectural Survey. Carlisle, PA:
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the center line of the Walnut Bottom Road at the corner of other lands formerly of Alice M. Moore, thence North 33° 14 minutes West 192.8 feet to a point thence 561° 13 minutes West 70 feet to a point near the north side of garage thence North 35° 5 minutes West 71.53 feet to a point thence North 16° 39 minutes West 87.95 feet to a fence post thence North 12° 55 minutes West 48.31 feet to a fence post thence North 32° 6 minutes West 429.8 feet to a fence post thence North 68° 26 minutes West 9.25 feet to a fence post thence 561° 13 minutes West 183 feet to a fence post thence South 20° 32 minutes West 137.4 feet to a fence post thence 533° 7 minutes East 761.4 feet to the center line of the Walnut Bottom Road thence North 56° 4/100 minutes East 329.3 feet to the place of beginning.

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PHOTOGRAPHS:
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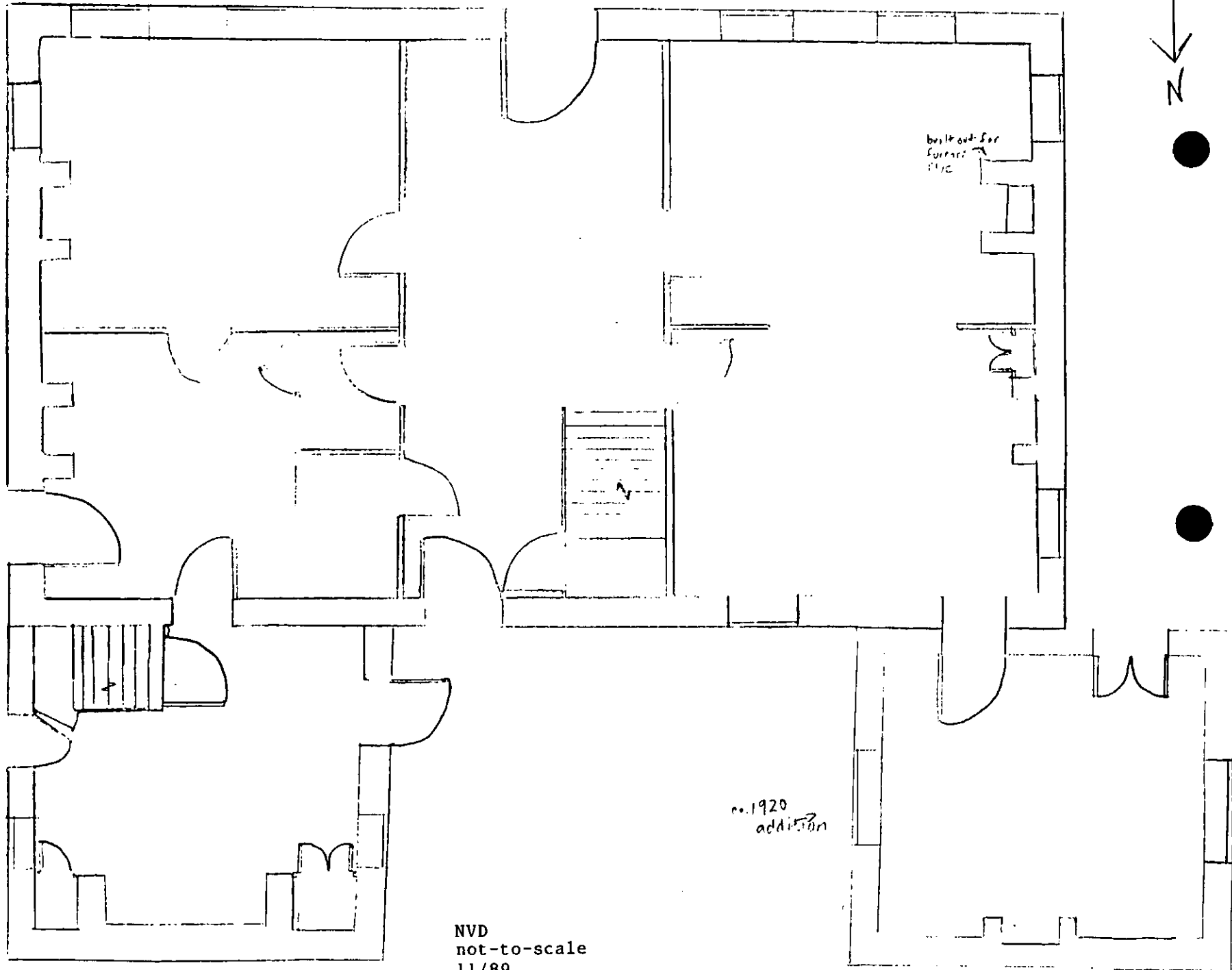
- I. 1. James Given Tavern
2. South Middleton Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania
3. Nancy Van Dolsen
4. April 1989
5. Cumberland County Historical Society, 21 N. Pitt Street, Carlisle,
Pennsylvania 17013
6. View of the facade, taken from the southeast.

(The first five items are the same for the following photographs.)

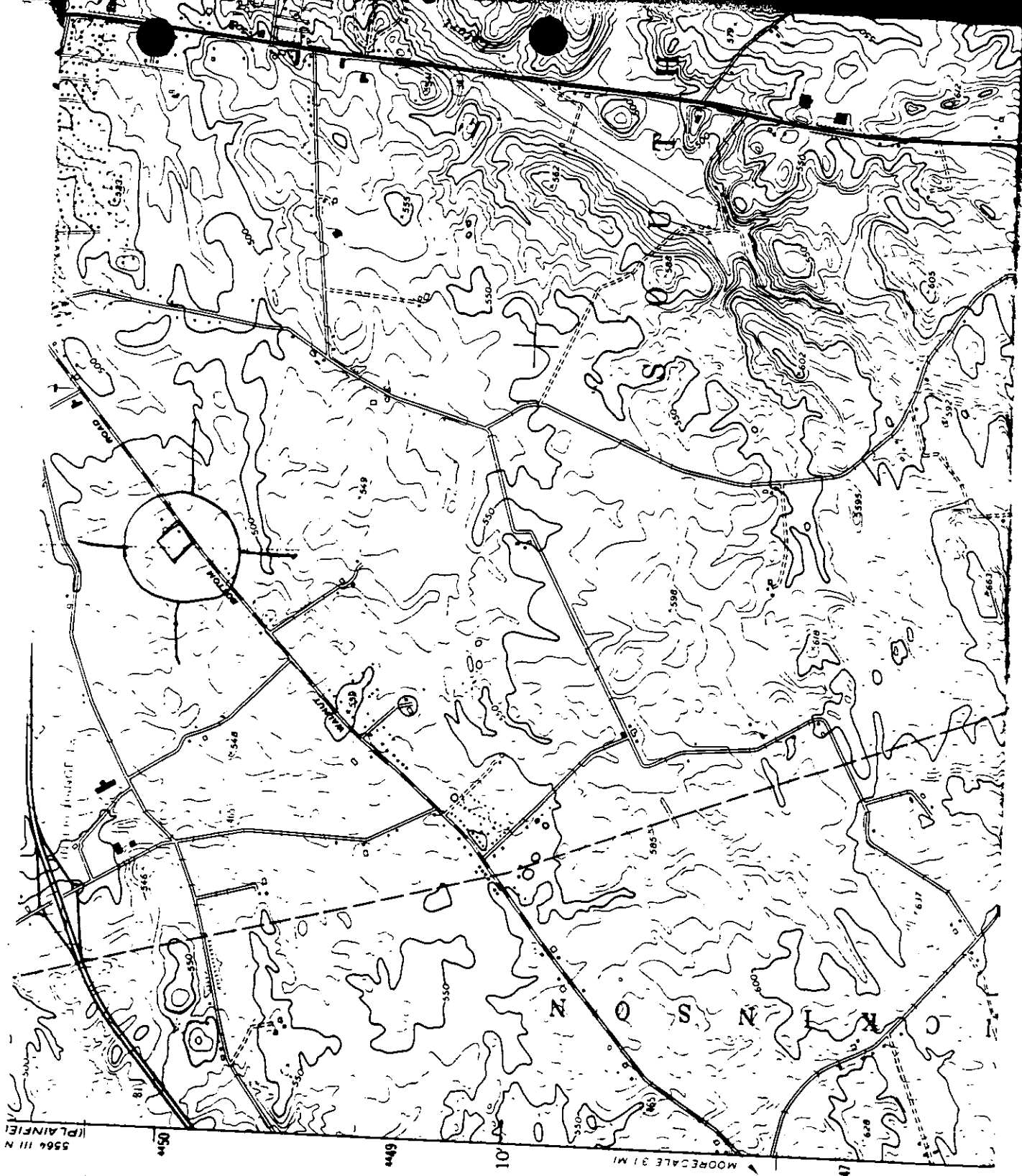
- II. 6. View of the rear of the house, taken from the northwest. The shed
roof ell to the left is the kitchen ell; the addition to the right
was constructed in the 1920s.
- III. 6. View of the primary entrance from the south. Note the fanlight,
the panelled door jamb, the stone arch surrounding the fanlight,
and the central bead dividing the door.
- IV. 6. View of the main staircase, from the south.
- V. 6. View of the fireplace surround in the northwest parlor.
- VI. 6. View of the kitchen, cooking fireplace, from the southwest. Note the
door to the bakeoven.

James Given Tavern, South Middleton Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania

First Floor Plan



NVD
not-to-scale
11/89



James Given Tavern
 Cumberland County
 2nd 17-castle road
 E 31020 11449980