

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 18A). 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 Parraco, James, House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Corner of Third & Clear Sts.  not for publication

city or town Greensboro  vicinity

state PA code PA county Greene code 059 zip code 15338

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.)

DR. BRENT D. GLASS

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION

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:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- 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:)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**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)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

c. 1910

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Parreco, James

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parreco House  
Name of Property

Greene Co., Pa.  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1/2 acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	117	593040	4405240
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

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 Jerry A. Clouse/Bureau for Historic Preservation Staff

organization Penna. Hist. & Museum Commission date October 6, 1994

street & number P. O. Box 1026 telephone 717-783-9918

city or town Harrisburg state PA zip code 17108-1026

**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 Donald L. DeBolt

street & number Third St. telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Greensboro state PA zip code 15338

**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.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Parreco House, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 7 Page 1

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### Description

This two bay, two-and-a-half story, stone house, displaying elements of the Prairie style, was built c. 1910 by contractor/builder James Parreco. Located on the northeast corner of Third and Clear streets in the borough of Greensboro, the James Parreco House faces south onto Clear Street. The house is built on the sloping bluff which rises above the Monongahela river. Built into the bank, the first floor of the house can be entered at street level on the west side, but the cellar can be entered at ground level on the east side. There are no other surviving historic buildings associated with this property. Although changes have been made to the house over the years, it retains sufficient integrity to represent its historic period of significance.

The Parreco House displays some typical features of the Prairie style including the low-pitched, hipped roof, wide eaves, and a one-story porch with massive brick supports. It has an asymmetrical facade with a front entrance into the hall and an entrance into the living room recessed along the house's west elevation. This is the less common form of this style, sometimes called the "American Foursquare," which is classically symmetrical. The front porch of the house shows some features of the Craftsman style including the exposed rafter tails and brick lattice work railing. The rear or sun porch consists of a poured concrete, box-like structure connected to the house at the kitchen and supported on concrete piers. (1)

On the exterior, the coursed stone work of the Parreco House consists of large, rectangular sandstones which are rusticated. A stone water table projects from the building at the top of the basement and in line with the tops of the basement windows. The front porch, on the south side of the house, extends along the recess of the west elevation as well. This western portion has been enclosed. In this section nine-paned windows were placed between the brick columns. The columns support a wide cornice. The porch is topped with a shallow pitched shed roof. The entrance onto the porch is at the west end which is level with Third Street. Consequently, the closest entrance into the house is through the west door into the living room and not through the east door into the stair hall. The porch's brick lattice work railing rests on a stuccoed foundation punctuated with lunette type windows. Beneath the eastern end of the porch is a small, low entrance which leads to a wine cellar extending along the south and west sides of the house.

The windows throughout the building have single stone lintels and sills. The sills project an inch or so beyond the sides of the house. Most of the windows throughout the house are double hung sash of one-over-one configuration. The windows are tall and generally large for the size of the house and vary in width from floor to floor. The largest windows are located in the dining room

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Parreco House, Greene Co., Pa.

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width from floor to floor. The largest windows are located in the dining room and living room. Each large window there has a single, fixed transom above and is separated from the window with a heavy, wooden transom bar. There is an elliptical window, highlighted with keystones, in the recess above the west front door. It was later infilled.

The house is topped with a hipped, asymmetrical roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The roof pitch is flared near the bottom. Two brick chimneys rise near the center of the house.

The parlor/living room, the largest room in the house, has plastered walls. There are no window or door surrounds, but they are highlighted with bull's eye corner blocks. A focus of this room is the fireplace along the eastern wall. The fireplace surround consists of a simple oak mantel supported with round oak columns. The inner surround consists of ceramic tile. This room has high, molded baseboard, which is found throughout the house.

There is an arched entrance into the dining room, on the south side of the house. Along the eastern wall there is a double-doored cupboard which has arched, glazed doors. There are drawers beneath the doors. A line on the wall beside the cupboard indicates there may have been a fireplace in this location at one time. The single, large window in this room has a wide, unadorned surround.

The narrow stair hall features a leaded, multi-paned, glass front door with a single-paned transom above. The balustrade consists of turned spindles, a molded handrail, and a square newel post which is molded and panelled. It appears some molding has been removed beneath the stair treads. The window on the east side of the stairwell is splayed.

The kitchen is located in the northeastern corner of the house. The walls and ceilings throughout the house are plastered except in the kitchen. Local historian, Doris Hawk recalled that there once was fine stenciling on the house's walls. This room features a beaded-board ceiling and beaded, vertical wainscoting. Like the living room, the kitchen lacks window surrounds but retains the bull's eye corner blocks. (2)

The sun porch is entered through the kitchen. As previously stated it is constructed of poured concrete. On the exterior, the raised relief columns are offset with yellow brick at the position of the windows. The porch is lighted with a series of metal casement windows with four-paned transoms above. Similar to the front porch, this porch has exposed rafter tails.

On the second floor, there are molded door surrounds in the hall with bull's

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Parreco House, Greene Co., Pa.

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panels. The doors here and generally throughout the house are five-panelled, similar to those found in the Greensboro Public School.

The basement/cellar can be entered along the eastern foundation wall. A single-paned transom lights this entrance. Unlike most earlier houses, the basement of this house was completely finished. The walls are plastered and the ceilings are covered with beaded boards. A partially enclosed stair is located in the southeast corner. The balustrade consists of a square newel post, molded handrail, and vertical beaded-board railing. There is a closet beneath the north end of the stair. Four Gothic arches serve as entrances into various rooms or alcoves in the basement. There are full height windows on the north and east sides. Some of these have beaded-board surrounds. The floor is poured concrete.

Although relatively minor alterations, such as an enclosed fireplace, removal of molding on the stair, and the covering of wall stencils have been made to the Parreco House, it still retains its dominant architectural features and physical setting and is able to convey its early twentieth-century significance as an important early 20th century dwelling in Greensboro displaying substantial masonry construction and the work of local builder James Parreco.

**Notes**

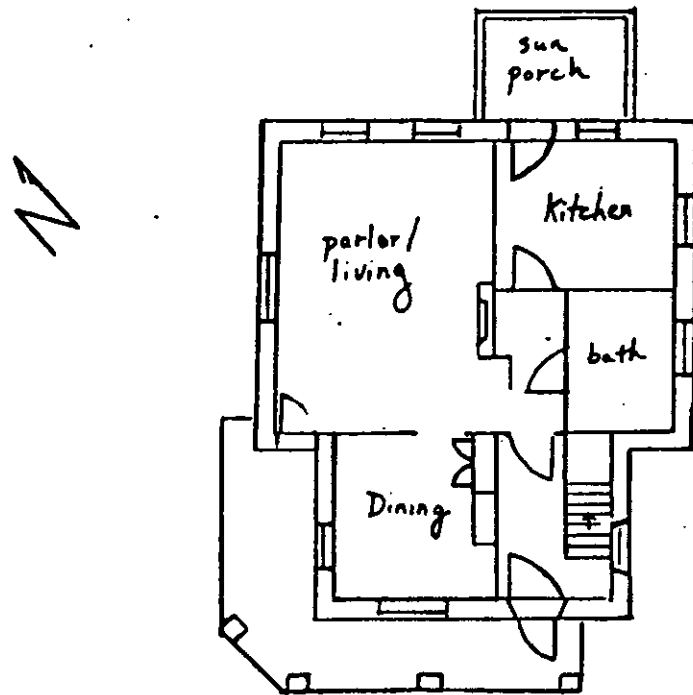
(1) Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), pp. 439-440.

(2) Doris Hawk, interview, 3 February 1994.

Parreco House

Greensboro, Greene Co.

First Floor Plan  
(Not Drawn to Scale)





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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Parreco House, Greene Co., Pa.

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### Statement of Significance

The James Parreco House is significant in the area of architecture. This house is part of the property type "Residences of the Greensboro/New Geneva Area" as discussed in the Greensboro/New Geneva Multiple Property Documentation Form. Among the requirements to meet Criterion C, a residence may be representative of early twentieth-century regional vernacular architecture or be representative of a popular national style. It must retain sufficient integrity of materials and stylistic details to be representative of that style. Fenestration patterns and door openings should not be greatly altered or blocked in. The interior of the building should retain most of its original floor plan. The Parreco House was built c. 1910 on a previously empty lot (Lot 54) in Greensboro. This house retains sufficient integrity to represent its period of construction and the work of local builder, James Parreco. Prosperity spurred by the boom in the local coal/coke industry enabled substantial masonry buildings executed in popular styles to be built in the area. The Parreco House displays elements of the Prairie style.

Little is known of James Parreco's background. The 1904 Greensboro Public School was the first of his works in the Greensboro area. The following year he built the Greensboro Baptist Church. Although the church was done in the Victorian Gothic style, Parreco again employed rusticated stonework. Likewise, he used stone in his own c. 1910 house built on the corner of Third and Clear streets. However, he used coursed stone work with less rustication in the Parreco House, which displays elements of the Prairie style. He also built the high school at Mapletown which shows elements of the Colonial Revival style and a large, yellow and red brick house on the northern edge of Glassworks in the Bungalow style. These buildings illustrate Parreco's versatility as a contractor/builder and his desire to build substantial structures in the Greensboro area. (1)

Parreco purchased several lots and tracts of land in Greensboro in the World War I period and during the 1920s. He subdivided the land just west of the Parreco House in 1927. He put in the first water system in town and evidently built other less substantial buildings in the area. Parreco's building projects not only used local carpenter/builders but also brought skilled laborers into the area. Parreco trained a local African-American, Cliff Lewis, to be a stone mason. Stone for his projects arrived by packet boat. The Parreco family moved to the Washington, D.C. area about 1929. (2)

Parreco arrived in Greensboro during a time of prosperous expansion in the area. Greensboro continued as a local commercial center and a major port on the Monongahela in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, and the local population grew after 1900 as the coal and coke boom hit the area.

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Although the coal patch towns grew outside the limits of Greensboro, the town served as the commercial focus of the area. The early twentieth-century prosperity enabled the building of more substantial structures such as the Greensboro Baptist Church and the Greensboro School.

Built during a time of population growth and economic development in the Greensboro area, the Parreco House is significant for its early twentieth-century Prairie style architecture.

### **Notes**

(1) Doris Hawk, interview, 13 January 1994.

(2) Greene County Deed Book 258, p. 513, Deed Book 252, p. 334, Deed Book 262, p. 574, Deed Book 282, p. 423, Deed Book 332, p. 96, Deed Book 334, p. 597; Doris Hawk, interviews, 13 January 1994 and 3 February 1994.

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**Bibliography**

Samuel P. Bates, History of Greene County, Pennsylvania (Chicago: Nelson, Rishforth & Co., 1888).

Caldwell's Illustrated Historical Atlas of Greene County (Condit, Ohio: J.A. Caldwell, 1876).

L.K. Evans, Pioneer History of Greene County (Waynesburg, Pa.: Waynesburg Republican, 1941).

Greene Township, Monongahela Township, Greensboro Borough, Greene County Tax Records, Greene County Courthouse Annex, 1797-1910.

Rev. William Hanna, History of Greene County (Greensboro, Pa.: 1882).

J.L. McConnell, McConnell's Map of Greene County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Tuttle & Co., 1865)

Richard Meyer, John F. Bauman, and Alfonso Narvaez, "Historic buildings Survey: Grays Landing Lock and Dam, Monongahela River, Pa." (West Chester, Pa.: John Milner Assoc., Inc., February 1991).

The Papers of Albert Gallatin, microfilm (Philadelphia: Rhistoric Publications, 1969) Sponsored by New York University and the National Historical Publications Commission.

Lillian Potisek, Hilda Stull, and Thomas Viencek, eds., History of Greene County (no publisher, 1976)

Andrew J. Waychoff, Local History of Greene County and Southwestern Pennsylvania (Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1975).

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**Boundary Description**

Beginning at a point on the eastern edge of Third Street where Clear Street intersects the northeast corner of Second Street, then proceeding from this point in a northeast direction parallel with the Parreco House one hundred and forty-eight feet to a point, the current parcel boundary, then proceeding from this point in a southwest direction seventy-two feet to a point, then proceeding from this point one hundred and forty-eight feet along the current parcel boundary in a southwest direction to a point on the northern edge of Clear Street or the southern boundary of this property, then proceeding from this point in a northwest direction seventy-two feet parallel with the northern edge of Clear Street to the point of beginning.

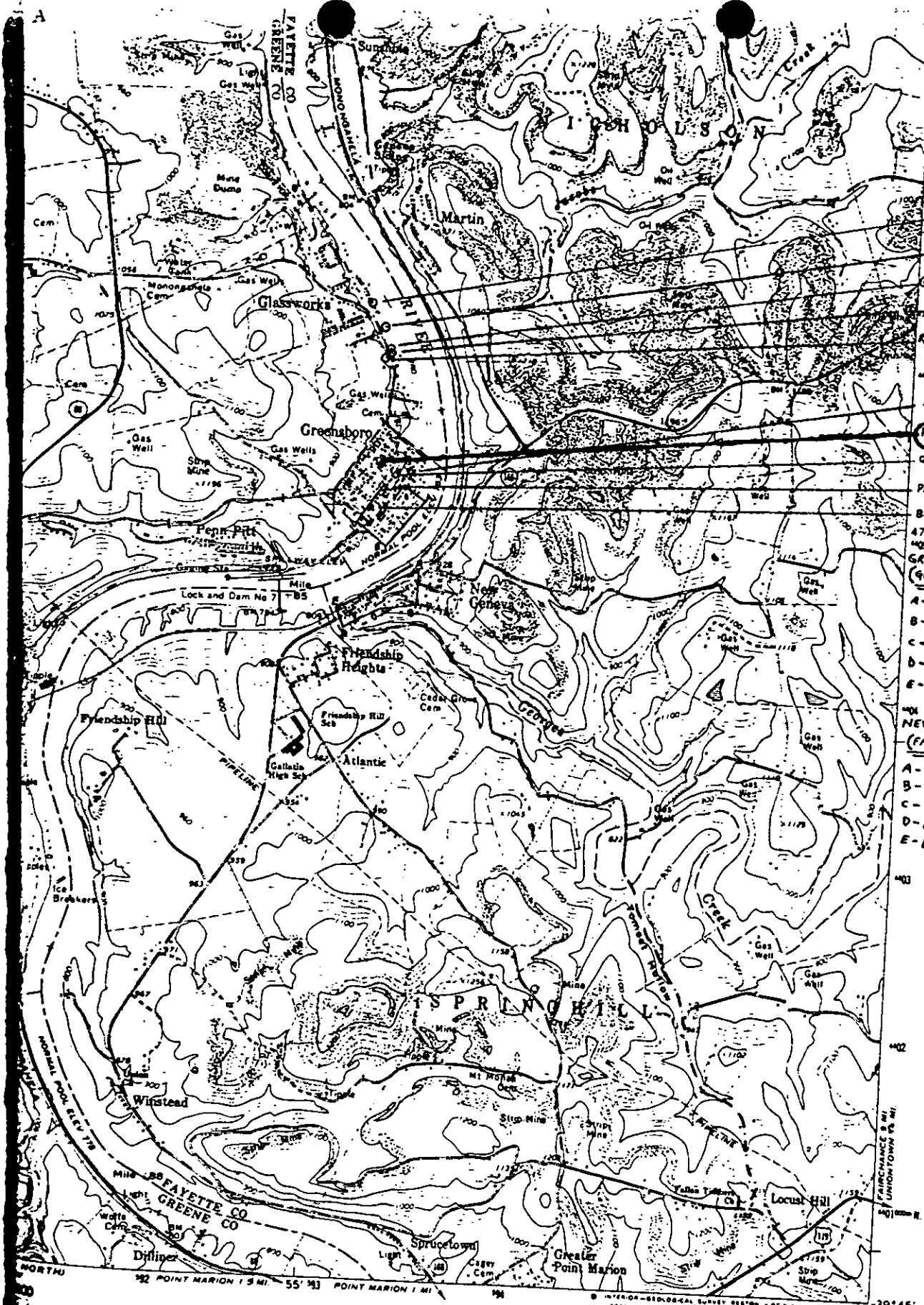
**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the land immediately surrounding the Parreco House and is the current tax parcel lot.

**Parreco House Photo List**

All of the following photographs of the Parreco House, located in the borough of Greensboro, Greene County, Pennsylvania, were taken by Jerry Clouse, November 1993. All of the negatives are located in the offices of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

1. Standing at the intersection of Clear and Third streets looking northeast at the facade and west elevation of the Parreco House.
2. Looking northeast at the facade and west elevation of the Parreco House showing details of the porch and elliptical window above the porch.
3. Looking southeast at the north and west elevations of the Parreco House showing the rear sun porch, window details, and the water table.
4. Looking south in the stair hall at the balustrade.
5. Looking northeast in the dining room at the cupboard.



- GLASSWORKS (GREENE COUNTY)
- 407 EBERHART/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 302-B)  
Zone 17, E 593030/N 4406170
- J McCRAWFORD HOUSE  
Zone 17, E 593030/N 4406170
- GLASSWORKS HOUSE (BLDG. 302-B)  
Zone 17, E 593030/N 4405910
- EBERHART/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 302-A)  
Zone 17, E 593040/N 4405400
- REPPERT/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 314-A)  
Zone 17, E 593000/N 4405860
- 405 GREENSBORO (GREENE COUNTY)
- 2045 TONES HOUSE  
Zone 17, E 593200/N 4405210
- PARRICO HOUSE  
Zone 17, E 593040/N 4405240
- GREENSBORO SCHOOL  
Zone 17, E 593100/N 4405190
- PETERS/GRAHAM HOUSES  
Zone 17, E 593060/N 4405100
- BOUGHNER HOUSE  
Zone 17, E 593280/N 4404980
- 47° 30'
- 405 GREENSBORO HISTORIC DISTRICT (GREENE COUNTY) ZONE 17
- A - E 593310/N 4405020
- B - E 593210/N 4405100
- C - E 593040/N 4405090
- D - E 592910/N 4404890
- E - E 593090/N 4404740
- 404 NEW GENEVA HISTORIC DISTRICT (FAYETTE COUNTY) ZONE 17
- A - E 593300/N 4404610
- B - E 593300/N 4404420
- C - E 593100/N 4404380
- D - E 592860/N 4404260
- E - E 592820/N 4404370

1 MILE  
 5000 6000 7000 FEET  
 1 KILOMETER  
 FEET  
 OF 1929  
 ACCURACY STANDARDS

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
 Heavy-duty \_\_\_\_\_ Light-duty \_\_\_\_\_  
 Medium-duty \_\_\_\_\_ Unimproved dirt \_\_\_\_\_  
 U S Route      State Route

MASONTOWN, PA.

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