

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic *Sturgeon House*

and/or common

2. Location

street & number *102 S. Garwood* _____ not for publication

city, town *Fairview* _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district *24*

state *Pennsylvania* code *42* county *Erie* code *049*

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input 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 *Fairview Area Historical Society*

street & number *Box 119*

city, town *Fairview* _____ vicinity of _____ state *Pennsylvania* *1045*

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Erie County Courthouse*

street & number *West Sixth Street*

city, town *Erie* _____ state *Pennsylvania*

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title *Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places* has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date *7/2/80* _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records *Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission*

city, town *Harrisburg* _____ state *Pennsylvania*

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sturgeon House with its salt box form and recessed side porch is rare in northwestern Pennsylvania, but examples are present across the northern tier counties of Pennsylvania.

Structure: The basic structure of the Sturgeon House consists of stone foundation walls topped with heavy timber sills which are notched to receive log form beams. The logs are planed on top to provide a level base for the first floor boards.

The exterior of the house is covered with tapered wood lap siding nailed directly to the studding. The interior wall surfaces are covered with wood lath and plaster except where vertical wood plank partitions occur. Framing members are approximately 3½" thick and varied in depth. Flooring consists of one layer of tongue and groove board, one inch thick and of varied width.

Cornice: The four member wood cornice is of fine design with Federal Style molding. It is made up (from top to bottom) of a large concave crown molding, a small convex molding, a small concave molding and terminating with a cove molding. The cornice is mounted on a frieze board which is beaded on its bottom edge. A few inches above the bottom of the frieze board another cove molding is applied. It matches the cove molding in the cornice. The cornice and frieze run continuously along the east and west side of the house from front to rear and return horizontally a short distance on the north elevation of the house. A matching cornice and frieze run up the rake of the roof edge on the north side of the house, terminating at the bottom against the return of the horizontal cornice.

The frieze is flush with the beaded corner boards. The wood siding abuts frieze and corner boards. At the southern end of the house the frieze board returns a short distance on the south wall of the house. A narrow barge board, beaded on its bottom edge, runs up the rake of the roof of the south elevation and terminates on top of the crown mold at the bottom. The barge board is mounted over the top of the wood siding. The roof sheathing projects out over the barge board a couple of inches.

Roof: The roof has a slope of about 30 degrees. The present roofing (part roll roofing and part asphalt shingle) will be replaced with proper wood shingles.

Trim: The parlor is the only elegant room in the house. Here, doors and windows trim consists of fluted architrave and blocks with bullseye turnings at the top. The baseboard in this room is of the same height as the plinths and similarly molded at the top.

Original wood trim existing in all of the other rooms in the house is very plain and without a backboard. There is a ½" bead on the inner edge of the door and window trim and on the top edge of the baseboards in the central room and two bedrooms. The edge and bottom of the window stool on original windows is delicately curved.

Fireplace: The original fireplace in the central room will be restored to its original larger size. This fireplace was the cooking center before the southern wing with kitchen was added. The original fireplace is disguised with a later mantle, fire brick and a tile hearth. These will be removed.

Windows: Four of the original 9 over 6 windows remain and the other windows are later but believed to be 100 years of age.

Doors: The wood doors are of two types, one type with style and rails and raised panels other type fabricated with vertical boards and two battens. Much of the hardware for the doors is typical of the early 19th century hardware

Additions: There is evidence that the southern part of the house is an addition to the original house. The addition is constructed of material and methods similar to the original north section of the house and could have been erected in the early 1850's. This addition includes the present kitchen, wash-house and wood shed.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 *Samuel C. Sturgeon* **Builder/Architect** *c. 1838*

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Sturgeon House is architecturally rare in northwestern Pennsylvania because of its asymmetric form simplicity and proportions which are combined in such a manner as to delight any observer with a practised eye for architecture. The salt box type roof and the recessed porch add interest to the mass. The roof slope of about 30 degrees is typical of the period. The simple molded cornice and front door frame with an entablature and pilaster are the Federal Style

The Sturgeon House is one of several houses built by the Sturgeon family and still standing in the Fairview area of Erie County. This house remained in possession of a member of the Sturgeon family from the time it was built. (c. 1838) until R. Charles Asmus whose mother and grandfather (Robert) were Sturgeons, descendants of the pioneer, Jeremiah Sturgeon, sold the house to the Fairview Area Historical Society in 1979.

Jeremiah and his brother William were the two earliest settlers in this region of Fairview Township, acquiring land in 1797 from the Pennsylvania Population Company. They established the settlement of Sturgeonville, now known as Fairview Borough.

The Sturgeons came as farmers to this fertile, well streambed area and some of their descendants continued to farm these lands into this century. The original purchases were located around a natural geographical ridge which was also used as the pathway for the first road, cut through from the Erie settlement in 1805 to reach the settlements to the west, such as Cleveland. The early Sturgeons operated coach stops and taverns along the way.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Deed Book R, page 295, Deed Book J, page 537, Deed Book R, page 343, Deed Book 42, page 671
 Will Book G, page 246, File #33321
 Appearance Docket, May Term, 1910, Erie County, Book #196
 Partition Docket D #104, May term 1910, Page 181, Purport #2, Deed Book 241, page 729
 Will Book 40 page 576

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .43
 Quadrangle name Fairview, Pennsylvania Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>7</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification *Starting at a point on SW corner of Rt. 98 and W. Water Street moving SE along westside of Rt 98 for 197.7 feet, then west along Trout Run 88.01 ft, then northeast 155.55 ft. to W. Water Street then SE along southside of W. Water St. for 77.55 ft to starting point.*

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title June E. Hetz
 organization Fairview Area Historical Society date June 9, 1980
 street & number Box 119 telephone 814-474-5635
 city or town Fairview state Pennsylvania 16415

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Ed Weintraub

title State Historic Preservation

date 11/2/80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Sturgeon House
Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 2

Beers, F. W. 1865 Erie County Atlas. New York: F. W. Beers, A. O. Ellis, G. C. Soule.

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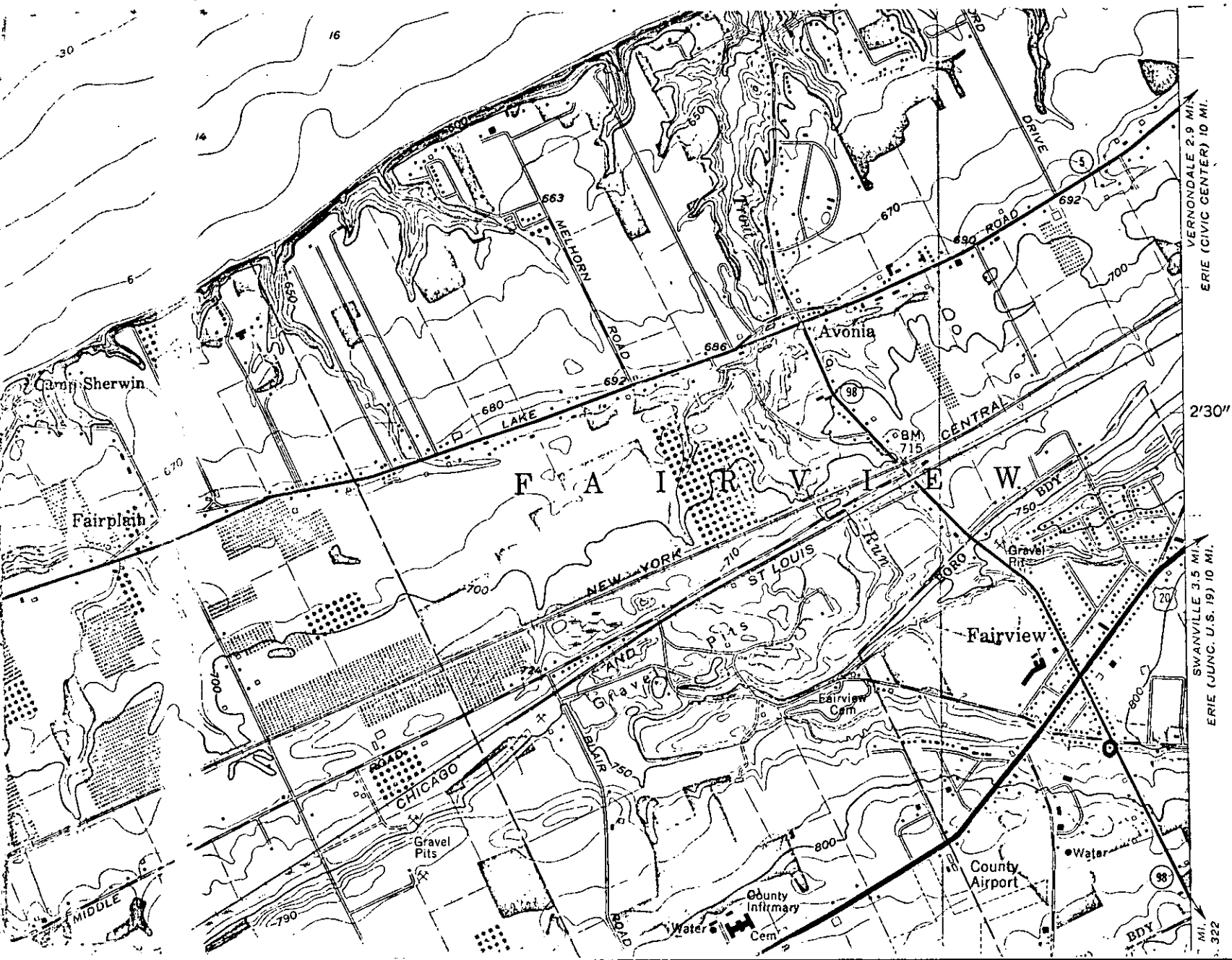
Nelson, S. B. Biographical Dictionary and History of Erie, Pa. Erie, Pa. : S.B. Nelson, 1896

Pa. Genealogies EGLE 1899, pg. 171, 172. Vol. II, page 324.

Reed, John Elmer History of Erie County. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott 1894.

Sturgeon, Walter J. A Genealogical History of the Sturgeons of North America. Cincinnati, Ohio: Walter J. Sturgeon, 1926. Copyright 1927.

Warner, Beers and Company, Editors. History of Erie County, Pa. Chicago: Warner, Beers and Co., 1884



Sturgeon House
 Eric County
 Zone 17 E 561740 N4652980

VERNONDALE 2.9 MI.
 SWANVILLE 3.5 MI.
 ERIE (CIVIC CENTER) 10 MI.
 ERIE (JUNC. U.S. 19) 10 MI.