UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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
GUY C. IRVINE HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON
The Locusts, The Walker House, The Kopf House

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Route 62 (Warren-Jamestown Road)
1.5 miles south of Russell

CITY, TOWN
Russell

STATE
Pennsylvania

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT

OWNER
PUBLIC

STATUS
X OCCUPIED

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

MUSEUM

STRUCTURE

PRIVATE

WORK IN PROGRESS

COMMERCIAL

BUILDING(S)
NO

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ENTERTAINMENT

ACCESSIBLE

RECREATIONAL

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

NO

INDUSTRIAL

YES: UNRESTRICTED

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Y. Kopf

STREET & NUMBER
Warren-Jamestown Road

CITY, TOWN
Russell

STATE
Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Warren County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Market Street and Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Warren

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
11/23/77

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania
**CONDITION**

- XEXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

- XALTERED
- UNALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

- XORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED
- DATE

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Irvine House is a two story brick structure with two, one story wings flanking the main structure. The front of the house is symmetrical, with five bays and a central door. The main section is two bays deep with stepped double chimneys in the gable ends. Originally a decorative parapet was located along the roof edge of the front facade. Windows in the main section as six-over-six with wide stone lintels and louvered shutters. A pedimented porch supported by two columns and pilasters shelters the door. The door is panelled and has leaded glass side lights and honeycomb patterned transom.

The gable ends have double chimneys with stepped corbels and semi-circular windows. The chimneys are one of the most impressive features of the house. The brick walls of the house are 16" thick. The width of the outside walls tapers to 12" at the top of the house.

The two flanking wings are one story with gable roof and interior brick gable end chimneys. The front facades are identical; one door and one window. The doors are panelled with a transom and large stone lintels. The windows are six-over-six with shutters identical to the windows in the main section.

The house has a common center hall, a kitchen at each end, a parlor on one side and a double brick outhouse in back, which is used as a garden shed today. Ceilings in the house are ten feet high. Each of the 12-rooms in the house originally had a fireplace, from which the ashes could be let down to the cellar for removal. Some of these fireplaces have been removed.

The house was restored circa 1940 by Will A. Walker. They installed gas, electricity and plumbing.

The present owners acquired the house in 1962 and had a new heating system installed. They also modernized the kitchen on the south end, the north kitchen having been made into a sitting room circa 1940. They also restored one of the chimneys which was destroyed by fire in 1875.

Perhaps the most impressive feature of the whole property are the 144 year old locust trees planted when the house was built circa 1831. During the 1940 restoration a new fence was made by Al Keely of Russell copies exactly from the original.
Guy Irvine came to Brokenstraw Township in 1817, from Northumberland County, where he was born December 15, 1972, the son of Irish immigrants, John and Mary Fullerton Irvine. Being an enterprising young man, he gradually became known as "the Napoleon of the Lumber Business". Philip Tome, in his Pioneer Life, or Thirty Years a Hunter, first published in 1854, gives a glowing account of Guy Irvine's generosity, in both his business and personal affairs, and of his fame in all the river towns from Olean to New Orleans. According to Tome, Irvine was always concerned with the rights and welfare of his employees, at the same time amassing his fortune by owning more timber and sawmills than any other individual along the Allegheny River.

On February 5, 1822, Guy Irvine married Mary (Polly) Cotton, and they settled in a log cabin, called "Castle Comfort", probably in Brokenstraw Township. Later, as he became more involved in building mills in Pine Grove Township, he and Rufus Weatherby, who married Polly's sister, began work on what Philip Tome later described as "...the most elegant and commodious residence in the county".

Irvine and Weatherby began the house in 1831. Evidently Irvine designed it himself, as it has been called a composite of the many homes he saw and liked during rafting trips into the deep south. It was built as a two-family house, in which Irvine and Weatherby each would occupy half. In 1833, however, Rufus Weatherby died, and the work, which was left to Guy, was finally finished in 1835.

The Irvine house is a brick structure located about 1½ miles south of Russell. It has been described as Greek Revival, by Charles M. Stotz, in The Architectural Heritage of Early Western Pennsylvania.

At the death of Guy C. Irvine, his wife, Polly, was left one-half of the house and garden and a small piece of ground connected with the adjoining farm for planting potatoes. The furniture was left to his daughter, Rachel Irvine Bachop, who lived in the other half of the house with her five children. Anything left to her was on the condition that she would have nothing more to do with her husband, William Bachop. The reason for that condition was not explained in Guy Irvine's will.
Significance (continued):

The last descendants of Guy C. Irvine to live in the house were his granddaughter (Rachel's daughter), Louisa Bachop Briggs, and her daughter, Alice Briggs Higgins, and family. The Higgins clan apparently cared little for keeping a neat house. Their chickens resided in the room over the kitchen and, upon the family's departure from the property, the house was in a pretty sad state.

Will A. Walker, well-known publisher of the Warren Times-Mirror, purchased the mortgage on the Irvine property and foreclosed. It was the Walkers whom named the property, "The Locusts". The Walkers acquired the house in 1940, and the next year was spent on restoration.

In June, 1941, the Walkers moved in and used "The Locusts" as a summer home, maintaining their permanent residence in Warren. In 1962, the Walker's daughter, Jane, and her husband, Robert Kopf, moved in, had a new heating system installed for the entire house, and established "The Locusts" as their year-round home.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  13 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME  Russell Pa. - N.Y.

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING    NORTHING
A  1 7  6 1 5 3 3 2 0  4 6 1 4 2 1 1 0
C  1 7  6 1 5 3 3 1 7 0  4 6 1 4 2 2 6 0
E  1 7  6 1 5 3 2 6 0  4 6 1 4 2 4 0 0

QUADRANGLE SCALE  1:24000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE            CODE            COUNTY            CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  Charles Putnam, Exec. Director, Quinn Smith/Susan M. Zacher


DATE  November, 1977

STREET & NUMBER  210 Fourth Avenue, P. O. Box 427/P. O. Box 1026

TELEPHONE  717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN  Warren/Harrisburg

STATE  Pennsylvania

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___  STATE ___  LOCAL X

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  WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director

DATE  Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

FOR USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE
Major Bibliographical References:


Stotz, Charles Morse, **Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania**. (reissued 1966 as The Architectural Heritage of Early Western Pennsylvania), Buhl Foundation, 1936, pages 30, 109, 136-139.

Swetnam, George and Helene Smith, **A Guidebook to Historic Western Pennsylvania**, University of Pittsburgh, 1976, page 207.


"Stepping Stones," Volume 8, Number 3, Warren County Historical Society, May 1964, pages 243 and 244.
GUY C. IRVINE HOUSE, Warren County

Russell, PA-NY  1:24,000  13 acres

Zone 17  A  N4642 520  E  653 320
         B  N4642 440  E  653 420
         C  N4642 200  E  653 360
         D  N4642 240  E  653 100
         E  N4642 540  E  653 210