

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 14 1975

DATE ENTERED NOV 10 1975

**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 Eugene V. Kelly Carriage House

AND/OR COMMON

Father Vincent Monella Art Center, Seton Hall University

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Seton Hall University, South Orange Ave. NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

South Orange

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

11th

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

013

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input 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

Seton Hall University

STREET & NUMBER

South Orange Avenue

CITY, TOWN

South Orange

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records, Recorder's Office, Essex County

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Newark

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 1420

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE
New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Art Center at Seton Hall University was once a carriage house, part of a summer estate owned by Eugene V. Kelly. Kelly, a wealthy banker from New York, bought the property in 1867, and years later, in 1887 made extensive improvements, enlarging the house (now demolished) and updating it in the Queen Anne style, so popular in the late 19th century. At the same time, Kelly moved existing barns and built a fine brick carriage house. The work designed by a local architect, John E. Baker.

The carriage house designed by John Baker for Eugene Kelly illustrated the attention given to such buildings in the 1880's. The exterior decorative details are particularly noticeable: the brick courses along the sides, projecting windows, and romantic stair turret. The carriage house has some fine examples of terra cotta panels: use of terra cotta for decoration with brick was just coming into vogue in the 1880's.

During the renovation for the Art Center, every effort was made to retain the Victorian flavor of the building. The handsome chamfered beams are clearly visible on the ceiling of the gallery. The fireplace has been opened and given a hearth to provide a focal point in the large room which once housed the carriages. The lower studio once had mahogany stalls, and a brass name plate for each horse. The small stable windows are still visible and one of the huge iron haybaskets has been re-mounted in the entry way. On the upper level, the walls of the offices and studios are the original brick and the turret staircase retains the original railing and panelling. Before restoration the upper floors had rooms for the groomsmen and, at the rear, a hay loft over the stable. Even these areas had attractive panelling, woodwork, doorknobs and hinges.

Its new use as an Art Center, dictated many modifications for the Carriage House, all necessary to accommodate classes, offices, traffic patterns, facilities and comforts for those who use the building. An entryway was created by adding a glass wall just ten feet inside the main archway. Windows in the Gallery were closed to provide an unbroken wall surface for the display of paintings. Small rooms were created for the storage of slides and projectors, rest room facilities, and on the upper floor, offices. A new ceiling on the upper level hides the interesting roof supports patterned after the cruck built barns of medieval England.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Eugene V. Kelly Carriage House
South Orange, Essex County
New Jersey 034

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The exterior has been painted a color as close as possible to the original brick and stone; sand blasting would have eroded the mortar. The latticed windows have been re-done in keeping with the original style. The work on the Carriage House was planned and directed by Dr. Louis de Foix-Crenascol and Richard J. Gascoyne, architect.

The Art Center contains a gallery as well as classrooms for course instruction given by the Art Department. The building is also used for lectures and special events such as the regular meetings of the New Jersey Society of Architectural Historians.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John E. Baker

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

8. Significance

Eugene V. Kelly's Carriage House, now the Art Center of Seton Hall University is significant as an example of Victorian architecture. The turreted brick structure, built in 1887 by New Jersey architect, John E. Baker, illustrates the eclectic style popular in the late 19th century. Architects of the period often borrowed ideas from European prototypes and adapted them to a more modern structure, using 19th century technology.

The use of terra cotta panels as decorative elements with brick was a recent development in 1887 and shows the desire for a rather elegant structure, even though its use was utilitarian. Undoubtedly Kelly wanted to underscore his success by making the substantial improvements to his summer estate.

South Orange could boast of many prominent New York business men who summered in the town. Nestled at the foot of "Orange Mountain," South Orange was an attractive escape from the city heat, a chance to live in the fresh air of the country, yet offered a fairly easy commute to New York on the railroad.

The Carriage House has a further significance because of the man who built it. Eugene V. Kelly typifies the American Dream and so represents that very important aspect in the social history of our country.

The story of Kelly's life is the story of a self made man. His personal fortune resulted from his success in drygoods, banking and real estate in California during the gold rush years. Later, in New York, his private banking brokerage made him a multi-millionaire.

Born in Trillick, Tyrone County, Ireland, he came to America in the 1830's, at the age of 24, with \$100 and the promise of a job with Donnelly Dry Goods and Importers on South William Street, New York City. In a few short years, Kelly had opened a branch of Donnelly in Kentucky, then in St. Louis, a bustling trade

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

South Orange Bulletin, September 10, 1887 which included construction of a new carriage house.

South Orange Bulletin, June 11, 1891 an advertisement placed by John E. Baker, architect, listing several homes he had designed in the area, mentioning the Kelly home.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 563840 4510460
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

*UTM 01 W N
12-5-75*
B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Lou H. Mitchell, Adjunct Assistant Professor

(Minor revisions-Nanci Kostrub, Historic Sites Office, DEP, Trenton)

ORGANIZATION

Seton Hall University

DATE

7/25/75

STREET & NUMBER

South Orange Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

South Orange

STATE

New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XX

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

Shirley J. Brady
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

DATE

August 29, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

George B. ...
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

11/10/95

ATTEST:

W. ...
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

NOV 6 1975

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Seton Hall University
Essex County 013
New Jersey Code: 34

CONTINUATION SHEET

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8. Significance (cont.)

town and departure point for the long western trek. Word of California's gold and the boom in the westward movement aroused Kelly's ambition. He set off for California and just missed being a 49er, arriving in 1850.

With three partners, he started a dry goods store in San Francisco. Eugene Kelly and Co. prospered and became one of the largest on the California coast. Kelly made profitable investments in real estate at the same time.

In 1861, Eugene Kelly founded a banking house in San Francisco and in New York. Returning East to manage the bank which made his fortune, he lived on 57th street. After the death of his first wife, Kelly married Margaret Hughes, the niece of Archbishop John Hughes of New York. Kelly was a trustee and patron of Seton Hall from 1879, a founder and Director of the Catholic University of America, and a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He also served on committees concerning the placement of Washington Arch, and the Statue of Liberty. An Irish Nationalist, Kelly was treasurer of the Irish Parliamentary Fund. His close friend, Michael Corrigan rewarded his generous contributions to Catholic charities and St. Patrick's Cathedral by securing for him one of the highest Papal Honors, Chamberlain of the Cape and Sword.

The Carriage House is significant because of the way it was designed to be both useful and attractive building. The wealth of Mr. Kelly and his social position were determining factors in the design and construction of his estate. The Carriage House now stands as a lone reminder of the elegance and prestige of the Kelly family.

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Seton Hall University

Essex County 013 New Jersey, Code: 34

CONTINUATION SHEET

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ref: Architecture: (cont.)

Deeds: Essex County Deeds, Books A8 pp. 523-24, Jephthis Baldwin to Aaron Baldwin, F 13 pp. 282-284 Aaron Baldwin to Eugene Kelly, and 6 34 pp. 424-426 Kelly's sons to Seton Hall College.

American Architect and Building News, October 3, 1885 shows another Carriage house designed by John E. Baker.

Ref. Specific to Eugene V. Kelly:

Herbert Johnson, et al, editors, Dictionary of American Biography Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York

Letter from Eugene Kelly to Bishop Wigger, 1886, Archives of the Archdiocese of Newark Chancery Office.

New York Times, December 20, 1894 p. 13

"Unpublished Letters," American Catholic Historical Society Records, vol. II, March 1900.