

STATE: <b>Pennsylvania</b>
COUNTY: <b>Beaver</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Matthew Stanley Quay House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Matthew Stanley Quay House**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**205 College Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Beaver**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**25**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:

COUNTY:  
**Beaver**

CODE:

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No 

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Anderson**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**197 Dravo Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Beaver**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
**Recorder of Deeds**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Beaver County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Beaver**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**None**

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Of yellow-painted brick, the Matthew Stanley Quay House stands 2 1/2 stories high. It has a low sandstone foundation and a stone water table. Constructed shortly after the Civil War, originally it was probably two rooms deep with a central hall plan. Quay purchased the house sometime after 1874 and lived here until he died. He may have erected the two-story, three-bay-wide northwest office wing, which consists of two rooms, and a two-story rear extension.

Supported by brick columns, a wide single-story front porch extends across the five-bay-wide main section. The porch roof, as well as the hipped roofs covering the main and the two wing sections, have black-painted bracketed cornices. Atop the main section, three hipped dormers face the front. Also, two hipped dormers face the rear, and one hipped dormer faces each side. Four red brick interior end chimneys top the main part of the house. The two wings possess one red brick interior end chimney each. About 1950, the Anderson family added a one-story garage to the rear of the house and a windowless one-story addition to the rear of the northwest wing.

The front door has clear glass side and transom lights and an ornate brass knob. The northwest office wing has its own front door topped by a gabled hood on brackets. Inside, some bookshelves remain in the first-floor, one-room office, and a Pennsylvania keystone decorates the arched opening of the room's fireplace. Structurally, the first floor appears little altered but now serves as a funeral home. With ornamental brackets, a carved newel, and carved balusters, the open-string stairway in the front hall mounts to the second floor, where the Anderson family maintains an apartment. A narrow, enclosed stair ascends to the dormer level. The house is situated on a shady residential street near the center of Beaver.

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**4. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **circa 1874-1904**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

During the late 19th-century era of powerful behind-the-scenes political bosses and statewide machines, Matthew Stanley Quay of Pennsylvania was one of the most representative and effective of the professional politicians. Through his Republican machine, Quay served the interests of party and business quietly, faithfully, and efficiently. A superb technician, he manipulated the voters expertly. Although habitually he shunned publicity, as Republican National Chairman and manager of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential campaign in 1888 Quay entered the national spotlight. Featuring dirty tricks and bribery, the 1888 race became the most expensive Presidential campaign waged until that year. For the first time, at Quay's behest, tariff-conscious businessmen participated openly in national politics. In the end, Harrison denied Quay's patronage demands, and so the man that Quay had elected disappointed him. Organizing with other hostile political bosses, Quay contributed importantly to Harrison's reelection loss to Grover Cleveland.

Quay made his Beaver home in a 2 1/2-story brick residence, to which he may have added northwest and rear (southwest) wings. A subsequent owner extended the wings, but the later additions are not visible from the front. The house is in good condition.

Biography

A minister's son, Matthew Stanley Quay was born at Dillsburg, Pa., in 1833. His great-great-grandfather on his father's side emigrated from the Isle of Man to Canada, where he married an Indian. Proud of his trace of Indian blood, Matthew was always sincerely concerned about Indian rights and problems.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beaver Area Heritage Foundation, Matthew Stanley Quay (Beaver, circa 1968).

Evans, Frank B., Pennsylvania Politics, 1872-77: A Study in Political Leadership (Harrisburg, 1966).

Josephson, Matthew, The Politicos, 1865-1896 (New York, 1938).

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		40° 41' 37"	80° 18' 15"	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Cathy A. Alexander, Assistant Editor**

ORGANIZATION: **American Association for State and Local History**      DATE: **Sept. 1, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1315 Eighth Avenue South**

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville**      STATE: **Tennessee**      CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/>      State <input type="checkbox"/>      Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Title _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date _____</p>
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Matthew Stanley Quay House (Continuation Sheet)

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8. Significance (cont'd.)

Matthew's family moved to Beaver when he was 7, and he attended Beaver Academy. In 1850 he was graduated from Jefferson College, and throughout his life, he was noted as a scholar. After teaching about 2 years in Mississippi, Quay returned to Beaver, studied law, and in 1854 passed the bar. The next year he married Agnes Barclay and became prothonotary of Beaver County.

In 1860 Quay's success in winning western Pennsylvania delegates to Andrew G. Curtin's successful Republican gubernatorial candidacy brought him to the negative notice of the State Republican machine. Dominated by Simon Cameron, the Pennsylvania machine had opposed Curtin. After the Civil War began, Quay served as secretary to Governor Curtin and later became a colonel of Pennsylvania Volunteers, winning the Congressional Medal of Honor for his courage at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Subsequently, Quay held additional political appointments and was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, 1865-67. Afterwards, he returned to Beaver, where he owned and edited the Beaver Radical for 4 years.

About 1869, with Curtin in retirement and Cameron in the U.S. Senate, Quay left the Curtin faction to become a Cameron lieutenant. As a reward to Cameron's machine, in 1873 Gov. John F. Hartranft made Quay secretary of the Commonwealth. With the exception of about a year, Quay held this post until 1885, at which time a treasury scandal forced his retirement. Three years later, to vindicate himself, Quay ran for State treasurer and won. Recognizing his now-undeniable control of the Pennsylvania Republican Party, the State legislature elected Quay U.S. Senator in 1887. The following year Quay led the Pennsylvania delegation to the Republican National Convention.

Though he supported Senator John Sherman for the Presidential nomination, after several ballots failed to elect a candidate, Quay and other party leaders agreed on Benjamin Harrison as a compromise. Quay may have tried to win assurance of a Pennsylvania Cabinet officer, but if so, Harrison refused. Regardless, when balloting resumed, Pennsylvania voted for Harrison. Backed by the powerful American Iron and Steel Association, Quay became Republican National Chairman and director of the Presidential campaign.

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8. Significance (cont'd.)

Along with iron and steel interests, Quay's Pennsylvania machine served railroads and public utilities quietly and effectively. In return for his aid, the industrialists contributed generously to the Republican Party. Predictably, Quay centered the 1888 campaign on the protective tariff, which big business favored, and he strove to convince all Americans that it served their interests.

Having concluded that protected manufacturers should pay for the party's help, Quay asked John Wanamaker, a Philadelphia department store magnate, to serve as chief Republican fundraiser. Wanamaker canvassed fellow businessmen and industrialists, a technique that became known as "frying the fat" out of business. Thus, in 1888 business interests became directly and aggressively involved in a national campaign. When it closed, the Republicans acknowledged \$1 million in expenses, but rumors suggested a secret fund of \$2 million more.

To carry out the Republican strategy of spreading confusion about the tariff and arousing fear of unemployment, some manufacturers threatened employees with layoffs and wage cuts if the Democrats should win. Quay crisscrossed the East to guarantee the urban vote, and common report held that he bribed the secretary of the Knights of Labor to obtain the union's endorsement. Antipathy to Great Britain had a role, too. Calling himself a naturalized citizen of British descent, a "Charles A. Murchison" wrote to the British Ambassador in Washington asking which candidate England preferred. The Minister favored Grover Cleveland, the Democrat. Knowing that it would cause a great sensation, when Quay received the "Murchison" letter, he held it for release just before the election.

Quay's timing and nerve averted a Republican scandal, also. In a letter to all Indiana field managers, the party treasurer, William W. Dudley, directed them to divide undecided voters into blocks of five and put a trusted man at the head. With bribes, this leader would convince each voter to choose Harrison. A Democratic mail agent intercepted a "blocks-of-five" letter and gave it to the press. Shocked, Quay recovered to call the letter a forgery, and Dudley instituted libel suits, later dropped, against the newspapers that had printed it. In the end, Indiana chose Harrison by a narrow margin. In addition, Quay's alleged transportation

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8. Significance (cont'd.)

of Pennsylvania Republicans into the pivotal States of Indiana and New York may have altered their votes. Reportedly the well-financed campaign drove the price of a vote higher than ever before.

After the election, the rift between the bosses and the President-elect showed immediately. When Quay congratulated him, for example, Harrison devoutly attributed their success to "Providence." Later Quay remarked that he supposed that Harrison "would never know how close a number of men were compelled to approach the gates of the penitentiary to make him President."<sup>1</sup> For 4 years, the administration shifted uneasily between Harrison's idealism and the bosses' claims to patronage. Harrison appointed Wanamaker Postmaster General, however, and at first Wanamaker heeded Quay's advice.

On the other hand, when Quay gave the President a list of his personal nominees for patronage, Harrison asked for additional information about each. Quay was insulted. Once begun, their conflict developed into open hostility, and in 1891 Harrison asked Quay to resign the Republican National Chairmanship. At the 1892 Republican Convention, Quay organized with other party bosses opposed to the President. Harrison won renomination but, with scant cooperation from his own party, met defeat after a listless campaign.

In the Senate Quay continued protecting his industrial clients faithfully. During the framing of the 1894 tariff bill, though, he and some other Senators aroused suspicion by trading heavily in sugar stock. When he was accused, brazenly and characteristically, Quay declared that he bought and sold many stocks and saw no conflict of interest. Nothing developed from the investigation.

Well before the 1896 Republican Convention, businessman Mark Hanna made William McKinley the front-runner for the Presidential nomination. Thus, Hanna usurped the bargaining prerogatives of such bosses as Quay, whose actions had brought

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<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Matthew Josephson, The Politicos, 1865-1896 (New York, 1938), 433.

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8. Significance (cont'd.)

businessmen like Hanna openly into national politics. During the Republicans' successful 1896 campaign, Quay served as Hanna's constant counselor, though. In 1899 the Pennsylvania Legislature failed to reelect Quay to the Senate, but it returned him to his seat in 1901. About 2 years later, Quay's health began to falter, and in 1904 he died in Beaver.

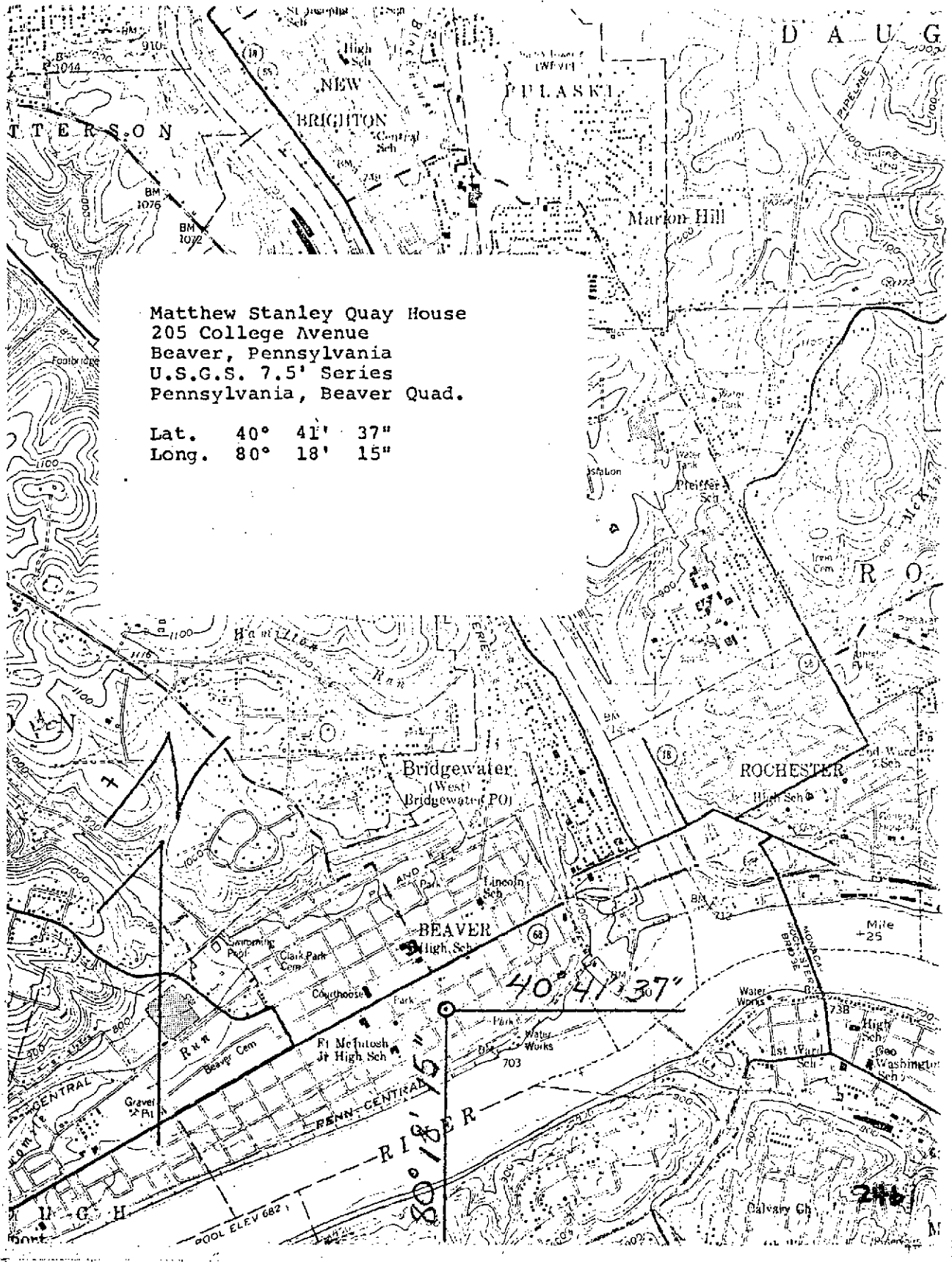
(Page 2)

9. Major Bibliographical References (cont'd.)

Roseboom, Eugene H., A History of Presidential Elections (New York, 1964).

Sievers, Harry J., Benjamin Harrison: Hoosier President, The White House and After (Indianapolis, 1968).





Matthew Stanley Quay House  
205 College Avenue  
Beaver, Pennsylvania  
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Series  
Pennsylvania, Beaver Quad.

Lat. 40° 41' 37"  
Long. 80° 18' 15"

40° 41' 37"

80° 18' 15"

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