







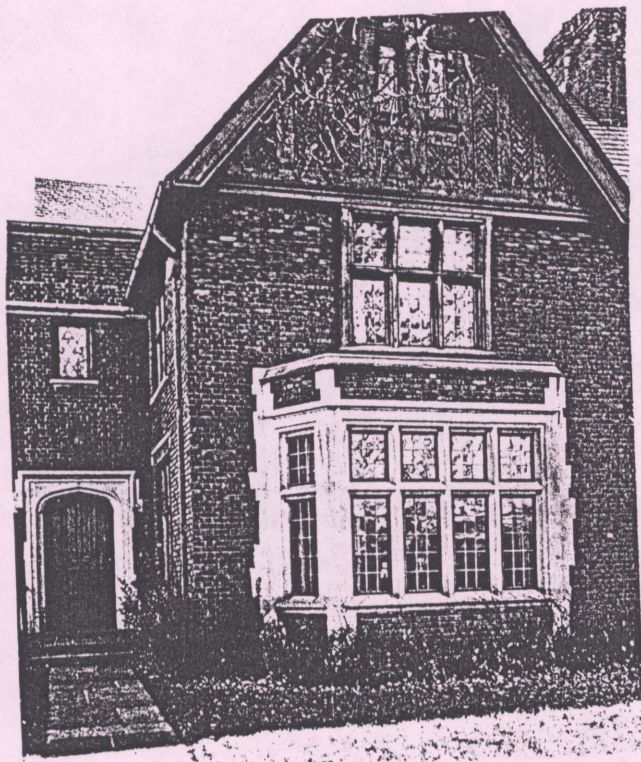
Photograph by C. Salonic

ph 717-824-5145

© 1991



Annette Evans
Faculty + alum. House



Detail

RESIDENCE OF H. R. HIRSHOWITZ, ESQ.
WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Innes + Levy, Architects

A. EVANS Bldgs.

Alum. House now



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

River Street Historic District

Luzerne County

has been entered in the

National Register of Historic Places

under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

The National Register of Historic Places, kept by the United States Department of Interior, is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation and includes properties significant in American History, Architecture, Archeology, Engineering and Culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, likely of the State Historic Preservation Officer.

State Historic Preservation Officer

A handwritten signature in dark ink, likely of the Director, Bureau for Historic Preservation.

Director, Bureau for Historic Preservation

September 10, 1985

Date entered

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY ONLY FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WILKES COLLEGE

The Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty House

A signed and numbered (S/N) limited edition pointillist graphic . . . perfect for home or the office. "The Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty House" depicts in detail a pointillist graphic of the building which served as the presidential residence of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the original home of the Health Sciences Office, and now serves as the Alumni/Faculty House. Pointillism is a post-impressionist art form exemplified by Seurat and his followers in the late 19th century France. The method is characterized by the application of ink in small dots to create a blending illusion.

ABOUT THE ARTIST . . .

William O. "Bill" Williams was born in Sayre, Pennsylvania, in 1932. Because his father was employed by the Lehigh Valley Railroad, travel for the family was frequent, and he attended nineteen schools before graduating from high school in Jersey City, New Jersey. Even as a child of five, Bill felt a need to draw with dots, although it was not until much later as an adult that he learned the name of his unusual artistic technique: pointillism.

A Korean veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he attended St. Francis College in Brooklyn, and finally Hobart College in Geneva, NY. As a talented self-taught artist, Williams has been on many television shows to discuss his unique style, and he draws full-time as a professional artist. Specializing in buildings and unusual architectural structures, Williams has drawn the Golden Gate Bridge, the George Washington Bridge, the Empire State Building, and many other state and county buildings, including the State Capitol in Harrisburg. Here in the Wyoming

Valley, Bill has drawn the Luzerne County Courthouse, the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, the skyline of Wilkes-Barre as viewed from the West Side, and now the Annette Evans Alumni House.

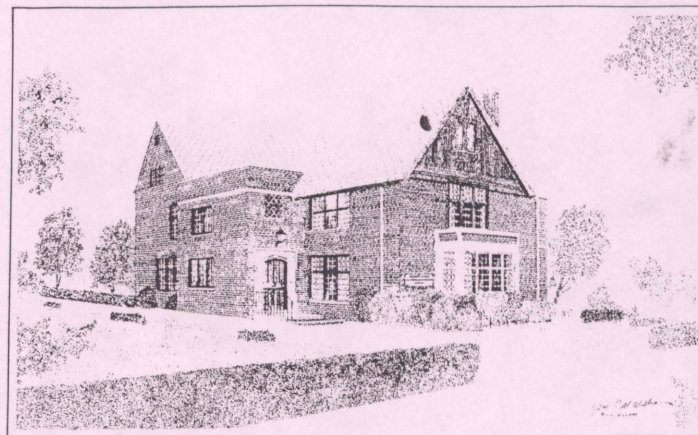
Bill exhibits his works regularly, and it is not unusual for an original pointillist work by him to require in excess of four hundred hours of intense drawing effort.

AN OFFERING . . .

The Alumni Association commissioned Bill Williams to provide us with the original signed graphic and 200 signed and numbered graphics of the Alumni House, to be used as a fund-raiser in conjunction with the Alumni Fund campaign.

While the edition will not be offered for sale, alumni and friends of the College can obtain a graphic (S/N) by pledging \$100 or more to the 1984 campaign in excess of the pledge made to the 1983 campaign. The image size of the graphic is 23" x 14" unframed; for framing purposes, the overall size is 25" x 16". Each graphic will be shipped via United Parcel Service at an additional cost of \$5 per graphic. In view of the limited supply, all pieces are subject to prior commitment, and will be issued on a first-come, first-issued basis, by the date of receipt of payment of pledge. No further signed and numbered graphics will be issued as the original work of art will be retired.

The original signed graphic is offered to the alumnus/alumna or friend of the College who first pledges \$1,000 or more to the 1984 campaign in excess of the pledge made to the 1983 campaign. The image size of the original is 16" x 26" unframed; for framing purposes, the overall size is 20" x 30".



*This Offer will be Absolutely
Withdrawn when the
Original and 200 Graphics
have been Committed.*

OTHER PRODUCTS

To increase both the value and the visibility of this offering, the College may from time to time selectively issue similar graphics of other landmarks of the campus. The graphic of the Alumni House, 146 South River Street, however, will not be repeated.

PLEASE MAIL REMITTANCE AND THIS ORDER TO:

Wilkes College Alumni Association
Annette Evans Alumni House
146 South River Street
Post Office Box 111
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Quantity	Original	S/N Graphic	Donation each	Total Donation
1 only	✓	XXXXXXXXXX	\$1,000	
	XXXXXXX	✓	\$ 100	

Add \$5 per unit shipping

Total Enclosed

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "1984 WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI FUND"

Name _____ Tel: (____) _____

Address _____

Wilkes College Alumnus

Wilkes College
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

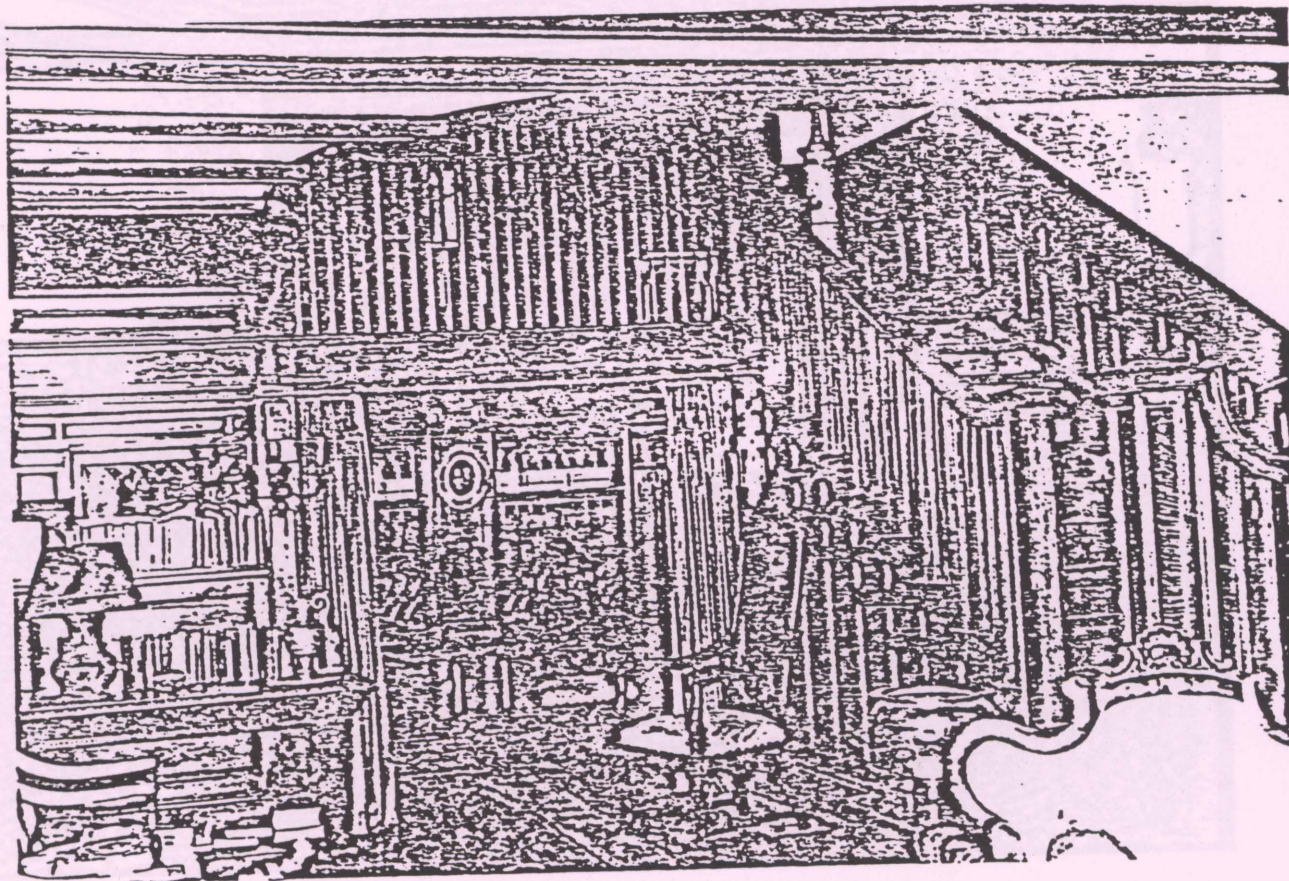
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 355

MRS. BETSY BELL CONDRON
36 REYNOLDS ST.
KINGSTON, PA

18704

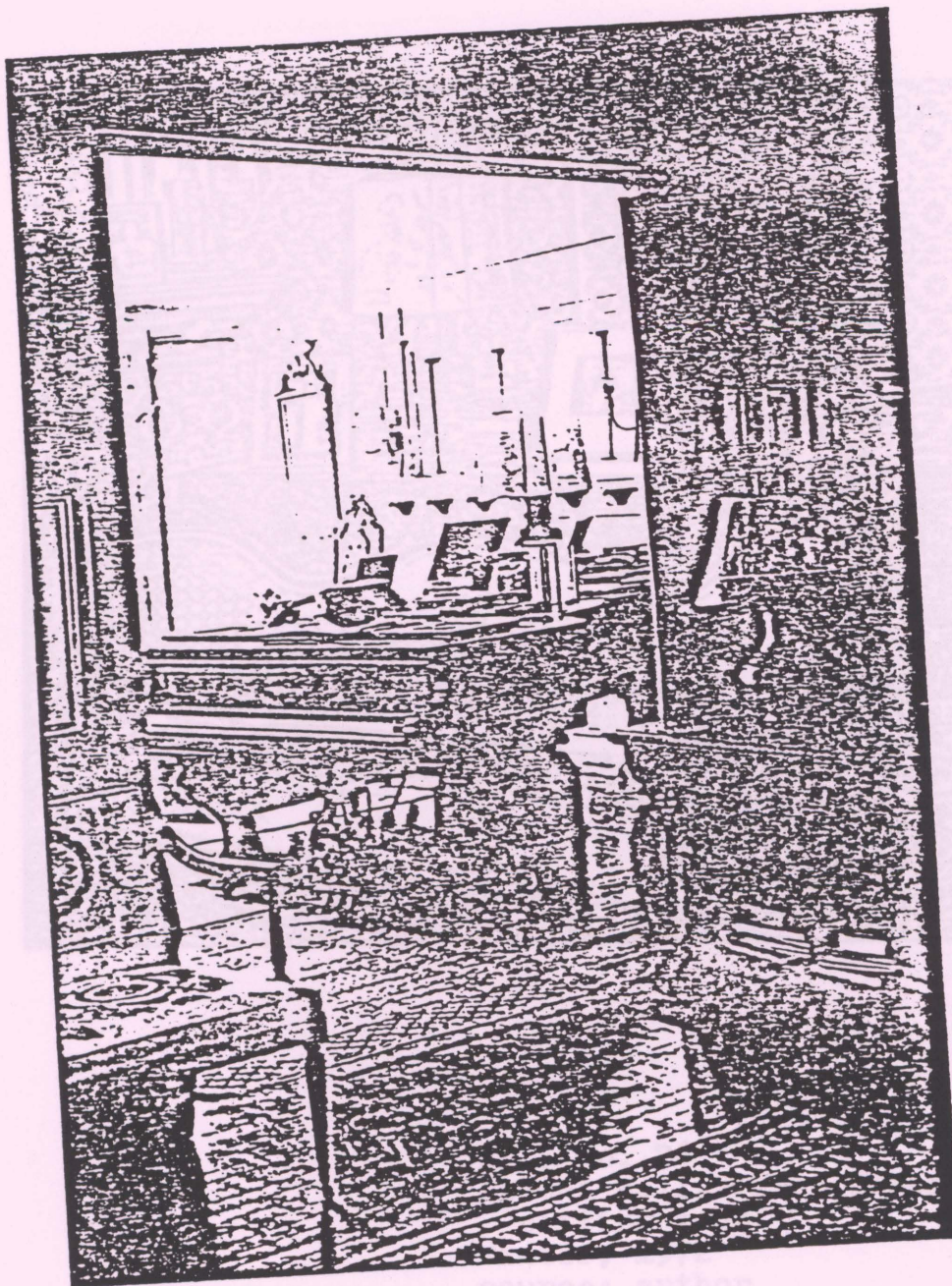


Ill. No. 73
• Alumni Hall, first floor, southerly
portion of the stairhall
Winter, 1972
source: author

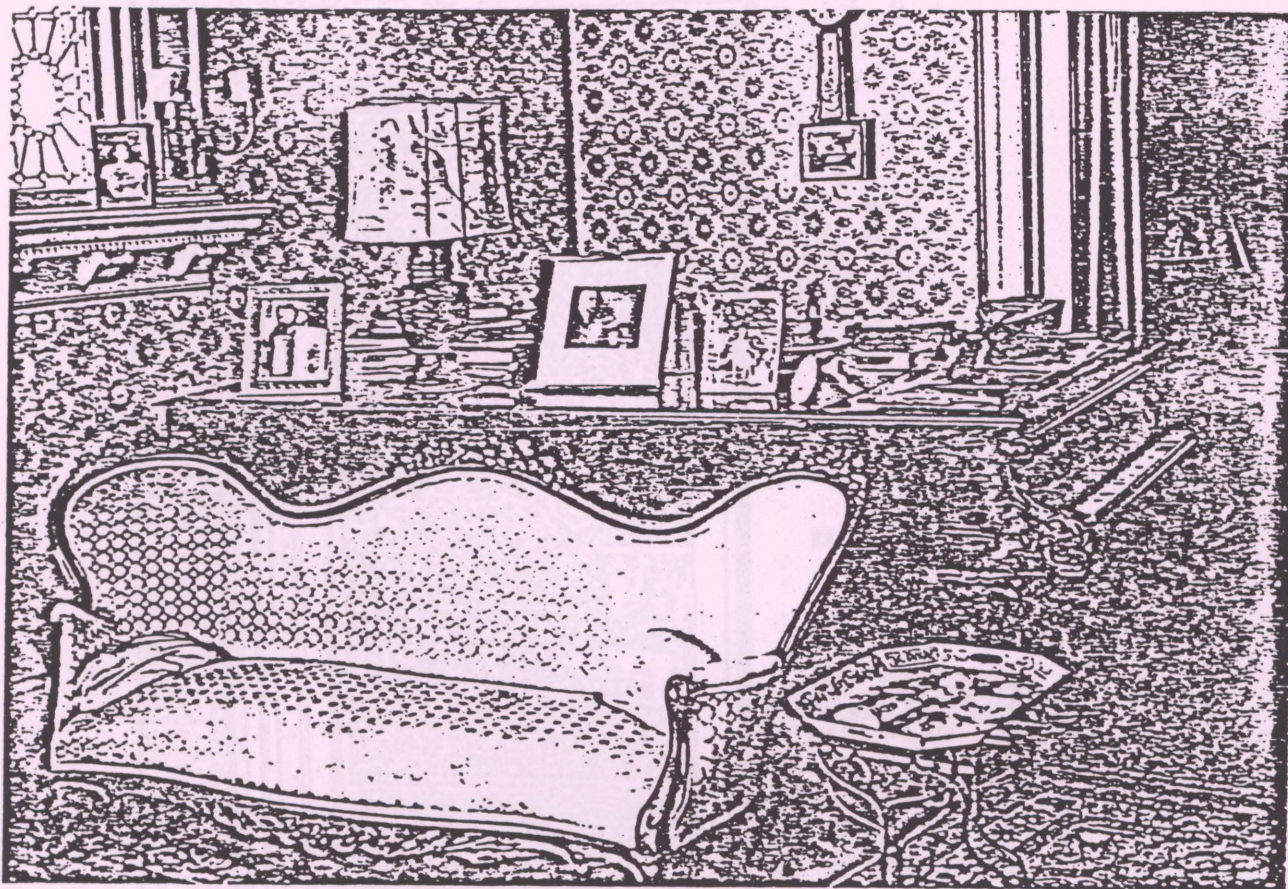


Ill. No. 74
Alumni Hall, first floor, looking
toward the dining room from the
stairhall
Winter, 1972
source: author

Ill. No. 75
Alumni Hall, first floor, looking
toward the large sitting room from
the stairhall
Winter, 1972
source: author

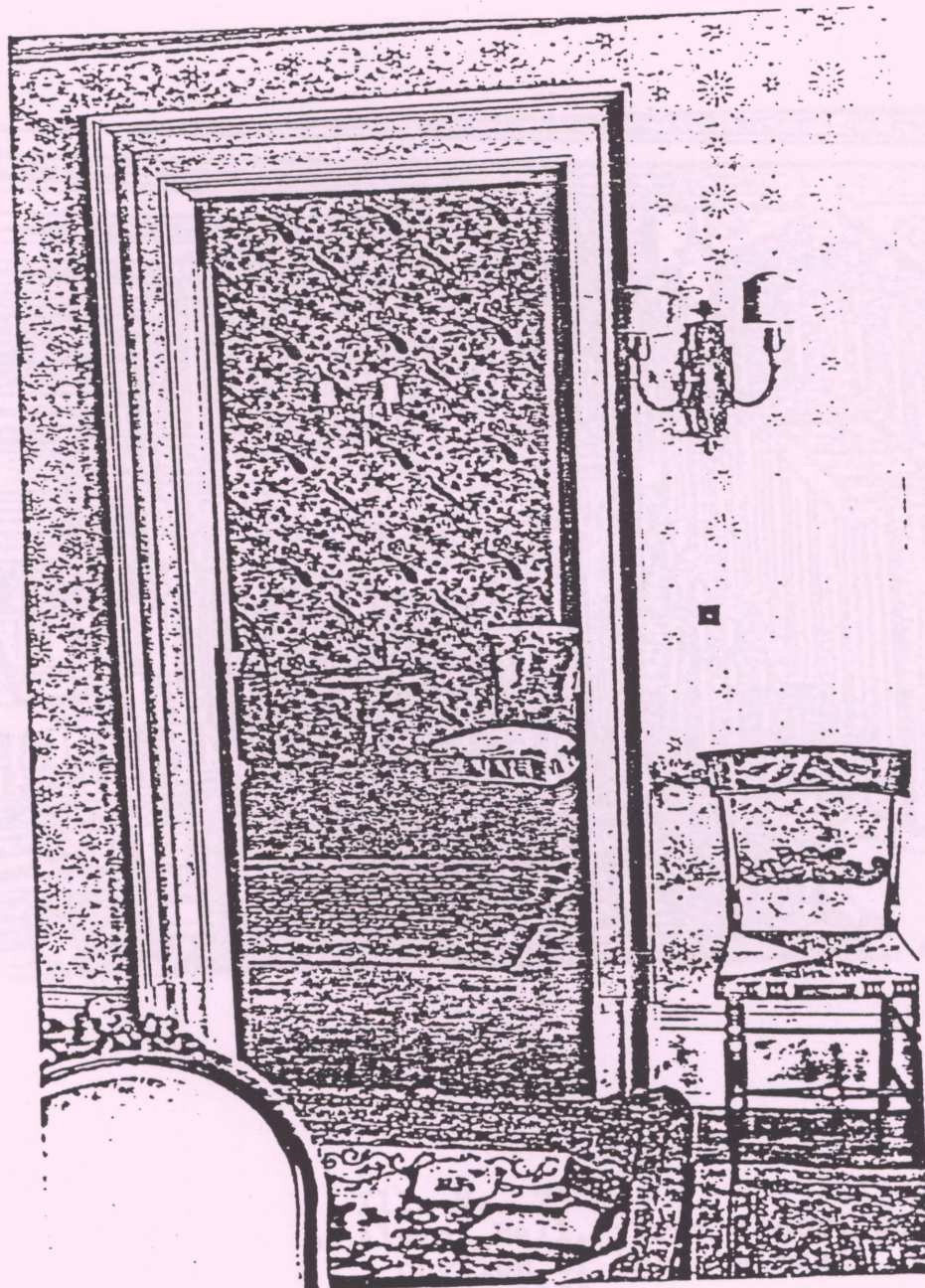


Ill. No. 75
Alumni Hall, first floor, looking
toward the large sitting room from
the stairhall
Winter, 1972
source: author



Ill. No. 76
 Alumni Hall, first floor, large
 sitting room
 Winter, 1972
 source: author

Ill. No. 77
 Alumni Hall, first floor, looking
 toward the small sitting room from
 the large sitting room
 Winter, 1972
 source: author



Ill. No. 77
Alumni Hall, first floor, looking
toward the small sitting room from
the large sitting room
Winter, 1972
source: author



Ill. No. 26
Annette Evans Alumni and
Faculty Building
146 South River Street
late 1971
source: author

With the death of Annette Evans, our community of Wyoming Valley has suffered an unique loss. This is the expression of our sorrow. Through inheritance, inclination and training, Annette spent all of her life in the arts. There is no need to list here the accomplishments of her distinguished lifetime. Let us only say that there is not a cultural group in the Valley which has not gained from her interest or financial support or both. Over the years many of you have heard her quote the advice of the playwright, Maxell Anderson, "Choose the art that moves you most deeply and serve it where you can." In line with this she followed her greatest interest, the theatre and drama in all its forms. However, she actually spurred the formation of groups in all the arts, and any group, struggling or in trouble could turn to her. Countless are the times when she has patiently shared her great wisdom and active support with others. She found no room for selfishness in her life.

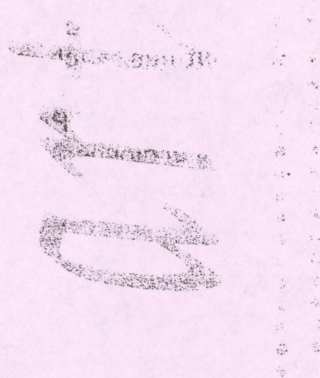
She loved people. Among the hundreds of people, great and small, who loved her and whom she called friend, were still those who were friends in her long-ago childhood - and those young people just gaining the maturity to appreciate her great qualities. The help she gave to many of her friends as individuals will always be unknown. She loved all things living - with a devotion to the welfare of animals and an ever continuing interest in the protection of the beauties of nature.

She loved strange places and travelled to many of them and these travels enriched not only her life but the lives of those with whom she shared her experiences. With her talents it would have been easy for her to be a world citizen. How fortunate we are that she loved her home and found life here stimulating - because she always returned to give to her state and her community the benefits of her genius.

No one can ever take her place. A woman unique, not only selfless and dedicated, she was a visionary who possessed the skill and the wisdom to implement her dreams. We grieve for her and quote "till the future shall forget the past, 'her' fate and fame shall be - an echo and a light unto eternity".

/s/ Rachael W. Gutman

2004
10/15/04
10/15/04



Annette Evans: Founder of a Fine Tradition

Glistening spring leaves and playful pink cherry blossoms in bloom help each year to perfectly frame the dreams of Fine Arts Fiesta founder Annette Evans.

Her dreams became a reality on May 26, 1956 as Wilkes-Barre Mayor Luther M. Kniffen sounded the historic Ship Zion Bell, calling for the start of what would soon be a Wyoming Valley tradition.

"She would be very proud of its growth and the way that it has been accepted," said long time friend of Miss Evans and valley historian, Alfred Groh.

The festival, modeled after the Boston Fine Arts Festival, was part of Wilkes-Barre's Sesquicentennial that year.

Back then, the event ran for three days on a budget of less than \$1,000. But, although its start was rocky, it quickly was adopted by the locals as a huge success.

Since then, the much awaited spring time festival has grown into a four day event, running into the night, where local high school and college bands perform, while others enjoy artwork, crafts, and action exhibits such

as the songs, dances and costumes of area ethnic groups.

Since its start, The Fine Arts Fiesta has been organized and carried out by volunteers.

"We have managed to maintain the integrity (of the festival) and it has kept its promise to continue to provide free entertainment," added Groh.

Evans had an idea, originating from the United Nationalities Pageant which used to be held indoors at Wilkes College, that she felt could benefit the local area culturally as well as economically.

As a life long resident of South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Miss Evans was also instrumental in arranging other cultural events, such as The Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre and the local Philharmonic Orchestra.

Evans also served as a member of the Wilkes College Board of Trustees before passing on in 1970. Wilkes University has since named their alumni house in her honor.

This year's Annual Fine Arts Fiesta will be held May 15 to 18th and will again expand itself to the perimeters of Public Square, into the F.M. Kirby Center as well as the Ramada Inn, offering a fine time for all.

Festival events won't be limited to Public Square. Performances will also be held at the River Street Jazz Cafe, Midtown Village, Wilkes-Barre Chamber Building, F. M. Kirby Center Lowes and the Ramada Plaza Hotel. Musical entertainment begins at the band shell Thursday at 11 a.m. with performances running till Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Food, music, arts and crafts will certainly add to the festival atmosphere this year.

Miss Evans is one woman, who proves true that if you believe in something, you can make it happen.

by Colleen Herron

file

Annette Evans'
Home to)

Alumni Hall
117 West River Street

Annette Evans bequeathed her family home at 117 West River Street to Wilkes College in 1969.¹ In her will, Miss Evans stipulated that the house was for the use of the college alumni association and was to be known as "Alumni Hall." The college gained possession of the property in 1971.² The alumni association, however, had little opportunity to use the building. Upon examination of the house following the flood in 1972, it was found that the structural problems that existed prior to the flood were greatly increased. It was determined that the damage was to the extent that the building warranted demolition.

The house was designed by Miss Evans' father, Clark Wright Evans (1857-1940), an architect and a musician. Architecturally, the building is an example of the Shingle Style of the late nineteenth century. Drawings for various details of the house are included in the college's collection of the Evans family papers. Before coming to Wilkes-Barre, Evans was associated with a New York architectural firm. Among the family papers is a set of drawings by Evans for a house in New Jersey. The design of the New Jersey house, apparently made before Evans came to Wilkes-Barre, is quite similar to that of Alumni Hall and may have been the inspiration for it.

Although the exact date of construction is unknown, the house appears to date from about 1898. The approximate date is based primarily upon two receipts found in the family papers. Both receipts were issued in 1898. The first one, dated February 10, is from Arnold, Constable and Company of New York and lists the Evans' address as South Franklin Street. Prior to moving to West River Street, the Evans family resided in a house on South Franklin Street where now stands the college library. The second receipt is from the Boston Store in Wilkes-Barre and bears the date May 31. This receipt gives the address as West River Street.

Alumni Hall is a three story, frame and masonry structure with a gambrel roof. The principal rooms of the first floor are a vestibule, a large stairhall extending across the width of the house, a large and a small sitting rooms to the east of the hall, and the dining room, kitchen, and service rooms to the west of the hall. The main staircase rises only to the second floor. The third floor has two finished rooms, a bath, and a large unfinished attic room in the front. The interior decorative detailing is "academic" in manner.

Wilkes College acquired many of the original furnishings of the house as well as numerous pieces of art and American antique furniture collected by the Evans family. Drawings found among the family papers indicate that Clark Wright Evans also designed some of the

furnishings, in particular the side boards in the dining room. Unfortunately, most of the furniture of the first floor was destroyed in the flood in 1972.

The building stands on the westerly side of the street on the location of a mid nineteenth century ice pond. The 1870 and 1882 maps and the 1889 city view illustrate that the ice pond covered nearly half of the block between Ross and Terrace Streets. The area is shown in the 1894 atlas as having been filled in and divided into lots. The settling of the filled area may be responsible in part for the structural problems of the building.

¹Luzerne County Wills, item number 1914.

²Luzerne County Deed Records, Book 1715, p. 230.

Ill. No. 69
Alumni Hall
17 West River Street
Autumn, 1971
source: author



Ill. No. 69
Alumni Hall
117 West River Street
Autumn, 1971
source: author

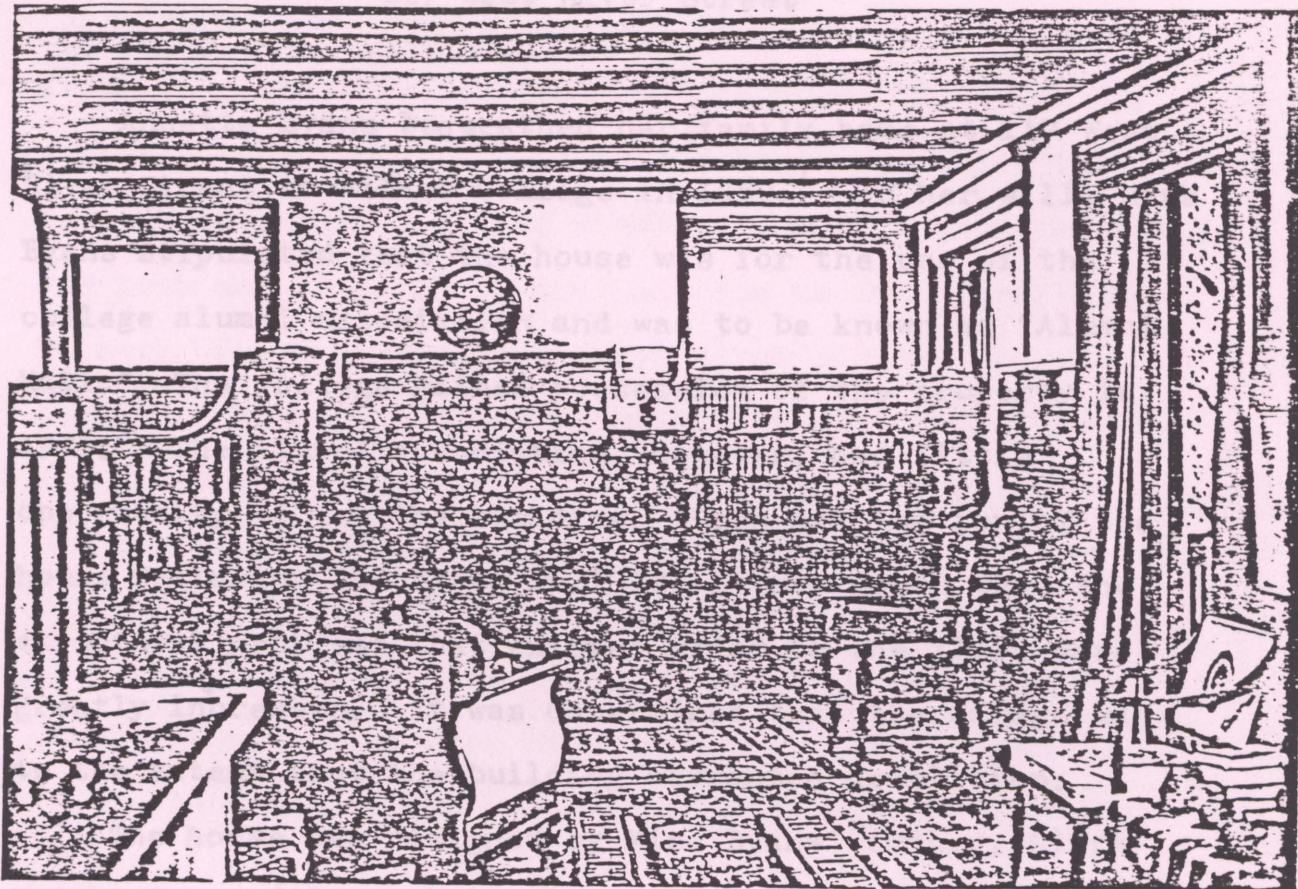


Ill. No. 70
Alumni Hall, west side
Autumn, 1971
source: author

Ill. No. 71
Alumni Hall
source: Art work of Wilkes-Barre, 1910
note: The building is identified as the
"Residence of Clark Wright Evans."



Ill. No. 71
Alumni Hall
source: Art Work of Wilkes-Barre, 1910
note: The building is identified as the
"Residence of Clark Wright Evans."



Wright Evans (1857-1940), an architect and a designer. Architecturally, the building is an example of the Shingle Style of the late nineteenth century. Drawings for various details of the house are in the college's collection of the Evans. portion of the stairhall to Winter, 1972 source: author

Ill. No. 72
Alumni Hall, first floor, northerly
portion of the stairhall
Winter, 1972
source: author

architectural firm. Among the family papers is a set of drawings by Evans for a house in New Jersey. The design of the New Jersey house, apparently made before Evans came to Wilkes-Barre, is quite similar to that of Alumni Hall and may have been the inspiration for it.

46

Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty Building
146 South River Street

The Tudor Revival style house at 146 South River Street was erected about 1928 as the residence of Harry R. Hirshowitz, a businessman. It was designed by the Wilkes-Barre architectural firm of Innes and Levy.¹ Wilkes College purchased the property in 1949 from Edward Morris.² Until mid 1972 the house was the residence of Eugene S. Farley, the first president of the college. The basic structure remains intact with only minor alterations having been made to it over the years.

Known today as the Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty Building, the name honors a late member of the Board of Trustees and a benefactor of the college. In her will Miss Evans bequeathed her family home at 117 West River Street to Wilkes College for the use of the alumni association. The Evans house, however, was heavily damaged in the flood of 1972 and is scheduled for demolition.

The site on which the house stands is significant in the history of Wilkes-Barre. In the late eighteenth century John P. Arndt operated a tavern on this site.³ The historian Oscar J. Harvey records that in the summer of 1797, the Duke of Orleans, later Louis Philippe, King of France, and his two younger brothers lodged at the Arndt tavern on their return to Philadelphia from visiting Asylum,

a French refugee settlement in northern Pennsylvania.⁴ In later years the tavern was operated by Thomas Morgan whose daughter was married in the tavern to David Wilmot. Wilmot later served as Senator from Pennsylvania and authored the Wilmot Provisio. Harvey further records that Harmon Bennerhasset and his wife are reported to have stayed here while visiting her sister after Blennerhasset's downfall and ruin through the Burr conspiracy.

The building erected for Arndt was removed in the late nineteenth century, circa 1879, and replaced by the residence of Edward P. Darling, an attorney. The new house appears to have been a two and a half story structure of masonry construction. The Darling property extended approximately forty feet to the south of the present line. About the beginning of the twentieth century the property was divided with the southern portion becoming known as 150 South River Street. The 1894 Atlas of Wilkes-Barre illustrates the Darling house as covering most of the width of the property. In the 1904 edition of the atlas series, however, the Darling house is shown as being nearly half the size of the one in the earlier edition. This would seem to indicate that the circa 1879 structure was either drastically altered or removed all together and a new one built. The Darling house was razed for the construction of the Hirshowitz house.

The lawn area to the north of the present structure

was purchased in 1941 by Edward Morris.⁵ The area was a part of a large lot known as 138 South River Street. The property was divided in 1941 to enlarge the adjoining properties, 130 and 146. A three story brick dwelling stood on the site from the early nineteenth century until about the late 1930s. The house is said to have been built for Henrick B. Wright, an attorney who served in the state and national legislatures. The property was retained by the Wright family until 1941.

¹Innes and Levy, architectural drawings, "Residence for Harry R. Hirshowitz", June 30, 1928. (Wilkes College, Business Office).

²Luzerne County Deed Records, Book 1056, p. 155.

³Oscar J. Harvey and Ernest G. Smith A History of Wilkes-Barre and Wyoming Valley (6 vol., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.: Smith-Bennett Company, 1930), III, 1711.

⁴The historical data about the tavern cited here is drawn from Harvey and Smith, vol. III, pp. 1709-1713.

⁵Luzerne County Deed Records, Book 749, p. 54.



Ill. No. 26
Annette Evans Alumni and
Faculty Building
146 South River Street
late 1971
source: author

Notes: The Wright house was razed in
the late 1930s and the property
divided in 1941.



Trustees and
 Miss Evans bequeathed her family home at 117 West River
 Street to Wilkes College for the use of the alumni
 association. The Evans house, however, was heavily damaged
 in the flood of 1972 and was scheduled for demolition.

Ill. No. 26
 Wright house
 138 South River Street
 circa 1920s or 1930s

source: Wyoming Historical and
 Geological Society

note: The Wright house was razed in
 the late 1930s and the property
 divided in 1941.

historian Oscar J. Harvey
 1797, the Duke of Orleans, later Louis Philippe, King of
 France, and his two younger brothers lodged at the Arndt
 tavern on their return to Philadelphia from visiting Asylum,

Site
292-294 South River Street

The property at 292-294 South River Street was acquired by Wilkes College in 1971 from the estate of M. Annette Evans.¹ Miss Evans directed through her will that the college was to use the house, known as 292, as a museum of Wilkes-Barre and that the small, frame structure to the south was to be demolished for the development of a garden.² The plan was never realized, however, for the house was structurally damaged when Wilkes-Barre was flooded in the summer of 1972 and the building was razed later that year.

The house was built in the first half of the nineteenth century. An exact date of construction is not known although, stylistically, the building was of a type that was being built in Wilkes-Barre in the 1840s. The property is identified on the 1850 city map as belonging to Reuben Flick. Tradition says that this is the same Reuben Flick who, later in the century, owned the building known now as Kirby Hall. The house at 292 retained most of its original features when it was demolished. Two notable changes that were made to the structure over the years are the addition of the one story porch on the facade and the installation of interior trim in a couple of the rooms. The trim that was added was from a circa 1787 house built on South Main Street for Timothy Pickering.³ Much of the trim from the

Pickering house was removed from the South River Street structure before demolition. The house at 292 was used primarily as a dwelling although at one time it housed a restaurant or tea room.

The one story building to the south was built in the late nineteenth century as a shop. It was torn down in 1972 following the flood.

¹Luzerne County Deed Records, Book 1715, p. 975.

²Luzerne County Wills, item number 1914.

³The Pickering house was recorded by the Historic American Building Survey in 1936. (Survey Number PA-230)

Ill. No. 89

buildings.

292-294 South River Street

Autumn, 1971

source: author

note: Both buildings were demolished
in 1972 following the flood.



was being built in Wilkes-Barre in the 1840s. The property is identified on the 1850 city map as belonging to Reuben Flick. Tradition says that this is the same Reuben Flick who, later in the century, built the building known now as Kirby Hall. The house was built in 1847. The original features when it was built were a two-story building with a one story porch on the facade and the installation of interior trim in a couple of the rooms. The trim that was added was from a circa 1787 house built on South Main Street for Timothy Pickering.³ Much of the trim from the

Ill. No. 89
buildings.

292-294 South River Street
Autumn, 1971

source: author

note: Both buildings were demolished
in 1972 following the flood.

Marion Annette Evans - longtime benefactor of Wilkes Col.

- passed away on Nov 11, 1969 donated her home for much-needed alumni & faculty quarters

^{the} English Gothic home built in 1928 was dedicated to her.
- when the present central campus location became available, Evans memorial was transferred &

- many yrs home of WC founding father & 1st pres.

Dr. Eugene Shedden Farley & wife Eleanor Coates

- house designed in the typical Tudor-Classical Revival

style of ^{the} area's top architectural firm, Innes & Levy
for ^{Mr} Harry Herskowitz, owner of the Hub, a major clothing store in W-B.

The Annette Evans Alumni & Faculty House

Cox

Condron

Name and Address: President's Home, 146 South River Street

Assessed Value: County: \$12,090 City: \$24,783 Date: 1966

Market Value: County: \$34,542 Date: 1966

Insurable Replacement Value: \$85,000 Date: 1967

Insurable Sound Value: \$77,000 Date: 1967

Purchase Price: \$45,000

Last Tax Paid:

Date:

County	Institution	Community College	City	School	Date
\$215.61	\$74.34	---	\$421.31	\$520.44	1949
122.10	65.28	\$14.50	591.32	966.53	1967

Grantors: Edward and Lillian Morris

Recorded: 12-16-49 Page: 155 Date: 12-10-49
Book Number: 1056

Use: Presently used as the President's residence.

Area: 19,129.7 sq. ft. S55°20'W N55°20'E
S35°E N35°W

Notes:

(1) County and Institution taxes for 1949 were computed by using 1948 assessment and 1949 millage. City and School taxes for 1949 are actual taxes paid.

(2) All County and City taxes for 1967 were computed by using 1966 assessment and 1967 millage.

(3) City assessed valuation of \$24,783 includes land (\$10,200) and improvements (\$14,583).

and joinder herein attached.

decision of local personnel to sell said properties as indicated by their consent
The First Eastern Bank, as trustees of said estate, and they agree to the

IN RE: : IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
ESTATE OF ANNETTE EVANS, : OF LUZERNE COUNTY
: ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION
Deceased : NO. 1914 OF 1969

JOINDER AND CONSENT

George Loveland and The First Eastern Bank, formerly The First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, Trustees of the Estate of Annette Evans, Deceased, do hereby acknowledge that they have read the foregoing Petition of Wilkes College requesting the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County to authorize Wilkes College to sell the premises known and designated as 113 West River Street and 117 West River Street which were devised to Wilkes College by said decedent in accordance with Paragraph 12th (1) of the Last Will and Testament of Annette Evans; and that they consent to said sale and join in the foregoing Petition of Wilkes College, provided that the funds derived from the sale thereof shall be held by Wilkes College in a separate fund for the purpose of using the net income therefrom for the maintenance of said Faculty and Alumni House known and designated as 146 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and that the use of said premises as a Faculty and Alumni House shall not be discontinued or changed without the consent of the Trustees.

/s/ George Loveland

George Loveland

THE FIRST EASTERN BANK

By: John B. Lyons
Sr. Trust Officer

by said devise.

Testament of said decedent to Wilkes College subject to the conditions imposed

The First Eastern Bank, as Trustees of said estate, and they accede to the decision of your Petitioner to sell said properties as indicated by their consent and joinder hereto attached.

WHEREFORE, your Petitioner prays your Honorable Court, under the provisions of the Estates Act of 1947, P. L. 100, Section 10, as amended, to authorize Wilkes College to sell and convey the premises known as 113 West River Street to Harry Hallez and Tanya A. Hallez, his wife, upon receipt of the consideration of \$14,000.00 plus or minus adjustments, and the premises known as 117 West River Street to Horizon Twenty-One, Inc., upon the receipt of the consideration of \$25,000.00 plus or minus adjustments.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, etc.

WILKES COLLEGE

Paragraph 17th (1) of the Last Will and Testament of Annelle Evans; and that they consent to said sale and join in the foregoing Petition of Wilkes College.

By: /s/ Francis J. Michelini
President
provided that the funds derived from the sale thereof shall be used by Wilkes College for the purpose of using the net income therefrom for

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA :
SS:
COUNTY OF LUZERNE :

Francis J. Michelini, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is President of Wilkes College, the Petitioner named in the foregoing petition, that he has been authorized to make this affidavit for and on behalf of said Petitioner, and that the facts set forth in the foregoing petition are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Sworn to and subscribed before me :
this 15th day of July, 1975.

(SEAL) /s/ Judith Napierkowski

ESTATE OF VIOLETTE EAVIS

IN RE:

ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION
OF LUZERNE COUNTY
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Testament of said decedent to Wilkes College subject to the conditions imposed by said devise.

4. The disastrous flood which occurred in the City of Wilkes-Barre as a result of the overflow of the Susquehanna River on June 23, 1972, extensively damaged the above-described properties which will require substantial funds to repair the same, and the cost thereof would not justify the repair nor is Wilkes College in a financial position to do so.

5. Wilkes College has received an offer to sell the premises known as 113 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, to Harry Hallez and Taypa A. Hallez, his wife, for the sum of \$14,000.00, and the premises known as 117 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, to Horizon Twenty-One, Inc., for the sum of \$25,000.00 which are fair and reasonable prices for said premises and more than would be obtained by Wilkes College at a public sale.

6. If the aforesaid sale of said premises shall not be approved by this Honorable Court, then your Petitioner is fearful that it will be unable to find a buyer for said premises and it will become necessary for your Petitioner to demolish the buildings on said properties at a substantial cost to your Petitioner and with the loss of tax revenue by the City of Wilkes-Barre, the School District of the City of Wilkes-Barre, the County of Luzerne, and the Institution District due to the reduction in assessments because of the demolition of said buildings.

7. Your Petitioner has set aside another building owned by your Petitioner known and designated as 146 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, as a Faculty and Alumni House which is now being so used, which carries out the intent of the decedent with regard to the use of the properties mentioned in Paragraph 12th (1) of her Last Will and Testament.

8. The Last Will and Testament of said decedent had designated George Loveland, Esquire, and The First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, now

146 South River Street

ESTATE OF ANNETTE EVANS : OBSEVING COURT DIVISION
IN RE : OF LUZERNE COUNTY
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

IN RE : IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF LUZERNE COUNTY
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION
ESTATE OF ANNETTE EVANS, :
Deceased : NO. 1914 OF 1969

PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE EDWARD W. LOPATTO, PRESIDENT JUDGE OF THE
COURT AFORESAID:

The petition of Wilkes College respectfully represents:

as 113 W. Annette Evans, the above-named decedent, died testate on
December 11, 1969; and her Will dated June 13, 1969, probated on December 1
1969, and recorded in Will Book 206, page 43, designated The First National
Bank of Wilkes-Barre, now The First Eastern Bank, Executor of her estate,
to whom Letters Testamentary were issued on December 19, 1969.

2. Paragraph 12th (1) of the Last Will and Testament of said decedent
provided as follows:

"I give and devise to Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre,
Pennsylvania, my house No. 117 West River Street, Wilkes-
Barre, Pennsylvania, and the lot on which it is located for
the use of the Alumni Association of Wilkes College as an
"Alumni House," subject, however, to the right given in
paragraph Seventh of my Will to Eugenia Ostland to remain
in the house for one year and provided, however, that the
grounds at the rear of said house shall be preserved as a
garden for the use of the alumni and that when any of the
shade or ornamental trees shall die, they shall be replaced
with similar species. In addition, I give and devise to said
Wilkes College, the house, No. 113 West River Street,
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and the lot on which it is
located, to be used as part of the "Alumni House" property,
with the right to rent the same and use any net income
therefrom for the "Alumni House" fixed expenses and
upkeep until the premises be needed as an additional "Alumni
House" or Alumni Office or both."

3. In accordance with the due administration of said estate, The
First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, Executor of the Estate of Annette Evans,
Deceased, by deed dated February 26, 1971, recorded on March 15, 1971 in

the Recorder of Deeds Office of Luzerne County in Deed Book 1715, page 232,
George Loveland, Esquire, and The First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, now
conveyed the premises described in Paragraph 12th (1) of said Last Will and

IN RE:

ESTATE OF ANNETTE EVANS

Deceased

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF LUZERNE COUNTY
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

NO. 1914 OF 1969

ORDER

TO THE NOW, THIS 10th day of July, 1975, at 11:55 o'clock A.M., of the
Court at Luzerne.

E.D.S.T., upon presentation of the within petition and upon motion of Louis

The petition of Wilkes College respectfully represents:

Shaffer, Esquire, attorney for the Petitioner therein named, under the provi-

1. Annette Evans, the above-named decedent, died testate on
December 21, 1959; her will dated June 18, 1951, probated on December 10,
virtue of the Consent and Joinder of the Trustees, Wilkes College is hereby
1959, and recorded in Will Book 703, page 43, designated The First National
granted permission to sell and convey the premises known and designated as
Bank of Wilkes-Barre, now The First Eastern Bank, Executor of her estate,
113 West River Street to Harry Hallez and Tanya A. Hallez, his wife, upon
to which Lewis Tammamary were added on December 8, 1959.

receipt of the consideration of \$14,000.00 plus or minus adjustments, and the
2. Paragraph 12th (1) of the last will and testament of said decedent,
premises known and designated as 117 West River Street to Horizon Twenty-

One, Inc., upon receipt of the consideration of \$25,000.00 plus or minus

adjustments. I give and devise to Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre,
Pennsylvania, my house no. 117 West River Street, Wilkes-
Barre, Pennsylvania, and the lot on which it is located for

It is further ordered that the funds derived from the sale thereof
"Alumni House," subject, however, to the right given in
shall be held by Wilkes College in a separate fund for the purpose of using the

in the house for one year and provided, however, that the
net income therefrom for the maintenance of said Faculty and Alumni House

known and designated as 146 South River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

and that the use of said premises as a Faculty and Alumni House shall not be

discontinued or changed without the consent of the Trustees.

with the right to rent the same and use the net income
therefrom for the "Alumni House" fund expenses and
 upkeep until the premises are sold. BY THE COURT, additional "Alumni
House" or Alumni Office or both.

Certified from the records of the Clerk
of the Orphans' Court in and for the county of Luzerne, State of Pennsylvania, this 16th day of July, 1975.

HELEN A. O'CONNOR, CLERK OF THE
ORPHANS' COURT

Asst. Clerk of the Orphans' Court

EDWARD W. LOPATTO

Recorder of the Estate of Annette P.J.

Recorded in March 13, 1971 in

County in Luzerne Co. 1716, page 216

conveys the premises described in Paragraph 12th (1) of said last will and

A. EVANS Bldgs.

Alum. House now



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

River Street Historic District

Luzerne County

has been entered in the

National Register of Historic Places

under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

The National Register of Historic Places, kept by the United States Department of Interior, is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation and includes properties significant in American History, Architecture, Archeology, Engineering and Culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "A. Evans", written over a horizontal line.

State Historic Preservation Officer

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Diana Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Director, Bureau for Historic Preservation

September 10, 1985

Date entered



Annette Evans: Founder of a Fine Tradition

Glistening spring leaves and playful pink cherry blossoms in bloom help each year to perfectly frame the dreams of Fine Arts Fiesta founder Annette Evans.

Her dreams became a reality on May 26, 1956 as Wilkes-Barre Mayor Luther M. Kniffen sounded the historic Ship Zion Bell, calling for the start of what would soon be a Wyoming Valley tradition.

"She would be very proud of its growth and the way that it has been accepted," said long time friend of Miss Evans and valley historian, Alfred Groh.

The festival, modeled after the Boston Fine Arts Festival, was part of Wilkes-Barre's Sesquicentennial that year.

Back then, the event ran for three days on a budget of less than \$1,000. But, although its start was rocky, it quickly was adopted by the locals as a huge success.

Since then, the much awaited spring time festival has grown into a four day event, running into the night, where local high school and college bands perform, while others enjoy artwork, crafts, and action exhibits such

as the songs, dances and costumes of area ethnic groups.

Since its start, The Fine Arts Fiesta has been organized and carried out by volunteers.

"We have managed to maintain the integrity (of the festival) and it has kept its promise to continue to provide free entertainment," added Groh.

Evans had an idea, originating from the United Nationalities Pageant which used to be held indoors at Wilkes College, that she felt could benefit the local area culturally as well as economically.

As a life long resident of South Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Miss Evans was also instrumental in arranging other cultural events, such as The Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre and the local Philharmonic Orchestra.

Evans also served as a member of the Wilkes College Board of Trustees before passing on in 1970. Wilkes University has since named their alumni house in her honor.

This year's Annual Fine Arts Fiesta will be held May 15 to 18th and will again expand itself to the perimeters of Public Square, into the F.M. Kirby Center as well as the Ramada Inn, offering a fine time for all.

Festival events won't be limited to Public Square. Performances will also be held at the River Street Jazz Cafe, Midtown Village, Wilkes-Barre Chamber Building, F. M. Kirby Center Lowes and the Ramada Plaza Hotel. Musical entertainment begins at the band shell Thursday at 11 a.m. with performances running till Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Food, music, arts and crafts will certainly add to the festival atmosphere this year.

Miss Evans is one woman, who proves true that if you believe in something, you can make it happen.

by Colleen Herron

The Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty House:
A Fitting Tribute from Wilkes College

Marion Annette Evans was born March 27, 1893, the only daughter of Clark Wright Evans and Marion Edith Wells. Mrs. Evans was a descendant of two Wyoming Valley pioneer families, Wells and Line. Mr. Evans, a well-travelled and talented musician, composer, artist and architect, designed many Wilkes-Barre buildings, including the family home at 117 West River Street.

Miss Evans was a true philanthropist, giving of her unique artistic talents as well as providing the energy, leadership, and often the money, to fill the cultural needs of Wyoming Valley. Her childhood determination to always "Be cheerful" was carried through her personal life and her good works.

At age sixteen, Miss Evans wrote in her Good Times Book: "I've always been wild to act and represent characters in my own way." Her wish came true as a member of the famous theater group, The Jitney Players, which played to university, club and city audiences all over the country.

Writing under the pen name Miranda Sock, Miss Evans wrote a weekly column for the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader (1939-1942), primarily about Little Theater events, but also scanning the national and international scene. She produced an amazing series of dramas to mark special occasions of area institutions, and also wrote a biography of George Catlin, a famous painter of Indians and natives of Wilkes-Barre. Her interest in Indians and archeology is apparent in her spearheading the movement for a statewide research on Indian sites.

Miss Evans was a founder of the Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic, The Fine Arts Fiesta and The Little Theater. In 1957, for her contributions of diverse cultural enrichment in the Commonwealth, Miss Evans was appointed by the Governor as a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania.

A longtime benefactor of Wilkes College, Miss Evans, who passed away on November 11, 1969, donated her home to the College for much-needed alumni and faculty quarters. When the present central campus location became available, Miss Evans' memorial was transferred and the English Gothic home built in 1928 was dedicated to her. Located at 146 South River Street, the building was for many years the home of Wilkes College's founding father and first president, Dr. Eugene Shedden Farley, and his wife, Eleanor Coates. The house was designed in the typical Tudor-Classical Revival Style of the area's top architectural firm, Innes and Levy, for Mr. Harry Hershowitz, owner of The Hub, a major clothing store in Wilkes-Barre.

From the moment when, as a child, she described books as "windows through which the soul looks out," Miss Evans was deeply aware of the value of education. It is appropriate that she is lovingly remembered in the midst of a busy educational institution by way of this building, The Annette Evans Alumni and Faculty House, a fitting tribute to a woman who revered education and enhanced our world through her unique talents and desire to enrich mankind.

Annette Evans

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Her childhood determination to always "Be cheerful" was carried through her personal life and her good works. Miss Evans was a philanthropist in the true sense of the word, giving generously of her unique artistic talents as well as providing the energy, leadership, and often the money, to fill the cultural needs of Wyoming Valley. She was a founder of the Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic, The Wilkes-Barre Little Theatre, and The Fine Arts Fiesta. Her interest in archeology spearheaded a state-wide research program of Indian site preservation.

In 1957, because of her unique contributions to enrich the Commonwealth, Miss Evans was appointed by the Governor, as a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania.

From the moment, as a child, when she described books as "windows through which the soul looks out," Miss Evans was deeply aware of the value of education. A longtime benefactor of Wilkes College, she died November 11, 1969. It is appropriate that the Annette Evans Faculty and Alumni House is named for such an unusually talented and outstanding woman.

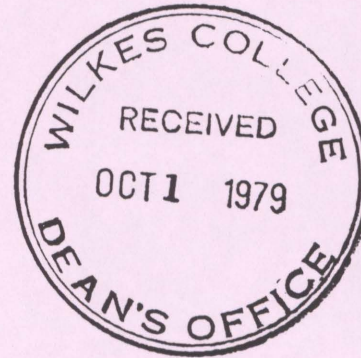
Betsy Connor

TO: Gerald Hartdagan

FROM: Alfred S. Groh

Date: September 30, 1979

Subject: Annette Evans Trust Fund



WILKES COLLEGE

OCT 9 1979

President's Office

DRAFT

Annette Evans and Dorothy Darling were both active in the cultural life of the community; they were among the founders of the Wilkes-Barre Little Theater, and they encouraged the College to develop and support the Northeastern Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra, the Wilkes-Barre Ballet Society, the Oratorio, and the Fine Arts Fiesta. Dr. Farley, Annette, and I started the Fiesta, an outgrowth of the College's United Nationalities Pageant I had written and directed, to celebrate the City's Sesquicentennial.

When she died, Annette left approximately \$260,000 in a Trust Fund, naming me in her will as executor, and a committee composed of the president of Wilkes, whoever it might be, and a third person from outside the College whom we selected. The purpose of the Fund was to continue to support cultural organizations Annette had contributed to during her lifetime.

In 1967 the Summer Theater Workshop, which we started with the assistance of the Pa. Dept. of Education and Lehigh University, was funded for one year under Title III. To help us continue this project, funds from the Annette Evans Trust Fund were transferred to the Summer Theater Workshop account, through which over the years we supported the Workshop and other extracurricular activities in keeping with Annette's wishes. We are providing funds for Terry Anderson to bring members of the Philharmonic Orchestra to the campus for concerts with our students, as well as for the Concert & Lecture Committee to bring in additional cultural programs.

Alumni House

Annette Evans Contributes Much To Wilkes

by Doug Fahringer

Many students are probably aware of the Annette Evans Alumni House located between Stark Learning Center and the Student Center. But what they probably don't know is after whom this quaint building is named.

Miss Annette Evans was an outstanding contributor to Wilkes College in many areas. As a long-time member of the Board of Trustees, Miss Evans contributed greatly to the development of the College by devoting time, talent, and financial aid. However, Miss Evans did not restrict her activities to the College. She started traditions, and was the founder of many artistic projects for the community.

Miss Evans was born in Wilkes-Barre on March 27, 1893, and was graduated from the former Wilkes-Barre Institute and Bryn Mawr College. During World War I she served in the Wyoming Valley Motor Corps of the American Red Cross. She later did free-lance newspaper work and professional publicity for local charities and organizations. During this time she worked at the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society on a statewide Indian survey which led to the formation of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

She conceived the idea of a Fine Arts Fiesta, and, after a decade of devotion to the project, placed it in new hands. She saw the accomplishment of an dream and

continued her work even after retirement, lending valuable guidance and aid.

Miss Evans also traveled with the Jitney Players, a professional group of college students. During this time she wrote, directed, and produced numerous plays and entertainment for various organizations. Then, after a year of touring, she returned to the community to found the Little Theatre, and serve as its Executive Director for many years.

In 1957, Miss Evans was named a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania in recognition of her public service in the arts and history and unique service to Pennsylvania. Miss Evans' other involvements were her work as presi-

dent of Tri-School Alumni Association of Wyoming Seminary Day School as well as being a board member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Miss Evans' past accomplishments prove she has been a true and generous friend to Wilkes College as well as to the community and state. She has left much to admire and respect, but she has also left us a tradition to carry on.

Feb. 12, 1982 Bacon

the Station

The Annette Evans Faculty and Alumni House

The English Gothic house was built in the 1920s for Mr. Harry Hirshowitz, owner of The Hub, a major clothing store in Wilkes-Barre. It was designed in the typical Tudor-Classical Revival Style of the area's top architectural firm, Innes and Levy.

For many years this lovely building was the home of the College President and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley.

It is named for Marion Annette Evans, a descendant of two old Wyoming Valley families and longtime benefactor of the College. She was born March 27, 1893, and died November 11, 1969, only daughter of Clark Wright Evans and Marion Edith Wells.

A founder of the Wilkes-Barré Philharmonic, The Fine Arts Fiesta, and The Little Theatre, Miss Evans was also a talented actress who travelled across the country with The Jitney Players, and an author who produced weekly theatre columns for the newspaper, many dramas, and a biography of George Catlin, Indian painter and native of Wilkes-Barré. Miss Evans's interest in Indians and archeology is apparent in her spearheading the movement for state-wide research on Indian sites. In 1957 she was appointed a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania for her diverse cultural contributions to this area and to the Commonwealth.

Miranda Sock
→ written
with
Bernard
Burgunder

Annette Evans was a true philanthropist, giving of herself as well as her worldly goods. She left her house at 117 West River Street (designed by her architect father) to Wilkes College for much-needed faculty-alumni quarters. When the present central campus location became available, Miss Evans's memorial was transferred to this building.

It seems appropriate that a woman who, at the age of sixteen, identified books as "windows through which the soul looks out" is lovingly remembered in the midst of a busy educational institution, by way of this building... campus home to hundreds of alumni and Wilkes teachers. The Annette Evans Faculty and Alumni House is a fitting tribute to a woman who revered education and enhanced our world through her unique talents and desire to enrich mankind.

Descend. of 2 old Wyo. Valley families: Annette Line Wells = her grandmother. Born here in Hanover in 1809. Wm. S. Wells m. Jane Jackson fr. Suffolk, England 1837. 5 kids. 1 was Charles O. Wells m. Nettie Line + lived at 46 N. Franklin. Clarkson Wright lives from Baltimore. Famous architect + musician (composer. Europe studies - pub. many manuscripts: Clarkson's "Annette's" inc. a Darling + Woodward. He. m. Marion Edith Wells. Her scrapbk. tells of gay parties, sled rides, dances, clubs, musicals, picnics 'til 1892 (m.) it ends!
In her Good Time Bk. Annette wrote "I've always been wild to act + represent characters in my own way" - Her philosophy at age 16 = "Be Cheerful"

There is a small sketch of the house (and a little more about the house) in the...