

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Historic Resources of Red Lion Hundred

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 24

10. A. Property Name - N-5041 - St. Georges Cemetery Caretaker's House
St. Georges Cemetery
- B. Location and Verbal Boundary Description - The Caretaker's House at the St. Georges Cemetery is located on the Kirkwood-St. Georges Road .95 miles west of Route 13. The nominated property is a rectangle area fronting approximately 110 feet on the Kirkwood-St. Georges Road with a depth of approximately 250 feet.
- C. Owner - St. Georges Cemetery
c/o Post Office
St. Georges, Delaware 19733
- D. Property Description

Built shortly after 1871, the Caretaker's House is an "L" shaped, one-and-a-half story, gable roof structure with exterior walls of brick laid in common bond, with seven rows of stretchers to one row of headers. The roof is covered with slate shingles. A one-story porch shelters the main entrance, which is located in the right angle formed by the two wings, and a four-panel door with plain trim, crowned by a rectangular transom light. The porch is supported by wooden, chamfered piers with shaped brackets. The symmetrically placed windows are four-over-four, double windows on the gable ends and four-over-four elsewhere. Wooden lintels and lug sills complete the window trim. Lending a decorative aspect to this structure are the king posts protruding through the ridge of the overhang and the foliage inspired pattern of the bargeboards on the gable ends. A modern aluminum siding addition is attached to the north end. Behind the Caretaker's House is a modern, cinderblock garage with a pseudo-mansard roof.

Historical Background

On March 8, 1871, by an act of the Delaware Legislature, the St. Georges Cemetery Company of Red Lion Hundred was formed with the objective of buying the burying ground connected with the Presbyterian Church, joining it to additional land and laying it out in plots.

The same year that the association was incorporated, it obtained a grant for the burying ground from the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, and also purchased two acres from William J. Hurlock (of Bloomfield), which gave the association a total of 5 acres. Presumably, shortly thereafter the present Caretaker's House was built. Near where this house stands, once stood the original St. Georges Presbyterian Church.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 18 1980
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Historic Resources of Red Lion Hundred

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 25

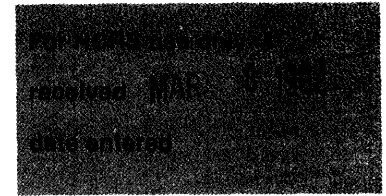
John Clark Higgins in his memoirs mentions that he remembered the old church quite well, and that it stood on the "present St. Georges Cemetery."

It was of brick and not unlike "Old Drawyers." A central aisle reached from the front door to the pulpit, and the floor of the church was probably paved with bricks throughout.

This church was torn down in 1844 when a lot was bought in St. Georges and the congregation moved to that site.

E. Significance

This is a unique example of fourth quarter of the nineteenth century architecture in Red Lion Hundred with the concern for decorative detail indicative of the period seen in the bargeboard accenting the gable roof line. Considered in association with the cemetery, where many persons prominent in the area's past are interred, this picturesque structure is an important feature of the Kirkwood-St. Georges roadscape.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Red Lion Hundred Multiple Resource Area

Continuation sheet

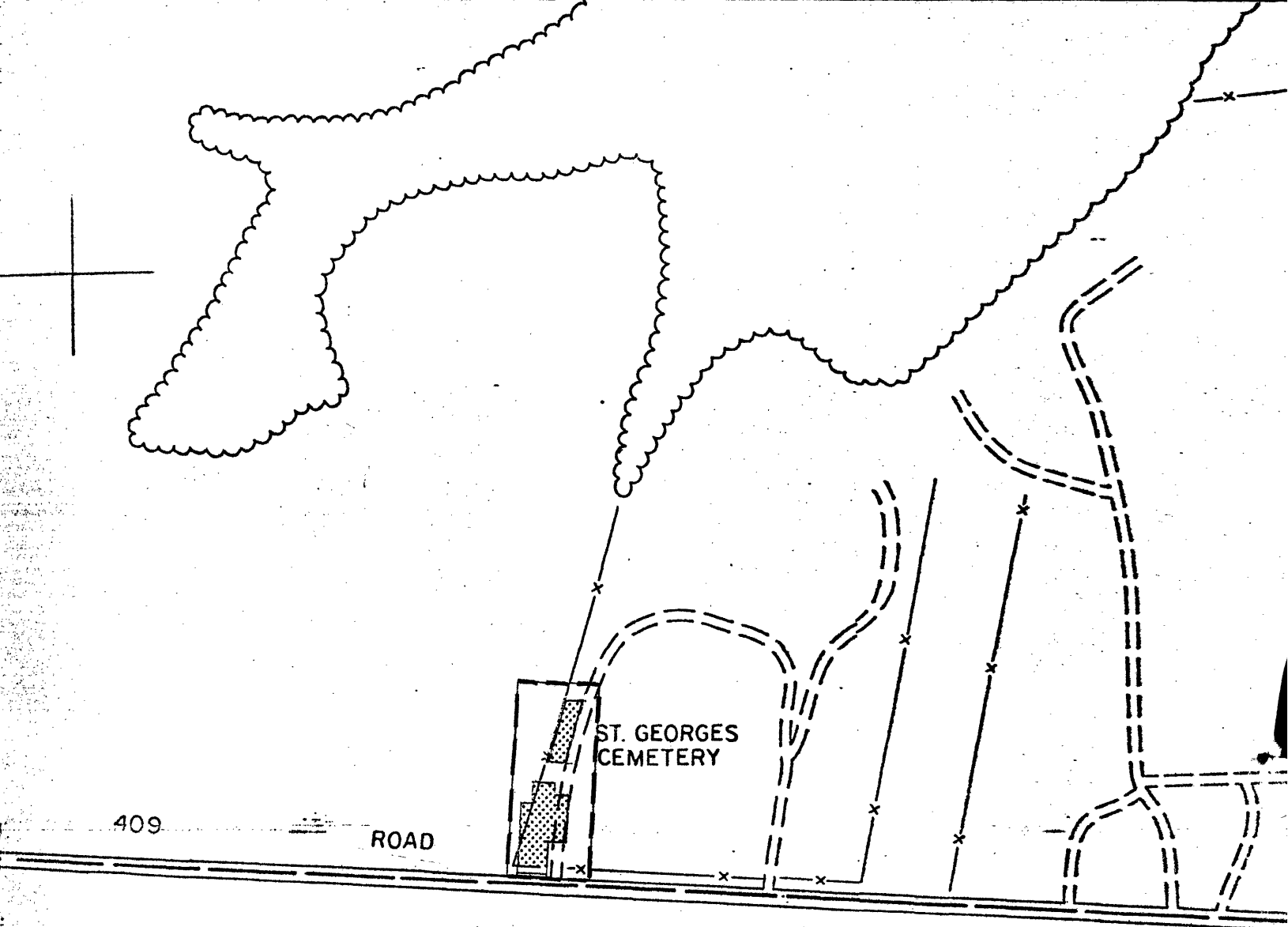
Item number 7

Page 25a

10. St. Georges Cemetery Caretaker's House (N-5041)


E. Significance:

The St. Georges Cemetery Caretaker's House is the only example of the Gothic Revival cottage in Red Lion Hundred and only one of two examples in those areas of New Castle County flanking the Canal. Although this structure was erected toward the end of the popularity of this style, and in brick rather than the more common frame construction, the characteristic elements of this revival style are present. These include a steeply pitched slate roof accented by polygonal chimney pots, curvilinear "gingerbread" trim along the overhanging eave, the mullioned ground story windows of the end walls, and the irregular plan. The St. Georges Cemetery Caretaker's House is not only unique in Red Lion Hundred but also important to our understanding of the evolution of architectural styles in New Castle County.



AUG 10 1980

080/312

| | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| SKETCH MAP | DATE : 4/14/80 |  |
| N-5041 Caretaker's House | SCALE: 1:200 ± | |
| NEW CASTLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING | | |