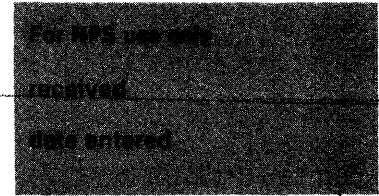


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Property Name: Green Mansion House

Location and Verbal Boundary Description:

The Green Mansion House is located on the west side of Main Street south of Commerce Street. In the town of Kenton the lot is known as parcel #34 on Kent County property map #44.08.01. It contains 14,590 square feet or .335 acres.

Owner: Marie Sawdey
P.O. Box 72
Kenton, Delaware 19955

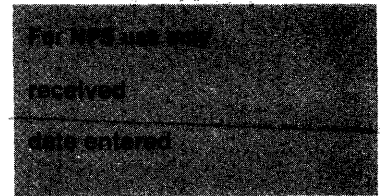
Description:

The Green Mansion House is a brick and frame building that was constructed during the first quarter of the nineteenth century by Philip Lewis. It was not Lewis' home, but rather a tenant property he erected as he was developing the fledgling crossroads community of Kenton, or "Lewis Crossroads" as it was known during its first years. The frame section is the largest and is a 3-bay, center-hall-plan core structure. The brick wing is a 2-bay, 1-room-plan portion that is two-stories high but lower than the main section. The brick has been stuccoed. The brick section was built first and the frame block was added a few years later but still during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

OMB No. 1024-0018
E.O. 12812

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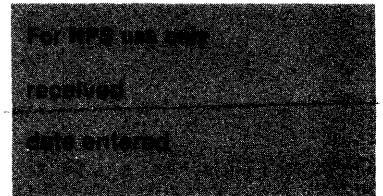
Both sections have a gable roof with very plain box cornices. The chimneys are located on the interior gable ends. The windows on the facade are one-over-one, having been changed early in this century from their original configuration. There is a short, 2-story frame wing that is attached to the brick section. The porch on the facade of the frame is an early-twentieth-century addition. It has a hipped roof.

Historical Background:

The Green Mansion House was built as part of Philip Lewis' plan for the development of Kenton. When Lewis died, his lands were divided and his children did not maintain an interest in the town. Rather, individuals such as John Green or members of the Wilds family continued Philip Lewis' plan for the development of Kenton. Green was principally a merchant in the town and was partially responsible for the continued prosperity at the crossroads. Green owned a series of properties along the west side of the crossroads that included dwelling houses, a blacksmith and wheel wright shop, a distillery and a hotel. When he died in the late 1870's, James Williams bought the property but re-sold it the next year. The mansion house and the adjoining properties remained together until well into the nineteenth century, when it was split up among various individuals.

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Statement of Significance:

The Green Mansion House was built as a town dwelling during the initial development of the town of Kenton. Philip Lewis, in arranging for its construction, had the building erected in a manner very similar to many of the brick farmhouses standing in Kenton Hundred. The original brick block is a one room plan dwelling and now functions as a kitchen wing. The frame block contains the public living space and is arranged in the formal vocabulary of a 3-bay, center-hall-plan dwelling. The combination of the two diverse floor plans has created a unique dwelling in that the nineteenth century use of a one room plan in brick is linked to a more modern and major frame addition. The usual practice in Kenton Hundred is to have the brick section retain its use as the major block and the frame additions serve as a minor wing. This house is therefore eligible under Criterion C as an example of a reversal of the usual building practice and tradition of Kenton Hundred. The house is also eligible under Criterion A for its association with Philip Lewis, the initial developer of Kenton, but more importantly for its association with and used by John Green as his principal residence while he participated in encouraging the growth of the town.