

PH0015628

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	SEP 17 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Camden Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Picadilly, Mifflin's Crossroads

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *Both sides of Camden-Wilmington Avenue and Main Street*
Intersection of Route 10 and Route 13A

CITY OR TOWN:
Camden

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Kent	CODE 001
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Too numerous to list

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Kent County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
The Green

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE
Dover Delaware 10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

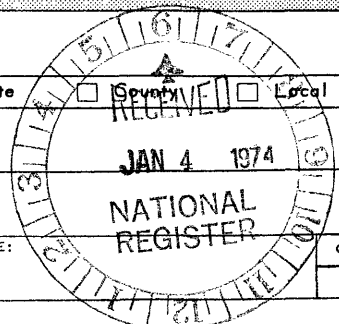
TITLE OF SURVEY:
See Continuation Sheets

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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

The basic town fabric of Camden has remained intact through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The crossroads predominates as the generator of the local development pattern and is still viewed as the symbolic town center. The sense of scale, density, and use of open spaces has not changed drastically since the early part of the nineteenth century. Taken as a whole, the Camden Historic District contains a group of houses fairly homogeneous in style and origin. As a result, the district presents a fairly accurate example of village life in rural Delaware during the early nineteenth century.

Bounded in part by farmland, the Camden Historic District contains 31.6 acres of land and encompasses most of the area traditionally associated with the Mifflin's Crossroads settlement. There are sixty-five primary structures in the district; evidence indicates that at least eighteen of these buildings were erected between 1780 and 1820. The plans of the houses generally fall into three types: side hall, hall and parlor, and single pile center hall. Gables are reserved for end walls. Most of these eighteen structures are brick, with facades laid in Flemish bond and feature a box cornice and a belt course, but no water table. Most of the forty-seven remaining buildings in the district were erected in the nineteenth century and are valuable from a preservation view point, as in-fill material to preserve the town's character.

NORTHWEST QUADRANT

In the northern portion of the district, located to the west of North Main Street is "Spruce Acres" (K-179). The house is a good example of the Greek Revival style in Delaware domestic architecture. The rusticated wooden

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" 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

The town of Camden is situated on a tract of land originally called "Brecknock", which was granted to Alexander Humphreys under a warrant in 1680. By the middle of the eighteenth century four hundred thirty-six acres of Brecknock came into the possession of Colonel John Vining. In 1780, Warner Mifflin purchased this 436 acres from the Vining estate. Three years later Warner Mifflin sold to his brother, Daniel, one hundred twelve acres, which included the crossroads formed by the main road from Dover to the north and the road from Forest Landing (now Lebanon) to the east. Somewhat later, Warner Mifflin sold seventy-four acres of the tract to John Edmondson and two hundred forty-nine acres to Thomas Edmondson.

Of the three property owners, Daniel Mifflin held the land which, by its location, commanded the greatest speculative value. Between 1783 and 1788 Daniel Mifflin sold twelve parcels of land at Mifflin's Crossroads, ranging in size from three-quarters of an acre to ten and nine-tenths of an acre. The new settlement was obviously speculative in nature, dependent on the commercial traffic to Dover and the products from nearby mills. By the end of the eighteenth century the crossroads had grown to include over a dozen dwelling houses and several shops. The development had been named Piccadilly, but it was commonly referred to as "Mifflin's Crossroads." The name "Camden" first appears in 1788, but probably did

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

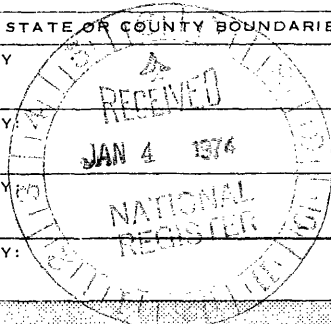
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	75° 32' 46"	39° 06' 39"				
NE	75° 32' 46"	39° 07' 00"				
SE	75° 32' 23"	39° 07' 00"				
SW	75° 32' 23"	39° 06' 39"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Vincent P. Rogers and Madeline Dunn

ORGANIZATION: Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 8/9/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

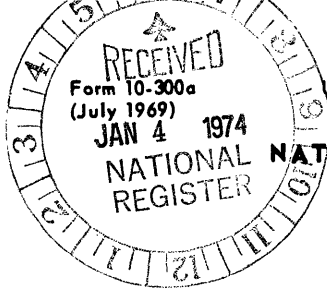
Name: Grover A. Biddle
Title: Assistant Secretary of State (Acting Director)
Date: 12-27-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

PK Mortensen
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 9/17/74

ATTEST:
Wm. H. ...
Keeper of The National Register
Date: 9-16-74



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6. Representation in existing historical surveys:

This listing is arranged according to the order of the properties in section 7, the description.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Survey of Delaware Sites & Buildings</u>
Spruce Acres (Hunn House or Hartman House) (Historic American Buildings Survey listing number Del-4)	K-179
Old Homestead Antique Shop	K-267
Daniel Mifflin House (Historic American Buildings Survey inventory listing) (Kent County Planning and Zoning list number 61)	K-180
Whatcoat Methodist Church of 1856	K-270
215 Camden-Wyoming Avenue	K-181
222 Camden-Wyoming Avenue	K-266
228 Camden-Wyoming Avenue	K-261
234 Camden-Wyoming Avenue	K-260
Governor George Truitt House (12 South Main Street)	K-252
McClyment House (14 South Main Street)	K-253
22 South Main Street	K-254
30 South Main Street	K-255
36 South Main Street	K-256
100 South Main Street	K-257
102 South Main Street	K-258
17 South Main Street	K-268
7 South Main Street	K-251

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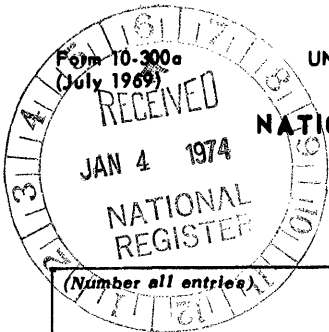
(Number all entries)

6. Representation in existing historical surveys (continued):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Survey of Delaware Sites & Buildings</u>
3 South Main Street (Dover Glass Company)	K-250
1 South Main Street (Old Store Building)	K-269
321 Camden-Wyoming Avenue	K-259
Cooper House (15 North Main Street)	K-141
11 North Main Street	K-249

The Survey of Delaware Historic Sites and Buildings is maintained by the Historic Preservation Section, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware. The Historic American Buildings Survey is maintained by the Library of Congress; copies of these records may be consulted at the Hall of Records. The Kent County Planning and Zoning list may be consulted at the Hall of Records or at the Kent County Planning and Zoning office, Dover.





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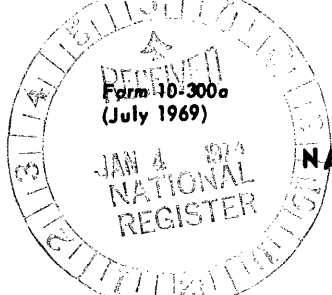
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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)--- Page 2

facade of this three-story, five-bay mansion is complemented by center triple windows, corner pilasters, and a Greek Revival portico with fluted columns. A three-story, clapboard rear wing and twentieth century rear additions abut the main structure. The spacious interior is notable for its dado wainscot, crown moulding, tapered door surrounds, and a delicate fleur-de-lis trim above the interior entryway.

To the south of "Spruce Acres" is the "Old Homestead Antique Shop" (K-267), a traditional five-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house. The facade, though complemented by a continuous box cornice, reflects two distinct periods of construction. The southern part of the facade embodies the original three-bay, side hall plan structure. Its frontage was defined by a raised basement and bricks laid in a Flemish bond pattern with a brick belt course. The northern two-bay portion is also erected on a raised basement, but in a common bond brick pattern without a belt course. Several twentieth century additions have been constructed to the rear of the building. Remodeling in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has produced a plain interior.

The Mifflin House (K-180) is the third property located to the west of North Main Street. The house, a five-bay brick structure, is built in a simplified form of the middle Georgian style. The interior is one room deep with a center hall; the woodwork is good and the paneling is plain. Two lower wings have been added to the main portion of the house: one to the rear, or west, and one to the north. In addition to a box



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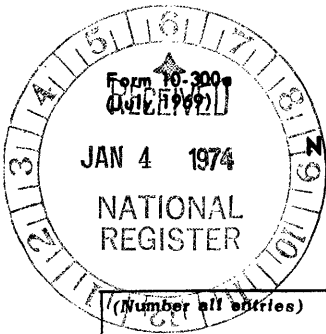
7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 3 ---

cornice and a water table the facade features a stone belt course and an arched doorway with a fanlight.

Around the corner from the Mifflin House, to the north of Camden-Wyoming Avenue, the district includes several Victorian town structures. The buildings at 259 and 257 Camden-Wyoming Avenue are frame commercial buildings. The former is a two-story Greek Revival building with a gabled front; the adjoining store is also two stories, but is terminated by a cornice with Italianate bracketing. Adjacent to 257 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is the 1856 Whatcoat Methodist Church (K-270). The church is a rectangular nave structure with a second-floor auditorium. The three-bay facade is laid in a mechanical bond brick pattern dominated by a pedimented gable. The ground level entrance is in the center bay, and gothic arch windows are located in each of the other bays.

To the west of Whatcoat Church are several Victorian domestic structures. The houses at 247 and 245 Camden-Wyoming Avenue are two-bay, two-story and attic frame structures. The house at 243 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is also a two-and-a-half story frame structure, but its five-bay facade features corner pilasters, a bracketed cornice, and an oriel. At 241 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is a three-bay gambrel-roofed house. This frame structure has been greatly altered, but may have originally dated from the late eighteenth century. To the west of the gambrel-roofed house stands a two-bay, two-and-a-half story frame house with a box cornice. At 233 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is a one-and-a-half story twentieth-century frame house.

To the west are several very simple frame nineteenth-century houses.



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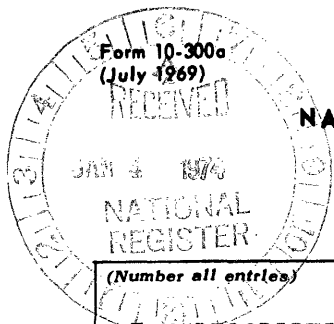
Included are a five-bay Italianate frame structure with low-pitched roof, a large stuccoed house with dormers, and a three-bay front gabled frame building.

At 217 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is a three-story frame house with jerkin-head roof. A mansard-roofed entrance tower dominates the facade, and half-timbering decoration relieves the exterior house walls.

At 215 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is a five-bay two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house. (K-181). The southern facade of this late Georgian structure is laid in flemish bond, complemented by a boxed cornice and contemporary pedimented dormers. The interior arrangement of this single-pile edifice is a center hall plan, with an attached rear kitchen wing. The kitchen wing, containing a large original cooking fireplace with crane, is constructed in a three course common bond pattern and features an exterior end chimney.

SOUTHWEST QUADRANT

On the south side of Camden-Wyoming Avenue, to the south of house number 217, is a five-bay gambrel-roofed house. The building could possible date to the eighteenth century, but many alterations and additions have been made. To the east of the gambrel-roofed house is a five-bay, two-and-one-half story frame house; the cornice of the building receives large modillions and returns at the gables. At 222 Camden-Wyoming Avenue stands a brick house (K-266) which superficially follows a typical Delaware pattern: five bays, two-and-a-half stories, interior chimneys, and gable end walls. The facade is laid in a mechanical bond brick pattern, and features a stone belt course in addition



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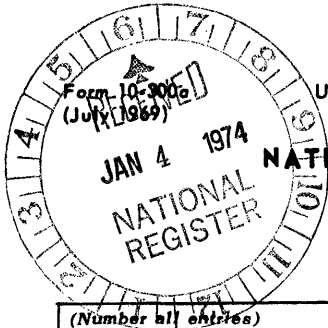
7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 5---

to the usual box cornice. The rear of the main house is extended by a "saltbox" type wing, which continues the roof pitch. The interior plan marks the building as somewhat of an anomaly in Delaware architecture; in form it resembles a hall and parlor plan with a transverse hall added to the front, extending along the length of the facade.

To the east, at 228 Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-261) is a five-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house featuring an ashlar scored stuccoed facade which is complemented by a simple box cornice and a Victorian veranda. Originally this structure was defined as a three-bay, hall and parlor plan. The entrance is adorned with flanking sidelights and a fanlight. Abutting this main section are nineteenth century beaded clapboard additions. The conservative interior features splayed window casings, and fireplaces decorated with ceramic tiles and Franklin stoves (dated 1885).

At 234 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is a four-bay, two-and-one-half story, brick dwelling house (K-260). The flemish bond facade, typical of eighteenth century Delaware brick houses, is complemented by an unpretentious brick belt course and cornice. The single-pile interior, defined by a center hall plan, is trimmed with simple chair rails and a narrow, simple detailed staircase.

To the east of 234 Camden-Wyoming Avenue is the Amity Lodge building, a mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival structure. The four bay facade features a pedimented gable with a bracketed cornice. Toward the corner are several Victorian commercial buildings including: three structures with "false fronts", a two-bay store with corner pilasters and a gabled facade, a single story shop,



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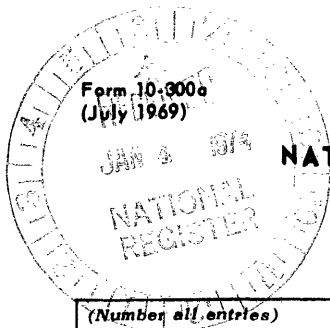
7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 6---

and three buildings with cornice returns on the side gables. Each building is typical of the Victorian vernacular and continues the street scale of the town.

Around the corner on the west side of South Main Street is the George Truitt house, a seven-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house. (K-252). A modillion block cornice and a brick belt course mark its flemish bond facade. The rounded rear corner, of a later addition, is a unique structural feature. Though the interior has been remodeled within the twentieth century, the facade maintains the conservative proportions and designs typical of Camden's late eighteenth century domestic architecture.

Adjoining the Truitt House is a similarly detailed house at 14 South Main Street (K-253). The house is a five-bay, two-and-one-half story brick Georgian structure with a smaller side wing joined on axis to the south. The flemish bond facade features a brick belt course and a modillion block cornice. A two-story, early Victorian portico now dominates the facade; this structure complements the recessed entrance, which is flanked by fluted pilasters and crowned by a fanlight. Originally, this domestic structure was constructed on a three-bay, hall and parlor plan. Eighteenth century wainscoting, paneled end walls, turned balusters, and dentil trimmed mantels characterize this most pretentious of eighteenth-century Camden dwellings.

The house at 22 South Main Street (K-254) is built on a single-pile, center hall plan in the late Georgian style. The house is two-and-a-half stories in height and rests on a brick enclosed basement. Throughout the



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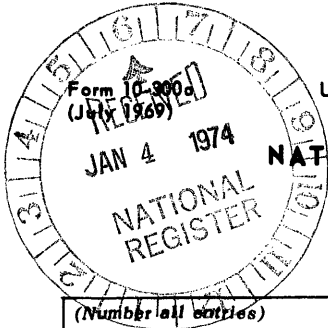
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interior the detailing is quite simple, and confined to chair railing and several fireplace mantels. The facade is composed of five bays laid in flemish bond brick; the remainder of the house is laid in five-course common bond. The eaves, including those of the lower rear wing, receive box cornices the cornice on the facade, however, also receives a dentil trim. The house is a product of the Quaker conservatism in architecture, combining the simple regularity of the Federal Period with Georgian detailing.

To the south of 22 South Main Street is a two-and-one-half story, six-bay double house; the building is frame, built in typical end-gable pattern. The house at 28 South Main Street is a five-bay Victorian frame structure, with a double center window surmounted by a cross gable. To the south is 30 South Main Street (K-255), a four-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house. The flemish bond facade is complemented by dog-eared door surrounds, a brick belt course, and a conservative cornice trim. The interior of this hall-and-parlor plan structure is very plain. Chair rails, baseboards, a modestly reeded mantel, and a steep, narrow enclosed stairway are typical of conservative eighteenth century proportions and design.

Adjacent to 30 South Main Street is an early twentieth-century hip-roofed house. This two-story and attic frame building is finely detailed and features an elaborate first-floor veranda. To the south is located a double dwelling house at 36 South Main Street (K-256). The five-bay facade receives ashlar-scored stucco and is complemented by dormers and a simple boxed cornice. The southernmost portion of this structure was originally designed in a three-bay, hall and parlor plan. The conservative interior, typical of Camden's



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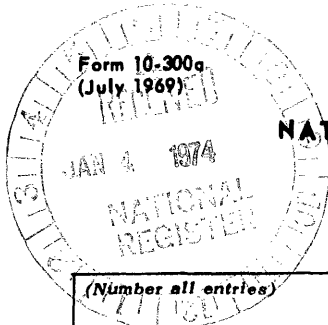
early domestic architecture, is represented by unsophisticated chair rails, baseboards, square balusters, and newel post. The three course common bond foundation pattern and original mortise and tenon window casings reflect eighteenth century construction patterns.

Located at the corner of Willow Avenue and South Main Street is the twentieth century, two-and-a-half story frame parsonage of Whatcoat Church. On the south side of Willow Avenue at 100 South Main Street is (K-257), a four-bay, two-and-a-half story frame building. The facade of this eighteenth century domestic structure was originally covered with narrow beaded clapboard, which is now concealed by abestos shingles. Interior ornamentation is primarily limited to unsophisticated chair rails and square balusters. However, an elegantly reeded parlor mantel and a skillfully constructed butterfly cupboard adorned with a double keystone, bespeak fine craftsmanship.

At 102 South Main Street is a five-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house (K-258), to which twentieth century rear additions have been constructed. The ashlar-squared stucco facade is complemented by a boxed cornice with modillion block trim. Conservative interior decorations, within this single-pile, center hall plan, are presently confined to a panel under the hall staircase and decorative fireplace mantels. An attached rear brick kitchen wing features an original cooking fireplace with crane.

SOUTHEAST QUADRANT

On the east side of South Main Street a three-bay frame house stands at the southern edge of the historic district. The house features a box cornice



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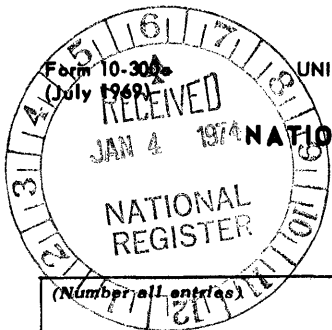
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7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 9---

and low pitch roof with a tudor kick. Attached to this house is a gambrel-roofed house at 17 South Main Street(K-268). The gambrel roofed house is a late eighteenth century frame building erected on a hall and parlor plan. Although the fireplaces have been sealed, each room retains its end wall paneling. The west facade of the house is composed of three bays, and contains two shed-roofed dormers. A small portico has been added to the facade and a kitchen wing has been added to the rear. Nevertheless, the house yet retains its original appearance.

To the north of the gambrel-roofed house are two frame houses: one of three bays with exposed decorative corner posts and a large portico, the other of five bays with a gothic hooded doorway. The house at 7 South Main Street (K-251) is a three-bay, two-and-a-half story brick structure built on a side hall plan. The facade is laid in Flemish bond and features a belt course and box cornice with dentil trim. On the interior the remaining detailing includes some chair railing, fireplaces with side breast cupboards, and quarter round moulding. A rear brick wing, contemporary with the main structure, has been enlarged during the nineteenth century. To the south of the house has been added a frame side wing with a two-bay brick veneer facade, designed to compliment that of the main portion of the house. The roof emphasizes this appearance of integration by its continuous ridge and eave lines; a dormer, identical to the two dormers on the main portion, pierces the roof. The side wing was built in various stages and is presently used as an apartment(#9 South Main Street), separate from the main dwelling



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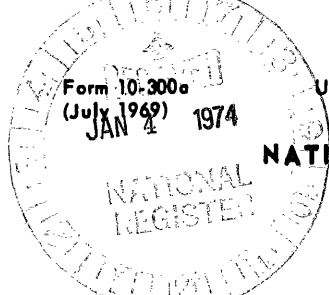
house.

The clapboard structure at 3 South Main Street (K-250) exemplifies Delaware's better domestic Greek Revival architecture. The facade of this three-story, five-bay frame dwelling, is complemented by corner pilasters, a modillion cornice and shaped lintels above the second story windows. Abutting this main structure is a three-story clapboard rear wing. Extensive remodeling during the twentieth century has greatly distorted the original interior. Large fireplaces trimmed with ovolo moulding and chimney breast side cupboards, however, remain intact within the main portion of this dwelling.

At the southeast corner of Main Street and Camden-Wyoming Avenue is an eighteenth century brick structure (K-269). The age of the structure is masked by a mansard roof and a Victorian shop window. Nevertheless, the building was originally constructed with two facades, one facing each street, as both walls are laid in flemish bond and feature a belt course. The interior of the building has also been greatly altered; however, remaining details suggest that the structure was designed to accommodate its corner position.

NORTHEAST QUADRANT

On the north side of Camden-Wyoming Avenue at the eastern edge of the Camden Historic District is 321 Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-259). The house was originally a four-bay, two-and-one-half story brick dwelling house to which a two-bay section was added during the nineteenth century. The flemish bond



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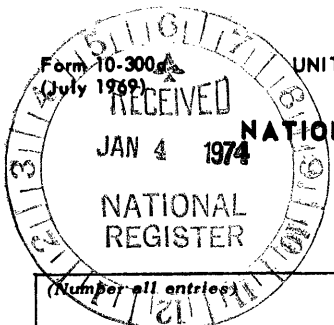
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7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 11---

facade features a brick belt course and box cornice. The interior design of this conservative Georgian structure was originally arranged in a basic hall and parlor plan. The unsophisticated interior trim suggests the simple interior decoration characteristic to the area's early domestic architecture.

To the west of 321 Camden-Wyoming Avenue are two three-bay, two-and-a-half story frame houses, each featuring a box cornice. The third property to the west is the Fruitland Grange, a three-bay, two-and-a-half story building with a hip roof. The northeast corner of the intersection of Main Street and Camden-Wyoming is occupied by a two-and-a-half story modern Greek-Revival commercial building. To the north of the corner building at 9 North Main Street is a three-bay Victorian frame house. Typical of its period, the house features an entrance tower and carved bargeboards.

At 11 North Main Street (K-249) is a four bay two-story and attic brick structure erected on a typical Delaware hall-and-parlor plan. The west facade is laid in Flemish bond and features a brick belt course and a simple box cornice. The remainder of the building is laid in five-course common bond. To the rear of the main house remains a contemporary story and a half wing, slightly offset from the main body of the house. The wing obviously served a service function as the large existing fireplace retains a crane. The house is simply detailed with late Georgian features: paneled end walls, fireplace breast side cupboards, chair railing, and several finely appointed mantels.



Form 10-300a
(July 1959)

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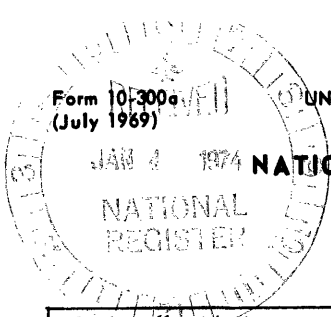
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7. DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 12---

Similar in appearance is the Cooper House, located immediately north. It is a four-bay, two-and-a-half story structure built in the middle Georgian tradition. The west facade is laid in Flemish bond brick and features a belt course and a box cornice with modillion blocks. The remaining walls of the house, including those of the basement, are laid in three-course common bond. The interior of this single-pile house is organized by a hall and parlor plan. The rooms are well appointed with paneled end walls, chair railing, an interior cornice with dentils, and dog-ear trim. To the rear of the house occurs a wing built in several stages. The original portion abuts the main house and is slightly offset from it. To this one-and-a-half story kitchen wing have been added another brick kitchen and several frame portions.

The six houses to the north of the Cooper House and on the east side of North Main Street compliment the other properties in the historic district and form a suitable streetscape. A twentieth century frame house at 17 North Main Street features a good surrounding veranda. At 101 North Main Street is a five-bay Victorian frame house with a cross-gable decorated by bargeboards. Another five-bay Victorian house at 105 North Main Street is executed in the Italianate style, complete with bracketed cornice. At 109 North Main is a two-bay two-and-a-half story frame house, erected in the early twentieth century. To the north is a five-bay, three-story frame house built in the Delaware "peach house" Italianate idiom. At the northeast corner of the Camden Historic District is a four-bay frame house with a pedimented cross gable.



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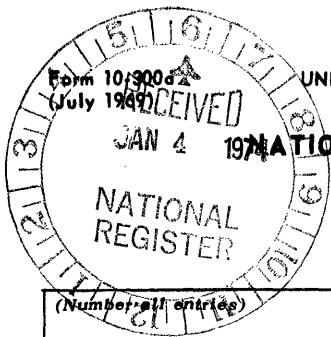
not replace "Mifflin's Crossroads" in common usage until the end of the eighteenth century.

More clearly defined patterns of town lots began to develop in the beginning of the nineteenth century; by 1818 the town included over seventy lots and out-lots. The development process included both speculative exchanges of property and divisions of larger tracts through inheritance. The urban character of the community was reinforced by the reduction of lot sizes to an average of about one acre. In addition, by 1820 the range of occupations represented in Camden had expanded to include merchants, innkeepers, carriage makers, tanners, bricklayers, house carpenters, and physicians.

The development of retail mercantile activity combined with the increase in grain and lumber production, produced a prosperous town economy which survived until the opening of the Delaware railroad in 1856. With the advent railroad service, the freight shipping business was moved a mile westward to the new town of Wyoming. Nevertheless, the town of Camden, which had been incorporated in 1852 by an act of legislature, continued to survive commercially with an active retail trade and a thriving fruit canning industry.

The first religious meeting house at Mifflin's Crossroads was Whatcoat Chapel, erected by the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1791. Cited as the builder of the new chapel was Dr. Elijah Barratt, one of the early benefactors of Delaware Methodism, Philip Barratt.

However, Camden is identified chiefly as a Quaker settlement. Daniel and Warner Mifflin along with the other important local land holders were



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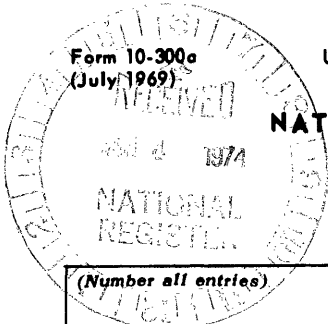
8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued) Page 3---

members of the Society of Friends. Warner Mifflin, in 1774, set precedent in Delaware by freeing his twenty-one slaves because his conscientious objection to the concept of slaveholding. His wholesale manumission became a model for other Friends; between 1774 and 1792 a total of six hundred twelve slaves were freed by their Quaker masters in Delaware. Camden, as a Quaker settlement, figured in this early abolitionist movement. In fact, free Negroes were among the persons who bought and sold land in Camden in the beginning of the nineteenth century. There are also references to an "African school" located in the town. The Hunn and Jenkins families, along with other Camden Friends continued their support of the negro cause during the period of "Underground railroad."

Of prime interest in considering Camden is the process of early town development in Delaware. An examination of the various conveyances immediately before and after the turn of the century will demonstrate the conversion of a crossroads farm hamlet into a town.

EDMONDSON TRACT

In 1780, the entire northwest portion of Camden was in the possession of Warner Mifflin, a descendant of the Daniel Mifflin family of Accomac County, Virginia. By 1783, Warner Mifflin had conveyed to his brother Daniel, a merchant, significant acreage strategically positioned at the crossroads commonly known as Mifflin's Cross Roads. Daniel apparently established the first businesses at the crossroads in Camden, a store and a hotel, on the northwest side of the crossroads, adjacent to the place where he later erected his own house. In



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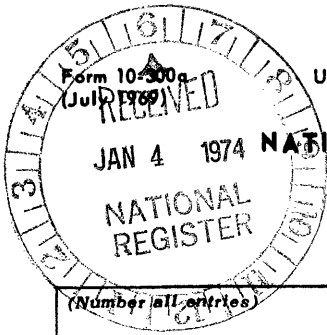
1786, Warner Mifflin conveyed one hundred forty-nine acres to the "yeoman" Thomas Edmondson. Within the original boundaries of Thomas Edmondson's property, three significant structures have remained intact. Each dwelling house represents distinct periods of construction.

The Greek Revival mansion house, "Spruce Acres" (K-179), was according to local tradition, constructed by Hunn Jenkins of Philadelphia circa 1848, when he purchased the property from Ruth B. Jenkins, the widow of Jonathan Jenkins, a Camden merchant. The sophisticated construction of this Greek Revival dwelling house could possibly be attributed to Hunn Jenkins' cosmopolitan background and an awareness of the academic architecture that was being constructed in Philadelphia during the 1840's.

The pretentious mansion house constructed by Hunn Jenkins was not the property's original dwelling house. An earlier frame structure probably erected by Thomas Edmondson before 1793, was bequeathed to his son John Edmondson by his father's will dated 1793. This earlier structure remained in the Edmondson family until 1826.

The late eighteenth century portion of the brick dwelling house south of Spruce Acres (K-267), was the dwelling house of Thomas Edmondson. At his death in 1793, this structure with its gardens were bequeathed to his wife Sophia for the rest of her natural life.

The third structure within the original boundaries of Thomas Edmondson's estate, is the five-bay brick dwelling house located on Camden-Wyoming Avenue, (K-181). This dwelling, designed in the late Georgian style, was erected



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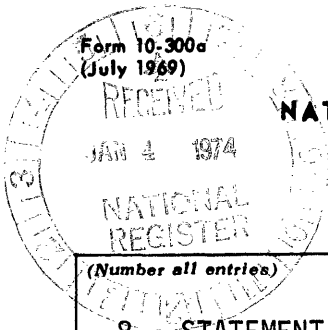
by Charles Kimmey, a Dover merchant, in 1813. The lot included a portion of the original three acres of land Thomas Edmondson bequeathed to his daughter, Margaret (the wife of John Williams, a carriage maker of Camden) in his will dated 1793.

DANIEL MIFFLIN HOUSE

Situated on the parcel of ground northwest of the crossroads which Warner Mifflin conveyed to his brother Daniel in 1783, is the "Mifflin House" (K-180). This brick dwelling house was built by Daniel Mifflin circa 1796. Daniel Mifflin's speculative land sales helped to foster the establishment of Camden.

McCLYMENT TRACT

In 1787 Daniel Mifflin sold to James McClyment a tract of approximately ten acres at the southwest corner of Mifflin's Crossroads. A few houses, located on the parcel, were conveyed at this time; in all likelihood the houses at 14 South Main Street (K-253) and 100 South Main Street (K-257) were included. From subsequent records it would appear that James McClyment lived in the house at 14 South Main Street. At McClyment's death the house and adjoining land was conveyed to his wife Sarah, and subsequently passed to his daughter Harriet McClyment in 1810. In 1788 James McClyment sold to William Bostick a lot of about one acre at the southern end of the McClyment tract. A portion of the house at 100 South Main Street was included; however, evidence indicates that William Bostick, a carpenter, enlarged the house to nearly its present proportions.



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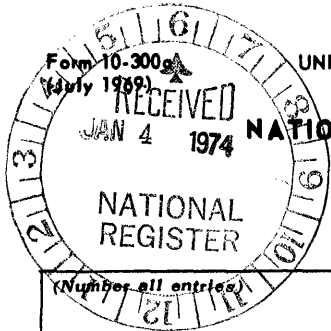
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In 1791, near the time that the McClyment house (K-253) was enlarged, James McClyment conveyed to George Truitt a lot on which Truitt had erected his "two story brick dwelling house" (K-252). George Truitt served in both houses of the state legislature and was elected governor of Delaware in 1808; he served as governor until 1811. George Truitt apparently lived for some time on his farm in Murderkill Hundred, but he died in 1818 in his Camden house.

Consistent with current land speculation patterns, James McClyment in 1796 sold two lots on what is now Camden-Wyoming Avenue. Elias Jarrell received in payment of a bond a lot on which the house at 234 Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-260) now stands. The house was very likely built by Elias Jarrell, for in 1828 the house and lot was conveyed to Jarrell's two daughters. The lot adjoining that of Elias Jarrell was sold to Benjamin Brady. After several conveyances, the land in 1807 became the property of Joseph Rowland and Thomas Berry, who subsequently divided it into two lots. Joseph Rowland received the parcel on which the house at 222 Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-266) now stands; in fact, evidence indicates that Joseph Rowland erected the house. Thomas Berry received the remaining lot; it would seem that he built the house at 228 Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-260). Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the house was owned by Dr. L. D. Caulk, a dentist. Dr. Caulk patented several dental compounds and formed the L. D. Caulk Company in 1877. The company is one of the largest manufacturers of dental supplies.

By the time of his death James McClyment had sold several portions of



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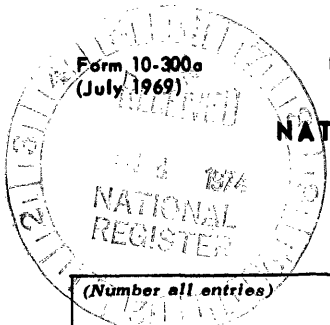
his tract in Camden. The remainder was willed to his wife and children in 1804, and in a final Orphans Court decision in 1810 it was redivided among his children and grandchildren. The McClyment house (K-253) was finally conveyed to his daughter, Harriet, who sold the house and lot to Dr. James Fisher in 1815. James Fisher later acquired an adjoining lot and before 1815, erected on it the house at 22 South Main Street (K-254). The property to the south of Dr. Fisher's lot had been in the possession of James McClyment's sons, Alexander and Robert McClyment. In 1813 they divided the land into several lots. William Paine received a parcel which presently includes the house at 30 South Main Street (K-255); John Hall received the lot on which the house at 36 South Main Street (K-256) now stands. Both houses, it would seem, were erected near to the time of these conveyances.

EDWARD COLE TRACT

The southwest portion of Camden's historic district, incorporates the eight acres of land which Daniel Mifflin conveyed to Edward Cole in 1780. Erected on it between the years 1780 and 1815, were one of the district's older domestic structures, Whatcoat Chapel, and the Friends Union Academy.

The two-and-one-half story brick messuage, now fronting South Main Street (K-258), was the brick house which Edward Cole erected for himself between 1780 and 1785. Cole's property, including his house, was seized in 1785, by the Kent County Sheriff, John Clayton, and sold to Samuel Howell for 57 pounds 17 shillings.

Whatcoat Chapel, Camden's first Methodist Episcopal Meeting House, was



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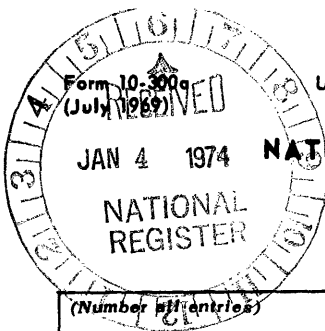
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built on a parcel of Howell's property in 1791 by Dr. Elijah Barrett of Camden. The chapel was named after Richard Whatcoat, a Methodist Episcopal Bishop in America, who was probably known by many Camden Methodists before his death in 1807, for his sister Mary Buggen resided near the village. In 1813, the Methodist Episcopal Society at Camden acquired the one-half acre lot with "preaching house" from Benjamin Brady, Thomas Paine Temple - all trustees of Whatcoat Chapel. The original meeting house remained in use until 1857, when a new Methodist Church was erected on Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-270).

The Friends Union Academy at Camden was established in 1815, when the amount of \$50 was raised by subscription for the founding of a new school. The Academy was erected on a "small parcel adjoining the Methodist meeting house lot", on the land formerly owned by Edward Cole, Samuel Howell, and in 1815, by Samuel Newbold. In 1815, Samuel Newbold and his wife Abigail established a trust for the Union Academy which became one of Delaware's "most successful institutions." The structure, which is no longer in existence, was leased in 1857 to replace a burned public school house and was transferred in 1885 to public ownership.

SOUTHEAST CORNER

The parcels of land sold by Daniel Mifflin and located to the southeast of the crossroads were generally smaller than the other lots in Mifflin's Crossroads. In 1783 Daniel Mifflin sold a lot of approximately three acres to Jonathan Wallace. Wallace apparently erected his house (K-251) sometime



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later, for the property was conveyed in 1808 to Henry M. Godwin as a "house and lot in Camden." In 1806 Daniel Mifflin and Daniel Nock sold to James Newnam a house (K-268) and lot adjoining that of Johathan Wallace. The house, now at 17 South Main Street, was built previous to 1806, for the conveyance describes a house "now in the tenure and occupation of the said James Newnam."

In 1788 Daniel Mifflin conveyed to Henry Ennalls a lot of about three-quarters of an acre at the southwest corner in Mifflin's Crossroads; the lot was described as containing a house on the corner.

After several conveyances, the property (K-269) was sold by George N. Allen to John Clements in 1857. At this time the lot contained a large, two-story brick store house (K-269) and a frame apothecary's shop; the building now at 3 South Main Street (K-269) seems to have been built about 1840 while the property was in the possession of John Hunn.

JENKINS TRACT

The largest parcel of land in Mifflin's Crossroads sold by Daniel Mifflin was conveyed to Joseph and Jabez Jenkins in 1783. The lot contained about ten and nine-tenths acres and was located at the northeast corner of the crossroads. Tradition holds that Jabez Jenkins built a house, now known as the Cooper House (K-141), between 1782 and 1784. The house, however, takes its name from Mrs. Sarah C. Cooper who purchased it in 1902 after the death of her husband, Peter Cooper, a prominent Wilmington physician. Records of 1813 state that Jabez Jenkins was erecting "a new brick building",

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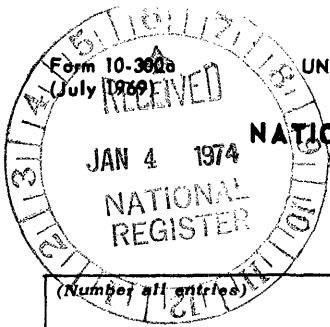
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which his son, Jonathan Jenkins was to inherit. Legend places an underground railroad stop at the Cooper House (K-141) and the house at 11 North Main Street (K-249).

The brick messuage fronting Camden-Wyoming Avenue (K-259), was erected in the late 18th or early 19th century, on a small portion of the land conveyed to Joseph and Jabez Jenkins in 1783. This dwelling house probably became the residence of Caleb Jackson and his wife Sarah before 1803, for it is within that year that Caleb Jackson was recorded in a land deed as an adjoiner to Jabez Jenkins lands. The Jackson family maintained possession of the property throughout most of the nineteenth century, for as late as 1868, the property was owned by Alexander Jackson, a surveyor of Camden.

Camden commands attention as a visible product of early town settlement patterns in Delaware. Many of the original structures are intact, and presently coexist with later buildings which reinforce the town fabric. The Camden Historic District also represents an example of spontaneous local historic preservation in an active modern community.





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- Book Y, vol. 3, page 18
- Book I, vol. 2, page 283
- Book N, vol. 2, page 67
- Book A, vol. 2, page 112
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- Book X, vol. 3, page 210
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- Book Z, vol. 1, page 146
- Book H, vol. 2, page 187
- Book O, vol. 2, page 233
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- Book Z, vol. 1, page 230
- Book R, vol. 2, page 39
- Book O, vol. 2, page 61
- Book N, vol. 2, page 172
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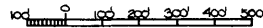
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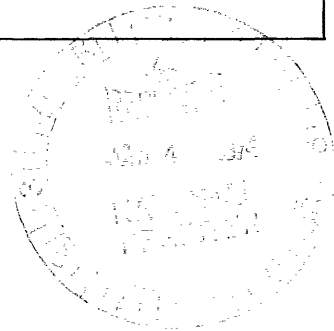
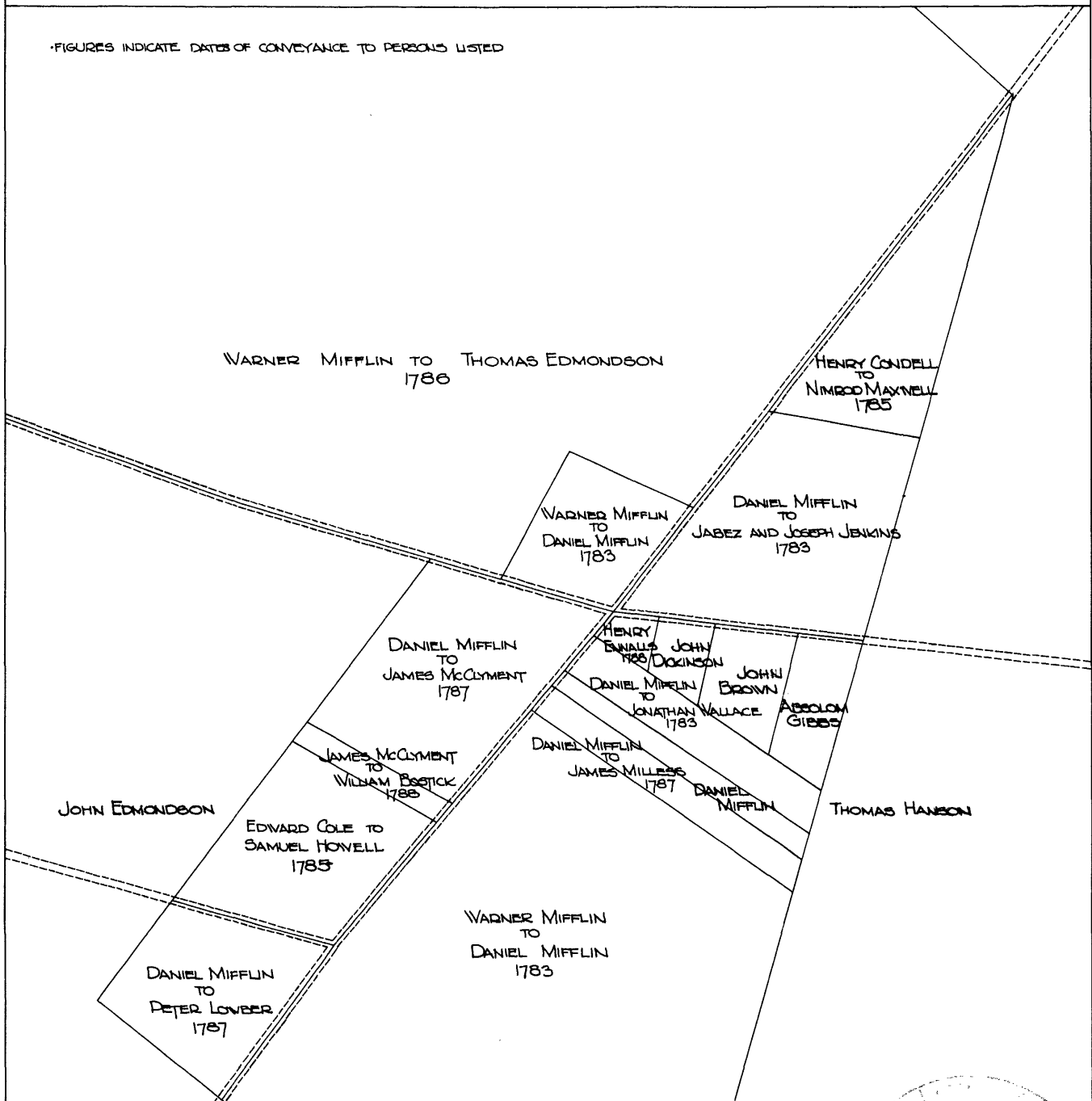


MIFFLIN'S CROSSROADS 1780-1790

DRAWN BY VINCENT ROGERS JULY, 1973
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, DIVISION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
STATE OF DELAWARE



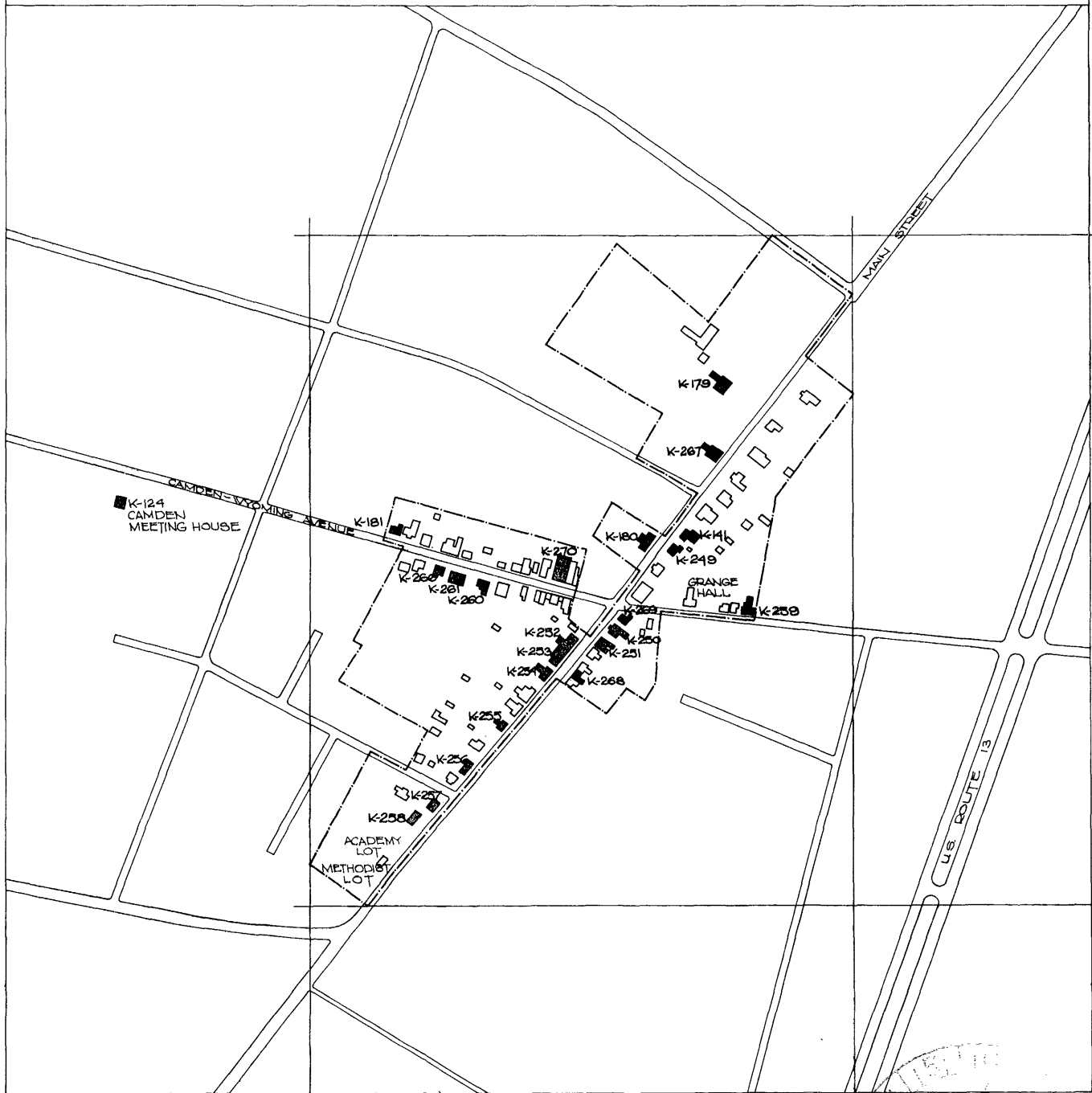
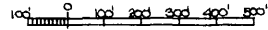
FIGURES INDICATE DATES OF CONVEYANCE TO PERSONS LISTED



CAMDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT

DRAWN BY VINCENT ROGERS JUNE, 1973

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, DIVISION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
STATE OF DELAWARE

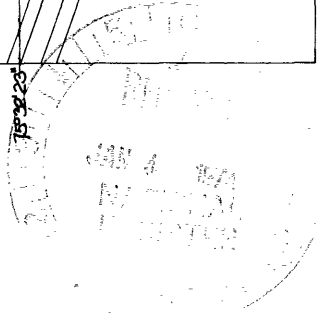


39° 07' 00"

39° 06' 30"

75° 32' 46"

75° 32' 23"



WYOMING QUADRANGLE
DELAWARE—KENT CO.

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SE 1/4 WYOMING 15' QUADRANGLE

SMYRNA 1.4 MI.
DOVER (STATE CAPITOL) 2.3 MI.

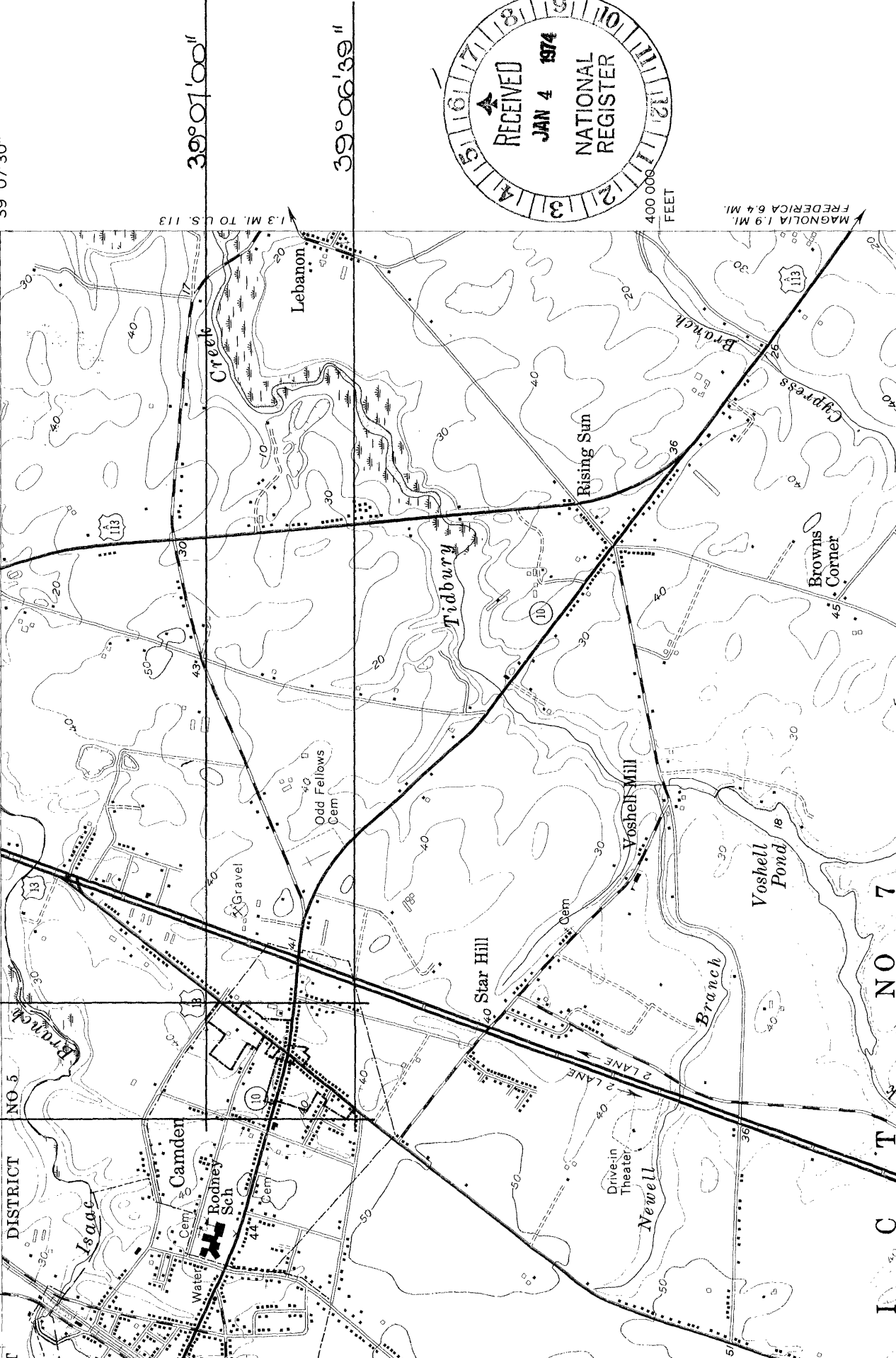
470 000 FEET

SMYRNA 1.4 MI.
DOVER (STATE CAPITOL) 2.2 MI.

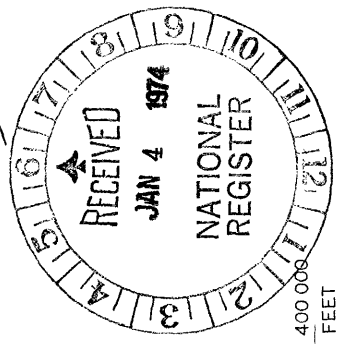
75° 30'
39° 07' 30"

75° 32' 46"
75° 32' 23"

2.6 MI. TO DEL. S



39° 07' 00"
39° 06' 30"



400 000 FEET

MAGNOLIA 1.9 MI.
FREDERICA 6.4 MI.

I C T NO 7

LITTLE CREEK

1.3 MI. TO U.S. 113