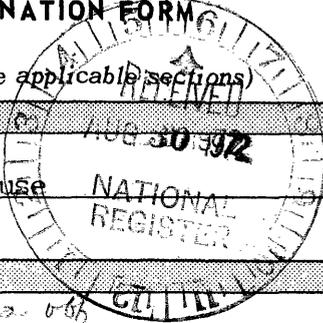


PH0011347

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1973

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON:
Sereck Shallcross House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Oakland

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: W of Odessa rd

1.9 miles N.W. of U.S. Route 13 at Odessa, on Marl Pit Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Odessa

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: New Castle	CODE 003
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3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
James T. Shallcross Estate

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Odessa

STATE:
Delaware

CODE:
10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Public Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rodney Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE:
Delaware

CODE:
10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Oakland house is L-shaped in plan, with a 2 1/2-story elevation throughout, with the exception of a one-story out-kitchen on the rear. An entrance hall with a stair divides the main block separating the parlor and living room; a dining room, side hall and stair and kitchen and out-kitchen make up the first floor of the wing. The second floor of chambers throughout, is surmounted by an upper half-story containing rooms that formerly were servants' quarters. Originally there was a harness room in a half-story above the out-kitchen, but the roof of this wing has been lowered. Around the 1880's, a two-story frame wing was added to the southeast end of the house, but this addition was removed at a later unknown date. A short distance behind the house stands a smoke house with a vaulted-roofed root cellar below.

Architecturally, the house is a stylistic composite. The Georgian style is represented in the five-bay facade and the double-pile plan of the main block. Emphasis upon the facade, both in its symmetry and its fine face-brick attest to the Georgian influence. While the rest of the house is laid in common bond, the facade is laid in all-stretcher bond with pressed bricks, except for one row of headers where the water table would normally occur. This feature, as well as the large panes of glass set in narrow muntins, recalls that last phase of Georgian architecture, the Federal period. The Greek-Revival style can be seen in the two porches, especially in the provincial square pillars, which are panelled and have square bases and square box capitals.

Although the facade appears to be of Georgian inspiration, the building falls definitely within the sphere of the Italianate Revival. The two-and-a-half story building, with its nearly flat roof, flat box cornice, and paired brackets under the cornice, is remarkably similar to other buildings of that style throughout the mid-Atlantic states.

Two elements from other styles of architecture distinguish this building. One is the single "Gothic Revival" window that lights the landing on the rear stair hall. The other is the Egyptian Revival motif that surrounds the front and side porch doors. This motif is found around windows and fireplaces in several of the rooms as well. The Egyptian motif consists of a decorative moulding around the doors and windows, slightly battered with a stylized cavetto cornice above.



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1842

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is illustrative of the homes built by the Delaware farmers who made their fortunes through the peach industry; cultivation of this fruit was the single greatest money-producer in the State's economy during the middle years of the nineteenth century. Sereck F. Shallcross, who owned this land and built this house, became one of the most prosperous peach growers in Delaware, with 1500 acres under cultivation.

The house is architecturally interesting, since it appears to have been designed by its owner, an educated Philadelphian. While it is well-proportioned, the eclectic nature of its design bespeaks a lack of academic architectural training; as a document of taste it is invaluable. Sereck Shallcross' ledger is particularly interesting in the information it reveals about the man and his house; part of the ledger was, in fact, a geometry notebook, left over from school days. From the notebook, it can be seen that his training had been entirely practical, with most of the problems there being devoted to building practices. A problem concerning domes and vaults possibly served as the owner's source of information for the design of his own root cellar.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jarrell, Marcia S. "The House on Oakland Plantation," published Winterim paper, University of Delaware, 1972, at the Corbit-Sharp House, Odessa, Delaware.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Delaware, 1609-1888. Philadelphia: The L. J. Richards Company, 1888.

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		39	28	16
SE	° ' "	° ' "		75	41	26
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Richard Schmidt

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 7/11/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins</u></p> <p>Title <u>Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs</u></p> <p>Date <u>2-24-72</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>4/3/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>Wm. S. ...</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>3-26-73</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ELKTON 75°45'

NEWARK 14 MI.
MOUNT PLEASANT 0.8 MI.

75°41'26" (SALT GEORGES)

40' WILMINGTON 13 MI.
SAINT GEORGES 3 MI.

39°28'16"

ELKTON, MD. 13 MI.
CHESAPEAKE CITY, MD. 7.3 MI.

27°30'

D I S T R I C T O F
PENNSYLVANIA

N O I 3

SHILLCROSS HOUSE

Shillcross Lake

DEAN

PARKWAY 2 LANE

McDono

Boyd's Corner

