

PH0001538

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Sussex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 2 1973	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Cannon's (Woodland) Ferry

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Cannon Ferry

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Woodland

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Sussex	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Department of Highways and Transportation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Highway Administration Building

CITY OR TOWN: Dover	STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Dover	STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey, entry no. Del.-156(Cannon Hall)

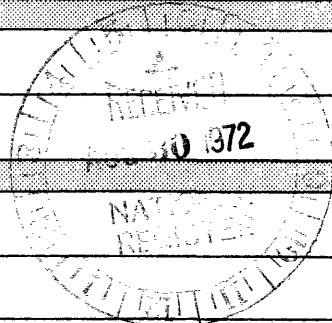
DATE OF SURVEY: 1960 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

JUL 2 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

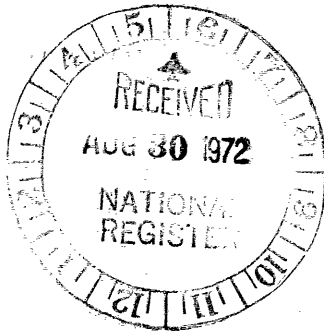
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)*			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Woodland Ferry is the lowest public crossing of the Nanticoke in Delaware; it serves local traffic and tourists free of charge on a regular basis. Although the boat, the cable, and the other machinery have been modernized during the past 180 years, the Woodland Ferry continues to operate by the cable system. A powered winch on the boat pulls it along the cable, which rests on the bottom of the river. The cable is anchored at both shores, where movable docks serve to bridge between the roadway and the deck of the boat. The Nanticoke at this point is about twenty feet deep and about 200 yards wide.

Cannon Hall is a five-bay, two-story frame house with interior end chimneys. A single-story wing has been added on the south end. The single-pile, central hall plan is typical of Sussex County Georgian houses. An open staircase in the hall terminates in a landing. The interior trim is largely replaced. Over the windows are decorative wooden lintel blocks that serve no structural purpose. Like the other original details of the house, they are very well executed and reflect the prosperity of the builder. A small frame wing to the west end of the house is built on simpler and lower lines.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The present ferryboat at Woodland, or Cannon's Ferry is the latest in a long succession of vessels to cross the Nanticoke at this point. At least since 1793, and perhaps longer, a public ferry has crossed the river here. It is the last cable ferry in Delaware. A deed dated 1776 mentions a ferry in this vicinity known by the name of Cannon's Ferry.

At the north side of the river, facing the ferry landing, is Cannon Hall, built by Jacob Cannon around 1810.

Jacob Cannon was a bitter, lonely man whose fabled miserliness and sensational murder earned him a place in fiction as one of the villains of George Alfred Townsend's novel, The Entailed Hat. Legend states that Cannon built Cannon Hall for his bride-to-be, who died before the wedding; legend states further that he visited the house regularly thereafter, but never spent a night there. Jacob and his brother Isaac developed many enemies as they accumulated a considerable fortune; their penchant for foreclosures became legendary. Jacob Cannon finally died in 1843 at the hands of Owen Day, whom he had prosecuted for stealing a bee tree. Day killed Cannon in broad daylight, at his ferry landing, "under the eyes of condoning neighbors."

After a long period of neglect, Cannon Hall has been completely remodelled by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Fulton Bradley.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Eberlein, Harold Donaldson, and Cortlandt V.D. Hubbard, Historic Houses and Buildings of Delaware. Dover: Public Archives Commission, 1963.

Townsend, George Alfred. The Entailed Hat. Cambridge, Md.: Tidewater Publishers, 1955 (reprint).

Federal Writers Project, Delaware: A Guide to the First State. Revised edition. New York: Hastings House, 1955.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		38 36 0	75 39 25	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Five**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs** DATE: **7/10/72**

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 **E. Berkeley Tompkins**
Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins

Title **Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs**

Date **8-24-72**

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date **7/2/73**

ATTEST: **W.S. [Signature]**
Keeper of The National Register

Date **6 25 73**

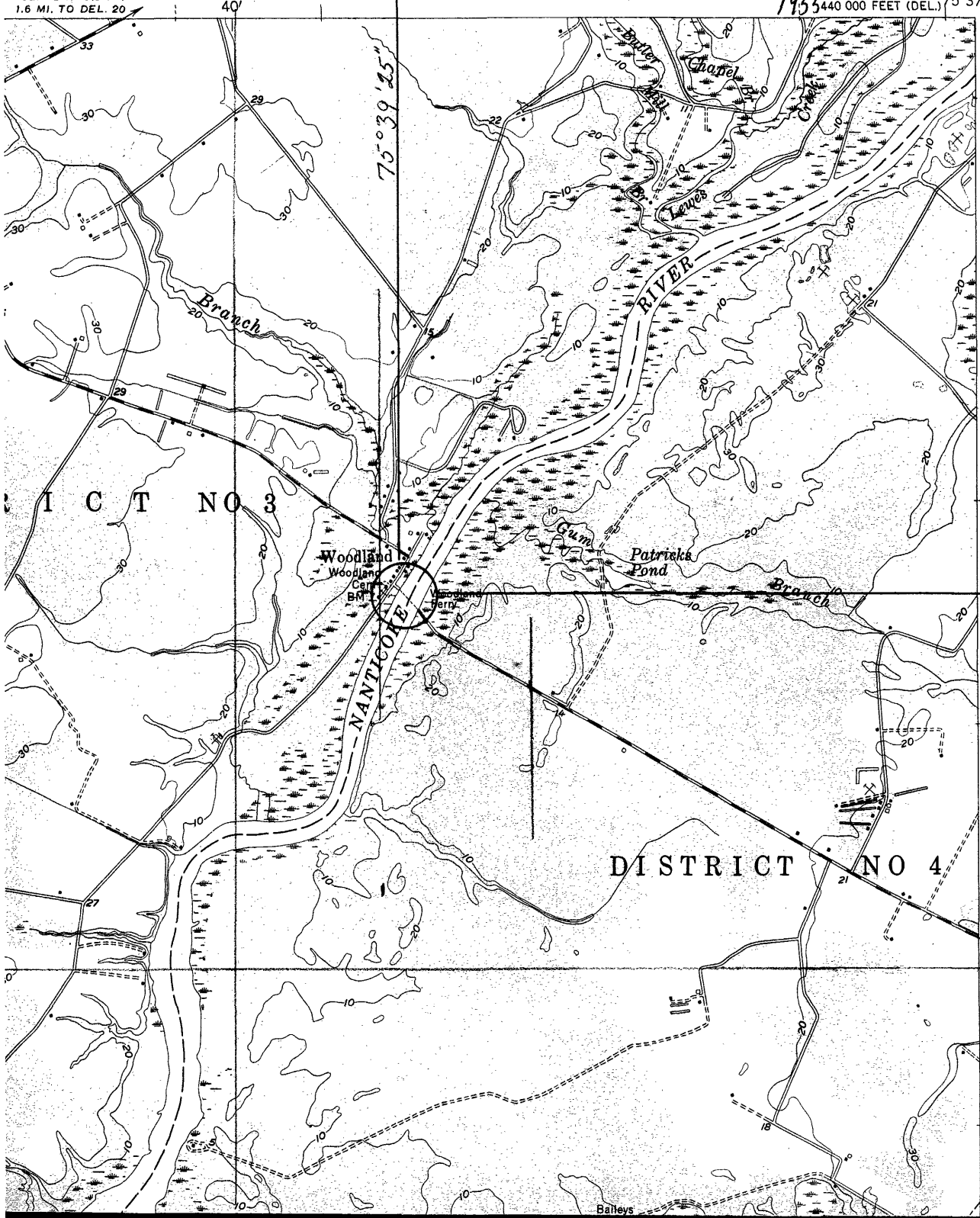
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SHARPTOWN QUADRANGLE
DELAWARE—MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 SEAFORD 15' QUADRANGLE



SEAFORD 3.5 MI.
1.6 MI. TO DEL. 20

1955 440 000 FEET (DEL.) 75°37'30"
38°37'30"



220 000 FEET
(DEL.)

38°36'0"

DISTRICT NO 4

LAUREL JUN. U.S. 13(A) 3.4 MI.

