

PH0021644

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 24 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Louis McLane House

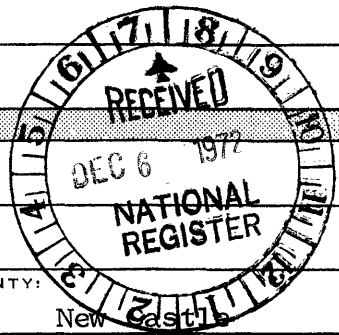
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Louis McLane House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
606 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10 COUNTY: New Castle CODE: 003



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Oscar D. Tanenbaum & Samuel Wachtel

STREET AND NUMBER:
606 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington 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:

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

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" 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

Once one of the handsomest eighteenth-century houses in Wilmington, the Louis McLane House has suffered the fate of so many urban structures in the process of being converted to suit commercial needs. Very little of the original fabric remains, apart from the exterior brick work. Even this has seen alterations on the first two floors of the facade.

A twentieth-century storefront completely obliterates the first floor of the three-and-a-half-story, three-bay structure. Formerly an arched and keystone doorway marked the right bay of this story. On the second floor there is evidence of three windows, each having a semi-circular arched top with radiating voussoirs. A nineteenth-century photograph shows only rectangular shuttered windows where the bricked-in arches and picture window now are. The windows of the third floor remain relatively unchanged, while the single, gable-roofed dormer is now flanked by two more of a slightly smaller size. These dormers admit light into the attic story, of which some of the original fabric is still visible although in rather poor condition. The third-floor interior is completely hidden by a tar paper covering over the floor and walls. The first and second floor have been completely gutted. All that is left to be reminiscent of its former elegance and eighteenth-century craftsmanship is the finely detailed, denticulated cornice and the Flemish bond brick coursing which has been painted white in this century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

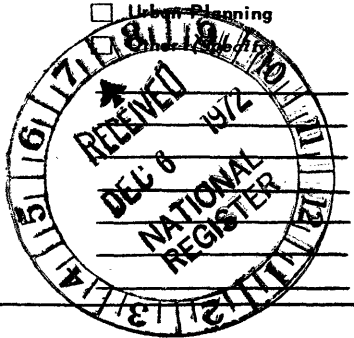
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	
<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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

This town house on the east side of Market Street in Wilmington was built by a well-to-do merchant and industrialist, Rumford Dawes, during the middle years of the eighteenth century. It was occupied by Judge Gunning Bedford, Jr. before he moved to his country seat, Lombardy, in 1792. Bedford was a member of the Continental Congress in 1783 and Attorney General of Delaware in 1784. He also served as a member of the Delaware General Assembly. At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, he threatened that Delaware might ally itself with a foreign power unless the small states received equal representation. However, the most famous owner of the house at 606 Market was Louis McLane.

Louis McLane was born at Smyrna in 1784, the son of Allen McLane, a famous Revolutionary War officer. He was, however, to surpass his father's fame in the political field. As a rising young attorney McLane moved into the house on Market Street in 1815, the year in which he became president of the Wilmington branch of the Farmers Bank. In 1817, he became a member of the United States House of Representatives, where he served until 1827. Although a Federalist in a Republican Congress, he was from 1823 to 1827 chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. From 1827 to 1829, he was United States Senator. He resigned when President Jackson appointed him minister to England and it was perhaps in this position that he best served his country, creating there a great feeling of good will and high esteem for the United States. He returned to serve as Secretary of the Treasury from 1831-3 and Secretary of State in 1833-4. His great desire to become a judge was never fulfilled, for he retired from public life in 1834 because of political pressure in Washington.

After his resignation from Jackson's Cabinet in 1834, McLane moved from Delaware to become president of the Morris Canal and Banking Company in New Jersey. He was President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from 1837 to 1848, except for 1845-1846, when he took leave to return to England to serve as minister and to negotiate the Cession of Oregon. He died at Baltimore in 1857.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Geneological History of the State of Delaware.
 Chambersburg (Pa.): J. M. Runk & Co., 1899.
Art Work of Wilmington, Delaware. Chicago: W. H. Parish Pub. Co.,
 1893.
 McLane, Catherine M. Biography of Louis McLane. Unpublished.

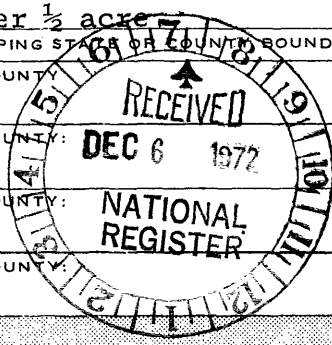
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		39	44	32
NE	° ' "	° ' "		75	33	02
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Under 1/2 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Joan M. Norton, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 10/13/72

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 Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins

Title Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Date 11-27-72

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

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

Date 4/24/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4/16/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)---

Martin Van Buren, Stephen Van Rensselaer, and other public figures of the period, visited here frequently. The McLane children born here included Robert McLane, congressman, Governor of Maryland and U.S. Minister to China and France; Louis McLane, Jr., President of Wells Fargo Express Company and one of the originators of the Pony Express; Allan McLane, later President of the Panama Pacific steamship line; and Lydia McLane, later the wife of General Joseph Eggleston Johnston, C.S.A.

