

**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 100	DATE 20 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Delaware Route 2 at Delaware Route 324

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
1311 Capitol Trail

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
Delaware

CODE:
10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Dover

STATE:
Delaware

CODE:
10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
A List of Delaware Heritage Buildings and Areas

DATE OF SURVEY: 1963
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Greater Wilmington Development Council

STREET AND NUMBER:
300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1320

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE:
Delaware

CODE:
10

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

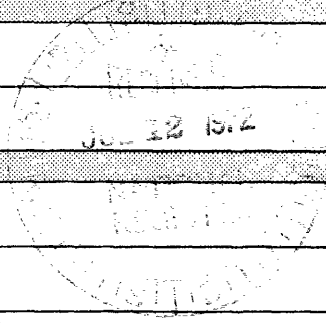
STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY



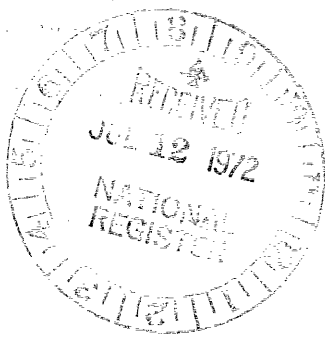
7. DESCRIPTION

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

White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church stands atop a gentle hill overlooking the Kirkwood Highway (Delaware 2). It is a tall, well-proportioned two-story brick structure, nearly as tall (about 40') as it is wide (45'), with a relatively short (63') axis. These proportions create an impression of firmness and strength. The tall windows of the second floor emphasize the vertical lines of the structure. A belt course and pilasters in the brickwork form vertical insets for the windows. Corner pilasters run the full height of the walls and visually support the architrave above. The pilasters on the side walls extend only from the belt course to the architrave, emphasizing the importance of the second story. A tall first-floor doorway extends into the line of the second story.

The interior is arranged in a fashion that was typical of large Delaware churches of the period, with Sunday school below and auditorium above.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

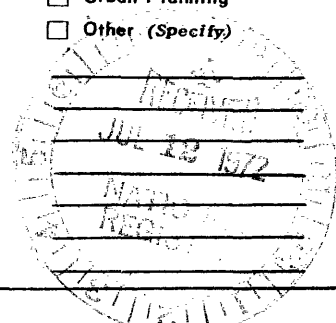
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1855

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 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 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

A community of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians was gathering for worship at White Clay Creek as early as 1709. In 1722 the Presbytery of New Castle ordered three ministers to serve the Presbyterians in that area. Within a year the congregation was sufficiently established to provide a meeting place for the Presbytery, which took the opportunity to rebuke the minister, Robert Laing, for washing in the creek on the Lord's Day. The Rev. Thomas Craighead was appointed first regular pastor there in 1724.

The Rev. Charles Tennent, who assumed the pastorate in 1737, saw the White Clay congregation through a critical period marked by preaching of George Whitefield and the resultant schism of 1741. Whitefield, a famous revivalist, visited Wilmington and White Clay several times. On a December Sunday in 1739, he preached to ten thousand people (by his count) assembled in the rain. An estimate of eight thousand appeared in the Boston News Letter. A crowd of three thousand heard Whitefield in May of the following year. White Clay again was the scene of a meeting in November of 1740.

Whitefield deepened a rift between the "Old Side" conservative ministers who emphasized a minister's formal education, and the "New Side," who demanded an emotional crisis of conversion, supported by enthusiastic spiritualism. Charles Tennent followed the "New Side," as might have been expected of a son of Rev. William Tennent, Sr., whose "Log College" was the predecessor of Princeton University. Clergy educated in European universities frowned on the ministers coming out of the native "Log College."

In 1752, Tennent's supporters purchased the present church site, where a church was built, and replaced in 1785. The present structure, built in 1855, is the third on this property.

The schism in the local Presbyterian Church continued until May 29, 1759, when the Presbytery again met as a whole.

Captain Robert Kirkwood, a hero of the Revolutionary War, lived on the farm across the road from the church.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Christie, John W. "Presbyterianism in Delaware," in H. Clay Reed, editor, Delaware: a History of the First State. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1947.
 Cooch, Francis A., Little Known History of Newark, Delaware and its Environs. Newark: The Press of Kells, 1936.
 Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Delaware 1609-1888. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards and 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	0 ' "	0 ' "		39 °	41 ' 56 "	75 ° 42 ' 38 "
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Graydon Wood and Miss Rosemary Troy

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: June 8, 1972

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 State Liaison Officer

Date 6-30-72

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

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

Date 3/20/73

ATTEST:
Woodford
 Keeper of The National Register

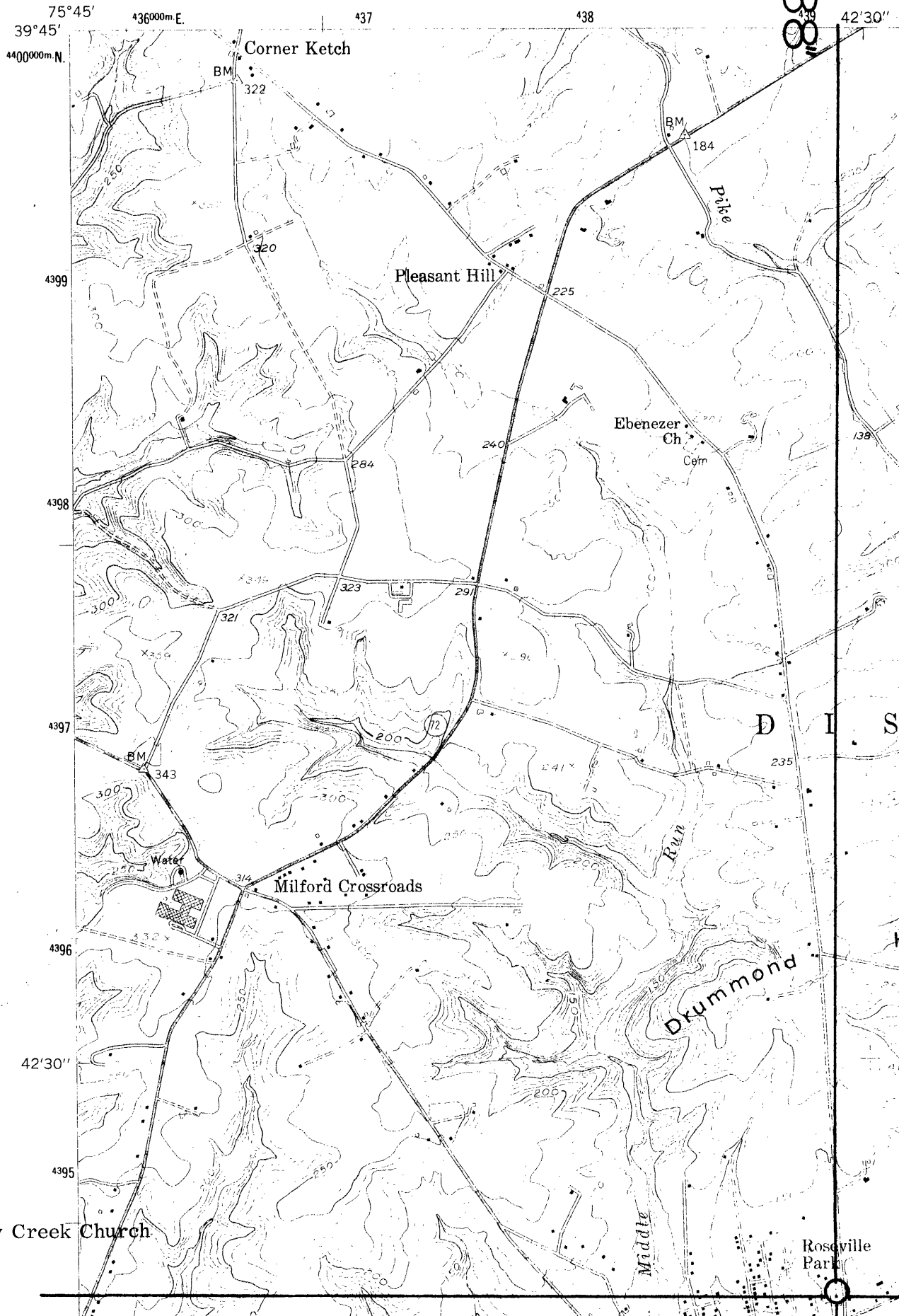
Date 3/16/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5863 IV SE
(WEST GROVE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

75°42'38"



United States Geological Survey Topographic Map, Newark East 1956, 7.5 Minute Series

39°41'56"