

PH0021628

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware
COUNTY: New Castle
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 10 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
La Grange

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Samuel Henry Black House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
U.S. Route 40 - intersection of US 40 and Rt 876

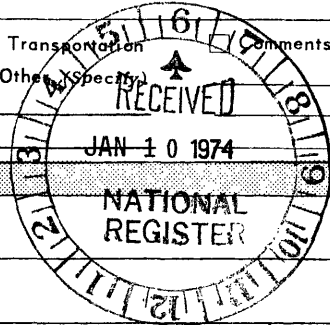
CITY OR TOWN:
Glasgow

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

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 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	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	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Anna M. Barczewski

STREET AND NUMBER:
R. D. 1

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of New Castle County Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Public Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Delaware Historic Sites and Buildings #N-576

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Dover

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

ENTRY NUMBER: _____

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on a working farm, La Grange is a remarkably well preserved example of a federal style brick manor house. The house is erected on a familiar Delaware five-bay center hall plan and includes attached dependencies which were built contemporaneously with the main structure.

On the interior, the detailing is elegant, but not elaborate. The first floor contains chair railing throughout and an elaborate molding trim with bulls-eye corner blocks. A finely detailed fireplace mantel stands in the east room, or parlor is composed of a bulls-eye detailed bolection molding, reeded pilasters, punch and gouge shelf moulding, and a center panel medallion. A similar, though more conservatively detailed, mantel is located in the west room, or dining room. In addition, side cupboards are included in the west fireplace breast and a cupboard is cut into the rear, or north wall. The hall features an open staircase with a reeded enclosed stringer.

The second floor plan differs from the first with the addition of a small room located to the front of the hall, and by a partition forming two chambers to the west of the hall. These rooms are very simply detailed with small corner fireplaces and ogee molding trim. The chamber to the east of the hall is more finely appointed and features a reeded mantel.

The south facade of La Grange is laid in flemish bond and features a simple box cornice. The foundation walls are laid in stone; there is neither a water table nor a belt course. The entry is finely detailed by an arched surround with reeding and a keystone, and is surmounted by a semicircular light. A one-story Roman Doric portico, added at a later date, now covers the entrance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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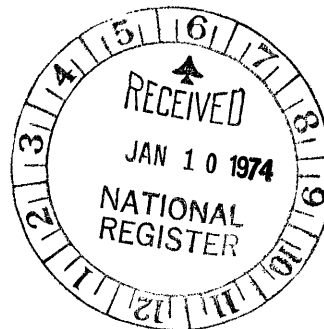
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)---

The rear of the house is extended to the north by two attached dependencies. Originally with shed roofs, each wing has been raised to a two-and-a-half story gabled structure. The western wing is two bays in length and was used as a smoke house. The eastern wing is a four-bay, two room plan structure with a center chimney; in plan, the kitchen, or eastern, wing is much like a separate hall and parlor house. Although each of these wings adjoins the main house, there is no indication that either originally communicated directly with the main rooms. An enclosed addition, containing modern facilities, presently joins the house with the two attached dependencies.



8 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) **1815**

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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

La Grange is situated in Pencader Hundred on what was originally the "Welsh Tract," 30,000 acres granted by William Penn to William Davis, David Evans, and William Willis in 1701. By 1792 Robert Middleton had acquired some land near Aikentown, now called Glasgow, and in 1799 a little over 225 acres was sold to Samuel H. Black. Having established a medical practice in the area, Dr. Samuel Black built his house, La Grange, in 1815. Two years later, he married Dorcas A. Middleton, the daughter of Robert Middleton.

The house, named after Lafayette's estate in France, clearly reflects the tastes and needs of a well-educated gentleman farmer. Samuel Black studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and is said to have owned one of the finest private libraries in the state of Delaware. Moreover, he himself was "a popular writer on medical and agricultural topics." As a farmer and a man of science, he conducted controlled experiments with various fertilizers and cultivation techniques to help improve crop yields. Dr. Black was elected to several sessions of the Delaware General Assembly and served as one of the trustees for Delaware College during its formative years. He was at one time a candidate for United States Senator.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Conrad, Henry C. History of the State of Delaware. Wilmington, Delaware: Henry C. Conrad, 1908. pp. 1061, 1066.
 New Castle County Deeds, Book O, volume 1, p. 81; Book M, volume 2, p. 106; Book G, volume 3, p. 447.
 New Castle County Orphan's Court Records, Book P, vol. 1, p. 362.
 Scharf, J. Thomas. A History of Delaware. Philadelphia: L.J. Richards & Co., 1888, pp. 485, 950, 951.

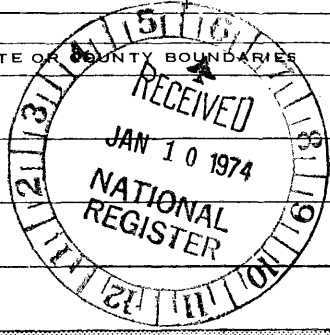
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		39° 36' 22"	75° 44' 56"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Vincent P. Rogers, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs** DATE: **7/25/73**

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
Grover A. Biddle
 Assistant Secretary of State
 Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Date: _____

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

A. R. Mowbray
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/10/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. Herring
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7-9-74

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)---

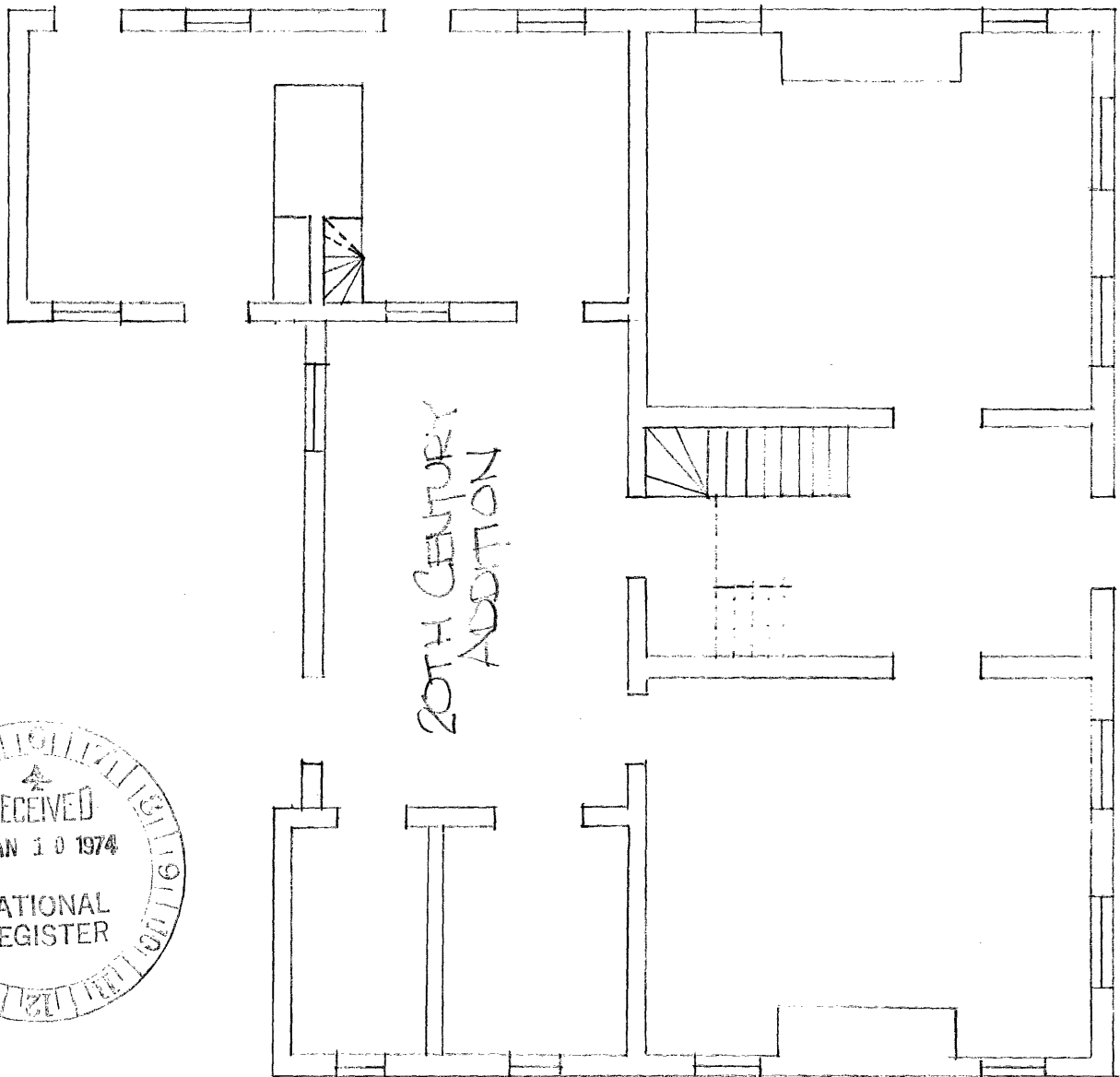
Samuel Black also excelled as a physician; he is remembered as one of the leaders of Delaware medicine. Much of his work centered on the advocacy of vaccination as a preventive to disease. To prove his stand, Dr. Black vaccinated his son, Robert, and subsequently exposed him to several smallpox cases. The success of this graphic demonstration insured the continuance of smallpox vaccination in Delaware.

After Samuel H. Black's death in 1827, La Grange was conveyed to Robert M. Black by an Orphans Court partition in 1835. Robert M. Black, like his father, served in the Delaware General Assembly.



LA GRANGE: 1973 SKETCH PLAN

NO SCALE



75°44'56"

5893 II NE WEST
(NEWARK WEST)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

75°45'

NEWARK 4.4 MI.

437000m.E.

438

39°37'30"

4386000m.N.

4385

ABERDEEN, MD. 27 MI.
ELKTON, MD. 4.9 MI.

LA GRANGE
39°36'22"

4383

4382

35'

4381



D I S T R I C T

