

PH000 1368

**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: Greenlawn

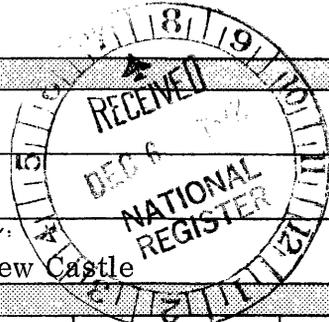
AND/OR HISTORIC: Outten Davis House ; William Brady House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: North Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: Middletown

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 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) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Miss Helen Brady

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 144

CITY OR TOWN: Middletown

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: APR 24 1973

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

As it stands today, the Brady House is five bays wide, brick, two stories high, with a cross-gable and a porch across the frontage. Two dormers flank the cross-gable. The house faces west, toward the old Peterson Road, now Route 896. Surrounding the house are numerous trees and outbuildings, arranged in a carefully planned pattern. At the highway frontage, there is an ornate iron fence that terminates a vista on axis with the front door of the house. A drive along the north edge of the yard connects the house and barns with the highway.

A rear brick ell, to which a lower brick wing has been added, extends the house eastward. Between this ell and the main house is an ornate screened verandah, now glassed in. Large brackets, a widow's walk on the roof, and ornate chimney caps are among the well-preserved exterior details.

The first floor contains a center stair hall with a large parlor to the right and a living room to the left in the main block; a small stair hall, office, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, and pantry are situated in the brick rear wings. For the use of the family, there were two bedrooms on the second floor of the main block and three in the wing; a small servant's bedroom occurs in the second floor of the rear wing. The third floor contains three bedchambers.

The rooms on the first floor are large, but plain, embellished primarily with finely-detailed stone mantels. Greek Doric columns support the marble mantel shelves. Similar stone mantels are found in the second floor rooms of the main block. For additional decorations, Brady depended upon the rich draperies and other furnishings that still remain in some parts of the house.

The exterior brickwork, which is laid in Flemish bond on the front and in common bond on the sides and rear, was painted yellow, but much of the paint has weathered off. The trim remains painted white.

The front of the house is framed by a vista of random-sized plantings that surround a lawn on axis. At the roadside, an elaborate iron fence serves to terminate the vista.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**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) 1810, 1860

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" 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

Greenlawn was originally built around 1810 by Outten Davis, a merchant and farmer who was instrumental in the development of Middletown as a commercial center. Davis built his house soon after he moved his operations from Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa) to Middletown. He was soon joined by other young entrepreneurs, who established a trading community around the Middletown crossroads. As the village grew, it eclipsed the older markets at Noxontown and Cantwell's Bridge. By mid-century Middletown was the commercial, cultural, and religious center for lower New Castle County. Outten Davis, as a founder of the Middletown Academy and active civic leader, had been at the forefront of this development.

As built, the house was a typical late-Georgian brick structure, 2½ stories high, with a five-bay frontage featuring such details as a semicircular fanlight over the entry and a small portico over the door.

William Brady, who bought the house in 1860, altered it radically, with the addition of a cross-gable, an ornate three-bay front porch, a widow's walk on the roof, bracketed cornices, and large-paned windows. The present owner, William's niece Miss Helen Brady, has preserved the house intact.

William Brady's alterations to Greenlawn were in keeping with the teachings of A. J. Downing, whose Country Houses was one of the most influential architecture books published during the nineteenth century. Landscaping, which includes a cast-iron fence along the highway frontage, has survived remarkably intact to testify to the influence of Downing's ideas.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Outten Davis papers, microfilm, Eleutherian Mills Historical Library.  
 Personal interview, Miss Helen Brady.

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°	27'	26"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		75°	43'	07"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Five

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mr. Richard Schmidt

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

DATE: August 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover

STATE: Delaware

CODE: 10

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Nov. 21, 72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST: [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/13/73