

PH0011651

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 5	1972

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Town Point

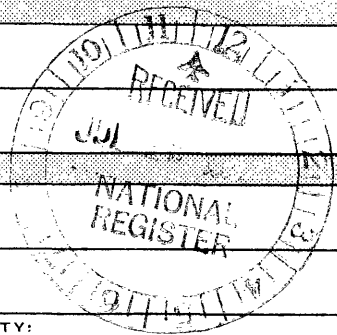
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Kingston-upon-Hull; Logan's Lane

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Kitts Hummock Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Dover vic

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Kent	CODE 001
-------------------	------------	-----------------	-------------



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Conservation</u> <u>Foundation ownership</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Delaware Wild Lands, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1101 Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington	STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
-----------------------------	--------------------	------------

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Kent County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Dover	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

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
DEC 5 1972

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

The present house was built in three phases: a two-room and central hall main portion, a one-room kitchen, and a frame second story that covers both the kitchen and the main structure.

The first portion is a three-bay brick structure, with a basement below. The rear wall is laid in English bond; the front (south) wall, and the one exposed sidewall (the west), are laid in Flemish bond. The foundation is English bond throughout. Front and back walls (south and north) feature stepped water tables, but no belt course. The brick gables of the one-story brick portions are covered by the clapboards of the second story, but there is reason to believe that they are intact.

At an early date, a one-story kitchen was added to the east end of the main house, thus extending it by two bays. The kitchen wing is faced on the south in flemish bond similar to that of the main section, but the brickwork on the southeast corner has been replaced in common bond. The north and east walls of the kitchen wing are laid in common bond.

A five-bay frame second story was built early in the nineteenth century, certainly before 1857, possibly as part of a modernization that included the frame stoop on the main north doorway and new 6-over-6 sash throughout the house. Upstairs are a maid's quarters over the kitchen, which is reached by a separate stair, and three bedrooms over the main two-room section, reached by a box stair in the present middle room. A door in the middle room (former east room) leads down a short flight of stairs into the kitchen. An outside bulkhead cellar stair on the north wall leads to the basement under the main building.

The exposed parts of the three chimney stacks are nineteenth-century renovations; they probably are built on the original stacks, since all the flues appear to be original.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



## SIGNIFICANCE

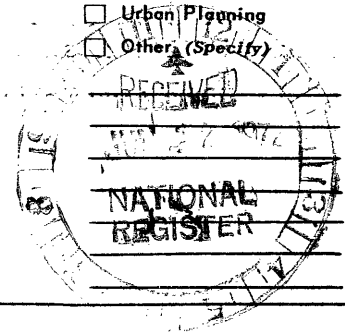
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Western three bays may be earlier than 1677

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation |   |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although it is popularly known as Town Point, this house actually stands on the adjacent Kingston-upon-Hull tract patented by George Wale in 1671. A survey of 1677, in the name of John Briggs and Mary Phillips, shows a house standing on or near the site occupied by the present brick house. Only archaeological reconnaissance can determine if the present house is indeed the Briggs-Phillips house built before 1677. Briggs was a member of the first assembly under Penn's government, and served as sheriff and justice for Kent County.

A later owner, George Nowell, kept a store on the property until his death in 1730.

Around 1738, it is believed that Judge Samuel Dickinson, father of John, "The Penman of the Revolution," leased the property from Nowell's widow, while he was building his own mansion on his nearby farm.

John Dickinson bought the Kingston farm from Dr. Nathaniel Luff, the last resident owner, in 1796. For another century and a half, the house remained a tenant house of Dickinson's absentee descendants. During this period, certainly before 1820, the Kingston-upon-Hull farm took the name of Town Point, with which it was joined in common ownership.

The isolation of the site, and the low economic status of its occupants, preserved the house from extensive modernizations and alterations. It therefore is preserved largely as it was when Dr. Luff moved out in 1796. Aside from its association with Briggs and the Dickinsons, the house is significant as a remarkable survival of the best quality of early Delaware brickwork.

Dr. Luff is best known as the author of one of the earliest Delaware autobiographies, published in 1848.

The house is said to have been the earliest courthouse of Kent County, since the County Court is known to have met at Town Point in 1680.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

James B. Jackson, "Kingston Upon Hull," MS. 1963, Hall of Records, Dover.  
 Harold Donaldson Eberlein and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard, Historic Houses and Buildings of Delaware, 1963, pp. 52 and 53.  
 Jeannette Eckman, comp., Delaware: A Guide to the First State, 1955, pp. 397, 398.  
 John Dickinson survey book (1857), Hall of Records, Dover.  
Duke of York Record 1646-1679, 1903.

**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" 0"	0' 0" 0"		39°	04'	54"
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		75°	29'	16"
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 acre**

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

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs      DATE: May 2, 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 E. Berkeley Tompkins  
Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins  
 Title State Liaison Officer

Date July 30, 1972

**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 12/5/72

ATTEST:  
William H. Sturtevant  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-30-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS