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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brandywine Village was the original location of a group of flour mills, the homes of prosperous willers, mill workers, shop keepers and artisans. In general, the development of the small town was accomplished in the last quarter of the 18th century. At first the town was a separate entity on the north side of the Brandywine Creek, but soon became a part of earlier Wilmington, then developing on the south bank of the stream.

The Brandywine Creek flows approximately west to east for the area involved in the town and forms the south boundary. The total area of thirty acres reaches northeast from the creekiin an irregular fashion. All of the mill and mill race sites are included, as are all the historic homes, large and small, and a small schoolhouse. Two mid-century churches are also included in this historic district.

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The crossing of the creek, which has always been a problem due to the rocky stream-bed and the steep banks, is now accomplished by two modern bridges. These supplant three early wooden bridges a still earlier ford, and a ferry. The creek was navigable at this point for the small sailing boats which served the mills. There were mills on both sides of the creek, but none of them survive in its original form. There are, however, continuous sections of exposed foundations which line both sides of the stream, some supporting later structures.

Market Street, the old toll road to Philadelphia from Wilmington and points south of the village, has always been the main street. Here developed the row of sturdy houses built of local Brandywine granite by the mill owners of the period. Six still remain in good condition while one is covered by a late store front. All are of good integrity of design, and although changes have been made, the character of the changes is, in the main, quite obvious and leaves little or no doubt of the original form and detail. For example, later additions of porches and shed dormers fail to obscure the original simple dignity of two stories of stone with a classic moulded cornice and a sloped roof paralleling the street.

Two of the seven houses have been restored, one serving as the headquarters of the Junior League of Wilmington, and the other owned and occupied by the Wilmington Senior Center. The whole row is placed high off the street level and back a generous dimension from the retaining walls at the line of the sidewalk. Of the seven houses mentioned above, three are owned by Old Branlywine Village, Inc., a private organization with strong historic and preservation interests and ideals.

The opposite side of Market Street is lined with small stores and other commercial activities housed within the walls of the old shops and homes of the less affluent members of the mill community, some of brick and some of frame construction.Store fronts and signs of the last century have, in general, obscured the original buildings. However, in many instances, second story windows and pitched roofs above the first stories attest to the former character of the row. Further houses of later date line Hutton, T

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> flour for the Continental Army. The association was the start of a friendship with Generals George Washington, Lafayette, and Anthony Wayne, which grew and outlasted the war period.

> In 1788 Oliver Evans, a local inventor, persuaded Joseph Tatnall and his partner, Lea, toinstall in their mill in the Village his idea of a mechanized **tha**ill system which proved very successful and was the first of its kind.

> The Brandywine Academy was built in 1798 following a successful subscription of funds. The land was given by John Dickinson, the "Pen Man of the Revolution", and John Welsh. Dickinson had large property holdings in Brandywine Village, inherited by his daughter at his death in 1808/

The Academy served as a school for about 75 years, and also

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STATE:     CODE     COUNTY:     CODE       STATE:     CODE     COUNTY:     CODE       TATE:     CODE     COUNTY:     CODE       TATE:     CODE     COUNTY:     CODE       Albert Hruse, F.A.I.A., State Preservation Coordinator     PATE       Delaware Chapter, American Institute of AchhitectsJuly 26, 1970       STREET AND NUMBER:     123 Edgewood Road, Alapocas       CITY OR TOWN:     *       Wilmington,     *       Value Chapter CERTIFICATION       As the designated State Liaison Officer for 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:       Name     State       Name     Local X       Name     Context Archevits & State       Lialson Officer     Jare       Arte     Context Archevits & State	STATE			CODE	COUNTY:	-101-	<u> </u>		CODE	
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STATE:     CODE     COUNTY:     CODE     CODE       II. FORM PREPARED BY       NAME AND TITLE:     Albert Krusse, F.A.I.A., State Preservation Coordinator     Date       Albert Krusse, F.A.I.A., State Preservation Coordinator     Date       Delaware Chapter, American Institute of AchhitectsJuly 26, 1970     Date       STREETAND NUMBER:     123 Edgewood Road, Alapocas       City of Town:     STATE       Wilmington;     STATE       Vilmington;     Delaware       As the designated State Liaison Officer for 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:     I hereby certify that this property is included 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:     I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.       Name     Local X     Image: figure f	STATE:			CODE	COUNTY:		>		CODE	Z
11. FORM PREPARED BY       NAME AND TITLE:       Albert Kruse, F.A.I.A., State Preservation Coordinator       ORGANIZATION       Delaware Chapter, American Institute of AchhitectsJuly 26, 1970       STREET AND NUMBER:       123 Edgewood Road, Alapocas       Citry on rows:       Uilmington,       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:       Name     State       Local X     K       Name     K       Den deValinger, Jr.     Trest:       Title State Archivist & State     K       Liaison Officer     State					1		131	1917		S
11     FORM PREPARED BY       NAME AND TITLE:     Albert Kruse, F.A.I.A., State Preservation Coordinator       ORGANIZATION     Date       Delayare Chapter, American institute of AchhitectsJuly 26, 1970       STREET AND NUMBER:     123 Edgewood Road, Alapocas       CITY OR TOWN:     STATE       Wilmington,     *       Vilmington,     *       Value 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 Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:     I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:     I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:     FEB 2.4 1971       Name     Local X     Date       Name     Local X     Willinger, Jr., Tr., Title State Archivist & State     Willing Willinger, Jr., State	STATE:			CODE	COUNTY:				CODE	
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Date July 29, 1970 Date DEC 30 1970					11	Keener	of The M	Vational Redictor	17 1	

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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COUNTY		
FOR NPS USE C	DNLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
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Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

(Number all entries) Vandever, Buena Vista, and Race Streets and are of great value as supplementary, if not primary, interest to the community.

At the north end of the row of large houses on Market Street, at the corner of Concord Ave, St. John's Episcopal Church was built in 1857 and consecrated in 1858. The church has been greatly expanded from a simple parish church to become the Cathedral Church of St. John. The first building was designed by John Notman of Phila delphia, who was a leading designer in the Gothic tradition of that time. The Notman plan was a simple cruciform type with a tall tower surmounted by a slender spire. Brandywine granite was used for all walls and the roof is of slate. The expanded group which is now the Cathedral Church is well arranged and allows the original design to hold its place in the complete composition. The use of the local granite makes the church compatible with the old houses.

North on Market St. on the east side stands the Brandywine Methodist Episcopal Church, also built in 1857. The present building is a very simple rectangular brick structure. The exterior is stuccoed and the surface is scored to simulate stone coursing. The roof is low-pitched, pedimented on the entrance or street front. Since the auditorium is on the second floor, the high arched windows with tinted glass express this use in contrast with the much lower windows on the first floor which houses church officed and the Sunday School. The architectural style follows the work of Benjamin Latrobe, William Strickland and Ammi B.Young who worked in Wilmington and nearby New Castle, and were doubtless an influence in the design of this building.

On Vandever Ave., just east of the intersection with Market St. stands the Brandywine Academy, founded in 1798, as attested by the oval date stone over the entrance. It is a two story building of stone with a generous attic surmounted by an octagonal cupola with bell, on a low square base. It housed a class room on each floor and also served as a meeting place for the village activities. Brandywine granite again plays its part in making Brandywine Village an integral architectural composition. The Academy is owned by Old Brandywine Village, Inc., and has been restored by this orga nization. The first floor, as restored, portrays a classroom of the early 1800's, and the second floor is the meeting room for the Caesar Rodney Chapter of the D.A.R., whose members serve as guides in the schoolroom. It is used as a museum visited regularly by Delaware elementary school pupils studying Delaware history, and others.



Form 10-300a	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	STATE
(Dec. 1968)	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	COUNTY
	INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM	FOR NPS USE ONLY
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