

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received APR 4 1984
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic FAIRVIEW
and/or common MAJOR JAMES MOORE HOUSE

2. Location

street & number 750' southeast of routes 299 & 424 not for publication
city, town Odessa vic. x vicinity of congressional district
state Delaware code 10 county New Castle code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. George Kelley
street & number Fairview
city, town Odessa x vicinity of Odessa state Delaware

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. New Castle County Registry of Deeds
street & number 800 French Street
city, town Wilmington state Delaware

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory N-214 has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date federal state county local
depository for survey records Library of Congress
city, town Washington state D.C.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on the northeast side of Route 299 just southeast of its junction with route 424, Fairview stands on the northern edge of Appoquinimink Hundred in New Castle County, Delaware. The house is on a low knoll approximately 25 feet above sea level and overlooks the Appoquinimink Creek to the west and farm and woodland to the southeast. A half mile to the northwest is the village of Odessa.

Begun in the early 1770s, Fairview is a particularly well preserved example of late colonial Georgian architecture built in the wealthy grain growing districts of the lower Delaware Valley. Unlike the vast majority of its contemporaries the house was not heavily altered in the wave of rebuilding activity which reshaped the architectural landscape of southern New Castle County in the period between 1830 and 1870. The present owners have preserved the house as they found it in the 1940s and as it was recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory in the 1950s.

Built on a single-pile, center-passage plan with an original kitchen ell, Fairview is a full two-stories in elevation with a full cellar under the main block of the dwelling. The exterior walls are of brick construction raised on an uncoursed rubble fieldstone foundation. The front walls are of flemish bond rising above a plain five-course common bond watertable directly atop the stone foundation. The gable ends, rear elevation, and kitchen wing are all of five-course common bond with the irregular use of glazed brick in the header courses. Interior gable end chimney stacks break the ridge of the roof at each of the three original gable ends. A six-course belt course composed of a single corbelled lower course, three recessed courses and two projecting upper courses visually divides the first and second floors of the primary southeastern elevation. The primary elevation is finished with a centrally placed first floor entry which includes a cross-setted architrave surmounted by a simple entablature carried on two ogee brackets and having an unornamented frieze and a Wall-of-Troy bed molding for the cornice. The entry door is of tabled six-panel construction with the two upper panels having been replaced with glass lights to illuminate the stair passage. The windows on this elevation are of nine-over-nine light sash with tabled panel shutters and joined architraves on the first floor; and of nine-over-six light sash with louvered shutters and joined architraves on the second floor. The cornice for the gable roof is finished with a quirked ogee profile bed molding rising to a modillion block, box cornice capped with a complex series of quirked concave and convex moldings.

The gable end, rear and kitchen wing elevations are considerably less elaborate. The gable ends have only four-light fixed windows illuminating the attic floor; while the ell possesses six-over-six light sash and plainly finished board-and-batten and tabled panel doors. All architraves for these openings are joined and finished with simple ogee moldings. The rear elevation of the dwelling is furnished with nine-over-six light sash for the east room of the main block and with twelve-over-twelve light sash for the western room. The second floor originally possessed openings similar to those on the second floor of the primary elevation; but these were blocked up in the course of a nineteenth-century two-story addition. The cornices on all of these secondary and tertiary elevations were finished with undecorated box cornices.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates circa 1773 **Builder/Architect** commissioned by James Moore

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Fairview is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architectural significance. Built in the early 1770s by Major James Moore, the two-story brick dwelling has survived with only minor early to mid nineteenth-century alterations. As the house stands today it is an unusually well preserved example of the finest caliber plantation houses built in the lower Delaware Valley during the late colonial period. With its exterior and interior detailing intact, Fairview has suffered no compromise in its architectural integrity since a series of discrete additions were concluded in the mid-nineteenth century.

Fairview was commissioned by James Moore shortly after his acquisition of the 150 acre farm in 1773. Moore was a successful wheat farmer in St. Georges and Appoquinimink hundreds until his death in 1802. In addition to his agricultural ventures, Moore served during the Revolutionary War as a First Lieutenant in the 6th Company of Colonel John Haslet's Regiment of Delaware State Troops. He was captured by the British in 1778 and held prisoner until 1780. In 1783 he received a promotion to the brevet rank of Major. Following the conclusion of the war, Moore took an active role in the formation of the Delaware State Chapter of the Society of the Cincinnati, a veterans group, and served as a chapter treasurer and delegate to several annual meetings held by the group in Philadelphia. At home James Moore was involved in local trade using his own shallop, the building of Drawyers Church in 1773, and the promotion of a newspaper (Delaware and Eastern Shore Advertiser) for his neighborhood in the 1790s. At the time of his death Moore owned several slaves, extensive agricultural equipment, and a number of tenant farms in the immediate area.

Fairview is a resonant symbol of Moore's success and status in the late eighteenth-century agricultural community of southern New Castle County. The quality and scale of the dwelling was in the uppermost percentile of buildings economically scaled by value according to the 1804 and 1816 tax lists for the lower hundreds. Architecturally, the two-story brick house was similar in form and finish only to the finest buildings in the area. These structures including the Wilson House and Corbit House in Odessa and Drawyers Church in St. Georges Hundred represented the most sophisticated level of building attained in the lower Delaware Valley during the late eighteenth century.

The concern with a closed plan built around a balanced primary elevation and centrally located stair passage was that of a social minority who pursued economically based class distinctions. The inclusion of service functions into the house was a pattern of building that was not to become general in the area for at least another forty years. As living space, the arrangement of Fairview was foreign to the vast majority of Moore's neighbors who, even when they had access to such houses, often had trouble living in them in other than a traditional manner usually associated with hall and hall-parlor plan dwellings.

First recognized for its architectural significance by the Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory, Fairview has come down to the present as one of the best preserved examples of rural Georgian architecture in the state of Delaware.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dean E. Nelson, "Major James Moore of Appoquinimink Hundred", unpublished research paper on file at the Corbit-Sharp House, Odessa, Delaware: 1974.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5.5

Quadrangle name Middletown 7.5

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	8	4	4	4	1	8	0	4	3	6	5	5	3	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

The nominated property includes the house and outbuildings as they sit on a 5.5 acre parcel fronting on route 299 on the north-east side of the road 750 feet southeast of its intersection with rte. 424.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bernard L. Herman

organization College of Urban Affairs date December 12, 1983

street & number University of Delaware telephone 302 738 2415

city or town Newark state DE 19711

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Daniel R. Griffith

title _____ date March 30, 1984

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

5/3/84

Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description

Item number 7

Page 2

The principal entry into the house is through the centrally located doorway in the primary elevation. Behind this entry is a nine-foot wide stair passage running the full depth of the dwelling. A closed string stair with turned balusters and newels rises eight treads to a landing and then turns up to the second floor. The bases of the landing and second story newels project downward and are finished with delicately turned pendant finials. The staircase itself has a single large triangular tabled panel following the line of the lower run, and paired tabled panel soffits. A chairrail with flattened pilasters at the landings follows the line of the stairs along the partition and back walls. The stair continues these decorative elements up into the second floor and to the attic.

To the southeast of the stair passage is the parlor. Reoughly 17'6" by 13', the parlor is finished with a fully paneled end wall composed of a slightly projecting fireplace wall with a crossetted overmantel and broken cornice. An early nineteenth-century mantelpiece with fluted pilasters and a simply finished entablature replaced the original quarter round surround and mantel cornice in the Federal period. To each side of the central unit are four-door, tabled panel display cupboards capped with a paired tabled panels and set off on the hearth sides of two tall and narrow tabled panels. The remaining walls are ornamented only with chairrail and cornice trim.

At the opposite end of the house is the dining room 17'6" x 14'9". Like the parlor this room has a fully paneled end wall. Composed around a central projecting element, the dining room wall differs from that in the parlor by having flanking six panel doors opening out from storage closets. Each closet opening is surrounded by a composition of a single large tabled panel above and a series of narrow panels on either side. The overmantel for the projecting unit boasts a single rectangular tabled panel over a long narrow panel and with long narrow panels on either side. The corners of this arrangement are infilled with small square panels. Like the parlor, the dining room was finished with a broken cornice and later Federal period mantel on the hearth wall and with chairrail and a continuation of the cornice on the remaining three walls.

The two upstairs chambers over the dining room and parlor also were finished with paneled hearth walls. Both rooms are considerably plainer than their first floor counterparts, but the decorative distinctions made between dining room and parlor are continued upstairs. The parlor chamber wall is composed around a balanced arrangement of tabled panels highlighting the paneled overmantel and flanking chimney closets. The fireplace and closet openings are emphasized further by the application of quirked quarter round and flattened pilaster architraves rising from unornamented plinths. The dining room chamber wall is also composed around three openings but uses only ten panels to complete the arrangement as opposed to the fifteen used in the parlor chamber. The only moldings breaking the plane of the paneled wall in this room are the quarter round elements of the fireplace surround. While a chairrail continues around the remaining walls of both rooms, the cornice is restricted to the hearth walls. The dining room chamber is additionally provided with a four panel door in the northwall that opens out from a short flight of stairs leading down to the chambers over the original kitchen wing.

Original hardware including strap, H, and HL hinges and box locks remain in situ throughout the house.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

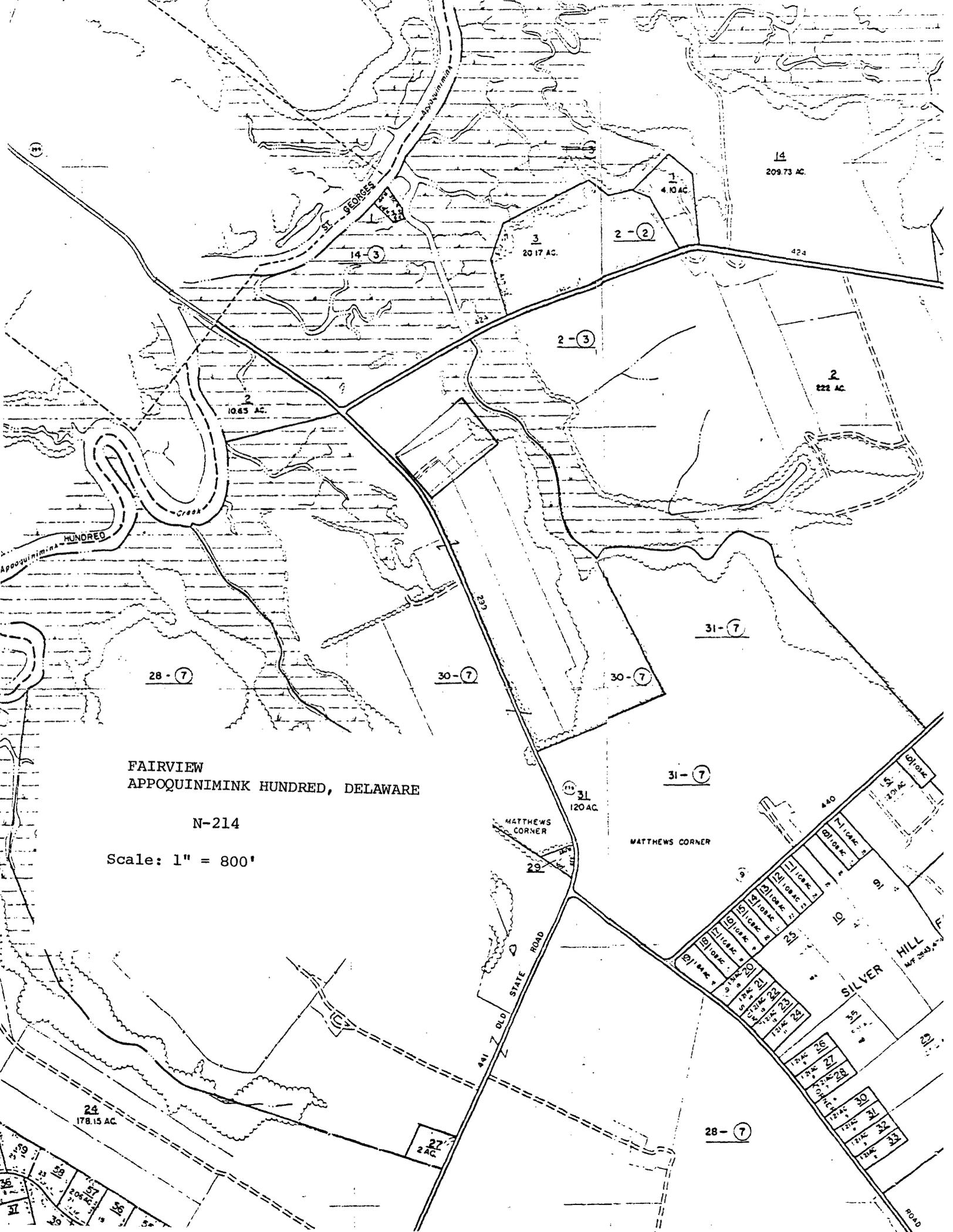
Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The boundary of the nominated property is a rectangle of 5.5 acres. The 400 foot by 500 foot extends for 200 feet northwest and southeast side of Road 299. The boundary extends for 600 feet in a perpendicular direction to the road and the previous mentioned boundary. This figure includes the house, smoke-house, privy, and stable. The area not included in the nomination is farm land not directly associated with the house.



FAIRVIEW
APPOQUINIMINK HUNDRED, DELAWARE

N-214

Scale: 1" = 800'

14
209.73 AC.

1
4.10 AC.

3
20.17 AC.

2-2

424

14-3

2-3

2
222 AC.

2
10.65 AC.

31-7

28-7

30-7

30-7

31-7

31
120 AC.

MATTHEWS CORNER

MATTHEWS CORNER

441 7 OLD STATE ROAD

10/10 AC.	11/10 AC.	12/10 AC.	13/10 AC.	14/10 AC.	15/10 AC.	16/10 AC.	17/10 AC.	18/10 AC.	19/10 AC.	20/10 AC.	21/10 AC.	22/10 AC.	23/10 AC.	24/10 AC.	25/10 AC.	26/10 AC.	27/10 AC.	28/10 AC.	29/10 AC.	30/10 AC.	31/10 AC.	32/10 AC.	33/10 AC.
-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

SILVER HILL
W.F. 2843, 44

24
178.15 AC.

22
2 AC.

28-7