UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Historic Resources of Red Lion Hundred

CONTINUATION SHEET

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9. A. Property Name - N-5038 - Dragon Run Farm

B. <u>Location and Verbal Boundary Description</u> - Dragon Run Farm is located on McCoy Road, .23 miles north of the Kirkwood-St. Georges Road. The nominated property is a rectangular area fronting approximately 530 feet on McCoy Road with a depth of 490 feet.

C. Owner - Paul Wiley Diagon Run Farms

Box 393 c/o John P. Wiley

Bear, Delaware 19701

D. Property Description

An "L"-shaped, two-story, five-bay gable roof frame house, this structure was presumably erected in the late 1840's. The asymmetrically placed facade windows of the main block are six-over-six sliding sash with plain surround and lugsills. Two brick interior end chimneys break the ridge of the standing seam metal roof. A shed roof porch shelters the rear entrance and is a later addition, as is the gable roof, open porch on the facade. Also a possibility is that the wing is somewhat later than the main block.

This is a typical farm complex, with the houses surrounded by various types of barns and sheds. Directly opposite the house is a large frame barn with a series of additions; surrounding the house and barn are four smaller structures of recent vintage used for garages and storage.

Inventory of Outbuildings

- N5038 a. Intrusion; modern concrete block garage with attached wooden shed roof addition.
- N5038 b. Intrusion; modern wooden shed with corrugated metal roof.
- N5038 c. Wooden barn with vertical board siding; gable roof covered with corrugated metal.
- N5038 d. Wooden shed; gable roof covered with corrugated metal.
- N5038 e. Wooden barn with stone foundation and vertical board siding; gable roof covered with corrugated metal; also, a series of attached wooden and concrete block additions.

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N5038 f. Wooden shed; gable roof covered with corrugated metal.

Historical Background

Today, Dragon Run Farms, Inc. combines what had been two separate tracts of land. The northermost parcel contained approximately 302 acres and included: All that certain farm or tract of land called 'Damascus'... the southern parcel of land was that tract owned by William D. Clark (Hopkins Atlas, 1881, Baist Map, 1893), previously held by William J. Hurlock (Beers Atlas, 1868 and Rea and Price Atlas, 1848). The two latter maps indicate that a structure was on the site where the present farm is situated.

In 1882, Louisa A. Corbit purchased this land at a public auction for \$24,500. She, in turn, willed this property to her daughter, Elisa N. C. Lea, wife of Preston Lea, a governor of Delaware. Elisa was a cousin to John C. Higgins of 'Fairview.'

E. Significance

Dragon Run Farm is architecturally significant as an example of the vernacular building patterns which continue to characterize the cultural response to the Hundred's agricultural prosperity in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It is additionally significant as it reflects the accumulation of wealth and landholdings by those entrepreneurs, in this case William J. Hurlock, engaged in the construction of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. The construction of the Canal had a profound affect on the physical and cultural history of the State of Delaware and upon the fortunes of those involved in its construction. In no way are these circumstances better realized than in the life and fortunes of William J. Hurlock.

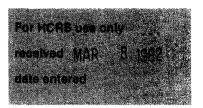
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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Red Lion Hundred Multiple Resource Area

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- 9. Dragon Run Farm (N-5038)
- E. Significance

This property was one of many located adjacent to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal that William J. Hurlock bought during his lifetime, and it reflects the accumulation of wealth amassed by this entrepreneur as a result of the construction of the canal. This structure was never the residence of either Wm. J. Hurlock, or any of the subsequent owners, but was and continues to be the residence of the tenant farmer of the land.

