

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0685526

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 2 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 2 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
CHERBOURG ROUND BARN

AND/OR COMMON
ROUND BARN

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
500 yards south of Route 67, 3/5 mile west of its junction
with Route 9

CITY, TOWN
Little Creek

VICINITY OF

STATE
Delaware

CODE
10

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY
Kent

CODE
001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Jackewicz

STREET & NUMBER
R.D. #3, Box 120

CITY, TOWN
Dover,

VICINITY OF

STATE
Delaware

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
The Green

CITY, TOWN
Dover

STATE
Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Delaware Cultural Resource Survey

K-862

DATE
1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Hall of Records

CITY, TOWN
Dover

STATE
Delaware

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Cherbourg Round Barn is located on a large farm just south of South Little Creek Road and north of the Dover Air Force Base in East Dover Hundred, Kent County.

Round Barn was built as a dairy barn, circa 1918. As the name indicates, it is a circular building with a two-story, cast, reinforced concrete wall surmounted by a grand two-pitched conical frame roof which does not require any interior bracing. It is flanked by two sets of paired, cast concrete silos.

The 7-inch-thick circular concrete wall is approximately 72 feet in diameter, with front and rear main entrances closed by green painted, wooden, double sliding doors. Two lesser access doors are set in the concrete wall at 90 degrees to the primary entrances. Within the perimeter of the concrete walls is a poured concrete platform 9 feet wide, which encircles a sunken floor of earth. The ceiling of the first floor is set 8 feet above the ground and is raised an additional 3 feet above the main thoroughfare, transversing the barn from front to rear main doors. The second story plank floor is supported by six principal 8-inch by 15-inch girders, set on end. Each girder is supported by four cast iron load bearing columns which are positioned beneath lap joints in the joist. The joist ends are set into the cast concrete walls, but do not depend on them for support. All of the heavy timber and plan construction is held together by nails. There is no use of notching or pinned mortise and tenon joints.

The interior of the first floor is heavily whitewashed. An evenly spaced series of seventeen nine-pane casement windows admit daylight and air into the first floor. Several of these are now boarded over. Originally, there was a feeding trough in the circular concrete platform surrounding the earthen floor. A series of paired galvanized iron poles were secured on the inner edge of the platform to form feeder stations for up to eighty cows.

The second story is reached by means of a vertical ladder. This loft, of immense capacity, was originally used to store hay and other grains in order to feed the animals on the ground floor below. The cast concrete wall of the second story is 2 inches thinner than on the first story. The resulting lip forms the support for the exterior ends of the secondary floor joists. Encircling the top of the concrete wall is a cantilevered plate cast as a whole with the rest of the wall. The conical roof rises along two distinct pitches. The ends of the rafters are spaced about 3 feet apart, where they rest on the plate and converge in the course of their steeply angled rise to meet the second pitch of the roof. At a distance approximately two thirds of the way to the top point of the roof rests a second plate, this one of wood. Here, the two roof pitches meet and the angle becomes less steep. A circular cupola with a conical roof provides ventilation for the loft. Originally, the roof was covered by wooden shingles. These have been covered more recently with composition shingles. Six evenly spaced, six-pane casement windows set into the concrete wall provide some light to the loft.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1913

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cherbourg Round Barn is significant for both architectural and engineering perspectives because of its unusual plan, use of formed concrete, and unsupported conical roofing system. No others are known to exist in Delaware.

The plan of Round Barn demonstrates an innovative approach to the problems associated with the shelter and nourishment of cattle. The circular plan maximizes the use of the ground floor and facilitates routine cleaning of the living and feeding area. The unusual roof permits the storage of large amounts of hay in proximity to the feeding area below, while the adjacent silos provide convenient storage for additional food supplements.

In the early twentieth century, formed concrete was used primarily for military coastal defense installations and in public construction projects involving bridges. Its use for purposes of private construction, in the case of Round Barn, is very unusual. Round Barn utilizes a mesh of twisted one-half-inch iron bars to increase the strength of the poured concrete. The construction of Round Barn was an ambitious project in which the originator broke with local traditional concepts of agricultural architecture to use new materials and plans. In essence, Round Barn is a poured concrete version of wooden, brick, and stone round barns occasionally built in New England and other parts of the United States during the nineteenth century.

The two-pitched roof is an extraordinary engineering feat. The roof is supported only by its straightforward system of rafters and plates. There are no additional interior cross braces or collars. There appears to have been no need of major repairs to the roof from the time that it was first put up, which gives silent testimony to the viability of this architectural form.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

None

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1/4 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Little Creek

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 113 460 4713 4333 422
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nomination includes only the barn itself and the land it rests upon.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dean E. Nelson

ORGANIZATION

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

302-678-5341

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

TITLE Director, Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE 9/25/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12 22 78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Lynn E. Deane

DATE Dec 22, 1978

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	DEC

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

There are two pairs of tall cast reinforced concrete silos attached to the exterior of Round Barn. Each has its own grain elevator. The pair to the rear of the barn retain their original twelve-sided conical wooden shingled roofs. Angled sheet iron shingles are used to weatherproof the ridges of these roofs. Additional structural support is provided to the silos by a series of ½-inch-diameter iron hoops tightened around the exterior walls.

The barn is in excellent condition today, and the cast concrete wall has not suffered deterioration of any sort. It no longer functions as a dairy barn and is now used for storage. Round Barn is today part of a complex of other farm buildings, but the others do not share the architectural and engineering qualities that make Round Barn significant.

The barn itself is the subject of the nomination and does not include the complex surrounding it.