

PH0001571

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Sussex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 24 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Governor Ponder House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
416 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Milton

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Sussex	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
William M. Short

STREET AND NUMBER:
416 Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Milton

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Sussex County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
The Circle

CITY OR TOWN:
Georgetown

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

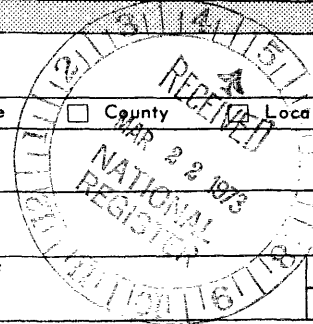
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE:
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input 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

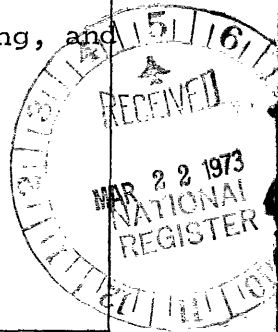
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Ponder House is a fine example of a late Victorian townhouse. The structure is three stories high, including the mansard roof, and has a five-bay east frontage. To the west is located a slightly lower, four-bay rear wing at cross-axis to the main house block.

The house plan includes a center hall flanked by two south rooms and a large north room, which fills the depth of the house. The wing is composed of a hallway, enclosed stairway, and rear room. Vertically, the house is stacked room on room. The fireplaces in the main house are located on the center partition walls, as the north and south end walls are each filled by a bay window. Interior detailing includes deep crown moulding, marble mantelpieces, and wainscots beneath the windows. Besides the crown moulding, fine plasterwork can be observed in the rosettes supporting the chandeliers.

The frontage of the Ponder House is marked by the center extension of the hall, emphasizing the entry. A large verandah stretches across the first floor facade. Set on brick foundations, the entire house is of frame construction, sheathed in weatherboarding, and surmounted by a slate mansard roof. Details include decorated segmental arches spanning the windows, a bracketed cornice, and an arched window pair located on the second story above the dual-door entry.

The Ponder House has been altered to accommodate a mortuary; however, the necessary additions have occurred to the rear of the building, and have not seriously injured the quality of the main house block.



SIGNIFICANCE

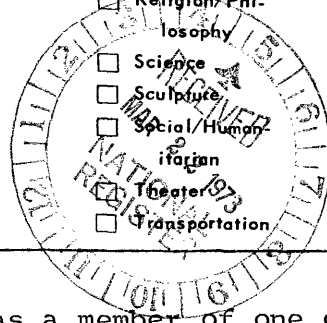
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1875

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <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 type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Governor James Ponder was a member of one of the oldest families in Broadkill Hundred. His ancestor John Ponder was born in England and emigrated to Maryland in 1674. Before 1719 the Ponder family had been established along the Broadkill River at what is now Milton.

James Ponder, born in 1819, was the son of John Ponder, a Milton businessman, land owner, and shipper. He received a formal education at several of the academies in the state, and entered into business with his father in 1843. By the time of his father's death in 1863, James Ponder had become a successful merchant, shipper, and mill-owner. He was also said to be the most extensive land holder in Sussex County.

Among his public offices James Ponder served as a member of both the State House of Representatives and the State Senate. In 1867 he was chosen as Speaker of the Delaware Senate. During his term as Governor, from 1871 to 1875, Ponder built his house on Federal Street in Milton.

At the close of his term, Ponder moved to Wilmington, where he served as director of the Farmers' Bank. In 1879 he returned to his house and business activities in Milton, where he died in 1897.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1819

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Genealogical History of the State of Delaware.
 Chambersburg, Pa.: J. M. Runk and Company, 1899. pp. 197-199.
 Conrad, Henry C. History of the State of Delaware. Wilmington:
 Henry C. Conrad, 1908. pp. 224, 269, 845-846.
 Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Delaware. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards
 and Co., 1888. pp. 380-382.

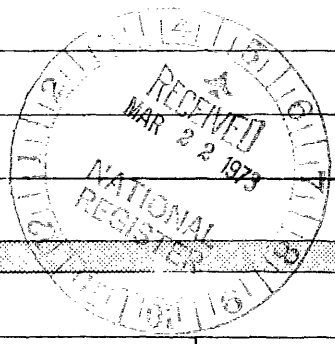
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 46' 26"	75° 18' 49"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One-half

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Vincent Rogers

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 9/15/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins
 Title Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs
 Date 3-12-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 5/24/73
 ATTEST:
Wm. S. Smith
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 5 23 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

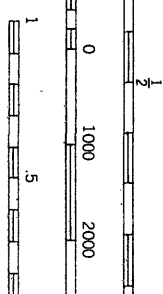
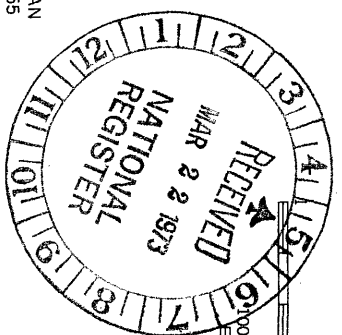
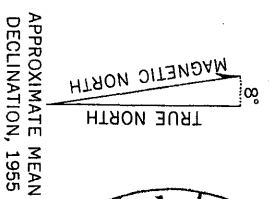
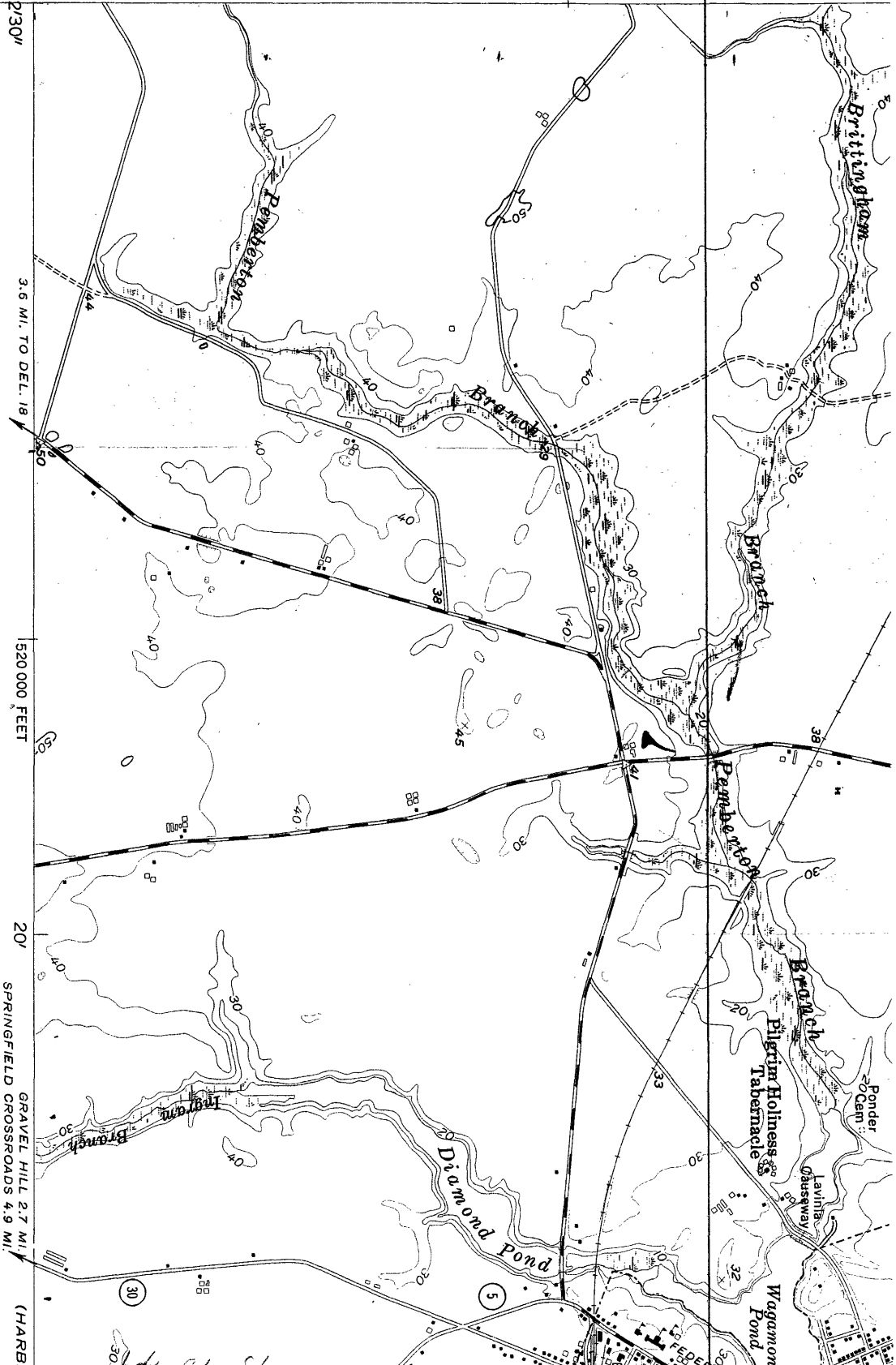
180°46'26" W
Governor Ponder House

United States Geological
Survey, 7.5' series
Milton quadrangle 1955
280 000
FEET

(GEORGETOWN)

38°45'
75°22'30" W

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Culture and drainage in part compiled by Corps of Engineers,
Dept. of the Army, from aerial photographs taken 1943
Topography by planetable surveys 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Delaware coordinate system



SCAL 1:50,000
CONTOUR 11
DATUM IS
SOUNDINGS IN FEET--
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE
THE MEAN RA

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH N
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGIC
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC M