

PH0034584

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 1974	DATE DEC

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Macomb Farm, (Thomas Irons House)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South side of Long Point Road off L.O.R.

CITY OR TOWN:
Dover (sic)

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Kent	CODE 001
--------------------------	-------------------	------------------------	--------------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
William L. and Margaret H. Wilson

STREET AND NUMBER:
Macomb Farm, RD 3, Box 344

CITY OR TOWN: Dover	STATE: Delaware	CODE: 10
-------------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Kent County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Dover	STATE: Delaware	CODE: 10
-------------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

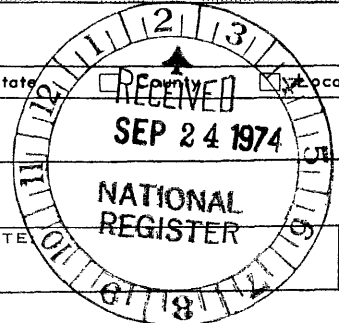
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:
---------------	--------	-------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Delaware
COUNTY: Kent
ENTRY NUMBER 1974
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

The Macomb Farm House is a brick, two-story structure with a facade laid in flemish bond with a galzed-header pattern. The gable ends contain diapered brickwork, evident despite the stoccoing on the north end. The main facade, on the west, features a belt course and a water table. The rear windows and the basement windows feature segmental arches, whereas the facade windows have wood lintels. Dormers have been added to the roof. A brick wing extends the house along its main axis to the southward.

Inside, the main house is arranged according to the so-called Quaker or Penn plan. The hall, or main room, contains the front and back exterior doors, which are centered on the facades of the house. This room is heated by a large fireplace in the center of the endwall; a staircase next to the fireplace originally provided access to the second story. The south end of the main house is composed of two rooms, which originally were parlors heated by corner fireplaces attached to the south chimney. The front, or west parlor, remains; the rear parlor has been converted into a stairhall and passage to the wing.

The second story is stacked room-on-room above the first.

To the south, the later wing is two stories high, but lower than the main house. It contains bedrooms on the second floor and a kitchen on the ground floor.

The setting is rural; a four-acre lawn is surrounded by farmland.

Original panelling and doors remain in the hall and front parlor; the rear parlor trim has been largely removed for the staircase. Flooring is generally original, with some replacements. A few interior doors, and the exterior doors of the main house, have been replaced. Most of the hardware is replacement, although a few hinges and bolts survive.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<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

The Macomb Farm is significant as a specimen of eighteenth-century Kent County brickwork executed to a high standard of craftsmanship. The floor-plan and interior trim, while they are anomalies, deserve attention. In its connection with two important Delaware figures of the Revolution, Judge Irons and Eleazer Macomb, the property has a measure of historical significance.

Judge Thomas Irons (1708-1784), bought the property now known as the Macomb farm before 1768. He left it to his grandson and namesake, Thomas I. Macomb, in his will. Although the Judge Irons' farm was at least 445 acres the house now stands on a four-acre lot, owned by non-farmers.

Irons was judge of the Kent County Court of Common Pleas, and the father-in-law of Eleazer Macomb, one of the commissioners who built the State House in Dover. Eleazer Macomb held both military command and civil office during the Revolution and became State Auditor after the war; he was a banker and ship owner in Wilmington from 1792 until his death in 1798. His son, Thomas Irons Macomb, remained on the Little Creek Hundred farm until his death. His niece, the wife of Robert Frame, inherited the property in 1836. During much of the nineteenth century, the house was occupied by tenants; in 1854, it was described as being in "tolerable repair." This tenant-farm status may have helped to save the building from the ravages of modernization until 1940, when the large staircase was installed in the rear parlor.

In the hands of its present owners, the house has been modernized, but in a manner consistent with its historic fabric.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ernest V. Keith, Attorney-at-Law, Abstract of Title, n. d.
 Research files, Corbit-Sharp House, Odessa, Delaware.
 George V. Massey, II, "Eleazar McComb Letters." Delaware History, Vol.
 II. (1947), pp. 40-55.
 Kent County Proprietary Warrants and Surveys, V² #32, Hall of Records.

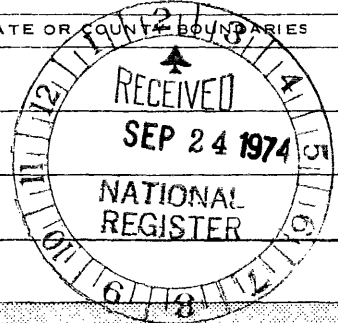
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
				39 10 57	75 28 37	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 7.0000

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs** DATE: **2/13/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: **Dover** STATE: **Delaware** CODE: **10**

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:

National State Local

Name: Dr. Ronald M. Finch

Title: Director, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Date: 2/18/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

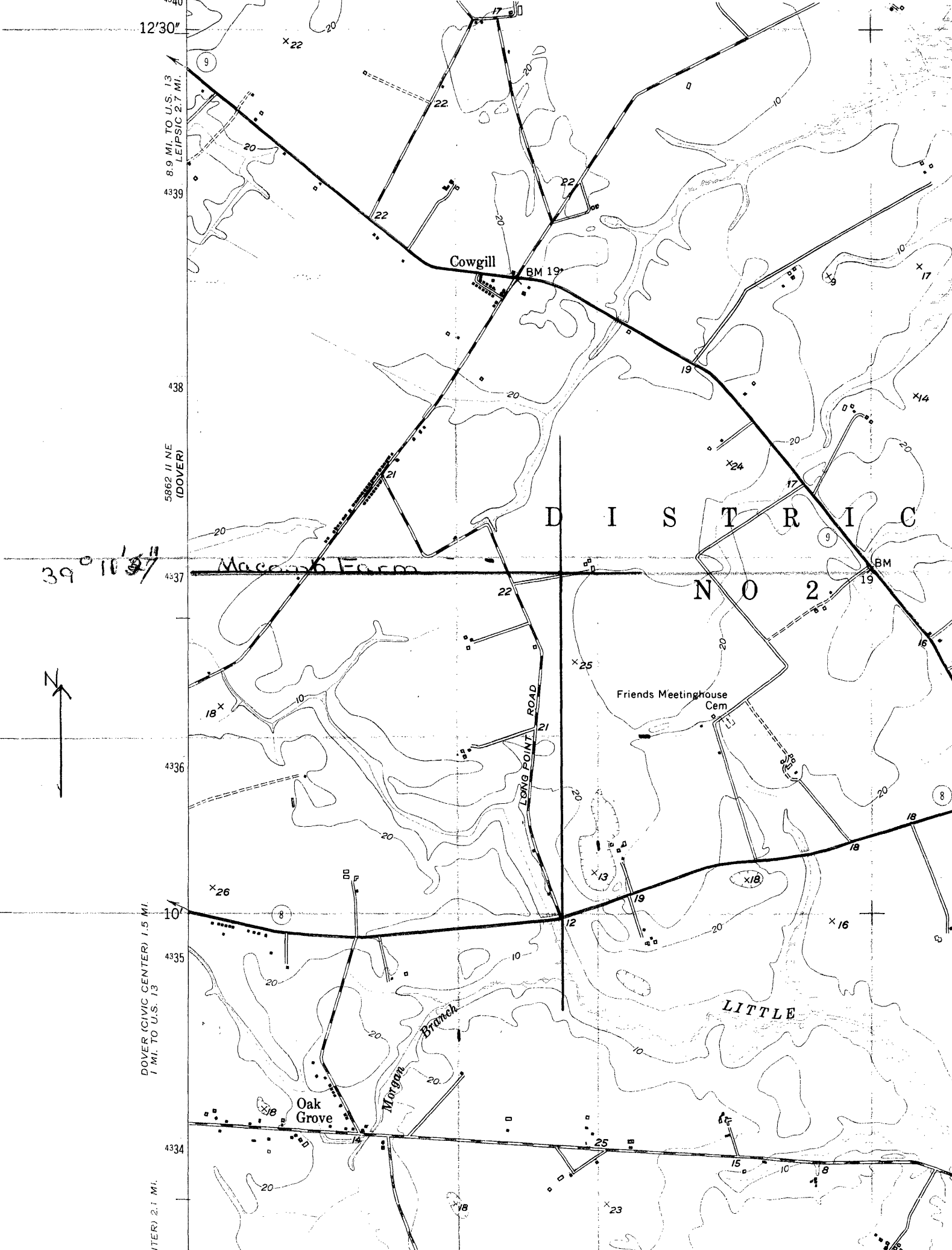
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Mortensen
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/20/74

ATTEST:
George Finney
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: Nov. 26, 1974



12'30"

8.9 MI. TO U.S. 13
LEIPSI 2.7 MI.

4339

5862 II NE
(DOVER)

438

39° 11' 37" N



437

Maceys Farm

436

DOVER (CIVIC CENTER) 1.5 MI.
1 MI. TO U.S. 13

435

434

ENTER) 2.1 MI.

D I S T R I C T

N O 2

LITTLE