

PH0011037

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| STATE: Delaware | |
| COUNTY: Kent | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER 1001 | DATE MAR 13 1972 |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Tharp House

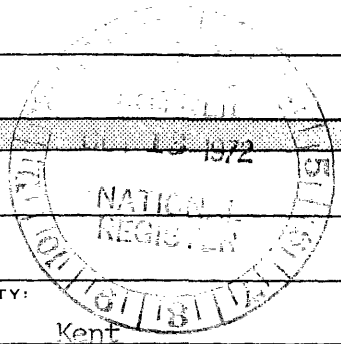
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: E of Farmington Dr
Box 233, U.S. Route 13

CITY OR TOWN:
Farmington

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



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 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Frank & Deborah E. Lambert

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 233

CITY OR TOWN: Farmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Kent County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
The Green

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

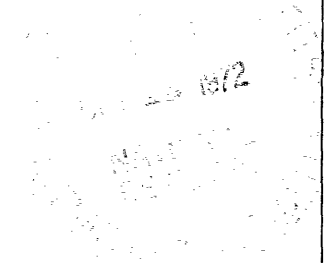
Located at the northeast edge of Farmington, the Tharp House is a two-story-and-attic structure with an east frontage. The house is clearly a composite of three distinct parts.

To the south is a three-bay back portion containing a large first floor room, which features a paneled fireplace breast. On the second floor are two bed chambers. The east facade is laid in Flemish bond, while the south gable and west walls are laid in English-gardenwall bond. Brickwork discontinuities indicate the existence of a doorway in the center bay, now occupied by a window.

The north section of the main house is frame, sheathed in cedar shingles, and contains a hall and north room. The fireplace in the north room is the larger, and the exposed beams are beaded and whitewashed. A finely paneled wainscoting remains in the hall. The facade of the north section is composed of four bays. Because of the close spacing of the fenestration in the northern three bays, the entry is visually located in the center of the house facade.

Most of the recent alterations have occurred in the rear wing, which is considered to have been a kitchen outbuilding joined to the main body of the house. To this wing has been added a core containing modern conveniences. Most of the original detailing has been removed or obscured; however, an enclosed winding stair remains to the rear of the kitchen in the northwest corner.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



5. SIGNIFICANCE

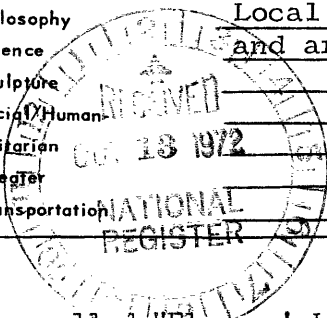
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" 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 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 | <u>and architecture</u> |
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Tharp House stands on a tract once called "Flowers' Lot", probably for a Thomas Flowers, who owned over a thousand acres in the area about 1681. "Flowers' Lot" became the property of Purnell Johnson who bought over one hundred acres in 1807 for six hundred fifty dollars. Johnson added this acreage to his holdings, which grew to five hundred acres by 1816.

In his will, dated January 24, 1829, Johnson devised "all my home farm or tract of land whereon I now live" to his daughter Mary. This bequest probably included the present house, or at least portions of it. The structure's north end is thought to be the older portion. The fireplace there is larger, and before repairs were made, exposed summer beams bisected the ceiling.

Through Mary Johnson, the house came to the man who gave it his name. William Tharp, her husband, was the namesake of his grandfather, who had been an influential citizen of Mispillion Hundred before the Revolutionary War. Tharp was born in 1803 and came to take a prominent part in the agricultural, commercial, and political activities of Kent County and of the State. He held a seat in the State Senate for a term beginning in 1838. After one unsuccessful campaign, and defeat by the Whig candidate, he won the governorship in the following election. He served from 1847 until 1851.

As its treasurer, Tharp assisted in organizing the Delaware Railroad, which aimed to build a main line south towards Cape Charles, Virginia, with lateral branches serving other areas of the state. Tharp was also a charter member of the State's first agricultural society, and was a successful farmer, as his father had been.

William Tharp finished building the mansion as it stands today. Upon his death, the property again descended to a daughter, Mrs. Robert J. Hill. During her tenure, alterations were undertaken, including conversion of the center room into a stair hall.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

MacDonald, Betty Harrington. Historic Landmarks of Delaware and the Eastern Shore. Dover: Delaware State Society, Daughters of the American Colonists, 1963.

Scharf, J. Thomas. A History of Delaware: 1609-1888. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards, 1888.

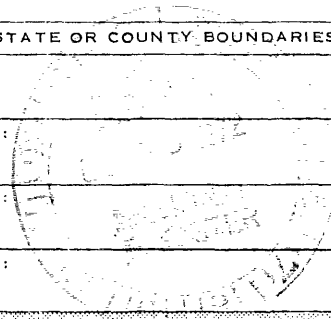
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | 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° 52' 17" | 75° 34' 35" | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Vincent Rogers and Miss Rosemary Troy

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 8/3/72

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 E. Berkeley Tompkins
Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins

Title Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Date 10-6-72

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/20/73

ATTEST:

Mrs. M. Ford
Keeper of The National Register

Date 3/16/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BAURSVILLE

75°37'30"

Topographic Quadrangle Greenwood 1955

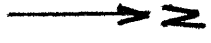
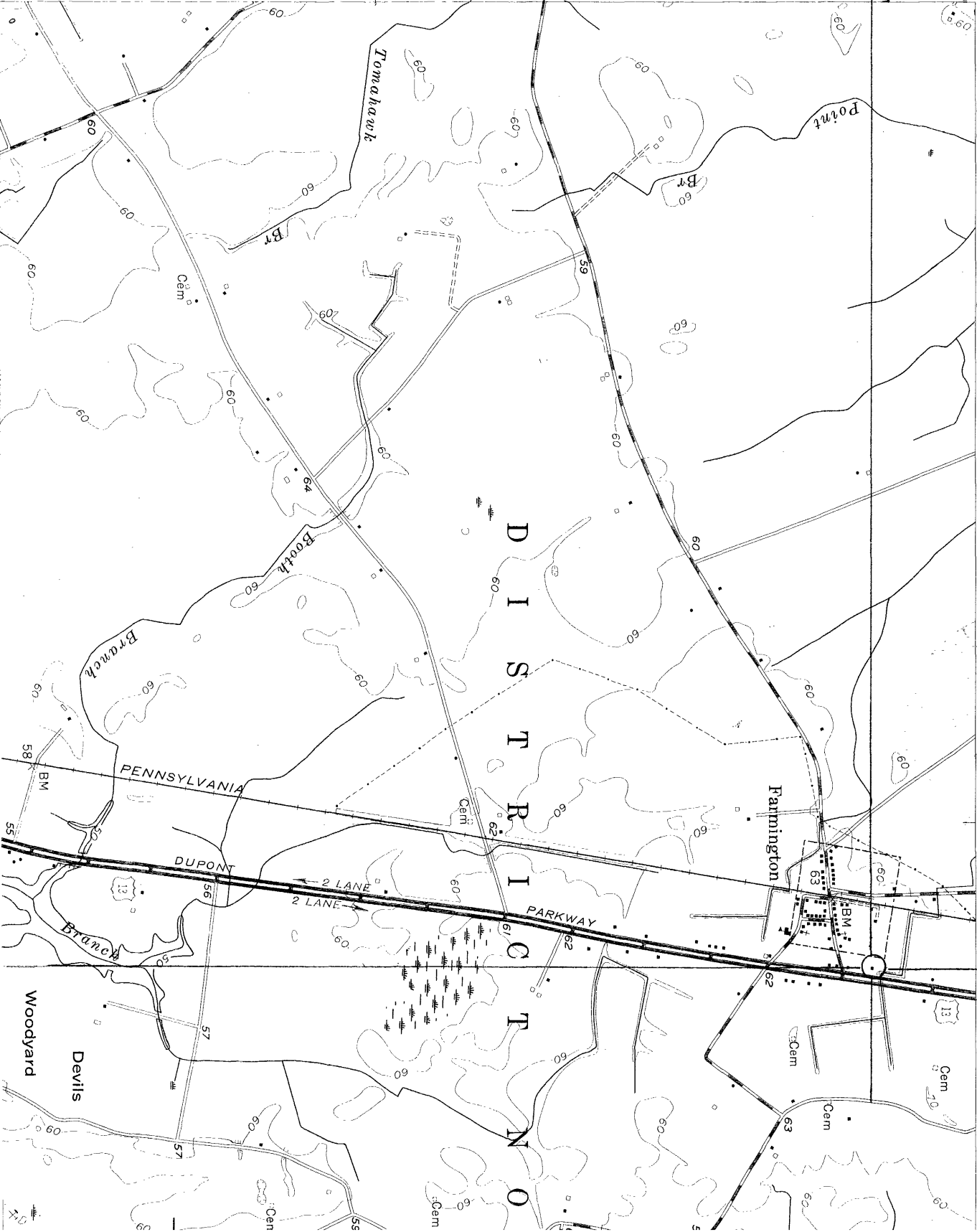
DOVER 19 MI.
HARRINGTON (JUNC. DEL. 14) 3
(HARR)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Tharp House

38°52'17"

VERNON (JUNC. DEL. 14) 3.5 MI.
ANDREWSVILLE 0.6 MI.



75°34'35"

35'

DOVER 19 MI.
HARRINGTON (JUNC. DEL. 14) 3
(HARR)

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2 LANE

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Farmington

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