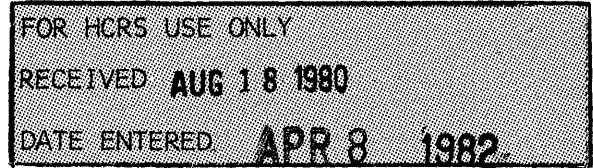


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Historic Resources of Red Lion Hundred

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

1. A. Property Name - N-139 - "Old Cann Mansion House"

B. Location and Verbal Boundary Description - This house is located on the southeast side of Route 71, .9 miles south of the intersection of Routes 71 and 72. The nominated area totals three acres and is a rectangular parcel fronting on Route 71 for approximately 202 feet and with a depth of 620 feet.

C. Owner - Alfred Cleaver
R.D. 1
Kirkwood, Delaware 19708

D. Property Description

The main block of the Cleaver residence is a two-and-a-half story, five-bay, double-pile with moulded brick water table. Adjoining the main facade to the south is a lower two-and-a-half single-pile wing. The facade of the main block, and the first story of the wing feature Flemish bond brickwork, which is consistent and continuous; the second story of the wing is common bond suggesting replacement or enlargement. The dormers, composed of pilasters supporting segmental arches with partial returns, are identical on the main block and the wing. Presumably these dormers were added when the second story of the wing was erected. A moulded wooden cornice runs the length of the principal facade. Both main block and wing are gable roofed; the main block is covered with standing seam sheet metal and the wing with corrugated metal. The windows are two-over-two sash and are replacement. A two-story balloon frame addition to the rear was added in the late nineteenth century as was the rectangular bay on the north end. Weatherboard covers the wing; the bay is covered with cut wooden shingles. The centrally located main doorway has paneled embrasures, a crossetted architrave surround and a four-light rectangular transom over a six panel door. A shed roof brick lean-to on the south end has been severely damaged and retains only a portion of the facade wall. This structure probably dates from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Ancillary buildings included in the nominated area are a frame board-and-batten barn and privy, three frame sheds and a frame shed of recent date. All outbuildings are protected by standing seam metal roofing; with the exception of the modern shed, which has a corrugated metal roof.

Inventory of Outbuildings

N139 a. Frame shed with board-and-batten siding; gable roof covered with

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 18 1980
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Historic Resources of Red Lion Hundred

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6

corrugated metal. Flanked by attached wooden sheds with shed roofs covered with corrugated metal.

N139 b. Wooden barn; gable roof covered with corrugated metal.

N139 c. Corn crib with vertical board siding; shed roof covered with corrugated metal.

N139 d. Intrusion; modern wooden shed.

N139 e. Frame privy with vertical board siding; asphalt shingle shed roof.

Historical Background

Richard T. Cann of Point Farm purchased this property from Margaret Daley (nee Ford); her husband, John F. Daley and her sister, Mary N. Ford, on March 8, 1892. This property was described in the deed as: "all that certain plantation or tract of land (being so much of that tract called the Miles Farm as is situated entirely in Red Lion Hundred)." Previous owners of this property included Phillip Reybold and Thomas Clark, Jr., members of prominent Delaware City families.

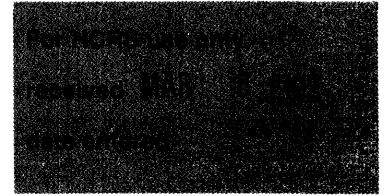
E. Significance

This Georgian building remains as a reminder of the early moments in Red Lion Hundred's prosperous agricultural past when the area was composed of large land holdings called "Plantations." Although this building is in poor condition, it reflects the prosperity that once was predominant in this area, as well as the continuation of Georgian building traditions and patterns into the nineteenth century.

**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



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 6a

1. "Old Cann Mansion House" (N-139)

Historical Background

This tract of land was originally two separate parcels - one, part of a larger tract known as Deakyne Ramble, was granted to George Deakyne by Thomas Penn in 1739; the other, a portion of John Morgan's land, was an original part of the Welsh Tract land grant of 1702.

By 1766 these two parcels, described as "two logg messuages and 227 acres" were sold at Sheriff's sale for 100 pounds to Samuel Kirkpatrick. The latter's daughter and son-in-law, John and Sarah Moody sold the tract in 1787 to Dr. David Thomas, who in turn, sold the tract to James Miles in 1791. The will of James Miles, dated 1796, indicates that he was a member of the Welsh Tract Baptist Church, and a prosperous man. Fine articles such as clocks, tea tables, and silverware were bequeathed to his wife Rachel, and she was given "ownership" of certain rooms in the house - i.e., "...she shall have the use of the common room, her bedroom, and the room over her bedroom with the privilege of the entry and stairs, and the cellar under the kitchen...". On the basis of architectural style, and the above brief description, which fits the plan of the Cann Mansion, it is reasonable to assume that the house was built sometime during the last two decades of the eighteenth century.

The house and acreage remained in the Miles Family until 1827, when it was purchased by Philip Reybold, one of the contractors of the construction of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and the most prosperous man in Red Lion Hundred. At Reybold's death in 1855, the property descended to his son-in-law, John C. Clark, and remained in his family until 1885, when it was purchased by Thomas Ford. In 1892 the prosperous merchant, Richard T. Cann, Sr., bought the property, which remained in the Cann family until 1944. Since that date, much of the original acreage has been sold, until roughly three acres remain with the original "Mansion House".

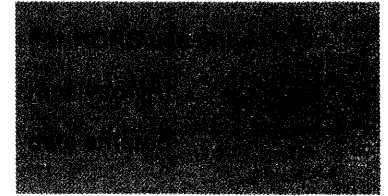
E. Significance

One of the oldest houses in Red Lion Hundred, this Georgian building reflects the prosperity of its four prestigious owners as well as four distinct periods in the history and development of Red Lion Hundred.

James Miles typifies the eighteenth century prosperous land holder, owning a few slaves and constructing a brick "Georgian" style house that reflected the wealth accumulated from his land. Philip Reybold, the enterprising and ambitious individual who amassed a fortune from his peach orchards and farms, as well as his contracts for the building of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, was responsible for the first change to the main block of this structure. Presumably, it was Reybold who added the second story of the wing and the dormers shortly after he purchased the property in 1827. John C. Clark, son-in-law of Philip Reybold, continued in the Reybold tradition. Prior to the Civil war and until twenty years following, the Clarks owned much of the land previously held by Philip

**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



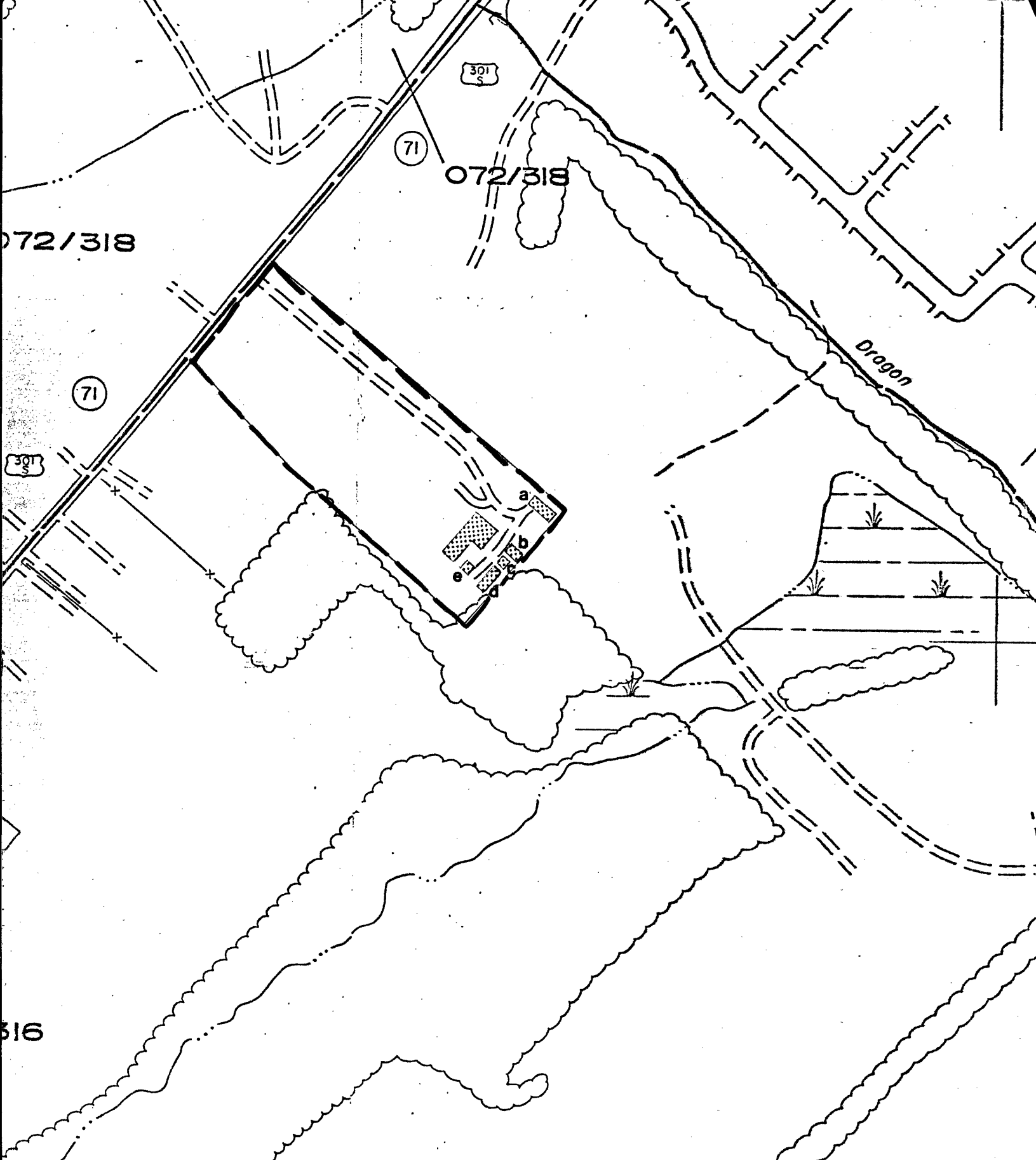
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 6b

Significance (Continued)

Reybold and continued growing peaches until the peach blight terminated this lucrative industry in the 1870's. Lastly, Richard Cann, Sr., a merchant who made his money from owning a number of small businesses and accumulated wealth that allowed him to live in a grand manner, added a frame wing and bay window and is responsible for the present configuration of the Cann Mansion House.



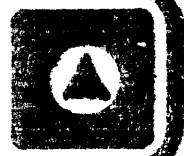
SKETCH MAP

DATE : 4/14/80

N-139 "Old Cann Mansion House"

SCALE: 1:200 +

NEW CASTLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING



AUG 18 1980