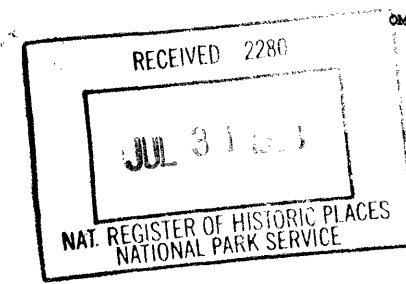


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name : Justis-Jones House

other names/site number : McComb, Henry S., House; CRS # N-254

2. Location

street & number : 2606 Newport Gap Pike (SR 41) not for publication

city or town : Wilmington vicinity hundred : Mill Creek

state : Delaware code : DE county : New Castle code : 003 zip code : 19808

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Daniel R. Hoff
Signature of certifying official

July 8, 1998
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

United States Department of the Interior
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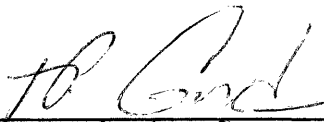
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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

Agency Certification

In my opinion, the Justis-Jones House meets does not meet
the National Register criteria.



Thomas P. Gordon, County Executive
New Castle County, Delaware

5-18-98
Date

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper: Edson A. Beal Date of Action: 8-28-98

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	TOTAL

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. *Function or Use*

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Secondary Structure</u>
Cat: <u>Landscape</u>	Sub: <u>Street Furniture/Object</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Secondary Structure</u>
Cat: <u>Landscape</u>	Sub: <u>Street Furniture/Object</u>

7. *Description*

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular Greek Revival
Other: Early-20th-Century Movements

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>stone</u>
walls	<u>stone</u>
roof	<u>asphalt</u>
other	<u>wood</u>

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

Description

The Justis-Jones House is a stone, two-bay, two-story residence built circa 1840 in the vernacular Greek Revival style with a frame rear wing constructed in two phases between 1904 and 1924. The exterior of the side-hall-plan house is notable for its exposed russet and gray fieldstone on the second story of the main facade and scored stucco on the other elevations of the stone section; its classically-inspired front door surround; and, from the early-twentieth-century period, its one-story front porch enclosed with multi-paned windows and its two-story bay window on the east elevation. Significant interior design elements include the mantel piece and built-in chimney closet on the first floor; the large, stone cooking fireplace with an adjacent kitchen cupboard in the basement; and a corner china cupboard in the early-twentieth-century dining room. The integrity of the house's design, materials, and craftsmanship are sufficiently intact to convey the architectural traditions of both periods. The house is located in the Piedmont Zone in the north central section of Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. The landscape is gently rolling, descending to the Red Clay Creek on the northeast side of the house, hence the name of the subdivision created from the parcel of land historically associated with the house in the 1906, Hilltop. Since the early twentieth century, the setting has been suburban. The house, on a parcel of about a half acre, fronts north onto Newport Gap Pike and is set close to and slightly uphill from the road behind a stone wall (contributing), separating the house from a narrow, cultivated lawn, sidewalk, and the street. Behind the house in the southwest corner of the property, accessed by a straight driveway from the street, is a frame garage dating to circa 1920 (contributing). The property is in excellent condition.

Within the immediate vicinity are notable historic properties representative of the two historic periods associated with the house. When the house was constructed, the setting was primarily agricultural with mills located along the Red Clay Creek. South of the house and on the opposite side of the Pike is the Greenbank Mill National Register District (N-191, NR Listed 1973), where a mill has been located since 1760. To the north of the house and on the opposite side of the Pike is the Brandywine Springs Park (N-1627), originally a hotel resort developed in 1826 in connection with chalybeate springs on the property. From 1898 until the 1920s, the site functioned as an amusement park linked to the city of Wilmington by a trolley line. Today, the property is county-owned parkland. Although the trolley tracks that extended to this area in 1898 are gone, the subdivision they helped to make possible, the Cedars, platted in 1901 and one of the county's oldest subdivisions, is located directly across Newport Gap Pike.

The main feature of the house's setting today, as it was at the time of its construction, is the Newport Gap Pike. The Justis-Jones House was constructed close to the southwest side of Newport Gap Pike facing that route. Developed in 1808 as a toll road, the Pike was the means for farmers from Pennsylvania and northern Delaware to transport products to the shipping depot in Newport, located about three miles away. According to oral history, still in the 1920s this was a quiet, rural road. Pedestrians could safely cross except for having to wait for the occasional drove of cattle being led to the slaughterhouses and railroad depots in Marshallton, to the south.¹ Beginning in the 1930s, commercial establishments developed to the south along Kirkwood Highway, constructed in the mid-1930s from Wilmington to Newark. As transportation modes shifted from the trolley to the automobile, Newport Gap Pike became an increasingly critical artery for truck traffic, as it still is today. The house is located at its closest point (the northeast corner of the front porch) about eighteen feet, eight inches from the curb line of Newport Gap Pike and about thirty-four feet, eleven inches to the striped center line of Newport Gap Pike.

¹Oral interview between Lois Heinel, longtime resident of the Cedars, and the author, 21 August 1995.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

The House

The stone, two-bay, two-story section of the house, built circa 1840, is nearly square, measuring approximately twenty-two feet, eight-inches wide by twenty-five feet, four-inches deep. An early-twentieth-century frame wing is located behind the main block. The wing consists of two sections, a two-story, gable-roof block with a one-story, shed-roof section. The wing is the same width as the main house and extends about twenty-seven feet behind the main block, more than doubling the length of the original section. With this addition, the house's overall rectangular floor plan (excluding the approximately six- and one-half-foot depth of the front porch), measures about twenty-two feet, eight-inches wide by fifty-two and one-half-feet long. The stone walls of the main house are covered with off-white scored stucco. Slightly darker, beige-colored, scalloped-edged asbestos shingles cover the rear wing, extending to the ground. The trim paint is a contrasting, taupe color throughout. The stone section has a box cornice with a cyma reversa moulding. The extended verge is finished with a flat board with rounded ends. The verge on the two-story addition is nearly flush with partial returns. The shed-roofed addition has a flush verge with a wide eave overhanging the rear wall. Dark gray/brown asphalt shingles cover the medium-pitched gable roof of the main block, the low-pitched gable roof of the two-story section of the wing, and the shed roof of the wing's one-story section. A parged brick chimney cap is centered on the ridge of the roof, set in slightly from the eastern end of the stone house.

The first period of construction is stone. The stucco was removed from the second floor of the main facade in the 1980s. The physical evidence of the exposed stonework coupled with documentary records suggest that the stone was originally exposed and the scored stucco finish was applied in the 1860s. A shed-roof porch, nearly spanning the width of the house, was added to the front of the stone section in the early twentieth century, the same period when the two-story bay window with round-butt fishscale shingles was constructed. The stone section is a side-passage, single-pile plan. Faint marks on the ceilings and walls suggest that the house was originally a double cell plan with a slightly different stair arrangement. Because the form of the stair is typical of the mid-nineteenth century, it is evident that the plan was updated soon after its construction to the side-passage plan with openings from the passage into the two rooms. The wall separating the two rooms was later removed, probably during the early-twentieth-century renovations, at which time one of the door openings was filled. Below the main block is a fully-excavated basement with stone foundation walls.

The wing was built in two main periods in the early twentieth century. It consists of a two-bay, two-story block and a single bay, one story block. The first addition, built between 1904 and 1915, created a one-story wing, probably with a gable roof. The wing appears to have occupied the same footprint as the current wing. The dining room, located in the western part of the wing, dates from this period of construction. This addition also included a small kitchen behind the dining room (possibly with exterior access to the well) and an open porch in the eastern half of the wing wrapping around to the rear of the wing. The second addition, built between 1915 and 1924, raised the gable roof to create a second story that spanned the width of the house, ending at the kitchen wall. (The chimney stack in the dining room does not continue up through the second story, indicating the original one-story height of this section.) The bathroom, located in the eastern part of the wing adjacent to the rear wall of the stone section, was probably added at this time. (The framing of the bathroom window, though different from the dining room windows, indicative of a different construction period, is also different from the other window moulding in the wing.) A porch still wrapped around the side and rear of the wing. Later, in the mid-twentieth century, the porch was enclosed, expanding the kitchen area to the rear and creating a family room in the wing's eastern section. The west half of the ground below the wing is excavated to create a full basement extending the full length of the wing. This section rests on a brick foundation on the west wall. The south and east walls are constructed on brick piers, evidence of the previous function of this area as a porch. Only a crawl space is excavated below the eastern section.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

Exterior of House and Its Wing

The russet, dark gray, and light gray fieldstone construction of the circa 1840 residence is exposed on the second story of the main facade and along a two-foot, two-inch wide section on the west side of the first floor main elevation, the point where the front porch begins. The documentary records indicate that the fieldstone walls were originally exposed. A conscious effort seems to have been made to lay the stones in courses and to select similar-size stones for each course. The main facade therefore suggests the house's original appearance. The rest of the first story within the porch is covered with cream-colored scored stucco finish, which was likely applied in the 1860s. The scoring simulates ten-inch high by one-foot, eight-and one-half-inch ashlar.

Asymmetrically spaced on the first floor of the main elevation are two openings. The eastern opening is filled with a 2/1-sash window. The western opening contains the front door, a Dutch door with a molded, square panel in its lower half and a molded, square enframing with crosset corners in its upper half, which contains a leaded-glass window. Holding frosted glass, the lead forms a round arch with a sunburst pattern in its top section. The exacting workmanship of this window extends into the crosset corners, where the lead outlines the squarish space so that each projecting corner is filled with a small piece of glass. The door reflects the influence of the Arts and Crafts period and likely dates to the 1904-1915 period of renovations. The measurements of a door stored in the garage, a wood door with two long, vertical panels and a faux-grain finish, correspond with the measurements of the front door opening. Its measurements and style suggest that it may have been the original front door. The sash window on this level is a replacement. Its original 2/2 form was popular in the second half of the nineteenth century. Two, 6/6-sash windows on the second level correspond in position to the openings below. The shutters on these windows are a form that was popular in the early-twentieth century, a paneled shutter with a decorative cut-out pattern (a rooster). The shutters hang from "Acme" brand hinges.

The most prominent feature of the front elevation is the one-story, shed-roof, front porch dating to the early twentieth century. The porch is positioned flush with the west end of the house and extends nearly the full width of the facade, stopping two-feet, two-inches before the east end of the facade. The porch ends are supported by full, parged brick piers. Three square brick piers support the front wall. The space between the piers is closed with mesh screen in a dark-green painted wood frame. The porch floor is laid with two- and three-quarter-inch tongue and groove boards. The porch framing (square, wooden posts) rest on the brick piers. The walls are vertically-hung beaded board. The expanse of multi-paned windows is the porch's most prominent feature. Twelve-light windows are fixed in place, with two at each end, a range of five windows on the east end of the door, and one window between the door and the west end. The wooden door, with a single-light transom above, has a wooden panel in the bottom third with a nine-light window above.

Originally, the primary decorative detail of this main elevation was the classically-inspired front door surround formed with tall, tapered, flat pilasters supporting an entablature (partially concealed by the porch ceiling). The door does not fill the entire space formed by the pilasters and entablature. Between the pilasters, below the entablature, and above the door, is a rectangular transom. The transom is currently covered with a board painted to match the trim.

On the west elevation, a small, three-light hinged cellar window is located at the foundation level near the front of the house, where the food storage room was originally located. Three openings pierce the west elevation of the stone section. On the first-floor level near the front wall are paired, horizontally-laid, six-light fixed windows set in half-round moulding. The window opening is framed with a plain board lintel and sill. On the interior, the window is trimmed with moulding with bull's eye (rosette) corner blocks, moulding that also occurs in the dining room addition, suggesting that this window was

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Justis-Jones House
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either created or widened to this form during the first period of the early-twentieth-century renovations. Two, 6/6 sash windows are centered below the peak of the roof at the attic level. A wood, bulkhead cellar entrance is located near the rear of the house.

The windows in the two-bay section of the rear wing, west elevation, are symmetrically arranged. On the first floor, two, 1/1 wood sash windows flank the projecting oriel bay of the dining room. The windows are framed with a four-inch wide, plain board surround and slightly narrower, two- and one-half-inch sill and lintel boards. The lintels are capped with cyma reversa cornice moulding. Their format helps to distinguish this section as the first period of the wing addition, consisting of just a one-story wing containing a dining room and small kitchen. The projecting bay is positioned at the edge of the window opening, over the side window frames of both windows. The shallow (two feet, three and one-half inches) oriel bay with a shed roof and no fenestration functions as a niche to hold the sideboard. Centered above this projection on the second story is a triplet, modern vinyl casement window in a long, horizontal opening. The end windows contain four lights and the center is a single light. This window is a different format from the first-story windows and characteristic of the later phase of additions to this wing. Two basement windows, each filled with twelve glass blocks, are located in the two-story section of the wing. In the one-story, shed-roof addition is a small window opening in a plain board surround containing two, modern, vinyl, four-light casement windows.

Two windows are asymmetrically arranged on the rear wall of the one-story addition and one window is asymmetrically spaced on the rear wall of the second-story addition. All windows on this rear elevation are contained in four-inch plain board surrounds and share the horizontal format. A wide, four-foot, two-inch opening contains a single-light window near the west end of the wing. Positioned flush with the east corner of the wing is a replacement vinyl window consisting of a larger, fixed light with a narrow, six-light casement on its left. The second-floor window is identical to the second-floor window on the west elevation of the wing. Near the west end wall of the rear wing is a steel Bilco-brand basement entry. It is likely that a portion of the shed-roof section was originally an open porch and was enclosed in the mid-twentieth century.

The eastern elevation contains a variety of asymmetrically-arranged openings. A ribbon window continues around the corner from the rear elevation. Its form is the mirror image of the window it adjoins at the corner. None of the windows in the wing shares the format of the two windows on the east side of the wing lighting the dining room, again indicating that this section dates to a later period of construction. On this first-floor level of the wing, an entry door in the two-story section is flanked by two asymmetrically-spaced windows. The window on the left or south is a triplet, modern, vinyl casement window with six lights in each section. This wide window is positioned so that it overlaps the two-story and the one-story sections. On the right or north of the door is a smaller opening containing a pair, modern, vinyl casement windows, each with four lights. Its plain board surround is slightly wider and projects from the wall slightly more than the other windows in the wing. The second floor window is identical to the second floor windows on the west and south elevations of the wing.

A gable-roofed porch, five-feet, nine-inches wide, projects four feet, ten inches from the wing. This portico protects the entryway into the rear wing. The gable faces outward and is supported by two turned posts on a poured concrete foundation, suggesting that this current structure dates to after the period of significance, since there is little poured concrete used in the wing. The concrete porch foundation and steps are covered with slate. A railing with turned balusters is positioned between the two posts. The door to this section of the wing is a style characteristic of the circa 1940 era, with eight small lights in its top section, arranged four/four, and two, long vertical panels below. The door is protected by a wood storm door with a single, horizontal panel at the bottom.

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Justis-Jones House
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It is likely that this eastern section of the wing was originally an open porch. Probably during the second period of the wing's construction, from 1915 to 1924, a section of the porch closest to the main house was enclosed to create a bathroom. Later, in the mid-twentieth century, the porch was entirely enclosed. This chronology is corroborated by physical evidence in the basement as well as by the form and materials of the portico, door, and window surround. The ribbon window wrapping around the southeast corner of the wing illustrates the less substantial construction of this section of the house, where the porch was located.

On the east elevation of the main block an original window opening is located at each level near the south end of the house. Each window has small proportions and is set into the wall so that it is nearly flush with the stucco surface. Located on the first level is a three-foot wide, fixed, six-light window with a slightly horizontal format. Almost directly above on the second level, set in a little farther from the end wall, is a wood-framed, double casement window, each window containing a 1/1 light arrangement. At the attic level, set in further from the end wall, is a fixed, four-light window. Near the north end of the house is a two-story bay window, dating to the 1904-1915 period of renovations, during which time most of the houses in this neighborhood were constructed, many of which have similar bay windows. Covered in round-butt fishscale shingles, the three-sided bay contains 1/1 sash windows and is capped with a three-part, pyramidal roof covered with gray asphalt shingles. The two levels of the bay are divided by a plain board, above which the walls are slightly battered, kicking outward. The cornice is decorated with undulating dentil moulding. Below this bay window is an original cellar window with metal bars.

Interior of the Main House

A narrow, closed-string, straight staircase with very worn treads descends into the basement directly below the staircase in the hall above. (It appears that the stair opening was narrowed early in its history, probably to allow for a wider hall on the first story when the side passage was created.) A full basement is located below the house's stone section. The basement of the stone section is divided into two areas. Overlapping vertical boards form the wall division between the two sections.

The stair opens into the kitchen located in the rear of the basement. The kitchen has a board floor resting on joists on sills. A beaded-board ceiling was attached to the ceiling beams in the 1970s, before which the room had exposed beams. A previous owner (Josephine Smith) remembers that the beams were numbered. The stone foundation walls in the kitchen space are parged. A cooking fireplace and cupboard fill the eastern wall of this space. The jambs of the stone fireplace are one-foot, three-inches thick and support a flat arch lintel formed with stone, with a slightly triangular stone at its center acting as a keystone. The opening is three-feet, seven-inches wide and two-feet, ten-inches high. The wrought-iron hooks for a crane are still in place. The wide hearth bricks measure 4 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches. The original kitchen cupboard is located between the fireplace jamb and the south end wall. Two batten doors, held closed with a wooden latch, open with two small china knobs. The inner face of both doors is whitewashed. Four beaded-edge shelves are located within. The edges of the lowest shelf and the corresponding inner face of the doors are badly worn, suggesting that something was fastened in this location. The rear wall of the closet area is parged stone.

The two exterior access points from the basement are located within the kitchen. A doorway in the rear wall, with curved splays, originally opened at ground level into the rear yard. A window, now boarded over, is located to the left or east of the door. There is a decorative shutter dog fastened into the exterior of the stone rear wall in a location near the door opening, suggesting that the door originally swung outward and could be fastened open. The door in this location is a more recent board-and-batten replacement. This door leads to the location of the well and served the kitchen functions of this room. The door opens onto a curved, stone and earthen wall, which suggests the original terrain before the construction of the wing, when one would leave the kitchen through this ground-level entry and ascend

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Justis-Jones House
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a slight incline in the ground to the well. The other door to this space, an original board-and-batten door, is located below the stair and leads to a bulkhead on the west wall. A closet is located near this doorway below the staircase. Its narrow board-and-batten door is held closed with a wooden latch similar to that on the cupboard, and, like the cupboard doors, is opened with a small china knob.

The front room of the basement is slightly lower with a hard dirt floor. The entire space is whitewashed and the vertical board wall is exposed. The original narrow cellar windows at each end of this room are boarded over. Up-and-down saw marks are visible on the faces of the 3 x 8 inch joists in this area, while the beam edges seem to have circular saw marks. There was probably a vertical or up-and-down style saw mill at the Phillips Mill from 1831 to circa 1870,² where it is not unlikely that these beams were processed. There were also three circular saws at Greenbank listed in the 1850s industrial census.³ The more efficient process at this time was to cut larger beams into boards with the up-and-down saw, then to run the boards through the circular saw to make the narrow cuts.⁴ These beams seem to reflect this method of manufacture.

On the first story the rooms are arranged in a hall-parlor plan. The hall is five-feet, five-inches wide and extends through the house to a door leading to the dining room and originally leading outside. The front of the hall is lighted by a long window in a horizontal format with bull's eye corner blocks. This trim also occurs in the dining room. The trim and twentieth-century ribbon format of this window suggest that this opening was created in the early twentieth century. The baseboard in the stone section is about six- and one-quarter-inches high with a quarter-round cap. The walnut floors on the first story were laid over the original pine sometime between 1941 and 1968 when the house was owned by the Smeads, according to the house's next owner, Josephine Smith. Both the position of the stair landing, eleven feet, two inches from the front door, and a mark in the ceiling at about this location, suggest that the room arrangement was originally a double-cell plan. The double-cell arrangement of the basement and configuration of its stair provide a probable model for the original first-floor plan.

The mid-nineteenth-century character of the stair indicates an early date for the change in floor plan. A slender newel post, bulging slightly in the center, rests on a tall base. Square, stick balusters rest on a board, rather than on the step, a building characteristic occasionally seen in this area, as in the nearby Hersey-Duncan House (N-1244, NR Listed 1990), 2116 Duncan Road, built between 1801 and 1804. The balusters support a highly-polished, tall, narrow, rounded handrail. The staircase ascends twelve steps along the right or western wall to another newel post on the landing, originally lighted by a window. (Because the second story of the wing is located behind this window, the window is boarded and its niche used for display.) The stair then turns one-hundred-eighty degrees to ascend four steps to the front of the house. Each step is ten- and one-half-inches wide with a rounded nose. Details of the stair, its location, and the hall-parlor plan are similar, though not identical, to the nearby Hickman House, which also functioned as tenant house and was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century (N-12991, NR Listed 1994). Below the stair at the rear of the house, a board-and-batten door, with a box lock and a brown marble knob, provides access to the cellar.

A five-inch thick wall separates the hall from the parlor and contains one, door-less, four-foot wide opening close to the front entrance. Faint marks in this wall indicate the location of another opening at

²Tony Shahan, "Plan for Archaeological Investigations of the Greenbank Historic District," unpublished manuscript, 17 March 1996.

³Information provided by Tony Shahan.

⁴Ibid.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

the rear of the hall, suggesting that the parlor was once divided into two rooms, presumably a dining room and parlor. The living room area today spans with length of the house. The false beams on the ceiling in this room were added by the Smiths during their period of ownership from 1968 to 1981.

The fireplace is located in the rear of this room, above the basement fireplace. The classically-inspired mantel has crisp, simple lines. The stiles are decorated with two attached, slender round colonnettes on high bases. These support a straight entablature with projecting end blocks. A raised, rectangular molding is located in the frieze. The mantelpiece is six-feet, four-inches wide and four-feet, eight- and one-half-inches tall. The fireplace opening is two-feet, nine-inches wide and two-feet, three-inches high. To the south side of the fireplace are two long, narrow chimney closets with nine- and one-half-inch wide, paneled doors attached with H hinges. Original beaded shelving is still in place. A deeply-set, six-light window is located between the chimney block and the south end wall. Folding interior shutters are located on both the upper and lower sash of the front window. Each folding section contains two, long vertical panels similar in their craftsmanship to the doors on the chimney closets. Another prominent feature of this room is the bay window located on the north side of the chimney block. This room contains a six-panel door leading to the rear wing and originally to the exterior. The wall opening has rounded splays with curving baseboard. The form of the flat rectangular area above the door suggests that it originally may have contained a transom.

The second floor of the stone section contains its original room arrangements and finishes, with pine floors and plaster walls. The doors on this level, like those elsewhere in the house, are board and batten and the baseboard is consistent with the rest of the house. The staircase leads to a short hallway running toward the front of the house, where a small room is located above the front entry. A narrow closet was added in the hall against the wall dividing the hall from the small room. The closet probably dates to the 1904-1915 period because the opening is framed with the bull's eye trim. Two bedrooms are located in the stone section, corresponding with the original two-room arrangement below. The front room is lit by the three windows of the bay and the 6/6 window in the front wall, which has curved splays and a plain board sill. The rear room is lit by a small window opening between the rear wall and the fireplace block. The fireplace opening had been concealed until it was discovered in the 1970s by the Smiths. The brickwork surrounding the opening is exposed. The form of the original mantel is not known.

The attic staircase, enclosed with wide, beaded board, is accessed by a board-and-batten door similar in its size to the narrow door leading to the basement staircase and the closet door below the basement stair. The door opens onto a steep staircase ascending to the rear (south) wall of the house, directly above the main staircase. The stairs lead to a landing then ascend toward the front of the house, like the stairs below. In the attic, the stair opening is enclosed with mortise-and-tenon beaded boards, the rounded top of which functions as a hand rail. The stairs lead to a short hallway lit by one of the two 6/6 casement windows on the north wall of the house. A wall, running parallel with the ridge of the roof, divides the attic into two rooms, each lit by a single window. These rooms are finished with plastered walls and similar baseboard as that used elsewhere in the house. (When the bay window was added, some of the attic baseboard was borrowed to trim the bay so the trim would be uniform.)

Interior of the Wing

The basement is fully excavated in the western half of the wing, below the dining room and kitchen. A brick chimney stack marks the rear corner of the dining room and a brick pier marks the original rear corner of the kitchen. The ends of diagonally-laid boards, to which the original siding was attached, are still visible on what would have been the eastern exterior wall of the dining room, confirming that this was originally an exterior wall.

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The idea that the wing was originally flanked on its eastern and southern elevations by a porch is suggested by the construction of the foundation. Only the western foundation of the wing is brick. The eastern and southern walls of the wing are supported on brick piers with concrete blocks filling the spaces between these piers. (The work to stabilize the southern wall has just been accomplished by the present owners.) The impermanent nature of this construction is indicative of its original function as the foundation to a porch. Furthermore, narrow, sawed-off posts on top of the brick pier in the southeast corner of the wing are evidence of the original open porch framework above this corner. Additionally, the joists below the dining room wing run in the opposite direction from the joists in the eastern half of the wing. Whitewashing on the eastern and southern sides of the pier marking the corner of the original wing provides further evidence that the enclosed space in the rear wing ended at this point. The chimney block is also whitewashed, but only on its eastern side, evidence of its original exposed location. These whitewashed areas face the well, which is today partially contained within the crawl space in the eastern half of the wing. The exposed brick walls of the well are also whitewashed, evidence of its original exterior location. Its top is today positioned close to the height of the first floor.

The first rooms contained in the rear wing were the dining room and kitchen. The dining room is accessed from the rear door in the main hall. The room is finished with moulded trim, bull's eye corner blocks, two- and one-half inch chair rail, and seven- and one-quarter-inch baseboard. The room is distinguished by a built-in corner cabinet with a glass upper section and two, vertical panels in the lower section. The other notable feature of the room is the bay designed to hold the sideboard, flanked by two windows. The consistency of the trim and flooring in this area indicate that this was an original feature. The chimney flue is located in the southeast corner of this room. Behind the dining room is the kitchen, contained within the western half of the one-story shed roof space. Originally, the kitchen appears to have been a slightly smaller space, as evidenced by the pier support in the basement marking what was likely the original corner support for the wing. The original configuration of the kitchen is also indicated by the consistent break line in the floor boards a few feet from the rear wall, which originally may have been a rear porch or enclosed pantry.

Running the full length of the wing east of the kitchen and dining room, and accessed from the kitchen and from the rear exit in the stone section, is a room used today as the family room. This space probably originally functioned as a porch. Most surfaces are covered, with linoleum on the floor, knotty pine paneling on the walls, and a stuccoed finish on the upper walls and ceiling. What appears to be a structural beam marks the junction between the two-story and one-story sections of the wing. In the area of the one-story shed roof section, false beams are attached to the ceiling.

In the corner of this room, closest to the stone section, is a full bath probably added in the 1915 to 1924 period, during which time the house's assessed value rose. (The bathroom addition could date as early as the dining room, but its slightly different window trim suggests that this enclosure dates from a different building period.) Because of the development of the Cedars subdivision beginning in 1901 across Newport Gap Pike, sewer connections were available from a relatively early date in this area. Still in the 1920s and 1930s, not all of the houses in the Cedars were hooked up. One resident recalled that her family's house had a room intended for a bathroom but it had not been completed in 1923 when they moved to the Cedars.⁵

On the second story of the Justis-Jones House, the wing is accessed from the rear room in the stone section. A full bath is located above the first floor bath. A single bedroom fills the rest of the wing's second-story space. The chimney stack does not project into this space, indicating that the second story

⁵Heinel interview.

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was added later and that the wing originally was one story. A significant increase in property value suggests that this addition dates to the 1915 to 1924 period.

The Garage

A frame, gable roof, two-car garage is located in the southwest corner at the rear of the parcel. The garage measures nineteen-feet, seven- and one-half-inches wide and twenty-feet, two-inches long. The building rests on a concrete block foundation. Some reused timbers were employed in its construction. The walls are covered with approximately twelve-inch wide, vertically-laid boards, with battens present on the rear and west elevations. Asphalt shingles cover the first level of the garage front. Two, overhead wood doors are located in the front of the garage. In the gable end above the doors is a single wood door with four lights in its top section. The east elevation contains two, nine-light windows, hinged at the top. Assessment records indicate that a new outbuilding, presumably this garage, had been built by 1924.

The Stone Wall

A low stone wall, about four feet at its highest point, extends along the approximately one-hundred-foot width of the front property line parallel to Newport Gap Pike, ending at the driveway. The wall is constructed with dark gray dressed granite, random laid with thick mortar joints. Taller, approximately two-foot square piers, constructed with larger ashlar blocks than the walls, flank the sidewalk leading from the Pike toward the house. The distinguishing feature of the wall and piers is the manner in which the upper course is capped with a battlement of triangular stones. On its east and west ends, the wall measures only one foot, four inches to the top of the battlement. The wall is about one-foot, four-inches thick and extends twenty-three feet, nine inches to the first pier. The piers measure two-feet, seven-inches high. From the corresponding pier on the other side of the sidewalk, the wall extends sixty-four feet to the driveway. A stone wall is labeled on the State Highway Department Contract 298A, Sheet 5, from 1936, indicating its existence at least by that date. It was probably constructed when automobile transportation became more prevalent in the 1920s and a barrier was needed between the Pike and the house. The house is located closer to the Pike than the other houses on this south side of Newport Gap Pike. A similar wall is located on the opposite side of Newport Gap Pike, where the houses are also situated close to the road.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES:

2 contributing buildings (house and garage)
1 contributing structure (stone wall)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations: (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance: (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Periods of Significance: ca. 1840-1850
1904-1924

Significant Dates: ca. 1840
ca. 1904
ca. 1915

Significant Person: N/A
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Statement of Significance

The Justis-Jones House is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for its architectural significance attained during the Greek Revival and early-twentieth-century architectural periods. Constructed circa 1840 with modifications to its plan completed by 1850, the Justis-Jones House is a well-preserved architectural example of the vernacular Greek Revival period of architecture in this region of Delaware. The house was built by David Justis of the locally-prominent Justis family, but was not David Justis's primary residence. The house's overall form represents the housing stock available to its first occupant, Thomas Jones, a craftsman by trade who purchased the house shortly after its construction. As a house for the working class built under the auspices of the upper class, the Justis-Jones House is an important example of the type of housing created for and serving the laboring class of this nineteenth-century agricultural and milling community. This significance is found in the choice of floor plan, modest scale, streamlined application of decorative details, and documentary record. The second period of significance is manifest in the changes made to the Justis-Jones House from 1904 to 1924 for investment purposes during the first wave of suburbanization in the Wilmington vicinity. Architectural features of this period include the additions of the front porch, bay window, and frame wing containing a dining room, kitchen, and bathroom. Through the subdivision of the lands associated with this house in 1906 and the renovations of the house to fit into the new suburban environment, the property represents the suburbanization trend. The two main periods represented by the Justis-Jones House illustrate the predominant influence of local building practices, as well as an undercurrent of nationally popular architectural movements.

Justis-Jones Period, circa 1840 - 1850

Historical Background

When the Justis-Jones House was constructed about 1840 near the Newport Gap Pike, the area had long been defined by its farming and milling activities and its network of transportation routes to convey local products to nearby shipping wharves. The land was well suited to agriculture because of its strong, clay soil mixed with some loose rock, well drained by the many streams and runs of Red Clay Creek. As early as the 1670s, the Red Clay Creek powered saw mills and a grist mill in this vicinity, including saw mills at nearby Greenbank and Stanton.¹ By 1700, a market system of agriculture had developed based on the natural attributes of the Red Clay Valley. Within three miles of this area the town of Newport began to grow in the 1730s because of the shipping trade on the Christina River.

By the early 1800s, the extensive agricultural practice of the previous century had exhausted the soils. Fewer farmers could make a living in agriculture and many moved westward in search of better lands, as well as to urban and industrial areas.² The tide began to turn when the first successful turnpike in Delaware, the Newport Gap Pike, was established through this area in 1808 as a toll road.³ This route

¹David C. Bachman and Jay F. Custer, *Final Archaeological Investigations of the Newport Gap Pike (Route 41) Corridor, Wilmington and Western Railroad to Washington Avenue, New Castle County, Delaware*, DelDOT Archaeological Series No. 65 (Delaware Department of Transportation, 1988), 14.

²Ibid., 19-20.

³Ibid., 20.

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was completed by 1818,⁴ following the path, for the most part, of an older road. In that same year, the New Castle County Agricultural Society re-assembled to instruct farmers about more advanced farming practices to improve production.⁵ The Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad was extended through Newport in 1838. Agricultural reform efforts combined with these great strides in the transportation system helped to revive the area's agricultural and industrial economy. The nearby Greenbank Mill and its related factory flourished, and the area supported snuff mills, paper mills, a spice mill, mills for grinding fertilizers, and iron rolling mills. Between 1800 and 1830, the population of Mill Creek Hundred rose steadily from 2,194 to 4,644, from which point the population dropped in 1840 to 3,145. Tenant farming became prevalent in the area in the nineteenth century, with large landowners leasing land to tenants.⁶ That practice and the need for mill workers at the area mills resulted in the construction of tenant housing.⁷ About 1840, the Justis-Jones House was constructed in this agricultural and milling community.

Because the Newport Gap Turnpike plays a large part in defining the setting of the Justis-Jones House, sections of the original road specifications are worth repeating here:

An artificial road bedded with road-stone, gravel, clay . . . compacted . . . to make a solid foundation, and faced with clay, gravel, or stone, in such a manner as to secure a firm or even surface, rising toward the middle by a gradual arch.⁸

The landscape where the Justis-Jones House would be built is documented in a survey of the area drawn in preparation for the new turnpike route. In response to a petition to the Court of General Sessions for a public road in 1803,⁹ the court ordered a surveyor to make a plot of the proposed route. The plot depicts two buildings in the vicinity of the Justis-Jones House, Yarnell's Tavern and Phillips' Mill.¹⁰ Holton Yarnell kept a tavern called Conestoga Wagon on the Newport Gap Turnpike between Hyde Run

⁴Priscilla M. Thompson, "Springs/Red Clay Area, A Narrative Historical Overview, Newport to Gap Pike, Route 41, New Castle County, Delaware," Delaware Department of Transportation Archaeological Series No. 49, unpublished manuscript, 1986, 11.

⁵Stuart P. Dixon, Cheryl C. Powell, Bernard L. Herman, and Rebecca J. Siders, *Architectural Assessment of Route 41 (Newport Gap Pike), Route 2 (Kirkwood Highway) to Washington Avenue, New Castle County, Delaware*, DelDOT Historic Architecture Series No. 66 (Delaware Department of Transportation, 1988), 22.

⁶Bachman and Custer, 22-23.

⁷See, for example, the Hickman House, in nearby Marshallton, constructed as one of several tenant houses owned by the Cranston family.

⁸P. A. C. Spero & Company, *Delaware Historic Bridges, Survey and Evaluation*, DelDOT Historic Architecture and Engineering Series No. 89 (Delaware Department of Transportation, 1991), 172.

⁹Petition for Public Road from Village of Newport in New Castle County, May 1803 (Court of General Sessions, Road Books, Record Group 2805, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware), 239.

¹⁰Plot for Public Road from Village of Newport in New Castle County by Richard Mahon, Surveyor, 30 May 1804 (Court of General Sessions, Road Papers, Christiana/Mill Creek Hundred, Record Group 2805, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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and Faulkland Road on land that is today part of the Brandywine Springs Park.¹¹ The Phillips' Mill (known today as the Greenbank Mill), is located to the south of the Justis-Jones House, on the opposite side of the Newport Gap Pike. In addition to documenting aspects of the setting, the survey records also help to confirm that the Justis-Jones House had not been built by this early date (1804).

The convenient transportation route helped bring another significant attraction to the region. In 1827, the Brandywine Chalybeate Springs Company purchased the tract of land on the east side of Newport Gap Pike, to the north and on the opposite side of the Pike from the site where the Justis-Jones House would be built.¹² Developed as a summer resort and spa, the Brandywine Chalybeate Springs attraction was accessible from the Philadelphia-Lancaster Turnpike, which joined with the Newport Gap Pike in Gap, Pennsylvania. In 1833, the land had been purchased by Matthew Newkirk of Philadelphia, who is said to have hired the Philadelphia architect Thomas U. Walter to "design and remodel the buildings," and to build homes for Newkirk and his daughters.¹³ The hotel was transformed into an impressive Greek Revival edifice and the houses for Newkirk and his daughters were also built in the Greek Revival style. This period in the hotel's history was short lived, however, because business declined after the financial panic of 1837. The property was eventually rented for use as a school, burning shortly thereafter. Its decline began, therefore, shortly before the construction of the Justis-Jones House. Newkirk sold the property in 1855.¹⁴

¹¹Thompson, DelDOT Series No.49, 12. The tavern is seen in the foreground of a painting attributed to Philadelphia architect Thomas Ustick Walter. The subject of the painting was the hotel developed on this property in the 1820s and modernized, purportedly by Walter, in the 1830s. The viewpoint of the painting is slightly north of the location of the Justis-Jones House. In the road plot from 1804, the road passed to the east of Yarnell's Tavern (Plot for Public Road from Village of Newport, Court of General Sessions, Road Papers, Christiana/Mill Creek Hundred). This was apparently the first idea for the route in this location. It is corroborated in the June 1804 description of the new route, where it was stated that the road passes "Yarnal's house standing by the old road about 1 ½ perches east of said house." Return of Petition for Public Road from Village of Newport in New Castle County, 2 June 1804 (Court of General Sessions, Road Books, Record Group 2805, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware), 300. However, the Newport Gap Pike, as it was developed, passed to the *west* of the Yarnell Tavern. Originally, the tavern must have faced the old road. The new route ran behind the house. The new route, therefore, was not laid out in this area on the exact path of the old route. Holton Yarnell's Tavern is also denoted on a map from 1820 by Heald, which shows taverns, schools, meeting houses, manufactories, and workshops. Drawn after Newport Gap Pike was completed, the Heald map shows Yarnell's Tavern on the opposite side of the street from where it had been, with Newport Gap Pike passing to the west of the house, as seen in the painting attributed to Walter.

¹²Ibid.

¹³C. A. Weslager, *Brandywine Springs, The Rise and Fall of a Delaware Resort* (Wilmington, DE: Hambleton Co., 1949), 38.

¹⁴Thompson, DelDOT Series No.49, 16. A new owner revived the hotel by connecting the Walter-designed, Newkirk residences to function as the hotel (Weslager, 38). During the Civil War, Delaware regiments camped there and the grounds became known as Camp Du Pont, named for Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont.

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Architectural Significance

The Justis-Jones House is significant as a finely-preserved architectural example of the vernacular Greek Revival style in the Mill Creek Hundred region of northern Delaware. When the Justis-Jones House was constructed, circa 1840, the Greek Revival style was popular nationally. The Justis-Jones House is more closely allied with the vernacular expression of that style than with the full-blown manifestation of the Greek Revival prominently displayed across Newport Gap Pike at Newkirk's Brandywine Springs Hotel. The Justis-Jones House acknowledges the style of the era with its classically-influenced front door surround and the high-style parlor mantel. The front door is framed with tall, slightly tapered, flat pilasters, which originally contained a straight transom above the door. (The transom has been boarded up, but its size and location are still evident.) On the interior, the mantel is also classically inspired, with crisp, simple lines. The stiles are decorated with paired, slender round colonnettes on high bases supporting a straight entablature with projecting end blocks, and the frieze is accented with a raised, rectangular molding. The house's woodwork also indicates the refinement of the cabinetmaker/carpenter who constructed the house, seen especially in the fine work of the chimney closet doors and interior shutters of the front window. The scored stucco finish, which probably dates to the 1860s, fits into the overall classical influence apparent in the house's decorative elements.

The house's ties to local, native traditions are strong and include the stone construction, the manner in which the house is banked into a hill, and the basement kitchen. Alterations made to the floor plan shortly after construction brought the house up-to-date with the trends of the region with the creation of a separate stair hall. Evidence of the original floor plan, a double-cell plan, indicates the persistence of older building traditions in this category of housing, while the rapid updating of the plan (by 1850) to the more fashionable, though far from new, side-passage plan with an up-to-date staircase is significant evidence of the aspirations of the laboring class as reflected in the housing stock. Many of the surviving houses from this period have been expanded to the side, from a three bay to a five bay, for example. Because later additions to the Justis-Jones house were added behind the main block, the front section retains a high level of integrity, conveying the original proportions of a modest house of this era.

The landscape of rolling hills that characterizes this area, the southernmost extension of the Piedmont Plateau, is created by the underlying rock known generically as fieldstone. Composed of micaceous gneiss and schist, this fieldstone was the material used to construct the permanent buildings that began to replace the impermanent log buildings in the early nineteenth century. In 1798, log construction accounted for 57.6% of the dwellings in the Mill Creek Hundred assessment, while 18.6% were stone. The gap had narrowed by 1804, when the percentage of log houses remained about the same, 59%, while the percentage of stone houses increased to 28%. In the 1816 assessment, only 28.7% of the dwellings were log, while 38.1% were stone.¹⁵ Although most houses in this area were frame, the use of stone connects this house with the trend in this area and period to employ the abundant native stone. The craft of the stonemason is evident on the exterior in the areas where the stucco finish has been removed and on the interior in the window and door openings constructed with curved splays and in the stone cooking fireplace in the basement with its flat arch stone lintel.

Banked into the top of a hill, the Justis-Jones House takes advantage of the rolling terrain. The land slopes away from the rear wall of the house, exposing the basement and allowing for ground-level entry where the rear wing is now located. The multiple entries at the rear of the house permitted access to both the basement and first floor and illustrate how most of the activity was located at the rear of the house.

¹⁵ Hubert Jicha and Rebecca Siders, "Mill Creek Hundred Tax Assessment, Computer Study," circa 1985.

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The household functions associated with this house required access between the basement kitchen and the rear yard, where the well and a barn were located (according to assessment data), although it is not clear why there were two basement entries. Nor is it known why there were two first floor entries at the rear of the house, although it is possible that there was a summer kitchen and the need to access the first floor directly from the outside, instead of from the basement. The rear entry at the end of the hall provided direct access to the stair and the upper rooms. There was probably some kind of exterior porch or lean-to over these entries at the rear of the house.

The Justis-Jones House is tied to local traditions through the presence of the basement-level kitchen, a regional building tradition found in the northern section of New Castle County and the southeastern Pennsylvania Piedmont region. This well-preserved basement kitchen space is an important survival, providing evidence of the relationship among its parts, from the narrow, closed-string, straight staircase with very worn treads that descends into the basement, to the wall division, formed with overlapping vertical boards, between the two spaces of the cellar. The kitchen features include the stone fireplace with its flat-arch stone lintel and an adjacent large kitchen cupboard with original shelving and well-crafted board-and batten doors. The relationship between this space and the exterior is still intact. A door with curved splays in the rear wall originally opened at ground level into the rear yard. A window, now boarded over, is located to the left or east of the door. There is a decorative shutter dog fastened into the exterior of the stone rear wall in a location near the door opening, suggesting that the door originally swung outward and could be fastened open. Outside the door is a curved, stone and earthen wall, suggestive of the original terrain before the construction of the wing, when one would leave the kitchen through this ground-level entry and ascend a slight incline to the well and barn. The front room of the basement, because of the sloping terrain, is located almost completely underground. Its whitewashed walls, lower location, and the survival of a large meat hook in one of the joists suggest its use for cold storage of foods.

The Justis-Jones House shares similar architectural features with other houses of the area. Architectural surveys have found houses with basement-level kitchens located within about thirty miles of Philadelphia in the Delaware/Pennsylvania Piedmont region, probably due to the transitional climate. Examples include the house built by David Justis's brother, Justa Justis (N-253, located nearby at 2509 Duncan Road), which purportedly has two basement fireplaces; the Swithin Chandler House, which also purportedly has two ovens (N-1591, 2800 Newport Gap Pike, located a short distance to the north of the Justis-Jones House); the McKennan-Klair House, built in 1818 (N-1250, DOE 1987), located a little farther away on the east side of Limestone Road north of Kirkwood Highway), with a large cooking fireplace with a heavy timber lintel; the circa 1805 William Montgomery House (N-252, NR Listed 1988); the circa 1825 Chambers House (N-6770, NR Listed 1988); the Springer-Cranston House (N-12,931, NR Listed 1994); the circa 1840 M. Concannoy Farm (N-298), a two-bay, stuccoed stone house located a little farther to the north in Christiana Hundred, on the north side of Hillside Mill Road; and, farther to the north and east in Brandywine Hundred, the Joshua Pyle House (N-476, NR Listed 1993) and the circa 1800 Penny-Shaw House (N-158).

The popularity in this Piedmont Region of banking the houses into the terrain to allow for a ground-floor entry is due to the region's topography. Several of the houses with basement kitchens are also banked into a hill, including the M. Concannoy Farm; the circa 1825 Chambers House; and the Joshua Pyle House. Other banked houses in the Piedmont region include the circa 1816 William Little House (N-10,248) and the circa 1820 Robert Graham House (N-292, NR Listed 1997), located farther to the north and west.

Many of these nearby buildings share the stucco finish, especially popular during the Greek Revival and Italianate periods when it was not uncommon for the stucco to be scored in imitation of ashlar. Local examples include Justa Justis's House; the Swithin Chandler House (where the stucco is scored to

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resemble blocks of ashlar); and the Greek Revival style Fell Mansion, circa 1830-1840 (N-235, NR Listed 1983), located on the north side of Faulkland Road above the western bank of the Red Clay Creek near the site of the Fell family's spice mill. Rough-cast, pebble-dashed stucco covers the fieldstone walls of that large mansion. Slightly farther away, but still in the general vicinity, a stucco finish is found on the Morrison House (N-9575), dating to the second quarter of the nineteenth century, where the stucco is scored to resemble ashlar. A scored stucco finish was applied to the circa 1850 Italianate Carpenter-Lippincott House in Centreville (N-541, NR Listed 1983). In Brandywine Hundred, the Joshua Pyle House, built in 1840, has a stucco over stone finish that is believed to be original because of the irregular treatment of the stone walls, visible in a few areas where the stucco had failed. This is not the case at the Justis-Jones House, where a conscious effort seems to have been made to lay the stones in even courses and to select similar-size stones for each course. There are other examples of exposed stonework in this area, including the Graham House.

The Justis-Jones House does not share two distinctive features found in nearby houses, the use of reeded moulding to finish the splayed window reveals of their stone walls and mantels decorated with punch-and-gouge work. These characteristics are found in the Thomas Justis House, 1804-1816 (N-257, NR Listed 1993), 1001 Milltown Road; McKennan-Klair House, 1818; Justa Justis House, 1816-1817; and the Swithin Chandler House, circa 1800 (that date has not been verified). Because historic records document that both Thomas Justis and Justa Justis were carpenters who knew each other and were most likely related,¹⁶ although their exact relationship is not known, these similar characteristics suggest a common builder. Although also connected with the Justis family, the Justis-Jones house was not intended to be the builder's main residence, so it is not surprising that these details are absent.

Significantly, however, the Justis-Jones House has design features, which, though simplified, mimic features of these other houses. The mantel in the Justis-Jones House is almost identical in its overall design to the mantel in the McKennan-Klair House. Both mantels consist of a broad entablature supported by pairs of attenuated, engaged colonnettes. The mantel in the Justis-Jones House differs in that it was not decorated with punch-and-gouge work and is a simpler expression of the earlier mantel, which has a projecting center block. The other similarity is found in the front door surround. The model is clearly that found on the Thomas Justis House, while the execution is simpler. The simplification of the mouldings and trim represents the architecture of the craftsman/laborer occupant in this region.

In addition to being an indicator of the social class of a house's occupant, the simplified trim of the Justis-Jones House is probably also a result of its later date of construction during the period of the bold, simplified Greek style rather than the more delicately-moulded trim of the preceding, Federal period. Thomas Justis died in 1841 and Justa Justis in 1836. The Justis-Jones House was built about twenty to twenty-five years after these men built their primary residences. The Justis-Jones House therefore represents the end of the period of construction of stone houses by this generation of the Justis family in this section of Mill Creek Hundred.

¹⁶Thomas Justis is tied to Justa Justis's father, Jacob Justis, through Jacob's estate settlement, where Thomas was recorded as one of the guardians of David, Justa's younger brother (the eventual builder of the Justis-Jones House). This records also identifies Thomas as a carpenter. Jacob Justis, Probate Record, 1802 to 1807 (Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware). A biography of Justa Justis records his activities as a builder. J. M. Runk & Co., *Biographical and Genealogical History of the State of Delaware* (Chambersburg, PA: Runk, 1899), 437.

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The Justis Family and David Justis

At the time of construction of the Justis-Jones House, the property was owned by the Justis family. According to a biography of the family, the Justis family is one of the oldest in Delaware, having arrived in this area from Sweden in 1635, when the family name was still in its unabbreviated form, Gostaffson. In the late nineteenth century when the biography was compiled, it was claimed that the Justis family was at that time "the only colonial family of purely Swedish descendants in Delaware."¹⁷ The first settler, Hans Gostaffson, farmed in the Mill Creek Hundred area, where generations of the family would remain. The early generations were buried in the cemetery of Old Swedes Church in Wilmington.

The generation of the family that built the Justis-Jones House, and that left a mark on the architecture of this section of Mill Creek Hundred with the construction of stone dwellings, were the children of Jacob Justis. Jacob died intestate October 1, 1802. He left behind three sons, Justa, David, and Joseph. A network of friends and relatives cared for five-year old David, including Thomas Justis, who boarded and schooled David; Robert Armstrong, a State Senator from Christiana Hundred and one of the administrators of Jacob's will, who boarded David for one year; Andrew Justis, Jacob's brother, who boarded David for twenty weeks; and Andrew Hendrickson, who was paid by Jacob's estate for the tuition for David.¹⁸

It was after Jacob's death when the activity to construct the Newport Gap Turnpike began. After the first survey of the proposed route had been made, a number of citizens petitioned the court objecting to portions of the route on the basis that private interest could be affected by changing parts of the route that had been long laid out, "and the lands through which they pass and adjacent thereto, fenced and otherwise improved."¹⁹ Some of the road would be laid on an old road through this area, but would occasionally leave that route, probably to make the route more straight and direct. One of the objectors was Andrew Justis (the brother of Jacob and the uncle of David, then a minor for whom Andrew was the custodian for awhile). Perhaps Andrew was raising objections on behalf of his brother's interests, since the new route would pass through his brother's lands.

In March of 1807, as part of the settlement of his estate, Jacob's large tract of land was surveyed. The only dwelling on Jacob's land was a two-story log house with a shed adjoining. There was also a stone spring house, a small log barn, and an apple orchard on his lands.²⁰ David's brother, Justa, petitioned in 1809 for his father's plantation to be divided among his heirs.²¹ The survey was made on May 8, 1810 of Jacob's 206-acre tract.²² David's third part contained about 65 acres east of the "contemplated

¹⁷Ibid., 436-37.

¹⁸Jacob Justis Probate.

¹⁹Petition to Court of General Sessions, May 1804 (Court of General Sessions, Road Books, Record Group 2805, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

²⁰Jacob Justis Case File, Annual Valuation of the Real Estate of David Justis, Minor, 30 April 1807 (Orphans' Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

²¹Jacob Justis Case File, Petition of Justa Justis, 7 March 1809 (Orphans' Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

²²Jacob Justis Case File, Survey of Jacob Justis Plantation, 9 May 1810 (Orphans' Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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turnpike,” on the opposite side of the road from the land where the Justis-Jones House would be built. Hyde Run and the Red Clay Creek were the other boundaries of the land David inherited. The lands of John R. Phillips lay to the south (the Greenbank Mill Historic District today). By the time of the annual valuation of 1810, David’s property contained about sixty-five acres, indicating that the property had been divided by that date.²³ In the 1816/17 assessment, David, still a minor, was assessed for a log dwelling and stable. No stone building was mentioned.

David’s older brother, Justa, was assessed in the 1816/17 assessment for “a stone dwelling not finished” on sixty-six acres of land. The acreage indicates that this was the parcel inherited from his father, where Justa evidently began to construct his residence shortly after receiving his inheritance. This construction date also helps to confirm the later date for Justa’s younger brother’s building projects.

Like most of his neighbors, Justa Justis was a farmer. When the third Agricultural Society of New Castle County formed in 1836, Justa Justis was chosen as one of the officers for Mill Creek Hundred.²⁴ According to a biography of the family, Justa was also involved as a carpenter and builder in the area’s rebuilding activities. The biography records that Justa Justis “erected many dwelling houses and other structures in Mill Creek Hundred, and built the famous old Brandywine Springs Hotel.”²⁵ Justa Justis was supposed to have been in charge of the construction of the first hotel, which opened in 1827.²⁶ His will records his involvement in the construction of School District 33, Justa having provided the land and a “considerable” sum to finish the school. He died in 1836 and was buried in St. James Churchyard, Stanton.

The chain of title for the Justis-Jones House documents that the Justis-Jones House was not built on David’s inherited lands but on six acres of land David purchased from his brother, Justa. In 1836, Justa wrote in his will that some years before he had sold “about six acres of land” to his brother David. When Justa prepared his last will and testament on September 2, 1836, David had not received title to the six acres, although he had paid for the land. Justa conveyed this title in his will.²⁷ By 1822, David’s assessment included 70 acres with a log house and stable. Although the assessment acreage is not always precise, this record may suggest that David had added a few acres to his original inheritance. David had not purchased any additional lands by this date according to deed indices. The increase in David’s acreage indicated in this 1822 assessment record could be due to this unrecorded purchase of land from his brother. In 1822, David’s assessment included an addition of \$36 and Justa Justis’s assessment recorded a deduction of \$36, perhaps reflecting the assessed value of the six acres transferred between the two brothers.²⁸ The six-acre lot where the Justis-Jones House would be built was located on the

²³Jacob Justis Case File, Annual Valuation of the Real Estate of David Justis, Minor, 7 July 1810 (Orphans’ Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

²⁴J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Delaware, 1609-1888* (Philadelphia: L. J. Richards and Company, 1888), 433.

²⁵J. M. Runk & Co., 437.

²⁶Thompson, DelDOT Series No.49, 14.

²⁷Justa Justis Will Record T1/262 (New Castle County Register of Wills, Wilmington, Delaware).

²⁸Assessment Records, Mill Creek Hundred, 1822 (Record Group 2535, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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opposite side of Newport-Gap Pike from David's inheritance. The land extended from the intersection of Milltown Road and Newport Gap Pike northwest along the centerline of Newport Gap Pike to land owned by Justa Justis, then the boundary turned south to Milltown Road, still along lands owned by Justa Justis, and finally extended east along Milltown Road to the beginning point.

By 1828, David's house, formerly described as log, was listed as frame, and he had built a stone barn on his land, which was still seventy acres.²⁹ In 1830, David was evidently married and his household included five children and one free colored male. By 1837 David Justis had increased his estate by ten acres to eighty acres with a few property transactions between 1831 and 1834, recorded in the deed records. The one house for which David was assessed in 1837 was his residence. His assessment that year read, "log and stone house and stone barn." This document also records his ownership of slaves at this date. In the 1840 population census, David Justis and his wife still had five children in their household, one male slave age 10-24, and one female slave under ten. Two in this household were engaged in agriculture.

These records indicate that between 1822 and 1837 David Justis was in a construction mode. He built a stone barn between 1822 and 1828 and added a stone section to his inherited house sometime between 1828 and 1837. David Justis lived in the house on his inherited land. That property, first described in 1822 as a log house and later in 1837 as a log and stone house, was the only property on which he paid taxes and the property sold upon order of the Orphans' Court after his death in order to divide his holdings between his two minor daughters. The property was located in the vicinity of the Cedars and was labeled "D. Justice" on the 1849 Rea & Price Atlas. (Although David Justis had died in 1843, his estate was not sold until 1850.) The stone house he would build on the six acres purchased from his brother was not to be his primary residence.

David Justis held the six acres of land he had purchased from his brother for several years (from several years before 1836 to 1843), during which time a house was built. Although he had paid for the land on which the house would be built some years before 1836, David Justis did not have clear title to this land until Justa's will was probated and his estate settled. The first settlement of Justa's estate occurred on October 11, 1839 and further settlement occurred in 1844 and 1847. David must have gotten title to the six acres in the first settlement, because he sold the property in 1843 before the further settlement.

Assessment records indicate that David Justis built the Justis-Jones House between 1837 and 1845. David Justis was not taxed for the stone house in 1837, although his acreage indicates that the land was included in his total estate of 80 acres. According to the deed indices, David Justis did not purchase or sell any properties between 1837 and his death in 1843, except for the approximately six-acre parcel sold to Thomas W. Jones in 1843. The reduction of David Justis's acreage from 80 acres in 1837 to 75 acres in 1845 appears to represent the sale of the tract to Jones. The 80 acres David Justis owned therefore included the acres to be sold to Jones, and these acres did not contain a house in 1837.

In 1843, David Justis sold the land to Thomas W. Jones for \$600. In 1845, Thomas W. Jones was assessed for five acres, a stone house, and a frame stable, so the stone house had been built by at least that date. The assessed value of Jones's real estate that year was \$500, not much different from the property's purchase price two years earlier. (His total assessment, including poll tax, was \$800.) In

²⁹Assessment Records, Mill Creek Hundred, 1828 (Record Group 2535, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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1837 in Mill Creek Hundred, the average price per acre was \$29.75.³⁰ Six acres of land, therefore, would have an average value of about \$180 in 1837, making it quite possible for a modest stone house and six acres to sell for \$600. Assessment records, along with this consideration of property values, indicate that the house was built before Jones purchased the six acres and project a date of construction between 1837 and 1843, or circa 1840. These records indicate that the house was built by David Justis.

Less is known about David than about his older brother, Justa, whose biography was recorded in local histories. The population census for 1840 records David's occupation in agriculture. David was also evidently involved with milling in the area, according to a deed of 1833 (S4/140), in which he and his wife Maria granted to Matthew Newkirk of Philadelphia, the proprietor of the Brandywine Springs Hotel and Resort, water power and privileges on Hyde Run. The privileges were limited to building a dam below the old dam on Hyde Run, so that there would be an eight-foot fall "to the contemplated mill." The area in question began at the arch bridge over Newport Gap Turnpike and continued along Hyde Run to the mouth where it emptied into the Red Clay Creek. It was specified that the power was "to be used only for raising water sufficient to supply the premises of the said Matthew Newkirk with water," and that David "retains rights to raise dam higher to put water into his upper race or moving dam to old location for that purpose." This record indicates that David Justis had a mill on Hyde Run, which is known to have supported mill sites in the nineteenth century.³¹ Both David and his brother Justa engaged in real estate transactions with the Phillips family, the proprietors of the frame mill and stone factory at Greenbank. David was also a Justice of the Peace for New Castle County.³² David Justis along with Joseph Hossenger were both charged with examining the assessment book for Mill Creek Hundred in 1838.³³

Shortly before selling the stone house to Thomas Jones, David Justis rented his farm to Dr. P. B. Delaney, a medical doctor, on March 25, 1843. Dr. Delaney was assessed a poll tax in 1845 but did not own land, suggesting that he rented his lodging as well as the farm from David Justis. (It is possible that he rented David's house at this time, 1845, for David had died and his minor children were in the care of their aunt, Catherine Justis, the widow of Justa Justis.) With this transaction, David turned over the responsibility of the farm to Dr. Delaney. These records could indicate that the occupant of the new stone house was to be the farm manager for Dr. Delaney, who paid rent on the entire farm to David Justis, including the milk cows, hogs, corn, oats, plow, and the hire of a black man. David received rents on the farm, thereby maintaining control and a pecuniary interest over his agricultural endeavors. On May 18, David Justis sold the stone house to Thomas Jones, holding a mortgage bond on this property.

Perhaps David Justis set up this arrangement for his farm because he was aware that his circumstances were changing. David's wife died shortly before the sale of the house to Jones. Twelve days before

³⁰Statistics are from compilations of the assessment data for Mill Creek Hundred listed in the 1837 assessment records (Record Group 2535, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware). It is not known how the national depression in 1837 may have continued to impact land values in 1843 when Justis sold the property to Jones.

³¹Thompson, DelDOT Series No.49, 4.

³²David Justis was appointed one of the Justices of the Peace for New Castle County on July 15, 1834. J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Delaware, 1609-1888* (Philadelphia: L. J. Richards and Company, 1888), 625. His role as Justice of the Peace is also noted in Deed Record V4/294.

³³Assessment Records, Mill Creek Hundred, 1838 (Record Group 2535, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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selling the stone house, David asked to be appointed guardian of his two younger daughters on May 6, 1843. Shortly afterwards, David Justis died on June 17, 1843. Although it might appear that he was making these arrangements because he was aware of his ill health, he died without a will. The buildings of his estate consisted of a two-story stone house, twenty-seven feet long by twenty-four feet wide, with a two-story log building adjoining (twenty-six feet long by twenty-feet wide), a two-story stone kitchen (twenty-three feet long by seventeen feet wide), a pump and bath house "in bad order," a stone barn (forty-five feet long by thirty-feet wide), a corn crib and wagon house, a stone spring house (seventeen by fifteen feet), and an apple orchard containing about thirty apple trees.³⁴ Shortly after his death, the house was inventoried and the contents sold.³⁵ His estate was still receiving the rental value of the farm in 1844, another indication that Dr. Delaney may have continued to reside there. The value of his estate was determined about a year later on May 17, 1844. The rental value of his farm was estimated at about \$300.³⁶ This was about the amount Dr. Delaney had owed in farm rents a year previous, according to David Justis's probate records.³⁷

Upon his death, David's estate indicated a home filled with the niceties of life. David Justis left behind a house replete with a gilt frame mantel glass, mantel clock, decorative mantel ornaments, carpets, a \$25 sofa, silver, linens, writing desk, a few books, and abundant kitchen supplies, including a dozen ice cream glasses. His estate also included the "unexpired time of Negro boy [Nelson Mirons]," who sold for \$33.00. There is also a note in Justis's probate about Ann Brown, "a colored girl," who was either sold or hired to a man in Wilmington, "from which place she has run off." There were very few farm-related items among David Justis's holdings. He did own horses and saddles, a sleigh, an old work ox, a grain fan, and 63 1/2 bushels of wheat.³⁸ This was about the amount of wheat a typical family might use in a year, but less than half the average amount produced per farm in Mill Creek Hundred in 1850.³⁹ His estate indicates that David had continued farming activities for household use, although the bulk of the farm was rented. His probate records indicate that Dr. P. B. Delaney owed Justis's estate rent of the farm for one year due on March 25, 1844, including the hire of a black man, as well as the farm animals (milk cows and hogs), feed (corn and oats), and equipment (plow). His estate was also owed bond and mortgage money from three individuals, in addition to Thomas W. Jones. His probate records documented the lease of a strip of woodland to Matthew Newkirk. His estate also included stock in the Wilmington & Christiana Turnpike Company.⁴⁰

³⁴David Justis Case File, 17 May 1844 (Orphans' Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

³⁵The house was finally sold on February 21, 1850 for \$6,000. Petition of Susan S. G. Justis and Hannah Mary Justis by her Guardian Catherine Justis, 21 February 1850 (Orphans' Court, Record Group 2840, File U1/79, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

³⁶David Justis Case File, 17 May 1844 (Orphans Court Record, Record Group 2840, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

³⁷David Justis, Probate Record, 1843 to 1847 (Will and Probate Records, Record Group 2545, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware, microfilm reel 235).

³⁸Ibid.

³⁹Jack Michel, "A Typology of Delaware Farms, 1850," unpublished manuscript, 1984, 3, Table 2.

⁴⁰David Justis probably owned stock in this company rather than the Newport Gap Turnpike Company because it was the only stock in a local turnpike available to him at the time

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In total, the documentary records depict a man who involved himself at the administrative level in both the main activities of this area, milling and farming (owning slaves for a time), who participated in local governmental activities (as a Justice of the Peace and examiner of assessment records), and who engaged in the entrepreneurial activities of real estate by holding a mortgage on properties, which, in the case of the Justis-Jones House, was probably tied into his other endeavors.

Thomas W. Jones

Thomas W. Jones, manufacturer, was counted in the Wilmington population census in 1820. He appeared for the first time in the Mill Creek Hundred assessment in 1838, when he was listed as a cordwainer (shoemaker), owning neither land nor buildings. His assessed value in 1838 of \$400 contrasts with David Justis's assessed value of 1837 of \$3845.

Thomas W. Jones purchased two properties in his lifetime. His first purchase occurred March 7, 1840 when he bought with his wife, Hannah P., a lot in Stanton for \$800 (F5/16). He was able to buy this lot by entering into a mortgage agreement with the seller, John and Margaret Foote, with whom he was bound for \$600, with interest, to be paid according to a schedule of six payments established in the mortgage agreement (D5/233). In 1840, Thomas Jones was assessed for one brick and frame house in Stanton, the property transferred to him in March of that year by John Foote. This record confirms that the house was on the parcel when purchased. Jones was living in Stanton when he was counted in the population census of 1840. (His neighbors included those listed in his deed.) Jones sold the property in Stanton in 1842 for \$1000 (I5/433). The following year he bought the Justis-Jones House for \$600 (Deed L5/270).

It is clear that David Justis built the Justis-Jones House to be occupied by someone other than himself, for he lived in the house he had inherited and expanded with a stone addition, the house and farm that sold for \$6000. Speculation about the reasons for the construction of the Justis-Jones House suggest possibilities for David Justis's business activities and Thomas Jones's circumstances. During this period when tenancy was prevalent, David Justis may have built the house as part of his agricultural ventures, to be tenanted by a farm manager, Jones, who may have continued his shoemaking on the side. Or, Jones could have worked in one of the mills in the area. It is also possible that the house was simply built as a real estate venture, since a mortgage arrangement was made between Justis and Jones, Justis holding the mortgage on the property. Jones may have used this property solely for his shoemaking trade, for Jones is consistently recorded as a shoemaker in documentary records.

Another possibility lies in the house lore remembered by a former occupant of the house, Josephine Smith (who resided there from 1968 to 1981). Mrs. Smith was told by the house's previous owner (the Smeads, who lived in the house from 1941 to 1968), that this had been a toll keeper's house. Perhaps Jones supplemented his income making shoes by working as a toll keeper. The house's close proximity to the Newport Gap Pike, its date of construction after the road, and its connection with Justis, who involved himself in community affairs and owned stock in another turnpike company, could indicate that it was built for that purpose. Yet, another house in the neighborhood also has been linked to that history. The Robert Justis House (N-5273, Demolished circa 1970), located on the opposite side of Newport Gap Pike

he came of age. Chartered in 1821, the Christiana & Wilmington Turnpike was the state's last turnpike charter to prove successful. P. A. C. Spero & Company, 173.

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and a short distance to the north (on the northeast corner of the Faulkland Road intersection), was a frame house with brick nogging that was supposed to have functioned as a toll house and hotel.⁴¹

Historical records indicate that David Justis knew Thomas W. Jones. One of the debts of David Justis's estate was a \$7.60 shoe bill owed to Thomas W. Jones. There is also evidence that David Justis knew John Foote, from whom Jones purchased his first property. Foote acted as assignee for the administrator of David Justis's estate in the suit against Thomas W. and Hannah P. Jones in Superior Court because of their failure to observe the conditions of their mortgage held by Justis. Justis and Jones may have attended the same church, the St. James Protestant Episcopal Church (N-393, NR Listed 1973), where John Foote was also a member.⁴² At the time Scharf's *History of Delaware* was compiled (1888), a Thomas W. Jones was one of the church's board members.⁴³ Assessment data indicates that this Thomas was probably the son of the Thomas W.⁴⁴ There is a possibility that Justis knew Jones and built the house with Jones in mind.

The house's modest scale and finishes indicate that it was built for someone of Jones's means and class, while the stone construction, high level of craftsmanship, and Greek Revival details indicate the greater means available to Justis. Jones's house has the same modest, two-bay, double-pile proportions and exposed stone work as the Robert Graham House, which was also the home of a shoemaker and located on a relatively small plat of land in Mill Creek Hundred. It is evident that Jones moved into the house shortly after he purchased it, for he bought a few items from the sale of David Justis's estate after its inventory in August of 1843, including a "pair of high post bedsteads" for \$6.25 and "sacking" for \$0.75. Shortly after the house's construction, the floor plan was updated from the double-cell plan to a side-passage plan, by then a prevalent floor plan, but more up-to-date than the double-cell arrangement. The change was most likely made during Jones's period of ownership because of the early character of the style of the straight stair and because Jones was able to sell the house for \$1,100, more than the \$600 he paid for it. (The land had increased in value by 1850, because of improvements in farming throughout the state. The mean average price per acre in Mill Creek Hundred was \$57.9 in 1850. The value of the housing stock presumably increased, as well.)

Perhaps indicating that he had improved his house beyond his means, Thomas Jones had a financial downfall by mid-century. He appeared on the assessment list of Mill Creek Hundred delinquents in 1849. Not only did he owe money to Justis's estate but he also apparently owed money to John Foote, from whom he had purchased the Stanton property. The record of his payment of that debt is dated November of 1850, a month after the Justis-Jones House was sold to recover the debt owed to Justis's estate. According to a note on the mortgage agreement for the Stanton property, on November 23, 1850, John Foote "acknowledges to have received payment and satisfaction in full for the principal sum of money

⁴¹Carl G. Smith, "Man About Town," *Evening Journal*, June 22, 1970. The article states that the house predated the construction of Newport Gap Pike, though this date is questioned by the 1804 survey of this area, which shows only Yarnell's tavern in this vicinity.

⁴²Frank R. Zebley, *The Churches of Delaware* (Wilmington, DE: F. R. Zebley, 1947), 140.

⁴³Scharf, 919.

⁴⁴Thomas W. Jones was involved with milling, owning a grist mill on White Clay Creek in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Scharf, 924. When he died, he left quite a large estate and farm near McClellandville. Thomas W. Jones, Will Record, 1896 to 1898 (Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

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and the interest”(D5/233). John Foote also acted as assignee for Samuel Glass, the administrator of David Justis’s estate, in the suit against Thomas W. and Hannah P. Jones in Superior Court because of their failure to observe the conditions of their mortgage, owing \$600 plus interest to David Justis’s estate. The defendants, Justis and his wife, confessed judgement, waiving their right to show cause why the mortgage should not be foreclosed and the mortgaged property taken and sold. The property was duly sold on October 22, 1850 for \$1100. On November 27, upon a petition by Henry S. McComb, the Court ordered that the deed be conveyed to McComb by the Sheriff of New Castle County. The description of the property in the court records sheds no light on the buildings, referring simply to the six acres as the same lot of ground Justa Justis in his last will conveyed to David, together with all and singular appurtenances.⁴⁵ The deed record is no more informative, simply recording that McComb purchased a “messuage and lot of land” (Deed G6/143).

Thomas W. Jones paid a poll tax in Mill Creek Hundred in 1852, indicating he was still living in the area, although he no longer owned land. He may have returned to Wilmington by 1854, for the assessment that year recorded a Thomas W. Jones whose occupation was listed as “c.w.” or cordwainer, the same occupation of the Jones who had lived in the Justis-Jones House. He was taxed a \$300 poll tax only. The 1853 Wilmington City Directory also lists Thomas W. Jones, cordw.⁴⁶ By the 1861 assessment, Thomas W. Jones was marked as being delinquent or removed from assessment records.

Intermediate Years, 1850 to 1904

Except for a short period when the house was occupied by its owner, the Justis-Jones House functioned as a tenant house in the second half of the nineteenth century. The only change that seems to have been made in this period was the application of the scored stucco finish over the stone walls. This is suggested by the description of the house as frame in assessment records for the first time in its history in 1861 and continuing through 1869, during Henry S. McComb’s period of ownership (1850-68). The high-style quality of the stucco finish would be in keeping with the new owner’s position in society.

According to Scharf’s *History of Delaware*, by the time Henry S. McComb was twenty-five in 1850 (the year he purchased the Justis-Jones House), “he was recognized as one of the foremost business men of Wilmington,” and by the age of thirty, he had “surpassed nearly all his competitors in trade,” eventually becoming “one of the most extensive manufacturers, in his line, in this country.”⁴⁷ McComb was in the leather trade,⁴⁸ and was heavily involved in real estate in New Castle County, associated with twenty-seven transactions as a seller and forty-three as a buyer in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. During the Civil War, in addition to filling government contracts for tents and knapsacks, McComb raised the 5th Delaware Regiment, paying for its equipment and serving as its colonel, without pay.⁴⁹

⁴⁵Case 159, May Term 1850 and September Term 1850 (New Castle County Superior Court, Prothonotary Records, Record Group 1217, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware), and Case 128, November Term 1850 (New Castle County Superior Court, Execution Dockets, Record Group 1217.24, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware).

⁴⁶*Wilmington Directory*, compiled by William H. Boyd (Wilmington, DE: Joshua T. Heald, 1853).

⁴⁷Scharf, 756.

⁴⁸Henry S. McComb’s account books from his leather business for the years 1869 to 1873 are preserved at the Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware.

⁴⁹Runk, 1094.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

After the war, he purchased six thousand acres of land along the Mississippi Central Railroad in 1870, about one hundred miles from New Orleans. McComb City was developed on this land.⁵⁰ He sold the Justis-Jones House at the time of his increased involvement in the country's railroads. His involvement in this area continued after his sale of this house, however. In 1880, he purchased a controlling interest in the Delaware and Western Railroad.⁵¹ He was described in Scharf as a "successful manufacturer and great railroad operator."⁵²

Henry S. McComb lived in Wilmington at the time of purchase and at the time of the sale of the Justis-Jones House. In the 1860 agricultural census, there were no farms of six acres being farmed in Mill Creek Hundred. Whoever lived in the Justis-Jones House most likely worked on one of the farms or at one of the several mills in the area and probably raised crops for home use. In the assessment records for 1852 and 1857, McComb was taxed \$950 for a stone house and frame shop on six acres in Mill Creek Hundred, essentially the same description of the property that appeared in the assessment record for 1845, except the frame stable was now listed as a frame shop and the assessment had increased from \$500. By contrast, the assessment of McComb's Wilmington properties was \$9,300 in 1857. From 1861 to 1869, McComb was taxed for just 2.5 acres in Mill Creek Hundred containing a frame house valued at \$500. It is not clear why the acreage is less or why the house is described as frame for the first time in its history, although, as noted above, there is the possibility that the house had been stuccoed and that the assessor mistakenly recorded the wrong building material. The decrease in value reflects the decrease in the amount of land being assessed. By 1864, McComb's Wilmington properties were assessed at \$38,300.

George M. Bramble purchased the house from Henry and Elizabeth McComb on October 2, 1868 for \$1850 (Deed T8/403). In 1868, Henry S. McComb was recorded in the assessment records as having transferred three acres, stone house, and frame stable, taxed at \$1350, to George M. Bramble. (It is not clear why the assessment refers to just three acres, when he owned and sold six.) According to his own description in his will, George M. Bramble was a cooper and farmer, residing in Christiana Hundred at the time he wrote his will in 1852.⁵³ Records indicate that he continued to reside there for most of the rest of his life, even after purchasing the Justis-Jones House from McComb. In 1852, Bramble resided in Christiana Hundred where he paid a \$300 poll tax that year, as well as a tax of \$165 for livestock, but no property taxes, indicating that he was not the owner of the house in which he lived. There were no appreciable changes in the 1857 or 1861 assessments. During the 1865 to 1869 assessments, Bramble still owned neither land nor house in Christiana Hundred, where he paid his poll tax, although the assessed value of his livestock had increased to \$350. Bramble did not appear in the Mill Creek Hundred assessment list for the years 1865 to 1869, but he continued to pay a poll tax and tax on his livestock for the years 1868 to 1872 in Christiana Hundred.

In the 1870 population census, Bramble was counted in Mill Creek Hundred. George, age 52, lived with his wife Eliza, age 50. His occupation was described as "trucker" and his wife was described as "keeps

⁵⁰Scharf, 756.

⁵¹Runk, 1094. The Wilmington & Western Railroad had been completed in this area in 1872 (N-4091, NR Listed 1980). In 1877, the railroad was reorganized as the Delaware & Western Railroad. It was purchased by the B & O Railroad in 1883.

⁵²Scharf, 755.

⁵³George M. Bramble, Probate Record, 1890-1892 (Will and Probate Records, RG 2545, Delaware State Archives, Dover, DE, microfilm reel 43).

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

house." Bramble's occupation as a trucker suggests his reasons for purchasing this house and moving to this location conveniently located on the Newport Gap Pike. He was listed as having been born in Maryland and Eliza in Delaware. His real estate was valued at \$1850 and his personal estate at \$350. The order in which he was counted in the census supports the idea that he lived in the Justis-Jones House at this time, for his listing was followed by David Justis's former home, which was then occupied by John B. Robinson (the estate was valued at \$15,000). Bramble's residency in the Justis-Jones House is confirmed in the 1870 Agricultural Census. He was listed for his six acres, which he farmed, producing no wheat crops, two tons of hay, and two hundred bushels of potatoes. He owned livestock valued at \$270, which included one horse, one milch cow, and two swine. His farm produced one hundred pounds of butter. His farm was valued in that census at \$1850, including \$250 in farming implements. Although there were a few others who farmed small tracts in 1870 (many of the small tracts were associated with women), the average number of improved acres per farm in Mill Creek Hundred in 1870 was 70 acres per farm. Because of the small acreage always associated with this house, the farming of these lands was never the primary activity of the house's occupants.

The next year, in 1871, Bramble appeared on the Mill Creek Hundred tax records for the first time. He was taxed \$1350 for three acres, a stone house, and a frame stable. From 1873 to 1885, however, Bramble paid his poll tax in Christiana Hundred, as well as a tax on his livestock. He also paid \$1200 tax in those years on six acres, stone house, and frame stable in Mill Creek Hundred, but no poll tax was paid in that hundred. The idea that he had moved back to Christiana Hundred is corroborated by the 1880 population census records, where he was counted in Christiana Hundred.⁵⁴ In that year, Bramble was listed as being sixty-one years of age. His wife's name was spelled Elisa and her age was reported as sixty two. In their household were three individuals whose relation to Bramble is unknown, John L. White, sixteen years old, Eileen Nealy, twenty-nine years old, and Susan Nealy, four years old. During these years, the Justis-Jones House returned to the tenant house status it had during McComb's period of ownership.

Bramble's will was proven December 2, 1890. The inventory of his estate was most likely for his Christiana property where he lived in 1880 and where he paid his poll tax through the 1880s. He was owed rent by three individuals, Taggart (\$27.00), Eastburn (\$32.25), and Freas (\$134.50).⁵⁵ The inventory includes wood tools that could relate to Bramble's trade as a cooper. His moveable property was appraised at \$130.50 and his total value, including cash received from rents, was \$406.77. Deed records only record two property purchases by Bramble, the Justis-Jones House purchased from McComb in 1868 and a parcel with a two-story brick dwelling in Wilmington, at the northeast corner of Market and 15th Streets, which he purchased in 1864 for \$2000 (Deed Y7/223). There are no deed records for Bramble selling any properties.

The house twice came back into the McComb family through the ill-fate of the owners to whom the McCombs had sold the farm. In 1892, Elizabeth McComb, as Executrix for Henry S., recovered the farm after the death of George Bramble to recoup a debt owed her by Bramble (Deed R15/214). In 1893, she was taxed \$800 for the six acres, stone house, and frame stable. She promptly sold the property to John O. McFarland in 1893 (Deed E16/175), who had resided in this hundred but owned no property at this time, perhaps occupying the Justis-Jones House. McFarland fell into debt to Elizabeth McComb. To recover that debt, Jane E. McComb Winchester, as assignee of Elizabeth, sued McFarland in Superior Court. The Court ordered that the debt be paid out of the farm owned by McFarland, which resulted in Jane E. McComb Winchester owning the farm in 1901 (O18/225).

⁵⁴Soundex Index B651, Delaware State Archives, Dover, Delaware.

⁵⁵Bramble Probate Records.

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Justis-Jones House
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Suburbanization Period, 1904 - 1924

By the end of the century, exciting activities were underway across Newport Gap Pike from the Justis-Jones House. The Brandywine Springs Park had been revitalized as the Brandywine Springs Amusement Park under the management of Richard Crook. Crook was also one of the owners of the trolley line that was extended to the park from Wilmington in 1898.⁵⁶ In addition, Crook was one of the owners of the land south of the park, formerly the lands inherited by David Justis, where a new subdivision, known as the Cedars, was developed. Crook lived in a house located near the former site of David Justis's House.

These changes in transportation and settlement brought about the second major period of the Justis-Jones House's construction when the house was updated and the property subdivided. The Justis-Jones House is significant for the renovations made to the original stone section during this period, renovations that reflect early-twentieth-century movements. The addition of a one-story service wing containing a dining room and kitchen represents the first wave of remodeling trends to modernize the older housing stock; here, the effort was to update in order to incorporate the house into a new suburban environment and realize a greater return on an investment. From 1904 to 1915, the new owner subdivided the property and added the bay window, dining room and small kitchen wing with a side and back porch. From 1915 to 1924, the next owner created a bathroom in the rear wing and added a second floor over part of the wing. For the most part, the additions do not convey any particular architectural style, although they are representative of trends of the early twentieth century. An exception is the shingled, two-story bay window similar to the bay windows that occur on the Queen Anne style houses in this vicinity. The bay window and the front porch reflect the desire of the period to open up the house to the healthful effects of the country air. The sideboard bay is also part of that early-twentieth-century trend, a feature frequently seen in the bungalows of the period. The dining room, with its built-in corner cupboard and bull's eye trim, has an affinity with Colonial Revival movements.

In 1901, the McComb Farm was sold out of the family forever. George F. Thorp of Mill Creek Hundred purchased the farm that year for \$1300 (Deed R18/371), owning the farm for three years. In 1902, he was assessed for seven acres, a stone house, and a frame stable, valued at \$1000, a value and description that indicate that the frame wing had not been added yet. Thorp was living in Wilmington in 1904 when he sold the farm to Harry W. Sherman for \$1900 (Deed B20/282), an increase that probably reflects the increase in property values in this area at this time.

Harry W. Sherman of Wilmington purchased a stone house on about six acres for \$1900 in 1904. In 1915 he sold a stone and frame dwelling on a smaller lot for \$2900, indicating that Sherman had added a frame addition and subdivided the land between 1904 and 1915. In 1906, the assessed value of the six acres with a stone house was \$1700, suggesting that the frame wing had not been added yet. Newspapers pushed up into the crevice in the basement between the junction of the stone section and rear frame wing bear the date October 1, 1907, indicating that the wing existed at least by this date. Based on the documentary evidence, as well as physical evidence and comparisons with other contemporary buildings in this area, it is likely that the bay window, dining room, and small kitchen wing with a side and back porch were added during this first period of the rear wing addition.

By 1909, the assessment records indicate several changes. The six acres with stone house and stable, previously valued at \$1700, were now taxed in two, three-acre lots, each having a value of \$2000. The 1909 assessment also indicates that the area had phone service by this time, for the Delaware & Atlantic

⁵⁶Mark Lawlor, *The Brandywine Springs Amusement Park, Echoes of the Past, 1886-1923* (Newark, DE: M & M Publishing, 1993), 23-34.

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Telegraph and Telephone Company was recorded for its poles. Other changes are evident in the listing of numbered lots in the Cedars.

Sherman's property transactions during this period indicate his intention at the time of purchase to subdivide this land and his participation in the wave of suburbanization that had come to this section of Mill Creek Hundred in 1901 when the development of the Cedars began. Sherman resided in Wilmington at the time of purchase and of sale of the Justis-Jones House. For \$1900, Sherman purchased the Justis-Jones House and about six acres of land on October 31, 1904 (B20/282). The same day, Sherman sold a lot in Mill Creek Hundred to Addie L. Todd of Wilmington, holding a \$1000 mortgage on the property. On the United States Geological Survey map of 1904, The Justis-Jones House is the only property on the west side of Newport Gap Pike between Faulkland Road and Milltown Road. A plan of Hilltop, the property of Harry W. Sherman, was surveyed and drawn in July 1906, dividing the land originally associated with the Justis-Jones House into twenty-one lots, nineteen of which were numbered to be sold. These lots ranged from about fifty to sixty feet wide and about seventy-five to 190 feet in depth. Two large lots were not numbered. The lot containing the Justis-Jones House was adjacent to the subdivided lots. It was about one-hundred-feet wide and extended from Newport Gap Pike through to Milltown Road, about four-hundred-twenty feet. To its north, another lot of the same approximate size was drawn.

In 1907, Sherman began selling these lots in Hilltop. On April 2, 1907, Todd sold back to Sherman lot #1 in Hilltop for \$100 (Deed F21/591). The deed records indicate that this lot # 1 in Hilltop was sold to Harry C. Welch for \$200 on April 1 (Deed D21/537). At this time, Sherman began selling other Hilltop lots. Lots 2 through 5 were sold to Catherine Pyle for \$270 on April 6, 1907 (Deed I21/22), indicating that Sherman did not build houses before selling the land. On May 15, he sold to Charles F. Keen for \$1.00 lots 12 and 13 in Hilltop (Deed L21/69). The 1907 assessment listed one lot in Hilltop, valued at \$100 and owned by Thomas Sprougle. This is the only property identified as Hilltop in this assessment. On May 11, 1907, Sherman took out a mortgage for \$700 and another on January 29, 1908 for \$500 (Referenced in Deed L23/480), held by the Equitable Guarantee and Trust Company. Perhaps this arrangement was to help Sherman fund the construction of houses on the remaining lots, because in 1912 he sold to Laura T. Peoples for \$1050 lots 14 through 19 in Hilltop with buildings on them (W23/135). The deeds do not record the sale of lots 6 through 11. The acreage for which Sherman was assessed changed from a three-acre lot in 1909 through 1912 to one 1.5 acre lot in 1913, still containing a stone house and stable, valued at \$2000, reflecting his sales transactions during these years.

In 1915, Sherman sold the lot containing the stone and frame house to Lida Reynolds for \$2900 (Deed V25/285). Lida Reynolds was living in Wilmington when she purchased the house, and she and her husband were still residing in Wilmington in 1924 when they sold the property for \$5000, quite a bit higher than the \$2900 Lida paid for the property. This increase in value, along with physical evidence and comparison with other properties in the area, indicates that the bathroom was installed at this time and the second floor was added over part of the wing. When a new assessment was made in 1924 after Lida Reynolds sold the property, an outbuilding was assessed in addition to the house and barn. The new outbuilding is probably the garage on the property.

Later History

The property was purchased by William and Elizabeth Wilkinson in 1924 (D33/268). In that year, their property was assessed at \$3,200, up from the \$2,200 on which Lida Reynolds had been assessed. The property was recorded as a frame dwelling, barn, and outbuilding. The increase may be due in part to the addition of the outbuilding but also indicates the improvements made to the house by Lida Reynolds. This assessed value did not change throughout the period of Wilkinson's ownership. (Perhaps the assessment was never updated?) The Wilkinsons sold the property in 1941 for about the same price paid in 1924.

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In 1936, the State Highway Department drew plans for contract No. 298A for road improvements and the addition of sidewalks. The plan shows the stone wall in front of the Wilkinson's property. Although there is a similar stone wall on the other side of Newport Gap Pike, it is not shown on this plan. The Wilkinson's house is described on this highway plan as a two-and-one-half story frame house, again alluding to its stuccoed surface concealing from surveyors its stone construction. A walk extended from the house to the stone wall.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wilkinson sold the property in 1941 to Mrs. Hepsey A. Smead (Deed L42/584). Although State Highway Department Construction Plan for Contract No. 1329, 1955, did not affect this immediate area, the plans depicted the road in front of the Justis-Jones House and show the stone wall with piers on both sides of the street. The sidewalk in front of the Justis-Jones House extends through a break in the stone wall toward the house, which was described as stuccoed.

During the Smead's period of ownership (1941-1968), greenhouses were located in the rear yard and garden products were sold here. The story has passed through the owners that the house still had a rear porch on it at that time, probably in the area over the well and wrapping around the rear of the wing. This one-story space was enclosed to create a larger kitchen and family room, probably by the Smeads, because the next owner, Mrs. Josephine Smith, did not report that she and her husband made this change.

The parcel Sherman had created remained intact until 1968 when the property was sold by the Smeads to William and Josephine Smith (C81/556). The Smiths purchased approximately the same half acre that contains the historic resources today. This parcel extends about halfway to Milltown Road, rather than all the way through as it had in the past. The Smiths owned the property from 1968 to 1981. The Smiths sold the property in 1981 to Joseph Baum and Christine Baver (Deed V114/49), who sold it in 1990 to the Schlotterbacks (Deed 1030 0181). They owned it for five years, when, in 1995, it was purchased by the present owners (Deed 1930 0037), who began to research the property and initiated the process to nominate the house to the National Register.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

Comprehensive Planning

JUSTIS-JONES HOUSE (CRS # N-254)

Geographic Zone: Piedmont

Time Period: 1830-1880 +/-

Theme: Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts

In reference to the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*, this nomination for the Justis-Jones House expands the available information on the architecture historic context in the Piedmont Zone during the 1830-1880 +/- time period. The property provides additional information about houses related to the Justis Family in Mill Creek Hundred, a family connected to the building trade. The property contributes to an understanding of the housing created by the upper class for the laboring class in this agricultural and milling region of New Castle County. Important features of the house add to the body of knowledge about local building practices, particularly the evidence of the change in floor plan, arrangements of room functions in banked houses, and the basement kitchen. Although the basement kitchen has been documented to have occurred in this northern Delaware, southern Pennsylvania Piedmont region, this example, because of the high integrity of its several elements--cooking fireplace, kitchen cupboard, food storage area, and exterior doorways--provides important evidence of the kitchen's several parts and how they were arranged.

Time Period: 1880-1940 +/-

Theme: Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts

In reference to the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*, this nomination for the Justis-Jones House expands the available information on the architecture historic context in the Piedmont Zone during the 1880-1940 +/- time period. The property contributes information about house modernization during the first wave of suburbanization in the Wilmington vicinity.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository :

New Castle County Department of Land Use; Center for Historic Architecture and Design, University of Delaware

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.49001

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	445140	4399260	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name Susan Brizzolara title Assistant Historic Preservation Planner
organization Department of Land Use, New Castle County date April 9, 1998
street & number 87 Read's Way, Corporate Commons telephone (302) 395-5400
city or town New Castle state DE zip code 19720-1648

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Justis-Jones House (0.46 acres):

name Daniel E. and Mary Ann Summers
street & number 2606 Newport Gap Pike telephone (302) 998-2278
city or town Wilmington state DE zip code 19808

Newport Gap Pike Right-of-Way (0.03001 acres):

name Anne Canby, Secretary of Transportation, Delaware Department of Transportation
street & number P.O. Box 778 telephone (302) 652-5600
city or town Dover state DE zip code 19903

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

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Justis-Jones House
New Castle County, DE

Geographical Data

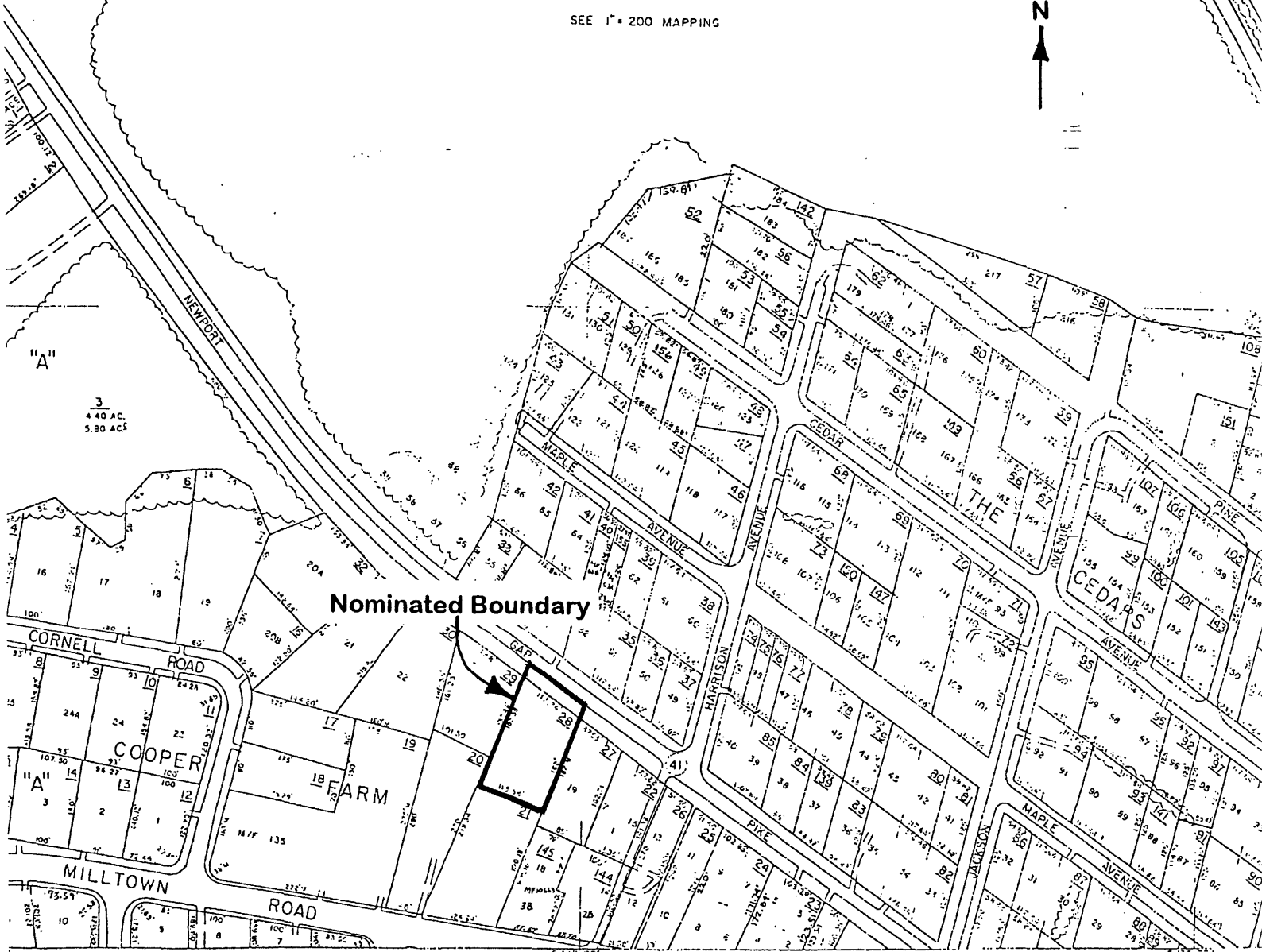
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated boundary for the Justis-Jones House is the boundary line around the legal parcel on which the house is located, except on Newport Gap Pike, where the boundary lies outside the existing right-of-way for that road, following the present edge of the road for the most part. The nominated boundary is outlined in a bold, black line on the accompanying map, "New Castle County Property Tax Map, Revised 6/9/1993." The outlined area includes the parcel 08-033.30-028 containing 0.46 acres and lands outside the existing right of way containing 0.03001 acres. The nominated boundary is shown in greater detail on the accompanying map, "Detail of Nominated Boundary at Curb Line." The nominated boundary seen on this map lies approximately eleven feet, eight inches outside the existing right-of-way along Newport Gap Pike.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the legal parcel were chosen as the nominated boundary because they contain the contributing resources (the house, garage, and wall). Part of the right-of-way is included in the boundary because it contributes to the historic setting and lies on one of the contributing resources, the stone wall. The boundary along Newport Gap Pike is seen on "Detail of Nominated Boundary at Curb Line," on which existing measurements have been added to the State Department of Transportation Construction Plan for Contract 79-061-01, Sheet 5A, drawn in 1980. As seen on that map, the right-of-way line lies on the stone wall and approximately 12 feet, 1 inch from the northeast corner of the front wall of the house, and approximately 5 feet, 6 inches from the northeast corner of the front porch. Currently, the edge of the concrete sidewalk and beginning of the macadam surface of Newport Gap Pike is 18 feet, 8 inches from the east end of the front porch. Although the house has historically been close to road, the setting would be diminished and the stone wall would be jeopardized if the boundary were drawn on the right-of-way line. In order to protect the integrity of the historic resources, the nominated boundary line is drawn outside of the existing right-of-way line, as indicated above, and not on the right-of-way line.

SEE 1" = 200 MAPPING



JUSTIS-JONES HOUSE
CRS # N-254
New Castle County Property Tax Map
Revised 6/9/1993
Parcel 08-033.30-028
Scale 1" = 100'

CONTRACT WITH 877846

F.C.E. = 70085

H. DAVET

F.C.E. = 67585

BEGIN CURB (P.C.C. TYPE I MOD. SEE BELOW)

JUSTIS-JONES HOUSE
CRS # N-254

DETAIL OF NOMINATED BOUNDARY AT CURB LINE

State Highway Department
Contract 79-061-01, Sheet 5A

1980

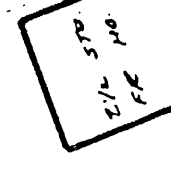
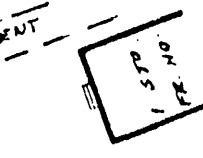
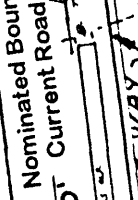
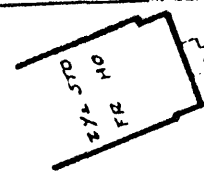
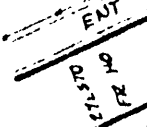
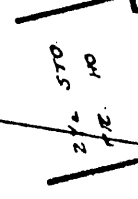
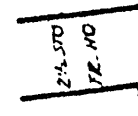
Scale 1" = 50'



ALLEN HEWNS

ALLEN HEWNS

JELKINS



Nominated Boundary & 20' Current Road Edge 11.29' 30' 0.03001 acres

Nominated Boundary & Current Road Edge

EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY

EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY

Stone Wall

JUSTIS-JONES HOUSE

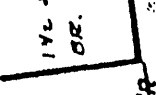
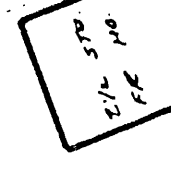
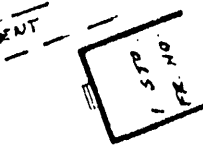
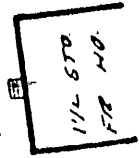
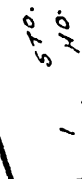
Existing measurements taken from front wall of house, fall 1997

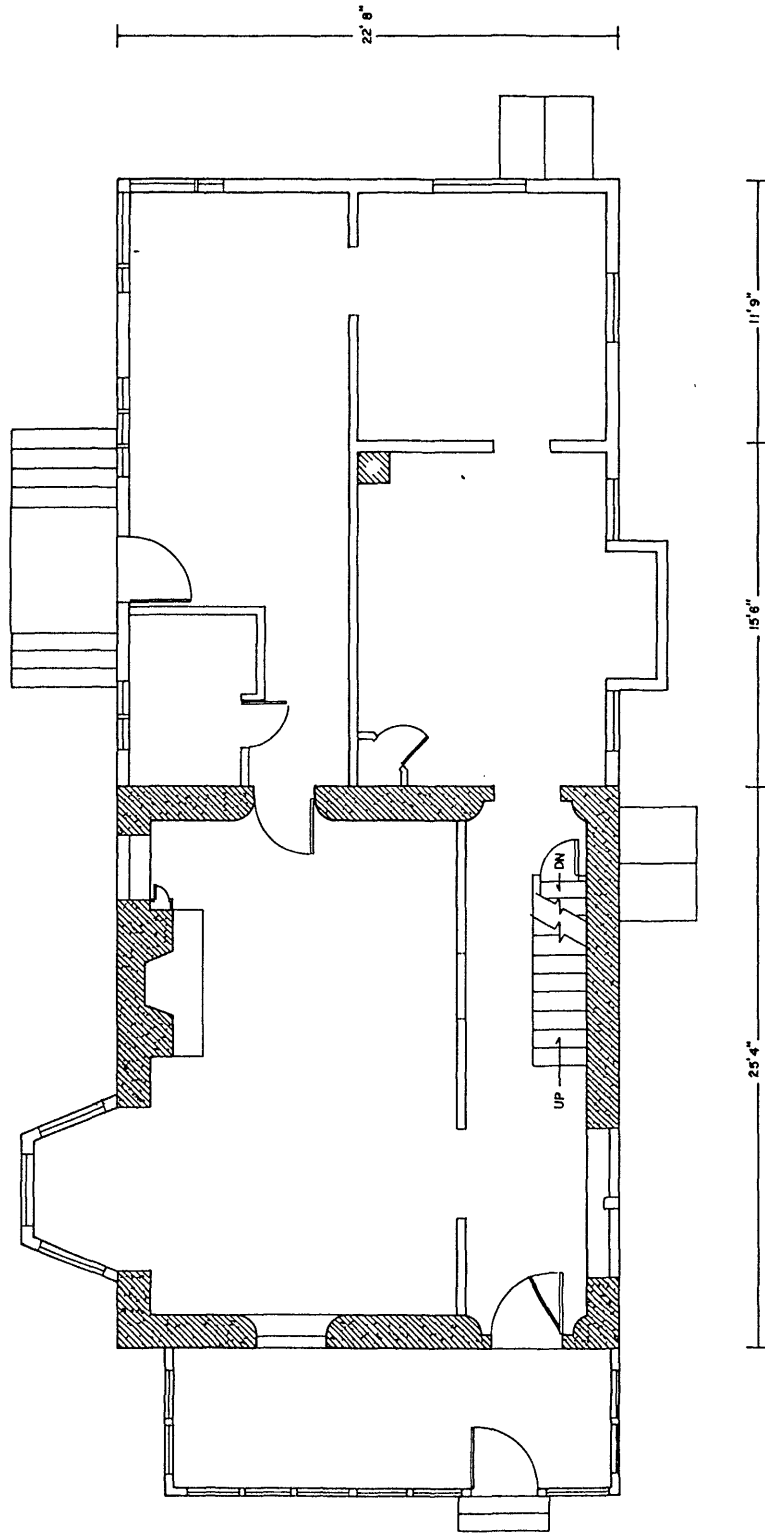
3.2 S.M.F.D.

2.5 FEELERS

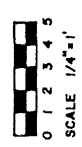
NEWPORT GAP PIKE

HARRISON AVE.





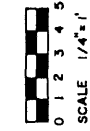
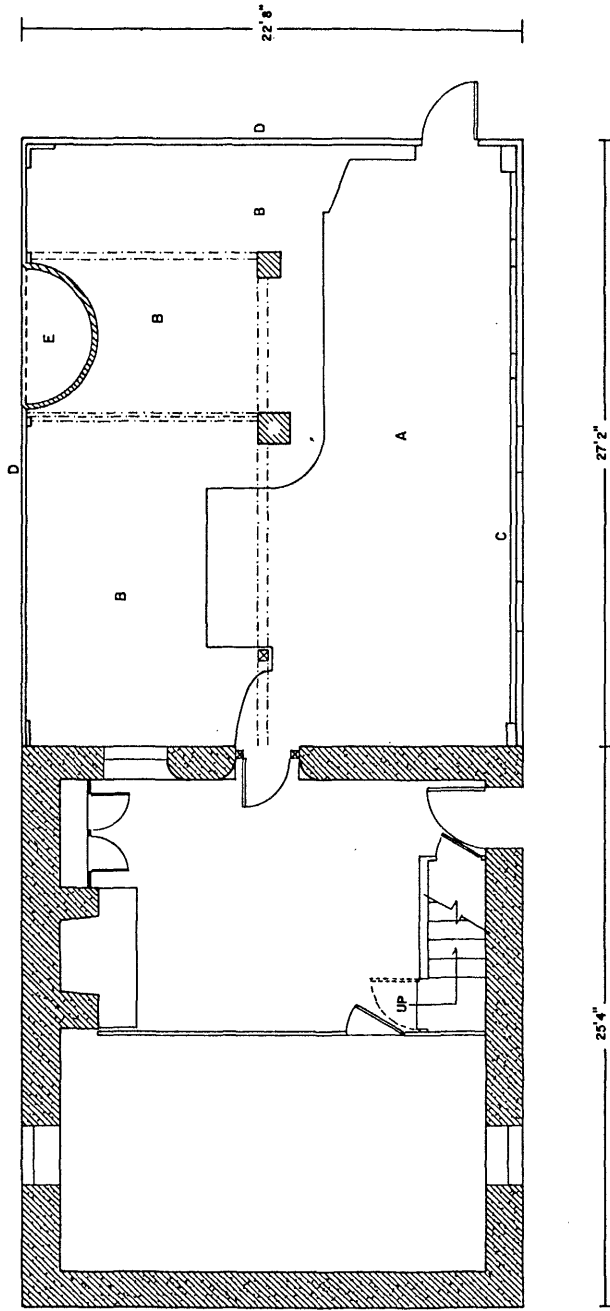
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



JUSTIS - JONES HOUSE, (N-254)

2606 NEWPORT GAP PIKE
 MILL CREEK HUNDRED, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE
 DRAWN BY: SUSAN BRIZZOLARA & JEROEN VAN DEN HURK 1998

STONE SECTION CIRCA 1840
 FRAME SECTION 1ST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY



CELLAR PLAN

- A. FULLY EXCAVATED
- B. CRAWL SPACE
- C. BRICK FOUNDATION
- D. BRICK PIERS, CONCRETE BLOCK INFILL
- E. WELL
- ██████████ STONE SECTION CIRCA 1840
- ▭ FRAME SECTION 1ST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY

JUSTIS-JONES HOUSE, (N-254)
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