

PH0507504

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 18 1977
DATE ENTERED MAY 22 1978

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Lawrence

AND/OR COMMON Lawrence

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER N of Seaford on
U. S. 13 Alternate

CITY, TOWN Seaford VICINITY OF One CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Delaware CODE 10 COUNTY Sussex CODE 003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Culver

STREET & NUMBER Lawrence, Route 13A

CITY, TOWN Seaford VICINITY OF Delaware STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET & NUMBER The Circle

CITY, TOWN Georgetown STATE Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Histroic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE 1961 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN Washington STATE D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Lawrence was built around 1840 of frame, possibly incorporating an earlier house in its south wing.

The main block of the house, with its gabled end facing the street, is marked by four square columns, which support a plain pediment. Under the portico is a three-bay facade. On the first floor, two windows and a door, each better than ten feet high, light the hallway and front parlor. Smaller windows above light the master bedroom. To the north is a small office wing, also colonnaded in imitation of the main portico. The south wing, which is the front of the service module, has a simpler front porch. The kitchen, dining room, and other service rooms are in the south wing, which extends to the rear as an ell. On the back, a large porch extends around the main house and the service wing inside the arms of the ell.

Small windows for a third story under the roof of the main block are found on the sides. Original shutters survive on most of the openings.

One enters the main house through a side hall in the main block. To the left are the two parlors; to the right is a door to the office wing porch. The back door of the hallway opens into the back porch. A staircase occupies the back of the hallway.

Between the two parlors is a sliding door, possibly an addition.

The slate mantels in the parlors have been painted to match the woodwork, but they have not been altered. Wooden mantels elsewhere in the house are quite simple, but entirely original.

The interior trim in the house is classic in detail, and severely plain. No corner blocks are employed in the windows or doors, and even the simple Greek ogee is used sparingly.

Hardware in the house represents an inventory of the finest materials available during the period. The closet door locks are small, carpenter-type latches without keyholes or bolts. The main door locks are iron rimblocks with retracting bolts. Brass knobs survive throughout. Downstairs are nineteenth-century mortise locks with elaborate filigree patterns that may have been an early addition. Since these mortise locks all match, even in the sliding doors, they may have been added at one time.

The house is set in a landscaped park in an agricultural area a few miles north of Seaford.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lawrence is a nearly-complete surviving example of the classic period in American domestic architecture. Details, including hardware, flooring, trim, and landscaping, survive throughout the house and grounds.

The temple form was unusual in Delaware, even for public buildings. In domestic structures, few temple fronts were built and fewer survive. Because this building radically departs in nearly every detail from the vernacular architecture then prevalent in the area, it probably was the product of an outside designer.

Nearly all the details of the trim have survived intact. Aside from electrification, heating, plumbing, and new concrete porch decks, alterations have been negligible.

Lawrence was built by Charles Wright, the youngest son of Joshua Wright of Dorchester County Maryland. A shipper and trader, Charles came to Seaford at the height of its prosperity. He built Lawrence for his second wife, Eliza Ann Mastin, whom he married in 1839.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Eberlein and Hubbard, Historic Houses and Buildings of Delaware, 1963.
 Betty Harrington Macdonald, Historic Landmarks of Delaware and the Eastern Shore, 1963.
 Federal Writers Project, Delaware, A Guide to the First State, 1933.
Intrastate Water Resources Survey, 1959.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Latitude: 38°39'^{23"} 43
 Longitude: 75°36'04"

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY about two
 UTM REFERENCES

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is the immediate environment of the house, bounded by border hedges on the north and south, the highway on the east, and the back of the domestic yard on the west.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

DATE

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

May, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

(302) 678-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Dover,

STATE

Delaware

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Lauren G. Seny

TITLE Director, Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

11/14/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

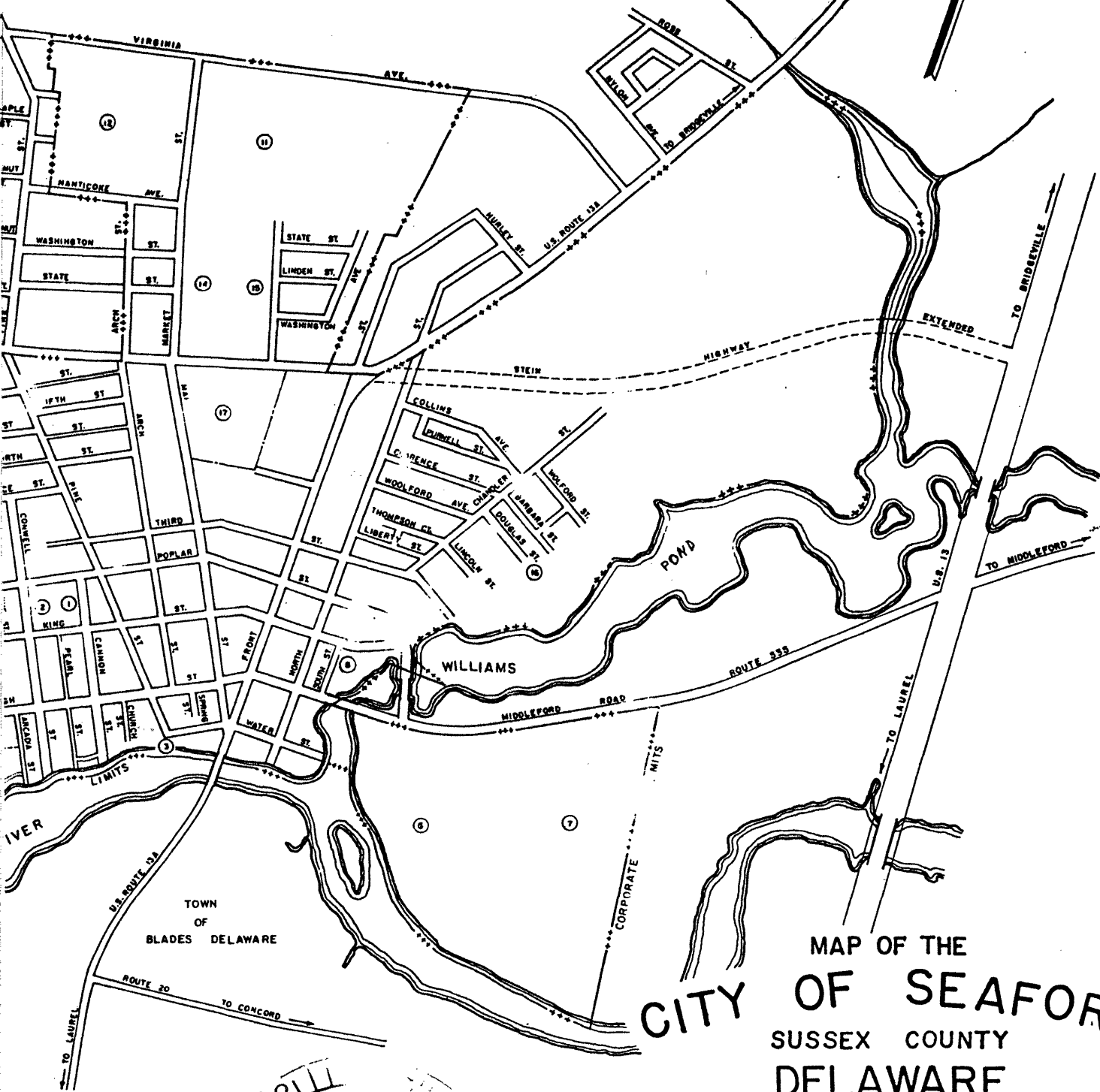
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST Walter W. Cole DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ANCHORAGE OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 DATE 5-22-78
 DATE 4-26-78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Sketch Map

S-194
9/77

LAWRENCE



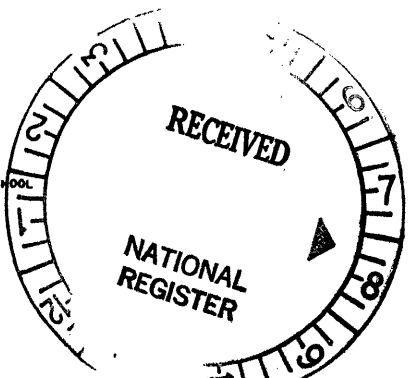
MAP OF THE CITY OF SEAFORD SUSSEX COUNTY DELAWARE

PREPARED BY
CLARKE GARDNER & PERCY STERLING
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
SALISBURY, MD.

SCALE - FEET
0 500 1000

JULY - 1966

- ① SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
- ② CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- ③ WEST SEAFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- ④ CENTRAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
- ⑤ KATIE HANDY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- ⑥ FRED DOUGLAS SCHOOL
- ⑦ CEMETERY



REVISIONS		
11/66	1/68	4/69