

PH002 1458

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 1 1972

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Duck Creek Village

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Salisbury

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Delaware Route #65, between Duck Creek and Green's Branch

CITY OR TOWN:  
Northwest of Smyrna on Duck Creek, Duck Creek Hundred

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: Kent	CODE 001
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress.
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____
			Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>Museum</u> <u>planned</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
State of Delaware, Public Archives Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN:  
Dover

STATE:  
Delaware

CODE:  
10

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Kent County Court House, Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
The Green

CITY OR TOWN:  
Dover

STATE:  
Delaware

CODE:  
10

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
A List Of Delaware Heritage Buildings And Areas In New Castle County

DATE OF SURVEY:  
\_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Historic Areas Committee, Greater Wilmington Development Council

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN:  
Wilmington

STATE:  
Delaware

CODE:  
10

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

During the first three quarters of the eighteenth century Duck Creek Village, also called Salisbury, was a thriving community. By the time of the Revolution it had three churches, a mill with a nearby miller's house, and an undetermined number of other dwellings. In the later eighteenth century Duck Creek Cross Roads, now Smyrna, approximately a mile to the southeast, began to rival Salisbury and eventually eclipsed it. In the middle twentieth century only the mill and the miller's house remained.

"The Lindens", the former miller's house, is a two story and attic brick dwelling, five bays in width, its brickwork laid in Flemish bond, with a shingled gambrel roof. Its woodwork is good. Now fully restored and appropriately furnished, it is open for exhibition.

A plank house on a brick foundation, one storey and attic, with a steep shingled roof and overhanging eaves, has been placed near "The Lindens". It has only one room on each level, a steep open stairway, and a fireplace in the center of the gable end. This structure, when moved from North Main Street in Smyrna in 1961, approximately a mile distant, was in a neglected but still basically sound condition. It also has been fully restored.

A gristmill, 80 feet x 100 feet, now out of operation but restorable, with subsidiary buildings, stands at the foot of the millpond, also near "the Lindens". The Old Duck Creek Village area includes the pond and its banks. Future plans call for renovating the mill as a museum devoted to regional history, and the development of an outdoor recreation area in addition to the historical enclave.

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**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Old Duck Creek Village offers an architecturally valuable example of a master craftsman of the middle eighteenth century, contrasted with the simpler quarters characteristic of less affluent working families and a somewhat earlier period. The miller's house is on its original site near the mill. The plank house is a rare survival of an architectural type intermediate between log and frame.

The community of which "The Lindens" and its mill are survivals is the oldest in northern Kent County. It had begun before 1705, near where Kings Highway crossed Duck Creek. A gristmill and bolting mill had been established before 1717. The site remained in constant use for manufacturing, usually the processing of wheat and corn, until the middle twentieth century. The present mill is approximately a hundred years old. A Friends Meeting (1705), a Church of England chapel (c.1740) and a Presbyterian Church (1773), all on or near the the village tract, are now represented only by their cemeteries.

The existing buildings provide an adequate visual basis for an interpretation of eighteenth century village life in the area. The site as a whole indicates the economic factors controlling the original placement and the survival of communities. It also provides space for the reconstruction of a larger portion of the village should that later be feasible. The planned outdoor recreation facilities will greatly increase the number of potential visitors.

"The Lindens" is operated by the the Duck Creek Historical Society under lease from the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. Similar public-private and State-local cooperation will be continued and expanded as the site developes.



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History Of Delaware, by J. Thomas Scharf, Philadelphia 1888, Vol.II, p.1093-1094, 1096-1098.  
Historic Houses And Buildings Of Delaware, by Harold Donaldson Eberlein and Courtlandt V.D. Hubbard, Dover, 1962, pp. 1,5, and 7.  
The Angelican Church In Delaware, by Nelson Waite Rightmeyer, Philadelphia, 1947, 148, 149

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39 ° 18 ' 35 "	75 ° 37 ' 35 "		0 ' ' "	0 ' ' "	
NE	39 ° 18 ' 37 "	75 ° 37 ' 57 "				
SE	39 ° 18 ' 23 "	75 ° 38 ' 01 "				
SW	39 ° 18 ' 19 "	75 ° 37 ' 39 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 34.3

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Delaware	10	Kent	001
Delaware	10	New Castle	003
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Leon deValinger, Jr., State Archivist

ORGANIZATION: Public Archives Commission      DATE: Jan.28, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover      STATE: Delaware      CODE:

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name Leon deValinger

Title State Liaison Officer

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Ernest A. Connolly  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 1 1972

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
John MacLeod  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date Jan 12, 1972

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