NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. Aug. 2002)

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 Woman's Christian Temperance Union Fountain
other names/site number CRS# S11837
=======================================
2. Location
street & number Boardwalk at Rehoboth Avenue not for publication city or town Rehoboth Beach vicinity
state Delaware code DE county Sussex code 05 zip code 19971
scate <u>Delaware</u> code <u>DB</u> — councy <u>Subsex</u> code <u>05</u> — 21p code <u>15571</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National
Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional
comments.)
Halon Tran)- Malog
Signature of certifying official Date
Biginature of certifying griffing
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government
bears of federal injury of federal streaming
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register
criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
cliteria. (bee continuation bleet for addressing comments.)
Signature of commenting official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

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	11.0	
removed from the National Register		
other (explain):	0	
Other (explain).	1) 1 1	. 1
	Katilla Andrus	2/28/2009
	Tutting / Iriams	2/00/2001
	Signature of Keeper	Date
		of Action
5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check as many box	es as apply)	
private		
X public-local		
public-State		
public-Federal		
public-redelar		
Catamana of Dunmanter (Charle only one how	Y	
Category of Property (Check only one box	1	
building(s)		
district		
site		
structure		
X object		
Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing Noncontributing		
0 0 buildings		
0 0 sites		
0 0 structure	g	
1 0 objects	9	
1		
		The state of the s
Number of contributing resources previou	sly listed in the Nati	onal
Register 0		
Name of related multiple property listin	g (Enter "N/A" if prop	erty is not part of
multiple property listing.) N/A		

Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Landscape Sub: Street Furniture/Object

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Landscape Sub: Street Furniture/Object

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Other: Rough Ashlar Dressed Stone Water Fountain

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Rough Ashlar dressed stone

roof N/A

walls Rough Ashlar dressed stone

other

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

Physical Description

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union Fountain is located at the foot of Rehoboth Avenue on the boardwalk perpendicular to the street in the beach resort community of Rehoboth Beach, Sussex County, Delaware. This object is a stone drinking fountain placed in a prominent location, in the public space at the foot of the main street where it intersects with the ocean in this former Methodist Camp community. Oriented parallel to the coastline, the drinking fountain has had few alterations made to it and retains a high degree of integrity.

The WCTU Fountain is a simply designed object is built of rough ashlar granite block construction generally rectangular in footprint and composed of an arch set on top of a base, the top section composed of three blocks of stone, an arch shaped block set on two rectangular stones. The intrados of the arch is of smooth ashlar finish. The fountain is 6 ½ tall, 32" wide and 12" deep. The spigot is placed between the arch blocks on a piece of white marble 17" wide. A rough aggregate concrete step 18"x24"x10" was placed along the ocean side at a later date to assist children in reaching the spigot.

The front facade of the fountain faces the ocean. Set into this eastern face is a brass dedication plaque, rectangular in shape, twelve by six inches. The plaque text reads: Erected by WCTU; Rehoboth Beach; 1929. The north and south faces of the fountain, the narrowest elevations, are identical, unadorned rough stone and slightly flared at the base. The street side, west elevation, of the fountain resembles the ocean side but without the dedication plaque.

The major alteration to the fountain was the replacement of the original spigot with a bubbler head which appears to have been changed in the last few years. However the white marble splash block and central brass drain appear to be original.

Applicable Nat	======================================
<u>X</u> _A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
В	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 Consi	derations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
В	removed from its original location.
с	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 Signi	ficance (Enter categories from instructions) Social History
Period of Sign	ificance <u>1929-1958</u>
Significant Da	tes <u>1929</u>
Significant Pe	rson (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A
Cultural Affil	iation N/A
Architect/Buil	der <u>Unknown</u>
Narrative State	ement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one

8. Statement of Significance

or more continuation sheets.)

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

Statement of Significance

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) fountain, located on the Boardwalk at the foot of Rehoboth Avenue in the former Methodist camp meeting community of Rehoboth Beach in Sussex County, Delaware, is the last surviving physical object to recognize the important contributions of this woman's organization to the history of Delaware. Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, the WCTU Temperance fountain represents this important women's civic organization who took a prominent role in promoting social welfare causes in Delaware from the 1870s to the 1960s. This fountain, erected in 1929 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Delaware branch of this national organization, reflects the heart of the mission of this organization: to promote abstinence from alcohol as symbolized by providing water as an alternative. The WCTU fountain has not been substantially changed since its placement in 1929 and retains its architectural integrity. It is being nominated at the state level of significance.

Background

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union had its beginnings in the early 1870s and remains a functioning organization today. The historical narrative as described on the WCTU web site summarizes their beginnings as follows:

In many towns in Ohio and New York in the fall of 1873 women concerned about the destructive power of alcohol met in churches to pray and then marched to the saloons to ask the owners to close their establishments. They met with success but it was only temporary so by the next summer the women concluded that they must become organized nationally. This led to the founding of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union - the oldest continuing non-sectarian woman's organization in the world.¹

Delaware women were interested in the temperance cause, forming the Women's Temperance Union of Delaware in 1874 that required members pledge to keep all forms of intoxicating liquors out of their homes. Members of this organization took an activist stand seemingly modeling their behavior after the women Crusaders in Ohio, petitioning the legislature to outlaw alcohol for other than medicinal purposes, and visiting saloons. An internal leadership crisis precipitated the organization disbanding in 1877.²

1 http://www.wctu.org/history.html captured on February 21, 2008.

² Anna Downham Weldin, <u>Background and History of Delaware Woman's Christian Temperance Union.</u> Typewritten booklet. c.1969. p.2 In pamphlet collection of the Historical Society of Delaware.

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

Building on the earlier interest, in 1877 Frances Willard, National President of the WCTU came to Delaware and focused on organizing town chapters of the national organization in Wilmington, Middletown and Dover. By 1880 there were nine town WCTU chapters across the state who responded to a request from the Wilmington chapter to hold a state-wide convention in Grace Church (Methodist) Chapel in Wilmington on October 15, 1880. Frances Willard returned to Delaware to run the meeting. The Convention formally agreed to be an affiliated state-level organization with the national WCTU and Sarah Bringhurst was elected president.³

In 1882 the national WCTU focused on developing subsidiary groups to organize young people interested in the temperance cause at the state and local levels. Delaware unions followed suit and youth groups called the Loyal Temperance Legion and the Young Woman's Christian Temperance Union were established in communities with established WCTU unions.

By1890, the Delaware WCTU had over 700 members with 13 individual unions in New Castle County alone. Unions were organized by geography, age, and other interests. There were 17 Young WCTU chapters (YWCTUs) and a Mother's Union in Wilmington had a membership of 225. Chapters were segregated. Wilmington, Middletown and Newport had separate unions for African-American women. Six unions ran reading rooms focused and the state Union was looking for a building to purchase as a headquarters. ⁴

Following the lead of the national organization, the Delaware WCTU organized committees or departments focused on specific issues of interest to the larger group. The decade of the 1890s was a particularly successful one for social reform in Delaware and the WCTU was part of that. Annual reports of the organization list the various activities of interest including: spreading the doctrine of temperance and Christianity through literature distribution, promoting a "Scientific" temperance curriculum in public schools, women's suffrage, and prison reform. Another early focus of effort of the Delaware WCTU was a department called "Social Purity" which focused on creating an industrial school for girls to remove young, impressionable women from the general population of the prison system and provide for an opportunity to learn a skill and rehabilitate. A similar school for boys, the Ferris School, was established in 1885 with the same aim for young men. Seen as an important need, and aligned with churches, prominent Delaware social reformers and other women's groups, the WCTU

³ A charter and bylaws were adopted allowing individual chapters to not be bound by decisions of the state chapter but to follow the lead of the national organization. "Annual Report of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Delaware" 1892, 1893. Delaware Public Archives, Record Group 1501 Series 036, Records of the Delaware Industrial School for Girls.

⁴ Eventually the reading room run by the Wilmington WCTU at 801 N. 8th Street was purchased by the State Union. This building was demolished for a parking lot for the adjacent church by 1997.

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

cooperated in an effort to lobby the legislature for the creation of the Delaware Industrial School for Girls. In 1891 at the State's annual WCTU convention, held in Smyrna, a resolution was passed to exercise political pressure to improve the lot of women and girls in the state prison system.

Whereas, we have recently seen the necessity of an institution of the nature of a State Industrial School for girls and women, therefore, be it resolved, That we proceed to take active measures to bring the attention of our law-makers to this matter, and to prepare a bill to be placed before our Legislature providing for enactment and appropriations to that end, which we believe to be requisite, from the fact that girls and women in our state are committed to jails and prisons which are unfit for their incarceration."

Time was right for this reform effort and it was quickly successful. The Delaware Legislature chartered the Delaware Industrial School for Girls in April 1893. Subsequent annual reports of the school indicate the various unions from across the state continued to support the Industrial School through annual donations of supplies, materials, food and funds. Women who claimed leadership positions with the WCTU also held prominent positions on their board of trustees.

Fountains and the National WCTU

The National WCTU provided the overall direction for the individual unions in the state. One of the first national initiatives was to build temperance fountains across the country. In November, 1874 the first national meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was held in Cleveland, Ohio. At this meeting it was decided that a project for the WCTU would be to erect water fountains in cities.

At the 1874 organizing convention of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the members were urged to erect drinking fountains in their towns so that men could get a drink of water without entering saloons and staying for stronger drinks. Often the drinking fountains that were erected offered a place for horses to drink, another place for dogs, and of course, a place for humans to drink.⁶

⁵ Anna Downham Weldin, <u>Background and History of Delaware Woman's Christian Temperance Union.</u> Typewritten booklet. c.1969. p.9 In pamphlet collection of the Historical Society of Delaware.

⁶ http://www.wctu.org/fountains.html captured on February 21, 2008.

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

Fountains were erected across the country. A recent informal survey by the WCTU identified 61 surviving fountains across the world erected by the WCTU including 24 states in the U.S. with Canada, Australia and England also represented. Most states had only one identified fountain but California leads with the largest number at eleven and Massachusetts is second at eight. One WCTU fountain, placed in Shenandoah, Iowa, was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The history of the national organization called "The White Ribbon Story" pictures a sampling of fountains from across the country and includes the fountain at Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.⁷

Unfortunately, the WCTU Temperance Fountain is the only surviving property at which to recognize the contributions of this important organization. The entire campus of Woods-Haven Kruse School, as the Delaware Industrial School for Girls was later known, near Claymont, Delaware was demolished in the late 1990s for a county park. The headquarters building for the State WCTU was located at 801 8th Street and it was demolished by 1997 for a parking lot for the adjacent church. Therefore, this simple fountain is the best surviving property to best represent the history of the WCTU in Delaware.

⁷ Sarah F. Ward. "The White Ribbon Story: 125 Years of Service to Humanity" Evanston, Ill.: Signal Press, WCTU. 1999, p.156.

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 5

WCTU Temperance Fountain

name of property

Sussex County, Delaware

county and State

Comprehensive Planning

Zone:

Theme:

Coastal

Time Period:

1880-1940+/-: Urbanization and Early Suburbanization

Community Organizations/ Volunteer and Charitable

Architecture, Engineering and Decorative Arts/ Landscape Architecture

Property Type:

Drinking Fountain

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 X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University X Other Name of repository: Delaware Historical Society
10. Geographical Data
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1 18 439406 4285325 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.)

name/title	Robin L. Krawitz, Historian
organization	Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
date	February 21, 2008
street & number	21 The Green telephone (302) 736-7411
city or town	Dover state Delaware zip code 19901
Additional Docum	mentation
==========	
Submit the follo	owing items with the completed form:
Continuation She	eets
Maps	
	(7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
_	ap for historic districts and properties having large acreage
	s resources.
Photographs	
	tive black and white photographs of the property.
Additional items	s (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)
Property Owner	
(Complete this i	tem at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
G F	City Managan, City of Robobath Boach
name Gregory Fer	rese, City Manager; City of Rehoboth Beach
street & number	229 Rehoboth Avenue telephone (302) 227-4641
city or town Re	ehoboth Beach state <u>DE</u> zip code 19971
Paperwork Reduction	Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National
Register of Histori	c Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to
	d to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit
	the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal uct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information
-3 I I com	

unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 1

WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- "Annual Address of Mrs. M. Evelyn Killen, President, Delaware Women's Christian Temperance Union at Fiftieth Annual Convention, Dover, Delaware." Peoples Christian Church, Dover. October 16, 1929.
- "Annual Report of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Delaware" 1892, 1893. Delaware Public Archives, Record Group 1501 Series 036, Records of the Delaware Industrial School for Girls.
- "Delaware Convention", The Union Signal.
- <u>For God and Home and Native Land.</u> Minutes of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, at the Tenth Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan, October 31 to November 3rd, 1883. Cleveland, OH: Home Publishing Company, 1883.
- Jacobsen, James E. Women's Christian Temperance Union Public Fountain, (Shenandoah, Iowa) National Register of Historic Places nomination. 1984
- Osborne, Lori. <u>Woman's Christian Temperance Union Administration Building</u>, (Evanston, Illinois) National Register of Historic Places nomination. 2002.
- Ward, Sarah F. The White Ribbon Story: 125 Year of Service to Humanity. Evanston, Ill.: Signal Press, Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 1999.
- Weldin, Anna Downham. <u>Background and History of Delaware Woman's Christian Temperance Union</u>. Typewritten booklet. c.1969. In pamphlet collection of the Historical Society of Delaware.
- Woman's Christian Temperance Union. History from Web Site: http://www.wctu.org/fountains.html captured on February 21, 2008. http://www.wctu.org/history.html captured on February 21, 2008.

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OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 1-31-2009)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

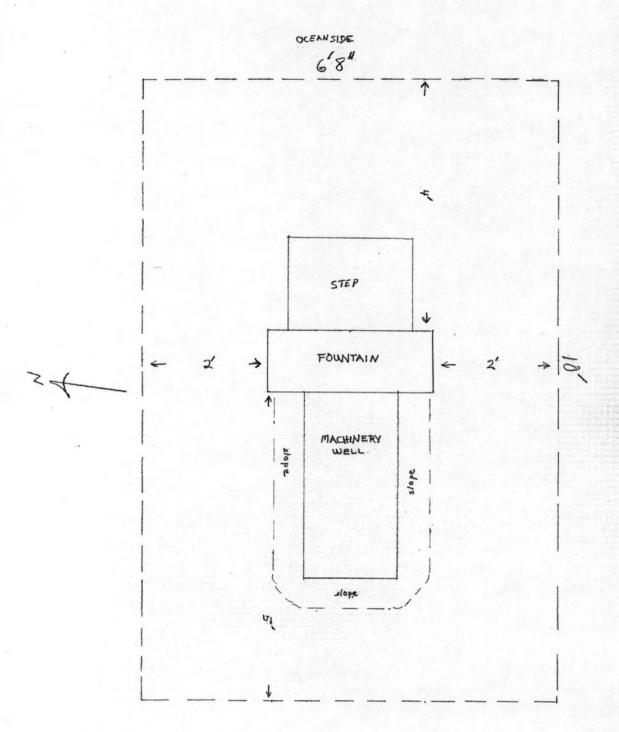
WCTU Temperance Fountain name of property Sussex County, Delaware county and State

Boundary Description

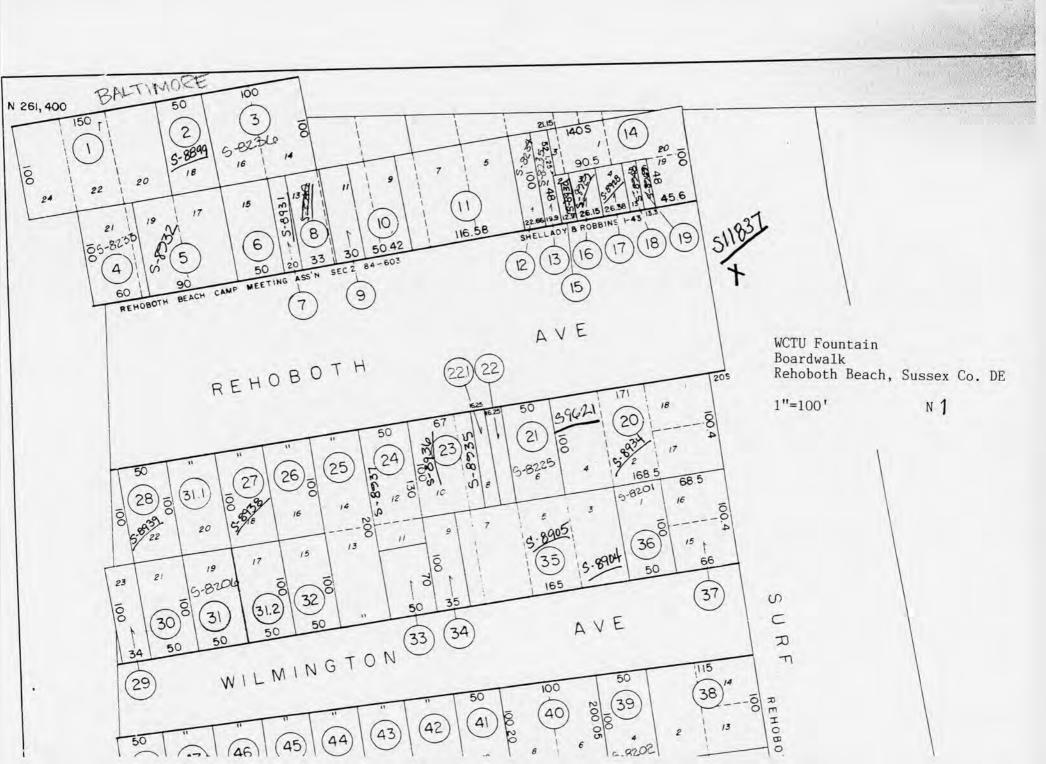
The boundaries for the WCTU Temperance Fountain are measured from the stone foundation base, 5 feet to the east, 2 feet to the south, 4 feet to the east, and 2 feet to the north.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes only the fountain and its working parts. Because the surrounding area of the boardwalk was completely rebuilt during 2007, this arbitrary boundary represents the minimum area containing the fountain without including any of the nearby modern signs and structures.



5-11837	
WCTU Fountain	
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware	curb
Boundary sketch	
Scale: 0 5	REHODOTH AVENUE
DHCX - AHG	
March 2009	



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION	N
PROPERTY Women's Christian NAME:	n Temperance Union Fountain
MULTIPLE NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: DELAWARE, St	ussex
DATE RECEIVED: 1/16/09 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/17/09 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/02/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/01/09
REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000956	9900052
Appeal: N Data Problem: N Other: N PDIL: N Request: Y Sample: N	Landscape: N Less than 50 Years: N Period: N Program Unapproved: N SLR Draft: N National: N
Comment Waiver: N	
ACCEPTRETURN	REJECT 2/28/2009 _DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:	

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER Patrik Andres Discipline Historian

DATE 2/28/2009

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the $\ensuremath{\mathtt{NPS}}$



WCTU Fountain Boardwalk Rehaboth Beach, Sussex County, DE Photo By: Robin Kvanvitz 12/2008 Setting of Fourtin on Boardwalk, Facing NE Photo lof4



WCTU Fountain Boardwalk Rehoboth Beach, Sussex Bunty, DE Photo By: Robin Krawitz 12/2008 Front of Fourtain, East Elevation, Facing NW Photo 2054



WCTU Fountain Boardwalk Rehoboth Beach, Sussex Courty, DE Photo by: Robin Krawitz 12/2008 Rear of Fourtain, West Elevation, Facing NE Photo 3094



WOTH FOUNTain Boardwalk Rehoboth Beach, Sussex Co., DE Photoby: Robin Krawitz 12/2008 Detail, Dedication Plague on East Elevation Facing West. Photo 4054



State of Delaware Historical and Cultural Affairs

21 The Green Dover, DE 19901-3611

Phone: (302) 736.7400

Fax: (302) 739.5660

January 14, 2009

Dr. Janet Snyder Matthews, Keeper National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 2280 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. Washington D.C. 20005



Dear Dr. Matthews:

Enclosed please find the following nominations for listing on the National Register of Historic Places:

John Carney Agricultural Complex, Greenville Vicinity, New Castle County, DE Rosemont, 15 ½ Cragmere Road, Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, DE Woman's Christian Temperance Union Fountain, Rehoboth Beach, Sussex County, DE

If there are any questions regarding these documents, please contact Joan Larrivee, Architectural Historian for the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office at (302) 736-7400.

Sincerely,

Stephen Marz, Deputy Director

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures



State of Delaware Historical and Cultural Affairs

21 The Green Dover, DE 19901-3611

Phone: (302) 736.7400

Fax: (302) 739.5660

March 19, 2009

Mr. Patrick Andrus National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 2280 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. Washington D.C. 20005 09000052



RE: Boundary Descriptions for Rosemont and WCTU Fountain

Dear Patrick:

I am enclosing the verbal boundary descriptions and justifications (Section 10) for Rosemont in New Castle County and for the Women's Christian Temperance Fountain in Rehoboth Beach. Also enclosed is a drawing of the boundary for the WCTU Fountain. This material has been previously faxed to you but is now being formally submitted on acid free paper. Thank you for being patient with us as we adjust to not having Robin here to handle matters related to National Register Program issues and responsibilities!

If you have questions, please contact me. I can be reached at <u>joan.larrivee@state.de.us</u> or 302-736-7406.

Sincerely,

Architectural Historian

