

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Williams House, Woodlawn

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Cross House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1.2 miles northwest of Odessa on Marl Pit road

CITY OR TOWN:
Vicinity of Odessa

STATE Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: New Castle	CODE 003
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3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
William A. Cross

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Odessa

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Public Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rodney Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

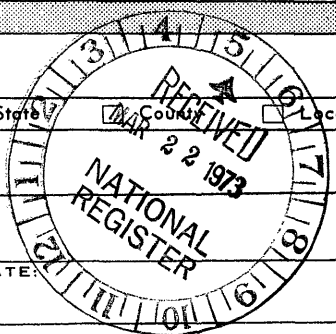
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

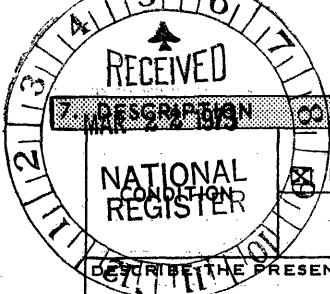
CITY OR TOWN:

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Woodlawn, built in 1859 by Jonathan Knight Williams, is one of the more elegant examples in Delaware of the persistence of the Georgian architectural tradition.

The house is five bays wide, two stories tall with an attic under the gabled roof, and L-shaped in plan. It is constructed entirely of brick, laid in common bond, with a seven-to-one ratio of stretchers to headers.

The windows throughout the house are double-hung, six-over-six sash with stone lintels and sills. The doors have stone lintels as well.

The house follows the usual Delaware pattern in having paneled shutters painted white on the windows of the first floor and louvered shutters painted green on the windows of the second. A plain cornice with large modillions runs entirely around the house, including the underside of the gable. The modillions are repeated on the dormers and porches. Most of the original viewing platform remains on the ridge of the gable; the low railing that originally surrounded it has been lost. Two of the three original porches also remain, on the wing, and on the inside corner of the L; the full-width single-story porch on the facade has been replaced with a small Greek Revival stoop. The two waterspouts on the facade are dated 1859. Much of the original tin roof with raised seams remains.

As with most houses of the Georgian period, the facade is of the best quality, with the sides and back somewhat less well finished. Deviations from the earlier Georgian tradition can be seen in the fact that common bond was used on the facade, that the front door is paneled in a later style, that the transom and side lights are glazed with stained glass, that there is no water table, and that there is no belt

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

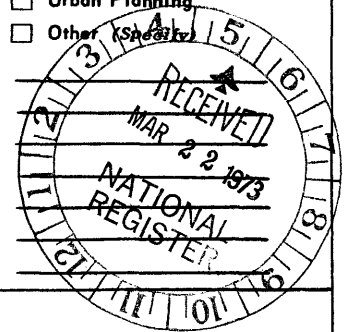
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1859**

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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Jonathan Knight Williams, born to Quaker parents of English stock on May 25, 1828, was a native Pennsylvanian who, except for his schooling in Virginia, was reared there. At age 24, in 1852, he moved from his parents' property in Pennsylvania to a farm in Delaware to take over its management and increase its productivity. Apparently he succeeded well, for as early as 1853 he felt confident enough to take a wife (Fanny Shallcross) and bring her to Delaware to live. In 1859, Jonathan Williams' father supplied them with the means (both money and materials) to build a fine new house. The site chosen was about one mile away from the original farmhouse, and was almost centrally located on Williams' 300-acre tract.

Williams engaged in the peach industry probably as early as 1856, when that industry was spurred by the completion of the Delaware Railroad. In this venture he was most likely influenced by his brother-in-law, Sereck Shallcross, who owned an adjacent farm.

The close personal and business connections among the peach growers no doubt account for the striking similarities to be noted in the house plans and types commonly found in the area in the 1840's, 50's and 60's. There are but few exceptions to the prevailing 2½ story, L-shaped Italianate house with Greek Revival details; the

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Genealogical History of the State of Delaware.
The Public Spirit, June 7, 1928.
 (Wilmington) Evening Journal, November 30, 1971.

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39	28	00
NE	° ' "	° ' "		75	40	50
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. Richard Schmidt

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: 8/2/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

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 E. Berkeley Tompkins
Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins

Title Director, Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Date 3-12-73

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/4/73

ATTEST:
Wm. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 24 73

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)---

course. However, in evaluating the building as a whole, its overwhelming architectural influence is Georgian.

With the exception of the altered front porch, the removal of some trees, and the fact that the original fence surrounding the house is gone, the exterior has maintained a nearly original appearance. The interior, while not having undergone extensive alterations, has changed somewhat.

The main block of the house is arranged with a central stair hall, a parlor to the right, and a living room to the left. Four bedrooms occupy the second story. The parlor is best preserved, with its mouldings, wood panels under the windows, plaster ceiling decorations, and slate mantel, while the living room has been slightly altered. In the stair hall, a door has been placed below the stairs for entrance into a closet. The wing originally contained a side stair, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor, and bedrooms on the second. It has suffered most from alterations. The side stair was removed to create an alcove, and the door under the stairs was walled in; in the dining room, a door was bricked in, and part of the space of the room was used for a modern powder room.

Side by side with the Georgian style are elements from other styles, such as the Greek Revival porches and the Victorian stained glass in the transom light and side lights.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)---

Williams house is one of those few exceptions. It differs in a reactionary way, however, being a three-story, L-shaped Georgian-style house with Greek Revival details.

The house is most remarkable for its extreme conservatism, since it was built by a prosperous farmer whose peers had been employing more fashionable styles in their own houses nearby. It is one of the best preserved examples of terminal Georgian architecture in Delaware. Although it was built literally next door to the Sereck Shallcross House, it contains none of the advanced detailing that Shallcross had employed seventeen years earlier.

