



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, the Aiken's Tavern Historic District, in New Castle County, Delaware, reference number 77000388, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 12/6/1977, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 7, 1978, Part II, Vol.43, No. 26, page 5184. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.



Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

9/2/2008
Date

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FCC USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Aiken's Tavern, Aikentown, Glasgow

AND/OR COMMON

Aiken's Tavern Historic District (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Intersection of Routes 40 and 896

CITY, TOWN

Newark

 VICINITY OF

One

STATE

Delaware

CODE

010

COUNTY

New Castle

CODE

002

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

(See Continuation Sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Castle County Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Public Building

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

STATE

Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

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Owners of Property:

State Historical Survey No.

Owner

N-870, N-3882

✓ Alice Bishop, R. D. 1, Newark, DE 19711

N-1067

✓ Mr. & Mrs. William Higham, R. D. 1, Newark, DE 197

N-1067

✓ Sara M. Dayett, R. D. 1, Newark, DE 19711

N-3885, N-189

✓ Pencader Presbyterian Church, 208 Rolling Green
Avenue, New Castle, DE: 19720

N-3883

✓ Mr. & Mrs. William Bishop, R. D. 1, Newark,
Delaware 19711

N-1490, N-3884

✓ Glasgow Methodist Church, Glasgow,
R. D. 1, Newark, DE 19711

N-3883

✓ William Bishop, R. D. 1, Newark, DE 19711

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Glasgow, formerly Aiken's Tavern or Aikentown, has been a local religious and commercial center since early in the eighteenth century.

The Aiken's Tavern Historic District encompasses the surviving portion of the nineteenth-century crossroads village of Glasgow. Although there is heavy commercial intrusion to the south, the northern part of the village remains relatively undisturbed. Two churches, three houses, a shop, and a row of tenements, constitute the built environment that is now visible aboveground.

Archaeological remains include the site of Aiken's Tavern, General Howe's headquarters after the Battle of Cooch's Bridge. Since the surviving structures in the district were not the first on their sites, there probably are earlier remains to be found.

The Inventory

PENCADER CHURCH 1852

The principal structure in the district is the Pencader Presbyterian Church (N-189), a two-story brick structure in a large cemetery on the east side of Route 896, and north of Route 40.

A square belfry and a spire crown the low gable of the western facade. Stone capitals trim brick pilasters.

The low first story, occupied by the Sunday School, features short windows with shutters and eight-over-eight sash. Upstairs, the single large meeting room has tall forty-light windows that give the building its lofty appearance. In the front are three bays separated by pilasters. On the sides, there are four windows in each story. Two stairways from the vestibule provide access to the second story. The auditorium contains a west gallery and a chancel framed by classic columns. The nineteenth-century furnishings are still in place.

TWO HOUSES 2

Immediately to the north of the church are two, frame nineteenth-century houses with wide porches and their outbuildings (N-3883). Behind them, on Route 896, is a small modern house, the only intrusion in the district. *Old Post Office?*

METHODIST CHURCH 1854 *same as 1852*

The Methodist Church is a frame, two-story structure similar in general style to the Presbyterian Church. It contains a first-floor Sunday school and a second-floor auditorium. Beside the porch are two square windows on edge, as diamonds; otherwise, the church is not embellished.

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Presbyterian Church

MANSE ~~1850~~

The manse (N-3885) is a three-story, three-bay brick house with a low hipped roof. There is a porch covering the first-floor front. It stands on the brow of the hill leading down to Muddy Run.

TAVERN SITE *by 1777*

The site of Aiken's Tavern (N-1490) is marked by a state marker in the Methodist churchyard. The exact tavern site is not identified, but it is known to have stood within a few yards of the highway marker.

MIDDLETON HOUSE *before 1818*

The Middleton House (N-870) is a large, two-story brick, early-nineteenth-century house across the road from Pencader Church. The two sections were built at one time, even though they have different floor levels and roof lines.

The facade is laid in flemish bond with a chamfered water table. Dog-ear trim and six-panel doors survive on the front doors of both parts. Main rooms inside are decorated with dog-ear surrounds, chair rails, panelled window casings, dentil cornices, and graining.

The facade brickwork is very smooth and even-colored, with narrow mortar joints. The sides are laid in common brick. A box cornice survives on both sections. A well-preserved pair of Victorian porches covers the first floor of the facade.

SHOP BUILDING

On the south side of the Middleton House property is a large, barn-like frame shop building (N-3882).

GLASGOW BANK *1818-1825*

The westbound lane of U. S. 40, formerly the Newcastle and French Town Turnpike, separates most of the district from a row known as the Old Glasgow Bank or Mechanics Row (N-1067). There are now three dwellings in the row, two of brick and one frame. The western part of the brick section has two entries, indicating that it was once two units.

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The brick section is laid in common bond, with rusticated wood lintels and a corbelled brick cornice. A frame porch covers the first-floor facade of the entire row. It was originally built as a row of rental houses, probably by a speculator during one of the construction projects in the area early in the nineteenth century.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		Welsh History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Aiken's Tavern Historic District stands on the Welsh Tract; 30,000 acres in western New Castle County, granted in 1701 to a group of Welsh land speculators.

The grant was subdivided into large farms, most of which were sold to Welsh settlers. They called the place Pencader, or "high seat," which is now the name of the hundred.

The Welsh improved the roads across the peninsula, part of the main land route between the northern and southern colonies. A Presbyterian meeting house and a tavern formed the nucleus of a community, at the point where the trans-peninsular road crossed a main north-south route. Construction of the abortive Chesapeake and Delaware feeder canal in 1804 brought traffic through the Aiken's Tavern crossroads.

When Newcastle and French Town Turnpike was built in 1818, the crossroad at Aiken's Tavern became a busy way station.

Religious Significance:

Pencader Presbyterian Church was established on the Welsh Tract around 1702 and constituted a church before 1710. The present brick church, built in 1852, occupies the site of an earlier frame structure.

Pencader is one of Delaware's oldest Presbyterian churches, and one of two churches established by the Welsh. The other church, Welsh Tract Baptist, still stands on the opposite side of Iron Hill.

Samuel Davies (1723-1761), fourth president of Princeton, was the most famous of many Presbyterian leaders to come from this church. This was one of the first constituent churches of the New Castle Presbytery, when it was established in 1717.

The Methodist church stands on or near the site of Aiken's Tavern. The first structure, built in 1833, was brick, but the present church, built in 1884, is frame.

Architectural Significance:

Significant architectural remains in the district may be divided into two periods: the federal, represented by the Middleton House and the Bank; and the Italianate, represented by the two churches and the manse.

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Pencader Presbyterian Church exemplifies a church style that once was popular throughout the state. It stands in a four-acre cemetery that is bisected by a small stream. Landscaping in the cemetery is a picturesque blend of natural and man-made features, including a bridge, an iron fence with elaborate gate, willows, evergreens, and, of course, tombstones from the eighteenth century to the present.

The Methodist Church and the brick house next to it are also built in the Italianate style, and also are well-preserved.

Of the two-story Delaware rural churches with upstairs auditoriums, the two Glasgow examples are among the least altered.

The Bank row and the Middleton House are examples of federal architecture, built for opposite ends of the economic spectrum. Both are virtually intact specimens of their types.

Military Significance:

On September 3, 1777, a detachment of the American army under General Maxwell established a line from Aiken's Tavern to Cooch's Bridge, in an effort to slow the British eastward advance from Head of Elk. The battle that ensued, known as the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, bought time for Washington, who was assembling a force to defend Philadelphia.

British General Howe had his headquarters at Aiken's Tavern from September 3 to September 8, after the Battle of Cooch's Bridge. The old Pencader Church, on the site of the present one, was the British army field hospital.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cooch, Francis A. Little Known History of Newark, Delaware and Environs.
 Newark: Press of Kells, 1936.
 Scharf, J. Thomas, Editor. History of Delaware. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards, 1888.
 Cooch, Edward W. Delaware Historic Events. Cooch's Bridge: The author, 1946.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.5
 UTM REFERENCES (see continuation sheet)

A	1 8	4 3 6 0 2 0	4 3 8 4 3 2 0	B	1 8	4 3 6 0 3 0	4 3 8 4 3 4 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1 8	4 3 6 1 3 5	4 3 8 4 3 5 0	D	1 8	4 3 6 1 3 5	4 3 8 4 0 3 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The district begins at the east end of Pencader cemetery at Route 40. Thence, the boundary follows the south fence line westward about 500 feet to the center of Route 896. Thence, it follows the centerline northward about 100 feet to the south line of the Middleton House property. Thence, it follows the south line westward about 150 feet from the right-of-way. It then follows the property line southward 75 feet to the Route 40 right-of-way. Thence, it crosses the road to the east line of the

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

ORGANIZATION	Edward F. Weite, Historic Registrar	DATE	November 1976
STREET & NUMBER	Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs	TELEPHONE	678-5314
CITY OR TOWN	Hall of Records	STATE	Delaware
	Dover		

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

TITLE: Director, Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Mechanics' Row properties. Thence, it proceeds southward 158 feet along that property line.

The boundary then follows the rear lot lines westward about 108 feet to a cross street. Thence, it follows the cross street 158 feet along the west line of the row. Crossing Route 40 in a northerly direction, the boundary intersects the west line of the Middleton House property and follows it for 310 feet. Still following the Middleton House line, the boundary proceeds easterly 202 feet and then goes to the middle of Route 896. Then it follows the center line about 550 feet more or less to the point of intersection of the Manse property north line. The boundary then follows the Manse boundary eastward 292.23 feet from the right-of-way line.

Along the rear line of this property and the adjoining property, the boundary proceeds southward about 650 feet more or less to the north fence of the cemetery. Thence, it follows the north fence line about 200 feet easterly to the east fence. Thence, it follows the east fence to the point of beginning.

The nominated properties are shown on New Castle County Property Map No. 26, compiled in March 1970 by L. Robert Kimball. The parcels within the district are identified therein by the following parcel numbers and acreages:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>State Historical Survey No.</u>
62	None given	N-1067
63	None given	N-1067
43	1.30	N-870, N-3882
72	4.11	N-189
69	1.62	N-3883
70	None given	N-1490, N-3884
71	None given	N-3883
68	1.01	N-3885

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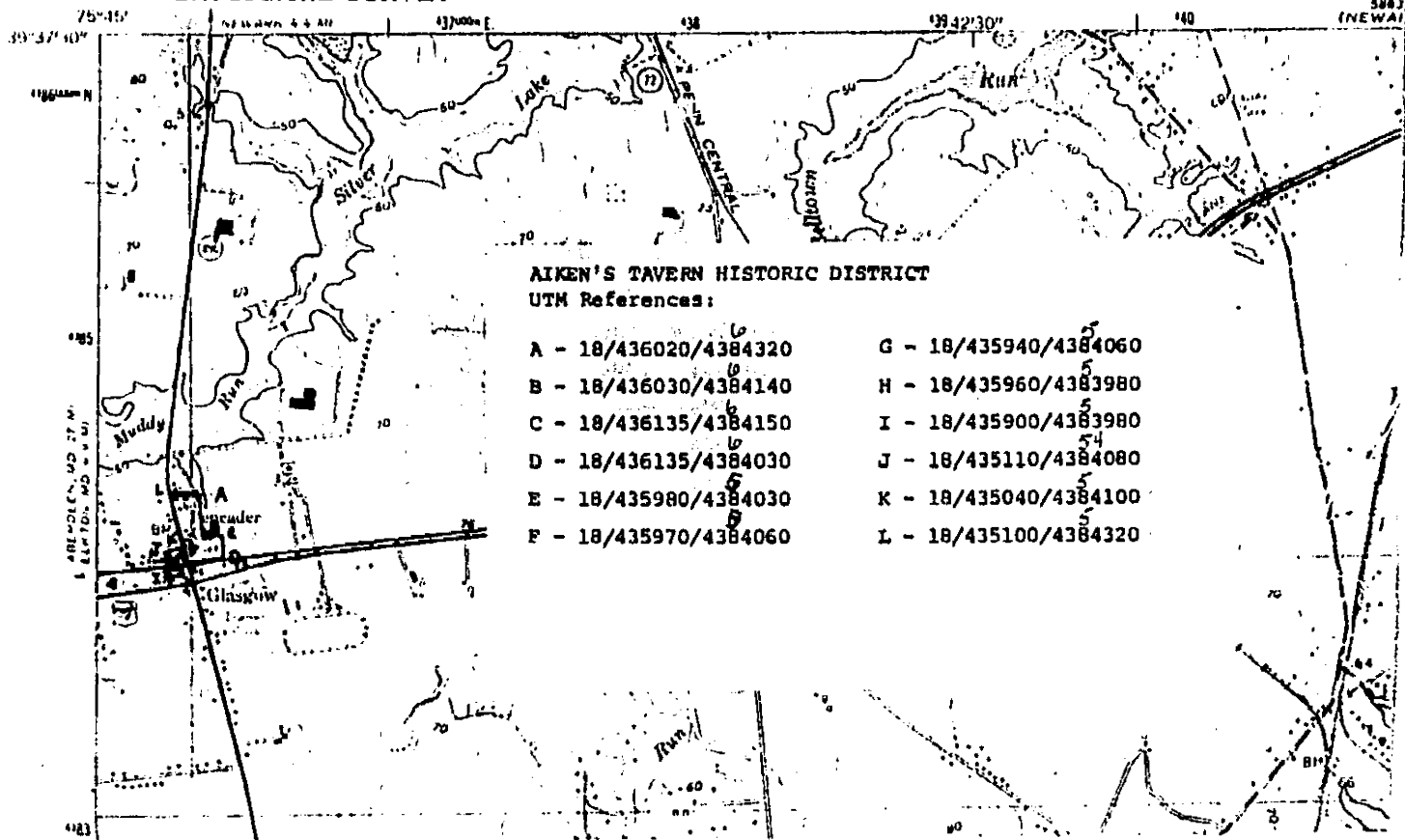
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- E 18/435980/438⁵4030
- F 18/435970/438⁵4060
- G 18/435940/438⁵4060
- H 18/435960/438⁵3980
- I 18/435900/438⁵3980
- J 18/435110/438⁵4080
- K 18/435040/438⁵4100
- L 18/435100/438⁵4320

75° 45' (NEWARK WEST)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



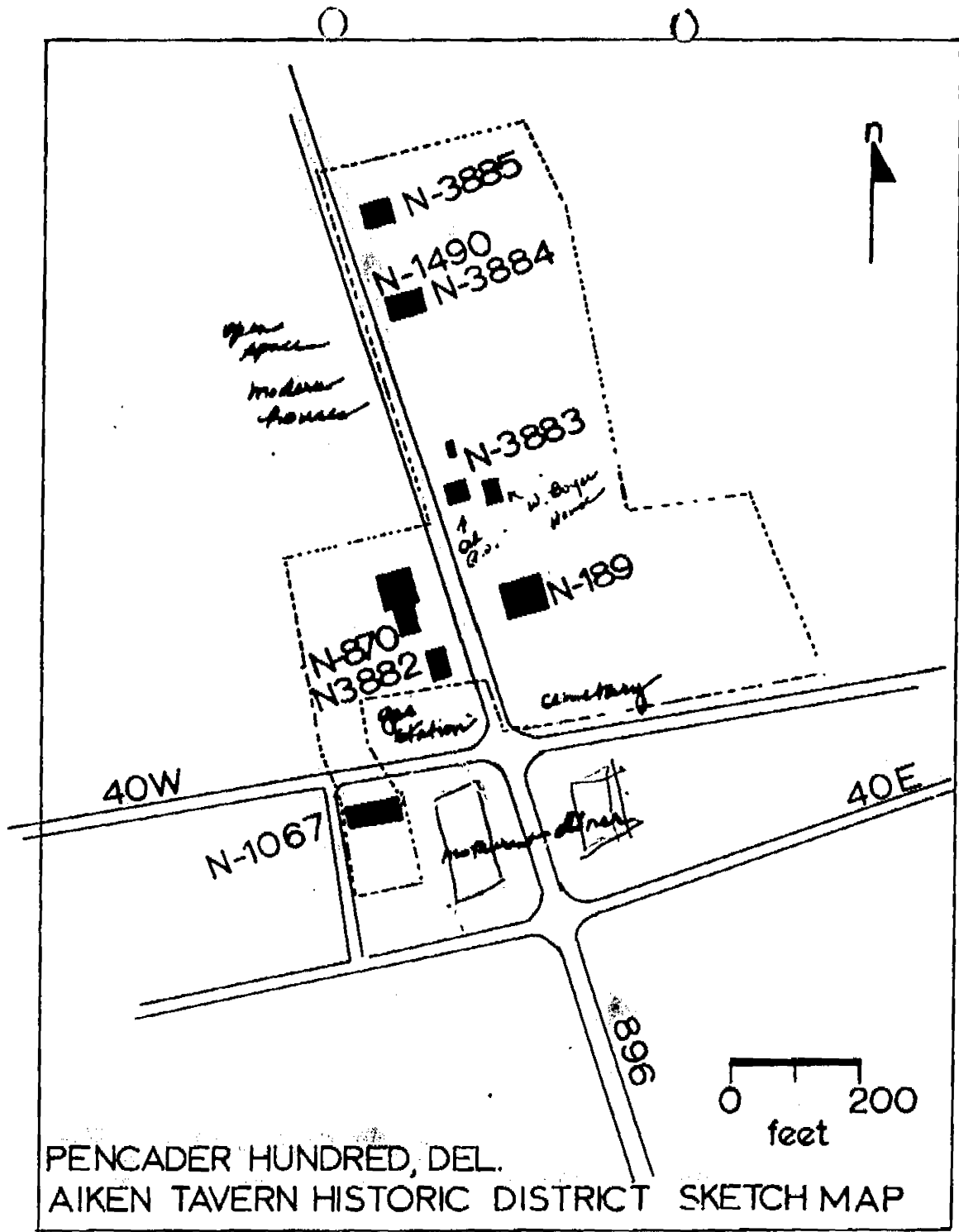
AIKEN'S TAVERN HISTORIC DISTRICT

UTM References:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| A - 18/436020/4384320 | G - 18/435940/4384060 |
| B - 18/436030/4384140 | H - 18/435960/4383980 |
| C - 18/436135/4384150 | I - 18/435900/4383980 |
| D - 18/436135/4384030 | J - 18/435110/4384080 |
| E - 18/435980/4384030 | K - 18/435040/4384100 |
| F - 18/435970/4384060 | L - 18/435100/4384320 |

AREOLEN, MD 27 W.
E. 437000 E.

3883
(NEWARK)



PENCADER HUNDRED, DEL.
 AIKEN TAVERN HISTORIC DISTRICT SKETCH MAP

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE DELAWARE

Date Entered DEC 8 1977

Name

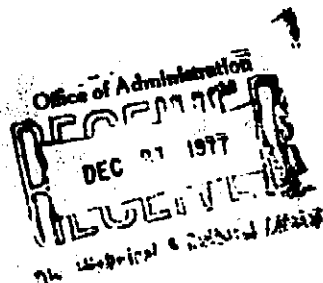
Aiken's Tavern Historic District

Location

Newark vicinity
New Castle County

Also Notified

Hon. William V. Roth, Jr.
Hon. Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Hon. Thomas B. Evans, Jr.



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