

PH 0001210

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
71.3.10.0005	3/24/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Eight-square School House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
 Octagonal School House *use this*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
E of Cowgill's Corner off Del. 9

CITY OR TOWN:
Little Creek Hundred *Cowgill's Corner*

STATE: Delaware

CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
10	Kent	001

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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public 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) _____ Comments: Public exhibit planned

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

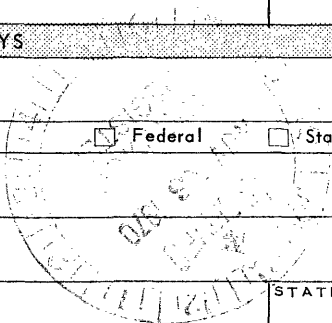
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)
 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)
 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This one storey building is of undressed stone, stuccoed and whitewashed, with eight sides of equal dimension and a pyramidal shingled roof. Each of seven facets has a window, the eighth a door. Beneath the eaves is a stepped brick cornice, the building's one decorative detail. There is a relatively recent frame vestibule sheltering the entrance. Within is a single large room. In its earlier years it had two circles of desks, back to back, the outer one for the boys, the inner for the girls.

The school still stands in open farming country, near a lightly travelled crossroads. Behind it is an extensive woodland.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

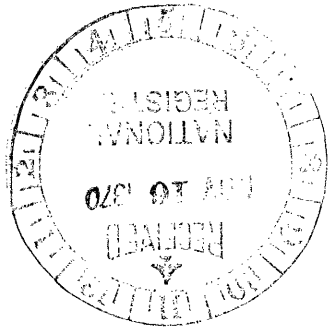
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input 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			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure, architecturally interesting in itself, is significant for interpreting the public school history of Delaware and the life of the rural region this specific building served. In 1829 Delaware became the second State to establish a permanent system of genuinely free district public schools. The Octagonal Schoolhouse, opened in 1836, is one of the very few survivals among the buildings erected in the first few years of that movement, and to the best of our knowledge the only one not extensively altered. It is the last in the State of its octagonal design. It is also an example of very rare stone construction in Kent County.

The Octagonal Schoolhouse remained a public school well into the present century. After the consolidation of its districts it was used as a community meeting house until it was presented to the State. Virtually all the long-resident families of the section, including several of local prominence, have had association with this building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic Houses And Buildings Of Delaware, by Harold Donaldson Eberlein and Courtlandt V.D. Hubbard, Dover, Del., 1962, pp.71-72
Delaware: A Guide To The First State, edited by Jeannette Eckman and others, New York, 1955, pp.479-480
Reminiscences, by Manlove Hayes, [Dover, Del., c.1911], p.16

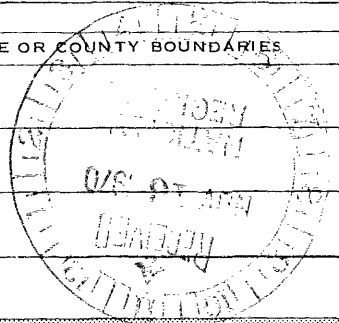
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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	0	'	"	0	'	"	39°	11'	44"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	75°	28'	25"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.036

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11 FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: Public Archives Commission DATE: Jan.27.1970

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 07

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
 State Archivist
 State Liaison Officer

Title _____

Date November 13, 1970

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

James A. Donnelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

~~FEB 22 1971~~ MAR 24 1971

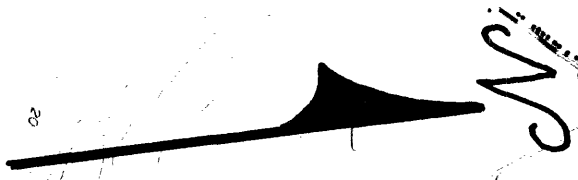
Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Smutney
 Keeper of The National Register

Date FEB 22 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



N

LONG POINT ROAD

Coverhill
BM 19'

$75^{\circ} 28' 25''$

Friends Meetinghouse
Cem

D
S
T
R
I
C
T

$39^{\circ} 1' 44''$

Little Creek

DOVER AIR FORCE
RIFLE RANGE

Jenkins Ditch

WOMAN'S

OLD

