Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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STREET AND NUMBER: U.S. Route 113 and Delaware Road #18												
	CITY OR TOWN:											
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REGISTER Surrounded by a generous tree cover and an elevated lawn mound, the Jehu Reed House stands as a good example of an eighteenth century house that received alterations during the prosperous middle years of

the nineteenth century in Delaware. The house is built entirely of

brick and is presently three stories in height.

The five-bay frontage results from the addition of two bays to the south of the entry. The north three bays on the first two floors are laid in Flemish bond with glazed header pattern, while the remainder of the facade is laid in a seven-course common bond. A Victorian porch with decorative ironwork covers the first floor; the entry is a dual-door opening surmounted by a semi-circular light. Other nineteenth-century details include a flat hip roof, bracketed cornice, and pairs of lancet windows in the third story.

Remains of the original house are discernible on the first two stories of the north wall, as well as on the north end of the facade. The original windows are spanned by segmental arches. A belt course stretches around the corner of the facade and across the north elevation.

To the north of the hall is the original portion, containing two rooms with corner fireplaces; the mantels have been replaced. The plan, complete with fireplaces, is repeated on the second floor. On the first floor, the hall is flanked by one large south room which has been divided into two rooms by the present occupants. The second story contains two rooms to the south of the hall, and a small room to the east. An enclosed stair leads to the third floor, which

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	∑ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 1771	built; 1868 remo	deled
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appro	priate)	
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☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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	Landscape	Sculpture	1973
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☐ Communications	Military	☐ Theater	10/E
☐ Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	THE PARTY NAMED IN THE PARTY NAM

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jehu Reed House, home of an early pioneer in scientific agriculture, survives as an example of a house that was enlarged and improved to conform to changing tastes and economic status.

In 1685 a tract of land called "Bartlett's Lot" was taken up by Nicholas Bartlett, Samuel Burberry, and John Newell. John Newell obtained most of the tract, which descended to his son, also named John. John Newell (II) sired Henry Newell, who "settled on his father's place." Henry Newell married Margaret Wilson and erected a house in 1771. Because Henry died without a son, the property was willed to his three daughters.

Ann Newell bought her two sisters' property rights and married Elias Sipple in 1786. The daughter of this union, Margaret Sipple, married Jehu Reed in 1827. By 1829 Jehu Reed was known for his intelligent farm practices, and helped spread the acceptance of "scientific farming" throughout the state. He is said to have been the first in Kent County to introduce the cultivation of peaches on budded trees. In addition to his peach industry, Jehu Reed raised silkworms, fed by his own mulberry trees.

In 1858 Jehu M. Reed, son of Jehu Reed and Margaret Sipple, bought the Reed Farm. He expanded the farm activities to include

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	Eberlein, Harold Donaldson and Hubbard, Cortlandt V.D. <u>Historic</u> <u>Houses and Buildings of Delaware</u> . Dover: Public Archives Commission, 1962. p. 81.										<u>.c</u>		
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Date \_\_\_

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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COUNTY								
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE							
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (continued) ----

has been divided into six separate rooms. For some time the third floor had been used as a tourist accommodation.

To the rear of the main house block is a lower, three-bay wing, containing the kitchen and servants' quarters.



Form 10-300a (July 1969)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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STATE

Delaware

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(Number all entries)

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued) ---

the cultivation of other fruits and some vegetables. Prompted by prosperity of the farmlands, Jehu M. Reed enlarged the eighteenthcentury farmhouse to accomodate his style of living. Rather than obliterate the original house, however, Reed incorporated it into the fabric of his Victorian plantation house.

The farm continued in the possession of the Reed family until the early portion of the twentieth century, when it was bought by Arley Magee, a Dover lawyer and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. then the house has changed ownership several times.



