Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house at Buena Vista is a five bay, two storey brick dwelling erected about 1845-1847. It is in the Greek Revival style, somewhat modified by a skillful but inidentified architect. A verandah across the front features correct Doric columns. Double chimneys at the ends are connected by balustrades. A service wing extends to the west from the north end of the building. In the present century a long wing was added to the south side to provide a large hall and library downstairs and several bedrooms upstairs without alteration of the earlier portion. The original house is now furnished with pieces appropriate to its period, including many possessions of John M. Clayton. It is open for exhibit. The newer portion, furnished basically as Governor Buck left it, is used for meetings of State agencies and for the entertainment of distinguished guests.

The house standing several hundred yards west of the southbound lane of U.S. 13, is approached by a lane shaded by a double line of trees. Immediately about it are lawns and dependencies, and surrounding all, well-tilled fields. As transferred by John M. Clayton shortly before his death to his nephew James C. Douglass, Buena Vista comprised 324 acres, of which 51.9 are now the property of the State of Delaware; the

rest is held by the Buck family.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Buena Vista is significant primarily as the home of John M. Clayton (1796-1856), its builder, but it also has value as the site of a mid nineteenth century demonstration of the effects of scientific methods of agriculture, and as the home of C. Douglass Buck (1890-1965) John M. Clayton was Secretary of State to President Zachary Taylor 1849-1850, and United States Senator from Delaware 1828-1836, 1845-1849 and 1852-1856. His most notable achievement was negotiation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, but he was also an active, nationally-minded Senator influential in evolving the National Republican and Whig positions on all major issues of those years. He was likewise a distinguished lawyer and judge, and an influential supporter of scientific agriculture after his purchase of the farm he named Buena Vista, which be brought from exhaustion to showplace condition in a few years. His guests there included many of the national figures of the period 1847-1856. Clayton's great-grandnephew, C. Douglass Buck, was Governor of Delaware 1929-1937, and United States Senator 1943-1949. He was importantly connected with the development of the State Highway system. He bequeathed the house at Buena Vista, with sufficient acreage to preserve its setting, to the State of Delaware



Historic Houses And Buildings of Delaware, by Harold Denaldson Eberlein and Cortlandt V.D. Hubbard, published at Dover in 1962, pp. 146-147 Delaware: A History Of The First State, edited by Jeannette Eckman and others, published at New York in 1955, p. 331 "Memoir Of John M. Clayton", by Joseph P. Comegys, published as Papers Of The Historical Society of Delaware IV, at Wilmmington in 1882, pp. 139-141 Dictionary Of American Biography, edited by Allen Johnson and and Dumas Malone, published at New York in 1953, Vol.IV pp. 185-18 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND CONSTITUTE CONDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY OF 183 NO. 183	9. MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R	EFERENCES						
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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 Name Name Name Name Name Name National Register. I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.	tot-to-	Dover	- 111						10
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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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FOR NPS USE OF	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	PATE
11,4,10,0011	41/6/71

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biographical Directory Of The American Congress, 1774-1961, ..., published by United States Government Printing Office, 1961, pp. 705 [Clayton] and 619 [Buck]



The inadequacies noted above must be rectified prior to the initiation of our professional review process. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily indicate that the nomination will then meet all other National Register criteria.

smodford

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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PRINT BY DELAWARE STATE ARCHIVES HALL of RECORDS DOVER, DELAWARE

Photograph No. H. 591

PLEASE GIVE CREDIT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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1	COMMON: Buena Vista			
	AND/OR HISTORIC: Buena Vista			
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	street and Number: duPont Highway (U.S. 13), wes south of junction of U.S. 13 and 40	t side, 1.5 miles		
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	DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
	Interior view of southwest parlor looking southwest.			
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DELAWARE STATE ARCHIVES
HALL of RECORDS
DOVER, DELAWARE

Photograph No. H. 590

PLEASE GIVE CREDIT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

STATE		
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Title: Buena Vista

Loc. Grew Castle Delaware

View of Joinele taken

from the East

DELAWARE STATE ARCHIVES
HALL OF RECORDS
DOVER, DELAWARE
Photograph No. 14.1659
PLEASE GIVE CREDIT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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Form 10-301 (July 1969)

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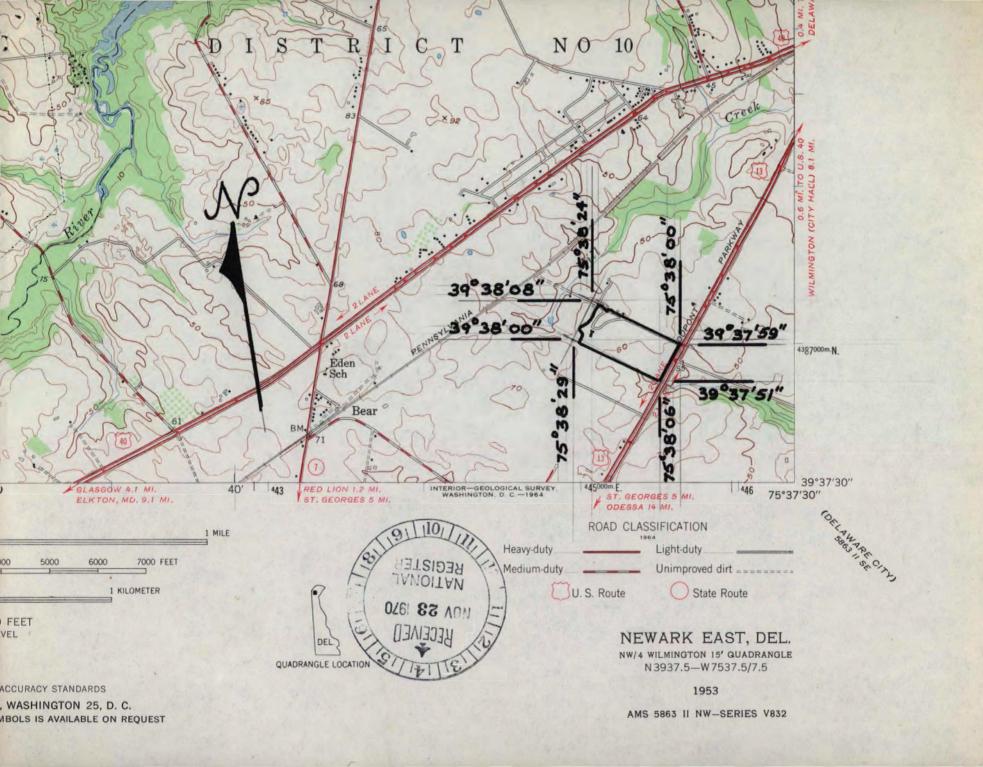
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

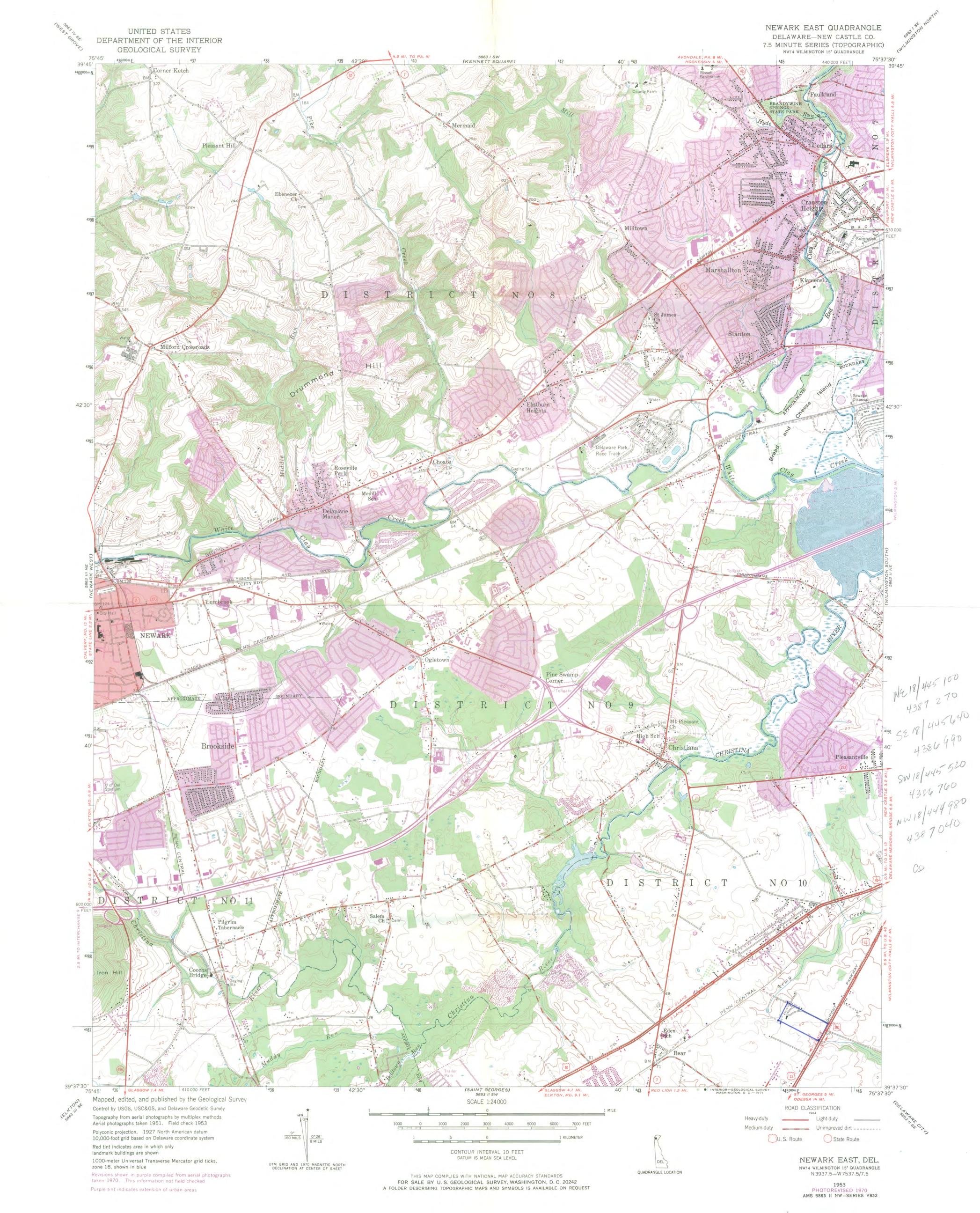
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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1. NAME	17/1.4.78	0.0011 14/16
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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference.	NOV 23 1970	







STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF ARCHIVES AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Eugene Bunting Secretary

Hall of Records Dover, Delaware, 19901

November 17, 1970 Project #07-71-00001

Dr. William J. Murtagh Keeper of The National Register National Park Service 801 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Under the terms of <u>Grants Guide</u>, 2.9 Advance Nominations, we are sending a nomination form for Buena Vista.

This nomination has been approved by our State Review Board and is accordingly being transmitted to your office.

We hope your office will find this nomination acceptable.

Very truly yours

Leon devalinger, Jr. State Archivist and

State Liaison Officer

LdeV-sjp

Enclosure



STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF ARCHIVES AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Eugene Bunting Secretary

Hall of Records Dover, Delaware 19901

January 29, 1971

Dr. William J. Murtagh Keeper of National Register National Park Service 801 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

We are resubmitting under the terms of 2.9 advanced nominations the nomination forms for Buena Vista.

We have made the following corrections and additions:

1. Item #12 has been corrected as well as changing the coding.

I hope this form meets your approval and this project will be considered for inclusion on the National Register.

D

Rea Wilkie

Historic Registrar,

S.L.O. for the

National Register

RW:pf Enclosures



PDHerrick:naf

Hon. William V. Roth, Jr. United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Roth:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Delaware and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator J. Caleb Boggs and Representative Pierre S. duPont, TV, have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Rea Wilkie, Historic Registrar, Division of Archives and Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware 19901, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

I gned]

Director

Enclosures

APR 1 6 1971

Entered in the National Register

cc: Mr. Rea Wilkie, Historic Registrar, Division of Archives and Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware 19901

Also notified: Hon. J. Caleb Boggs United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Hon. Pierre S. duPont, IV House of Representatives Washington, D. C. Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

DELAWARE

Matthew Lowber House

Buena Vista

Kent County
Magnolia, South Murderkill Hundred,
Deleware

New Castle County New Castle Hundred, Delaware H30-HR

Mr. Rea Wilkie Historic Registrar Division of Archives and Cultural Affairs Hall of Records Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Mr. Wilkie:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators William V. Roth, Jr., and J. Caleb Boggs and Representative Pierre S. duPont, IV, are being informed. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for each of the property owners. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register APR 16 1970

cc: HR

4/14/71 PDHerrick:naf BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

DELAWARE

Matthew Lowber House

Buena Vista

Kent County
Magnolia, South Murderkill Hundred,
Delaware

New Castle County New Castle Hundred, Delaware