

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

PH0021555

STATE:	Delaware	
COUNTY:	New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
JUL 2 1973		

1. NAME

COMMON:

Darley House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

The Wren's Nest, The Chimneys



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Northwest corner Darley Road and Philadelphia Pike

CITY OR TOWN:

Claymont

STATE

Delaware

CODE

COUNTY:

10

CODE

New Castle

003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP			STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object				<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Dr. George Boines

STREET AND NUMBER:

413 North Broom Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Wilmington

STATE:

Delaware

CODE

10

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

A List of Delaware Heritage Buildings and Areas in New Castle County

DATE OF SURVEY: 1963

 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Greater Wilmington Development Council

STREET AND NUMBER:

300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1320

CITY OR TOWN:

Wilmington

STATE

Delaware

CODE

10

JUL 2 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Darley House, also known as the Wren's Nest, stands at the corner of Route 13 (Philadelphia Pike) and Darley Road, in Claymont. The front of the property is protected from the highway by large trees, which obscure the facade. The facade is symmetrically arranged. The principal door, in the center bay, is flanked by sidelights and crowned by a rectangular transom; an ornate portico, with large brackets and acorn pendants, covers the entry. The general outline of the house is rather standard, 2½ stories high, three bays wide, with three dormers across the front. In detail, however, the Darley House is a rich architectural creation.

Even though some of the details have been removed, and the house sheathed in composition shingles, the structure has retained its original overall appearance. A scrollwork bargeboard, triple chimney pots, Moorish interior doorway arches, and original stone mantels, survive to provide a very clear picture of Darley's personal taste.

S E M - I N S T R U C T I O N S



B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During the middle years of the nineteenth century, the words, "illustrated by Darley" on the title page of a book almost guaranteed a successful edition. Felix Octavius Carr Darley worked during a period when an increased demand for moderately-priced books caused publishers to search for faster, less expensive, methods of reproduction, and for artists who could work with the new media.

Felix Darley was born in Philadelphia in 1822, the son of John and Eleanora Westray Darley, both of whom had been on the comedy stage in England. He may have sketched on the banks of the Delaware as a boy, but his parents wanted him to enter a business career. Only after selling several sketches in 1842 did he devote his full time to art as a profession.

In that year, Darley sold a few street sketches to his friend Edgar Allan Poe, editor of the Saturday Museum. Poe planned to publish his own magazine, the Stylus, and in 1843 signed a contract with Darley as illustrator. The magazine never materialized, but Darley did two sketches for "The Gold Bug."

Darley became associated with the firm of Carey and Hart in 1845; during the next three years, this company published his first major work, The Library of Humorous American Works, in eighteen

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bolton, Theodore. "The Book Illustrations of Felix Octavius Carr Darley." Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society. v. 61 (April-October 1951)
- (Wilmington) Journal Every Evening. July 28, 1943, p. 13.
- Pitz, Henry. The Brandywine Tradition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1969
- New Castle County Deed Book K, Vol. 5, p. 148.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	OR	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NE	° ' "	° ' "		39 48 17	75 27 16
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Under one acre

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:

Miss Rosemary Troy, Mr. Graydon Wood, and Mr. Vincent Rogers

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

DATE

July 1972

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 11-27-72

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

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

Date 7/2/73

ATTEST:

W. Hunter
Keeper of The National Register
Date 6-25-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Delaware	
COUNTY	New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	JUL 9 1973	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

paper-covered volumes. Darley's talent for capturing American scenes probably inspired Washington Irving's publisher to retain him as illustrator for the Sketch Book and Rip Van Winkle. Darley's work for Irving cemented his reputation by linking his name with that of a favorite author. After Darley executed the wood blocks for Irving's Knickerbocker History of New York, Irving remarked that

Jarvis tried but failed to embody my conception of Diedrich Knickerbocker; Leslie also. Darley hit it in the Illustrated History of New York. My idea was that he should carry the air of one profoundly impressed with the truth of his own history.

Darley also engraved on wood for Dickens, Cooper, Stowe, and Longfellow.

In 1859, Felix Darley married Jane Colborn, through whom he probably met Ralph Waldo Emerson and other literary Bostonians who were Jane's friends. The couple settled in Delaware, on property that had been bought seventeen years earlier by John Clarendon Darley, the artist's brother.

His popularity never subsided, although in his later years he shared title-page credits with such developing illustrators as Howard Pyle and Winslow Homer. Felix O. C. Darley died at Wren's Nest in March 1888.



PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE PROPERTY IS RESUBMITTED. DATE:

NAME OF PROPERTY Darley House, Delaware

3/29/73

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

RECEIVED APR 2 1973

1. Name. _____
 2. Location. _____
 3. Classification. _____
 4. Owner of Property. _____
 5. Location of Legal Description. _____
 6. Representation in Existing Surveys. _____
 7. Description. _____
 8. Statement of Significance. _____
 9. Bibliography. _____
 10. Geographical Data.
a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. _____
 - b. Acreage. _____
 11. Form Prepared By. _____
 12. Certification. _____
 - Photographic Coverage. _____
- Map Coverage. Please supply a map with a border so that long. + lat. may be checked.
- Other. _____

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy the National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.

SIGNED:

Levitt Ross

PROPERTY	Darley House		STATE	Del.	Ref #73000508
Working number			126721858		
TECH REVIEW	Photos	1			
	Maps	1			NEW CASTLE CO.

REVIEW *Long street can't be marked on map* 11/2-14/73

HISTORIAN	good name.	Accept AML 3/21/73
ARCHEOLOGIST		Accept 3-23-73 CSH
ARCHITECT		Accept EH 3/23/73

BRANCH CHIEF	OK 1877 3/22/73
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EDITORIAL REVIEW	OK 1877 3/22/73
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KEEPER	OK 1877 3/25/73
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National Register write-up	3-4-74	Acknowledge	12/6/72
Federal Register entry	5-7-73	Send-back	3-29-73
		Re-submit	6-19-73
			JUL 2 1973
		Register no.	



NPS Number 7.2.73

Title: Darley House

Loc. New Castle Co., Delaware ①

Front view from the
east

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Darley House, front view from the east.

Graydon Wood, Aug. '72.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

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COUNTY	New Castle	
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Northwest corner Darley Road and Philadelphia Pike

CITY OR TOWN:

Claymont

STATE:

Delaware

CODE

10

COUNTY:

New Castle

CODE

003

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Graydon Wood

DATE OF PHOTO: August 1972

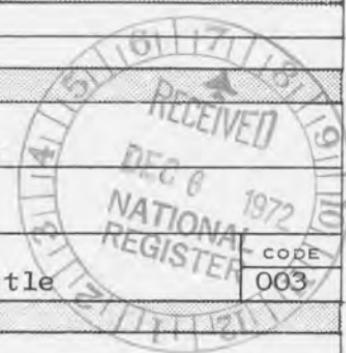
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Historic Registrar's Office, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front view from the east.





New Castle, Delaware

(The Wren's Nest, The Chimneys)
Darley House, detail: front door.

Graydon Wood Aug. '72.



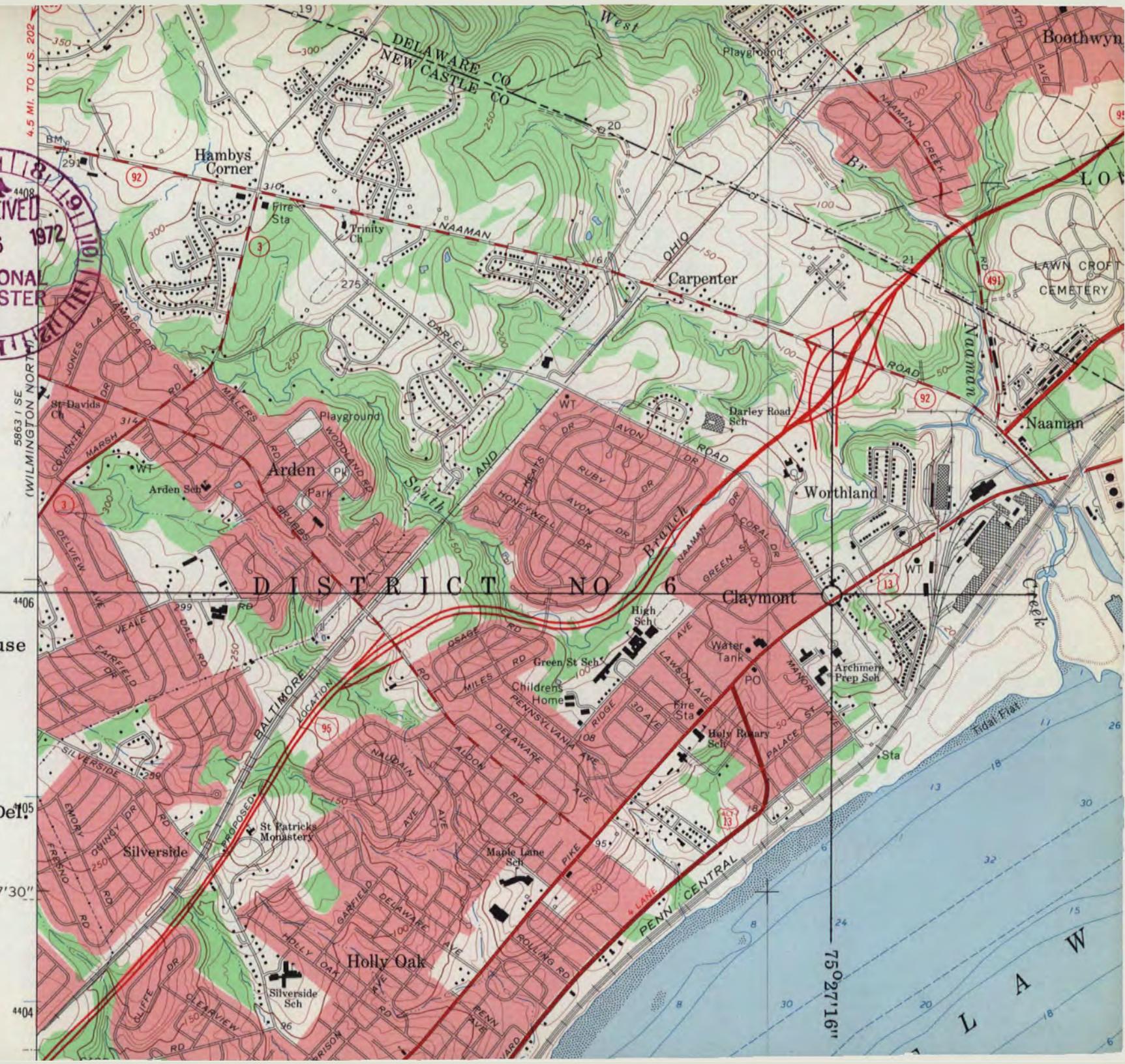
4408
RECEIVED
DEC 6 1971
NATIONAL
REGISTER

39°48'17"

F. O. C. Darley House

United States Geological
Survey Topographic Map
Marcus Hook Pa. - N. J. - Del.¹⁰⁵

1967



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-301
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

1. NAME

COMMON: Darley House

AND/OR HISTORIC: The Wren's Nest, The Chimneys

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Northwest corner Darley Road and Philadelphia Pike

CITY OR TOWN:

Claymont

STATE:

Delaware

CODE

10

COUNTY:

New Castle

CODE

003

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

USGS Map, Marcus Hook Pa.-N.J.-Del., 7.5 minute series

SCALE: 1:24000

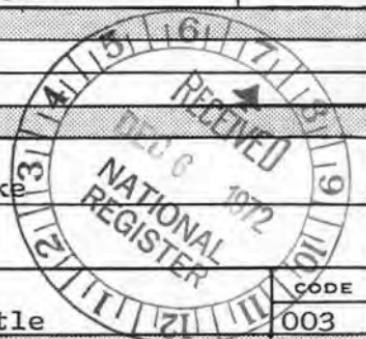
DATE: 1967

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

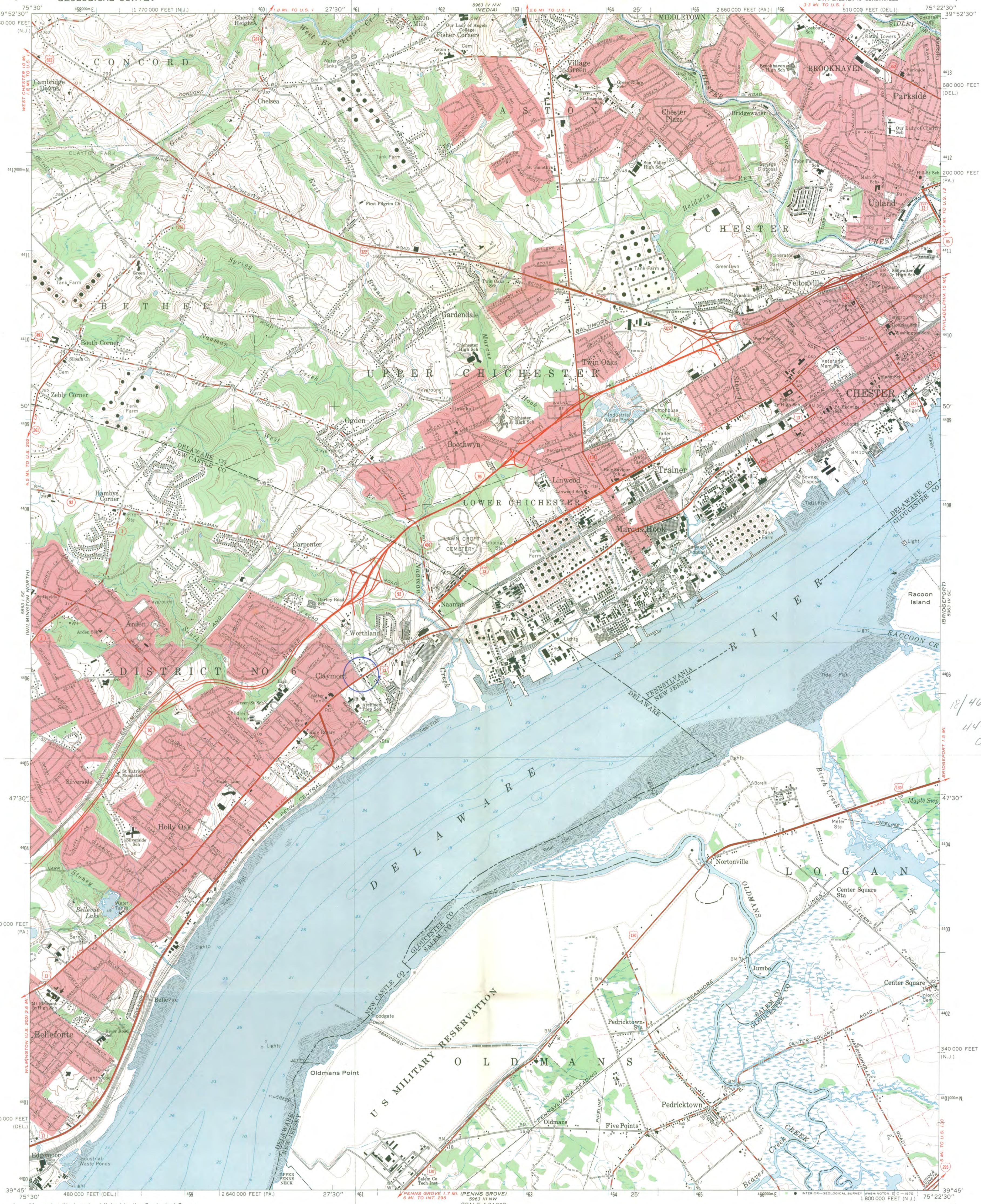
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

STATE	Delaware
COUNTY	New Castle
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	JUL 2 1973
DATE	



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MARCUS HOOK QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA—NEW JERSEY—DELAWARE
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and New Jersey Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetary surveys 1939. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1967

Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Chart 295 (1967)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone,
New Jersey coordinate system, and Delaware coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicate areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

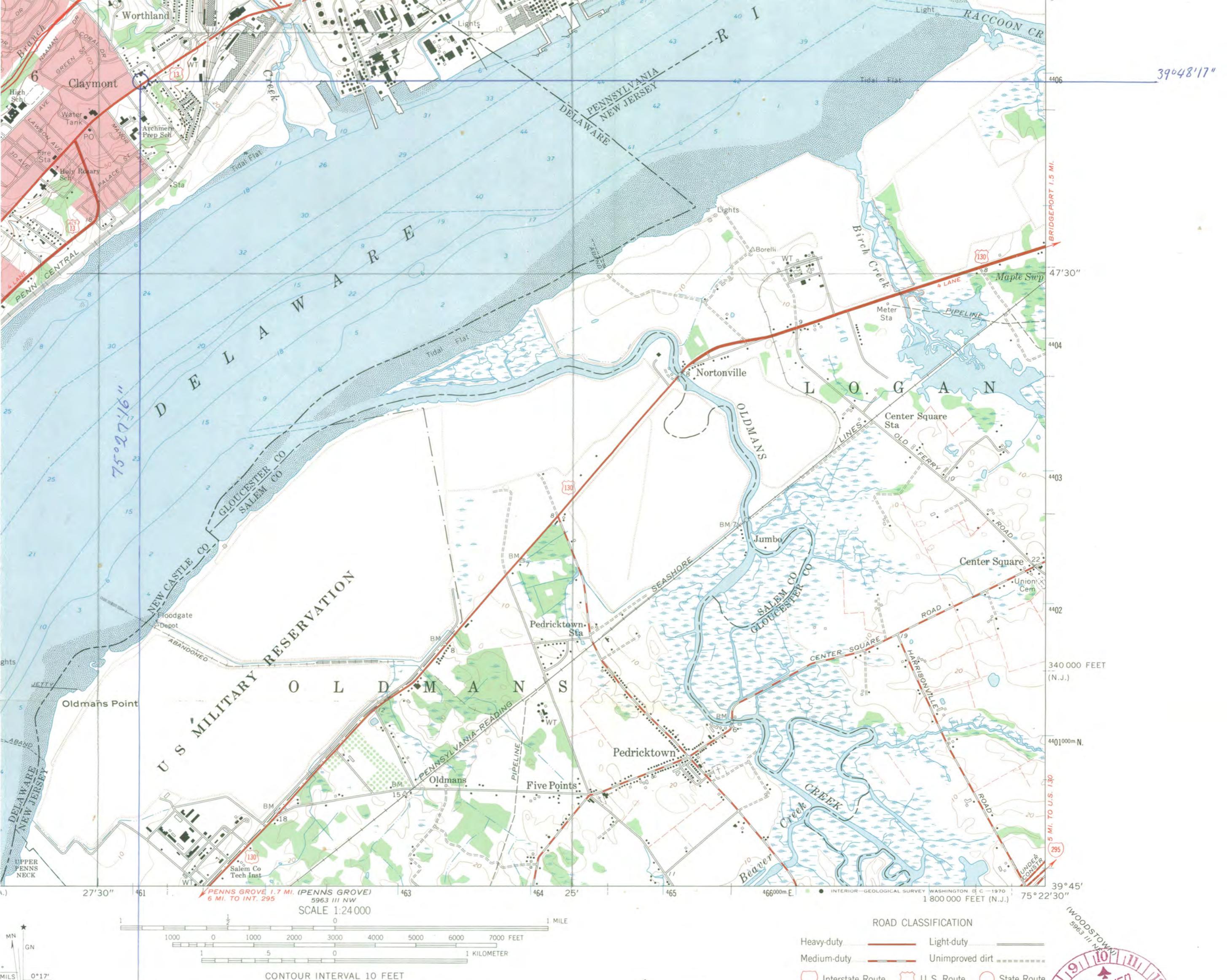
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



MARCUS HOOK, PA.—N.J.—DEL.
SW/4 CHESTER 15' QUADRANGLE
N 3945—W 7522 5/7.5

1967

AMS 5963 IV SW-SERIES V831

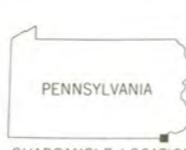


THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MARCUS HOOK, PA - N.J. - DEL
SW 1/4 CHESTER 15' QUADRANGLE
N3945 - W7522.5 / 7.5

1967

AMS 5963 IV SW-SERIES V831



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	—
Medium-duty	—
Light-duty	—
Unimproved dirt	=====
Interstate Route	■
U.S. Route	□
State Route	○





STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware 19901

November 27, 1972

DR. E. BERKELEY TOMPKINS
DIRECTOR

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic
Places
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Bill:

Please find enclosed nominations for the following properties:

Darley House
Mordington
Draper-Adkins House
Louis McLane House
Hazzard House
Eden Hill
Greenlawn
Barratt Hall
Lindale House
Minquadale Home for Aged Men
Old Stone Tavern
Cooch's Bridge Historic District
Greenbank Mill and Mill Owner's House
Christ Church, Milford
Coffee Run Mission Site
Noxontown
Andrew Fisher House
Naudain (Arnold S.) House



This adds to the very large number of Delaware nominations which your office has on hand. I would certainly appreciate anything which might be done to expedite placement of some of these properties on the Register.

Most sincerely,

E. Berkeley Tompkins, Director
Division of Historical and
Cultural Affairs
State Liaison Officer for the
National Register

EBT/sjp

Encl.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTERSTATE DELAWAREDate Entered 7/2 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Noxontown	Middletown vicinity New Castle County
Hazzard House	Milton Sussex County
Highball Signal	Delmar Sussex County
Cannon's (Woodland) Ferry	Woodland Sussex County
Darley House	Claymont New Castle County
Old Stone Tavern	Little Creek Kent County

Also Notified

Hon. William V. Roth
 Hon. Joseph R. Biden
 Hon. Pierre S. du Pont, IV
 Director, Northeast Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
 Mr. Grover A. Biddle, Acting Director
 Division of Historical and Cultural
 Affairs
 Department of State
 Dover, Delaware 19901