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Wilmington Memorial Day organizers look back - and ahead

a plans not under way for Saturday's 142nd Memorial Day Parade to Wilmington - always on the traditional May 30 date, rain or shine organizers got in times. pected altimpse of its past

The tradition began in 1868, when New Castle County residents formed a Monortal Day Committee to honor local residents who gave their lives dairing the Civil War

The parade always starts at 6 p.m. at Delaware and Woodbown avenues, core east on Delaware, and ends at the Soldiers & Sailors Monument, also called the Civil

DELAWARE BACKSTORY

pobin brown

War Monuinemi. of Broom Street with a memor tal sarvice to honor the dead of all warn.

Paradia muché 147ne

This year Pauline B. Anderson of American Gold Size Mothers is stand marshal, bands are coming from Salestunian School, William Perm High School and Cab Calloway School of the Arts, and caders from the Delaware Military Academy will murch and help with the wroath laying correspons.

One purpole organized. Casare Carbell, was taking parade vegintrofaces when she got a formitons call from Wayne Pladage of American Legion Post 21

As they chartes! he did more then contains the past to loss the parade and memorial service. He fold Cathell of an account of the 1900 perade recreated in the American Laguage Rogart that your

Soon, he got Cathell a copy What struck her most were that the methorial lasted two days and tens of thousands were m

volved, including many voperans of when had optimistically been called the "War to End All Warn. better known most an World War I.

> The American Legiou report said. "The amount day of mourning for Americans who died fighting for their country was observed in Wilmington by decoration of the graves of the country a soldiers who are buried here and by a norude in which the leadtrar delessa tions were composed of the men of three-generations who had served those country in the three wars.

The graves had been marked with flaus and flowers on the precisions! eventor and memorial services were build vestereday by surviving communes at all of the

The living veterans more statched by a crowd shared Vietnam seteron Horry Lowerest untiting at the memorals serves extinuted at over 30,000 as they marched, some in of the Soldiers & Susters Monument in 1976. the old blue uniform of the Civil Way and many in place dead, along the streets of the city which they had honored

by their war wey inc." Discovery of the 1900 agenum financi interest in finding more of the pursule's part. The committee area anyone willing to all are and photon accounts or seasonal and the periods to add Carloud



The Wilmourne Manageral Day Placets on Saturday ends with its resultional Influte to the dead of all wars. This oboty from The Name Journal's Risa

ONLINE

EXTRAS

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And while enough may not lie as his as they once were. Cathell such the treamby, and tribute are querioused, so you and other columners they begoing the Wilmington Mercanial Hay Parodicarring as a mission trait

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Dover

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Delaware

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Delaware Avenue Historic District contains twenty Victorian mansions along a wide two-block avenue. There are various styles of nineteenth-century architecture in these two remaining blocks of a once larger suburban residential section.

Italianate and Queen Anne styles predominate among the surviving buildings. Colonial-revival and mansard-roofed houses are also present. The style and massing of the buildings is quite large, mostly three stories in height with extensive wings to the rear of most of the houses. The houses are both detached and semi-detached. The modern intrusions, several apartments, blend well with the surrounding houses.

Beginning at the south side of the 1200 block with 1204-1206 and 1208-1210 (1 and 2), the Italianate style is most evident in the heavy bracket cornices and three-story height of these pressed-brick, semi-detached houses. Each has a fairly low roofline with interior end chimneys. Protruding gables with bracket cornices and gingerbread detail extend from the sides of both structures. 1208-1210 has limestone quoins. The next building to the west of these Italianate houses is a four-story twentieth-century apartment complex (3).

Across the street, going east, is first a large semi-detached brick house (4 and 5); the western portion of which, also known as 1400 N. Franklin Street, is three stories high with gable roof, shed dormers, and delicate bargeboard treatment. The handsome porch and interesting roof configuration distinguish this house. The eastern portion (5) is a three-story Colonial revival brick structure, laid in Flemish bond brickwork. Although predominantly Georgian or Colonial revival in style, there is a conglomeration of other features, including Greek and Gothic revival. The late date of this part of the house, 1908, explains the diversity in the architecture.

To the east of 1213 is a three-story, detached, brick house (6) with a mansard roof and bracket cornice. The house is the only one in the block with a mansard roof; however, its height and massing, including numerous back wings, conforms to the overall esthetic quality of the 1200 block.

Finally, there are two semi-detached houses, 1205-1207 (7) and 1201-1203 (8) of similar style and detail. Each has a heavy bracket cornice, attenuated ground-floor windows, and marble lintels and lugsills. The paired doorways are framed by bolection mouldings. 1205-1207 has a modified pent roof across the facade; however, this feature was removed from 1201-1203. This modified pent roof is an outstanding characteristic of this block as most of the houses on the north side of the block have some form of pent roof.

The predominant characteristic of the 1300 block of Delaware Avenue is the size of the houses built as single-family dwellings and not as semi-detached houses. All are three or more story dwellings. This block shows a predominance of the Queen Anne revival and Italianate styles.

Two twentieth-century apartment complexes are in this block. One, the Plaza (9), is a high rise of contemporary design and sits well back from Delaware Avenue. The other, 1320 (18), is smaller in proportion and resembles more closely the architecture of the block.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Delaware Avenue Historic District, an excellent example of America's "Gilded Age," contains outstanding examples of Victorian architecture. The district is also significant as an example of early suburban development in America.

The remaining original houses reflect fine Victorian architectural characteristics. The Italianate and Queen Anne styles predominate. Generally these houses or mansions are set well back from the street and occupy generous lots. They are true Victorian mansions: massive in size and irregular in plan. Bays, turrets, cross gables, and large front porches appear frequently.

A variety of materials are used, often in combination, in the construction and decoration of the houses, including brick, granite, marble, terra cotta, brownstone, ashlar-scored stucco, wood, cast iron, and slate. Many of the houses have one or more stained-glass windows. All of these architectural features and materials were used lavishly in the design of the major houses along Delaware Avenue, and most of the buildings still retain a nineteenth-century grandeur in their exteriors.

Fewer of the elaborate interiors, popular during the period, have survived intact. Most notable in this respect is 1308 (16), now occupied by the Delaware Lung Association. One of its ground-floor rooms has a ceiling richly embellished with Gothic tracery, while an adjoining sitting room is decorated in the style of Louis XV. 1304 (14) has a particularly fine fireplace in the room now serving as one of the A.A.U.W. offices and a smaller tiled fireplace is in the hall.

In the area formed by Delaware Avenue, West Fourteenth Street and North Broom Street is the Soldier and Sailors Monument. It originated with the idea of Alfred S. Nones, onetime officer with the Delaware Veteran Volunteer Infantry, to convert the columns in front of the Old Pennsylvania Bank Building, demolished in 1868, into monuments to the Civil War dead. The bill passed in Congress and plans were drawn up by A. B. Mullet, Supervising Architect in Washington, D. C. The monument was privately funded. Washington Jones, the president of the Soldiers Monument Association, took charge of the shaft.

The Delaware Avenue Historic District is outstanding as an example of effective city planning. It comprises the only extant portions of the original 1870's real estate development along the trolley car line established by Joshua T. Heald in 1864 to encourage settlement in this part of Wilmington. In partnership with James L. Devou, Heald improved and laid out lots along the line. The lower portion of Delaware Avenue,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Canby, Henry Seidel, The Age of Confidence, New York, 1934.
Hoffecker, Carol E., <u>Wilmington</u> , <u>Delaware</u> : <u>Portrait of an Industrial City</u> , <u>1830-1890</u> , University of Virginia Press, 1974.
Scharf, J. Thomas, <u>History of Delaware</u> , <u>1609-1888</u> , 2 vols., Philadelphia, 1888.
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Ca. 5 acres UTM REFERENCES
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Delaware Avenue Historic District in Wilmington, Delaware is bounded on the east by North Harrison Street and on the west by both North Broom Street and the back property lines of the lots between Fourteenth Street and Delaware Avenue on the west side of North Broom Street. On the north and south, the district is bounded by the back property lines of the lots facing Delaware Avenue between North Harrison and North Broom Streets. LISTALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
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11 FORM PREPARED BY NAME/TITLE Susanne N. Fox, Research Archivist
ORGANIZATION Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs May 13, 1976
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE Hall of Reocrds 302-678-5314
CITY OR TOWN STATE Dover Delaware
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL STATE LOCAL _X
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, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE 7/30/76
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST: DATE PATER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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N-2593, N-2594, N-2595, N-2596, N-2692, N-3662.

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The north side of the block is primarily Italianate with large, three-story structures having heavy bracket cornices. 1313 (11) is also ashlar-scored stucco. A slight central gable serves as a pediment top to the third-story Palladian window. The window surrounds are engaged pilaster strips. The motif is repeated in the central doorway and portico. 1315 (12) reflects both the Italianate and Gothic revival styles. Half of 1315 is now called the West Wing and is 1500 North Broom Street. Today there are two entrances: one on North Broom Street and one on Delaware Avenue.

The south side of the block is predominately Queen Anne revival in style. The houses are unusually large. The only Italianate structure on this side of the block is 1300 (13). It is a three-story brick house with heavy projecting bracket cornice and front porch. In the same style as the semi-detached houses in the 1200 block, it was designed as a single-family dwelling.

The remaining houses in the block, 1304 (14), 1306 (15), 1308 (16), 1310 (17) are Queen Anne revival, but each has individual characteristics. 1304 is a three-story, brick house with hipped roof, gables with bargeboard trim, tower, and turret. This house has all of the Queen Anne elements: slate, terra cotta, and wood with a brick base. 1306 is a three-story brick house and has a third story mansard with central cupola mansard topping the central brick projecting bay. The porch is Richardsonian in style, with short massed columns supporting Syrian arches, with the portico topped by a hooded turret sporting an eyebrow window.

1308 and 1310 (16 and 17) are both Tudor/Queen Anne revival houses. 1308 has tall corbelled chimneys integrated within an irregular massing of gables and bays. It is three stories high. 1310 is a three-and-a-half-story brick mansion with irregular massing of gables and entrances.

Accentuating this block is the tall Soldiers and Sailors Monument. The column has an inscribed base and ball on top with an eagle throttling a serpent. It is situated in a square landscaped with grass.

Facing the Soldiers and Sailors Monument are two houses on North Broom Street which complete the district. 1401-1403 North Broom Street is a three-story, semi-detached, brick, second empire house. To the north of it is 1400 Delaware Avenue, built in the Italian villa style. It is a three-story, tan stucco house.

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Delaware Avenue Historic District Inventory

- 1. 1204-1206 Delaware Avenue: 1872, Italianate, three stories, semi-detached (S. D. Carswell), N-2581.
- 2. 1208-1210 Delaware Avenue: 1875, Italianate, three stories, semi-detached, limestone quoins (Robert Scott), N-2582.
- 3. 1212 Delaware Avenue: 20th century, four stories, apartment complex.
- 4. 1215 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1875, Italianate, three stories, brick, detached, shed dormers (Mary Dixon), N-2594.
- 5. 1213 Delaware Avenue: 1908, Colonial Revival, three stories, brick (Joseph Reybold), N-2593.
- 6. 1211 Delaware Avenue: 1870, Italianate/Second Empire, three stories, brick mansard roof (William Spruance), N-2592.
- 7. 1205-1207 Delaware Avenue: 1873-1874, Italianate, three stories, brick, marble lintels and lugsills (Clement B. Smyth), N-2591.
- 8. 1201-1203 Delaware Avenue: 1873-1874, Italianate, three stories, brick, marble lintels, and lugsills, modified pent roof (Clement B. Smyth), N-2591.
- 9. Plaza Apartments, 1303 Delaware Avenue: 1954, high-rise apartment complex.
- 1311 Delaware Avenue: 1871-1872, Italianate, three stories, detached, detailed wooden surrounds (James L. Devou), N-2595.
- 11. 1313 Delaware Avenue: 1871-1872, Italianate, three stories, scored-stucco, detached, engaged pilaster window surrounds (James C. Johnson), N-2596.
- 12. 1315 Delaware Avenue: 1868-1869, Gothic Revival, detached, grey fieldstone (Heald-Lovering), N-1076.
- 13. 1300 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1879, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick, detached (John Warner), N-2583.

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- 1304 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1871, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick, hipped roof, tower, turret (Joshua T. Heald), N-2584.
- 15. 1306 Delaware Avenue: 1874-1877, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick (General H. B. Judd), N-2585.
- 16. 1308 Delaware Avenue: 1890, Tudor/Queen Anne Revival, three stories, tall corbelled chimneys (George Lobdell), N-2586.
- 17. 1310 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1893, Tudor/Queen Anne Revival, three and a half stories, gables, N-2587.
- 18. 1320 Delaware Avenue: 1940, apartment complex.
- 19. 1401-1403 North Broom Street: 1877, Second Empire, three stories, semi-detached, brick mansard roof (Mahlon M. Child), N-2692.
- 20. 1400 Delaware Avenue: 1876, Italian Villa, three stories, tan stucco (Mahlon M. Child), N-2588.

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including the 900, 1000, and 1100 blocks, is gone, but the remaining 1200 and 1300 blocks centered around the historic Soldiers and Sailors Monument, retain much of the grandeur of their heyday. Strictly speculative, the real estate development proved a profitable investment. In less than ten years, this area was the most fashionable in the city and contained homes built in the most modern architectural styles. Many of the city's industrial and civic leaders built homes along the avenue. These men set the standard for elegance in Wilmington.

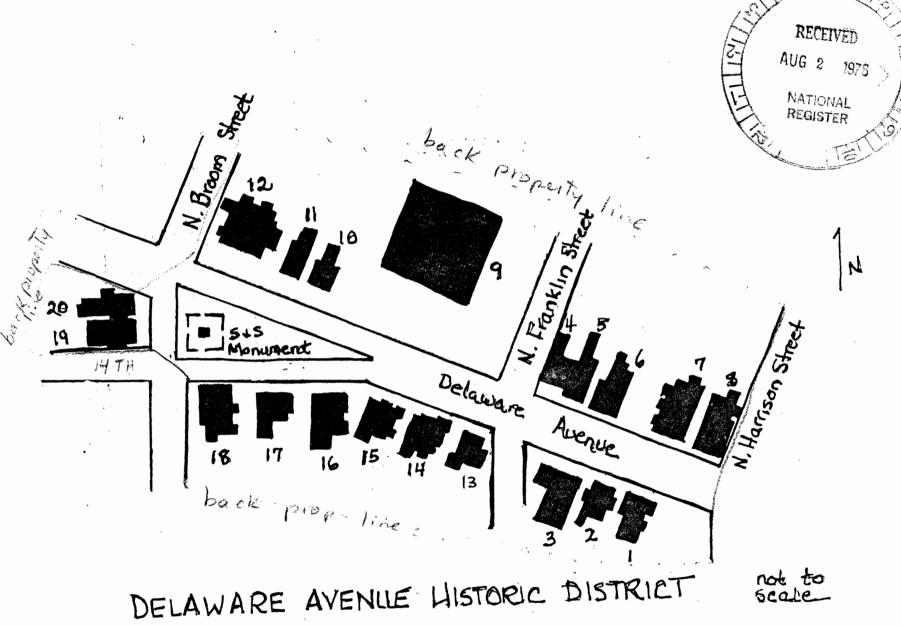
The 900, 1000, and 1100 blocks were developed first. Unfortunately, the buildings in these blocks are gone. The first houses in the 1200 block were built by James Bradford in 1871. The unique facade of 1200-1202 was painted because it had been built using second-hand bricks saved from the demolition of the old Indian Queen Hotel at Fifth and Market Streets, which was razed to make way for the Clayton House. This semidetached house was demolished.

1200-1203 (8) and 1205-1207 (7) were built in 1873 as an investment by Clement B. Smyth, treasurer of the Diamond State Iron Company and the Vulcanized Fibre Company. William Spruance, one of the foremost lawyers in Delaware and later Senior Associate Justice of Delaware, built the next house to the west, 1211 (6), around 1870. Across the street in the same block, 1204-1206 (1) was built by S. D. Carswell, a millowner, who occupied 1206 and sold 1204 to F. L. Gilpin, president of the F. L. Gilpin Insurance Company. 1208-1210 (2) was built in 1875 by Robert Scott, who lived there for three years and then sold it to Thomas Bellah, president of the Bellah Iron and Steel Company.

Among the builders of homes in the 1300 block were James L. Devou, Heald's Delaware Avenue development partner, James C. Johnson, owner of a house-finishing company, and Heald himself. Devou built 1311 (10) in 1871. Heald also built 1315 (12). Johnson built 1313 (11) at the same time.

Had the development of Delaware Avenue remained centered around that one main street, it is doubtful that even the 1200 and 1300 blocks of the larger development would have remained. However, streets adjacent to Delaware Avenue were laid out and later developed along the same architectural lines as the Delaware Avenue homes. These subsidiary streets are not being included in the historic district at this time because of their later date.

Delaware Avenue was originally developed to provide a residential section for the growing Wilmington. Now a century later, people are returning to the area from the suburbs again to be closer to the center of Wilmington. The large apartment complexes in the area supply the additional needed housing. Thus, Delaware Avenue remains an important adjunct to the city.





Delaware

Nu 10

W. Barksdale Maynard
W. Barksdale Maynard

University of Virginia Press CHARLOTTESVILLE AND LONDON







WL85 SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MONUMENT, photo c. 1900



WL86 FRANK E. SCHOONOVER STUDIOS

subsequently, was altered by May (1917–1923; Weston Holt Blake, draftsman), then again by G. Morris Whiteside (1950), and yet again in the 1990s. Only the ceiling remains from the 1880s. The church proper, by Philadelphia architect Potter, has extensive stained glass. The Community Hall and long covered walk with stone buttresses were added in 1992–1993. In the once-highly fashionable neighborhood nearby stand Immanuel Episcopal at 2400 W. 17th Street (1915, Frederick E. Mann, with Brown and Whiteside, and stained glass by Frank Schoonover, 1929–1930) and St. Stephen's Lutheran (1926–1927, Clarence R. Hope) at 1304 N. Rodney Street.

WL85 Soldiers and Sailors Monument

1871, Alfred B. Mullett, incorporating a 1799– 1801 column by Benjamin Henry Latrobe; Harry Lowe, sculptor. Delaware Ave. and Broom St.

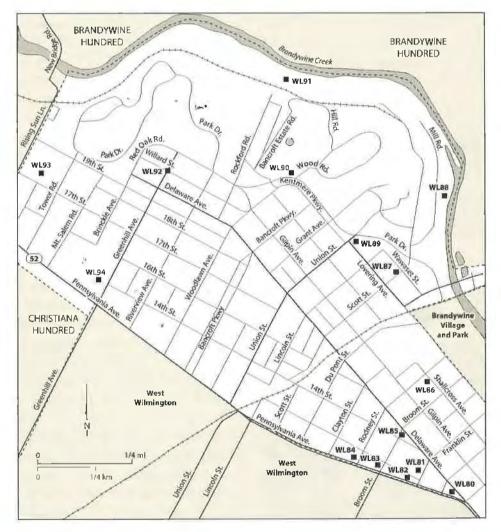
This column was the first public monument ever erected in Wilmington and incorporates a fragment of one of America's most historic lost structures. In 1868, Latrobe's Bank of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, was demolished to make way for the U.S. Appraisers' Stores Building, Delaware Civil War veteran Albert S. Nones suggested to U.S. Congressman Charles O'Neill of Philadelphia that its columns be made into war memorials to be designed by

the architect Mullett. Congress passed a bill of authorization. Through Nones's leadership, the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association, Delaware, successfully applied for one of the columns, which formed the basis for the state's only Civil War soldiers memorial. (Other Latrobe-column memorials survive at Adrian, Michigan, and Dayton, Ohio.) Lowe fashioned the globe and eagle (which grapples with the serpent of rebellion), cast at Pusey and Jones Company in Wilmington from donated cannon bronze. The monument was dedicated in May 1871 by General Oliver O. Howard of the Freedman's Bureau. Debts went unpaid, and the sheriff seized the monument for a time. Willam du Pont enclosed the plot with granite copings in 1893 as Monument Place. The landscaping is modern (1978, Edward Bachtle). The surrounding neighborhood has interesting houses of the 1870s—1880s era, although the childhood home of memoirist Henry Seidel Canby (*The Age of Confidence*, 1934) at 1212 Delaware Avenue was torn down for a 1920s-era apartment house.

WL86 Frank E, Schoonover Studios

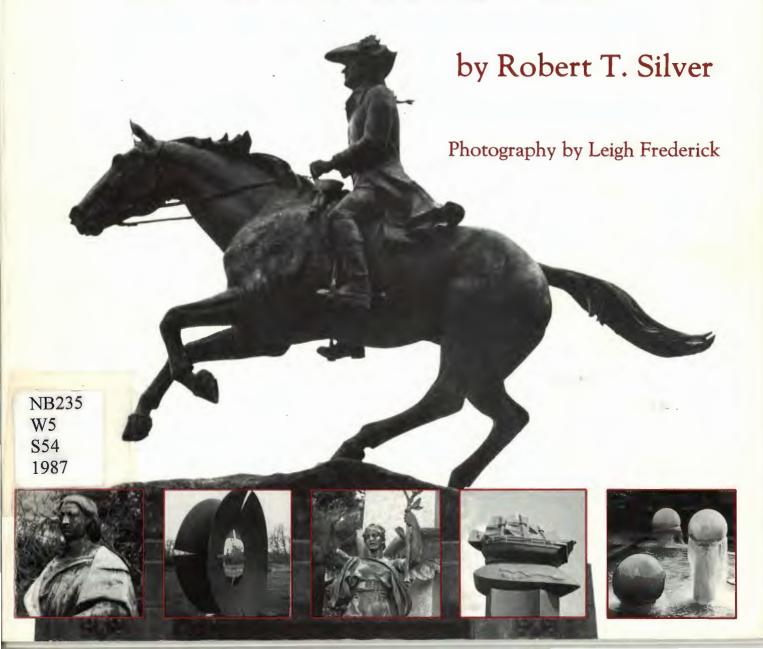
1905–1906, Edward Luff Rice Jr. 1616 N. Rodney St.

Art collector Samuel Bancroft built four attached studios for illustrators studying with Howard Pyle. The architecture is simpli-



NORTHWEST WILMINGTON

OUTDOOR SCULPTURE IN WILMINGTON



(尼斯) (15)

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Additional copies of this book may be purchased from the Wilmington Arts Commission, Office of the Mayor, 800 French Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.







This project has been partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities, and by a grant from the Wilmington Arts Commission. Proceeds from the sale of this book will revert to the Commission to help defray the cost of its publication.

July 1987



5. 18 O D

Harry Lowe (Eagle Group)

5. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MONUMENT

1871, granite shaft, bronze eagle group

On the triangle formed by the conjunction of Delaware Avenue, 14th Street and Broom Street

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MONUMENT

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument was erected through the efforts of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association, whose object it was to raise funds to provide a site and erect a monument to perpetuate the memory of those "who fell in defence of the Union during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion." The "late war" was the Civil War; the monument was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1871. It was the City of Wilmington's first (and still the largest) outdoor public monument.

The structure is composed of a granite column 45 feet high, resting upon a square concrete base 10 feet high, which sits upon a two-stepped concrete platform. The platform with its superstructure is then mounted atop a broad grassy mound, attained from street level by a flight of concrete steps.

Instead of a traditional Corinthian or Ionic capital the shaft is topped by four garlanded shields bearing stars and stripes motifs. This capital is surmounted by a bronze globe upon which a bronze eagle has just alighted. The eagle is throttling in its talons a reptile representing secession.

The north face of the base is inscribed:

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS
MONUMENT
IN COMMEMORATION OF DELAWARE'S
PATRIOTIC DEAD WHO SACRIFICED
THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY
DURING THE REBELLION OF 1861-65

The south face of the base is inscribed:

THE THANKS OF THE
MONUMENT ASSOCIATION
ARE EXTENDED TO ELI CROZIER
FOR VALUABLE SERVICES RENDERED
IN THE COMPLETION OF THIS MONUMENT

The monument came to be erected through a set of fortuitous circumstances. In 1868 the Federal Government announced plans for the demolition of its building at Second and Lodge Streets in Philadelphia. This was the neoclassical Bank of Pennsylvania built in 1800 by the famed architect Benjamin Latrobe. A Wilmingtonian and former Civil War officer, Albert S. Nones, came forward with the suggestion that columns from the facade of the bank building be offered to such of the thirteen original colonies/states which might desire to convert them into memorials to those who died in the War. This was done by Act of Congress, and Delaware obtained one. In addition, Congress donated a bronze Civil War cannon from which a local artist, Harry Lowe, forged the eagle group, using the facilities of Pusev & Jones, the local shipbuilding firm. The memorial was constructed from plans drawn up by A. B. Mullet, an architect from Washington, D.C.

A few years later, however, the Association which was responsible for the monument's erection found itself unable to repay some \$1,700 of the \$3,800 it had borrowed. The creditors sued and turned the property over to the sheriff, who announced that it would be auctioned off to clear the debt. At this juncture another Wilmingtonian,



Eli Crozier, a self-styled superpatriot who occasionally appeared in a stars and stripes costume, prevailed upon the sheriff to delay the sale. Through persistent efforts over a period of six years of public appeals he raised \$3,000, which he turned over to the creditors at a Memorial Day ceremony in 1880. The inscription

on the south face of the base was engraved, and for many years afterward the monument was popularly known as the **Crozier Monument**. Subsequently, the Association turned the title over to the City, and ever since then the annual Memorial Day parades have been terminating at the site for speeches and ceremonies.



A Chronology of Wilmington Events & Sculpture

Event	Year	Sculpture
Columbus	1492	
Landing of the Swedes	1638	
Caesar Rodney	1776	
Casimir Pulaski	1779	
Peter Spencer	1843	
Admiral duPont; Civil War	1865	
	1871	Soldiers & Sailors Monument
President James A. Garfield	1881	
	1884	Admiral duPont Statue
	1895	President Garfield Statue
Thomas Francis Bayard	1898	
President William McKinley	1901	
	1906	President McKinley Plaque
	1907	Thomas Francis Bayard Statue
World War I	1918	
	1923	Caesar Rodney Equestrian Statue
	1925	Todd Memorial
	1933	Josephine Memorial Fountain
	1938	Landing of the Swedes Monument
World War II	1945	
	1954	Casimir Pulaski Plaque
	1957	Christopher Columbus Statue
	1970	Boy & Dogs Sculpture
	1971	Boy & Duck Sculpture
Vietnam War	1972	
	1973	Father & Son Sculpture
	1979	The Holocaust Memorial
	1980	Untitled 1979-8
	1980	Monumental Holistic No. VII
	1981	Wild Iris
	1983	Electroglide
	1983	Kinetic Sculptures
	1983	Vietnam Memorial
	1983	Orifice II
	1985	Proa
	1985	The Sentinel

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Dover

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Delaware

SEE I	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES 0			3
NAME	THE ALL LIVINGS C	COMIT ELTE ATT EIGAB	LE SECTIONS	
HISTORIC	Delaware Avenue His	storic District		
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Δ.	. e-
STREET & NUMBER		,	1 A ASSESSMENT AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT	dill made
	Delaware Avenue	care N. Francisco	_NOT FOR PUBLICATION	A
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
STATE	Wilmington	VICINITY OF CODE	COUNTY	One CODE
SIAIE	Delaware	10	New Cast	
CLASSIFIC				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
X_DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	X_COMMERCIAL	X-PARK
STRUCTURE	X_BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	X_YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	INDUSTRIAL MILITARY	TRANSPORTATIONOTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
	Multiple Ownership			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
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LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, E	ETC. New Castle Court	House		
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN	Public Building,	Rodney Square	STATE	
CITT, TOWN	Wilmington			aware 19801
DEDDECEN	TATION IN EXIST	INC CLIDVEVS	DCi	aware 19001
TITLE	IAHON IN EAIST	INGSURVEIS		
Surv	ey of Delaware Histor	ic Sites and Build	ings	
DATE		,		
June	- August, 1975	FEDERAL X	STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR				
SURVEY RECORDS	Hall of Records		STATE	
CITY, TOWN			SIAIE	



CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT
XGOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__UNEXPOSED

__RUINS

__UNALTERED
X_ALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE__

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Delaware Avenue Historic District contains twenty Victorian mansions along a wide two-block avenue. There are various styles of nineteenth-century architecture in these two remaining blocks of a once larger suburban residential section.

Italianate and Queen Anne styles predominate among the surviving buildings. Colonial-revival and mansard-roofed houses are also present. The style and massing of the buildings is quite large, mostly three stories in height with extensive wings to the rear of most of the houses. The houses are both detached and semi-detached. The modern intrusions, several apartments, blend well with the surrounding houses.

Beginning at the south side of the 1200 block with 1204-1206 and 1208-1210 (1 and 2), the Italianate style is most evident in the heavy bracket cornices and three-story height of these pressed-brick, semi-detached houses. Each has a fairly low roofline with interior end chimneys. Protruding gables with bracket cornices and gingerbread detail extend from the sides of both structures. 1208-1210 has limestone quoins. The next building to the west of these Italianate houses is a four-story twentieth-century apartment complex (3).

Across the street, going east, is first a large semi-detached brick house (4 and 5); the western portion of which, also known as 1400 N. Franklin Street, is three stories high with gable roof, shed dormers, and delicate bargeboard treatment. The handsome porch and interesting roof configuration distinguish this house. The eastern portion (5) is a three-story Colonial revival brick structure, laid in Flemish bond brickwork. Although predominantly Georgian or Colonial revival in style, there is a conglomeration of other features, including Greek and Gothic revival. The late date of this part of the house, 1908, explains the diversity in the architecture.

To the east of 1213 is a three-story, detached, brick house (6) with a mansard roof and bracket cornice. The house is the only one in the block with a mansard roof; however, its height and massing, including numerous back wings, conforms to the overall esthetic quality of the 1200 block.

Finally, there are two semi-detached houses, 1205-1207 (7) and 1201-1203 (8) of similar style and detail. Each has a heavy bracket cornice, attenuated ground-floor windows, and marble lintels and lugsills. The paired doorways are framed by bolection mouldings. 1205-1207 has a modified pent roof across the facade; however, this feature was removed from 1201-1203. This modified pent roof is an outstanding characteristic of this block as most of the houses on the north side of the block have some form of pent roof.

The predominant characteristic of the 1300 block of Delaware Avenue is the size of the houses built as single-family dwellings and not as semi-detached houses. All are three or more story dwellings. This block shows a predominance of the Queen Anne revival and Italianate styles.

Two twentieth-century apartment complexes are in this block. One, the Plaza (9), is a high rise of contemporary design and sits well back from Delaware Avenue. The other, 1320 (18), is smaller in proportion and resembles more closely the architecture of the block.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
1700-1799 _X1800-1899 1900-	ARTCOMMERCECOMMUNICATIONS	ENGINEERINGEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENTINDUSTRYINVENTION	MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	THEATERTRANSPORTATIONOTHER (SPECIFY)
1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORICAGRICULTURE X_ARCHITECTURE	CONSERVATIONECONOMICSEDUCATION	LAW LITERATURE MILITARY	SCIENCESCULPTURESOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
PERIOD PREHISTORIC	A ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Delaware Avenue Historic District, an excellent example of America's "Gilded Age," contains outstanding examples of Victorian architecture. The district is also significant as an example of early suburban development in America.

The remaining original houses reflect fine Victorian architectural characteristics. The Italianate and Queen Anne styles predominate. Generally these houses or mansions are set well back from the street and occupy generous lots. They are true Victorian mansions: massive in size and irregular in plan. Bays, turrets, cross gables, and large front porches appear frequently.

A variety of materials are used, often in combination, in the construction and decoration of the houses, including brick, granite, marble, terra cotta, brownstone, ashlar-scored stucco, wood, cast iron, and slate. Many of the houses have one or more stained-glass windows. All of these architectural features and materials were used lavishly in the design of the major houses along Delaware Avenue, and most of the buildings still retain a nineteenth-century grandeur in their exteriors.

Fewer of the elaborate interiors, popular during the period, have survived intact. Most notable in this respect is 1308 (16), now occupied by the Delaware Lung Association. One of its ground-floor rooms has a ceiling richly embellished with Gothic tracery, while an adjoining sitting room is decorated in the style of Louis XV. 1304 (14) has a particularly fine fireplace in the room now serving as one of the A.A.U.W. offices and a smaller tiled fireplace is in the hall.

In the area formed by Delaware Avenue, West Fourteenth Street and North Broom Street is the Soldier and Sailors Monument. It originated with the idea of Alfred S. Nones, onetime officer with the Delaware Veteran Volunteer Infantry, to convert the columns in front of the Old Pennsylvania Bank Building, demolished in 1868, into monuments to the Civil War dead. The bill passed in Congress and plans were drawn up by A. B. Mullet, Supervising Architect in Washington, D. C. The monument was privately funded. Washington Jones, the president of the Soldiers Monument Association, took charge of the shaft.

The Delaware Avenue Historic District is outstanding as an example of effective city planning. It comprises the only extant portions of the original 1870's real estate development along the trolley car line established by Joshua T. Heald in 1864 to encourage settlement in this part of Wilmington. In partnership with James L. Devou, Heald improved and laid out lots along the line. The lower portion of Delaware Avenue,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Canby, Henry Seidel, The Age of Confidence, New York, 1934.
Hoffecker, Carol E., <u>Wilmington</u> , <u>Delaware</u> : <u>Portrait of an Industrial City</u> , <u>1830-1890</u> , University of Virginia Press, 1974.
Scharf, J. Thomas, <u>History of Delaware</u> , <u>1609-1888</u> , 2 vols., Philadelphia, 1888.
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Ca. 5 acres UTM REFERENCES
A 118 4 51 2 01 81 0 41 4 01 0 51 21 0 B
Delaware Avenue Historic District in Wilmington, Delaware is bounded on the east by North Harrison Street and on the west by both North Broom Street and the back property lines of the lots between Fourteenth Street and Delaware Avenue on the west side of North Broom Street. On the north and south, the district is bounded by the back property lines of the lots facing Delaware Avenue between North Harrison and North Broom Streets. LISTALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
11 FORM PREPARED BY NAME/TITLE Susanne N. Fox, Research Archivist
ORGANIZATION Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs May 13, 1976
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE Hall of Reocrds 302-678-5314
CITY OR TOWN STATE Dover Delaware
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL STATE LOCAL _X
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, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE 7/30/76
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST: DATE PATER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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N-2593, N-2594, N-2595, N-2596, N-2692, N-3662.

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The north side of the block is primarily Italianate with large, three-story structures having heavy bracket cornices. 1313 (11) is also ashlar-scored stucco. A slight central gable serves as a pediment top to the third-story Palladian window. The window surrounds are engaged pilaster strips. The motif is repeated in the central doorway and portico. 1315 (12) reflects both the Italianate and Gothic revival styles. Half of 1315 is now called the West Wing and is 1500 North Broom Street. Today there are two entrances: one on North Broom Street and one on Delaware Avenue.

The south side of the block is predominately Queen Anne revival in style. The houses are unusually large. The only Italianate structure on this side of the block is 1300 (13). It is a three-story brick house with heavy projecting bracket cornice and front porch. In the same style as the semi-detached houses in the 1200 block, it was designed as a single-family dwelling.

The remaining houses in the block, 1304 (14), 1306 (15), 1308 (16), 1310 (17) are Queen Anne revival, but each has individual characteristics. 1304 is a three-story, brick house with hipped roof, gables with bargeboard trim, tower, and turret. This house has all of the Queen Anne elements: slate, terra cotta, and wood with a brick base. 1306 is a three-story brick house and has a third story mansard with central cupola mansard topping the central brick projecting bay. The porch is Richardsonian in style, with short massed columns supporting Syrian arches, with the portico topped by a hooded turret sporting an eyebrow window.

1308 and 1310 (16 and 17) are both Tudor/Queen Anne revival houses. 1308 has tall corbelled chimneys integrated within an irregular massing of gables and bays. It is three stories high. 1310 is a three-and-a-half-story brick mansion with irregular massing of gables and entrances.

Accentuating this block is the tall Soldiers and Sailors Monument. The column has an inscribed base and ball on top with an eagle throttling a serpent. It is situated in a square landscaped with grass.

Facing the Soldiers and Sailors Monument are two houses on North Broom Street which complete the district. 1401-1403 North Broom Street is a three-story, semi-detached, brick, second empire house. To the north of it is 1400 Delaware Avenue, built in the Italian villa style. It is a three-story, tan stucco house.

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Delaware Avenue Historic District Inventory

- 1. 1204-1206 Delaware Avenue: 1872, Italianate, three stories, semi-detached (S. D. Carswell), N-2581.
- 2. 1208-1210 Delaware Avenue: 1875, Italianate, three stories, semi-detached, limestone quoins (Robert Scott), N-2582.
- 3. 1212 Delaware Avenue: 20th century, four stories, apartment complex.
- 4. 1215 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1875, Italianate, three stories, brick, detached, shed dormers (Mary Dixon), N-2594.
- 5. 1213 Delaware Avenue: 1908, Colonial Revival, three stories, brick (Joseph Reybold), N-2593.
- 6. 1211 Delaware Avenue: 1870, Italianate/Second Empire, three stories, brick mansard roof (William Spruance), N-2592.
- 7. 1205-1207 Delaware Avenue: 1873-1874, Italianate, three stories, brick, marble lintels and lugsills (Clement B. Smyth), N-2591.
- 8. 1201-1203 Delaware Avenue: 1873-1874, Italianate, three stories, brick, marble lintels, and lugsills, modified pent roof (Clement B. Smyth), N-2591.
- 9. Plaza Apartments, 1303 Delaware Avenue: 1954, high-rise apartment complex.
- 1311 Delaware Avenue: 1871-1872, Italianate, three stories, detached, detailed wooden surrounds (James L. Devou), N-2595.
- 11. 1313 Delaware Avenue: 1871-1872, Italianate, three stories, scored-stucco, detached, engaged pilaster window surrounds (James C. Johnson), N-2596.
- 12. 1315 Delaware Avenue: 1868-1869, Gothic Revival, detached, grey fieldstone (Heald-Lovering), N-1076.
- 13. 1300 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1879, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick, detached (John Warner), N-2583.

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- 1304 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1871, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick, hipped roof, tower, turret (Joshua T. Heald), N-2584.
- 15. 1306 Delaware Avenue: 1874-1877, Queen Anne Revival, three stories, brick (General H. B. Judd), N-2585.
- 16. 1308 Delaware Avenue: 1890, Tudor/Queen Anne Revival, three stories, tall corbelled chimneys (George Lobdell), N-2586.
- 17. 1310 Delaware Avenue: ca. 1893, Tudor/Queen Anne Revival, three and a half stories, gables, N-2587.
- 18. 1320 Delaware Avenue: 1940, apartment complex.
- 19. 1401-1403 North Broom Street: 1877, Second Empire, three stories, semi-detached, brick mansard roof (Mahlon M. Child), N-2692.
- 20. 1400 Delaware Avenue: 1876, Italian Villa, three stories, tan stucco (Mahlon M. Child), N-2588.

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including the 900, 1000, and 1100 blocks, is gone, but the remaining 1200 and 1300 blocks centered around the historic Soldiers and Sailors Monument, retain much of the grandeur of their heyday. Strictly speculative, the real estate development proved a profitable investment. In less than ten years, this area was the most fashionable in the city and contained homes built in the most modern architectural styles. Many of the city's industrial and civic leaders built homes along the avenue. These men set the standard for elegance in Wilmington.

The 900, 1000, and 1100 blocks were developed first. Unfortunately, the buildings in these blocks are gone. The first houses in the 1200 block were built by James Bradford in 1871. The unique facade of 1200-1202 was painted because it had been built using second-hand bricks saved from the demolition of the old Indian Queen Hotel at Fifth and Market Streets, which was razed to make way for the Clayton House. This semidetached house was demolished.

1200-1203 (8) and 1205-1207 (7) were built in 1873 as an investment by Clement B. Smyth, treasurer of the Diamond State Iron Company and the Vulcanized Fibre Company. William Spruance, one of the foremost lawyers in Delaware and later Senior Associate Justice of Delaware, built the next house to the west, 1211 (6), around 1870. Across the street in the same block, 1204-1206 (1) was built by S. D. Carswell, a millowner, who occupied 1206 and sold 1204 to F. L. Gilpin, president of the F. L. Gilpin Insurance Company. 1208-1210 (2) was built in 1875 by Robert Scott, who lived there for three years and then sold it to Thomas Bellah, president of the Bellah Iron and Steel Company.

Among the builders of homes in the 1300 block were James L. Devou, Heald's Delaware Avenue development partner, James C. Johnson, owner of a house-finishing company, and Heald himself. Devou built 1311 (10) in 1871. Heald also built 1315 (12). Johnson built 1313 (11) at the same time.

Had the development of Delaware Avenue remained centered around that one main street, it is doubtful that even the 1200 and 1300 blocks of the larger development would have remained. However, streets adjacent to Delaware Avenue were laid out and later developed along the same architectural lines as the Delaware Avenue homes. These subsidiary streets are not being included in the historic district at this time because of their later date.

Delaware Avenue was originally developed to provide a residential section for the growing Wilmington. Now a century later, people are returning to the area from the suburbs again to be closer to the center of Wilmington. The large apartment complexes in the area supply the additional needed housing. Thus, Delaware Avenue remains an important adjunct to the city.

