

PH0352641

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 13 1976

DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

* St. Joseph's On the Brandywine *nh*

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

10 Barley Mill Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Greenville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

One

STATE

Delaware

VICINITY OF

CODE

10

COUNTY

New Castle

CODE

002

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Diocese of Wilmington

STREET & NUMBER

1925 Delaware Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Delaware

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Public Building

STREET & NUMBER

Rodney Square

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

STATE

Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Delaware Survey of Historic Sites & Buildings N-1256

DATE

1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

CITY, TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Joseph's On the Brandywine is set in an enclosed churchyard and surrounded by contemporary structures which blend well. A classical church with simple lines, and Italianate and Gothic features, it has undergone many changes in its history.

In its present form, St. Joseph's displays very little of the original church structure. The stone walls, constructed thick enough "to resist man-made earthquakes" remain, but additions were made in 1848, 1878, 1941 and 1950. The basement reflects the original size of the church. It was first increased by one-third; and then a tower was added in 1878. The size of the vestibule was increased in 1941 and then the sacristy was enlarged in 1950. The church is stuccoed and painted yellow. Documentation for this color dates to 1895. The major renovations to the interior of the church were completed in 1894 and 1941. In preparation for the church's consecration in 1894, three new marble altars were installed as well as statues, memorial windows, a new ceiling and pews. At about the same time the church was painted and frescoed. As it celebrated its centennial, St. Joseph's enlarged the sanctuary, installed new pews and windows, marble aisles, marble statuary, and a pipe organ.

Presently, the exterior and interior of the church are very similar in color and form. The pedimented gable of the facade is pierced by the steeple. The latter takes a modified Gothic form with arched openings in the belfry and a heavy wooden balustrade surrounding the towers. A niche in the projecting tower contains a statue of Saint Joseph. Below this a Georgian Revival architrave has been added to the main door. The original style of the door is reflected in the two auxiliary doors added in 1941. Here a simple fanlight fills the top of the arched door opening. Arched openings are found in most of the windows in the structure. Along each side of the church, five elongated arched openings contain two narrower arched windows. These memorial windows were set in place in 1941 replacing those of 1894. The sections of the building added in 1941 and 1950 have smaller arched openings on the upper level with square openings below.

The interior of the church reflects many of the exterior forms. All of the openings in the vestibule are arched. Three arches also set off the sanctuary. An altar is enclosed in each and in the center of the rear wall a niche holds a statue. Arched doorways to the sacristy flank the main altar. The panelling in the sacristy is copied from that in the rear of the church. It replaces the 1894 marble altars which were recently removed. The ceiling in the church is ribbed narrow-board ceiling with bosses at the junctions of the ribs. It was added in 1894. The original ceiling may have been vaulted. Along the walls is a wainscot, stained dark to resemble walnut. It was added in 1941. The walls of the church are painted yellow. The aisles are marble and along with the present pews, also date to 1941. A choir loft spans the width of the church in the rear.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1841

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1841, St. Joseph's On the Brandywine symbolizes the duPont family's concern for the needs of its workers. In 1841, the idea of caring for the welfare of the worker outside of the working hours was a relatively new concept. The duPonts were ahead of their time in realizing that if they provided for the needs of their workers, the company would benefit. To the Irish and Italian Catholic workers, the church was essential to a happy peaceful life. Having a church would also benefit the Company in that it would serve as a uniting force between the two nationalities and establish a sense of permanence for the workers who were newly settled in this country.

Built by stonemasons from the duPont Company, St. Joseph's has the extraordinarily thick stone walls that the masons were accustomed to building in the powder mills. The masons were allowed to work on company time in constructing the church but this is only one of the ways in which the duPonts assisted in the establishment of the parish. Madame Victor duPont, a Catholic, by allowing mass to be celebrated in her home, activated interest in the Catholics. Other duPonts began to take an interest in the Catholic community. Among them was Charles I. duPont, who contributed the land on which the church was built. St. Joseph's first board of trustees was composed of several duPonts; the building committee was chaired by Alexis duPont who took great interest in the project. Shortly thereafter, when the bell tower was erected, Alexis duPont furnished the apparatus and oversaw its construction.

Throughout the nineteenth century, a close bond continued between the parish, the duPont family and the Company. The Company deducted pew rents from the pay of the parish members. After a fire in 1866 gutted the church and rectory, loans and gifts from the duPont family and the Company made possible their rebuilding. In 1895, Alfred I. duPont made provisions for electricity to be provided for the church, rectory, convent and school. Later when he painted his house, he made allowances for painting St. Joseph's buildings the same yellow color. He also provided a new roof.

Throughout the parish's first eighty years, at times when an explosion or an epidemic seriously affected the mill workers, the priests and the family members often met at the workers' homes ministering to their spiritual and temporal needs. This is particularly true of Alfred I. duPont and Father Bermingham at the time of the 1890's typhoid epidemic.

In 1850, Amelia duPont offered the parish five hundred dollars for the construction of a convent. This began the movement of parochial education in the state. Before the founding of the school in 1850, Catholics received their religious training at the Brandywine Manufacturer's Sunday School. This school, founded in 1815, was a unique ecumenical effort on the part of all denominations in the area. Each denomination instructed its own members in religion; jointly the children and adults were instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic. Various denominations withdrew as they completed their churches.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Zebley, Frank R. The Churches of Delaware. Wilmington: By the Author, 1947.
- Errigo, Joseph A. L. St. Joseph's On the Brandywine. Wilmington: Wm. N. Carr, Inc., 1941.
- Citro, Pauline A. "St. Joseph's On the Brandywine". Unpublished paper, 1964.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Two
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	4, 4, 9	5, 7, 5	4, 4	0, 2	4, 3, 5	B					
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			
C							D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site is defined on the east, west and north by the stone wall that encloses the churchyard and on the south by the boundary of the cemetery. It includes the church, rectory, convent, school and cemetery.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. M. Norton, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

4/15/76

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

(302) 678-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

Lauren...

TITLE

Director, Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

6/23/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Lawrence...

DATE

11/9/98

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/1/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

In 1894, when St. Joseph's was consecrated, it was the largest Catholic church in the state. Then, in about 1930, the DuPont Company moved its powder manufacture away. The church was so much tied to the company that it began to experience a period of decline. It seemed possible that it would close. However, Wilmington was growing and spreading its population out to the Brandywine Valley. New parishoners came and today, although it draws its parishoners from all of northern New Castle County, the parish has the solidarity that characterized it in its earlier years. It is, in fact, a symbol of continuity for the Catholic faith in Delaware.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

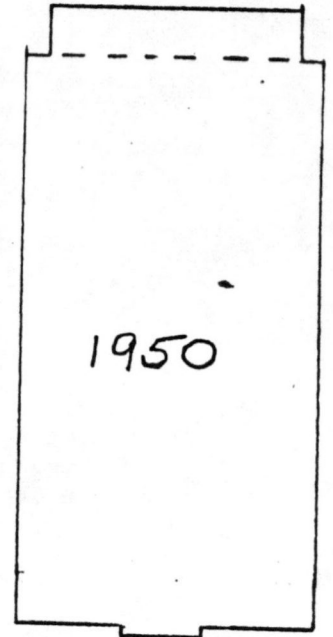
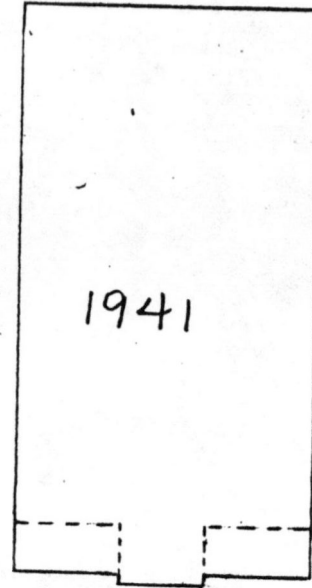
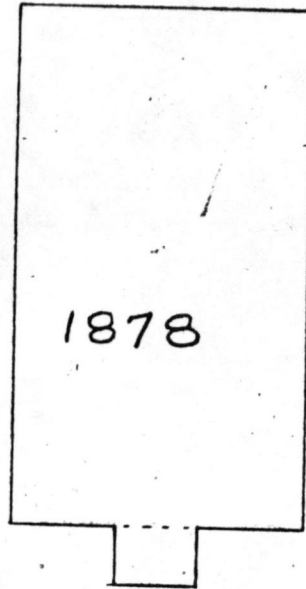
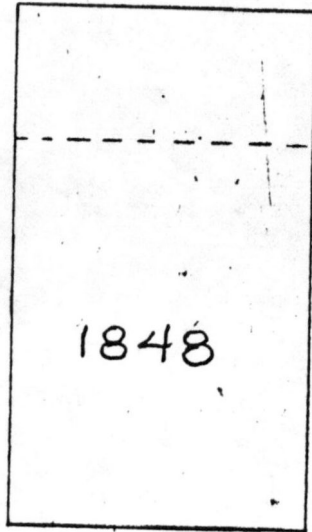
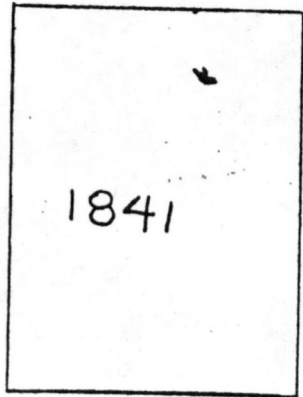
ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Sunday Star, Wilmington, DE 8-17-41: 1

Journal Every Evening, Wilmington, DE 12-6-41: 3

Every Evening, Wilmington, DE 12-27-28: 9

Development of the Plan of
ST. JOSEPH'S ON THE BRANDYWINE



Drawn: 6/15/76
By: JMN
Not to Scale



REPRODUCED FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property St. Joseph's On the Brandywine

Ref. # 76000572

State Delaware

Working Number 7.13.76.3740

NEW CASTLE

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl
7.16.76

HISTORIAN

accept
B. Groves
10/22/76

DESPITE INTERIOR ALTERATIONS AND IN EXTERIOR ENLARGEMENTS IN 1941 AND 1950, CHURCH STILL HAS INTEGRITY. (NOT NOMINATED FOR ARCHITECTURE)

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LEBOUT
10.27.76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Agree w/ Bill L. Despite alterations, significant for social implications.

Accept
BRANCH CHIEF

← Accept
Cole
10.28.76

KEEPER

Wm
11/1/76

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered NOV 7 1976

Federal Register Entry 12-7-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



NAME: St. Joseph's on the Brandywine

LOCATION: Greenville, Delaware *New Castle Co.*

PHOTOGRAPHER: Joan M. Norton

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: April 1976

LOCATION OF NEG: Historic Preservation Section, Div. of
Hist. & Cult. Affairs, Dover, Delaware

DESCRIPTION: Facade of church looking south

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NOV 7 1976

JUL 13 1976



NAME: St. Joseph's on the Brandywine

LOCATION: Greenville, Delaware *New Castle Co.*

PHOTOGRAPHER: Joan M. Norton

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: April 1976

LOCATION OF NEG: Historic Preservation Section, Div. of
Hist. & Cult. Affairs, Dover, Delaware

DESCRIPTION: 3/4 view of church looking southwest

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 2

JUL 13 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NOV 7 1976



NAME: St. Joseph's on the Brandywine

LOCATION: Greenville, Delaware *New Castle Co.*

PHOTOGRAPHER: Joan M. Norton

JUL 13 1976

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: April 1976

LOCATION OF NEG: Historic Preservation Section, Div. of
Hist. & Cult. Affairs, Dover, Delaware

DESCRIPTION: Interior, Sanctuary, looking south

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 3

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NOV 7 1976



ST. JOSEPH'S-ON-THE-BRANDYWINE CHURCH
RTE 141, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

(HF) C245-2

PO#76-2084

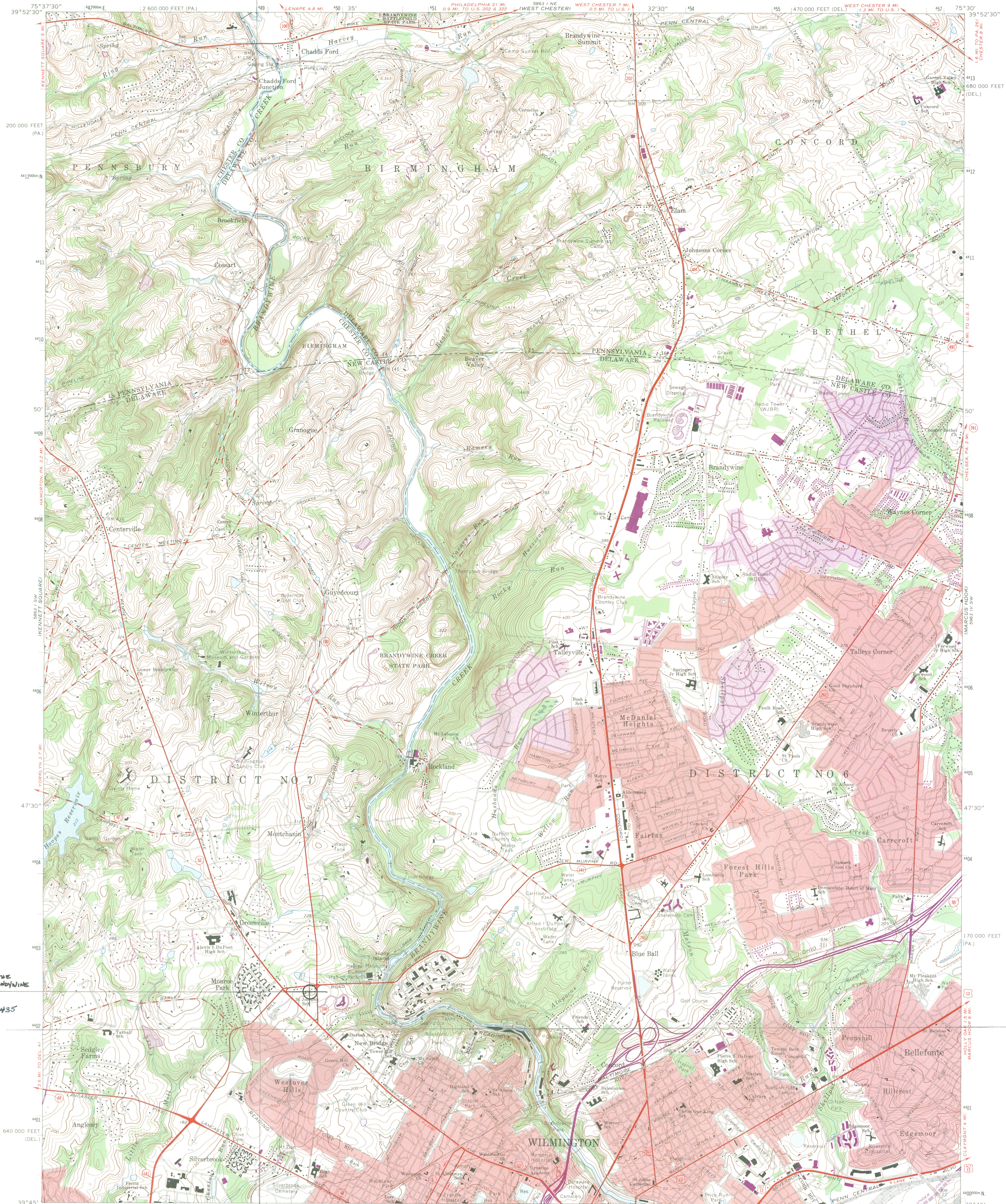
NAME: St. Joseph's On the Brandywine
LOCATION: Greenville, Delaware *New Castle Co.*
PHOTOGRAPHER: Unknown.
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: Prior to 1941.
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Eleutherian Mills - Hagley
Foundation Library,
Greenville, Delaware
DESCRIPTION: View of the church from the north, prior
to the extension of the facade.
PHOTO NUMBER: 4

JUL 13 1976

NOV 7 1976

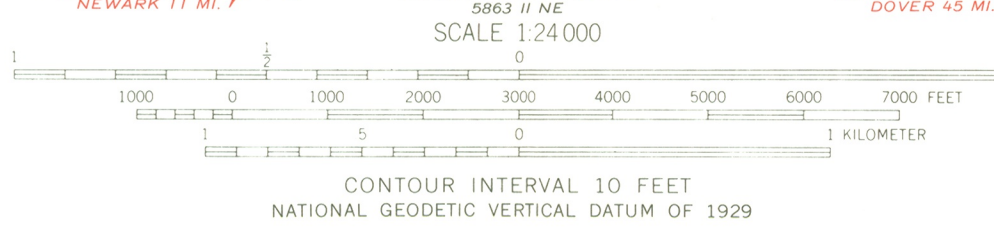
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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ELEUTHERIAN MILLS HISTORICAL LIBRARY
Greenville, Del.

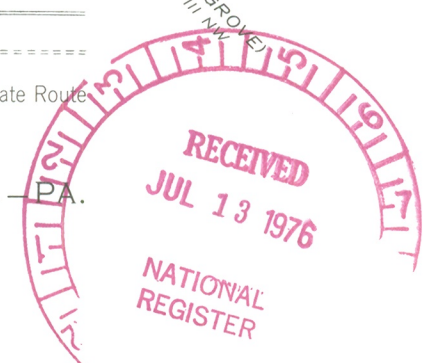


St. Joseph's ON THE BRANDYWINE
GREENVILLE, DE
18/449615/4402435

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography in Delaware by planetable surveys 1935-1936
Topography in Pennsylvania by photogrammetric methods
from aerial photographs taken 1950. Field checked 1954
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Delaware coordinate system,
and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
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 indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route ○ U.S. Route ○ State Route
WILMINGTON NORTH, DEL. PA.
N3945-W7530/7.5
1967
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 5865 1 SE-SERIES 8832



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with
State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs
taken 1973. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware 19901

(302) 678-5314

ROBERT H. REED
Secretary of State
LAWRENCE C. HENRY
Director

July 6, 1976

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Office of Archeology & Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Bill:

I enclose forms nominating St. Joseph's On the Brandywine Church and Rockford Park to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions regarding these nominations, please call Miss Joan M. Norton at the above number.

Sincerely,

Lawrence C. Henry
Director/State Historic
Preservation Officer

LCH/JMN:pkg

Enclosures



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE DELAWARE

Date Entered NOV 7 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Vogl House	Masten's Corner vicinity Kent County
Old Asbury Methodist Church	Wilmington New Castle County
Friends Meetinghouse	Wilmington New Castle County
St. Joseph's On the Brandywine	Greenville New Castle County

Also Notified

Hon. William V. Roth, Jr.
Hon. Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Hon. Pierre S. duPont, IV
Regional Director, Mid Atlantic
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Lawrence C. Henry
Director, Division of Historical and
Cultural Affairs
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware 19901

880 Mott 11/10/76

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

KP

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: St. Joseph's on the Brandywine
 2 OTHER NAMES:
 3 date of entry: 11-7-76
 4 county code: 002

5 LOCATION street & number: 10 Barley Mill Rd.
 city / town: Greenville
 vicinity of:
 state: DE
 county: New Castle
 6 NPS REGION: Mid-Atlantic

7 OWNER: PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name)
 8 ADMINISTRATOR:
 9 EXISTING SURVEYS: HABS HAER NHL
 10 FUNDED? YES NO
 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 1st
 12 SOURCE OF NOMINATION: STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form?

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
 15 ACREAGE: 2
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION: deteriorated altered original site
 excellent ruins unaltered moved
 good unexposed reconstructed unknown
 fair unexcavated excavated
 17 features: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3
 NOT INTACT-0 NOT INTACT-0
 UNKNOWN-4 UNKNOWN-5
 NOT APPLICABLE-7 NOT APPLICABLE-8 NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS: YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 19 ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO
 20 SAVED? YES
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENGINEERING-11 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS / GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29
 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 EXPLORATION-12 LITERATURE-17 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31
 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 HEALTH-27 MILITARY-18 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY)
 ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30
 INVENTION-14 PHILOSOPHY-20 TRANSPORTATION-25
 22 CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

23 functions: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CHURCH
 CURRENTLY: CHURCH
 24 dates of initial construction: 1841
 major alterations: 1848/1878/1941/1950 additions
 historic events:
 25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: Catholic

26 architectural style(s): Greek Revival elements
 27 architect:
 28 master builder:
 29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer:
 31 interior decorator:
 32 artist:
 33 artisan:
 34 builder / contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL: duPont family - had church built for their Irish & Italian Catholic workers.
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP: Stone, stuccoed; 1 1/2 stories, rectangular, gabled roof, front center double-door entrance with fanlight and classical architrave in base of 2-stage bell spire with octagonal open belfry and steep kicked spire, flanking single entrances each with fanlight, gable end pediment, statuary niche, tall foliated round-arched windows; simple paneled interior; church enlarged, 1848; tower added, 1878. Greek Revival elements. Built for their Irish and Italian Catholic workers by the duPont family; when consecrated in 1894, it was largest Catholic church in state.