



Nicholas East House

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FEET

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438

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435

WEST VINTON CENT

WEST PIKE LAND

Byers

Pickering

Anselma

Oppermans Corner

TOILGATE PA. BERKSHIRE 23

PENNSYLVANIA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Chester County	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Nicholas East House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Birchrun Road

CITY OR TOWN:
West Vincent Township

STATE Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Chester	CODE 029
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Vincent G. Kling, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Birchrun Road

CITY OR TOWN:
West Vincent Township

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Chester County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
High and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
West Chester

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None known

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original house was built by Nicholas East in 1820 of random fieldstone with heavy corner quoins. The house is two-and-one-half stories high, five bays wide across the south (front) elevation, and two bays deep at the west. The house has a gable roof with a fieldstone chimney at each gable end.

The west elevation has two six-on-nine light windows on the first floor, two six-on-six light windows on the second floor, and two two-on-two light windows at the attic level. The south elevation has two six-on-nine light windows, a doorway, and two more six-on-nine light windows on the first floor. The door is set within deep, panelled reveals, is topped by a rectangular transom, and is framed by a simple architrave molding. The second floor has five six-on-six light windows. A heavy cornice spans this elevation. In the late nineteenth century, a one-story wooden porch was added along the full length of the south elevation. It consists of a flat roof joined to eight pillars by lacework brackets. On the interior the original house is of center hall plan. Notable is the original open stairway with scrolled step ends.

Several additions have been made to the rear elevation of the original house. A two story random fieldstone addition was made over an existing one-story shed-roofed wing at the rear of the original house. Later a further one-story random fieldstone addition was made to the rear of the previously enlarged house.

The present owner has remodelled the kitchen and has worked to restore the house to its original appearance, removing a stucco coating from the exterior and repointing the stone underneath.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

While the Nicholas East House was not erected until 1820 a stone barn was located on the property as early as 1798. Nicholas East purchased the property in 1804. The property remained within the East family until sold by the estate of John East. The newspaper advertisement offering the property for sale in 1863 lists its improvements as a "large and comfortable stone dwelling house, large stone barn with overshoot and straw-house attached, large wagonhouse and Blacksmith shop." This implies that early owners combined blacksmithing with farming of the property.

The house itself is a recently restored example of the most characteristic area farmhouse type of the early nineteenth century. It includes the most characteristic Late Victorian modification of an existing house, the addition of a one-story flat-roofed wooden porch across the front elevation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

