

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <u>Pennsylvania</u>	
COUNTY: <u>Chester</u>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Robert Rooke House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Horseshoe Trail at Fellowship Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
West Vincent Township

STATE <u>Pennsylvania</u>	CODE <u>42</u>	COUNTY: <u>Chester</u>	CODE <u>029</u>
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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 checked="" 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:  
James H. and Ruth Strickland

STREET AND NUMBER:  
R. D. -2

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chester Springs

STATE: <u>Pennsylvania</u>	CODE <u>42</u>
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Chester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
High and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
West Chester

STATE: <u>Pennsylvania</u>	CODE <u>42</u>
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Natural and Historic Resource Associates

DATE OF SURVEY: June, 1972     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Natural and Historic Resource Associates

STREET AND NUMBER:  
313 S. 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Philadelphia

STATE: <u>Pennsylvania</u>	CODE <u>42</u>
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## 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 Robert Rooke house consists of two distinct sections. The original section is a 2½ story fieldstone structure, two bays across, one bay deep, with gabled roof and a brick chimney at the east gable end. A three story fieldstone addition was built soon after 1841 perpendicular to the original house, attached to its western wall. The original portion of the enlarged house became the kitchen wing.

The 1841 addition is the most interesting because it combines Georgian and early Victorian features in its construction. The west (front) elevation is five bays across with centrally located door, denoting a central hallway floor plan. The north gable end is two bays deep, the south gable end, one bay, and both ends have six over six sash windows with panelled shutters on the first floor and louvered shutters on the second and third levels. The third story windows are eyebrow windows on the west (front) elevation with three over three sash with louvered shutters. Windows on the first and second levels are six over six sash with panelled shutters on the first floor and louvered shutters on the second floor. This section has a gable roof with a low pitch and brick end chimneys. A deep bracketed cornice extends along both the east and west rooflines, and the north and south gable ends have a heavy boxed cornice with return. The entire structure is stuccoed and whitewashed.

The front door is topped by a rectangular transom and

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(Continuation Sheet)

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Appearance cont.

flanked by narrow vertical sidelights. The door, transom, and sidelights are set within deep panelled door reveals, and the entire complex is framed by a heavy molding topped with an eared architrave.

The house has undergone few exterior alterations except for the addition of a modern shingle roof over both sections. Original six over six sash windows in the older section have been replaced by later two over two sash windows.

**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) ca. 1841

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**

The house is known primarily as the residence of Robert Rooke,, a prosperous meat packer, who purchased the property in 1841. Soon after, he built a 3 story stone addition to the original 2½ story, gable roofed structure. This enlarged building is significant as an example of the localized practice of constructing a large mid-19th century addition perpendicular to an existing, smaller structure.

The addition is further significant because it combines early Victorian and more common Georgian architectural features. Traditional characteristics include a center hall plan, five bays across and two bays deep, end chimneys, and six over six sash windows with panelled and louvered shutters. Early Victorian features that are incorporated in the structure include the low pitched gable roof, deep bracketed cornice, and eyebrow windows.

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