

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

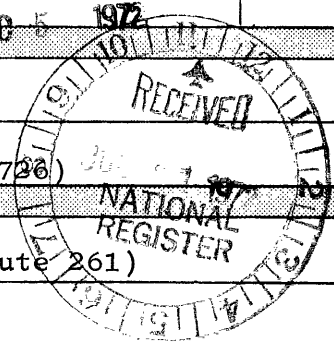
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0001406

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| STATE:<br>Delaware    |      |
| COUNTY:<br>New Castle |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY      |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER          | DATE |



1. NAME

COMMON: Lombardy Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC: Pizgah (to 1785) New Wark (tract - to 1726)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 202 (Concord Pike) North of Foulk Road (Route 261)

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10 COUNTY: New Castle CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One)   | OWNERSHIP   | STATUS   | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC  |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress  |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)   |   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Educational<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industrial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input type="checkbox"/> Museum      | <input type="checkbox"/> Park<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religious<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Not in use at present</u><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>Future use, museum and meeting hall.</u> |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Granite Lodge No. 34, A.F. & A.M., T. Leslie Williams, Sec'y.

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 7036

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Recorder of Deeds, New Castle County Building

STREET AND NUMBER: Eleventh and King Street

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historical Buildings and Areas, New Castle County, Delaware

DATE OF SURVEY: June 30, 1967  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: County Engineering Building

STREET AND NUMBER: Robert Kirkwood Highway

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY NUMBER: 1972

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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7. DESCRIPTION

|           |                                    |   |  |   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                        |   |  |   |                                |                                    |
|           | <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)                        |   |  | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

PRESENT: Situated on partly-wooded high ground, about one and one third acres, adjacent to and sharing the entrance to Lombardy Cemetery for which the house served most recently as office and caretaker's quarters. Lombardy Hall is undergoing reconstruction and restoration. It is a five-bay, two and a half story, native stone house; two rooms deep with a central hall. The dark Brandywine gabbro rock facade and fieldstone north wall are restored, and the roof has been repaired and wood shingled. Grounds have been filled and sodded, a screen of evergreens planted at the south line. Chimneys have been repaired with old brick, 7 new flues installed. Rear and south exterior walls and most of the interior await funds for completion. However, work proceeds with volunteer labor as donations to cover costs come in. Most of the features of the original section as Bedford acquired it in the late 18th Century, remain. He added a ballroom, two second floor bedrooms, and rebuilt the attic and roof. The effect today is as he knew the house—a symmetrically balanced mansion of simple dignity. The windows in the Bedford section are set in wide-angled, panelled recesses, and an entrance door to the ballroom towards the back of the south wall, repeats this treatment. A delicately carved Adam-style mantel, closeted and shelved at each end, remains in the ballroom in remarkably good condition. Corner fireplaces in the bedrooms above, meet at the south wall, back to back, at the partition. A large portico and a one and a half story stone wing with separate entrance were added to the house c.1820, but were removed about 70 years ago. The Robinson section appears not to have been altered significantly except in the attic and roof, and a much later bathroom at the front part of the wide 2nd floor hall. A large attached garage constructed from stone of a barn and a carriage house once standing to the rear, serves as valuable storage at the present. Eventually it will be removed, the mansion set up as a Masonic museum, and a wing added to the rear for headquarters of Granite Lodge No. 34. The work proceeds under the guidance and plans of the architectural firm of Pope, Kruse and McCune, Wilmington.

ORIGINAL: "Pizgah" (the George Robinson house) is almost entirely intact and alterations from the original would have been quite early. A lintel of an old doorway remains behind a panelled wall cupboard in the rear room of the first floor, suggesting the possibility the first structure was primitive, that the refinements of panelling were made around 1750. All original windows are recessed at right angles. This section consisted of four rooms, two on each floor, with the hall and main entrances on the south side. The south exterior corners are visible in the straight line of the mortar running vertically at the facade and the rear wall. Modern windows have been removed from the north wall, and it is now windowless as first laid. Research by the Delaware Archaeological Society and interviews with past residents have established lines of long dismantled outbuildings, wells, and alterations to the main house.

SEE INSTRUCTION

**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) 12/20/1682; 1783-1787; 6/6/1806; 3/30/1812

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | <u>Fraternal</u>                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | <u>Judicial</u>                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | <u>Legal</u>  |
| <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

Lombardy Hall is on William Penn's "Manor of Rocklands," 986 acres which he granted to Valentine Hollingsworth in 1682, and which Hollingsworth renamed "New Wark." He was founder of the Newark Monthly Meeting, Society of Friends, and his home where first meetings took place still stands, privately owned, at Marsh Road and Baynard Blvd. The Newark Union burial grounds remain with historic marker nearby. George Robinson, Hollingsworth's son-in-law, purchased from the tract 250 acres along Concord Road in 1726, and he named it "Pizgah." Through family inheritance it came into the possession of Charles Robinson, great grandson of Hollingsworth. In 1785 (deed recorded in 1793) Gunning Bedford, Jr., purchased the 250 acres and the small stone house from Charles Robinson. He expanded the house and made extensive improvements of the farm. He kept his house and office in town at 606 Market St., Wilmington. This was during the years of his greatest accomplishments, and it is recorded that the entertainment and hospitality at Lombardy for distinguished guests, often from abroad, were in the finest tradition. Mrs. Bedford, the former Jane Ballaroux Parker and daughter of James Parker, the editor of the Post Boy in New York, was greatly admired as a talented and charming hostess. They gave the estate the name it goes by today.

Gunning Bedford, Jr., signer of the Constitution, served also as delegate from Delaware to the Continental Congress, 1783-1785. He was appointed state attorney-general in 1784, and in 1786 was one of the delegates sent from Delaware to the Annapolis Convention. It was as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention called the following year that Bedford led the successful fight for equal state representation in the United States Senate. He held from Pres. Washington the commission of first Judge of the District Court of the U.S. for Delaware until his death March 30, 1812. His father, also Gunning Bedford, was an architect and had an important role in the designing and founding of Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia. He made his home with his son in later life, undoubtedly assisting in the supervision of the remodelling of Lombardy. He died there in 1802.

Bedford developed his 250 acres as a model farm. Throughout his career he was involved with education; was president of the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Delaware History, Historical Society of Delaware: 14 Vol. 1946-1971, published semiannually, Wilmington, Delaware.  
 Green, Charles E., History of the Grand Lodge: 1956, Wilmington.  
 Conrad, Henry C., Gunning Bedford, Junior: Papers of the Historical Society of Delaware, XXVI. 1900, Wilmington.  
 Cooch, Edward W., Delaware Historic Events: 1946, E.W. Cooch, Cooch's Bridge, Delaware, Copyright.  
 Bartlett, Edward P., Friends in Wilmington 1738-1938: Wilmington, 1938.  
 Read, William T., Life and Corres. of George Read: Phila., 1870

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |           |         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-----------|---------|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE |         |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees   | Minutes   | Seconds |
| NW   | 0 ' "                   | 0 ' "                   |        | 39°   | 46'       | 53"     |
| NE   | 0 ' "                   | 0 ' "                   |        | 75°   | 32'       | 41"     |
| SE   | 0 ' "                   | 0 ' "                   |        |   |           |         |
| SW   | 0 ' "                   | 0 ' "                   |        |   |           |         |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 1/3**

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:  
Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Krapf

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER:  
603 Northside Drive

CITY OR TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
Wilmington Delaware 19809 10

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>E. Berkeley Tompkins</u><br/>                 Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins</p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>6-30-72</u></p> | <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u><br/>                 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>12/15/72</u></p> <p>ATTEST<br/> <u>William S. ...</u><br/>                 Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>12-4-72</u></p> |
|---|--|

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(Continuation Sheet)

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|----------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Delaware    |      |
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| FOR NPS USE ONLY     |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER         | DATE |
| DEC 5                | 1972 |

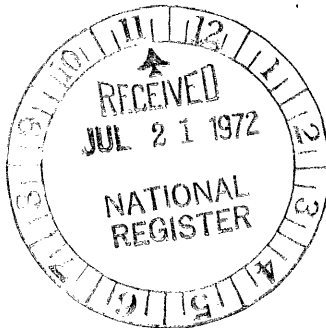
(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE. (continued)

board of trustees of the Wilmington Academy . He was also an active abolitionist. His portrait by Charles Willson Peale, hangs in the Capitol in Washington. He is not to be confused with a first cousin, Gunning Bedford, "Sr." of New Castle, who was governor of Delaware and a brother-in-law of George Read, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Bedford was elected June 6, 1806, First Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, A.F. & A.M., and his historic association with the Masons led to the interest of Granite Lodge No. 34 in the purchase and restoration of Lombardy. The lodge acquired the threatened property in 1967.

Gunning Bedford, Jr. was a graduate of Princeton, where he was a classmate of James Madison.



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(Continuation Sheet)

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| ENTRY NUMBER         | DATE       |
|                      | DEC 5 1972 |

(Number all entries)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES.

Lombardy of The Bedford Clan, The Delmarva Star, Wilmington, Delaware, November 19, 1933. Article filed at Historical Society of Delaware.

Eberlein, H.D. and Hubbard, C.V.D., Historic Houses and Buildings of Delaware: Public Archives Commission, Dover, Delaware, 1963.

Project and Historic Research Reports on Lombardy and Gunning Bedford, Jr., presented to Granite Lodge No. 34.

- A. Brandywine Hundred Chapter #174, The Questers, Inc. Scrap book, 1967.
- B. The Crest Century Club, Scrap book, 1968.

