

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

A. THE PROJECT

Projected improvements to the intersection of U.S. Route 13 (DuPont Highway) and Poles Bridge/Boyd's Corner Road, north of Odessa, New Castle County, adversely affected an identified archaeological property, Boyd's Store and House Site [7NC-G-169] (Figure 1.1). This property was identified in a 2006 study (Environment and Archaeology, LLC 2006:66-69 and Figures 22 and 23). The integrity of the property and its eligibility for the National Register was investigated in a Phase II study by Hunter Research, Inc. A summary report on the Phase II study submitted to the Delaware Department of Transportation (November 30, 2007) concluded that the site was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Phase II studies are fully documented in Chapter 4 below.

N-12742.002]: Treatment of Adverse Effect through Archaeological Data Recovery (Phase III), Parent Agreement 1415 Task 3).

The site has provided information important in the history of Delaware, particularly in advancing understanding of the role of stores in rural Delaware in the first half of the 19th century. The work has included comparative studies of stores both as standing structures and as archaeological sites; documentary research on store licenses, taxation and on detailed store inventories; detailed analysis of the development of the Boyd's site; and material culture studies.

B. DATA RECOVERY

Treatment of the adverse effects of the road improvements on the eligible property, pursuant to 36CFR 800.6, has been through an agreed program of historical and archaeological research within the framework of the Delaware Comprehensive Preservation Plan and associated historic contexts. The first portion of this research consisted of a program of field investigations and detailed historical research undertaken under Agreement 1415, Task 3. A summary of this work was presented in March 2009 (Hunter Research, Inc., End-of-Fieldwork and Preliminary Analysis Summary, Boyds Corner Intersection Improvements Project, St. George's Hundred, New Castle County: Boyd's Store and House Site [7NC-G-169; CRS

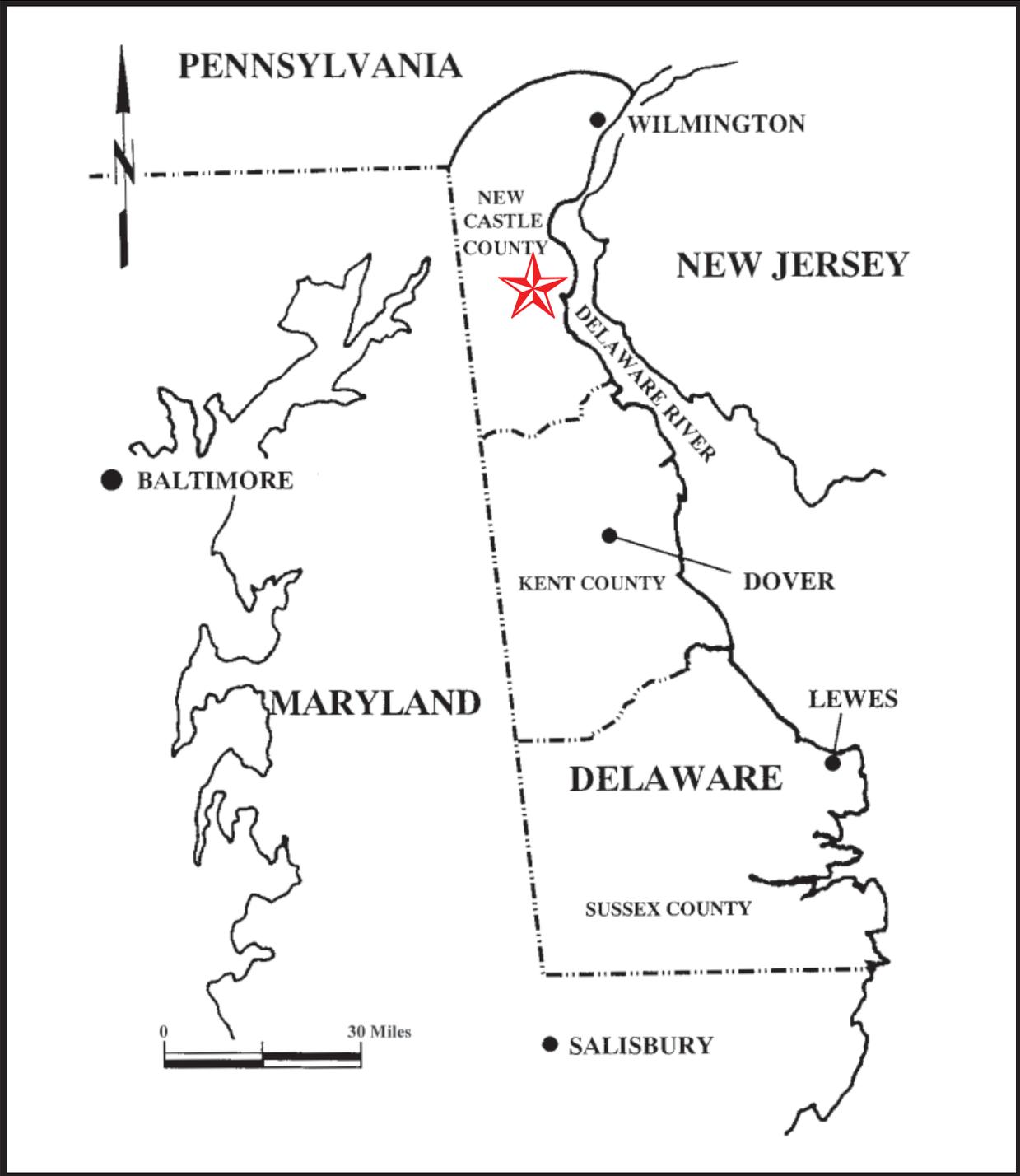


Figure 1.1. Location of Project Site.

