DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA

The intersection of U.S. Route 13/40 and Delaware Route 273, historically known as Hares Corner, is located in northeastern New Castle County some five miles southwest of Wilmington (Figure 1). U.S. Route 13/40 is a major arterial connecting Wilmington with the capital of Dover (Route 13) and northern Delaware and New Jersey with Maryland. Route 273 is located on the route of the historic New Castle and Frenchtown Turnpike, connecting New Castle, Christiana, Ogletown and Newark.

A~ described in the draft Environmental Assessment prepared by DelDOT and FHWA in July, 1986 (pp. 1 and 4), Hares Corner, historically a small crossroads hamlet, is now almost entirely developed for commercial and industrial use:

> The frontage along both sides of U.S. 13/40 south of the intersection is in strip commercial development. North of SR 273, several commercial properties and the Farmers Market occupy the area on the east side of U.S. 13/40. The area on the west is occupied by one commercial property and the Greater Wilmington Airport. Old Churchmans Road accesses U.S. 13/40 from the west, immediately south of the Greater Wilmington Airport. Lands along SR 273 west from the U.S. 13/40 intersection to Churchmans Road are occupied by several commercial and residential properties on the

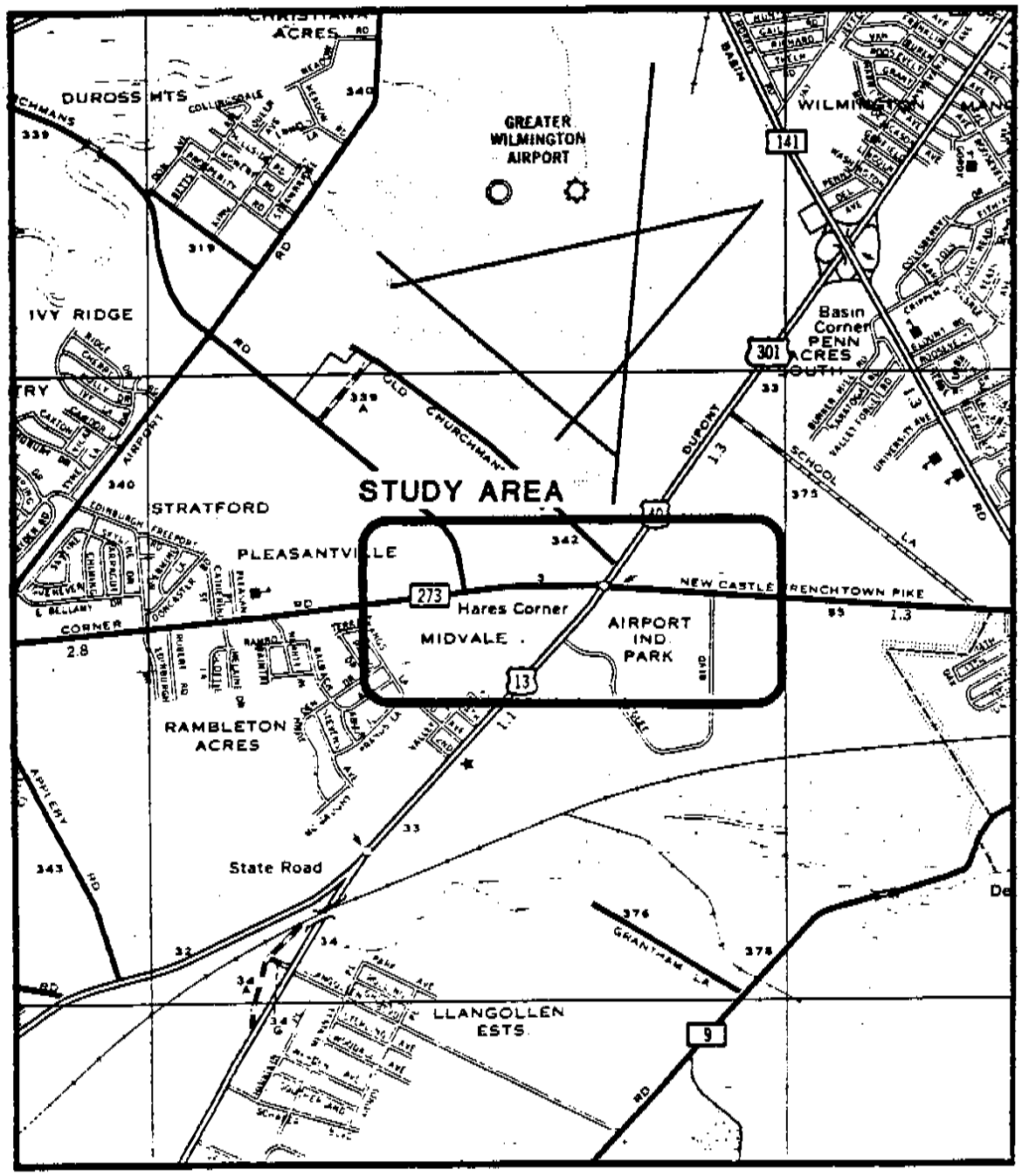

FIGURE 1: Project Location Map

SOURCE: DELDOT

south side of the corridor and an active borrow pit occupies the area on the north. Churchman's Road intersects SR 273 from the north and the entrance to Churchmans Center industrial area forms the fourth leg of this signalized intersection. The industrial area occupies a rather extensive excavated area that at one time was a borrow pit. The industrial area, in which development is ongoing, extends west along SR 273 to the Rambleton Acres Shopping Center at Prangs Lane, the western project limits. The north side of this section of corridor is occupied by the New Castle Square Shopping Mall and a bank. East of Hares Corner along SR 273, the Farmers Market, a liquor store and vacant lands associated with a farming unit occupy the lands on the north side of the corridor to the eastern project limits. The Airport Industrial Park along with several residential and commercial properties occupy the south side of SR 273. Like Churchman's Center industrial area, the rapidly developing Airport Industrial Park occupies a large borrowed area. The industrial park access to SR 273 is served by Quigley Boulevard approximately 1,500 ft. east of Hares Corner intersection. Quigley Boulevard also accesses U.S. 13/40 approximately 1,000 ft. south of the intersection.