

## INTRODUCTION

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) proposes to improve the drainage and stormwater management capabilities of Grubb Road (N209) between Naamans Road and Marsh Road in Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware (Figure 1). The proposed improvements include pavement milling, resurfacing, patching, reducing the road crown, and the construction of sidewalks alongside various portions of the roadway. The Grubb Road area currently consists almost entirely of single-family detached residential housing built during the suburban building boom of the late twentieth century. A small farm parcel owned by the state and maintained by New Castle County as open space (Jester Park) is located along the southwest side of Grubb Road near its intersection with Naamans Road. A few small business and commercial enterprises occupy portions of the Grubb/Foulk Road and Grubb/Marsh Road intersections. The proposed improvements will require minor right-of-way acquisition and/or permanent easements from properties immediately adjacent to the improvements. No relocation of homes, businesses, or nonprofit agencies is anticipated as a result of this project.

DelDOT contracted the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Berger), to perform architectural investigations as part of the preliminary planning for the proposed improvements. These investigations were conducted to identify historical resources currently listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the federal government's list of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts deemed worthy of preservation. Federal legislation mandating the identification, evaluation, and treatment of cultural resources impacted by publicly financed undertakings includes Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, Section 101 (b)(4) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR 800), and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended.

Berger conducted architectural and historical research and fieldwork for this project between late June and early August of 1999. Preliminary research consisted of an examination of survey files at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO) to identify any previously inventoried resources within the project's area of potential effect (APE). As the proposed improvements should not introduce new elements out of place or scale with Grubb Road's residential development, the APE established for the proposed improvements consisted of properties immediately adjacent to Grubb Road. The DESHPO survey maps depicted 16 previously inventoried resources with property abutting Grubb Road, and thus in the APE. One of these resources, the Village of Arden Historic District, had already been listed in the National Register. The DESHPO survey files contained information on 12 of the 16 previously inventoried historical resources located within the APE. Copies of the survey documentation on these 12 resources were obtained and marked with the location of all 16 previously inventoried resources on project maps for later comparison in the field. Historical information was gathered from DESHPO historic contexts and other reports for use in developing a historical narrative describing the evolution of the project area and in outlining evaluation criteria for National Register eligibility. Subsequent research of architectural survey files at New Castle County's historic preservation office, located in the Department of Land Use and Planning, New Castle, located completed Cultural Resource Survey (CRS) forms for the four previously inventoried resources for which there was no documentation in the DESHPO files as well as updated information on many of the 12 resources documented in the DESHPO files. Copies of the forms contained in New Castle County's files were obtained for later field review and confirmation.

Fieldwork activities identified eight 50-year-old resources within the APE that had not previously been inventoried. CRS forms were later completed for these eight properties. The condition and continued

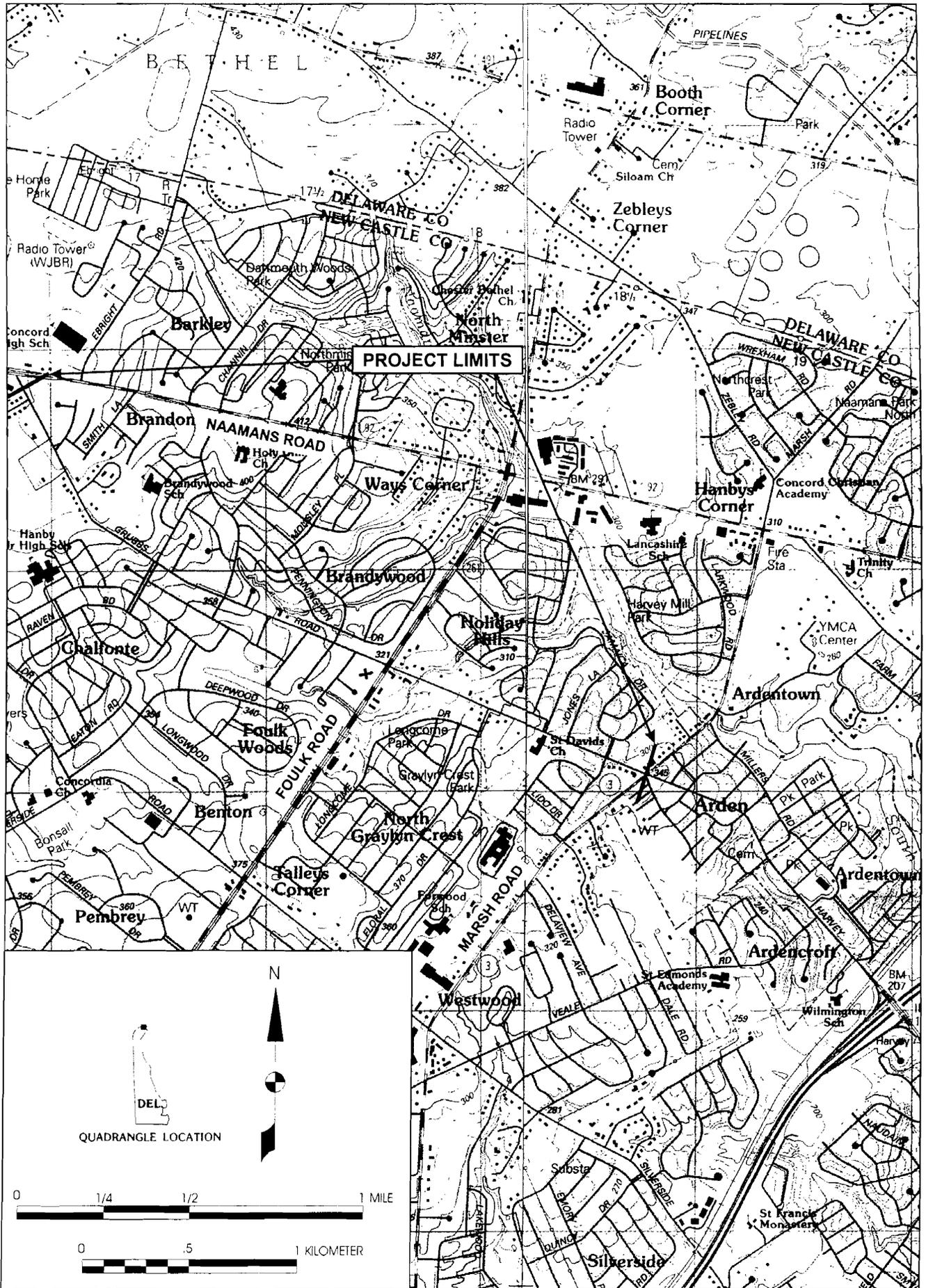


FIGURE 1: Project Location Map

SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangles 1993a — Marcus Hook, PA-NJ-DEL and 1993b — Wilmington North, DEL-PA

existence of the 16 previously inventoried historical resources were also checked in the field. Amended or updated CRS forms were completed for those structures that had been destroyed or had undergone substantial change since last being documented.

This report, illustrated with copies of historical maps and photographs of the historical resources, outlines the National Register of Historic Places evaluations for the Grubb Road improvements. The following chapter provides a general overview of the project area vicinity and a historic context describing the salient trends that have contributed to the area's evolution. The context also outlines property types and levels of integrity required for National Register eligibility. The Research Design chapter presents a discussion of the investigation's objectives, methods, and expected results. The Architectural Evaluations chapter includes physical descriptions of and National Register eligibility evaluations for the identified historical resources as well as a summary table describing the action recommended for each resource identified by this survey. The final chapter offers a synopsis of the results and final recommendations of the architectural investigations. Copies of CRS and Determination of Eligibility forms completed as part of these investigations can be found in Appendices A and B, respectively. Appendix C contains copies of the principal investigator's resume.

Fieldwork, research, and report preparation activities for this project were undertaken following the DESHPO's *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (DESHPO 1993). The investigations were performed under the supervision of Berger Principal Architectural Historian Martha Bowers. Senior Architectural Historian Stuart Dixon performed the fieldwork and research activities and authored this report. This report was edited by Suzanne Szanto. Graphics were prepared by Jacqueline Horsford. The production of the report was coordinated by Valerie Coleman-Moore.

A number of individuals and institutions assisted Berger staff during this project. Thalia Putney, a homeowner, and Roland Walker, an I.O.O.F. member, kindly spent time discussing their respective properties with the field investigator. Cultural Preservation Specialists Gwen Davis, Gary Sachau, and Robin Bodo of the DESHPO identified survey reports and historic contexts helpful for the present study, and provided guidance on resource documentation and evaluation. Valerie Cesna, former Historic Preservation Planner with the New Castle County Department of Land Use and Planning, provided access to survey files and information on Brandywine Hundred's historical resources. The staffs of the Special Collections department of the University of Delaware Morris Library and the New Castle County Recorder of Deeds also provided valuable assistance during research activities for this project.