

3.0 METHODOLOGY

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The Project Team prepared a scope of work for the intensive level survey effort. The scope of work was reviewed and commented on by DE SHPO staff to ensure adequacy. A copy of the scope of work was provided to the DE SHPO and is reprinted in Appendix B of this report. In general, the intensive level survey effort consisted of historic background research, field survey, and assessments of eligibility for each resource in the intensive level survey area. The Geographic Information System (GIS) Protocol established by DelDOT in consultation with the DE SHPO was used to facilitate form preparation and analysis. Each of these elements of the intensive level survey effort is described below.

3.1 Background Research

Since many of the previously unevaluated resources in the APE date to the mid-twentieth century and do not appear to be individually eligible, in consultation with the DE SHPO and DelDOT, it was determined that historic research efforts for properties dating before 1962 and after 1940 could be limited to: an examination of historic mapping; interviews with the property owner, if available during field work; and an examination of deed records available on the New Castle County Recorder of deeds website.

Property specific research conducted for the pre-1940 resource types included an examination of deeds, wills, and other land conveyance materials to establish a chain of title of ownership for the properties. Available additional primary resources, such as census data and tax assessment data, were consulted if they provided further information to assist in National Register eligibility evaluations.

3.2 Field Survey

The intensive level field survey was initially conducted during late July and August of 2005. The surveyors examined the previously unevaluated above-ground resources that were identified during the reconnaissance survey and included in the intensive level APE. Previously evaluated resources were also visited to determine if any significant changes had occurred since the time of previous listing or determination of eligibility.

Surveyors visited properties with a copy of the intent-to-enter letter issued for the project as well as the informational brochure. The staff made up to three attempts to visit properties when the owner or occupants were at home in order to ensure the residents' comfort with their presence and to have an opportunity to conduct informal interviews, as described below.

Fieldwork at each of the properties included completing CRS forms, taking photos, preparing photo logs, labeling site plans, and taking notes. To document the loss or retention of integrity, 35mm, black-and-white photographs of each elevation of each 50-year-old building on a property (if accessible and visible) were taken. Photographs of modern buildings were also recorded. Notable architectural details were recorded. Overall views of the property's setting were also photographed. In anticipation of effects assessment, a view to the nearest area(s) of proposed improvements was documented.

3.2.1 Denied-Access Properties

If during the field survey, staff were denied access to a property, the staff left the property and notified DelDOT. Additional attempts to negotiate access were undertaken by DelDOT. The following properties were the only resources in the intensive level study area that could not be accessed during the intensive level survey:

- CRS No: N05181 (Elm Grange/J.M. Vandergrift); previously listed in National Register
Tax Parcel ID: 1301300155
Address: 2424 DuPont Highway
Access Issue: Fenced and could not locate contact information for current owner.
- CRS No. N05201 (Retirement Farm); previously listed in National Register
Tax Parcel ID: 1300800027
Address: 2256 DuPont Highway North
Access Issue: Owner would not allow access to property.

Both properties were sufficiently visible from the public right-of-way to provide recommendations of National Register eligibility status.

3.2.2 Informal Interviews

Informal interviews were conducted with residents to gain further information on the history of the resource and to help guide additional research efforts. Topics covered during the informal interviews included: the development of the property and associated buildings (including initial construction date, additions, and alterations), the historic and current use of the buildings, and the history of property ownership.

3.2.3 Field Form Completion

Using the fields of the GIS Geodatabase (see methodology below) and the data that was entered in the database during the reconnaissance level survey, draft copies of the following CRS forms were generated for resources in the intensive level study area prior to field work: Property Identification Form (CRS 1), Survey Update Form (CRS 10), and Map Form (CRS 9). During the fieldwork, the CRS 1, CRS 9, and CRS 10 forms were field checked. The site plan (based on high-quality 2002 aerials) was labeled to show specific buildings, roadways, relationship(s) between features, and relevant landscape elements. In cases where significant alterations had affected the National Register eligibility of a resource, the approximate age of alterations were noted. Modern buildings were also identified.

During the intensive level survey CRS forms were completed by hand in the field and typed following fieldwork. For newly identified resources, the CRS 1 form, CRS 2 form, and if necessary, CRS 3 forms were completed for buildings on the property dating to 1962. Additional applicable CRS forms were filled out for specific property types on an as-needed basis. For extant previously identified resources, previous documentation was consulted during fieldwork to determine if a significant level of change has occurred since the initial survey date and if a sufficient level of documentation had been prepared. For those previously surveyed properties that had adequate architectural documentation, photographs were taken. For previously surveyed

resources that lacked adequate architectural documentation or had substantial changes since the previous survey effort, supplemental forms (CRS 2 and/or 3 forms) were prepared.

Finally, resources were identified by property type and examined in the field using the evaluation procedures developed in the *Historic Context and Reconnaissance Survey Report*. To facilitate a field assessment of integrity and significance, checklists of the procedures for National Register evaluation were developed for agricultural properties and residential architecture, the two most common property types in the intensive level study area.

3.3 Assessments of Eligibility

The field assessments of integrity and significance were developed using the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60) and the registration requirements outlined in the revised Section 8.0 of the historic context report.

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation are:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and

- (a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (36 CFR 60.4).

In addition, National Register guidelines state: "Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria," or if they meet certain defined Criteria Considerations (36 CFR 60.4).

For the purposes of this study properties constructed between the years of 1956 and 1962 were treated as meeting the age criteria established for this project. Thus, properties constructed by 1962 do not need to meet the standards established under National Register Criterion Consideration G which states that properties less than 50 years in age need to possess exceptional

significance to be considered eligible for listing in the National Register. Those properties built between 1956-1962 still need to be significant under the other National Register Criteria and Criteria Considerations and retain sufficient integrity to convey their historic importance.

To assist in the assessments of eligibility, the Project Team developed registration requirements in consultation with the DE SHPO for the property types identified during the reconnaissance survey (Section 8 of the reconnaissance report; also briefly discussed in Section 2 of this report). The registration requirements identified the key characteristics that should be present or retain integrity to illustrate the significance of a particular property type. The registration requirements served as the outline for the assessments of eligibility for each property type. The National Register evaluations are detailed in the property narratives which are included in Appendix C of this report.

3.4 DelDOT's GIS Protocol

In March 2005, DelDOT established its *Cultural Resources Survey GIS Data Transfer Protocol* (Version 7) for use by all its cultural resources consultants. It states:

This protocol is established to standardize the packaging, naming, and transmission of Cultural Resource Survey (CRS) data to the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). Using this protocol and the standardized database provided by DelDOT, consultants will be able to submit CRS data in a format that is compliant with DelDOT's Geographic Information System (GIS) infrastructure. With the personnel following these standards, DelDOT will have the ability to efficiently integrate CRS survey data into their DOT project CRS database and prepare it for redistribution to the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DE SHPO), facilitating faster turnaround and more effective project planning.

The data structure and format, attributes, and layout of the Delaware Cultural Resource GeoDatabase (DELCRSGDB) were created with the consultation of the DE SHPO and DelDOT.

As a result, during this project, the researchers have been preparing the deliverables identified in the GIS protocol:

The final dataset to be delivered to DelDOT consists of an ArcGIS personal Geodatabase (GDB). The GDB consists of four Feature Classes and 15 GDB tables. The spatial location and attribute data for cultural resources will be housed in the Feature Classes, while the GDB tables provide the codes and code descriptions used in data entry.

Geodatabase – Feature Classes

- CRSPoints
- CRSBoundaries
- Cemeteries
- SurveyBoundaries

Format: ESRI's ArcGIS - ArcMap 9.0
This GDB can only be utilized with a valid ArcGIS 9.0 license

Projection: Delaware State Plane Coordinate System
North American Datum 1983, Clark 1866 Ellipsoid, Meters
[Listed as "NAD_1983_StatePlane_Delaware_FIPS_0700" in ArcMap's predefined projections.]

The DELCRSGDB table has a specific structure that is to be filled in according to the protocol established in this document and may not be altered in any way. The structure of the GDB is a standardized format that will allow DelDOT to integrate all of its cultural resource spatial and attribute data into a single database. Any changes to the database structure will create errors during the integration of the data. The look-up-tables (designated by the prefix "LUT") contain the codes that will be used when entering data into the DELCRSGDB. It is understood that all the attribute cells within the database will not always be filled. This lack of completeness is due to: the quality of the documentation related to previously recorded CRS properties in Delaware and; that not all the fields within the database pertain to all individual properties (i.e. prehistoric versus historic properties).

Geodatabase Feature Classes:

- **CRSPoints** – This point Feature Class, Cultural Resource Survey Points (CRS Points), is to include all CRS points identified by the DE SHPO, and/or by client survey, and/or inventory within the project study area. The CRSNUM is the unique identifier as assigned by the DE SHPO to every recorded CRS point. This six character text string acts as the code by which all CRS points are identified.

The spatial position for each CRS location is to be identified as a point placed at the location of the properties' primary structure.

- **CRSBoundaries** – This polygon Feature Class is composed of the outline polygon and attributes for Historic Districts, evaluated CRS Properties, Prehistoric sites, and Complexes.
- **SurveyBoundaries** – This polygon Feature Class is to consist of the boundaries of any other cultural resource project that overlaps the current project area. Separate polygons should be drawn for each project type (Proj_Type) and project level (Proj_Level) combination.
- **Cemeteries** – This polygon Feature Class is intended to include ALL cemeteries in a study area. Any cemetery, whether it is historic, modern, or referenced or mapped in literature is subject to inclusion in this database.

The deliverables as defined in the GIS protocol are provided with this report. A CD of the contents of the data tables are provided in Appendix E of this report.