

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Background Research

4.1.1 Previous Survey Forms and Determinations of Eligibility

Prior to any field survey, McCormick Taylor, Inc. conducted background research. The research began with an examination of the survey forms, notes, and photographs on file at the Delaware SHPO. All previous documentation including CRS forms and National Register nomination forms for properties within the APE were collected and copied. The microfiche files for survey forms for all CRS numbers referenced on the State Planning Office (SPO) mapping were examined. McCormick Taylor staff consulted with SHPO staff to learn if there were additional sources that should be examined. For those surveyed resources that were not listed in the National Register, staff searched the DE SHPO files for determinations of eligibility and/or supporting documentation on official eligibility evaluations and decisions.

Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) documentation of resources in the APE was accessed online through the Library of Congress. The files of the New Castle Planning Department were searched for any additional survey forms or HABS documentation that may not have been on file in other locations. In addition, an appointment was made with staff at the University of Delaware Center for Historic Architecture and Design (formerly the Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering) (CHAE/CHAD) to learn what additional information they may have on properties within the APE. Copies of previous documentation are included in Appendix A of this report.

4.1.2 Previous Reports and Studies

McCormick Taylor staff retrieved and copied relevant cultural resource reports, studies, historic contexts, and historic maps on files at the DE SHPO. Other institutions and/or repositories visited or consulted with for this task included: DelDOT, the New Castle Planning Department, CHAE/CHAD, the Morris Library at the University of Delaware, and the Delaware Public Archives and Library. For a complete list of previous studies and contexts relevant to the APE for the Red and Blue Alternatives of the U.S. 301 project, please consult the Bibliography section of this report.

4.1.3 GIS Database

A GIS database was used to facilitate the management of data for this project. The template for this database was provided to McCormick Taylor by DelDOT. For all cultural resources (standing buildings, bridges, archaeological resources, and other historic-period sites) with previously assigned CRS numbers, previous survey documentation was entered into the project GIS database. When entering information into associated attribute tables, McCormick Taylor coordinated with DelDOT and utilized the protocol provided for the database.

Tax Assessment Data

Tax assessment data was collected from the New Castle County Tax Assessors Office. In addition, the online GIS database established by New Castle County was utilized to

access additional tax assessment data. This information, which usually included year of construction, was collected prior to field survey work so that dates of construction could be verified during the course of survey work.

National Register Boundaries

When available, National Register boundaries for properties previously listed or determined eligible were mapped as polygons in GIS prior to fieldwork. Discrepancies in boundaries were noted during field work.

Historic Maps

Historic mapping for the project area was incorporated into GIS to help determine the presence or absence of properties on the landscape by specific years. Maps incorporated as layers in GIS to help illustrate changes to the landscape over time as well as aid in the dating of resources in the study area are: Rea and Price, *Map of New Castle County, Delaware*, 1849; J.G. Beers, *Atlas of the State of Delaware*, 1868; G.W. Baist, *Atlas of New Castle County, Delaware*, 1893; and the A.H. Mueller, *Map of the Delaware River*, 1919 (Figures 5 to 12).

The availability of 1962 SPO mapping for the project area determined the cut-off date for survey work; all buildings present on the landscape by 1962 were identified and mapped. However, due to the uneven quality and resolution of the 1962 aerial photographs, it was not always possible to discern the types of resources that were present at that time (such as buildings, bridges, etc.).

4.2 Reconnaissance Survey

Once the background research tasks were completed, the Reconnaissance Survey was begun. During the Reconnaissance Survey, a team for the Red Alternative and a team for the Blue Alternatives drove all public roads in the study areas. Generally, resources were examined from the public right-of-way(s); private property was only accessed when resources were not visible from the roadway.

During the Reconnaissance Survey, McCormick Taylor staff:

- Field-checked all of the previously surveyed resources (CRS points) to assess their presence or absence on the landscape and to verify database information;
- Examined previously listed and determined eligible resources to determine if they retained integrity and verified National Register boundaries;
- Confirmed the presence or absence of all buildings, structures and objects shown on the 1962 aerials;
- Took black and white photographs of each property that contained buildings, structures, and objects pre-dating 1962; and,

- Noted additional buildings, structures, and objects that visually appeared to date from 1962 or earlier (but that were not clearly indicated on the 1962 aerials).

Resources that were no longer standing, but which had previously assigned CRS numbers, were noted as demolished and as potential sites because these could contain intact archaeological resources. A unique code was developed for these properties in the database. As appropriate, county tax parcel data was referenced in the field to confirm or refute dates for year of construction. All resources identified during the windshield survey that were not previously assigned a CRS point were assigned a temporary control number and relevant information was collected in the database. (DelDOT intends to coordinate with the Delaware SHPO to add these resources to their survey and assign each a CRS number. This effort will follow the Delaware SHPO's review of this report.)

Efforts were made to coordinate the reconnaissance survey for the Blue and Red Alternatives of the McCormick Taylor, Inc. U.S. 301 study with the reconnaissance survey conducted by A.D. Marble for U.S. 301 in order to avoid duplication of CRS forms for properties located within any overlapping areas of the two study areas. The southern section of the A.D. Marble study area overlapped with portions of the western end of the McCormick Taylor, Inc study area. In order to prevent duplication of CRS forms for the U.S. 301 project, McCormick Taylor, Inc. did not prepare CRS forms (new or updated forms) for properties documented by A.D. Marble. The properties that were documented as part of the A.D. Marble reconnaissance survey and were located within the McCormick Taylor, Inc. APE are noted with their survey codes on mapping and in the appropriated tables of this report.

4.3 Historic Context

The National Register of Historic Places, established by Congress in 1966, is the inventory of historic resources significant at the local, state, and national levels. Historic resources that can be considered for the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that manifest significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture; possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; and that have:

- A. Association with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our history;
- B. Association with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C. Distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity; or
- D. Information, or potential information, important to history or prehistory. (Ames et al. 1989:5)

A historic context is a body of information organized by theme, place, and time that assists in the evaluation of National Register eligibility of resources that meet the age consideration (1962 is used as the cut off date for this study). The historic context section of this report (Section 7.0) provides background on the historical development of the APE and the Upper Peninsula Zone. The historic context is organized by the five chronological periods presented in the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan* (hereafter referred to as the historic preservation plan) and by identified historic themes (ibid.:37).

Chronological periods addressed in this report include:

1630-1730 +/- Exploration and Frontier Settlement
1730-1770 +/- Intensified and Durable Occupation
1770-1830 +/- Early Industrialization
1830-1880 +/- Industrialization and Early Urbanization
1880-1940 +/- Urbanization and Early Suburbanization
1940-Present Commercialization and Suburbanization

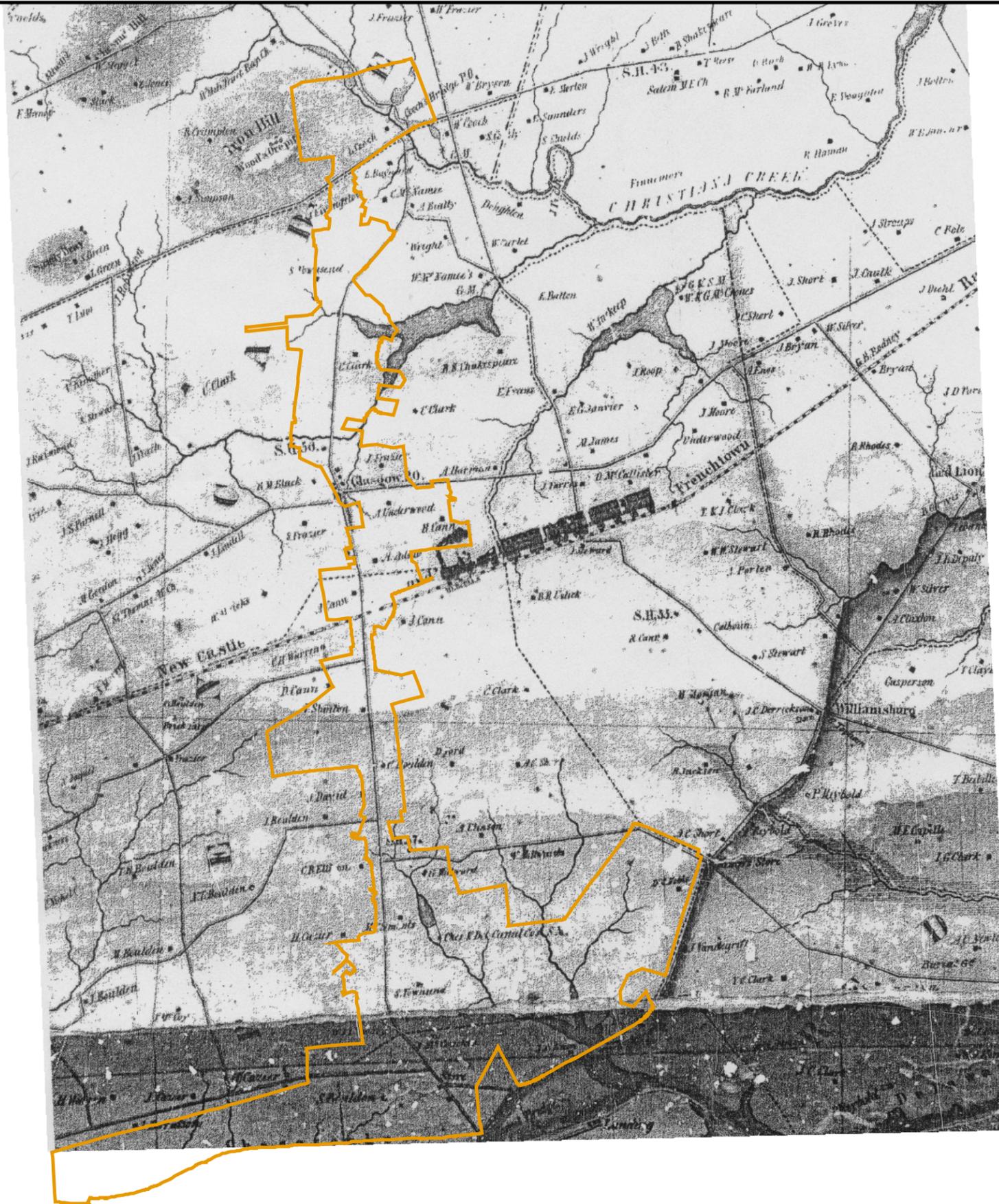
No aboveground resources dating to the 1630-1730 +/- and 1730-1770 +/- periods have been identified in the APE to date; these periods are addressed in this document to provide a more complete understanding of the historical development of the study area. The last period, 1940-present, is not recognized by the historic preservation plan. It was created to address resources constructed between 1940 and 1962 and the effects of recent suburbanization on the study area.

As noted above, the information presented in the historic context is organized by historic themes. The 1993 U.S 301 corridor study identified two general historic themes based on the historic preservation plan: Agriculture, Settlement Patterns & Demographic Change, and Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts, as well as the following sub themes:

- Dwellings of the Rural Elite
- The Rebuilding of St. Georges Hundred
- Agricultural Tenancy in Central Delaware
- Early Twentieth Century Rural Architecture
- Log Building Construction in Central Delaware
- Early Twentieth Century Farm Planning
- Rural Family Development
- Resources Related to the African-American Experience in Delaware (Siders et al. 1993:8-9).

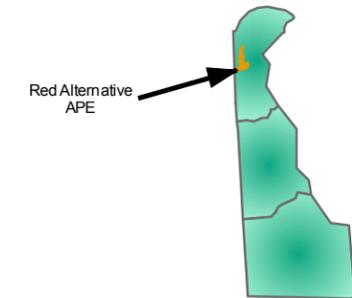
The seven themes identified for this report relate to the historic themes outlined in the historic preservation plan and include the subthemes addresses in the 1993 survey. The seven identified themes are:

- Agriculture (related to historic preservation plan theme: Agriculture);
- Residential Architecture (related to historic preservation plan theme: Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts);
- Transportation (related to historic preservation plan theme: Transportation and Communication);
- Community Development (related to historic preservation plan theme: Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes);
- Industry (related to historic preservation plan theme: Manufacturing);
- Commercial Development (related to historic preservation plan theme: Retailing/Wholesaling); and
- African-American History and Culture (related to historic preservation plan theme: Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes). (Ames et al. 1989:23)



Addendum-Historic Context and Reconnaissance Survey Report (Red Alternative)

 Proposed APE

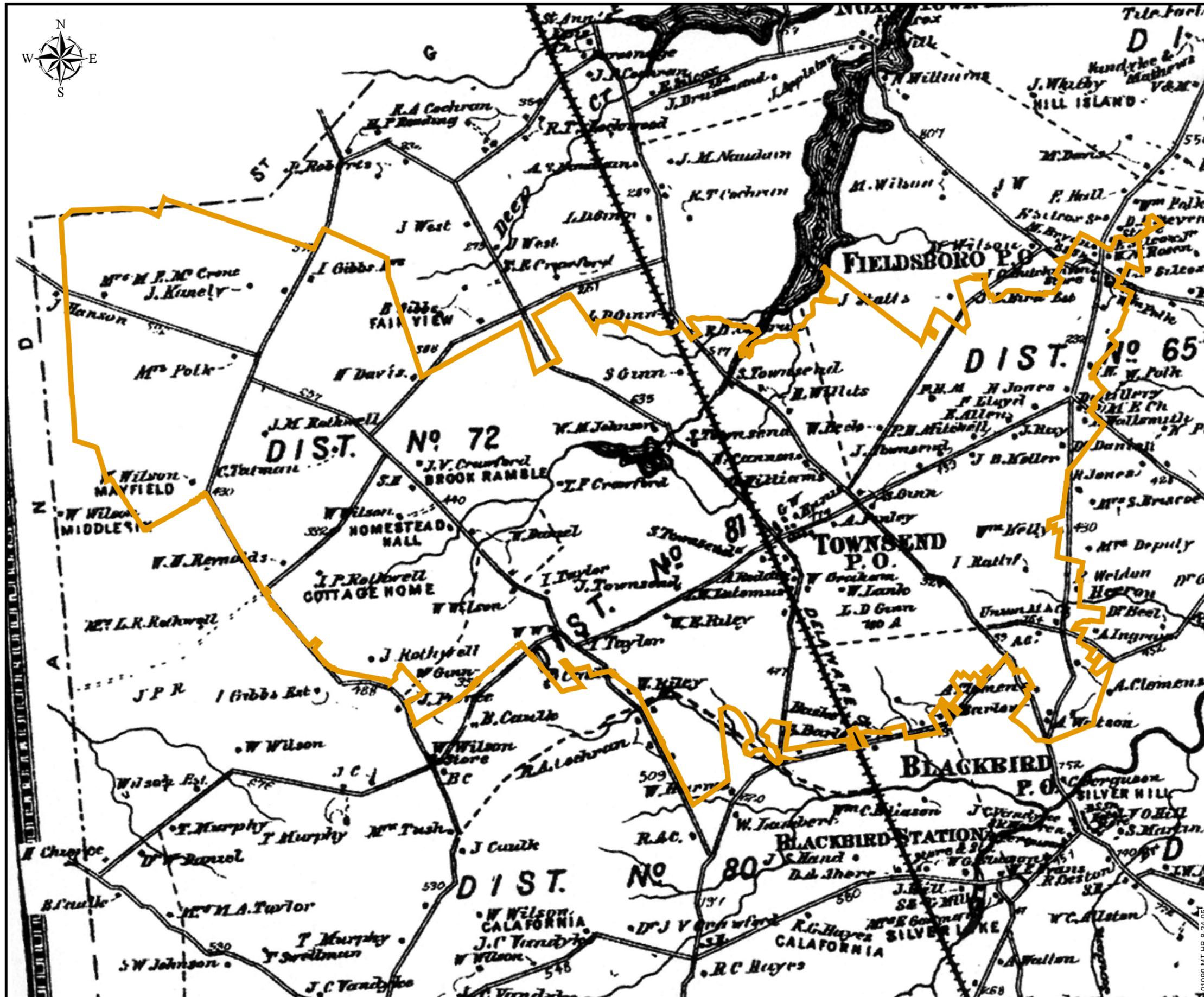


Source:
Rea and Price, Map of New Castle County, Delaware, 1849

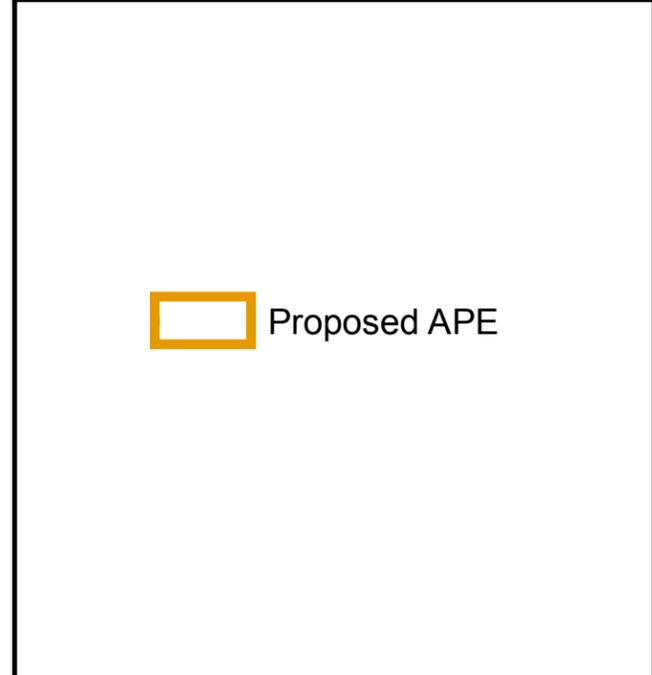
Figure 6
Rea and Price
New Castle County, Delaware, 1849



January 2006

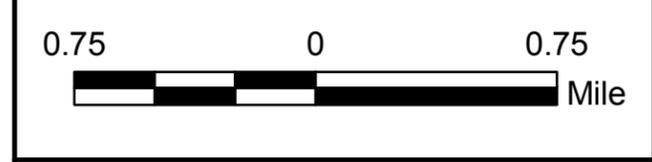


Addendum-Historic Context and Reconnaissance Survey Report (Blue Alternatives)



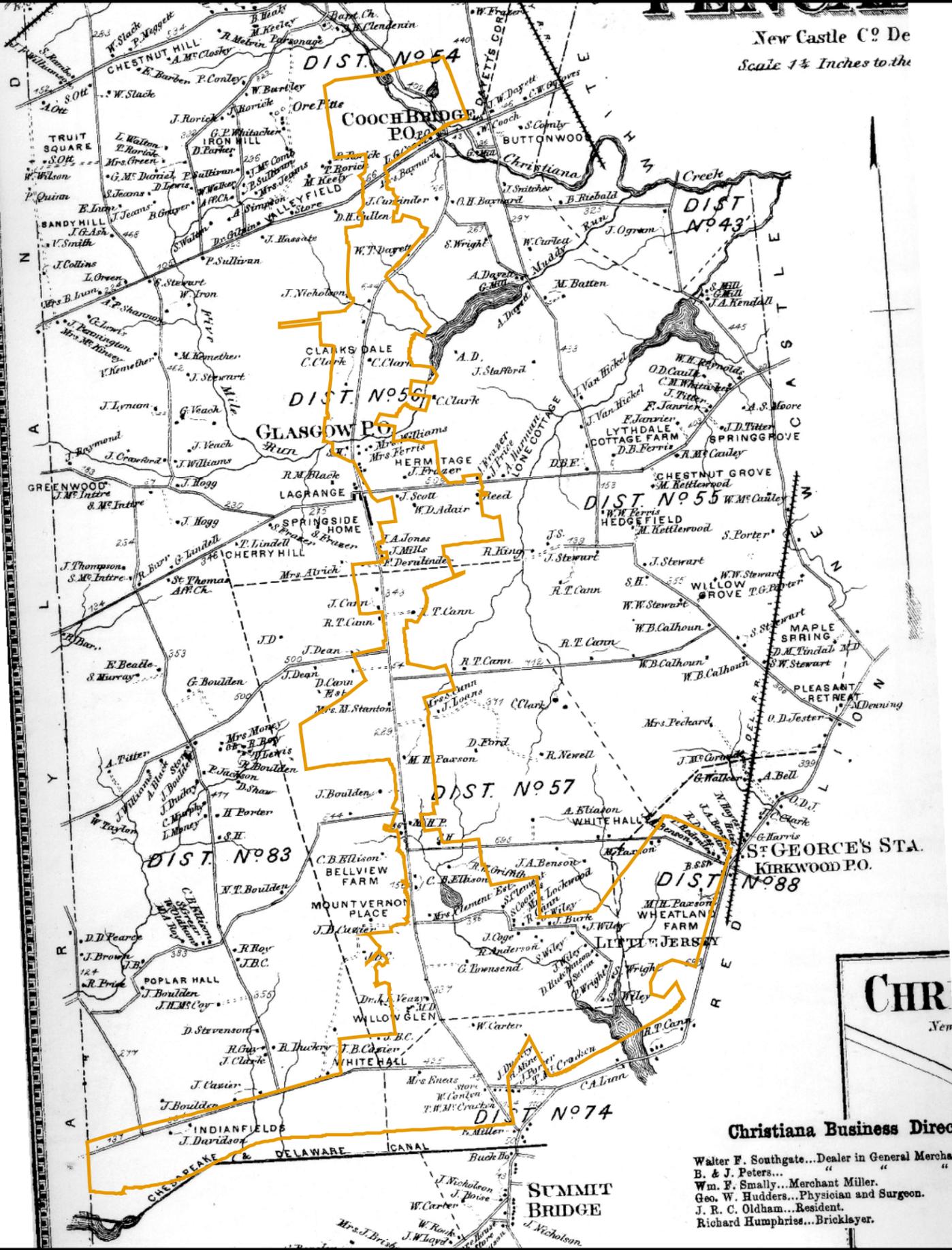
Source:
J.G. Beers, Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868

Figure 7
J.G. Beers
Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868



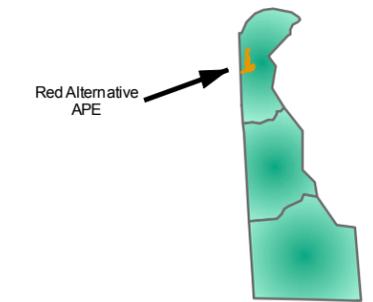
January 2006

01090 MT HB 8-24-05



Addendum-Historic Context and Reconnaissance Survey Report (Red Alternative)

 Proposed APE



Source:
J.G. Beers, Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868

Figure 8
J.G. Beers
Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868



January 2006