

4.0 METHODOLOGY

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4.1 Background Research

4.1.1 Previous Survey Forms and Determinations of Eligibility

Prior to any field survey, A.D. Marble & Company conducted background research, which is presented in Section 5.0, Summary of Previous Documentation, of this report. This began with an examination of the survey forms, notes, and photographs on file at the DE SHPO. Specifically, 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. When indicated by the DE SHPO staff, additional paper documentation was consulted. 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 and collected. In addition, the files of the New Castle County Planning Department and the University of Delaware Center for Historic Architecture and Design (formerly the Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering) (CHAE/CHAD) were visited to search for any additional survey forms or HABS documentation that may not have been on file in other locations. Copies of previous documentation for listed and eligible resources are included in Appendix A of this report.

4.1.2 Previous Reports and Studies

A.D. Marble & Company staff retrieved and copied relevant cultural resource reports, studies, historic contexts, and historic maps on file at the DE SHPO. Other institutions and/or repositories visited or consulted with for this task include: DelDOT, the New Castle County Planning Department, CHAE/CHAD, the Morris Library at the University of Delaware, the Historical Society of Delaware (Wilmington), and the Hagley-Eleutherian Mills Library. After the background research was completed, a bibliographical list of previous studies and contexts relevant to the study area was prepared by A.D. Marble & Company and provided to RK&K and DelDOT staff for informal review and comment. For a complete list of previous studies and contexts relevant to the U.S. 301 APE, 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 A.D. Marble & Company by DelDOT. The DE SHPO's GIS data layer for St. Georges Hundred was received and integrated into the project GIS database. 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, A.D. Marble & Company

coordinated with DelDOT and utilized the protocol provided for the database. The limits of previous surveys are shown in Figure 4.

Tax Assessment Data

Tax assessment data was collected from the New Castle County Tax Assessors Office. 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; D.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 8).

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. USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangles from the 1950s, including Cecilton, MD-DE (1958), St. Georges, DE (1953), Middletown, DE (1953), were also referenced to pinpoint dates of construction (Figure 9).

The archived road plans, the map collection, and annual reports in the DelDOT archives were reviewed. The road plans relevant to the APE were photocopied as they are useful for determining the historic development of individual properties. The 1941 and 1964 state highway maps were also photocopied.

4.2 Reconnaissance Survey

Upon the completion of the work described in the background research tasks, the reconnaissance survey was begun. During the reconnaissance survey, teams drove all passable roads in the study area. Generally, resources were examined from the public right-of-way(s); private property was only accessed when resources were not visible from the roadway. All survey information was gathered using Global Positioning System (GPS) units and field computers (IPAQ), which allowed data to be directly entered into the project database in the field. The information was then transferred directly into the computers back in the main office at the end of each field session.

**U.S. 301 Project Development
Historic Context and
Reconnaissance Survey Report**

-  Reconnaissance Level APE
-  Survey Boundaries
-  CR15 (Boyds Corner to Mt. Pleasant)
-  Choptank Road Improvements
-  US 13 Relief Route
-  US 301 Weigh Station and Inspection Facility
-  US Route 301 Corridor Study
-  Woodstock Cell Tower Report



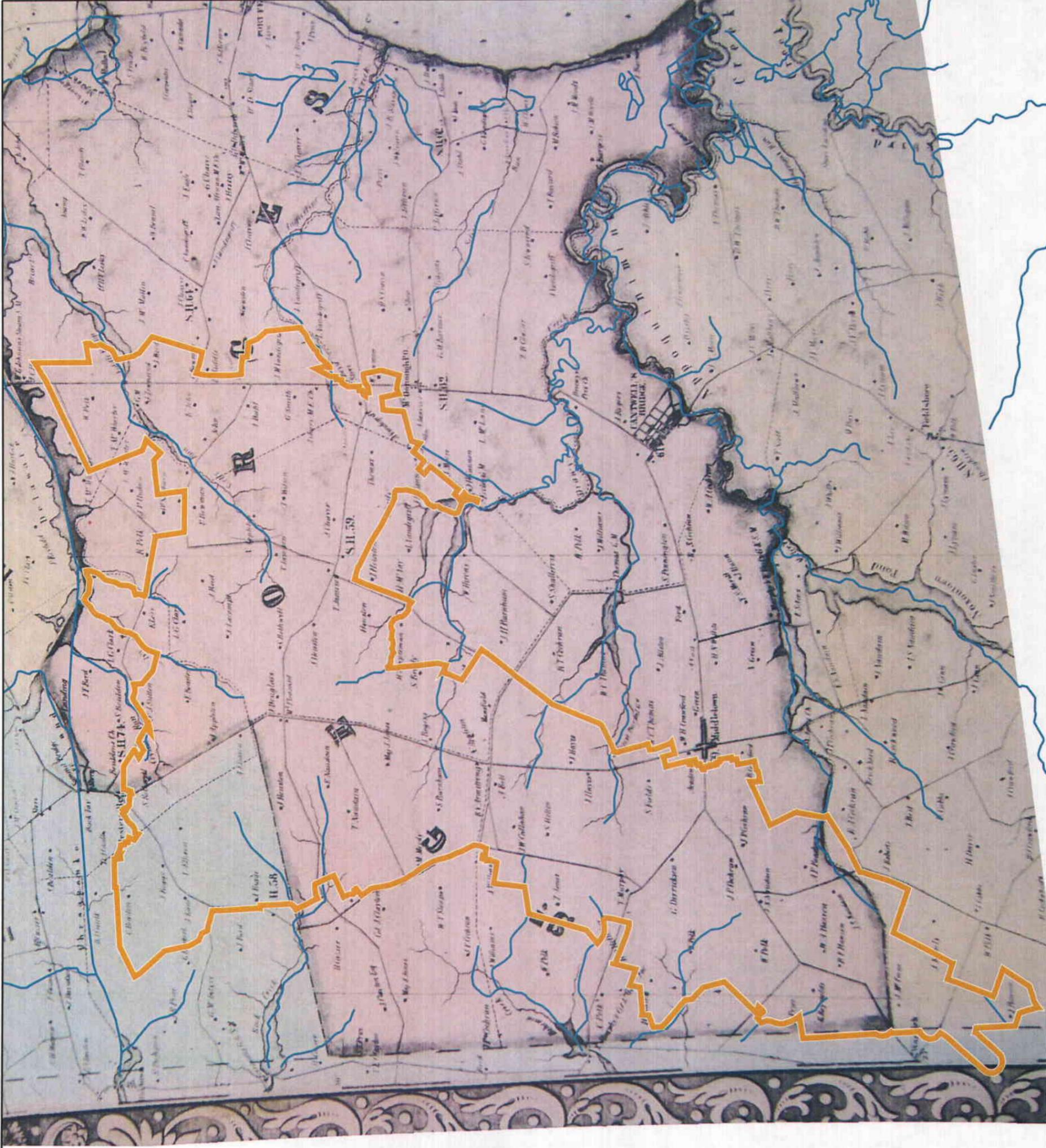
Sources:
1997 Aerial Photography

**Figure 4
Limits of Previous Surveys**



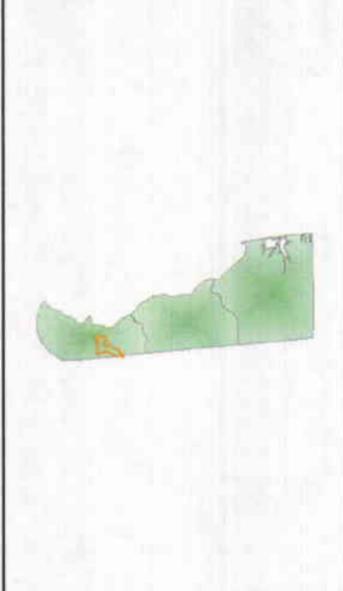
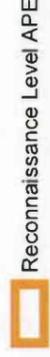
July 2006





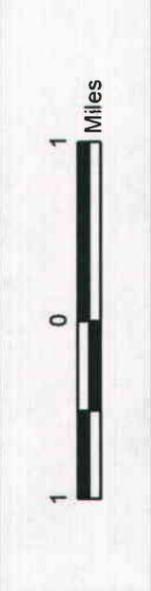
**U.S. 301 Project Development
Historic Context and
Reconnaissance Survey Report**

Reconnaissance Level APE



Sources:
Rea and Price, Map of New Castle County, Delaware, 1849
A.D. Marble Site Investigation

**Figure 5
Rea and Price
New Castle County, Delaware, 1849**



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**U.S. 301 Project Development
Historic Context and
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 Reconnaissance Level APE

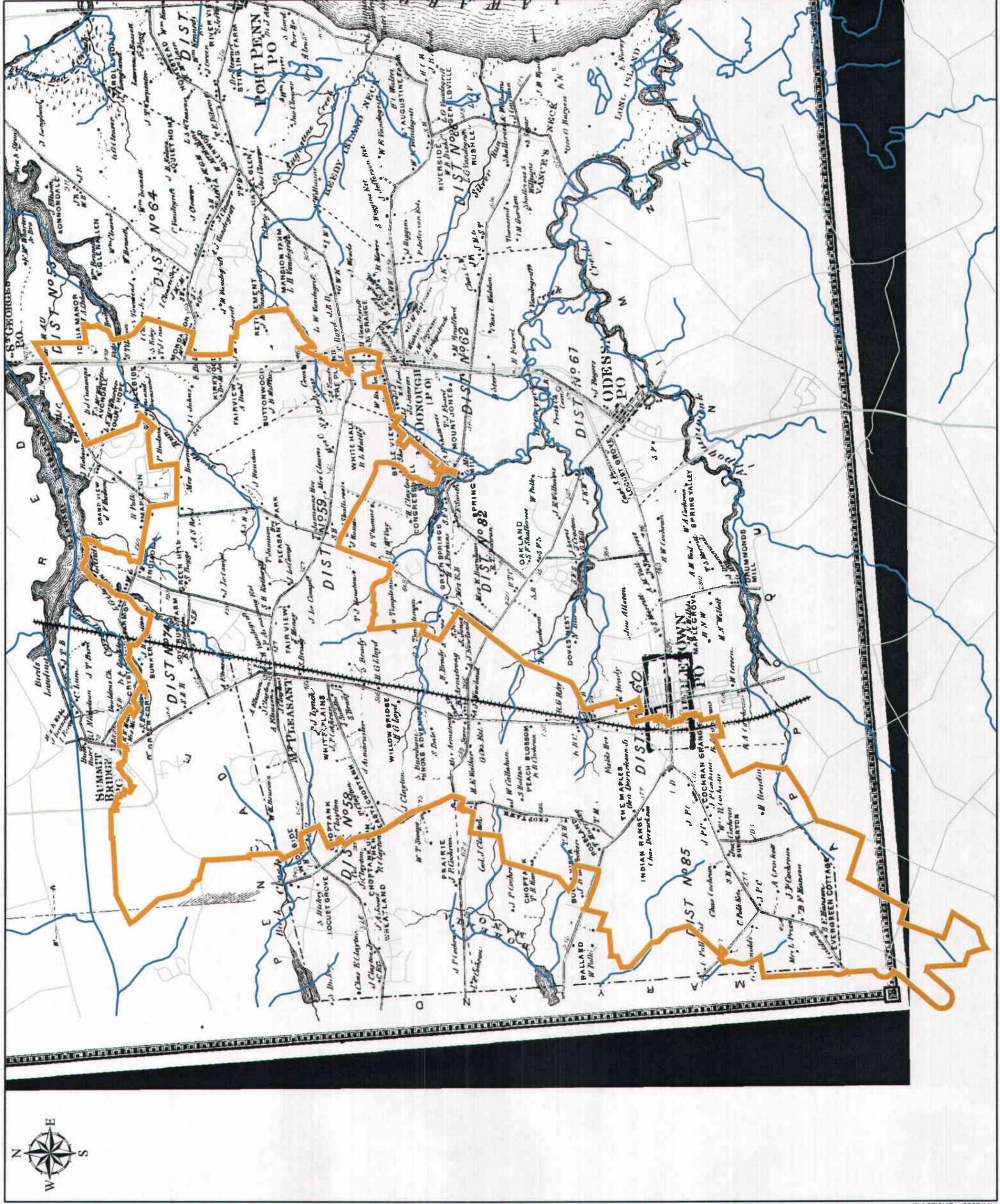


Sources:
J.G. Beers, Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868
A.D. Marble Site Investigation

**Figure 6
J.G. Beers
Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868**



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 Reconnaissance Level APE

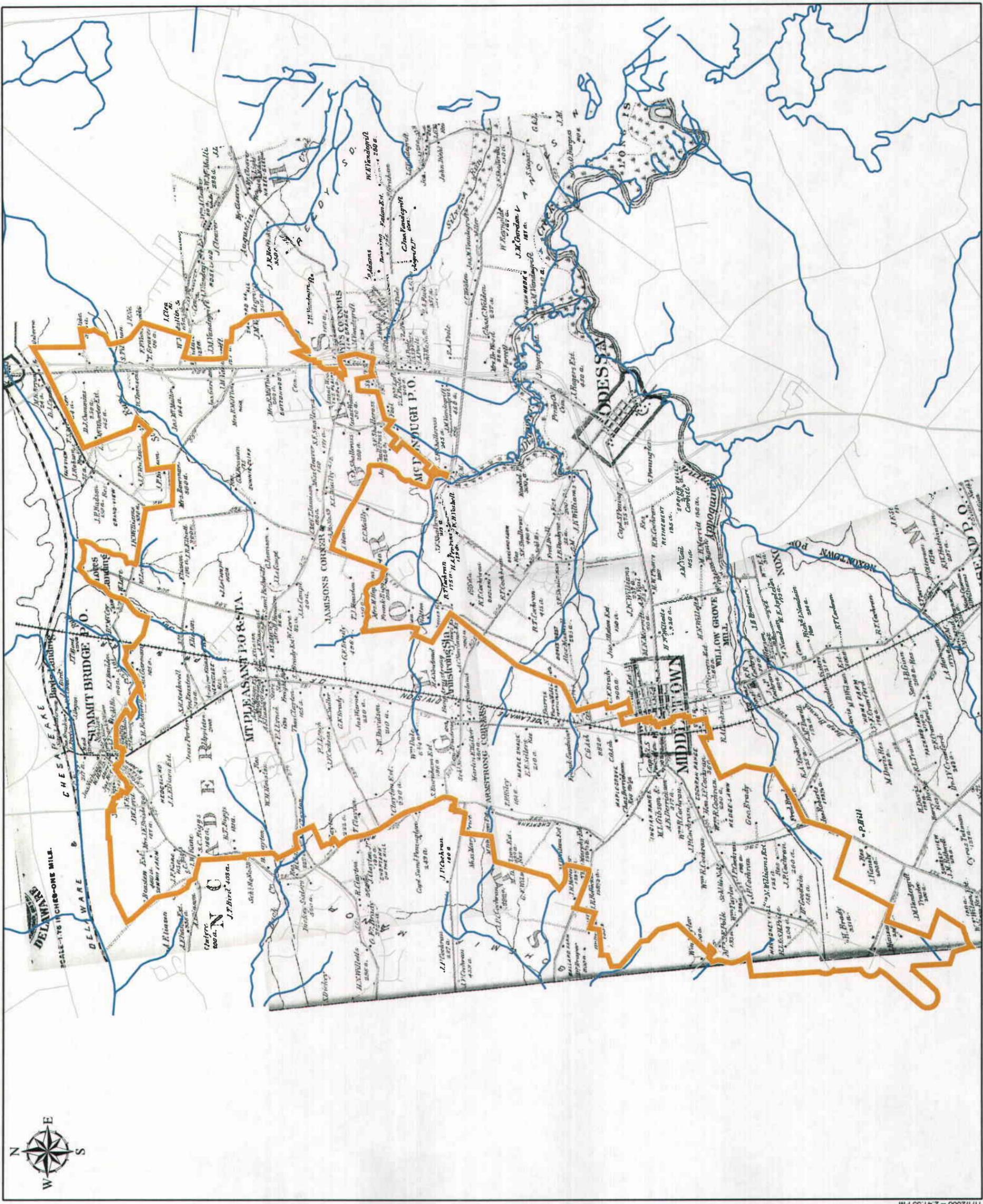


Sources:
G.W. Baist, Atlas of New Castle County, Delaware, 1893
A.D. Marble Site Investigation

**Figure 7
G.W. Baist, Atlas of
New Castle County, Delaware, 1893**



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**U.S. 301 Project Development
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 Reconnaissance Level APE

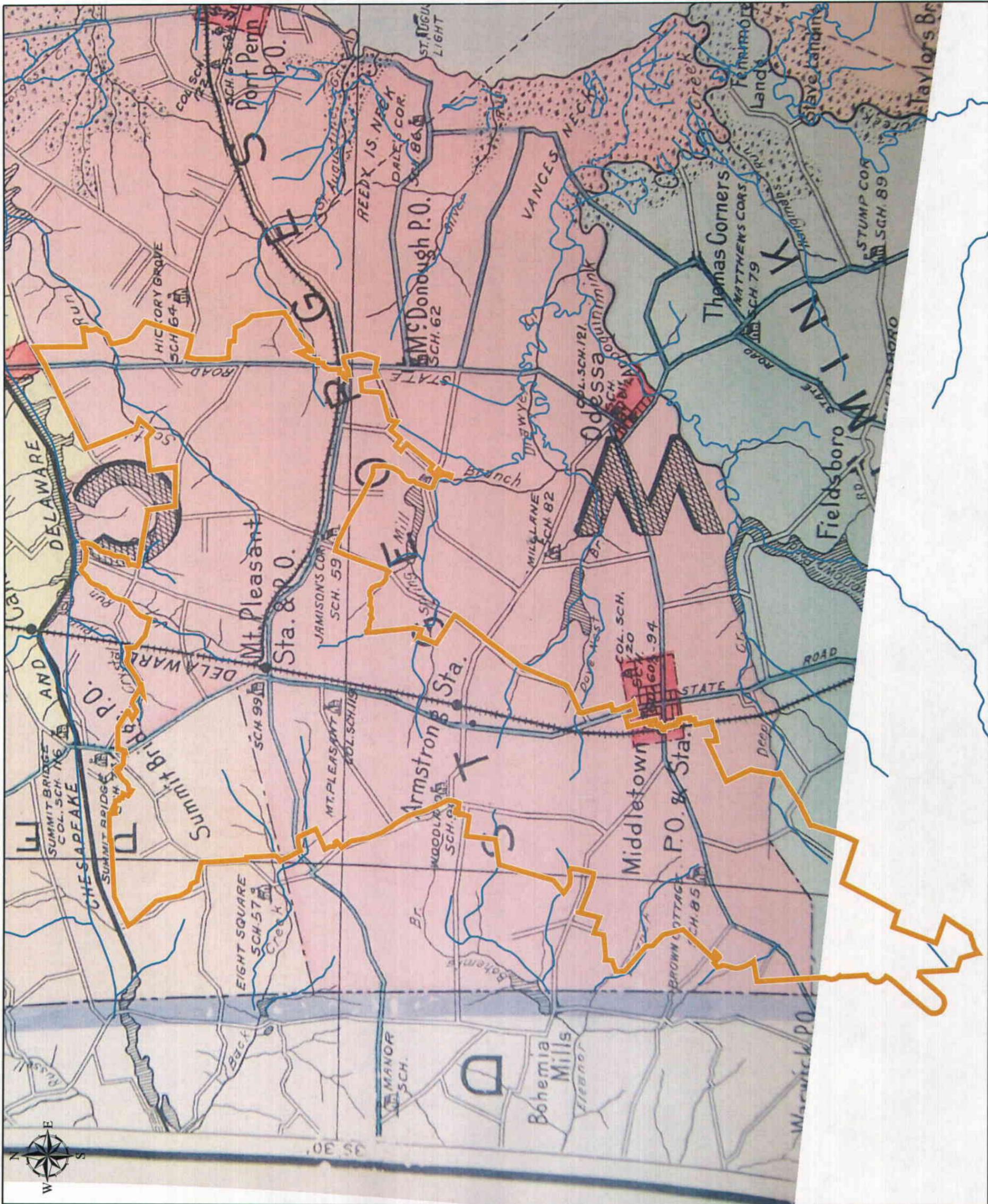


Sources:
A. H. Mueller, Map of the Delaware River, 1919
A.D. Marble Site Investigation

**Figure 8
A. H. Mueller
Map of the Delaware River, 1919**



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 Reconnaissance Level APE

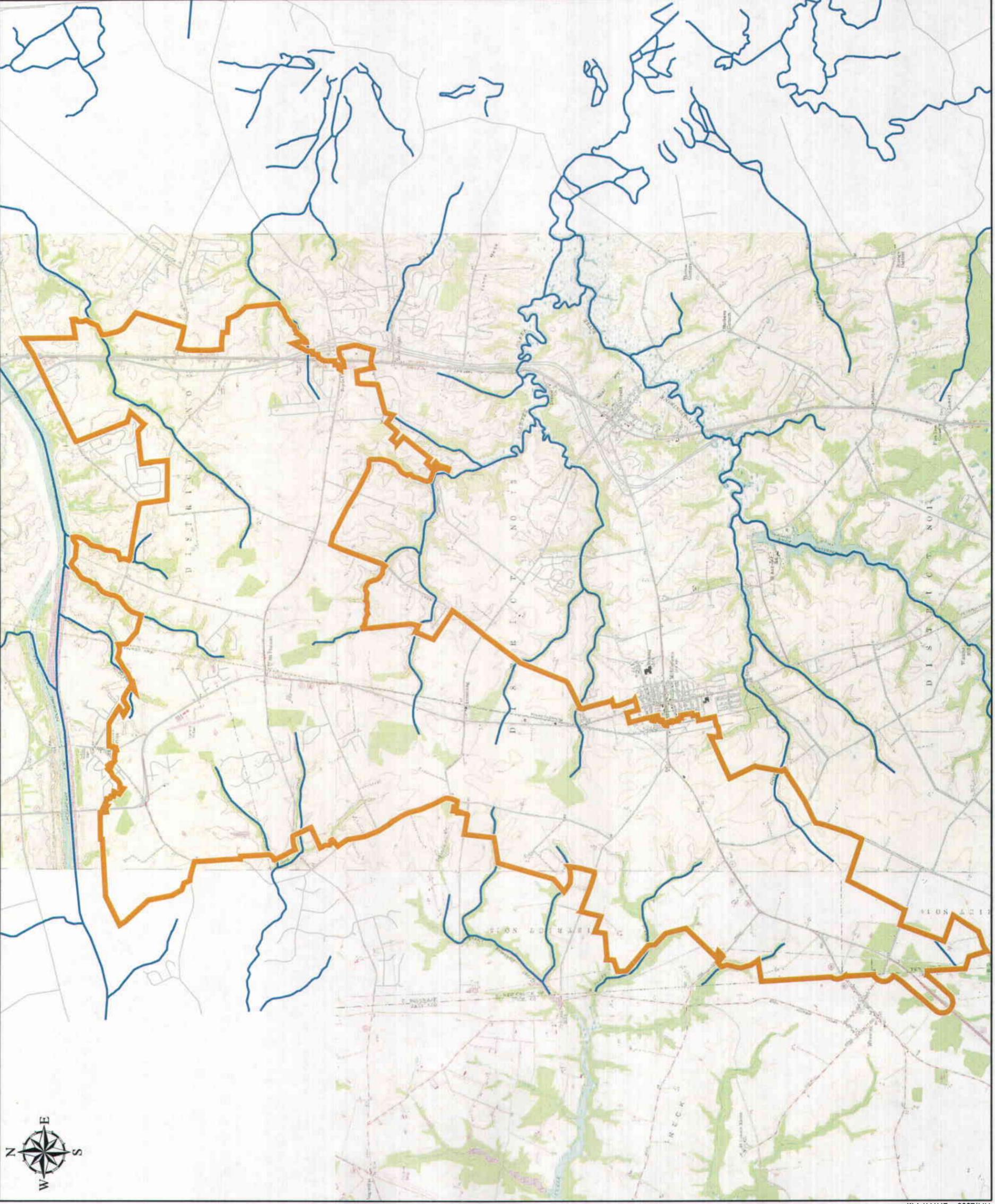


Sources:
USGS 7.5 DRGs
Cecilton, MD-DE (1958), Middletown, DE (1953).
Saint Georges, DE (1953).
A.D. Marble Site Investigation

**Figure 9
USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle**



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During the reconnaissance survey, A.D. Marble & Company 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 to verify National Register boundaries;
- confirmed the presence or absence of all buildings, structures and objects shown on the 1962 aerials;
- took digital 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 necessary, county tax parcel data was referenced in the field to confirm or refute dates for year of construction.

All resources identified during the windshield that were not previously assigned a CRS point were assigned a temporary control number and relevant information was collected in the database. Eight of the newly identified resources in the reconnaissance survey were not advanced for further study as they were archeological sites (CRS Nos. A00004, A00005, A00036, A00053, A00058, A00070, A00215, and A00220). There were six buildings (A00034, A00038, A00052, A00055, A00062, A00223) and one cemetery (CRS No. A00018) that were discovered to post-date the 1962 survey cut-off date following the reconnaissance survey and prior to the intensive level survey. One dwelling identified on the 1962 aerials had been moved (CRS No. A00217) and was not advanced for further study. DelDOT coordinated with the DE SHPO to add the remaining 91 newly identified aboveground resources to their survey database and received CRS numbers (CRS No. N14307 to CRS No. N14376 in Table 2).

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, method of construction, a master, or 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 (Ames et al. 1989:37).

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
1940-1960±	Suburbanization and Early Ex-Urbanization

No aboveground resources dating to the 1630-1730± and 1730-1770± periods have been identified in the APE to date; however, these periods are addressed in this document to provide a more complete understanding of the historical development of the study area.

As noted above, the information presented in the historic context is organized by historic themes. The 1993 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 contexts for the evaluation of specific property types:

- 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)

The historic context is linked to aboveground resources through the concept of property types. Property types are based on a set of shared physical or associative characteristics. Physical characteristics may include structural forms, architectural styles, or building materials. Associative characteristics relate to events, activities, or specific individuals or a group of individuals. Section 8.0, Associated Property Types and Registration Requirements, identifies property types for each historic theme, provides a discussion of the distribution of these property types within the APE, and identifies potentially eligible examples in the APE based on the results of the reconnaissance survey. Section 8.0 also provides guidance for evaluating property types in the study area. A summary of property types and registration requirements is presented in Section 6.3.