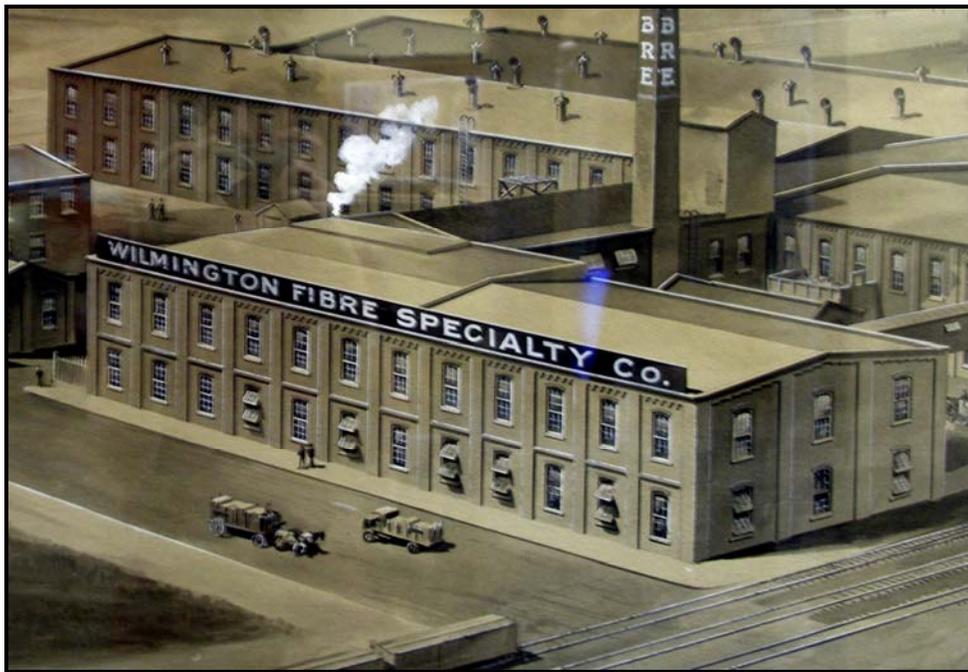


**INTENSIVE-LEVEL HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON STREET SIDEWALKS
CITY OF NEW CASTLE, NEW CASTLE COUNTY
DELAWARE**

PARENT AGREEMENT 1417, TASK 10

FEBRUARY 2011



RICHARD GRUBB & ASSOCIATES, INC.
Cultural Resource Consultants

**Intensive-Level Historic Architectural Survey
Washington Street Sidewalks
City of New Castle, New Castle County
Delaware**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), using funds provided by the Federal Highway Administration, is proposing to improve sidewalks on South Street, West Seventh Street, and Washington Street in the City of New Castle, New Castle County, Delaware. Because federal funds are being used, this intensive-level historic architectural survey has been conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This intensive-level historic architectural survey identified all buildings, structures, sites, and objects listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). A Phase I archaeological survey has also been conducted and was submitted as a separate report.

The APE including properties fronting South Street, West Seventh Street, and Washington Street and contained a total of 91.486 acres. A reconnaissance-level historic architectural survey of the APE was conducted on April 8, 2010, and the results submitted in a report in May 2010. The intensive-level historic architectural survey was completed on September 23, 2010. The intensive-level survey included a reassessment of 24 properties in the APE lying within the New Castle Historic District (CRS# N00349), which is listed on the National Register and is a National Historic Landmark, to determine their contributing status. The status of all contributing and noncontributing properties was confirmed. Two lots previously identified as vacant were determined to contain buildings constructed after the period of significance and were recommended as noncontributing resources. The tax parcel of one contributing property was subdivided and two new, semi-detached dwellings constructed on South Street; these new houses were identified as noncontributing resources within the New Castle Historic District.

The intensive-level historic architectural survey identified one property, Stonum (900 Washington Street, Parcel #2101400143; CRS# N00362), that was previously listed on the National Register and as a National Historic Landmark for its associations with George Read, a nationally important political figure of the American Revolution. Although altered, the National Register status of the house was confirmed because significant changes predate the National Register listing of the property and because no other properties associated with the life of Read are known to survive.

Eight additional properties were documented in the intensive-level historic architectural survey: the Lesley-Travers Mansion Wall and Gate; Eliason Lumber Yard (508 South Street, Parcel #2101400390); South Street Garden Townhouses (603-629 South Street, Parcels #2101400373-2101400388); 614 South Street (Parcel #2101400392); Gambacorta Motors (423 West Seventh Street, Parcel #2101400405); Wilmington Fibre Specialty Company (700 Washington Street, Parcel #2101400163), 1113 Washington Street (Parcel #2101400165); and 1300 Washington Street (Parcel #2101400020). None of these properties were recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Lesley-Travers Mansion Wall and Gate (CRS #N04336) are historically associated with the National Register-listed Lesley-Travers Mansion (CRS# N00385); the wall and gate are physically separated from the mansion by twentieth-century development and were not mentioned in the National Register nomination. They do not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register; however, an assessment of their eligibility in relation to the Lesley-Travers Mansion was outside the scope of the current project. The Eliason Lumber Yard (CRS# N04297) and Wilmington Fibre Specialty Company (CRS# N05252) both have significant local historical associations with commerce and industry in New Castle; however, both have also lost significant portions of their historic complexes and, as such, lack integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The South Street Garden Townhouses (CRS# N05254),

stone bungalow at 614 South Street (CRS# N05217), and Gambacorta Motors (CRS# N05251) lack significant historical associations and therefore fail to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. The mid-twentieth-century houses at 1113 and 1300 Washington Street (CRS# N05256 and N05266) were documented on CRS forms, but not evaluated for National Register eligibility. In the scoping meeting with the DE SHPO on-site, it was originally thought that the intersection improvements could have a temporary construction easement (TCE) on either property. At a minimum forms would be required. Preliminarily, they would not be recommended individually eligible due to lack of significance or integrity.

Survey data for the current project is on file at the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs and DelDOT in Dover, as well as at Richard Grubb & Associates headquarters in Cranbury, New Jersey.

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