

### III. EXISTING CONDITIONS IN THE BRIDGE 599 PROJECT AREA

GAI reviewed previous cultural resource management survey reports, as well as *Cultural Resource Survey* forms at the Delaware SHPO office for all previously surveyed historic resources in the Bridge 599 APE. GAI verified the accuracy of these survey forms in the field and re-photographed all previously surveyed historic resources in the Bridge 599 APE. As a result of the site files research and fieldwork phases, GAI identified and documented four previously surveyed individual historic resources: the Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-575), the Bank (N-466), Auburn Mill (N-1083), the Marshall Dam and Millrace (N-13620), and one historic district: the Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003).

#### PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEYS WITHIN THE BRIDGE 599 APE

Because of its rich historical associations, the Auburn Mills/Yorklyn area has been the focus of several intensive architectural surveys by Delaware SHPO staff since the 1970s. These surveys resulted in the identification and documentation of three individual historic resources within the Bridge 599 APE: the Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-575), the Bank (N-466), and Auburn Mill (N-1083). These buildings, along with eight other historic resources, were included within the Auburn Mills Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

*Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-575) (Photograph 11)* stands just north of the NVF millrace and Bridge 599. The house was built in at least two stages. The 2-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed stone wing on the north may date from the late eighteenth century. Around 1820 Horatio Gates Garrett added the 2 ½-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed stone south wing. Both sections retain most of their original interior plan and decorative trim, with the circa 1820 section displaying several Federal-style mantels. The house served as the Auburn Mill owner's residence until the construction of the more ornate Israel Marshall House (N-5003.2) on SR 82 in 1897.

*The Bank (N-466) (Photograph 12)* stands adjacent to the Horatio Gates Garrett House. It is a continuous block of three workers' housing built in the mid-nineteenth century in connection with the Auburn paper/textile mill. Built into a natural embankment, the gable-roofed stone structure is two-stories tall over a full basement and has individual shed-roofed porches along the front elevation.

*Auburn Mill (N-1083) (Photograph 13)* is an industrial complex with portions of some buildings possibly dating to the late eighteenth century. Most of the structures date to an expansion program carried out by owner William Clark when he converted the former textile mills into a papermaking operation following a devastating fire in 1880. The mills have historically employed water as an auxiliary power source, and the complex includes several dams and sluices, as well as a millrace.



Photograph 11. Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-575). Looking West.



Photograph 12. The Bank (N-466). Looking Northwest.



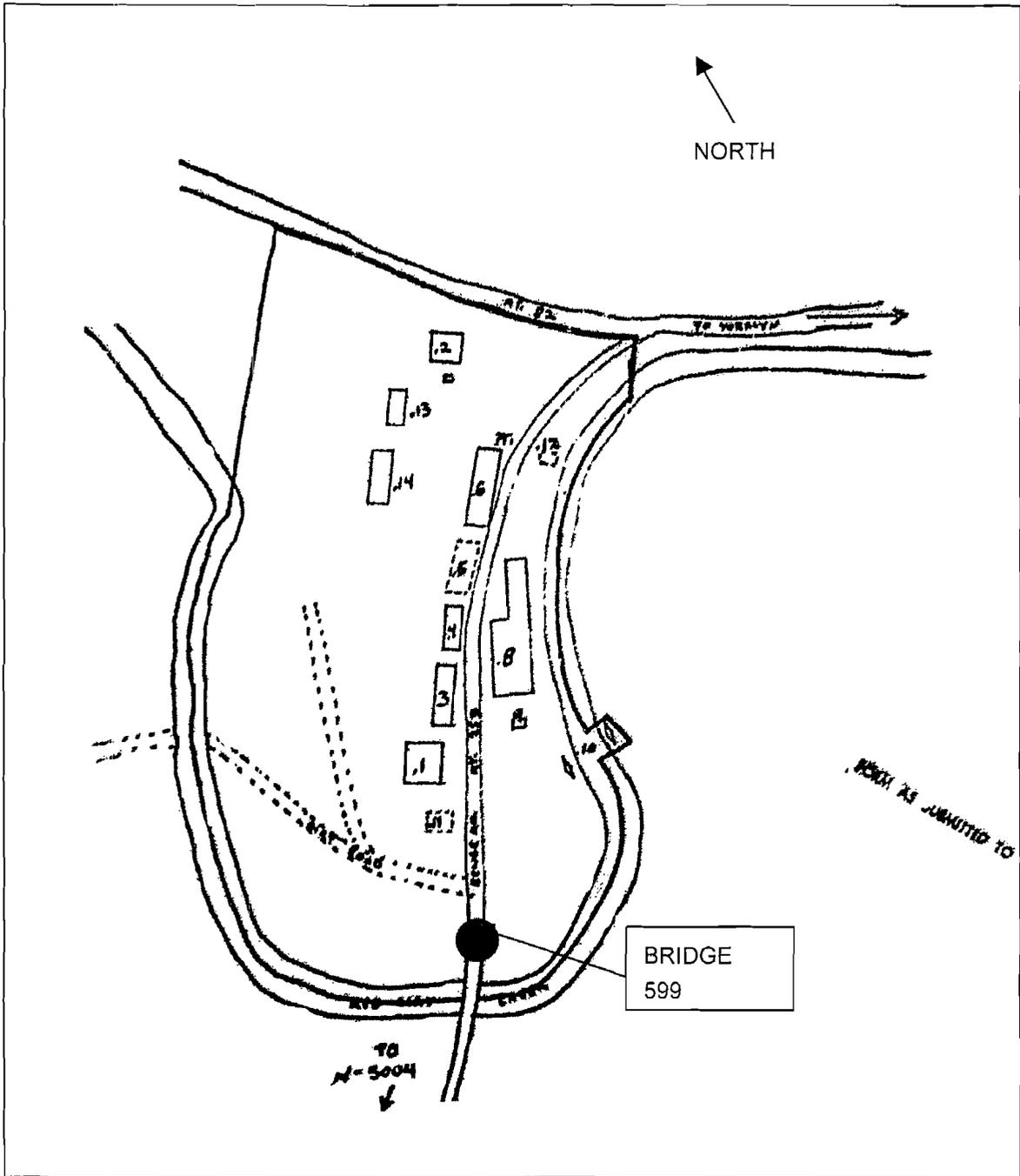
Photograph 13. Auburn Mill Buildings (N-1083). Looking Northeast.

*Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003) (Photograph 14)* contains 11 contributing historic resources and is located on either side of Benge Road (Route 253) south of its intersection with SR 82. Red Clay Creek serves as the southern, eastern and western boundary of the historic district, with SR 82 as its northern boundary (Figure 2). The historic district is significant for its collection of buildings relating to the important manufacturing and architecture themes in New Castle County history. Included within the Auburn Mill Historic District are the Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-575), the Bank (N-466), and Auburn Mills (N-1083), as well as eight other contributing historic resources. The boundaries of the historic district also include the site of an historic bank barn built by the Garrett family located just north of Bridge 599 between the bridge and the Horatio Gates Garrett House. Bridge 599 is located within the historic district boundaries.



*SOURCE: DeIDOT Bridge Design*

Photograph 14. A Portion of the Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003). Looking Northwest.



SOURCE: Delaware SHPO

Figure 2 Boundaries of the Auburn Mills Historic District

In 1998, the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. conducted an architectural survey of historic resources located along SR 82, north of and outside of the Bridge 599 APE.

*Marshall Dam and Millrace (N-13620) (Photograph 15)* was identified during the 1998 architectural survey of SR 82 between the Pennsylvania State Line and Red Clay Creek. This part of the millrace, constructed in 1910, is a continuation to the north of the pre-existing southwestern millrace that supplied waterpower to the Auburn Mill operations beginning in the early nineteenth century. The older millrace is shown on historic maps of the project area beginning in 1849 and is already included within the boundaries of the Auburn Mill Historic District (see above).



Photograph 15. Millrace (N-13620). Looking East.

The *Architectural Resource Survey-State Route 82, Pennsylvania State Line to County Route 253* (Griffitts 1989) recommended that the Auburn Mills Historic District be expanded to include the Marshall Dam and Millrace as a contributing historic resource.

More recently, the *Phase I Archeological Survey, State Road 82 Slope Stabilization Project* (Botwick and Resnick 1999) identified two groups of fieldstone piers (N-50003.15) adjacent to either side of the millrace, located more than 0.5-mile northeast of the Bridge 599 project area. These piers which likely represent footings for a bridge or similar structure may constitute a contributing component to the existing Auburn Mills Historic District.

### **Bridge 599**

At the time the Auburn Mills Historic District was listed in the National Register in 1979, the 1932 construction date for Bridge 599 precluded its inclusion as a contributing resource in the historic district, although both Bridge 599 and the NVF millrace lie within the district's boundaries. Bridge 599 is not identified as a contributing resource on the Auburn Mills Historic District boundary map (see Figure 2).

Because of its small size, DeIDOT classified Bridge 599 as a culvert and it was not surveyed and documented during the DeIDOT Historic Bridge Survey of the 1980s (Gwen Davis: personal communication, October 2000). Thus, Bridge 599 has never been surveyed, nor has it been evaluated for National Register eligibility as an individual resource or as part of the Auburn Mills Historic District.