

ABSTRACT

In Winter 2002/2003, McCormick, Taylor and Associates, Inc. (now McCormick Taylor, Inc.) conducted a Cultural Resources Survey of the proposed S.R. 54 Project in Baltimore Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware.

The purpose of the historic structures survey was to identify all buildings and structures, fifty years in age or older, situated within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the S.R. 54 Planning Study. Previous studies conducted within the APE resulted in five (5) identified properties; however, no determinations were made. Of the five (5) previously identified resources, property identification forms were only found for four (4) and main building forms for two (2). The George Edward Gray House (S-8148) was previously identified as S-2086; however, during a field view on April 21, 2003, it became clear that the dwelling associated with S-2086 had been razed and the DE SHPO asked that a new CRS number be assigned to this resource. During a visit to the DE SHPO to assign CRS numbers to the resources within the APE for this project, it was discovered that several of the properties had been assigned numbers during a survey conducted by KFS in 1989. The report was never completed or submitted to the DE SHPO and there were no CRS forms for these resources. The DE SHPO requested that these numbers be used for the current survey.

Field surveys resulted in the identification of ten (10) additional resources meeting the fifty (50) year old or older requirement for historic evaluation within the APE. This Historic Structures Survey/Determination of Eligibility Report includes Delaware Cultural Resource Survey forms for fifteen (15) resources (5 previous and 10 current). The CRS forms for these resources are contained in *Appendix A*. The original forms for the previously identified resources are situated behind the CRS forms completed for the current survey.

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation were applied to each resource. In addition to assessing the integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, each of the four (4) criteria were considered: (A) association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; (B) association with the lives of persons significant in our past; (C) embodiment of distinctive characteristics of a type, method and/or period of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and (D) an ability to yield, or likelihood to yield, information important to prehistory or history (National Register Bulletin, No. 15).

Out of those properties surveyed, two (2) resources are being recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The George Edward Gray House (S-8148) is recommended eligible under Criterion A for its association with local agriculture and Criterion C for its Colonial Revival architecture. The Adkins Farm was previously identified as three (3) separate resources; however, due to the family connection these resources are being recommended eligible under Criteria A and C as an Agricultural Complex, which conveys the growth/transition of a family farming operation over time.