

**S-11900. Dwelling, 18110 Beach Highway
(PIN: 230-26.16-6.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: This c. 1955 ranch house is placed on the south side of Beach Highway. A gravel driveway lies to the west side of the building. A wood-framed handicapped ramp extends from the parking area to a small wood-framed front deck. Tall shrubs and scattered trees are planted in the front lawn. The rear lawn is open.

The one-story, wood-framed dwelling, rectangular in footprint with a partial width wing on the west side has the shallow gabled roof diagnostic of a ranch house. Its façade is four bays wide and has an off-center fiberglass door protected by a screened door. Fenestration consists of one-over-one, double-hung vinyl clad sash. The west wing end wall is pierced with two, one-over-one, double-hung vinyl clad replacements in its west wall, and a fiberglass door. The door adjoins a concrete stoop with an iron railing. The east and rear walls are fenestrated with one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. The house is sheathed in vinyl siding and has a roof sheathed in asphalt shingles.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Suburbanization and Early Ex-Urbanization, 1940-1960+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; ranch house property type.

Evaluation: This house was evaluated under the context of roadside development of former agricultural land. As indicated in the research design, this trend was and continues to be an important one that shapes the Sussex County landscape, but individual examples rarely possess historical significance. This property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

No information has emerged that connects the house to the productive life of anyone significant in the history of the local area. The property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

As a simple ranch house with no architectural elaboration, this dwelling does not represent a significant example of a type or period of construction. Additionally, it has been substantially altered by replacement of windows and re-siding and is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

The building on this property represents a common example of wood framing and is not likely to provide new information on this construction type that is not already available through other means; therefore the property is not likely to be eligible under Criterion D.

This property was also evaluated as part of a proposed historic district, Beach Highway. The district is recommended not eligible for the National Register because it lacks both significance and integrity as a cohesive grouping.

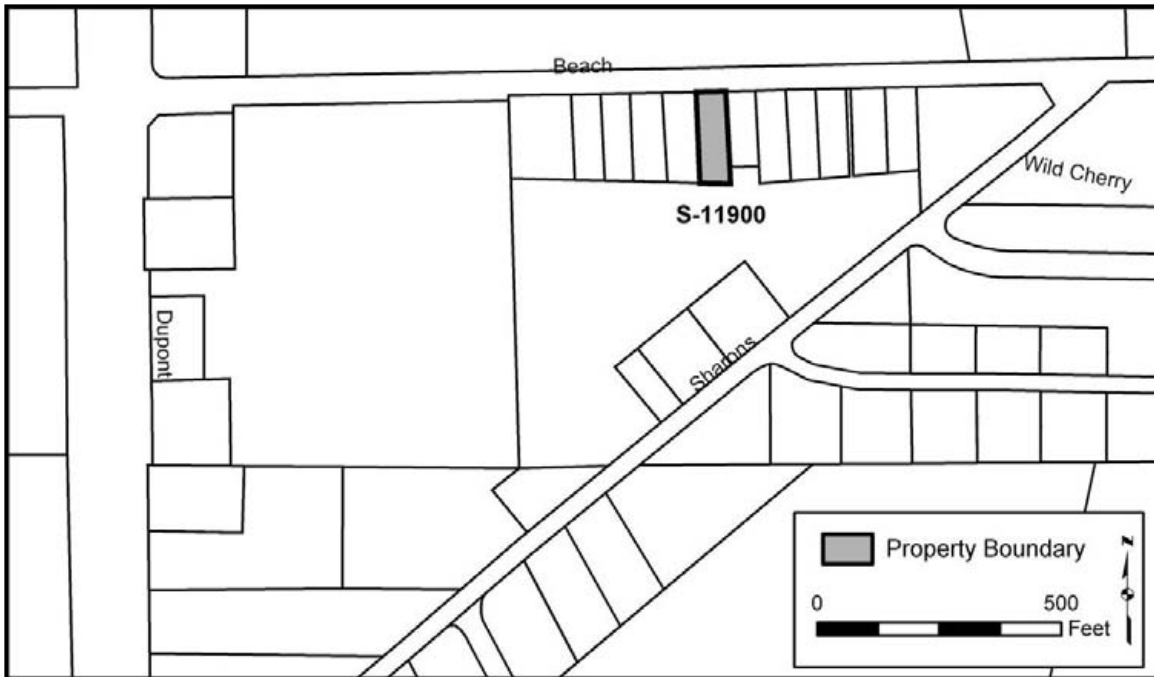
S-11900



main building (.001) façade, view to S



main building (.001) rear and west side,
view to NE



**S-11901. Dwelling, 18124 Beach Highway
(PIN: 230-26.16-8.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: This c. 1955, wood-framed ranch house is part of a row of similar houses on the south side of Beach Highway in Ellendale. A gravel driveway is located on the west side of the house and provides access to a lean-to car-cover attached to the west end of the house. Large shade trees and shrubs are planted in the front lawn. A few tall trees are placed in the rear lawn.

The three bay, side-gabled dwelling with shed roofed rear ell and porch is an example of a minimal ranch house. Its north facing façade features a central fiberglass door adjoining a concrete stoop. The north façade is fenestrated with aluminum frame, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows. Similar windows are placed in the east and west gable ends. The rear wall is also fenestrated with two-over-two aluminum sash windows. A fiberglass door is placed in the rear ell and is protected by a flat-roofed hood. A small wood deck adjoins the rear ell. The house is sheathed in vinyl siding and has a composition shingle roof. An exterior chimney is constructed of concrete block.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Suburbanization and Early Ex-Urbanization, 1940-1960+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; ranch house property type.

Evaluation: This house was evaluated under the context of roadside development of former agricultural land. As indicated in the research design, this trend was and continues to be an important one that shapes the Sussex County landscape, but individual examples rarely possess historical significance. This property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

No information has emerged that connects the house to the productive life of anyone significant in the history of the local area. The property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

As noted, the house has been changed by re-siding in vinyl and addition of replacement doors, at a minimum. As a simple, altered ranch house with no architectural elaboration, this dwelling lacks both architectural significance and integrity and is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

The building on this property represents a common example of wood framing and is not likely to provide new information on this construction type that is not already available through other means; therefore the property is not likely to be eligible under Criterion D.

This property was also evaluated as part of a proposed historic district, Beach Highway. The district is recommended not eligible for the National Register because it lacks both significance and integrity as a cohesive grouping.

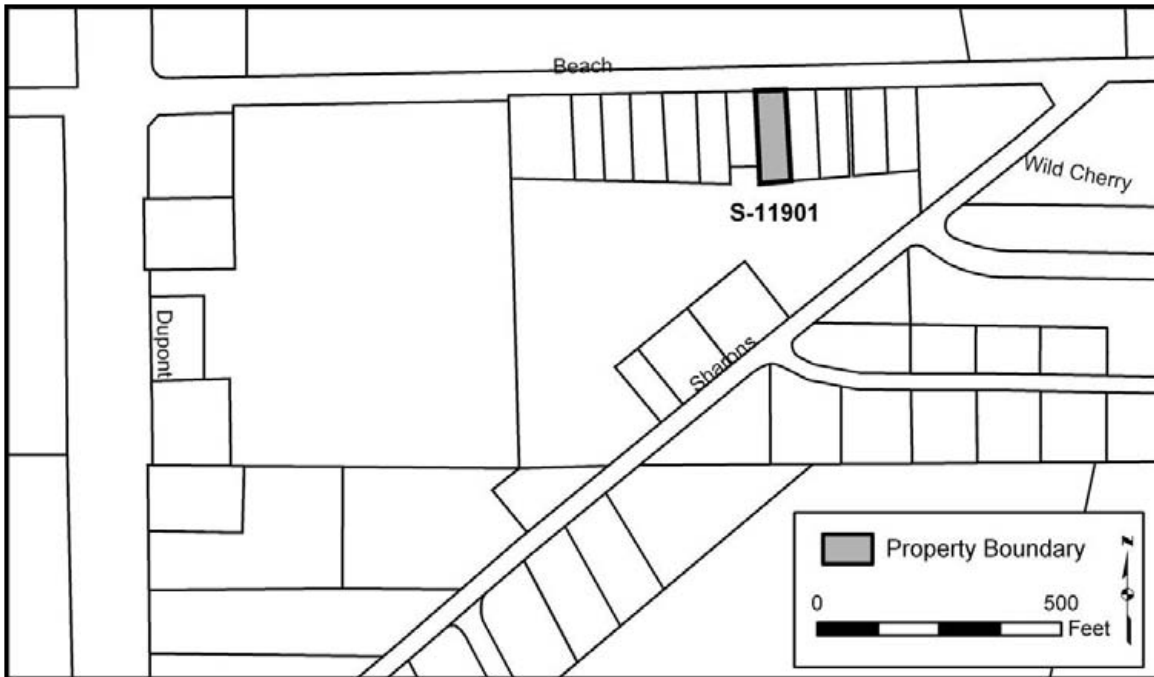
S-11901



main building (.001) façade and west side,
view to SE



main building (.001) rear and west side,
view to NE



**S-11902. Dwelling, 18128 Beach Highway
(PIN: 230-26.16-9.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: This house, part of a row of ranch houses on the south side of Beach Highway, features a driveway to the east side of the dwelling and an open front lawn. A tree is placed near the center of the front lawn. Several trees are placed in the rear lawn, as is a shed outbuilding.

The c. 1955 house (.001) is an uncommon ranch design for the area, altered somewhat with the enclosure of a central façade porch. The main block of the house, rectangular in plan, is side-gabled in orientation with projecting cross-gabled end bays. The front door, placed off-center in the wall, is protected by an ornamental steel grate. Fenestration includes wide one-over-one, double-hung sash windows; a central, single-light picture window; and flanking two-over-two, double-hung sash windows. The east and west gable ends are fenestrated with two-over-two, double-hung aluminum frame windows. The rear features a projecting cross-gabled ell with a door in its east wall protected by an ornamental steel grate. Fenestration of the rear wall consists of two-over-two, double-hung aluminum sash windows. Alterations include replacement aluminum siding, doors, windows, a rear addition, and a front enclosed porch. The house has a rear, interior, concrete-block chimney.

A c. 1960 storage shed (.002) is placed in the rear yard. This single-story shed-roofed structure is placed on a poured concrete foundation and is sheathed in plywood. A storm door is placed in its east façade wall, while the north wall has a single fixed window. The remaining walls are blank.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Suburbanization and Early Ex-Urbanization, 1940-1960+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; ranch house property type.

Evaluation: This house was evaluated under the context of roadside development of former agricultural land. As indicated in the research design, this trend was and continues to be an important one that shapes the Sussex County landscape, but individual examples rarely possess historical significance. This property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

No information has emerged that connects the house to the productive life of anyone significant in the history of the local area. The property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Although an atypical ranch house for its area, this house possesses little individual architectural distinction and has also been substantially altered. Lacking both significance and integrity, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

The buildings on this property represent common examples of wood framing and are not likely to provide new information on this construction type that is not already available through other means; therefore the property is not likely to be eligible under Criterion D.

This property was also evaluated as part of a proposed historic district, Beach Highway. The district is recommended not eligible for the National Register because it lacks both significance and integrity as a cohesive grouping.

S-11902



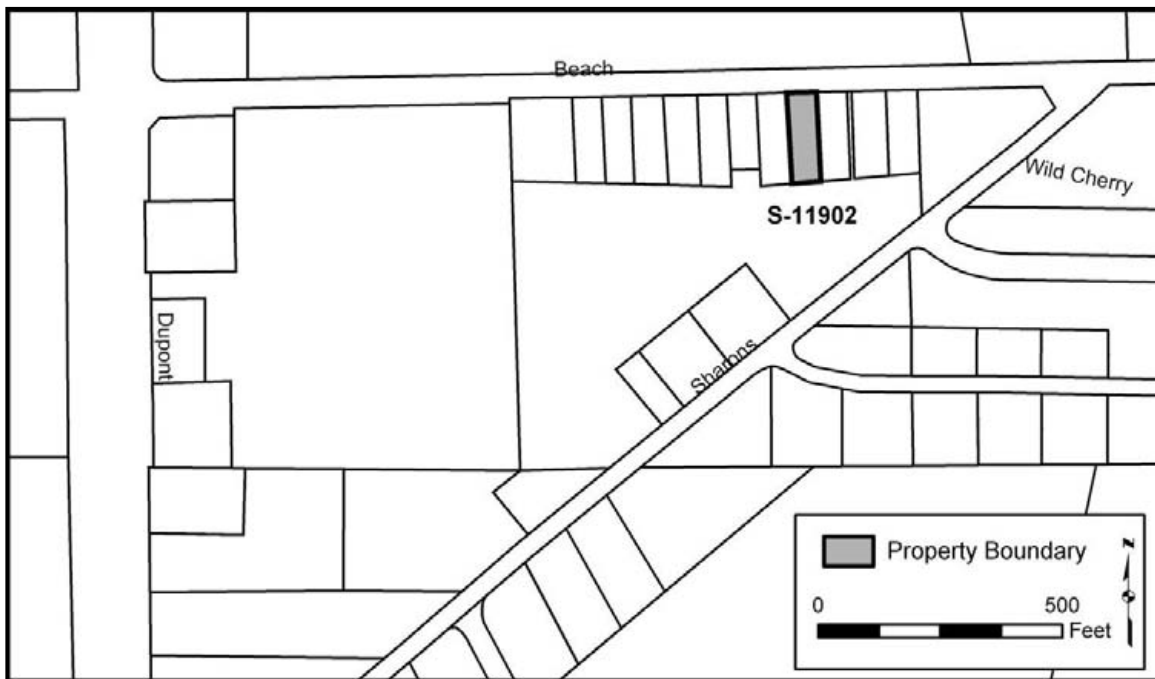
main building (.001) façade, view to S



main building (.001) rear and east side, view to NW



storage shed (.002), view to SE



**S-11904. Agricultural Complex, 16730 DuPont Highway
(PIN: 135-5.00-30.00)
(Detail Map #5)**

Description: This property is located along the west side of the Dupont Highway, at the southwest corner merge of McColley’s Chapel Road and U.S. 113. The property contains a mid-twentieth-century dwelling, three agricultural outbuildings, and various other modern outbuildings. A linear paved driveway is located immediately south of all the buildings, lying in an east-west direction across the property. Tall shade trees grow between the buildings, on the north side of the property, and harvested fields lie to the south.

The c. late 1930s, one-and-one-half-story, wood-framed dwelling faces east. It measures three bays wide by three bays (approximately three rooms) deep. The façade features a centralized main entrance fronted by a brick stoop. A secondary entrance is located centered along the rear wall, sheltered by a shed-roofed porch. A combination of single, four-over-four and one-over-one, double-hung, and three-dimensional vinyl-sash bays light the interior. Overall, the house rests on a rusticated concrete-block foundation and is clad in a combination of aluminum siding and bricktex siding. The gabled-front roof is sheathed in asphalt, and features two gabled dormers along both sidewalls. A concrete-block chimney also rises from the exterior of the rear, south wall.

North of the house stands three early to mid-twentieth-century agricultural outbuildings, a c. 1920s smokehouse (.002), a late 1930s smokehouse (.003), and a late 1930s chicken house (.004). The earlier of the two wood-framed smokehouses (.002) faces east, and stands upon concrete-block piers and is clad in horizontal wood siding. The other (.003) faces south and is clad in vertical wood siding. The rectangular-shaped, wood-framed chicken house (.004) also faces south. This building is also clad in vertical wood siding and is covered by a shed roof sheathed in metal.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization 1940-1960+/-; Agriculture theme and Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; agricultural complex and vernacular bungalow property types.

Historical Overview: The current owner of the property was interviewed at the time of the field survey, but he had little information to offer about the history of his farm. In addition to the 13-1/2 acres wedged between U.S. 113 and McColley’s Chapel Road, the farm’s land holdings—as determined by tax parcel number—currently include a 46-acre parcel on the east side of U.S. 113, and historically may have included more acreage. It is likely this acreage was confined to the east side of McColley’s Chapel Road, however, since the road was a major north-south corridor by the second half of the nineteenth century. On the 1868 Beers map, long before the DuPont Highway was built, there is nothing shown in the vicinity of this agricultural complex; there is, however, a barely discernible dashed line that leads eastward from McColley’s Chapel Road to a building labeled “Mrs. Lynch.” The dashed line appears to represent an unpaved road in roughly the same location as the driveway to the current property, suggesting that Mrs. Lynch’s building may have been the original farmstead. This observation is supported by the 1918 USGS map, which shows a roadway leading east from McColley’s Chapel Road, across the newly built DuPont Highway, to a building (presumably Mrs. Lynch’s house) at a major curve in the road. The road heads southeast from there, crosses the railroad tracks and eventually meets up with

Redden Road. There are no buildings shown at the location of the agricultural complex, suggesting that “Mrs. Lynch’s” house was still the domestic center of the farm in 1918.

The agricultural complex does show up on the 1937 aerial, but the resolution is inadequate to identify individual buildings. A cluster of trees in the vicinity of “Mrs. Lynch’s” house suggests there were still buildings there, but the main farmstead may have been moved to the west side of U.S. 113, where it still stands today. Both clusters of buildings were extant in 1954, but by 1961 the eastern buildings had been removed, and all that remained of the farm was the current agricultural complex. The large chicken house that is parallel to McColley’s Chapel Road was added between 1961 and 1968, and the layout of the property does not appear to have changed substantially since then.

Evaluation: This property was evaluated under National Register Criterion A for its association with the agricultural history of the local area. Historically, three of the present outbuildings on the property were used for chicken farming. Currently, all buildings are used for domestic and/or crop-related agricultural purposes. The property contains a house, two smokehouses, a chicken house, and numerous modern outbuildings. Altogether, the buildings reflect a typical example of a modest-sized farm practicing mixed agriculture. Neither individually nor as an ensemble are they distinctive. The large, modern chicken house parallel to McColley’s Chapel Road dominates the complex and erodes the historical feeling of the farmstead. Lacking both significance and integrity, the property is recommended not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

Regional contextual history using secondary sources has not identified the property as one connected to any individual important to the history of the local area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

As mentioned above, this vernacular bungalow has undergone alterations. The alterations include the application of various types of siding to the exterior, fenestration changes to the façade, and the replacement of all the windows and doors throughout with non-sensitive and/or period-related elements. Probably never an architecturally distinctive dwelling, the recent renovations have compromised most aspects of its integrity. Far better preserved examples of this house type exist within the present study areas. Therefore, the house is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

The buildings on this property reflect common twentieth-century construction techniques and are not likely to provide new information regarding building technology that is not already available through other means; therefore the property is not likely to be eligible under Criterion D.

S-11904



main building (.001) façade and south side,
view to NW



main building (.001) rear and north side,
view to SE



smokehouse (.002), view to NW



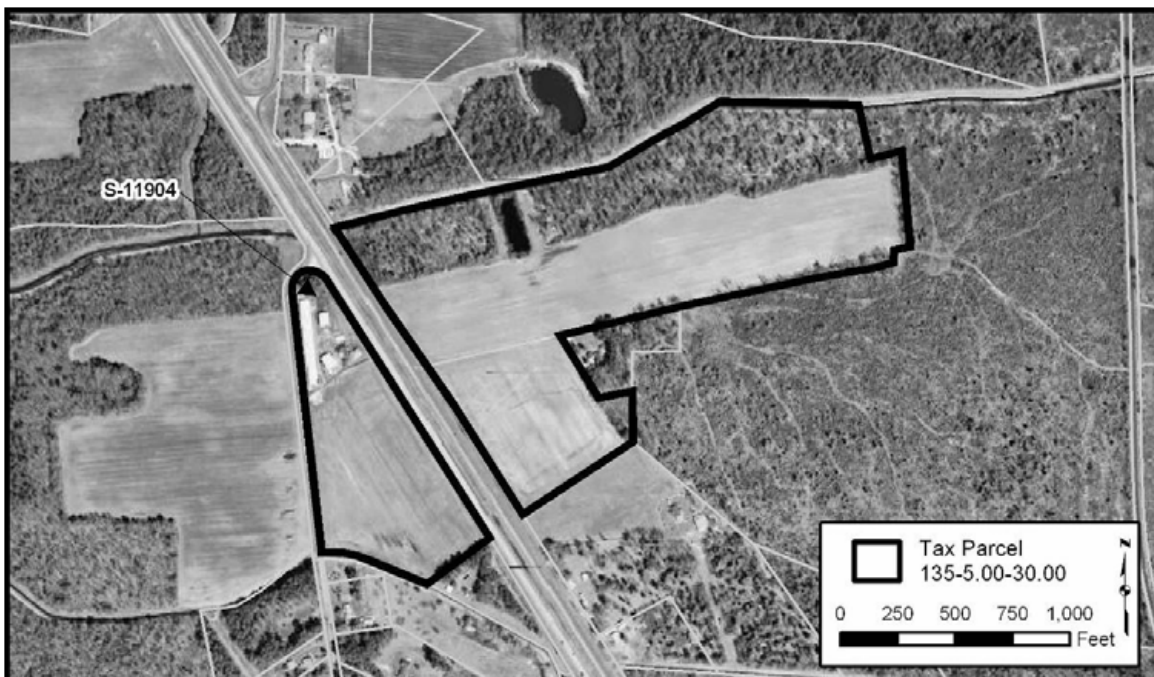
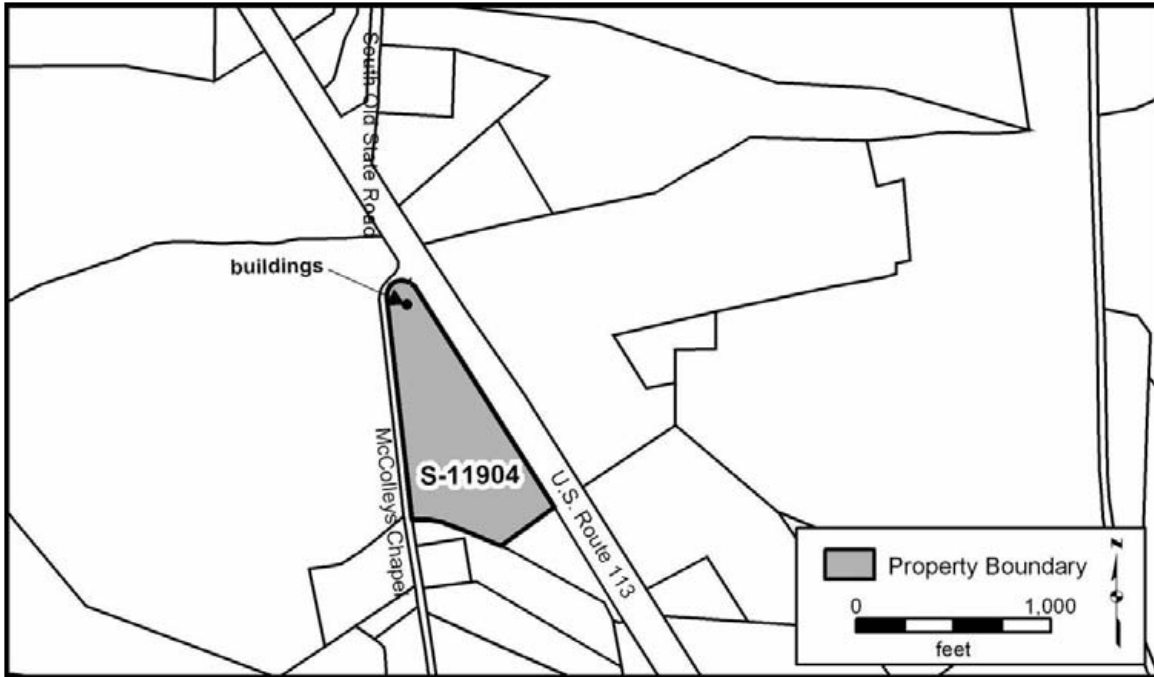
smokehouse (.003), view to NE



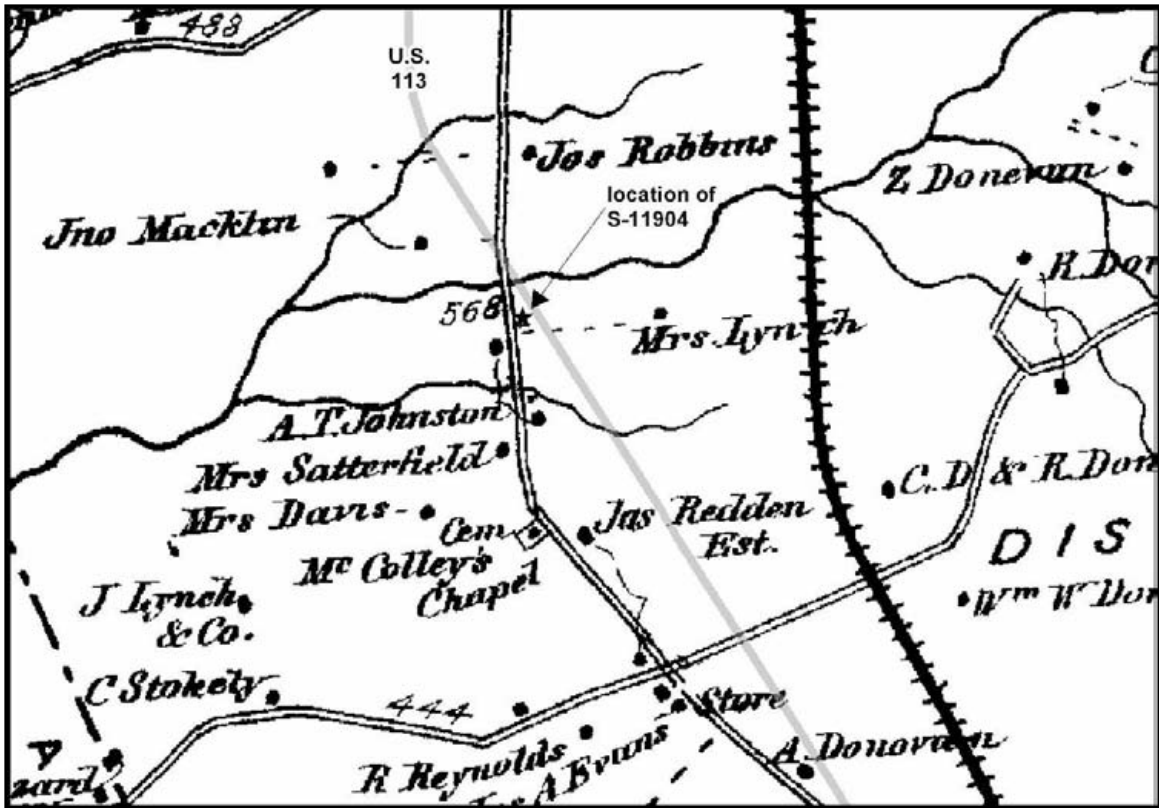
chicken house (.004), view to NW



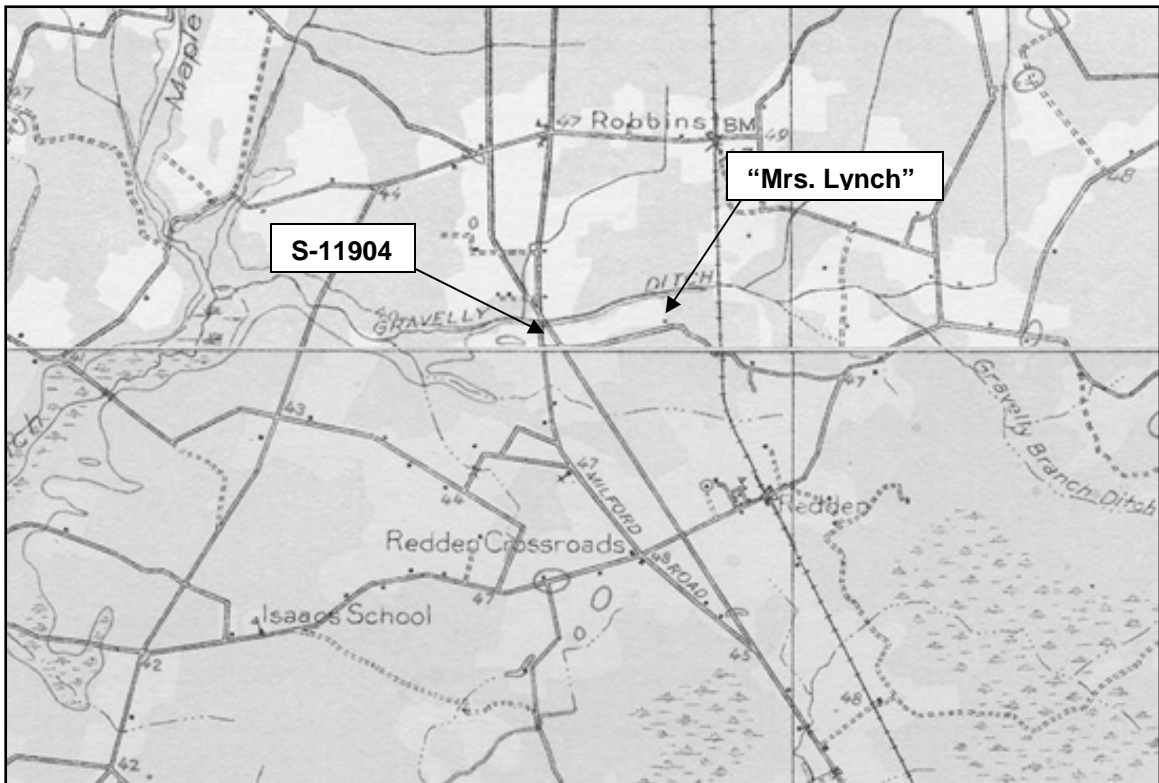
overview showing main building (.001) on
right, driveway, and modern farm buildings,
view to E



(2003 aerial)



Beers Atlas, Georgetown Hundred, 1868



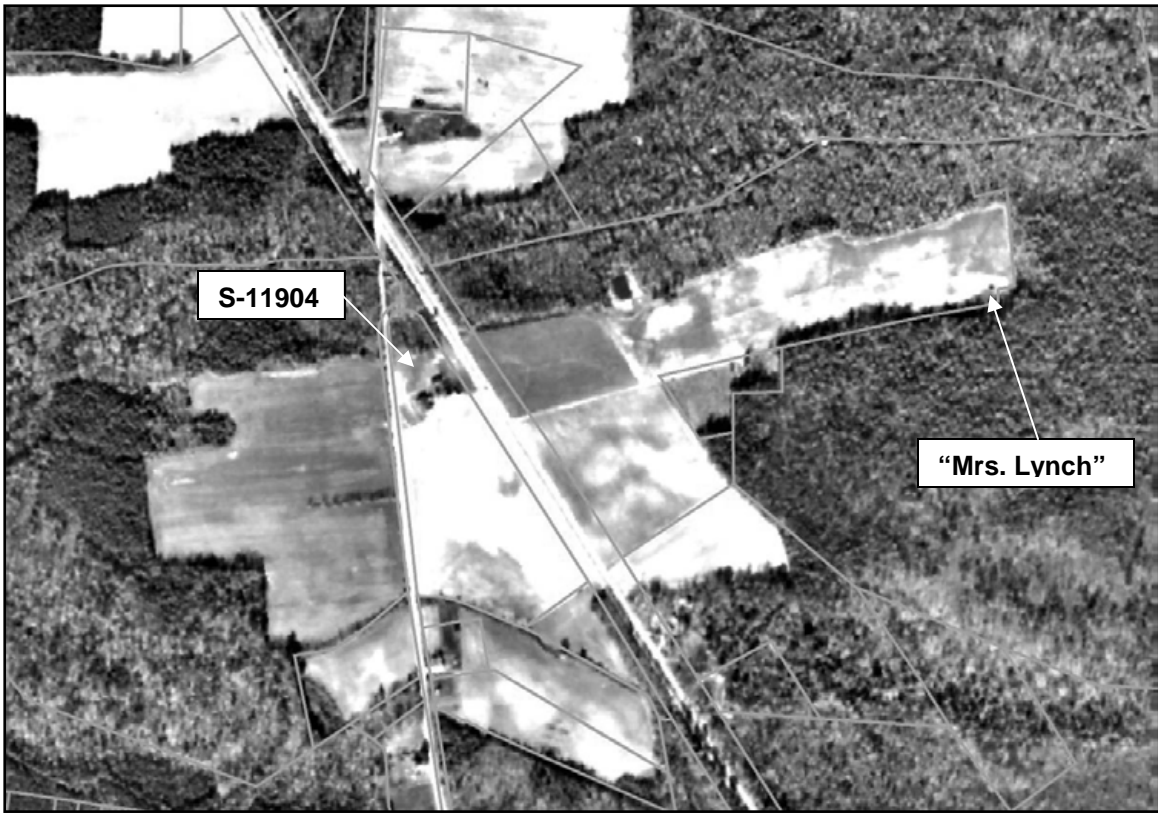
USGS topographical quadrangles, Cedar Creek (top) and Millsboro (bottom), 1918



(1937 aerial)



(1954 aerial)



(1961 aerial)



(1968 aerial)