

1.0 INTRODUCTION



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This report presents the results of an architectural survey and evaluation conducted in response to certain road improvements proposed by the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) in the community of Little Heaven and extending south to the intersection of Barratt's Chapel Road and SR 1 in South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, Delaware (Figure 1). The study is part of the SR 1 Corridor Capacity Preservation Program, and was performed for Century Engineering, Inc. and DelDOT. The intent of the proposed project undertaking is to alleviate vehicle congestion on Bay Road (SR 1/US 113) and its intersections with Bowers Beach Road, Skeeter Neck Road, Mulberrie Point Road, Clapham Road (US 113A), and Barratt's Chapel Road.

The Preferred Alternative includes shifting the northbound lane of SR 1 approximately 200.0 feet to the east of the existing SR 1 roadway corridor. A second lane will be constructed approximately 100.0 feet to the east of the proposed northbound lane. This second lane will allow traffic traveling in the northbound lane of SR 1 to exit to US 113A approximately 1,100.0 feet northwest of the SR 1/Mulberrie Point Road intersection. Other areas in the project design include improvements to the intersection of Mulberrie Point Road and SR 1, the existing intersection of SR 1 and US 113A, a section of the SR 1 southbound lane extending approximately 2,300.0 feet south from the Bowers Beach Road intersection, and continuing south to the intersection of Barratt's Chapel Road. The architectural study area for the Little Heaven Interchange project area was initially based upon the right-of-way limits for several proposed interchange locations as presented by Century Engineering, Inc. and later expanded as the alternatives were refined.

Much of the roadway margins in the project area have changed, especially along US 113 where the road has been widened from a two-lane to four-lane highway. Due to the widening, some of the commercial and residential structures were moved further from the roadway. The initial construction and later shifting of some buildings, parking areas, and roadways has changed the setting immediately along SR 1 in Little Heaven. Today, there are scattered buildings near to and set back from the road in Little Heaven, with primarily small residences being located along Bowers

Beach Road and between Fourth through Front streets on the eastern side of the project area. There are several operating commercial establishments on the west side; most of those on the east side are no longer in operation. A mobile home park is located on the west side of the project area in Little Heaven. Between the community of Little Heaven and Barratt's Chapel Road, much of the land is agricultural, and there are several mid- to late-twentieth-century residences on the east side of the road.

1.1 Scope of Work

The Scope of Work (SOW) consisted of the identification and evaluation of historic buildings or structures of 50 years in age or older on the east side and 45 years of age on the west side within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Each of the 41 properties were documented and evaluated for levels of historic and architectural significance in order to determine their potential to meet criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The locations of these properties are depicted in Figure 2.