DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION FORM

CRS #	K-7363
SPO Map	12-13-19
Hundred	South Murderkill
Quad	Frederica
Other	

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: Darby Property/Farm Market

2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7344 Bay Road, Kent County, East Side of Road

3. TOWN/NEAREST TOWN: Little Heaven vicinity? ☐

4. MAIN TYPE OF RESOURCE: building ☒ structure ☐ site ☐ object ☐ landscape ☐ district ☒

5. MAIN FUNCTION OF PROPERTY: Farm market

6. PROJECT TITLE/ REASON FOR SURVEY (if applicable):
SR 1 Little Heaven Interchange

7. ADDITIONAL FORMS USED:

#:	Form:	List property types:
1	CRS 2 Main Building Form	Farm Market
2	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	1 dwelling, 1 garage
0	CRS 4 Archaeological Site Form	
0	CRS 5 Structure (Building-Like) Form	
0	CRS 6 Structure (Land Feature) Form	
0	CRS 7 Object Form	
0	CRS 8 Landscape Elements Form	
1	CRS 9 Map Form	N/A
0	CRS 14 Potential District Form	

8. SURVEYOR INFORMATION:

Surveyor name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator signature:

Organization: A.D. Marble & Company Date: July 2004

9. OTHER NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS:

CRS# K-7363

10. STATE HISTORIC CONTEXT FRAMEWORK (check all appropriate boxes; refer to state management plan(s)):

a) Time period(s)

- ☐ Pre-European Contact
- ☐ Paleo-Indian
- ☐ Archaic
- ☐ Woodland I
- ☐ Woodland II
- ☐ 1600-1750∀ Contact Period (Native American)
- ☐ 1630-1730∀ Exploration and Frontier Settlement
- ☐ 1730-1770∀ Intensified and Durable Occupation
- ☐ 1770-1830∀ Early Industrialization
- ☐ 1830-1880∀ Industrialization and Early Urbanization
- ☐ 1880-1940∀ Urbanization and Early Suburbanization
- ☒ 1940-1960∀ Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization

b) Geographical zone

- ☐ Piedmont
- ☒ Upper Peninsula
- ☐ Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp
- ☐ Coastal
- ☐ Urban (City of Wilmington)

c) Historic period theme(s)

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Forestry
- ☐ Trapping/Hunting
- ☐ Mining/Quarrying
- ☐ Fishing/Oystering
- ☐ Manufacturing
- ☒ Retailing/Wholesaling
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Professional Services
- ☐ Transportation and Communication
- ☐ Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes
- ☒ Architecture, Engineering and Decorative Arts
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Religion
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Community Organizations
- ☐ Occupational Organizations
- ☐ Major Families, Individuals and Events

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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
MAIN BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7363

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7344 Bay Road, Kent County, East Side of Road

2. FUNCTION(S): historic Farm Market current Farm Market/store

3. YEAR BUILT: 1948 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

4. STYLE OR FLOOR PLAN: Rectangular

5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐

   if moved, from where other location's CRS # year

   list major alterations and additions with years (if known) year

   a.

   b.

6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐

7. DESCRIPTION: (Describe the resource as completely as possible. Use N/A for not applicable; leave no blanks.)

   a. Overall shape: Rectangular with open wings Stories: 1 + loft
      Additions: On south end

   b Structural system (if known): Frame (upper); masonry (concrete block) lower

   c. Foundation: materials:
      basement: full ☐ partial ☐ not visible ☐ no basement ☒

   d. Exterior walls (original if visible& any subsequent coverings): Wood panels and horizontal plywood boards

   e. Roof: shape: Gambrel
      materials: Asphalt shingles
      cornice: n/a (can't see)
      dormers: n/a
      chimney: location(s): n/a

8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:

   a. Facade: Direction: W
      1) Bays 4
      2) Windows n/a
         fenestration n/a
         type n/a
         trim n/a
         shutters n/a

Facade (cont'd)

3) Door(s)
   - location: Across most of wall
   - type: 1 pedestrian door; others are garage bays
   - trim: n/a

4) Porch(es): sheltered overhang

b. Side: Direction: S

1) Bays: 2
2) Windows: n/a
   - fenestration: n/a
   - type: n/a
   - trim: n/a
   - shutters: n/a
3) Door(s): 2 garage bays
   - location: off center
   - type: one rolling garage door, another manual double-wide with wood panels
   - trim: n/a
4) Porch(es): large open, gable-roof, sheltered

c. Side: Direction: N

1) Bays: 4
2) Windows
   - fenestration: irregular
   - type: 3 fixed on first floor; 2 1/1 double hung, upper level
   - trim: wood on upper level
   - shutters: n/a
3) Door(s): n/a
   - location: n/a
   - type: n/a
   - trim: n/a
4) Porch(es): n/a

d. Rear: Direction: E

1) Bays: 2
2) Windows: n/a
   - fenestration: n/a
   - type: n/a
   - trim: n/a
   - shutters: n/a
3) Door(s): 2
   - location: off center
   - type: one rolling overhead garage door, one pedestrian entrance - solid door
   - trim: n/a
4) Porch(es): n/a

9. INTERIOR: Fruit and vegetable displays, counter to side of building

10. LANDSCAPING: Gravel driveway and parking area

11. OTHER COMMENTS:

DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
SECONDARY BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7363

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7344 Bay Road, Kent County, East Side of Road

2. FUNCTION(S): historic Residence current Vacant

3. YEAR BUILT: 1948 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

4. STYLE/FLOOR PLAN: Rectangular/Cottage

5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐

if moved, from where original location's CRS # year

list major alterations and additions with years (if known) year

a.

b.

6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☐ fair ☐ poor ☒

7. DESCRIPTION:

a. Structural system Frame

b. Number of stories 1

c. Wall coverings Asbestos shingles

d. Foundation Not visible

e. Roof
structural system Gable
coverings Asphalt
openings n/a

8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:

a. Facade: direction: W
1) bays: 3
2) windows: Boarded up
3) door(s): Off-center
4) other: Front is an enclosed porch that is boarded up.

b. **Side: direction:** S
   1) **bays:** 5
   2) **windows:** 3 total, 1/1 double hung, wood
   3) **door(s):** Single leaf, wood
   4) **other:** Enclosed addition here (possibly former porch)

c. **Side: direction:** N
   1) **bays:** 3
   2) **windows:** 3 (one boarded), 1/1 double, hung wood
   3) **door(s):** n/a
   4) **other:** n/a

d. **Rear: direction:** E
   1) **bays:** 3
   2) **windows:** 3 (one boarded) 1/1 double hung, wood
   3) **door(s):** n/a
   4) **other:** n/a

9. **INTERIOR (if accessible):**

a) Floor plan n/a

b) Partition/walls n/a

c) Finishes n/a

d) Furnishings/machinery n/a

DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
SECONDARY BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7363

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7344 Bay Road, Kent County, East Side of Road

2. FUNCTION(S): historic Garage current Garage

3. YEAR BUILT: 1948 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

4. STYLE/FLOOR PLAN: Rectangular

5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐

if moved, from where original location's CRS # year

list major alterations and additions with years (if known)

a. year

b.

6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☐ fair ☒ poor ☐

7. DESCRIPTION:

a. Structural system Concrete Block

b. Number of stories 1

c. Wall coverings N/A

d. Foundation Concrete Block

e. Roof
structural system Frame, gable front
coverings Asphalt Shingles
openings n/a

8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:

a. Facade: direction: W
1) bays: 1
2) windows: n/a
3) door(s): One garage door - overhead type
4) other: n/a

b. **Side: direction:** N
   1) **bays:** 1
   2) **windows:** 1 - window missing
   3) **door(s):** n/a
   4) **other:** n/a

c. **Side: direction:** S
   1) **bays:** 1
   2) **windows:** 1
   3) **door(s):** n/a
   4) **other:** n/a

d. **Rear: direction:** E
   1) **bays:** 1
   2) **windows:** Solid wall
   3) **door(s):** Solid wall
   4) **other:** n/a

9. **INTERIOR (if accessible):**

a) **Floor plan** n/a

b) **Partition/walls** n/a

c) **Finishes** n/a

d) **Furnishings/machinery** n/a

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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY MAP FORM

CRS # K-7363

1. **ADDRESS/LOCATION:** 7344 Bay Road, East Side of SR 1, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County

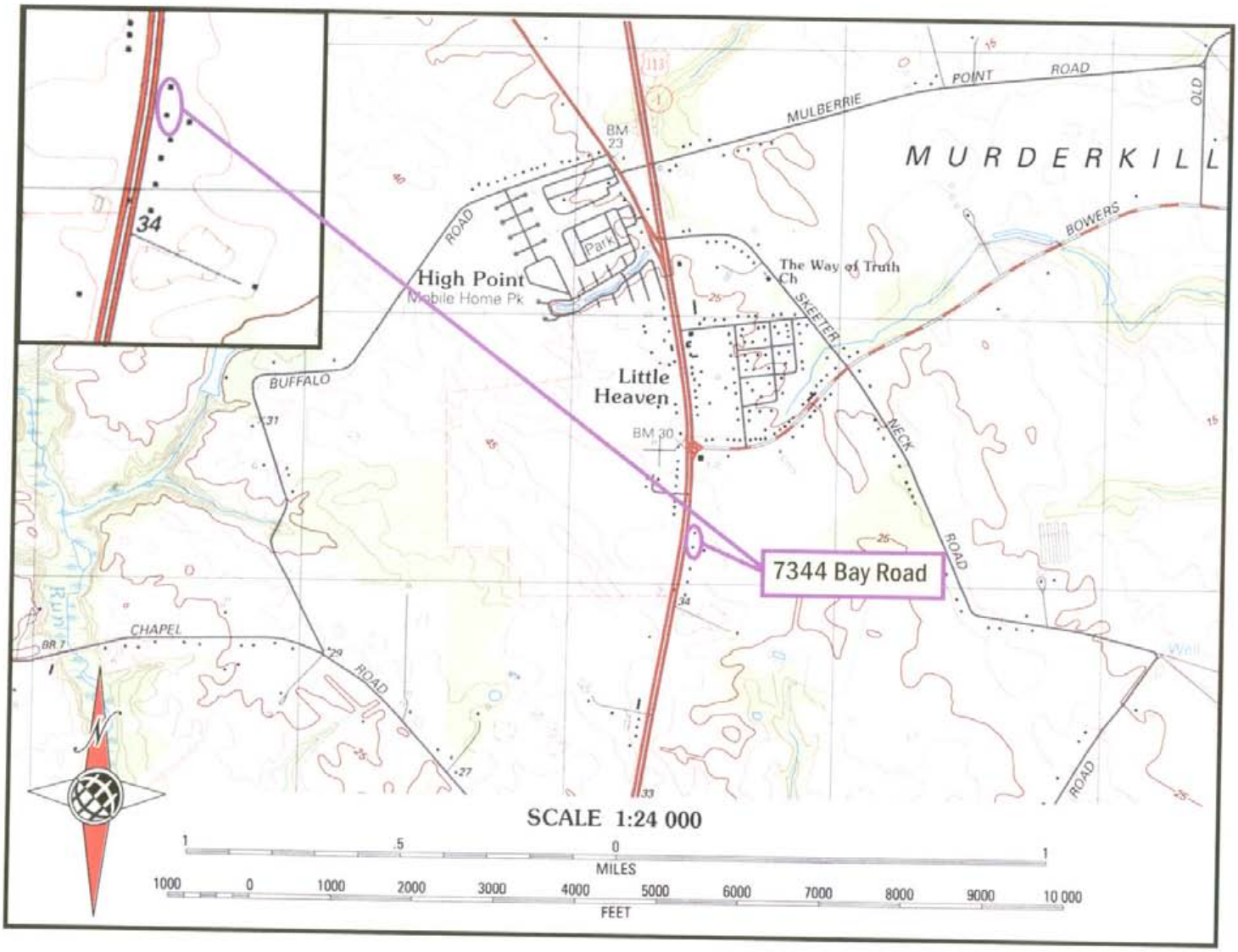
2. **NOT FOR PUBLICATION** ☐ **reason:** _____

3. **LOCATION MAP:**

Indicate position of resource in relation to geographical landmarks such as streams and crossroads.

(attach section of USGS quad map with location marked or draw location map)

INDICATE NORTH ON SKETCH



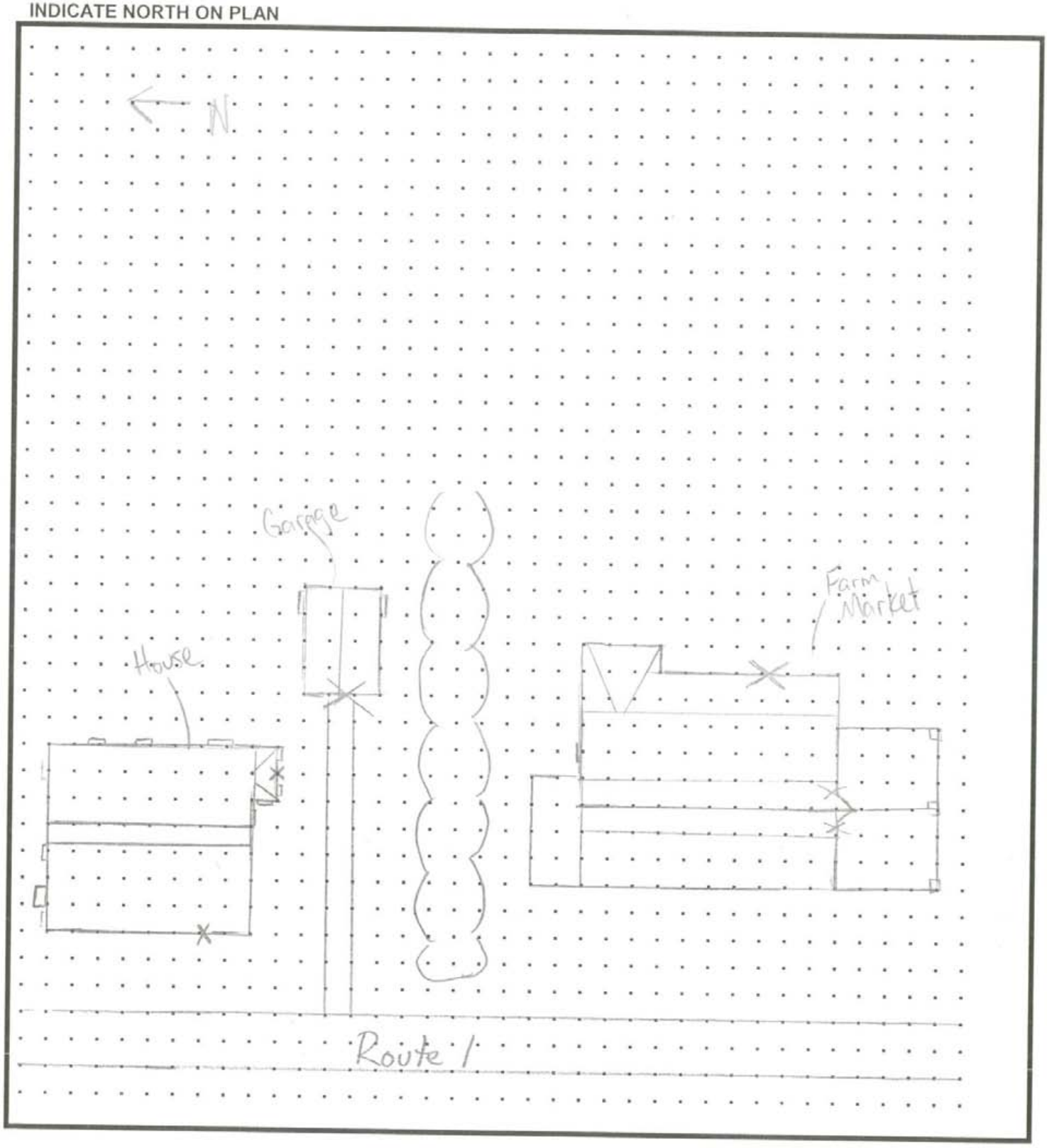
doc # 20-06-01-05-09

USE BLACK INK ONLY

4. SITE PLAN:

CRS # K-7363

INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN



USE BLACK INK ONLY

CRS #K-7363
Allen/Darby Property

General Description. This farm stand is currently known as "State's Best Produce", but it is known as the Allen/Darby Property based on ownership. The farm market building was built in 1960 and 1978 (as per tax records), and the adjacent abandoned house was built in 1948.

The Darby Property includes an abandoned house (1948), garage (ca. 1948) and an operating farm market (1960 and 1978) which are located on SR 1 on the east side of the highway. The dwelling and garage are abandoned and in a state of neglect, and are accessed via a gravel drive leading off of SR 1. The farm market remains in use and, overall, is in good condition. A screen of deciduous and evergreen trees separates the farm market from the dwelling and garage. A parking area for customers is located at the west side of the farm market adjacent to the highway. Several semi-permanent signs advertise the "State's Best Produce" operation and the services it offers.

Main Building. The dwelling house, which now appears to be abandoned, was constructed in 1948. The one-story frame dwelling is composed of a main block with a shallow gable roof that has a slight break in the western slope and a one-story hipped roof addition to the south elevation. The walls of the dwelling are clad in asbestos shingles, while the gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The dwelling rests on a concrete foundation.

The former façade of the dwelling (west elevation) has an enclosed porch with openings that have been boarded over with plywood. Portions of the asbestos wall cladding have been removed at the southwest corner of the building, revealing the sheathing boards and/or framing.

The hipped roof addition to the south elevation faces the driveway and likely once served as the side entry porch to the dwelling. The south elevation of the addition is pierced by a central door opening flanked by two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A singular one-over-one window pierces the main block at this elevation, while a metal louvered vent provides air into the attic level.

The fenestration of the east elevation includes a former window opening, which is now covered over by plywood and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

A concrete chimney is attached to the north elevation of the dwelling. The north elevation is pierced by three window openings, one of which has been boarded over.

Outbuildings/Garage. The farm market building was first erected in 1960 and was expanded in 1978 and is now occupied by the "State's Best Produce". The main block of the building appears to have been constructed to imitate the appearance of a dairy barn, as indicated by the roof, hay hood, and loft doors. The main block is one-and-one-half story

in height and features a steeply pitched gambrel roof. The entire building is painted red in color and features white trim at the window and door openings and the roof line. The first story walls of the main block are constructed of concrete block clad in stucco, while the walls of the upper story are frame and clad in textured grooved plywood. The building rests on a concrete foundation and is sheltered by an asphalt shingle-clad roof.

The façade (west elevation) of the farm market building features three overhead garage bays and a pedestrian door at the first story. An open one-story addition to the façade provides shelter to additional produce. Lettering attached to the lower slope of the roof which once read "FARM MARKET" now spells "FARM _AR_ET". A number of additions have been made to the building to provide additional space, including: an open air, one-story, gable-roofed addition to the south elevation; an enclosed shed-roofed addition with concrete block walls to the north elevation; and a larger shed-roofed concrete block addition to the rear (east) elevation.

The one-story gable-front garage is constructed of concrete block and features an overhead garage door at the façade (west elevation). The gable area above the garage door opening is covered in aluminum siding. A portion of the exterior wall has been painted in white. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Window openings at the north and south elevations provide light into the structure.

Historical Background. The property located 7344 Bay Road in Little Heaven was formed from the combination of two separate parcels. On December 28, 1954, Elizabeth R. Allen sold the first parcel containing 1.55 acres to John C. Darby and his wife, Lulu T. Darby (KCDB T20: 180). In December 1976, Lulu T. Darby conveyed the property to the Delaware Trust Company under her last will and testament. On January 9, 1976, the Delaware Trust Company, the trustee for Lulu T. Darby, sold the property containing 1.55 acres to Francis K. Bergold and his wife, Margaret Bergold, for $25,000 (KCDB L30: 209).

On March 2, 1976, Leonard Elfreth and his wife, Jane L. Elfreth, sold the second parcel containing 4.39 acres to Francis K. and Margaret Bergold for $5,279.64 (KCDB O30: 281). On December 20, 1977, Francis K. and Margaret Bergold combined the two parcels and sold the property containing 5.94 acres to the current owners, Martin A. Seeger and his wife, Essie J. Seeger, for $125,000 (KCDB E32: 188).

Evaluation. The Allen/Darby Property is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it does not meet the eligibility criteria established by the National Park Service (NPS 1997). While the Allen/Darby Property retains an abandoned dwelling house and a detached garage representative of mid-twentieth-century residential architecture, the dwelling lacks integrity due to the loss of original siding, additions, replacement of windows, and generally very poor condition. The property also contains a farm market, which does not meet the 50-year age criterion. The loss of integrity of materials, setting, feeling, and association of the complex affect its ability to convey trends in mid-twentieth-century residential development, so it is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A.

Property-specific research and documentary research of the area in general did not reveal any associations between the Allen/Darby Property and significant events or trends in local, state, or national history. Likewise, research did not reveal any associations with significant individuals; therefore, the property is recommended not eligible for listing under Criterion B. The dwelling house and garage do not display the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, or method of construction, nor do they represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value; therefore, they are recommended not eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Archaeological investigations have not yet been conducted on this property; therefore, the resource's eligibility under Criterion D (potential to yield information important to history or prehistory) cannot be assessed at this time.

Bibliography

Kent County Recorder of Deeds (KCDB)
Kent County Deed Books, Kent County Courthouse, Dover, Delaware.

National Park Service (NPS)
1997 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.