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

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION FORM

CRS # K-7364
SPO Map 12-13-18
Hundred South Murderkill
Quad Frederica
Other

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: Elfreth II Property/Former Gas Station/Convenience Store

2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7246 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: Gas Station/Convenience Store

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	convenience store with gas pumps
0	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	
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:

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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-7364

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7246 Bay Road; Gas Station; East Side of Road

2. FUNCTION(S): historic Gas station with store current Appears to be unoccuppied

3. YEAR BUILT: 1957 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

4. STYLE OR FLOOR PLAN:

5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐

if moved, from where other 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: (Describe the resource as completely as possible. Use N/A for not applicable; leave no blanks.)

a. Overall shape: Rectangular Stories: 1
Additions:

b Structural system (if known): Wood frame

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

d. Exterior walls (original if visible& any subsequent coverings): Split vertical logs

e. Roof: shape: Gable with overhanging eaves
materials: Asphalt Shingles
cornice: Wood
dormers: n/a
chimney: location(s): 2 interior covered with cement

8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:

a. Facade: Direction: W
1) Bays 7
2) Windows 4
fenestration all boarded except one, which is 1/1
type double hung
trim wood
shutters n/a

Facade (cont'd)

3) Door(s) 3
   - location: off center - 1 is boarded up, other is an open storage area with screen door
   - type: single leaf with attached shutters
   - trim: wood

4) Porch(es): concrete island section attached to central area showing where pumps were

b. Side: Direction: S

1) Bays 2
2) Windows 2
   - fenestration: boarded over, no visibility
   - type: n/a
   - trim: n/a
   - shutters: n/a
3) Door(s) n/a
   - location: n/a
   - type: n/a
   - trim: n/a
4) Porch(es) n/a

c. Side: Direction: N

1) Bays 2
2) Windows 2
   - fenestration: 1/1
   - type: double hung
   - trim: wood
   - 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 8
2) Windows 5 - one is a bay window
   - fenestration: 3 are boarded up, one picture window, and one 1/1 window
   - type: picture and double hung
   - trim: wood
   - shutters: n/a
3) Door(s) 3
   - location: off center
   - type: single leaf
   - trim: n/a
4) Porch(es) n/a

9. INTERIOR:

10. LANDSCAPING: Grassy behind building, farmland immediately to east behind grass.

11. OTHER COMMENTS: Ladies restroom in rear (inside building-green doors). Seems to be former residence on north end of building - former store on other end (now vacant).

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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY MAP FORM

CRS # K-7364

1. **ADDRESS/LOCATION:** 7246 Bay Road, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County

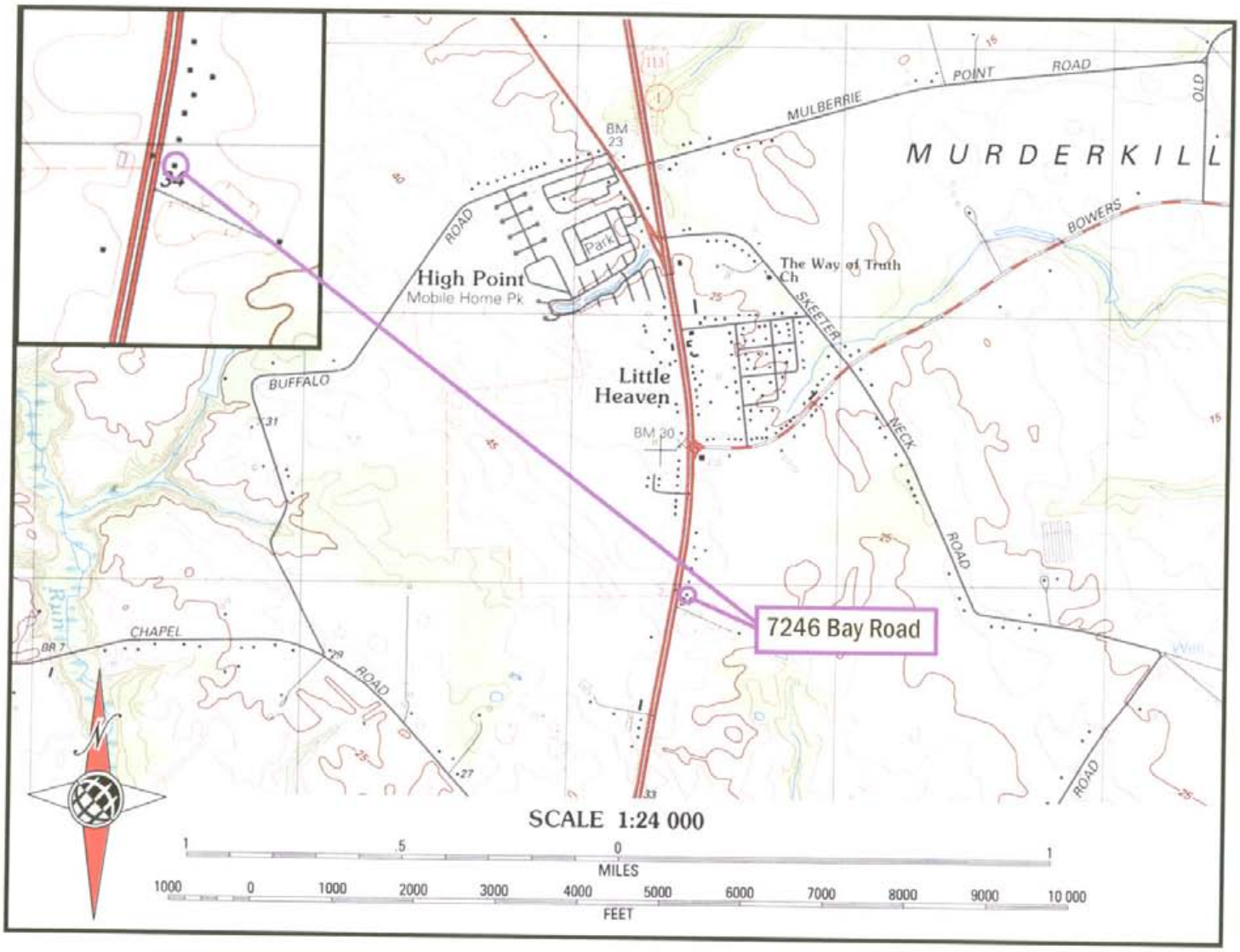
2. **NOT FOR PUBLICATION** ☐ **reason:** _____

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:

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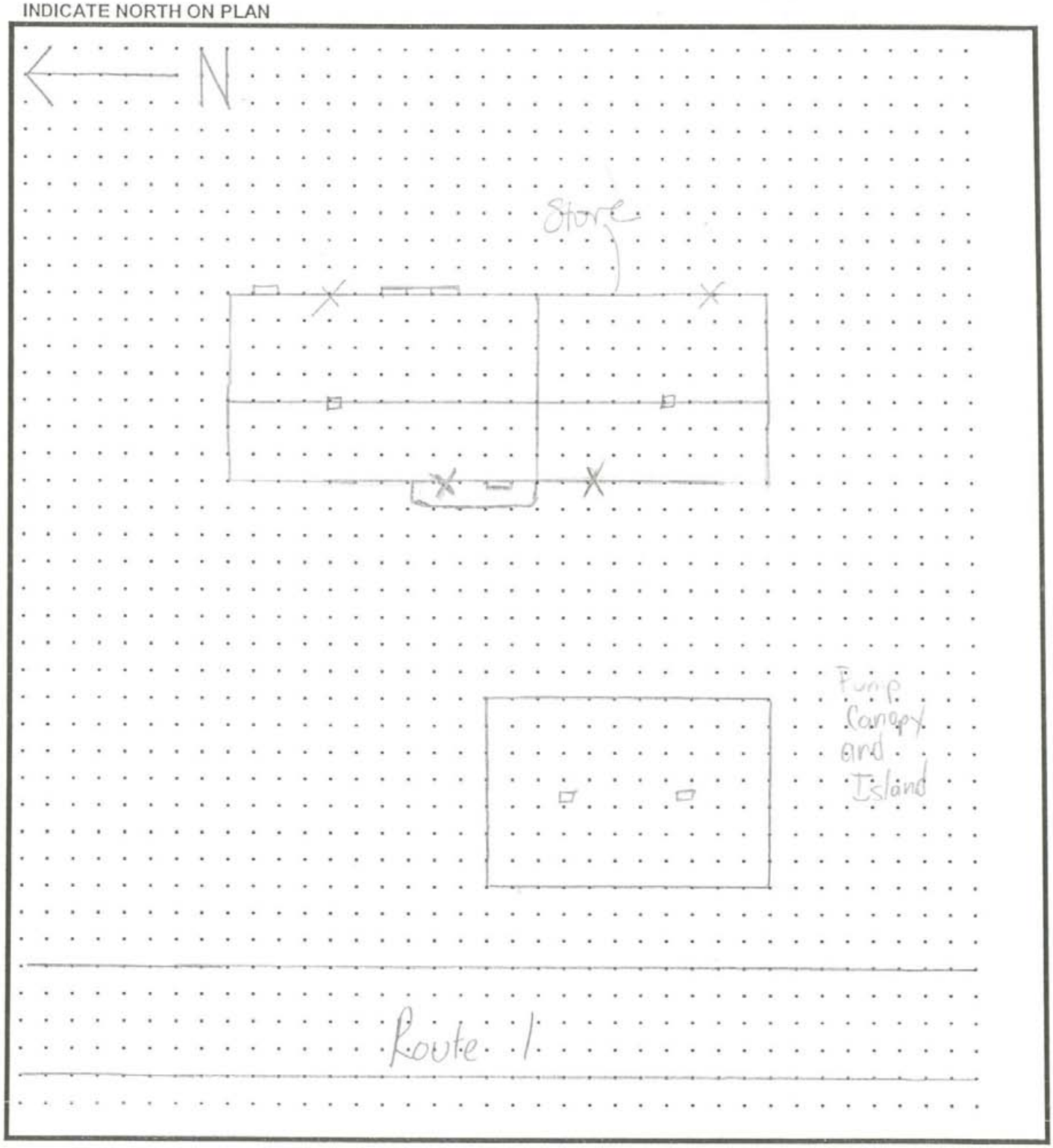
INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN



USE BLACK INK ONLY

CRS #K-7364
Elfreth II Property

General Description. The Elfreth II Property, formerly operating as a gas station/convenience store, is located on the east side of SR 1. The property consists of a *circa*-1957 single-story main building that formerly functioned as a store (and possibly a combination residence) but is now abandoned, and a late-twentieth-century gas station canopy. An asphalt-paved parking lot surrounds the canopy. The parking lot surrounds the main building to the north, south, and west. A small, grassy yard and a large, cultivated agricultural field are located immediately east of the main building. Both the canopy and the main building are in poor condition. There are no longer any gas pumps located on the property, and the main building has undergone numerous alterations.

Main Building. The main building is a single-story, side gable, light timber frame building resting on a concrete block foundation. The entire exterior of the building is clad with narrow, vertically-oriented logs painted brown. The asphalt-covered roof overhangs the east and west elevations, and rafter ends are visible beneath the eaves. A simple wood fascia board lines the edges of the eaves and gables. Two small cinder block chimneys protrude from the east slope of the roof near the ridge.

The façade (west elevation) of the building consists of seven bays, including four window openings and three pedestrian entrances (each entrance is flanked by a set of windows). All but three bays, the second, third, and fourth bays from the southern end of the elevation, are entirely obstructed by plywood. The southernmost entrance contains a replacement, single-leaf door flanked by modern shutters. The window opening in the adjacent bay contains a replacement, vinyl, one-over-one, double-hung sash window. The central entrance contains a screen door with a wood frame. There are concrete steps located in front of the northern and southern entrances in the façade, and a narrow concrete platform surrounded by a metal kick plate is situated adjacent to the central entrance. An air-conditioning unit protrudes from the base of the façade just south of the southernmost entrance.

The north elevation of the main building consists of two evenly spaced window openings containing replacement, vinyl, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. A horizontal timber member divides the first story of the elevation from the attic level. The gable is clad with wood clapboard siding, and a louvered vent is centered in the apex. The south elevation is identical to the north elevation, with the following exceptions: the window openings are covered with plywood and are irregularly spaced.

The east elevation of the main building consists of eight bays, including five window openings and three pedestrian entrances (each entrance is flanked by a set of windows). The three southernmost window openings are covered with plywood. The window opening located immediately south of the northernmost entrance contains a picture window, and the window opening to the north of the entrance contains a replacement, vinyl, one-over-one, double-hung sash window. All of the entrances contain replacement, single-leaf doors. There are concrete steps in front of all three entrances in the east

elevation. A tall wooden fence encloses an area immediately adjacent to central bays of the elevation. A ladies' restroom is accessed via the central entrance.

Gas Station Canopy. The gas station canopy is a simple, modern, utilitarian structure constructed to shelter customers and attendants while they pumped gas. The structure consists of two evenly spaced square steel posts supporting a large, metal, rectangular canopy. The posts have rusted substantially. Eight evenly-spaced, square box lights are mounted to the underside of the canopy. The structure rests atop a long, narrow, concrete island surrounded by a metal kick plate. No pumps or other equipment formerly associated with the gas station remain extant beneath the canopy.

Historical Background. On March 14, 1926, Thomas Cahall received Vickory Farm, Grier Farm, and Barratt Farm by will of his father, Thomas V. Cahall. On November 9, 1951, Thomas Cahall and his wife, Marie Cahall, sold the farms to Samuel L. Allen, but the property was left to Emily Allen Elfreth by act of Allen's will (KCDB M19: 81). On February 2, 1957, Emily Allen Elfreth sold the property to Leonard Elfreth and his wife Jane (KCDB L21: 500). On June 15, 1971, Leonard and Jane Elfreth conveyed "...the parcel of land, premises, and improvements" to themselves (KCDB N27: 155). On September 15, 1986, Leonard and Jane Elfreth sold the property to the Chanticleer Land Corporation (KCDB N42: 156). On February 12, 1987, the Chanticleer Land Corporation sold the property along with the premises to Leonard and Jane Elfreth (KCDB D43: 250). On August 23, 1991, Leonard and Jane Elfreth conveyed the property along with the premises to the Chanticleer Land Corporation (KCDB I50: 109). Apparently, the gas station was formerly known as Del Gas.

Evaluation. The Elfreth II 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). The two residences are examples of altered, mid-twentieth-century buildings within the SR 1 Interchange study area. The property retains integrity of location and setting but lacks integrity of design, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling, and is unable to convey its historical or architectural significance.

Property-specific research and documentary research of the area in general did not reveal any associations between this property and significant events or trends. The property is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for this reason. Likewise, research did not reveal any associations with significant individuals; therefore, the property is recommended not eligible for listing under Criterion B. The property does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value; therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion C. 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.