

**S-03964. Erasmus Arnold Farmstead, Old Road, west of U.S. Route 113
(PIN: 230-31.00-8.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: This property sits on both sides of VFW/Old Road, an unpaved thoroughfare off the west side of U.S. 113. Several driveways paved with crushed oyster shells extend into the property from the road. Most of the property is planted in lawn or grass. Two large cedar trees are planted adjacent to the house, and small shrubs and plants are placed near the house foundation. Farm buildings are arranged to either side of roadway.

In basic form, the c. 1900 house is a three-bay, wood-framed, two-story, I-house with full height gabled rear ell. It has been substantially altered by construction of additions. A flat roofed, single-story block with side French doors and wood-framed steps adjoins the original façade wall. The outer wall of this addition is fenestrated with paired, eight-over-eight, double-hung vinyl clad sash windows. Additional fenestration consists of one-over-one, double-hung vinyl replacement windows. The rear ell is flanked by single story, shed-roofed additions. These recent additions have concrete-block foundations. A secondary entry is placed in the side wall of one addition; a hipped porch projects from the rear wall of the ell. This porch has a concrete deck and prefabricated stoop, modern posts and balustrade, and a vinyl-clad ceiling. It shelters what is currently the main entry, which consists of a 15-light, fiberglass door. The house sits on a concrete-block foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding.

A toolshed (.002) is placed south of the house. This c. 1950, gabled front, wood-framed building has a single-light, fixed window in its north wall, and a plywood door at the northwest end of the wall. The side walls are blank as is the rear wall. The shed sits on concrete-block footers, and is sheathed in vertical wood siding and plywood. Its roof is sheathed in asphalt.

Built in about 1960, a chicken house is located on the opposite side of a gravel-shell driveway north of the house (.003). The façade faces south and contains two pairs of corrugated metal sliding doors and a plywood door, as well as single and grouped screened openings. The remaining sides are blank.

A c. 1900 barn (.004) is placed across New Road from the house. This gabled front barn with shed-roof side bays sits on a concrete-block foundation and is sheathed in vertical board wood siding. The east façade has three door openings. One contains a large sliding batten door, a second a plywood door, while a third, a vehicle door, is missing. The north wall contains five nine-light, fixed windows, and two Dutch doors, while the south wall contains five, single-light replacement windows and two boarded up doors. The rear wall contains two Dutch doors and one open bay.

A c. 1920 shed (.005) is placed west of the barn. This gabled front building has its walls sheathed in bricktex and its roof sheathed in metal. Its southeast façade has a central door opening missing its door, and a two-light fixed window. The northeast wall has a single, two-light fixed window, while the southwest wall contains a two-light, fixed window. The rear wall is blank.

A 1960 equipment shed (.006) is placed northwest of the shed. This side-gabled, wood-framed building is sheathed in vertical boards and metal siding. Its roof is sheathed in ribbed metal. The southeast façade has four open bays, while the remaining sides are blank.

A c. 1950 tourist cabin or cottage (.007) is placed northeast of the equipment shed. The building sits on concrete-block footers and is sheathed in bricktex. The gabled front façade is pierced by a central aluminum storm door and a one-over-one, double-hung aluminum sash window. The side walls are fenestrated with single, two-over-two, double-hung wood sash windows with horizontal muntins, while the rear is blank. Its roof is sheathed in corrugated metal.

The last outbuilding, placed north of the barn, is the c. 1930 concrete-block milkhouse (.008) with gable peaks sheathed in clapboards. This gabled front building has a four-panel, salvaged Victorian door in the center of the east wall. The north and south walls are both pierced by two-over-two fixed windows. The south wall also is pierced by a salvaged four-panel Victorian door, while the rear wall is blank.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Urbanization and Early Suburbanization 1880-1940+/-; Agriculture theme and Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; agricultural complex and I-house property types

Evaluation: This property was recommended as not eligible for the National Register in the 1992 evaluation report. The report cited diminished integrity for the house and the fact that the majority of the outbuildings were built or altered since the 1940s, rendering the complex more modern than historic in character (LeeDecker et al. 1992:88-89).

JMA evaluated the property as both an example of a c. 1900 I-house and as an agricultural complex. As noted, the property contains a fairly large complement of older outbuildings, as well as those of relatively recent construction. In their report for the U.S. 301 corridor, Frederick et al. (2006) cited eligibility criteria for Delaware farmsteads. To be significant as an example of a farm complex, a property must possess the following features:

- Feeling of a farm complex
- Setting of land reflecting agricultural use or at a minimum a visual buffer between the farm and surrounding land use(s)
- Historic house with or without additions and extensions
- Historic barn with or without additions and extensions
- At least two agricultural or domestic outbuilding(s) and/or structure(s) exclusive of the main barn or house that retain sufficient integrity of materials and design to convey the types of farming conducted on the property
- Identifiable plan or arrangement of buildings and structures of the farm
- Some small scale-features associated with the practice of farming including fence lines or ruins
- Some vegetation associated with farming including gardens, fields, woodlots, or treelines
- Circulation network connecting the parts of the farm
- Few modern structures located within the historic farm plan
- Retention of spatial relationships of buildings within the farm complex
- Retention of spatial relationship with buildings and/or complexes associated with the main farm

This property does not meet several of these criteria. Although agricultural outbuildings are present, the scattered nature of these buildings, the presence of a modern road, and the lack of a major barn, weaken the feeling of a historic farm. In addition, the extensive and incompatible additions to the residence further weaken the historic character of the property. Therefore, due to

lack of integrity, the property is both unable to convey its historic agricultural character and to possess architectural significance. JMA concurs with LeeDecker et al. in recommending the farm not eligible for the National Register under either Criterion A or C.

Limited research has not identified any association between the farm and any individual significant in the history of Ellendale or Sussex County. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for the National Register under Criterion B.

The house was also evaluated under Criterion C. The house has been substantially altered and modernized since the time of the LeeDecker et al. (1992) survey. As a confused combination of a historic core and modern additions, it lacks both the significance and integrity to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. Again, JMA concurs with LeeDecker et al. that the house should be 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.

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main building (.001) facade, view to W



main building (.001) rear, view to E



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



toolshed (.002), view to SW



left to right: modern garage and chicken house (.003), view to NE



barn (.004), view to W



shed (.005), view to NE



left to right: equipment shed (.006) and cabin (.007), view to NW



milkhouse (.008), view to SW

**S-08151. Ellendale State Forest Picnic Facility, U.S. 113
(PIN: 230-31.00-48.00 and U.S. 113 ROW)
(Detail Map #3)**

Located on the east side of U.S. 113 between Milford and Georgetown, in the Ellendale Tract of the Redden State Forest, is the Ellendale State Forest Picnic Facility. The Ellendale State Forest Picnic Facility was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 23 September 1991 under Criterion C for its architectural design elements in the “rustic” style, coupled with its setting within a dense forest. Its period of significance, as stated in the National Register nomination, is 1939, the year the facility was completed (Duhadaway et al. 1990:section 8).

The picnic facility is contained within a narrow stretch of land, with its structures and objects laid out in a north-south direction. Bollards separate the western edge of the picnic ground from the northbound lanes of the DuPont Highway. The site contains a small paved parking area at its northern end, a large picnic pavilion, two picnic shelters, a trash pit, and remnants of a former water fountain and fireplace. The pavilion and shelters are of log construction and feature built-in plank tabletops and benches. The trash pit appears to be cast concrete, covered in fieldstone.

Minor changes have occurred to the property since it was listed in the National Register. The area along the roadway was originally lined and marked with two parking areas, one to the north and one to the south (Duhadaway et al. 1990:section 7). The small parking area to the south has been grassed over, while the northern lot is paved and is clearly meant to be the only parking area. The pavilion contains two built-in picnic tables with benches, which, in the nomination (Duhadaway et al. 1990:section 7), were described as half-logs. The current benches are constructed of wood planks. Lastly, the fieldstone fireplace hearth has been destroyed, with only a small pile of stone and mortar ruins remaining.

A comparison between historic-period and modern photographs of the picnic ground (reproduced below) shows that, despite these minor changes, the resource retains much of its original feeling and character and continues to convey its significance as a rare example of rustic architecture in Sussex County. Therefore, JMA recommends its continued eligibility and listing in the National Register.

The National Register boundary as stated in the nomination is as follows:

the area bounded by the edge/curb line of the Route 113 and an arc extended along the present tree line from the north edge of the cleared picnic area around to the southern end of the area. The length along the highway is 650 feet. The furthest depth is 250 feet east from the edge/curb line.... This area includes the cleared space that has always been associated with the picnic facility [Duhadaway et al. 1990:section 10].

The Ellendale State Forest Picnic Facility is partially within the right-of-way for U.S. 113 and partially in the Ellendale Tract of the Redden State Forest (evaluated elsewhere). According to a source contemporary with the construction of the facility, the portion within the right-of-way, which was owned by the State Highway Department, was maintained by the State Forestry Department (Federal Writers Project 1938:378).

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historic-period photograph (c. 1939) of picnic ground showing north parking area and main pavilion, view to SE



overview of picnic ground (.001) today, view to E



pavilion (.002) and south picnic shelter (.004), view to NE



picnic table in pavilion (.002), view to SW



north picnic shelter (.003), view to E



south picnic shelter (.004), view to SE



trash pit (.005) with firepit (.007) in background, view to SW



water fountain foundation (.006), view to SW



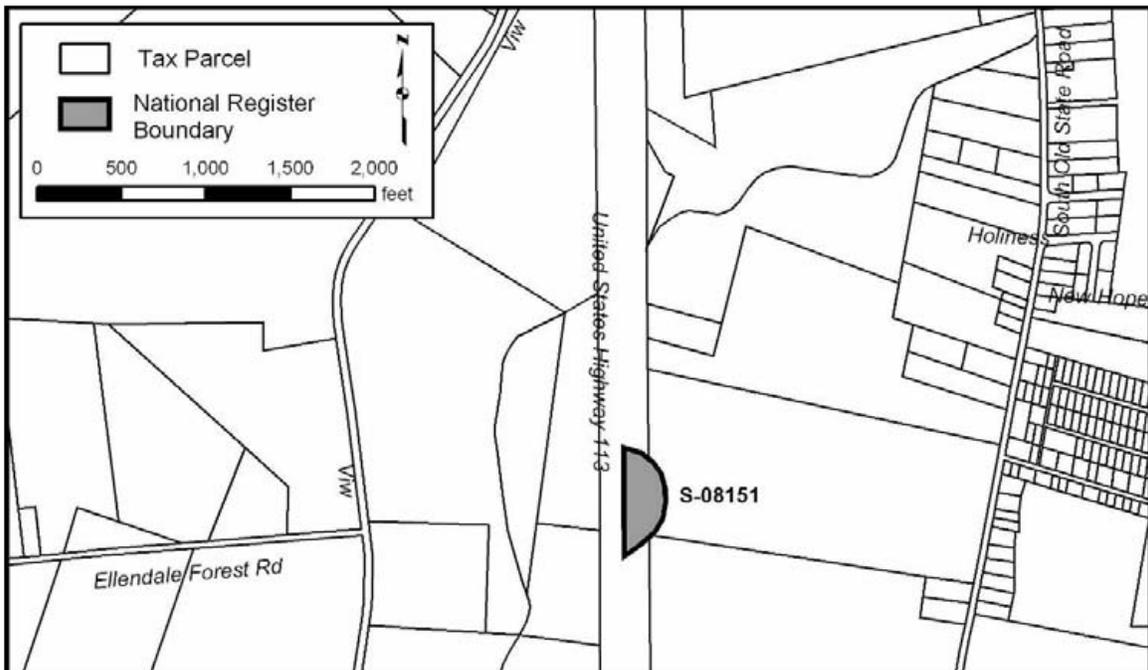
firepit (.007), view to NW

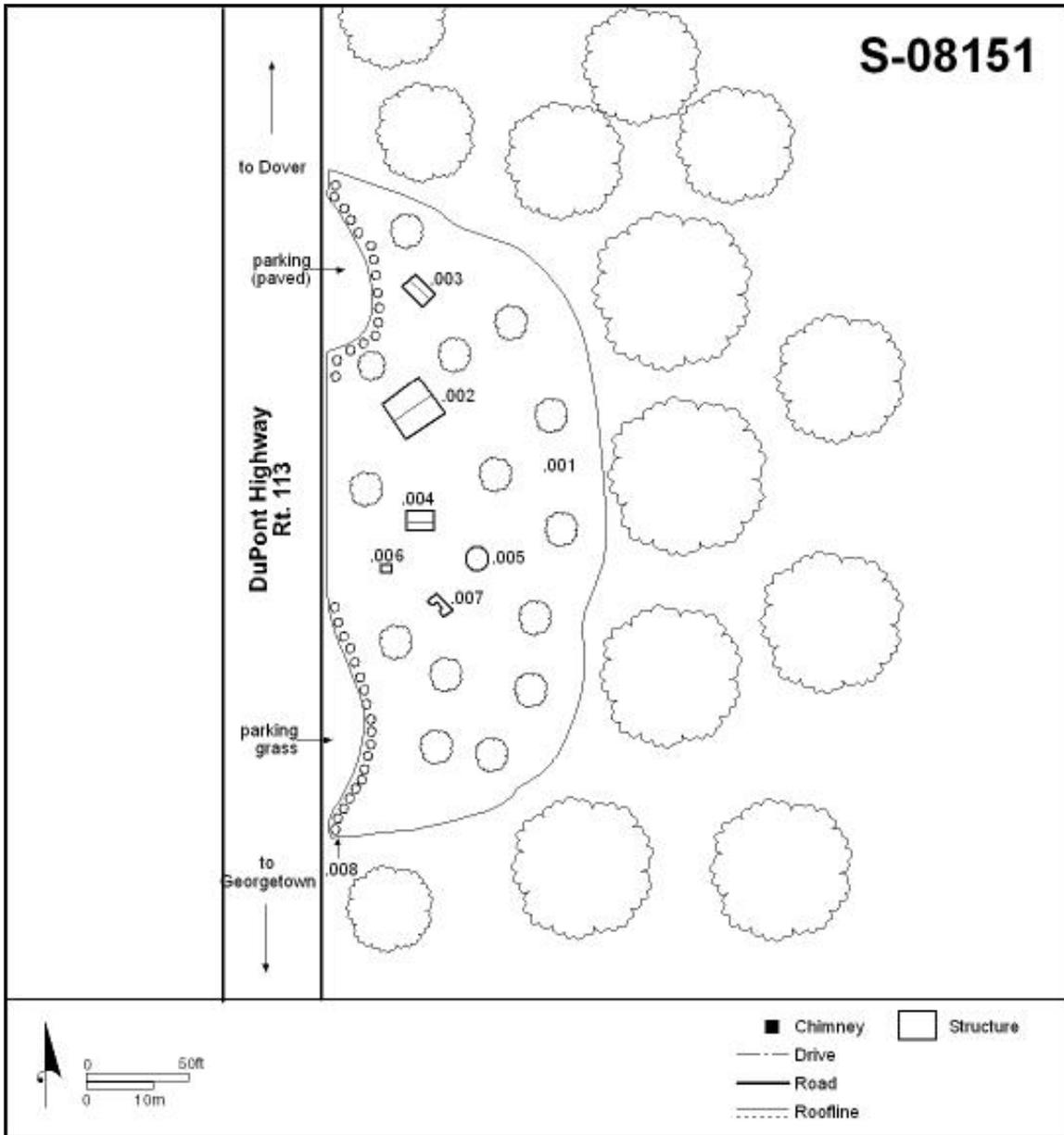


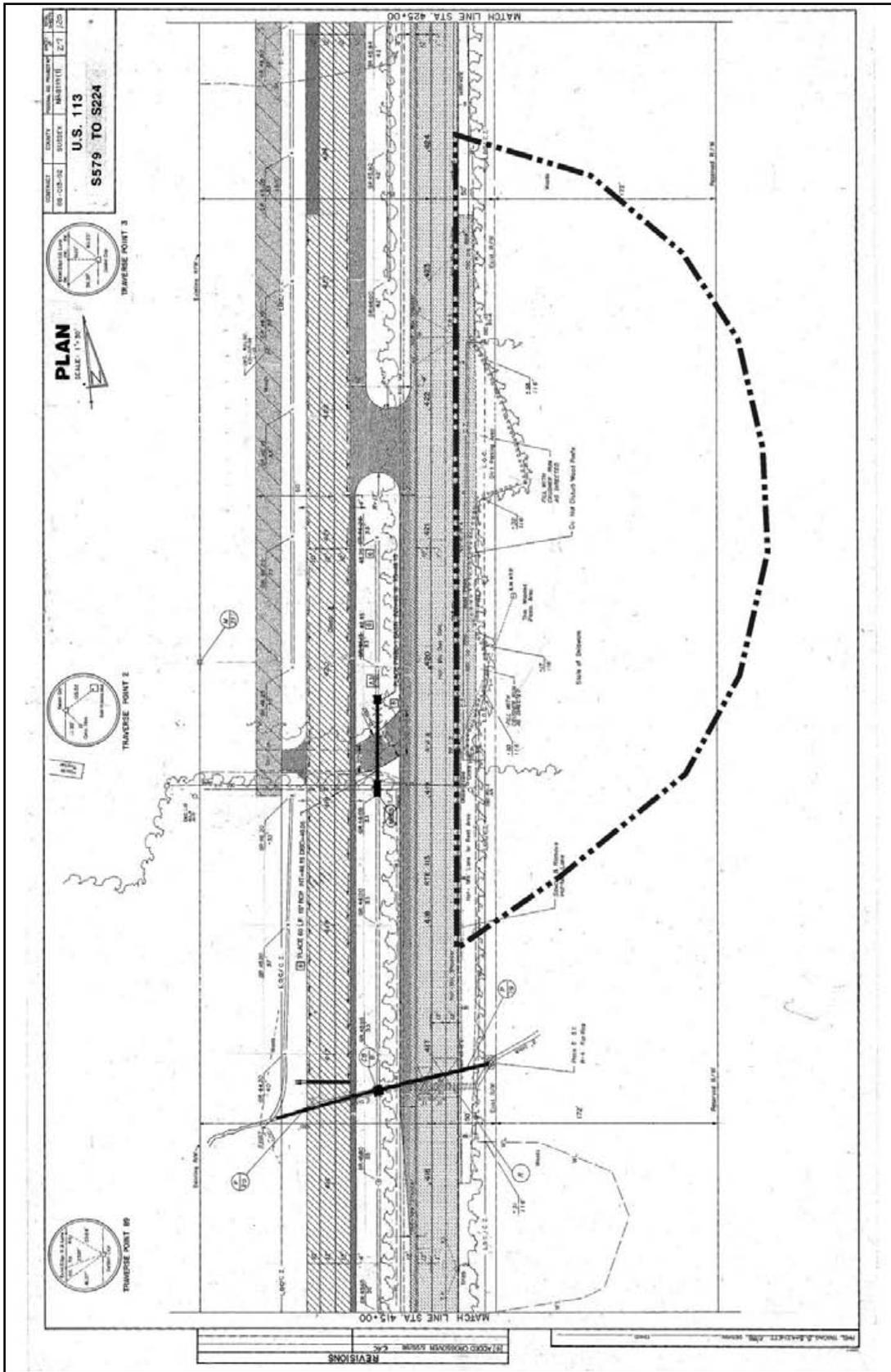
bollards (.008) and south parking area, view to N



bollards (.008), pavilion (.002), and south picnic shelter (.004), view to S







National Register boundary for S-08151 as described in nomination, overlain on as-built plan from 1991/1992 road project (Contract 83-013-02 Sheet 27)



National Register boundary for S-08151 as described in nomination, overlain on 2003 aerial photograph

**S-08384. Teddy's Tavern, DuPont Highway
(PIN: 230-26.00-35.10)
(Detail Map #1)**

Description: Teddy's Tavern, located on the east side of U.S. 113 near Redden State Forest, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 23 September 1991. The property was nominated under Criterion A as one of the few surviving service stations/roadside taverns remaining from the pre-1940 era in Delaware. Its period of significance is 1923-1941 (Moffson 1991), during which time it served as a service station (1923-1937) and subsequently as a roadside tavern (1937-present).

Teddy's Tavern is a single-story building, near square in footprint, with a gabled front parapet and a three-bay porch extending across the west façade wall. The exterior walls are provided character by polychrome brick with deep mortar joints. The surface is made rough by the insertion of broken-off headers at irregular intervals. The porch roof is supported by tapered, cylindrical columns faced in polychrome brick. Fenestration consists primarily of barred six-over-six, double-hung sash windows.

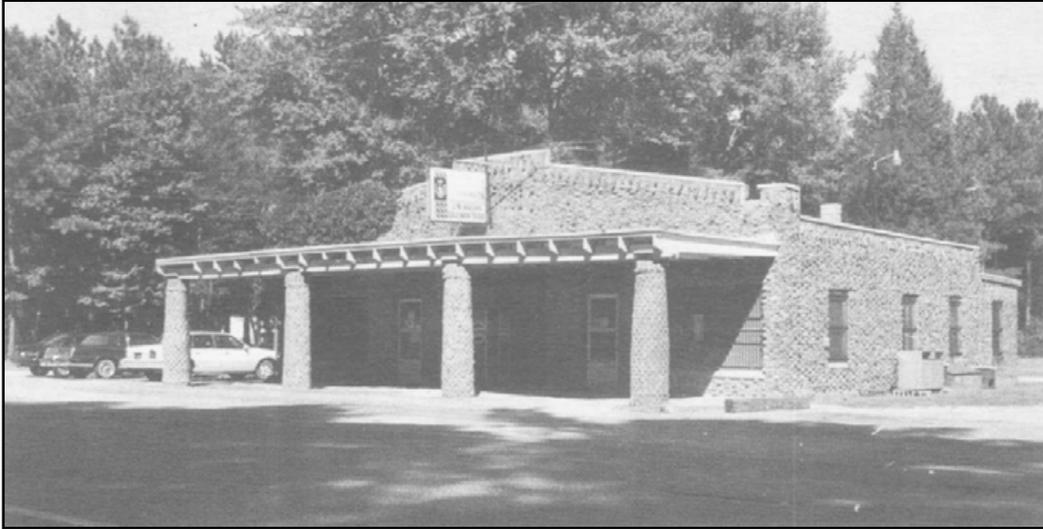
Several changes have occurred to the property since Teddy's Tavern was listed in the National Register. One of the distinguishing façade elements, the exposed rafter tails, have been removed and the cornice capped. The north and south columns have both been replaced using smooth, modern brick that does not exactly match the rusticated texture of the original columns. Other exterior changes include replacement of the signage on the front of the building. The interior has been altered by the reduction of the amount of space in the shop. Two notable interior elements, the unusual glass block bar and the pressed metal ceiling, remain.

Despite these changes, the building retains sufficient integrity to continue to convey its historic role as an early DuPont Highway roadhouse. JMA therefore recommends its continued eligibility and listing in the National Register.

The boundary of the property, as presented in the nomination, is a 1.5-acre portion of the tax parcel defined as follows:

[starting] at the intersection of the Route 113 road edge at the south side of the lane to the rear of the property and then proceeds along that edge to a spot 250 feet east of the beginning and then proceeds south for 300 feet behind the tavern and then turns due west to the road edge of Route 113 and then proceeds north to the place of beginning. ...The western bound conforms to the current legal parcel line between the Tavern and the highway [Moffson 1991].

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Teddy's Tavern in 1992, shortly after listing on the National Register
(LeeDecker et al. 1992:76)



Teddy's Tavern in 2008, view to NE



main building (.001) façade, view to E



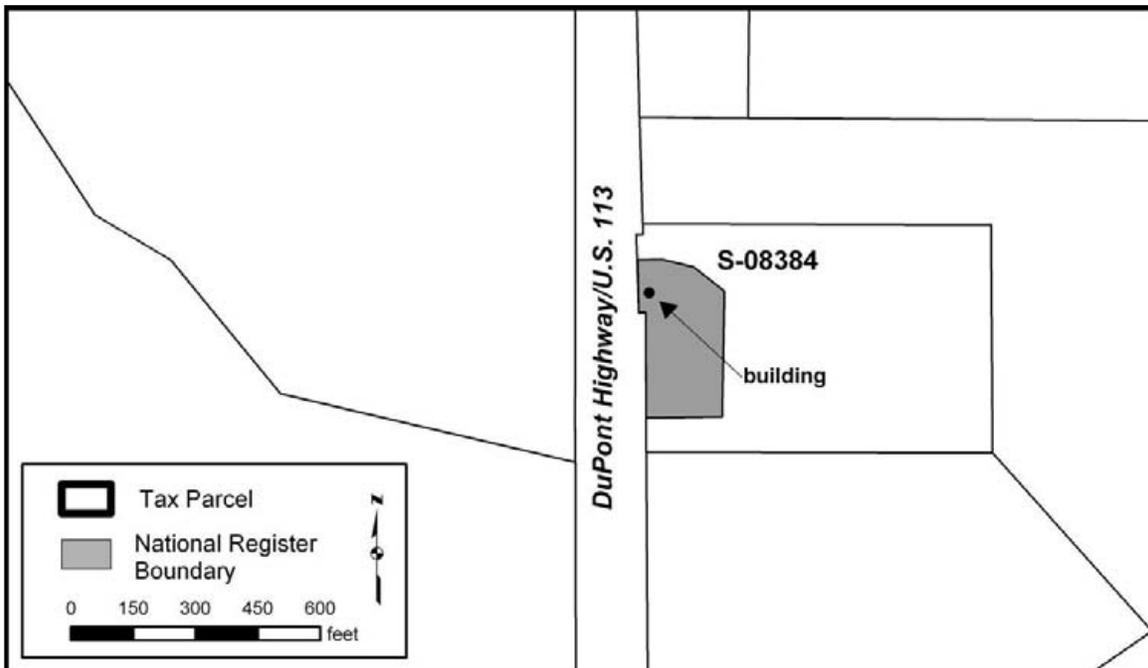
main building (.001) façade and north side, view to SE



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



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





(2003 aerial)