

S-08582. Robert Gray House, 12743 U.S. 113
(PIN: 230-26.00-109.00)
(Detail Map #2)

Description: This property is placed on the east side of U.S. 113 and includes a house and garage, as well as a modern gazebo. A gravel driveway on the south side extends back to the garage. The lawn is planted with several shrubs. An arbor and a row of forsythia extends along the north side of the property. A concrete path connects the rear of the house to the house next door.

This c. 1930, one-story, wood-framed bungalow has a hipped roof ornamented with exposed rafter ends. Its main entry is centered in a recessed screened porch and is reached by concrete steps. The house is fenestrated with three-over-one, double-hung sash windows, typically arranged in pairs with flat wood frames. The house sits on a rusticated concrete-block foundation and is sheathed in cement-asbestos siding. A brick chimney with corbelled cap rises from the middle of the roof ridge.

The c. 1930, jerkinhead gable front, wood-framed garage (.002) is located southeast of the house at the end of the driveway. It sits on a concrete block foundation and is sheathed in vertical board wood siding. The west façade is marked by an original, sliding, wood, beadboard garage door. The north side includes two doors, one at the center and one at the left end. Both are original beadboard doors. The remaining two walls are blank. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Urbanization and Early Suburbanization 1880-1940+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; bungalow property type.

Evaluation: This property was recommended as not eligible for the National Register in the 1992 evaluation report because it “lacks qualities of clear architectural distinction, as well as integrity of exterior materials” (LeeDecker et al. 1992:81).

JMA evaluated the property for its house, a c. 1930s bungalow, and as part of a row of dwellings that face the east side of U.S. 113. According to a local informant, these houses may be Montgomery Ward prefabricated homes, and they have therefore been evaluated as part of the proposed U.S. 113 Wardway Historic District. The U.S. 113 Wardway Historic District has been recommended not eligible for the National Register because it lacks demonstrable historical and architectural significance for reasons detailed in Section 6.0 of this report.

Evaluated individually, the property represents the historical trend of farmland subdivision. As stated in the research design, individual examples of this trend rarely possess historical significance, and this property is therefore recommended individually not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

Limited research has not identified a connection between the house and any individual significant in the history of the local area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

JMA concurs with LeeDecker et al. that the house lacks individual architectural distinction. Alterations include replacement of a few windows and enclosure of the front porch. Due to both

lack of architectural significance and diminution of integrity, this 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.

S-08582



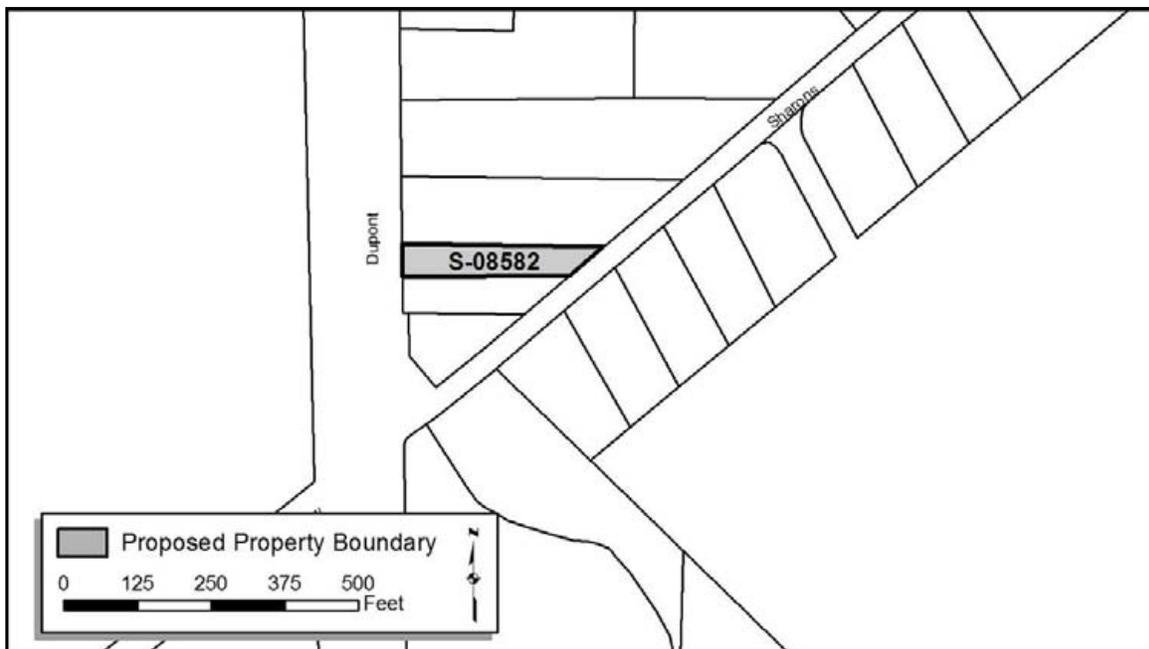
main building (.001) façade, view to E



main building (.001) rear, view to W



garage (.002), view to ESE



S-08583. Alvin Niebert House, 12749 U.S. 113
(PIN: 230-26.00-110.00)
(Detail Map #2)

Description: The Niebert House is located on the east side of U.S. 113 on a flat lot that also contains a garage. The open lawn contains a few trees in the rear yard. A dirt driveway extends from the front to the rear of the property and provides access to the garage.

This jerkinhead gable front, wood-framed, c. 1930 bungalow has a hipped porch extending most of the width of the front gable. This three-bay porch, set on concrete-block piers, has wood posts, square in cross section, a wood deck, and exposed rafter ends. It shelters a central front door flanked by double-hung sash window openings. The doorway contains an original, Craftsman style, wood-and-glass door. One of these openings contains an original five-over-one, double-hung sash window, while the other has been boarded over. Two smaller, three-light casement windows are placed in the gable peak. A second entry is placed in the center of the south side wall and is sheltered by a gabled stoop with a brick-and-concrete foundation, wood posts, and wrought-iron railings. The stoop shelters a wood-and-glass, Craftsman-style door similar to the first. A third entry, with a central four-light, two-panel, wood-and-glass door is placed in the east wall. Fenestration consists primarily of single and paired three-over-one, double-hung sash windows. The house sits on a concrete-block foundation and is sheathed in cement-asbestos siding. The eaves are marked by exposed rafter tails. A brick chimney protrudes from the rear of the roof ridge.

The c. 1930 garage (.002) is contemporaneous with the house. This wood-framed garage sits on a concrete-block foundation, is sheathed in vertical wood siding, and has a front jerkinhead gable. Its west wall, which originally had a double door, is obscured by a shed-roofed addition. The north wall contains a single, three-light fixed window that may have been salvaged from another building. The south wall has a single, one-light, fixed window, while the east wall also has a single, one-light, fixed window. Its roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Urbanizations and Early Suburbanization 1880-1940+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; bungalow property type.

Evaluation: This property was recommended as not eligible for the National Register in the 1992 evaluation report because it “lacks qualities of clear architectural distinction, as well as integrity of exterior materials” (LeeDecker et al. 1992:82).

JMA evaluated the property for its house, a c. 1930s bungalow, and as part of a row of dwellings that face the east side of U.S. 113. According to a local informant, these houses may be Montgomery Ward prefabricated homes, and they have therefore been evaluated as part of the proposed U.S. 113 Wardway Historic District. The U.S. 113 Wardway Historic District has been recommended not eligible for the National Register because it lacks demonstrable historical and architectural significance for reasons detailed in Section 6.0 of this report.

Evaluated individually, the property represents the historical trend of farmland subdivision. As stated in the research design, individual examples of this trend rarely possess historical significance, and this property is therefore recommended individually not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

Limited research has not identified a connection between the house and any individual significant in the history of the local area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

JMA concurs with LeeDecker et al. that the house lacks individual architectural distinction. The house does, however, retain all aspects of integrity; even its cement-asbestos siding could be original, although it was probably once sided in wood. Despite its integrity, however, it does not represent an outstanding example of a bungalow in the study area, and is therefore 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.

S-08583



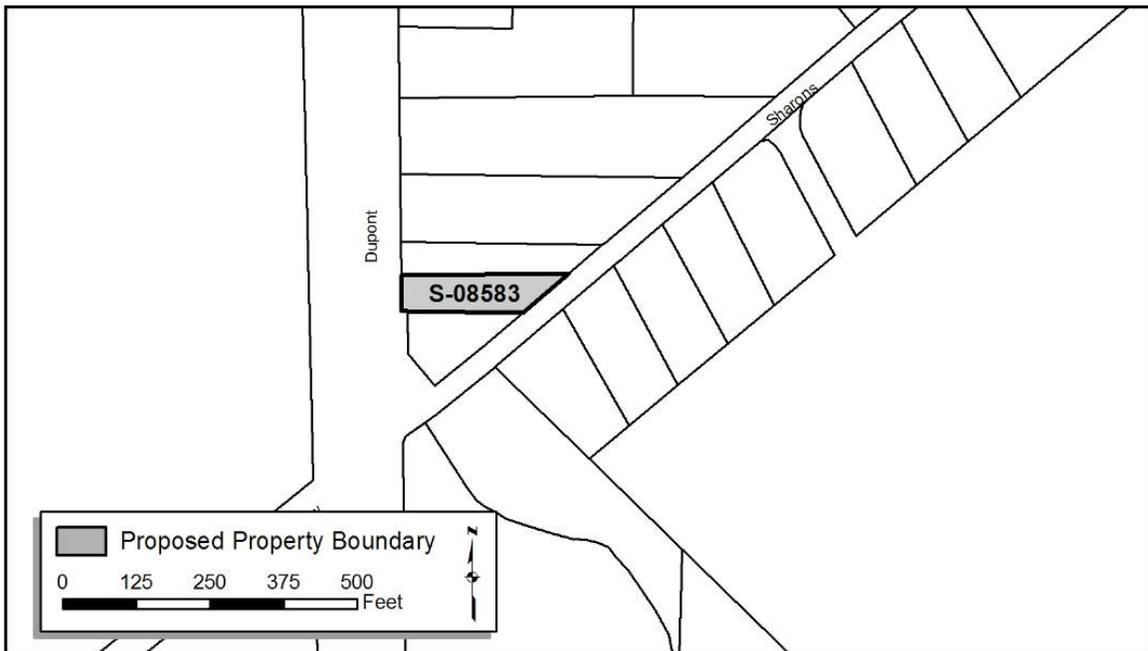
main building (.001) façade, view to E



main building (.001) rear, view to W



garage (.002), view to S



**S-08584. Robert Mulholland House, corner U.S. 113 and Sharons Road
(PIN: 230-26.00-111.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: This roughly triangular property is located at the intersection of U.S. 113 and Sharons Road to the southeast of Ellendale. The house is vacant and partially collapsed in the rear, and much of the lot is overgrown.

This abandoned, c. 1930s house consists of a single-story, hipped-roof main block and a gabled roof rear addition. The main entry is placed at the front end of the north side elevation and consists of a four-light, three-panel, wood door that adjoins a concrete stoop. Fenestration of the main block consists of three-over-one, double-hung sash windows, several of which have partially or completely broken sashes. The rear addition has a flat roof with a cornice boxed in aluminum, while the walls are sheathed in cement-asbestos siding. Most of the rear addition is obscured by overgrown foliage. Visible portions include an enclosed porch and a rear wall fenestrated with one-over-one, double-hung aluminum sash windows. The main portion of the house sits on a concrete-block and poured concrete foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding. Its roof is sheathed in composition shingles, in poor condition, and a chef's hat ventilator rises from the front roof slope of the main block.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Urbanization and Early Suburbanization 1880-1940+/-; Architecture, Engineering, and Decorative Arts theme; bungalow property type.

Evaluation: This property was evaluated by LeeDecker et al. in 1992 and was recommended not eligible based on the loss of integrity to the main building (LeeDecker et al. 1992:83).

According to a neighbor, this house was relocated to the site from a junkyard located further to the north. The junkyard then began at the rear of the property, and this house was used as the office. According to the informant, at least part of the west side is an addition. The house appears to have been moved to this location between 1961 and 1968, as evidenced on aerial photographs. As such, its conversion from a residential to a commercial building postdates the historic period, and the property was therefore not evaluated under this trend.

Evaluating the property under Criterion B, limited research using www.ancestry.com has not revealed any important historical role of Mr. Mulholland. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The building is an altered vernacular bungalow whose integrity has been severely compromised by abandonment and subsequent deterioration and an earlier rear addition. The building is far from the best example of a vernacular bungalow in the study area, and JMA concurs with LeeDecker et al.'s recommendation of 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.

S-08584



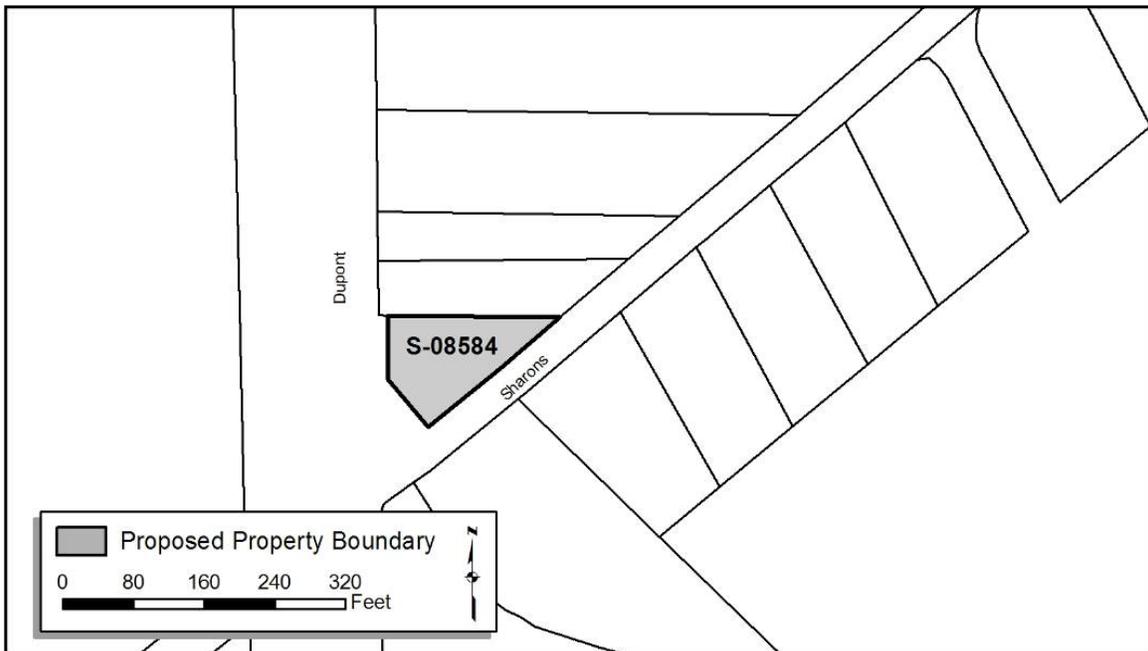
main building (.001) façade and west side, view to SE



main building (.001) rear, view to NW



main building (.001) east side, view to W



**S-08588. Robert Short Property, 16848 Beach Road
(PIN: 230-26.00-98.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: The property is located on the south side of Beach Road and includes a house, several modern outbuildings, an older tractor shed, and a barn. The lawn contains a row of trees on the east side of the property. A crushed shell driveway east of the house leads back to a group of outbuildings and agricultural fields beyond. A holly tree is placed west of the house. The southern portion of the property includes a series of fenced horse fields.

The c. 1900, two-story dwelling has a three-bay, side-gabled main block with a one-and-one-half-story rear ell with side lean-to addition. The main entry is sheltered by a gabled hood and is centered on the front wall of the house. The door is of the modern fiberglass half-wheel and four-panel type. The east wall has a modern door placed in a modern shed-roofed side porch in the rear ell. The west wall has a mid-twentieth century, four-light, three-panel, wood-and-glass door. First- and second-story fenestration consists of replacement, one-over-one, double-hung vinyl-clad sash windows. The house is sheathed in vinyl siding.

The c. 1960 equipment shed (.002) is placed on the east side of the drive southeast of the house. This shed-roofed, metal-clad structure has four open bays in its west wall. The remaining walls are blank. Its roof is clad in metal.

The second outbuilding, a c. 1910-1930 horse barn (.003), is placed at the northeast corner of fenced horse fields south of the house. The gabled front barn, sits on a rusticated concrete-block foundation, is sheathed in metal, and has a roof sheathed in metal. Its east façade is fenestrated with two one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. A sliding metal door is placed at the center of the wall. The north wall is fenestrated with three, one-over-one, double-hung sash replacement windows, while the south wall has four Dutch doors marking horse stalls and three one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. The rear wall is pierced by a one-over-one, double-hung aluminum sash window and central sliding metal door.

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 three-bay I-house property types.

Evaluation: This property was recommended as not eligible for the National Register in the 1992 evaluation report because it lacked “qualities of demonstrable historical or architectural importance” (LeeDecker et al. 1992:121).

JMA evaluated the property under National Register Criterion A for its association with the agricultural history of the local area. It is currently used as a horse farm. The property contains a house, a shed-roofed equipment shed and a concrete-block and wood-framed horse barn. Taken together, the three buildings are typical of many small farms in the area and region. Neither the buildings themselves nor the ensemble as a whole are distinctive, and the ensemble fails to convey strong associations with the agricultural history of the area. Therefore, 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.

The house has undergone substantial alterations, many of which have occurred since the LeeDecker et al. (1992) survey. Alterations to the original house include removal of a full-width front porch, fenestration changes to the façade and side walls, replacement of windows and doors, resheathing in modern materials, removal of the end chimneys, and construction of at least one addition. In form, it appears to be a late three-bay I-house. Far better preserved examples of this house type are present in the 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.



Robert Short house in 1992; note the two chimneys, the façade fenestration, the ghost of the full-width porch, and the two attic-level windows in the gable end (LeeDecker et al. 1992:122)

S-08588



main building (.001) façade, view to S



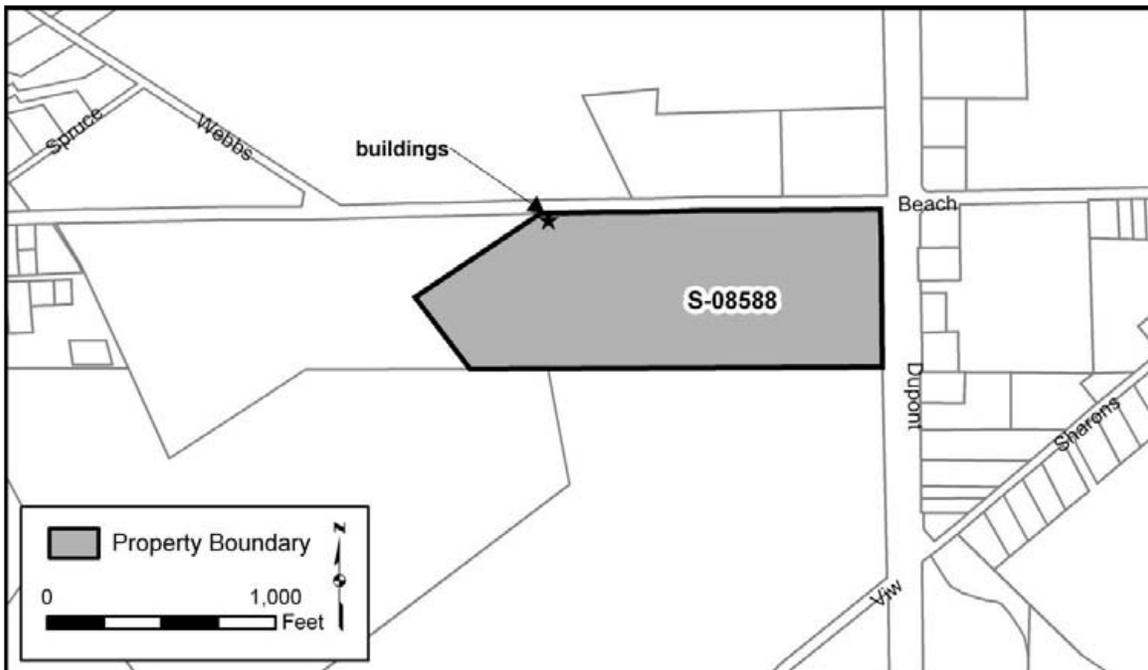
main building (.001) façade and east side;
barn (.003) in background, view to SW



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



barn (.003), view to NW



**S-08733.047. Garage, Ellendale Market & Hardware, southwest corner of Old State Road and Ellendale-Milton Road
(PIN: 230-26.00-113.00)
(Detail Map #2)**

Description: The building sits at the corner of a large, otherwise vacant corner lot at the intersection of Main Street and Old State Road in Ellendale. Gravel driveways from each street intersect at the rear. The rest of the property is dirt or grass with a few trees. A chain-link privacy fence extends along the south and west sides of the property.

The building on this property was formerly used as a commercial garage. The garage door openings have been closed up and patched with plywood. Rear restroom doors and windows have been boarded up, and a side lean-to addition removed. A dwelling that stood on the property at the time it was surveyed in 1999 has since been removed.

The c. 1950s, side-gabled, wood-framed building has a façade that faces north. The north wall is marked by two, 12-light, 24-panel, industrial-sized garage doors, probably original. The east wall has boarded up steel casement windows, and three, three-light, two-panel, wood-and-glass doors, now boarded over. The west side is marked by two steel casement windows, while the rear wall is marked by boarded over casement windows.

Applicable Historic Context(s): Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Zone; Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization 1940-1960+/-; Transportation and Communications theme; commercial garage property type.

Evaluation: This property is located at the western edge of the Ellendale Historic District, which was proposed in 1992 based solely on Criterion C as a “good collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings in the community” (Bashman 1992). According to DelSHPO, no formal DOE was ever filed for the district, but it has been treated as eligible for the purposes of Section 106 reviews (Davis 2006). The mapping for the district has not been formalized. The 1992 letter proposing the district includes a highly generalized map that encompasses properties on both sides of Main Street, south along State Street, and north along West State Road. A GIS shapefile dated February 2005 on file at DelSHPO shows three discontinuous shapes that cover parcels throughout Ellendale, including this one.

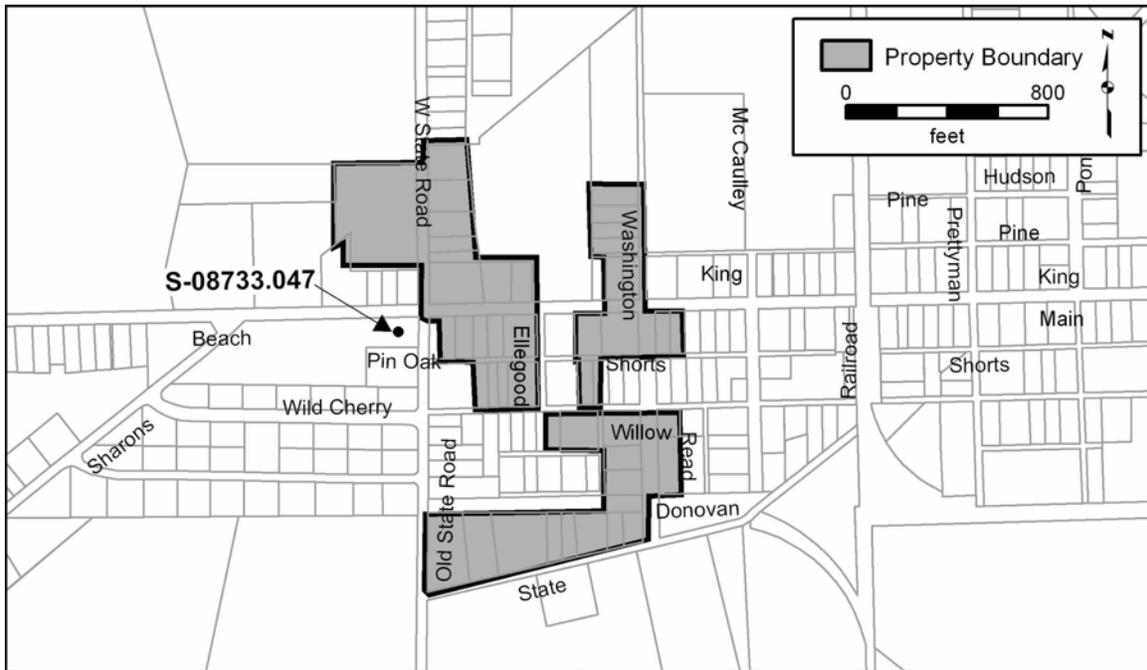
With the loss of the dwelling that once stood adjacent to this commercial garage, and changes to the garage that include the boarding over of windows and the installation of a new entry door, this property does not possess enough integrity to contribute to the architectural significance of a possible Ellendale Historic District. Further, the garage was built in the 1950s, well beyond the period of significance (“nineteenth and early twentieth century”) stipulated for the district (Bashman 1992). Should an Ellendale Historic District be formalized in a National Register nomination and concurred upon as eligible by DelSHPO (or be treated as eligible for purposes of Section 106 reviews), JMA recommends that the formal district boundary exclude this property.

Evaluated individually, its historical significance is assessed in connection with the transportation history of Sussex County. No evidence has come to light to indicate that the garage was a particularly early example of its property type or a particularly important garage. Therefore, the garage is recommended individually not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

Background research for the history of Ellendale in readily available secondary sources did not reveal any association between the property and any individual significant in the history of the local area. The property is therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

As noted in the research design, only early, little altered garages have the potential to be architecturally significant. This late (c. 1950s), altered building does not represent an outstanding example of an older Sussex County garage and is therefore recommended not eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.

The building appears to employ standard CMU construction, a well-understood method of building that continues in widespread use. The building lacks the potential to yield important information about building technology that is not available through other means and is therefore recommended not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



Boundaries of Ellendale Historic District on file at DelSHPO, with western boundary adjusted to exclude S-08733.047, as recommended by JMA

S-08733.047



main building (.001) facade, view to S



main building (.001) west side, view to E



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

