

APPENDIX D

National Register of Historic Places Documentation Form

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Centerville Road Historic District

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

Street & number 3800-4001 Centerville Rd, adj. area not for publication
city or town Greenville vicinity x
state Delaware code DE county New Castle code 003
zip code 19807

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance 1907-1946

Significant Dates 1907
1932
1937

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Wheelwright and Stevens
unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Delaware SHPO

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10. Geographical Data

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acreage of Property approx. 260

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	___	_____	_____	3	___	_____
2	___	_____	_____	4	___	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title David C. Berq/Architectural Historian

organization Louis Berqer & Associates, Inc.
date July 1996

street & number 100 Halsted Street telephone (201)678-1960

city or town East Orange state NJ zip code 07019

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Centerville Road H. D.
name of property
New Castle County, Delaware
county and State

Description

The architectural resources within the Centerville Road Historic District constitute a significant concentration of Revival-style estates separated by large areas of open space. The houses on these parcels are set well back from the road, generally being set on hills that rise up from either side of the road. Large, mature trees typically line winding driveways. Lots are generally open, landscaped expanses consisting primarily of large lawns, with wooded areas which separate them from adjoining properties. Parcels range in size from about three acres to 20 acres.

The contributing properties within this district all date to the period circa 1880-1940, referred to in the Delaware *Historic Context Master Reference and Summary* as the period of Urbanization and Early Suburbanization. The relevant property types for the district are Commuter Suburbs under the theme of Settlement Patterns and Demographic Change, and Early Twentieth-Century Revival-style buildings under the theme of Architecture. Contributing resources within the district are constructed chiefly of stone or brick, and are all characterized by their large size. The majority of the resources are asymmetrical versions of the Colonial Revival style, having attached garages incorporated into their design; however, the two oldest contributing resources, the William A. Worth House and Westbrae, are symmetrically arranged and have detached garages.

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Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

Individual resources

1. Frank G. Tallman House (N-13526)
3800 Centerville Road

This property contains four resources: a dwelling, a garage, a shed, and a pool. The house is a 2½-story Colonial Revival-style house which, according to the present owner, Angela Greenberg, was built in 1939. The house is constructed almost entirely of brick, but has some frame sections which are clad with wooden clapboard siding. The house is composed of a 3x2-bay main section with wings at both the north and south gables. The west elevation serves as the building's main facade, and faces Centerville Road. This elevation's main section has two southernmost bays with 6/6 double-hung windows; its northernmost cross-gabled bay has a first-story bay window and a second-story 12/12 double-hung window. The east elevation of the main section has three dormers piercing its roof. All windows have 4-inch wooden surrounds, with paneled shutters on the first-story windows and louvered shutters on the second-story windows. The entire roof is clad with slate, and has two brick chimneys, one exterior chimney on the north gable of the main section and one on the south elevation wing. To each side of this main section is attached a 1½-story, 2-bay side-gabled wing. Each wing has two wall dormers on its half story. A gabled, 2-story, 2x2 bay garage is attached to the northern wing of the house, and a shed-roofed porch with full-length, multipane windows is attached to the southern wing.

East of the house is a 1½-story, 2x1-bay garage of brick construction resting on a concrete slab. It has a pedimented gable clad with aluminum siding. According to its owner, the garage was built in the mid-1980s. South of the garage is a small, 2-bay, side-gabled frame shed with vertical V-grooved wooden siding and cedar-shingled roof which appears to date from the mid-twentieth century. South of this shed is a small in-ground concrete pool.

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Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

. **George R. Beach House (N-13527)**
801 Centerville Road

This property consists of a dwelling, a shed, a poolhouse, and a pool. The house is a 2-story, asymmetrical example of the French Renaissance style, dating to the first half of the twentieth century. It is constructed of brick, and has a steeply-pitched hip roof clad with cement-asbestos shingles. Two brick interior chimneys pierce the roof ridge. The east elevation serves as the primary facade of the building, and consists of a 6-bay wide main section with asymmetrical wings on both sides. The first-story windows are full-length casement windows (French doors) with louvered shutters, and the second-story windows are paired, 3-pane wooden casements, also with shutters. The principal entrance to the house is placed in an off-center bay which extends forward of the main wall plane. The windowless door is flanked by full-length shutters. Above this entrance is a second-story gabled bay which opens to a small porch with a decorative iron railing. On the south end main section is a single-bay 2-story section which has a south-facing garage. The east elevation of the garage wing has a single circular window. The north wing of the house is one story high and one bay wide.

South of the house is a 1x2-bay, side-gabled shed dating from the mid-twentieth century. It is constructed of concrete block with a brick facing. Its roof is clad with asphalt shingles. West of the house is a small, gabled frame poolhouse with vertical wooden V-grooved siding set on a concrete-block foundation. At the north elevation of this poolhouse is a flat-roofed, screened-in porch. The building appears to date from the mid-twentieth century. North of the poolhouse is an in-ground concrete pool.

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Section 7 Page 4 Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

3. James Rankin Davis House (N-13528)
3900 Centerville Road

This property consists of a dwelling and a shed. The dwelling is a Colonial Revival-style house constructed predominantly of stone, with some frame sections. Its main section is a 2-story, side-gabled structure, three bays wide and two bays deep. The principal facade of the house faces west, toward Centerville Road. On each gable of this main section lies a 1½-story, 2-bay wing. Attached to the north wing is a cross-gabled garage, and attached to the south wing is a one-story, screened-in porch. The windows on the main section and its wings consist of 6/12 double-hung on the first story, and 6/6 double-hung on the second story. The lintels consist of continuous brick above steel plates, and the window sills are stone capped with wood. The main entrance to the house consists of a door and an 8-pane casement window protected by a hipped-roof portico on the west elevation of the main block. The roof is clad with asbestos shingles, and a single exterior stone chimney is centered on the south elevation wing's gable.

The east elevation walls of the house and cross-gable garage are frame, with 8-inch wooden clapboard siding. The cross-gabled garage has a single overhead door opening at its north elevation. The roof slope of this elevation of the garage has a central gabled dormer. A one-story, hipped-roof addition with clapboard siding and asphalt roof shingles is attached to the east elevation of the garage.

North of the house is a 2-bay, side-gabled shed with board and batten siding and asphalt-shingled roof, resting on a concrete slab.

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Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

William A. Worth House (N-13529)
West side of Centerville Road, southwest of its junction with Hillside Road

This property consists of an early-twentieth-century Colonial Revival house, garage, a shed, and a springhouse. The house is set on a hill, about 550 feet west of Centerville Road at the end of a long drive. The house is a symmetrical 2½-story, U-plan structure with symmetrical wings and one-story porches on each side. It is built of uncoursed stone, with a five-bay main section. The first-story windows have 8/12/12 triple-hung wooden sashes and paneled wooden shutters. The second-story windows consist of 12/12 double-hung wooden sashes with louvered wooden shutters. Four-inch molded casing surrounds each window. Massive rough-squared stone lintels with keystones cap each window opening. The main entrance to the house is a central, four-foot-wide paneled door on the east elevation. It has a dentiled entablature supported by fluted pilasters. Three dormers pierce the east elevation of the main section's roof. These are gabled dormers with molded returns, having double-hung windows with arched top sashes and large decorative wooden "keystones." The roof is covered with cement-asbestos shingles. The main section has two brick interior end chimneys. On a datestone on the southern gable of the main section is inscribed: "J.R.W.-1937-W.A.W."

The 2-bay wings on each side of the main section are similar in design to the main section, each having 12/12 double-hung windows on the first and second stories, and a single dormer with a 6/6 double-hung window. The wings have cross gables to the rear which are one bay deep, forming the house's U-plan. Each wing has a brick interior end chimney. A single-story enclosed wooden porch is attached to each wing. These porches have flat roofs with wrought-iron balustrades, and multipane fixed sash windows supported underneath by sections of wooden panels. Thin steel pillars support the porch roofs. According to the current owners, these porches were enclosed in 1994.

A stone wall which is attached to the north wing's east elevation extends about 75 feet, terminating at a 5x2-bay side-gabled stone garage. This garage is similar in construction to the main house, but is 1½-story, having two dormers on its southern slope and three on its northern slope. All the windows are 6/6 double-hung wood. The west elevation gable has a one-story, stone shed-roofed extension. Modifications appear to be limited to the interior, which appears to have been converted to offices and storage space.

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Description (continued)

About 75 feet east of the garage is a small front-gabled shed constructed of concrete block, but with a stone/stucco exterior finish. The roof is clad with cedar shingles. A small stone springhouse is set into a hill at the northeast corner of the property near Hillside Road. It is square, and has a pyramidal roof with asphalt shingles and a central roof cupola. A stone stairway on its south elevation leads to an entrance door. It appears to date from the same period as the main house.

5. William A. Dickson House (N-524)

West side of Centerville Road, at its junction with Hillside Road

This property consists of a single dwelling, a garage, a springhouse, and a shed. The dwelling is a 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled I-house built in the late eighteenth century. The plan, originally rectangular, has been made irregular by additions. The original section is constructed of uncoursed stone, covered with a thin layer of stucco. The principal facade, which faces south, has a one-story porch with shed roof. The first- and second-story windows consist of wooden 6/6 double-hung sash. The main entrance is a central door, flanked by evenly spaced windows. The windows have wooden frames constructed of rough-hewn timbers. The roof covering consists of slate. The main section has two interior gable-end chimneys built of brick.

The additions appear to have been built in three stages, beginning with a 1-bay, 2-story frame ell at the northeast corner of the north elevation which appears to date to the mid-nineteenth century. Its windows are 6/6 double-hung sash. Attached to the north gable of this ell is another one-story section apparently dating to the mid-twentieth century. This section has both 6/6 and 1/1 double-hung sash. Both of these sections have asbestos siding and slate roofs. A third section, which is set into the inside corner of the ell, is a one-story frame structure which has vinyl siding and a metal standing-seam roof. The windows are vinyl-clad casements. This addition appears to date from the mid- to late twentieth century.

A mid- to-late twentieth-century garage stands east of the house. It is a side-gabled, 2-bay building built of stucco-faced concrete block. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles. South of the garage is a stone springhouse with a thin stucco coating and slate roof. On the west gable is a datestone which reads: " W.D. 1790." Northwest of the house is a gabled stone shed, likely from the mid-nineteenth century. The gables are pedimented and have wooden shingles. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle.

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Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

1. Deborah B. Halsey Wilson House (N-13530)
1001 Centerville Road

This 2-story stone Colonial Revival-style house with an irregular plan is situated west of the William A. Dickson House at the end of a drive opposite Hillside Road. The materials and construction of this house are similar to those of the William A. Worth House. It is a side-gabled structure with its primary facade facing east. The building consists of five distinct sections: a 2-bay main or entrance section which has a 1-bay gabled wing attached to its north gable, and two side-gabled sections and one cross-gabled garage attached to its southern gable. Attached to the south elevation gable of the main section is a 2-bay wing, to which is attached another 2-bay wing. The cross-gabled garage is two bays wide. Windows consist primarily of 6/6 wooden double-hung sashes with 4-inch wooden surrounds; however, the main section has 9/6 double-hung windows on its first story. All first-story windows have recessed panel shutters, and the second-story windows have louvered shutters. Massive stone lintels and keystones identical to those on the William A. Worth House suggest that the same builder constructed both buildings. The roof, which is pierced by four brick chimneys, is clad with slate. A front entrance on the east elevation of the main section has a fanlight transom. Two shed-roofed, screened-in porches extend westward from the west elevation. A datestone set in the north elevation gable reads: "R.E.W. -1939- D.B.H.W."

South of the house lies a 1x2-bay, front-gabled, concrete-block garage on a concrete slab, with an asphalt-shingled roof. This garage dates from the mid-twentieth century. An in-ground concrete pool is situated near the north elevation of the house. A stone wall leading from the house to the pool has a datestone embedded in it which appears to have come from a building historically associated with the William A. Dickson House. It reads: "W^D S^S 1792." This appears to refer to William and Susanna Dickson, owners of the land during the late eighteenth century. North of the pool is a small frame shed with board and batten siding dating from the mid- to late twentieth century.

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Centerville Road H. D.
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Description (continued)

7. Westbrae Tenant House (N-522)
1115 Hillside Road

This property consists of a dwelling and a garage. The house, which is set on a hill, consists of an original 3x2-bay, 1½-story side-gabled main block with a one-bay addition at the east gable end. The original section is frame, set on a stone foundation, with its principal elevation facing south. The first story of this elevation has a central entrance with a brick stairway and porch, covered by a shed roof. Windows on each side of the entrance have 6/6 wooden sashes. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles, and is pierced by a central interior ridge chimney. The 1x2-bay frame addition has a combination of 1/1 and 6/6 wooden sash windows. The rear of the house (north elevation) has a shallow roof pitch due to what appears to have been a late twentieth-century addition which raised the roof, creating a half story. Windows on the north elevation consist of a combination of late twentieth-century-style wooden 1/1 and 6/6 windows. The entire house is clad with vinyl siding.

A garage, which is constructed from a metal quonset hut with one curved side clipped to create an entrance bay, lies southwest of the house near Hillside Road. It appears to date from the mid-twentieth century.

8. Westbrae (N-521)
1101 Hillside Road

This property consists of a large dwelling, three garages, and a pool. The dwelling is a large 2½-story, stone Dutch Colonial Revival-style house dating from the early twentieth century. It is a 5x3-bay, side-gabled stone house with stone interior end chimneys which rise above a gambrel roof. The roof is clad with cedar shingles. Most windows are 6/1 double-hung wooden sashes with elaborate molded wooden sills and stone lintels with keystones. Both roof slopes have three pedimented dormers. The principal facade faces west, and has a central-gabled portico entrance with concave ceiling. Both gable ends of the house have one-story enclosed porches with flat roofs which have decorative wooden balustrades. The porch roofs are supported by round wooden columns of the Tuscan Doric order. The east elevation has a central porte cochere which has a flat roof surrounded by a balustrade. The porte cochere roof is supported by two Doric-order columns. Centered on the porte cochere roof is a small arched window with leaded panes. A datestone on the south gable wall reads: "C.F.R. 1907."

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Description (continued)

Northwest of the house is an in-ground concrete pool. East of the house stands a 1-bay, front-gabled frame garage with a combination of vertical beaded-board and plywood siding. The roof is clad with asphalt shingle. This garage appears to date from the early twentieth century. Southwest of this garage is a 1½-story, gabled garage with an L-plan. The building appears to have been constructed in two phases. A 3x1-bay section, which appears to date from the early twentieth century, has a stone foundation, central stone chimney, and gambrel roof, with a single dormer on both its northern and southern roof slopes. A one-story ell attached to the north elevation of this garage has a brick chimney. This ell appears to date from the mid-twentieth century. Both sections are clad with a combination of German siding and asphalt shingle. Windows consist of a variety of fixed-pane sashes and 2/2 and 6/6 double-hung. The interior of the half story of the main section appears to be finished, and may have been used as living quarters at some time. A steel quonset-hut garage identical to the one on the Westbrae Tenant House property is situated east of this garage.

9. Westbrae Springs Springhouse and Holding Tank (N-523)
Westbrae Lane, east of Centerville Road

This property consists of a springhouse and water storage tank situated on Westbrae Lane. The springhouse is situated on the south side of the lane, and is a stone front-gabled structure with asphalt-shingled roof, which rests above a small stream. The eastern gable end has a small board and batten addition with a concrete slab foundation, which appears to have been added in the early twentieth century. The holding tank lies on the north side of the lane, and is a square stone structure with a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. There are no window or door openings in this structure, but a small pipe through the west elevation wall of the structure releases water which is collected within the tank. Mid- to late twentieth-century residences are located both north and south of these structures.

10. Stone Headwall (N-13531)
East side of Centerville Road, south of Campbell Road

This headwall is a barrel-arched stone structure which lies on the east side of Centerville Road and supports a concrete pipe that conveys a stream under the Road to the Edgar Hoopes Reservoir. It is approximately 40 feet long, with a two-foot-high parapet wall. Its arch has stone voussoirs and dressed keystone. No datestone or other markings are present on the structure.

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Description (continued)

11. Valley Garden Park (N-13532)
Intersection of Centerville Road and Campbell Road

This park is located near the southeast corner of the intersection of Centerville and Campbell roads, with its main entrance on Campbell Road. The park consists of both asphalt and dirt paths leading through both wooded and grassy areas. Stone walls and stairways are situated throughout the park. A central walled area contains a bronze plaque which reads: "The Valley Garden, Presented to the City of Wilmington in Memory of Mrs. T. Coleman DuPont by her Daughter Ellen DuPont Wheelwright." Through the center of the park runs a stream in which have been constructed a series of stone walls, creating waterfalls. This stream drains into the Hoopes Reservoir. Between the center of the park and Centerville Road lies a small footbridge which carries a path across the stream. The bridge is a concrete barrel-arched structure clad with stone.

Near the entrance to the park, on Campbell Road, lies a 2-story, side-gabled stone house. The house consists of a main 3-bay section, with a 2-bay wing attached to its north elevation. The windows on the east elevation's main section are 9/9 double-hung on the first story, and 6/9 on the second story. The wing has 6/9 windows. All the windows have 4-inch wooden surrounds. Shutters are paneled on first-story windows, and louvered on second-story windows. The roofs of both sections are covered with asbestos shingles. Three stone chimneys pierce the roof, two of which are interior end chimneys at each gable. The third chimney is located on the west elevation roof slope. Attached to the west elevation of the wing is a one-story gabled stone ell. Attached to the gable of the ell is a small, shed-roofed porch with asphalt-shingled roof.

Southwest of the house is a 2x2-bay stone garage with a pedimented gable having 8-inch wooden clapboard. The garage roof is covered with asbestos shingles.

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Description (continued)

2. Homer D. Ewing House (N-7681)
103 Campbell Road

This property consists of a single dwelling and a pumphouse. The dwelling is a 2-story, side-gabled Colonial Revival-style structure. The house's principal facade faces east. It consists of a 5-bay, side-gabled main block which is constructed of stone and has a slate roof. The first-story windows are 6/9 double-hung, and the second-story windows are 6/6 double-hung. The central bay of the first story serves as the main entrance to the house, and consists of a paneled door flanked on each side by a four-pane sidelight. Above the door is a fanlight which is capped with decorative wooden trim, stone voussoirs, and stone keystone. The sides of the doorway are trimmed with fluted pilasters and decorative quoins. Above the doorway is a wrought-iron balcony. The south gable of the main section has an exterior end chimney of stone. Attached to the north elevation gable of the main block is a 3-bay, 1½-story frame section clad with 8-inch wooden weatherboard. A single shed-roofed dormer pierces its east elevation roof. The rear, or west, elevation of this section has a shed-roofed dormer addition which appears to date from the mid- to late twentieth century. A stone chimney is located on the west roof slope of this section, just east of the dormer addition. Attached to the north elevation gable of this section is a 3-bay frame and stone garage. This garage also has a shed-roofed dormer on its east roof slope, and a mid- to late twentieth-century shed-roofed dormer addition on its west roof slope. Off the west elevation of the house is a complex arrangement of decking and stairs which appears to have been built in stages between the 1950s and the 1980s.

A small concrete-block pumphouse is situated southeast of the house. This structure has a single steel door and a pyramidal roof with cedar shingles and a central cupola.

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Description (continued)

Contributing and non-contributing resources

1. **Frank G. Tallman House (N-13526)**
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Garage NC
 - c. Shed C
 - d. Swimming pool C

2. **George R. Beach House (N-13527)**
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Shed C
 - c. Poolhouse C
 - d. Swimming pool C

3. **James Rankin Davis House (N-13528)**
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Shed C

4. **William A. Worth House (N-13529)**
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Garage C
 - c. Shed C
 - d. Springhouse C

5. **William A. Dickson House (N-524)**
 - a. Dwelling NC
 - b. Garage NC
 - c. Springhouse NC
 - d. Shed NC

6. **Deborah B. Halsey Wilson House (N-13530)**
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Garage C
 - c. Swimming pool C
 - d. Shed NC

7. **Westbrae Tenant House (N-522)**
 - a. Dwelling NC
 - b. Garage NC

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Description (continued)

- 6. Westbrae (N-521)
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Garage (frame) C
 - c. Garage (L-shaped frame) C
 - d. Garage (quonset hut) NC
 - e. Swimming pool C
- 7. Westbrae Springs Springhouse and Holding Tank (N-523)
 - a. Springhouse C
 - b. Water storage tank C
- 8. Stone Headwall (N-13531)
 - a. Headwall C
- 9. Valley Garden Park (N-13532)
 - a. Walls and stairways C
 - b. Waterfall system C
 - c. Footbridge C
 - d. House C
 - e. Garage C
- 10. Homer D. Ewing House (N-7681)
 - a. Dwelling C
 - b. Pumphouse C

TOTAL OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES
21 buildings
9 structures

TOTAL OF NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES
9 buildings
0 structures

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Statement of Significance

The Centerville Road Historic District is significant with regard to architectural history due to its nature as a well-preserved example of elite suburbanization during the early to mid twentieth century.

The properties within the proposed Centerville Road Historic District are historically related to one another, with many being Revival-style mansion houses constructed and/or owned by industrial executives during the early twentieth century. The documented examples of this relationship are Westbrae, the William A. Worth House, and the Homer D. Ewing House. Further research is likely to reveal that this relationship exists among other properties within the district. The resources are also historically related by the construction of the Edgar M. Hoopes Reservoir, which appears to have been the catalyst which spurred this development, as the majority of the houses within the district were constructed within seven years after the completion of the reservoir, and all of those properties on the west side of Centerville Road are clearly oriented to provide a scenic view of the reservoir. The construction of both the reservoir, which was built on land owned by members of the DuPont family, and the Valley Garden Park, which was a donation from DuPont family members, appears to have been an integral part of this development.

Major changes occurred in the landscape of Delaware's Piedmont Zone during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as industrialization and commercialization began to dominate the economy of the Piedmont Zone (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992:28). Large industries moved into Wilmington, and away from the natural power sources such as creeks. As these industries moved to the city, suburban expansion, led by a growing professional middle class, began. In association with suburban development, roads were improved to accommodate the automobile, and mass transit was developed (Ames et al. 1989:51).

An important event associated with increased urbanization and suburbanization in the vicinity of the project area was the construction of the Edgar M. Hoopes Reservoir. The reservoir was begun in 1926 by its contractor, John J. Walsh, and completed in 1932. Located immediately west of the project area, the placement of the reservoir sparked the development of a number of early twentieth-century country estates which were constructed along its shores. Most of the land now occupied by the reservoir was owned by Senator Thomas Coleman DuPont. Although it is not clear exactly what role Thomas Coleman DuPont played in the construction of the reservoir and subsequent suburban-

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Statement of Significance (continued)

ation of the area, he did own most of the land now covered by the reservoir, as well as a large amount of land along the relocated Centerville Road. The Hoopes Reservoir was originally named the Old Mill Dam, after DuPont's homestead, which was called "Old Mill" (Silliman 1962:98). DuPont appears to have taken the opportunity provided by the construction of the reservoir to begin selling his land as residential parcels after the reservoir was completed (Delaware Historical Society 1926-1982). Many of these estates were built by the owners of profitable factories and mills in the city, who began purchasing large tracts of land west of Wilmington. These included members of the DuPont family, and other executives employed by the DuPont industries, as well as such men as William Alexander Worth, of the Worth Steel Company (Bevan 1929:81; Herman and Siders 1989:17).

Individual resources

1. Frank G. Tallman House (N-13526)
3800 Centerville Road

This property was part of the estate of Henry B. Thompson until 1938, when it was purchased by Frank Gifford and Ruth Lester Tallman (NCC Deed X-40-54). Frank Tallman constructed the brick dwelling on the property, which upon his death in 1952 became the property of Ruth Tallman (NCC Estate Record 31983). Ruth Tallman married Charles P. Tyner, and after her death in 1966, the property was transferred several times before it was bought by Gary W. and Angela Greenberg in 1987 (NCC Deeds N-77-604, U-82-664, and 604-143). One deed from 1969 refers to the property as "Winging Hill" (NCC Deed U-82-664).

2. George R. Beach House (N-13527)
3801 Centerville Road

In 1937, William B. and Susanne S. Denham purchased this property from Ellen DuPont Meeds (NCC Deed H-40-436). Less than two years later, in 1939, the Denhams sold the land to George R. and Jane Beach (NCC Deed H-41-157). The house appears to have been erected either just prior to, or more likely, immediately following, this sale in 1939. In 1944, the Beaches sold the property, "with the dwelling house and other buildings erected thereon," to George P. Bissell, Jr. (NCC Deed Q-44-502). Examples of the French Eclectic style are relatively uncommon, occurring only occasionally in Eclectic suburbs of the 1920s and 1930s (McAlester 1994:386-387). The house is an intact example of this relatively uncommon style.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

3. James Rankin Davis House (N-13528)
3900 Centerville Road

James Rankin Davis purchased several parcels from the estate of Henry B. Thompson, beginning in 1940, with other purchases being made in 1949, 1953, and 1961 (NCC Deeds D-42-145, R-53-574, and S-49-234). It appears that Davis constructed this house as his residence between 1940 and 1949. In 1965, Davis sold his residence to C. Ronald Maroney and Eleanor Silliman, who sold it to Charles and Linda Lynch in 1967 (NCC Deeds V-78-510 and W-74-185). In 1969, the property was sold to Robert S. Lovett (NCC Deed S-82-957). The current owner, Ann Louise McEvoy, purchased the property from the Lovetts in 1989 (NCC Deed 855-323).

4. William A. Worth House (N-13529)
West side of Centerville Road, southwest of its junction with Hillside Road

This house was built by William A. Worth and Jane R. Worth in 1937. In 1994, the house was sold to the Intercollegiate Studies Institute by the heirs of Jane R. Worth (NCC Deed 1849-55). William Alexander Worth was a prominent industrial figure in Delaware during the early twentieth century, having established the Worth Steel Company in Claymont (north of Wilmington) during the early 1920s. The Worth Steel Company was one of the leading industries in Delaware during the early twentieth century. Worth served as vice-president and treasurer of the company, beginning in 1923 (Bevan 1929:81). The house was his home from its construction in 1937 until his death in 1983 (NCC Will 82093). The house and outbuildings possess a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and feeling.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

i. William A. Dickson House (N-524)
West side of Centerville Road, at its junction with Hillside Road

Ownership of this property has been traced to William Dickson in the late eighteenth century. The datestone on the springhouse confirms that it was constructed in 1790, and the house was apparently built during the same period. Tax records from 1803 record William Dixon as owning 101 acres of land containing a stone house, a stone barn, a stone stable, and a stone gristmill (NCC Assessments 1803-4). In 1812, Dickson sold the farmstead to Samuel Henderson (NCC Deed M-3-419). Henderson sold the property to David Murphey in 1813 (NCC Deed L-3-524). Murphey owned the land until 1835, when he sold it to Richard Williams (NCC Deed S-4-441), who in turn quickly sold it to Joseph Guest in 1836 (NCC Deed V-4-359). Maps depict J. Guest as the owner of a residence on this site in 1849, and Mrs. Guest as the owner in 1868. In the late nineteenth century, the land had passed to the ownership of William Mandy, and was sold to Thomas Coleman DuPont in 1912 (NCC Deeds T-23-258 and X-23-128). Thomas Coleman DuPont sold this parcel to Ellen DuPont Meeds in 1926, and in 1937, Meeds sold it to Deborah B. Halsey Wilson (NCC Deeds M-40-339 and Z-34-343). Wilson then erected a new stone dwelling several hundred feet west of this house, and probably demolished one or more outbuildings in the process. In 1970, after the death of Mrs. Wilson, the land was sold to Charles Cruice, who in turn sold the parcel to its present owners, J. Seth and Barbara Cruice, in 1989 (NCC Deeds Z-83-173 and 902-78).

Eligibility must be evaluated in light of the Delaware *Historic Context Master Reference and Summary*. The survival rates in the Piedmont Zone during the period 1770-1830 ±, are good for dwellings and major agricultural buildings. Physical and documentary evidence shows that several of the historic outbuildings at the William Dickson Farm are no longer extant, including a stone barn and stable, and a mill. These demolitions, as well as the construction of a new garage and the construction of the Deborah B. Halsey Wilson House west of the William Dickson House, have diminished the property's integrity of setting, feeling, and association. Alterations to the house throughout the twentieth century have diminished the property's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Thus the William A. Dickson House does not meet National Register Criteria with regard to integrity. The house must be considered a non-contributing element in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District, as it does not date to the period of significance of the district and is not representative of the themes and styles characteristic of the district.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

6. Deborah B. Halsey Wilson House (N-13530)
4001 Centerville Road

The title history of this property is identical to that of the William A. Dickson House. The house was built in 1939 after Deborah B. Halsey Wilson purchased the land (NCC Deed 40-339). J. Seth and Barbara Cruice currently own this property (NCC Deeds Z-83-173 and 902-78). Although it is a fine example of early twentieth-century Colonial Revival architecture, it does not possess the high-style architectural qualities which distinguish other local examples of this relatively common architectural style, such as the neighboring William A. Worth House, and does not appear to meet National Register Criteria A, B, or C. The house may, however, be considered a contributing element in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District.

7. Westbrae Tenant House (N-522)
1115 Hillside Road

This dwelling was built as a tenant house associated with the mansion house of Frank and George Rhoads (Westbrae; see below) in the early twentieth century (DESHPO Cultural Resource Survey Form No. 522). George and Frank Rhoads sold this property to Walter Pyle in 1918 (NCC Deed Q-27-82). Walter Pyle was an owner of the prominent C. and W. Pyle Leather Goods Company in Wilmington at the turn of the century (Conrad 1908:386; DESHPO Cultural Resource Survey Form No. 521). Walter Pyle died in 1919, leaving the property to his son, Walter Pyle, Jr. (NCC Will N-4-131). In 1936, Walter Pyle, Jr., heir of Walter Pyle, Sr., sold the house back to George A. Rhoads (NCC Deed B-40-533). Upon the death of George Rhoads, the property was sold to Frank and Amalia Manegold, and then by Amalia Manegold to Robert K. Beste in 1956 (NCC Deeds Q-42-37 and Q-57-18). Beste sold the property to its present owners, Peter and Jeanne Huang, in 1980 (NCC Deed Z-111-24). This property does not possess sufficient architectural or historical significance to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, extensive alterations and additions have greatly diminished the property's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Due to these extensive alterations, the Westbrae Tenant House would be considered a non-contributing element in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

1. Westbrae (N-521)
101 Hillside Road

This property's chain of title is identical to that of the Westbrae Tenant House until 1955, when the Manegolds sold this part of the property to Theodore L. Cairns (NCC Deed L-56-434). In 1984, Cairns sold it to Eileen Ward, and the title changed hands three more times before the property was purchased by its present owners, Kenneth S. and Alice J. Piech (NCC Deeds A-.26-59, R-125-113, 636-262, and 1545-21). The house was constructed by George A. Rhoads in 1907, and sold to Walter Pyle in 1918. Walter Pyle was an owner of the prominent C. and W. Pyle Leather Goods Company in Wilmington at the turn of the century (Conrad 1908:386; DESHPO Cultural Resource Survey Form No. 521). When the land was sold back to George Rhoads in 1937, he developed a spring water business on part of the property, which became known as Westbrae Springs. Westbrae is a good example of the early twentieth-century Dutch Colonial Revival style, possessing a high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

2. Westbrae Springs Springhouse and Holding Tank (N-523)
Westbrae Lane, east of Centerville Road

This property became a parcel separate from George Rhoads's Westbrae in 1937, upon its sale to the Westbrae Spring Water Company, which was owned by George Rhoads (NCC Deed K-40-262). In 1978, the Westbrae Spring Water Company was dissolved, and the land was sold to Mark Marquisee and Daniel Mickewich, who subdivided the land into three parcels (NCC Deed A-104-76). The property containing the springhouse is currently owned by Salvatore and Barbara Deldeo, and the parcel containing the holding tank is currently owned by David E. Saunders and Marcia A. Fitzpatrick (NCC Deeds H-113-122 and I-109-210). The cultural resource survey form indicates that there were three extant buildings associated with the Spring Water Company on the property in 1972, of which two remain today.

The Westbrae Springs Springhouse and Holding Tank do not possess sufficient architectural or historical significance to be individually eligible. These buildings were apparently associated with an older farmstead, although it is possible that they were built in the early twentieth century for the Westbrae Spring Water Company (DESHPO Cultural Resource Survey Form No. 523). The Westbrae Springs Springhouse and Holding Tank may be considered contributing elements in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

10. Stone Headwall (N-13531)
East side of Centerville Road, south of Campbell Road

This headwall, which is owned by the City of Wilmington, appears to have been constructed along with the Hoopes Reservoir during the 1930s. It does not possess architectural or historical significance sufficient to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It may, however, be considered a contributing element in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District.

11. Valley Garden Park (N-13532)
Intersection of Centerville Road and Campbell Road

The construction of this park began in 1930, when the Hoopes Reservoir was nearing completion, and was finished at about the same time as the reservoir in 1932. It was designed by Wheelwright and Stevens, Landscape Architects, of Wilmington. All of the structures associated with the park, including the bridge, stone walls, house, and garage, were built between 1930 and 1932 as part of the park. According to the University of Delaware's Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering, Wheelwright and Stevens do not appear to have been prominent landscape architects in Delaware during this period. The Valley Garden Park possesses integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

12. Homer D. Ewing House (N-7681)
603 Campbell Road

Frederick W. Pickard sold this portion of a larger tract of land to Homer D. Ewing in 1936 (NCC Deed V-39-230). Homer D. Ewing, a DuPont Company executive in the early twentieth century, had this house constructed as his residence in 1937 (DESHPO Cultural Resource Survey Form No. 7681). In 1977, the Ewings sold the property to its current owners, William and Linda Prickett (NCC Deed U-98-13). This house does not possess the historical significance necessary for eligibility for the National Register under Criterion A; neither is it eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture, as it is not among the best examples of the Colonial Revival style in this region. The Homer D. Ewing House suffers somewhat from lack of integrity of design and materials due to extensive additions at its west elevation. The house may, however, be considered a contributing element in the proposed Centerville Road Historic District.

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Verbal boundary description

The Centerville Road Historic District is situated in Christiana Hundred within New Castle County, Delaware. It is bounded on the west by the Edgar M. Hoopes Reservoir. Its southern boundary consists of the southern property lines of the Frank G. Tallman House and the George R. Beach House. This boundary is an east-west line which crosses Centerville Road (SR 273) approximately 1/2-mile south of Hillside Road (SR 264). The district's northern boundary generally follows Campbell Road (SR 82), except for the inclusion of the Homer D. Ewing House, which lies on the northern side of this road. The eastern boundary consists of the eastern and southeastern boundaries of the Valley Garden Park at the northern half of the district, and follows the southeastern boundary of the park in a southwesterly direction, intersecting with Hillside Road (SR 264) about 1/4-mile east of Centerville Road (SR 273). The boundary then extends west to Centerville Road (SR 273). The eastern boundary then continues south along Centerville Road until it meets the James Rankin Davis House property, thence extending eastward to include the entire parcel of the James Rankin Davis House, and the adjoining Frank G. Tallman House.

Verbal boundary justification

The boundary for the historic district is that encompassing the eleven tax parcels that contain the properties listed above under **Description**, and land historically associated with the properties.

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| 2) | 18.447160.4404550 |
| 3) | 18.447630.4404350 |
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| 5) | 18.446690.4403680 |
| 6) | 18.446660.4403530 |
| 7) | 18.446710.4403400 |
| 8) | 18.446570.4403190 |
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| 10) | 18.446280.4403740 |
| 11) | 18.446620.4404190 |

