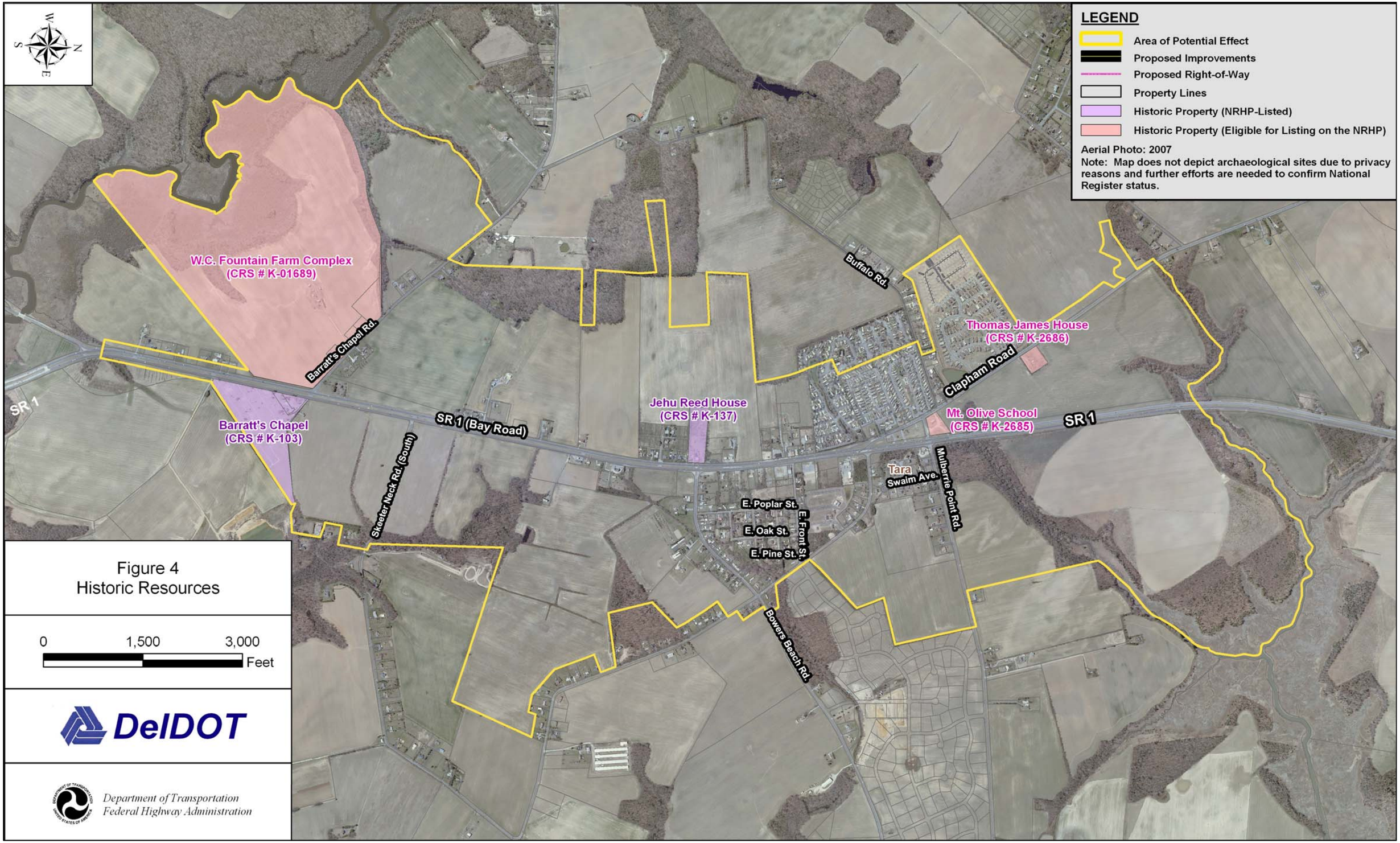
III. DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The steps to identify historic properties have indicated that the resources as illustrated in **Figure 4** are either listed in or eligible for the NRHP. The identified properties on **Figure 4** are located within the APE for the proposed undertaking. A detailed description of each property follows, along with its historical context and NRHP evaluation.


LEGEND
Area of Potential Effect
Proposed Improvements
Proposed Right-of-Way
Property Lines
Historic Property (NRHP-Listed)
Historic Property (Eligible for Listing on the NRHP)
Aerial Photo: 2007
Note: Map does not depict archaeological sites due to privacy reasons and further efforts are needed to confirm National Register status.
W.C. Fountain Farm Complex (CRS # K-01689)
Barratt's Chapel (CRS # K-103)
Jehu Reed House (CRS # K-137)
Thomas James House (CRS # K-2686)
Mt. Olive School (CRS # K-2685)
Tara
Barratt's Chapel Rd.
Buffalo Rd.
Clapham Road
SR 1
SR 1 (Bay Road)
Skeeter Neck Rd. (South)
E. Poplar St.
E. Oak St.
E. Pine St.
E. Front St.
Swaim Ave.
Mulberrie Point Rd.
Bowers Beach Rd.
Figure 4
Historic Resources
0
1,500
3,000
Feet
DelDOT
Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

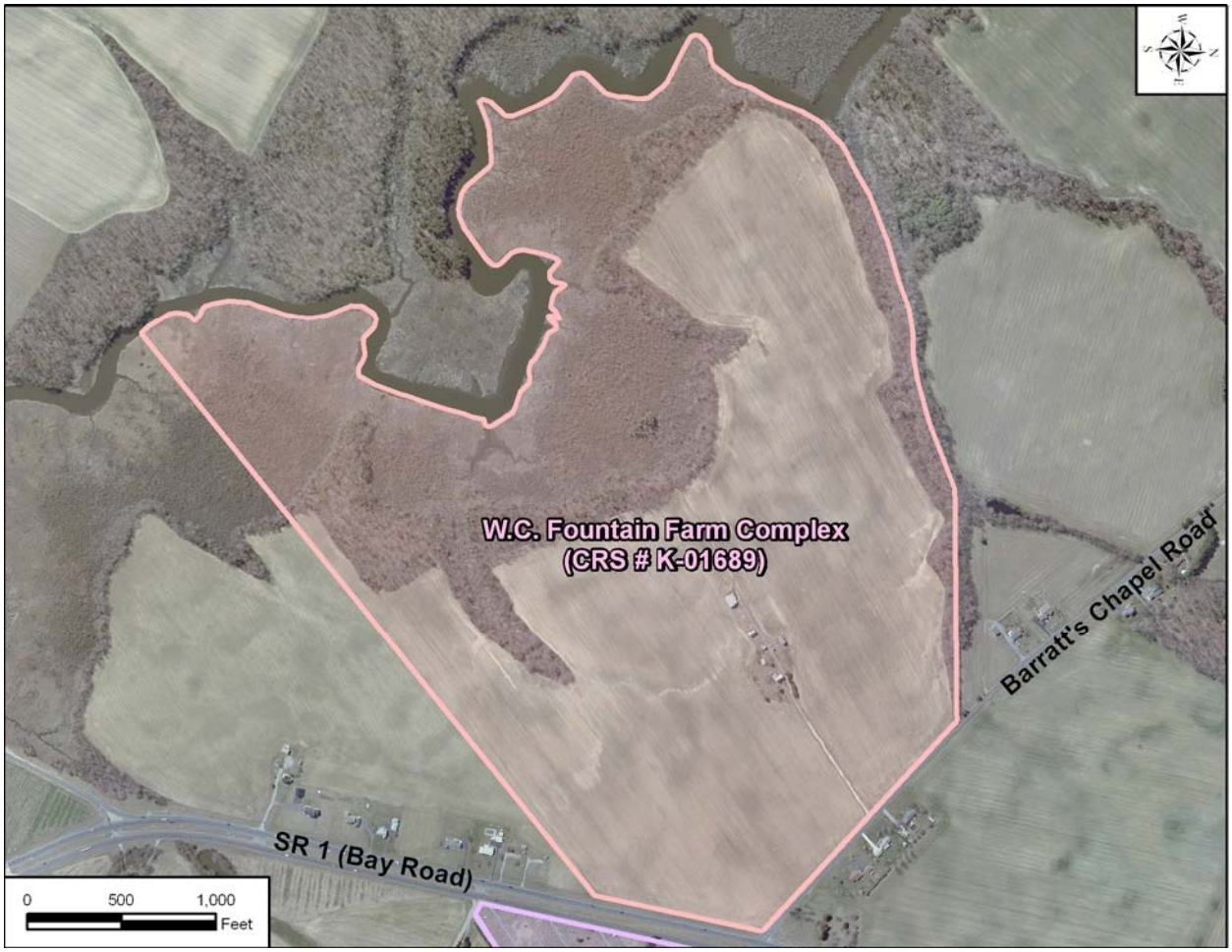
A. W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex (CRS # K-01689)

1. Description

The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex consists of 233.2 acres of property located on the southwest side of Barratt's Chapel Road and on the west side of SR 1 at 4988 Barratt's Chapel Road (See **Figure 5**). During the National Register assessment effort, the farmstead consists of a central farmhouse with a cluster of 10 agricultural outbuildings. Most of the buildings are currently vacant in anticipation of demolition for a proposed residential subdivision. Agricultural fields surround the farmstead in all directions. At various times, some of the outbuildings are being used by the tenant farmer for temporary storage of material and equipment. Spring Creek (a waterway) and a border of woodland lie further to the southwest of the property.

The farmhouse was built ca. 1810 as an I-house with an L-shaped plan. The main two-story, five-bay portion of the house was new construction. The perpendicular wing at the rear was an older house dating to ca. 1730 from the same property, which was moved to this site and joined to the main block. The frame structure reveals historic clapboard siding beneath the current vinyl and asbestos siding wall covering. It retains historic six-over-six wood sash windows and two interior end brick chimneys. A single-bay front porch was added ca. 1870 and two porches were later added to the east and west elevations of the rear ell.

Figure 5: W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex (CRS # K-01689)



Two small frame sheds (See **Photograph 1**, right side of photograph) from ca. 1930 are located to the southeast and south of the farmhouse. One shed has a standing seam metal roof and patched vertical board siding.

The majority of the remaining outbuildings were constructed ca. 1930. A multi-use frame shed, which is located immediately to the south of the privy, is in a deteriorated condition. A multi-use frame barn features a corrugated metal gable roof, three sliding barn doors, and vertical beaded board siding. A frame milk house with a concrete block foundation has two-over-two wood sash windows, horizontal board siding, and a corrugated metal front gable roof.

Behind the former milk house is a small frame shed with vertical beaded board siding and a corrugated metal gable roof. A two-and-one-half-story ram barn with board-and-batten and vertical beaded board siding is located further to the south. The largest of the surviving outbuildings is also the newest; the frame machine shed with metal roofing and siding was constructed ca. 1950. The ca. 1930 dairy barn is located to the west of the other outbuildings. Its first story is constructed of concrete block, and the second story is framed with a standing seam metal front gable roof (See **Photograph 1**, left side of photograph and **Photograph 2** right side of photograph).

Photograph 1: W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex looking northeast. Several outbuildings are shown. The farmhouse is shown in the center in the background.

Photograph 2: W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex looking south from Barratt's Chapel Road.

2. Historical Context

K-01689, the W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex, has been a farm of approximately 235 acres for more than 250 years. There is evidence it has been inhabited by Euro-Americans since at least the mid-eighteenth century. The rear portion of the current farmhouse dates to the eighteenth century, and the main block is estimated to have been built ca. 1810 (McCleave 2005).

The recorded history of the property dates to 1689, when William Dorval, a merchant in Philadelphia, sold Richard Drafgate of London several tracts of land in Kent County. Ten years later, Drafgate sold the tract to Thomas Bishop and Thomas Hudson, also of London and also for a term of 1,000 years. In 1724, Thomas Bishop and his wife and the heir of the late Thomas Hudson sold their tracts to James Logan, again for 1,000 years. Logan held the tracts, however, for only 15 years. In 1739, Logan sold his tracts to John Newtown, who the following year conveyed what was called a 100 acre tract in Williams Chance to John Price for 80 pounds (Kent County Deeds 1740). Based on later deeds, it is assumed that the acreage was only an estimate and that the grant, in fact, contained the acreage still associated with the property.

The Price family held the property and lived on it for about 30 years. The first direct evidence of habitation comes from the 1746 will of John Price, which devised "the plantation and land where I now dwell" to his grandson, Joseph Price (Kent County Probate Files 1746). A 1770 deed from John Price's heirs to Philip Barratt noted that the grandson, Joseph Price, Jr., "lived on [the property] for some time", but he died single and intestate prior to the 1770 sale of the property (Kent County Deeds 1770). The Orphans Court records were searched for proceedings disposing of Joseph Price, Jr.'s estate, but none were found.

The 1770 deed sold the land to Philip Barratt for 113 pounds, two shillings, and seven pence. The land was described as 150 acres lying on a branch of Murder Creek (Kent County Deeds

1770). The 150 acres referred to arable land. Subsequent deeds noted that the tract also includes "a quantity of cripple", a term for marshland or swampland (Kent County Deeds 1810). Following Philip Barratt's death in 1780, the land passed to his sons, Philip and Elijah. It is not known if the Barratt's lived on or rented the property. In 1810, Philip sold the 150 acre farm to Jonathan Downs for $ 1,200 (Kent County Deeds 1810).

Jonathan Downs owned the property from 1810 until his death ca. 1830. Downs lived on the farm, at least for a portion of the period. A tax assessment from 1822 lists Downs's "home farm" as 150 acres, valued at seven dollars an acre. He was also assessed for two horses, one yoke oxen, three cows, six young cattle, 10 sheep, two sows and seven shoats, as well as 26 ounces of silver (Kent County Tax Assessments 1822). No information is available on what crops were produced. Based on the assessment, Downs can be classified as a well-to-do farmer for the area and period, raising crops and livestock for market as well as home use (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992).

Following Down's death, the farm entered a period of tenancy and ownership by the Stradley family. In 1832, Downs' children – none of whom lived in Kent County – sold the farm to John Stradley (Kent County Deeds 1832). Stadley died just two years later, in 1834. He willed the farm to his daughter, Ellza Lockwood, wife of Thomas Lockwood; the will noted that "the land [was] now in the tenure of James Johnson". The accompanying inventory of the farm included 55 ½ bushels of white corn, two-and-one-half bushels of rye, and 17 bushels of wheat, providing some idea of the crops raised by Johnson (Kent County Wills 1834b).

Ellza Lockwood's husband, Thomas Lockwood, fits the description of well-to-do farmers of the period. He owned more than one farm as well as urban or village property and he held investment in various speculative endeavors. In this particular case, Lockwood was a merchant who lived in Frederica. He owned a second tenant farm, a house in town where he resided, and a second property in Frederica that had on it a tailor and shoe shop. K-01689 was described in detail in Lockwood's 1852 tax assessment, the first surviving record to provide details on property in Murderkill Hundred since 1822. The farm consisted of 150 acres in the tenure of Quentin Kamper, with the land valued at 10 dollars an acre. Additionally, there was an estimated 150 acres of "marsh and cripple land of little value" assessed at one dollar per acre. On the property were a two-story frame house, a barn, and stables, all in "tolerable repair" (the other classifications were good and bad) (Kent County Tax Assessments 1852).

Quentin Kamper was not listed in the 1850 agricultural census of Murderkill Hundred. Thomas Lockwood was listed, although the breakdown of improved and unimproved land does not match that of the tax assessment. The total acreage credited to Lockwood – 300 acres – is the same, but the breakdown of improved and unimproved land differs. In the agricultural census, Lockwood was credited with 100 acres of improved land, rather than 150, and 200 acres of unimproved land. Nevertheless, the similarities in the two listings were such that it appears that the 1850 agricultural census was describing K-01689. The farm was valued at $3,000, which was high for this part of Murderkill Hundred, but not exceptionally so. The value of implements and machinery was average for the area at $80. Livestock, valued at $390, included two horses, five milk cows, two working oxen, seven other cattle, and six swine. Crops were diversified and included 175 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of Indian corn, 80 bushels of oats, and 100 pounds of butter. The farm also grew exceptionally large amounts of tubers: 800 bushels of Irish potatoes and 200 bushels of sweet potatoes (U.S. Census 1850a).

Thomas Lockwood was the owner of record at the time of the 1860 tax assessment and agricultural census, and his name also appears on the 1859 map of Murderkill Hundred (French

and Skinner 1859). Curiously, he was credited only with owning 140 acres of land, of which 100 acres were improved and 40 acres were in timber. Perhaps the marsh and cripple land was of so little value that it was not assessed. Buildings on the property included a two-story frame dwelling, kitchen, stable, carriage house, and smokehouse, all in tolerable repair. No barn is listed in the description. The farm was still a tenant farm, then in the tenure of R.J. Camper.

As was the case in 1850, the agricultural census information did not quite match the tax assessment information. The 1860 agricultural census listed the farm owned by Lockwood and tenanted by Camper as having slightly more improved land (112 acres compared to 100 acres) and slightly more improved land (112 acres compared to 100 acres) and slightly less unimproved land (20 acres compared to 40 acres). The overall value of the farm remained the same at $3,000, but the value of implements and machinery jumped significantly, from $80 to $500. From this, it can be deduced that Lockwood and Camper were proponents of scientific agriculture, which emphasized, among other things, the use of machinery to increase efficiency. They probably followed the other major tenants of scientific agriculture, rotation of crops and use of fertilizers to increase productivity, because the amount of crops harvested also jumped significantly. The farm now produced 500 bushels of wheat as compared to 175 bushels in 1850 and an astonishing 1,300 bushels of Indian corn, up from 400 bushels in 1850. The tubers grown had dropped substantially, from 800 bushels of Irish potatoes to 15 bushels and 200 bushels of sweet potatoes to 25 bushels. Butter productions had increased to 250 pounds from 100 pounds, despite one fewer milk cows. New crops included 20 bushels of peas and beans and 20 pounds of honey. The quantity and types of livestock remained virtually unchanged: three horses, four milk cows, six other cattle, and three swine, valued at $500 (U.S. Census 1860a).

William Lockwood's ownership ended in 1865, but the farm remained in the Stradley/Lockwood family. William C. Fountain, the son-in-law of the late Thomas and Eliza Lockwood, purchased K-01689 in 1865. Fountain paid $7,000, which indicated that the farm was considered valuable. The deed classified the land as 185 acres and a large quantity of cripple. The increased amount of land credited to the farm could reflect ditching efforts that reclaimed land formerly too wet to sow, but in all likelihood it was just the result of a more systematic survey of the land. The deed includes a survey and sketch map. The sketch delineated the locations of arable lands, woodlands, and the cripple lands; farm lanes to Barratt's Chapel Road, the road to Dover (the predecessor to SR 1), and Spring Creek; the location of the house and barn, the only two buildings shown, although more were present; and the presence of a shad fishery and grain and lime wharf on Spring Creek (Kent County Deeds 1865). The wharf confirmed that crops were still being moved by streams in the mid-nineteenth century. The house and barn are shown at the location of the current farmstead, and the sketch of the house shown a two-story section and a one-story section.

Fountain lived in Philadelphia, so K-01689 remained in tenancy, although Fountain was shown as the owner of the property on the 1868 map of South Murderkill Hundred (Beers 1868). According to the 1872 tax assessment for South Murderkill Hundred, the tenant was Thomas H. Wyatt. Fountain was assessed for a 200 acre farm, with 160 acres improved and 40 acres in timber. As with Lockwood, he was not assessed for the cripple land. The land was valued at $45 per acre, for a total value of $9,000. The tax assessment gave a much fuller accounting of the buildings on the property than the sketch map. They were a two-story frame dwelling, smokehouse, carriage house, barn and stables, all in tolerable repair (Kent County Tax Assessments 1872). The roughly contemporaneous 1870 agricultural census listed one farm in South Murderkill Hundred as owned by Fountain and tenanted by Wyatt, but the property is

listed as containing only 105 acres, 80 improved and 25 unimproved, so it does not seem like the correct property (U.S. Census 1870a).

K-01689 left the ownership of the Stadley/Lockwood family in 1876, when Fountain lost the property through a sheriff's sale. The country was in the midst of a deep depression and such foreclosures were not uncommon. The property was sold to satisfy a judgment in a case brought against Fountain and his wife over a debt of $5,000 (Kent County Deeds 1876a). The purchaser re-sold the farm in the same year to Elias Russell (sometimes spelled Russel) for $6,075. It was still said to contain 185 acres and a large quantity of cripple (Kent County Deeds 1876b).

J. Thomas Scharf, writing in 1888 (Scharf 1888), noted that Elias Russell was one of the largest landowners in what had been the estate known in the early days of settlement in Murderkill Hundred as Williams' Chance. The farm probably remained in tenancy, although this cannot be ascertained with certainty. Tax assessments after 1872 did not provide detail on tenancy or the buildings on a property. The 1880 agricultural census listed Russell as owning two farms in South Murderkill Hundred, the first containing 124 acres and the second 200 acres. Comparing the deed record of various properties with the order of names in both the agricultural and population censuses, it is clear that Russell lived on the 124 acre farm (U.S. Census 1880a, 1880c). It is also relatively certain, based on farm size and amount of improved land, that K-01689 was the other farm owned by Russell, the one where he did not reside. The farm was listed as consisting of 200 acres, 160 acres improved and 40 acres in woodlands. The farm was valued at $8,000, with implements and machinery adding another 4,100. Livestock was valued at $400. The most notable change from the livestock mix enumerated in the 1850 and 1860 agricultural censuses was the presence of 85 barnyard poultry and five other poultry. It is assumed that the poultry were kept predominantly for eggs – the farm produced 100 dozen that year. Other livestock included the standard mix found on wealthier farms, including two horses, four working cows (the assumption is that this means oxen), three milk cows, and five swine. In preceding years when agricultural surveys were taken, the chief crop remained Indian corn, with an impressive 1,000 bushels grown on 55 acres of land. Fifty-five acres were also devoted to wheat, with a yield of 600 bushels. Other products included the eggs, 150 pounds of butter, and unspecified forest products sold for $25. The farm used hired hands, paying $150 for 36 weeks of work (U.S. Census 1880a).

After 1880, specific information about the crops or buildings on the farm becomes more difficult to ascertain. The surviving deed records for the remainder of the nineteenth century for South Murderkill Hundred do not provide detailed information, and after 1897, the records are grouped by legislative district rather than hundred, making it more difficult to locate a particular farm. The deed record, however, continued to provide important information. In 1895, Ella D. Sipple purchased the farm from Russell's heirs for $5,250. The deed listed the farm as containing 235 acres, which seems to have been its size since at least 1740, plus two acres purchase at an unknown date from a neighboring property owner (Kent County Deeds 1895). The Sipple's owned other property in the area in addition to K-01689, but this farm would remain in the family into the twenty-first century. In 1929, following Ella Sipple's death, her heirs conveyed their shares in the property to Ella's son John Roland Sipple and his wife Laura (Kent County Deeds 1929). Following the death of John Roland Sipple, the farm passed to his son and namesake and his wife Alice, then to their son James Stanley Sipple upon their death, and finally to James Stanley's wife Carrie Sipple. Upon Carrie Sipple's death in 2001, the farm became the property of Linda E. and Ronald A. Graleski. It is not known if Linda E. Graleski is a member of the Sipple family. In 2005, the Graleski sold the property to a development company, Chapel Farms, LLC, which is considering building a subdivision on the parcel. The farm is listed as

containing 229 acres, approximately 172 acres called upland land and 57 acres still classified as cripple (Kent County Deeds 2005 The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is NRHP-eligible under Criteria A for its significance in local agricultural history and under NRHP Criteria C because the farmland, eighteenth and nineteenth century farmhouse, and twentieth century farm buildings convey the long occupation of the property and its changing nature over time. The W. C. Fountain Farmhouse is NRHP-eligible under Criteria C for its architecture and under Criteria D because surviving dwellings from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries are comparatively rare, the house could yield information on historic building techniques not available from other sources.

3. National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex was evaluated for NRHP eligibility as an agricultural complex with links to the Intensified and Durable Occupation Period (1730 – 1770±), the Early Industrialization Period (1770 – 1830±), the Industrialization and Early Urbanization Period (1830 – 1880±), the Urbanization and Early Suburbanization Period (1880 – 1940±), and the Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization Period (1940 – 1960±). There is evidence that a frame dwelling and agricultural outbuildings have been present on the property since at least the 1740s. For this reason, the farmhouse is also evaluated for individual significance for its architecture.

An agricultural complex is composed of dwelling(s) and agricultural outbuildings, plus utilitarian and non-utilitarian spaces and features directly associated with these buildings. Also included are agricultural fields, woodlots, marshes, ditches, landscaped lawns, yards, gardens, drives, lanes, paths, and trash and other waste disposal areas and features (DeCunzo and Garcia 1992). An agricultural complex must have the ability to convey information or exhibit trends concerning national, state, or local agricultural development. Primary and secondary source historical documentation is used to substantiate the significance of an agricultural complex. The principal historic components of the complex, the dwelling(s), domestic outbuildings, agricultural outbuildings, and utilitarian and non-utilitarian landscapes must convey strong associations with the farm's period of significance. Changes to active farms are expected and will not preclude NRHP eligibility. However the major buildings, including dwelling{s} and barn(s), should retain much or all of their historic exterior fabric. In addition, to remain eligible, new construction must not dominate the old.

To be eligible under NRHP Criteria A, an agricultural complex must be significant in associate with local, statewide, or national trends in agriculture and must be able to convey those trends. The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is NRHP-eligible under Criteria A for its significance in local agricultural history. Its well-documented history traces occupation of the property back to at least the 1740s. The front portion of the farmhouse is estimated by the DE SHPO to have been constructed ca. 1810. A local informant also told the DE SHPO that the rear of the house is even older, originally constructed in the 1730s and moved from its original location near SR 1 at an unspecified date. Tax records, agricultural censuses, and published histories provide a good deal of associative information on the farm and its owners during the nineteenth century. The sources illustrate that wealthy, and at times prominent, citizens of Murderkill Hundred and later South Murderkill Hundred owned the farm, and that for much of its history it was in tenancy, an important part of agricultural history in Delaware, Kent County, and the hundred. Crop yields and value of the farm were high for the hundred. The historical records also indicated that the farm has probably retained virtually the same amount of acreage since the 1740s, and the land remains in production, maintaining a link with its agricultural past.

Less information is available on the farm and its operation in the twentieth century, due to a dearth of specific records. This is problematic, because with the exception of the farmhouse, all the remaining agricultural buildings, with one exception (the privy), were estimated by the DE SHPO to have been built in the twentieth century. Buildings specifically enumerated in mid-nineteenth century tax assessments – the barn, kitchen house, stable, carriage house, and smokehouse – do not appear to be extant. Aerial photographs also make clear that at least two buildings currently on the property were not there as late as 1954 – the dairy barn and the machine shop. Both, however, were on the property in 1962, the end date for this historic resource survey (Delaware DataMIL 2008).

Despite the absence of nineteenth century buildings, the W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is recommended as eligible for listing under NRHP Criteria A. The house retains its historic farmhouse, which includes examples of eighteenth and early nineteenth century construction. The farmstead contains building constructed prior to 1962, and those buildings retain original interior and exterior material. Their presence and the absence of nineteenth century buildings illustrate the changing nature of an agricultural complex over time, which is an important part of a farm's history. The land historically associated with the property remains. The main farm lane into the property, and circulation patterns throughout the farm, seem to approximate some of those illustrated in the nineteenth century survey drawing of the property. In short, the property retains its ability to convey associations with historic periods of occupation and significance.

To be eligible under NRHP Criteria B, a property must be associated with a person of demonstrable significance; it must be associated with that person's productive life; and it should best reflect that person's historic contributions. K-01689 was owned by a number of wealthy and prominent citizens of Murderkill Hundred. The most notable is perhaps Thomas Lockwood, a prominent merchant and landowner. He is the only owner who received more than a passing mention in published histories or biographies. However, prominence is not the same as demonstrable significance. There is nothing in the historical record to indicate that Lockwood or any of the other owners of K-01689 can be classified as such. In Lockwood's case, K-01689 was not associated with his productive life. It was simply a tenant farm he owned. The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is not NRHP-eligible under Criteria B.

To be eligible under NRHP Criteria C for architecture, the principal historic components of the agricultural complex must be present and must convey strong associations with the farm's period of significance. Buildings and structures should also retain integrity of materials, design, feeling, and workmanship. The periods the W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex conveys the strongest associations with are the Urbanization and Early Suburbanization (1880 – 1940±) and Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization (1940 – 1960±) periods. The buildings in the farmstead, with the exception of the farmhouse, date to those periods. However, the land has been associated with the property since the eighteenth century**.** The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is recommended as eligible for listing under NRHP Criteria C because the farmland, eighteenth and nineteenth century farmhouse, and twentieth century farm buildings convey the long occupation of the property and its changing nature over time.

To be eligible under NRHP Criteria D, an agricultural complex must have the ability to yield important information on agricultural history and it must be the principal source of that information. The agricultural history of Kent County and of K-01689 is well-documented through primary and secondary sources. The absence of nineteenth century outbuildings compromises the ability of the complex to convey information on agricultural complexes not available through other sources. Archaeological investigations of the property might reveal additional information on this complex, but such investigations are outside of the scope of this

project. The W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex is recommended as not eligible under NRHP Criteria D.

The W. C. Fountain Farmhouse was also individually evaluated for NRHP-listing as an example of a vernacular I-house with eighteenth and nineteenth century components. To be eligible for architecture under NRHP Criteria C, an I-house must retain its original form and massing. The best examples also contain elements of the architectural styles current at the time the house was built. The house should exhibit integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, association, materials, and workmanship. Unsympathetic additions, alterations, or renovations that obscure the original side gable I-house form compromise integrity and make the resource ineligible for listing.

The W. C. Fountain Farmhouse is NRHP-eligible under Criteria C for its architecture**.** Extant I-houses from the early nineteenth century are rare and are thus significant as an example of their type and method of construction if they have integrity. The house retains its form, massing, façade, and end chimneys. The fenestration pattern is unaltered, and most windows are six-over-six wood sash. The front porch is not original, but it has been a part of the house for more than 100 years (added *ca.* 1870). The original clapboard siding has been covered over, but the change is not significant on a house of this age where the form, massing, and fenestration remain. The rear ell is an even rarer example of eighteenth century construction and includes such features as hand-sewn rafters, post and beam construction, and winder stairs behind the hearth.

The W. C. Fountain Farmhouse is also recommended as NRHP-eligible under Criteria D**.** Because surviving dwellings from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries are comparatively rare, the house could yield information on historic building techniques not available from other sources. Deconstruction and demolition may reveal that the resource contains information important to the understanding of vernacular architecture traditions. If the building is to be demolished as part of a project, it should first be evaluated by a qualified architectural historian and selective demolition should be used to fully determine whether the property is eligible under NRHP Criteria D and has important information to yield. Should the property be recommended significant by the qualified architectural historian, it should be fully documented prior to demolition.

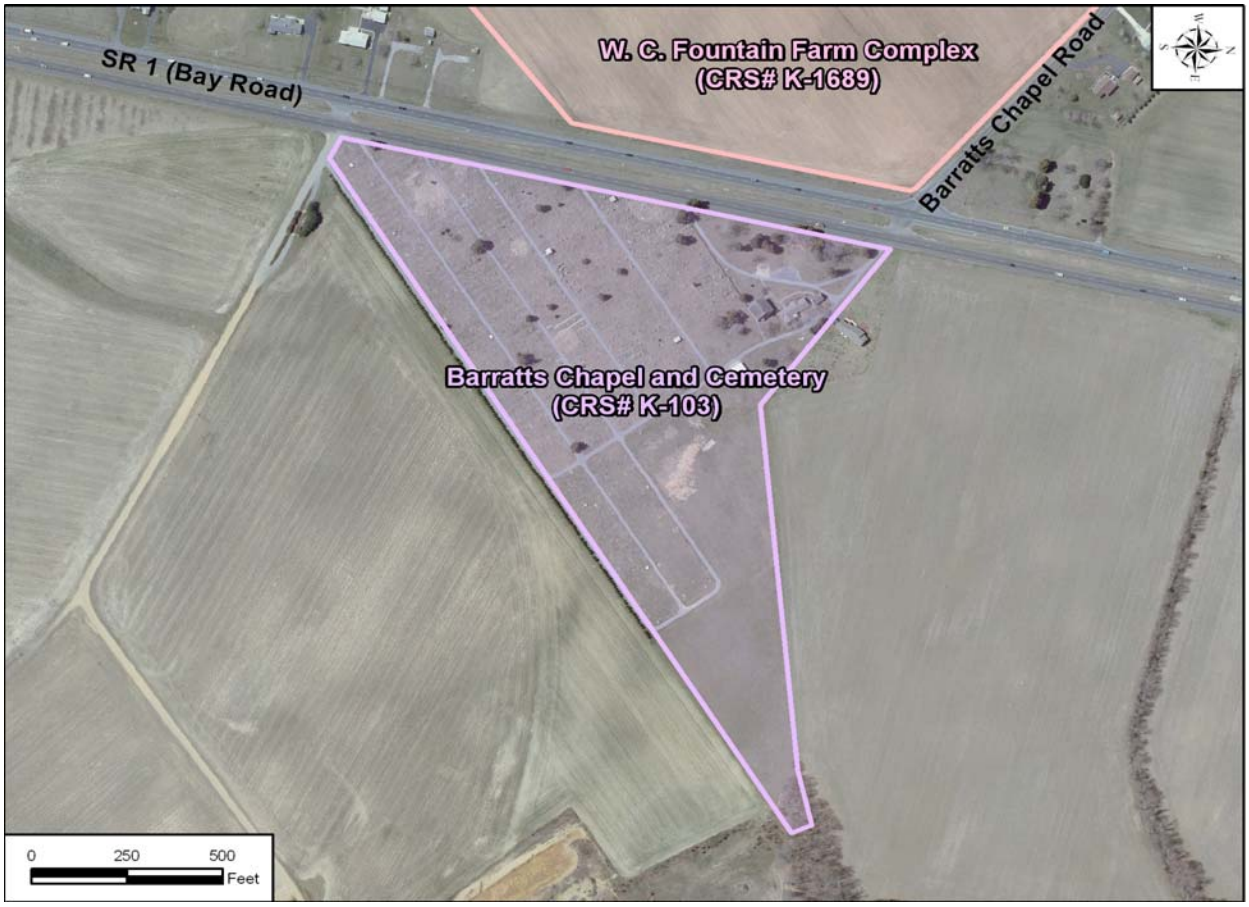
The NRHP boundary recommended for K-01689 is the current tax parcel of the property. The parcel contains most of the land historically associated with the property, as well as the farmstead and farm lanes.

B. Barratt's Chapel and Cemetery (CRS # K-103)

1. Description

Barratt's Chapel (**Photograph 3**) and Cemetery (**Photographs 4** and **5)** resides on a large, triangular piece of land comprising 24.6 acres abutting the east side of SR 1 (See **Figure 6**) and contains standing buildings and the cemetery. The complex of buildings at this site is at the northwestern corner of the property, near SR 1 now includes a small parking lot and several paved driveways. The cemetery however, occupies most of the large expanse of land at this site, and the cemetery has been expanding to the east. The cemetery features a variety of headstones, ranging from simple flat (vertical) stone slabs to obelisks and other, larger features and structures, including at least one mausoleum and an elevated tomb. There are also a variety of markers, including tall granite shafts. The cemetery grounds feature low-cut grass and several walkways.

Figure 6: Barratt's Chapel and Cemetery (CRS# K-103)

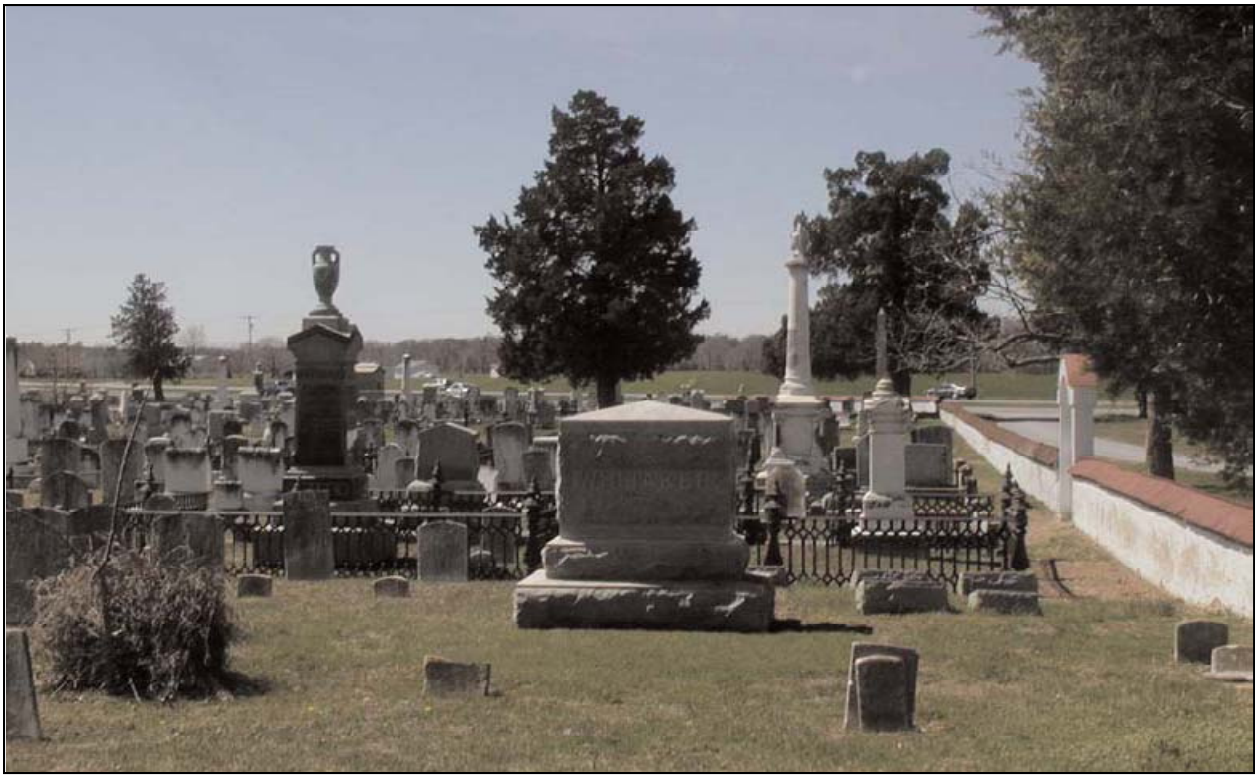


Photograph 3: Barratt's Chapel, view to northeast, showing west and south elevations (April 2004)**.**

Photograph 4: Overview of cemetery grounds, view to northwest (April 2004).

Trees are sparse, and a brick wall encloses part of the cemetery (**Photograph 5**). Although the brick wall is not actually a part of the chapel, it abuts the building at two ends and has been rebuilt and extended in more recent modern times.

Photograph 5: View of cemetery with cemetery wall and gate to right of photo. View to west (April 2004)



Since the original NRHP nomination was completed in 1961, four other buildings have been erected in addition to the chapel. These modern buildings include a brick museum building (ca. 1964-1965), a brick vestry (1991), and two modern utility sheds (ca. 1990s). There is also a frame, Colonial Revival-style residence that dates from about 1941 and has been recently occupied by the Barratt's Chapel caretaker, Mr. Ray Phillips. This residence was not included in the NRHP form or on the CRS form, so a new CRS form was completed for it. Appropriate CRS forms were completed for the other standing buildings at Barratt's Chapel which included the Caretaker's House, the Museum, the Vestry, the cemetery, and two modern sheds. A house for the caretaker was constructed in 2004 on the property north of Barratt's Chapel. According to the caretaker, Ray Phillips, the extant frame Colonial Revival was dismantled in order to enlarge the parking lot.

2. Historical Context

Barratt's Chapel was built in 1780 on land donated by Philip Barratt, who was a prominent political figure in Kent County, Delaware. Barratt, who had recently become a Methodist, wanted to build a center for the growing Methodist movement in Delaware. Barratt's Chapel is the oldest surviving church building in the United States built by and for Methodists and is known as the "Cradle of Methodism".

Methodism began in England as a movement within the Church of England led by John and Charles Wesley. As members of the Methodist societies immigrated to the American colonies, Methodism began to increase its following in the Colonies. Between 1768 and 1774, John Wesley sent Francis Asbury and seven other Methodist lay preachers from England to minister to the growing colonies. When the Revolutionary War broke out, only Asbury and James Dempster chose to remain in America. Dempster withdrew to upstate New York, where he remained for the rest of his life, thus Asbury became the effective leader of American Methodists.

Barratt's Chapel was listed in the NRHP on October 10, 1972, and it was given a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) designation of HABS No. DEL-16. The date of the HABS recordation is not given on the Library of Congress website (http://memory.loc.gov/, accessed 24 March 2004). Barratt's Chapel is also referred to in the HABS description as Barratt Hall and Old Barratt's Chapel.

Barratt's Chapel is owned by the Commission on Archives and History of the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference on the United Methodist Church. According to the Barratt's Chapel pastor, Philip Lawton, the cemetery, which is owned by a different corporation than the chapel's owner, continues to be used to the present day. He stated that the interments are being placed in the lands toward the east of the Chapel, so the cemetery is expanding to the east. In a telephone interview on April 13, 2004, Mr. Lawton stated that the oldest dated stone is from 1783, but he indicated that there could possibly be older headstones that are undated

According to the Barratt's Chapel website, the Chapel is an "officially designated Heritage Landmark of the United Methodist Church". Today, in addition to religious services, the Chapel is used for weddings, baptisms, funerals, and other special services.

3. National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Barratt's Chapel has already been listed in the NRHP. In the registration form, the Period of Significance (POS) was checked as "Eighteenth Century", and the area(s) of significance were shown as "Architecture" and "Religion/Philosophy". The information on the area(s) of significance is still accurate today. The apex of the chapel's significance was, in fact, during the late eighteenth century. However, since the significance of the chapel has continued after the

eighteenth century, if the registration form were to be updated, the POS could probably be expanded to include later time period(s). The chapel, which has been restored, retains very good architectural integrity and it should continue to be considered an NRHP-eligible resource. The chapel is in good physical condition and retains its essential character defining elements, such as the three-bay fenestration, broad gable roof, square-form building' print, Flemish bond brickwork, and molded box cornices. Although the Barrett's Chapel NRHP nomination form does not specifically include a boundary description, it would appear appropriate that the NRHP boundary coincides with the current tax parcel.

C. Jehu Reed House (CRS # K-137)

1. Description

The Jehu Reed House (CRS # K-137), located off of southbound SR 1 west of the intersection with Bowers Beach Road (See **Figure 7**), is a three-story, Italianate brick residence/mansion that was first constructed around 1771 and later enlarged in 1868. The main block and a two-story addition form an "L" shape, and there is a one-story shed addition. Originally, the house was a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay Georgian dwelling. The property has suffered physical deterioration over the last several years due to neglect and lack of any upkeep. The Jehu Reed House is seriously deteriorated on both the exterior and interior by weathering and water damage. All of the outbuildings associated with the property, except for the garage and smaller concrete block outbuilding as a ruin, have either deteriorated or were recently removed. The front porch and main roof have slumped and have partially collapsed. Wood rot is evident throughout and some mortar damage between bricks has occurred. Much of the house is overgrown by vegetation. Currently the house is occupied in one smaller section toward the rear. The remainder of the house (facing SR 1) is abandoned and is not habitable by today's health and safety standards.

Figure 7: Jehu Reed House (CRS # K-137)

Photograph 6: K-137 Jehu Reed House, view looking southwest (January 2008)

Photograph 7: K-137 Jehu Reed House, view looking northeast (January 2008)

2. Historical Context

Little Heaven is historically associated with Jehu Reed and his son Jehu M. Reed. Despite what the literature says (as it chronologically listed, but incorrectly credited) the Newell and Simple families are largely responsible in erecting the earliest extant dwellings and farming practices in the area, including the permanent establishment of the Period I dwelling in 1771 (see W.C. Fountain Agricultural Complex K-01689). Jehu Reed's earlier residence (if he had one), family, or affiliation with Simple family or project area is not documented/researched, but in 1827 he married Margaret Simple, thereby establishing the first association of "Reed" to the property and farming community. Margaret Simple owned (with her aunts) and resided on property and Jehu Reed, upon marriage, then moved into the Period I dwelling. It is unknown (undocumented) about Jehu Reed's scientific farming practices and training prior to his marriage However, by 1829 he can be credited as an early pioneer in the propagation and growing and shipping (by boat) of peaches, other fruits, corn, and other agricultural crops. Together Jehu Reed and Margaret had three sons – James, Elias and Jehu Margaret. Jehu Margaret Reed in 1858 is then credited as being be beneficiary and recipient of the property when he purchased (or potentially gifted) the dwelling and parcel (105 acres) the same year he married Emily Buckmaster. At this time, (circa 1858 and following) he expanded the property to include an additional 250 acres. In 1866 he eventually paid his father $10,000 for the property and additional land with produce from the farm.

Like his father, Jehu M. Reed was a forerunner of progressive agricultural practices and continued to hone his father's peach cultivating techniques. He grew numerous types of crops in addition to peaches, including the cultivation of strawberries, pears, apples, wheat, and corn. He also had in interest in growing mulberry trees for their potential to support silkworms, though this was not produced for commercial purposes.

This outward manifestation of Jehu M. Reed's success can be seen in the extensive additions and renovations the dwelling underwent in 1868. Given the placement of the dwelling along the main north/south route to Dover and surrounding area, the additions afforded him an opportunity to display his newfound wealth. In 1868, additions to the brick dwelling (i.e. what exists today, which exception to an enclosed rear porch) more than doubled the size of the period I building. A third story was added to the main block, while a three-story, two-by-two bay addition was added on the south elevation of the main block. A two-story, two-bay addition was attached to the northwest corner of the main block. His remodeled and expanded dwelling was later featured in the Federal Works Progress Administration's *American Guide Series for Delaware* as an memorable roadside dwelling and farm during the later part of the of the 19th century.

According to the Guide, which was written and published by 1938 as a historical tour guide, the literature provided the origins of Little Heaven. It "was applied to a group of cabins built about 1870 by Jehu Reed and his son, Jehu M. Reed, for Irish laboring families brought here to work in the orchards" (WPA 1948: 372). Apparently, to serve the Irish residents of the community, a Roman Catholic Church had been planned for the area, but it was never built. Local author Hazel Right Reynolds remarks in her book that Catholicism never flourished in the area, and that it was the dominant Protestant establishment that began to refer to the settlement as "Little Heaven." As there was no nearby church, Catholics who stayed on would need to travel to the Holy Cross parish in Dover.

At approximately the same time, an African-American settlement known as "Little Hell" was started near the lands of Jehu Reed and was owned by another fruit grower named Jonathan Willis. It is assumed that this settlement was located to the northeast of Jehu Reed but was not associated with Thomas James, another prominent fruit grower who lived along present-day Clapham Road to the north of Jehu Reed. For a detailed historic context on Little Heaven and the surrounding area, see A.D. Marble & Company's *Architectural Survey and Report, SR 1: Little Heaven Interchange Project* (2005).

Although the Reed family holdings still remained in the area up and into to the mid and late 20th century, the principal dwelling with its surrounding land was sold off by 1912 and no longer remained with the Reed family.

3. National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Jehu Reed House is listed on the NRHP under Criteria A and C. This property was documented by the Center for Historic Architecture and Design of the University of Delaware (2000). Documentation was taken to Level II, which included annotated field notes, measured drawings, color slides, large-format (4.0 inches by 5.0 inches) black-and white photographs, and an architectural data narrative. The narrative portion of the documentation and photocopies of the photographs may be found in Architectural Evaluations at DelDOT and SHPO.

Though not challenged, for purposes of the undertaking the Jehu Reed House appears to retain its character-defining elements and is an example of a peach baron's residence that was "rebuilt" and enlarged in the mid-nineteenth century. It is uncertain whether the current neglect and lack of maintenance of the property and dwelling has caused irreversible damage and loss of integrity to be removed from the National Register. This decision ultimately rests with the DE SHPO and was not challenged or questioned by DelDOT or FHWA for purposes of the undertaking. However, given its state of condition, the applicable examples of adverse effects were still considered for Section 106 coordination.

The existing or remaining historical tax parcel will serve as the NRHP boundary for the Jehu Reed House. The parcel is a rectangular shape and extends generally westward from SR 1 off a contemporary concrete block retaining wall. The tax parcel includes the main house and several outbuildings (now ruins) with open land immediately surrounding the buildings to the rear (west) of the buildings. This boundary sufficiently encompasses the existing portion of the historic acreage of the Jehu Reed House and the property on which the extant buildings (and ruins) stand to convey their historic location with an adequate setting buffer from contemporary development.

D. Thomas James House (CRS # K-2686)

1. Description

The Thomas James House (CRS # K-2686) is located on a 2.06 acre parcel on the east side of Clapham Road, approximately 0.75 miles northwest of Little Heaven at 628 Clapham Road (see **Figure 8**). The property consists of a nineteenth-century farmhouse and an early twentieth-century, frame, tool/wood shed. The farmhouse is a *circa*-1855, two-and-one-half-story, side gable front block with a *circa*-1845, one-and-one-half-story, side gable, rear ell extending from the southeast corner. The frame dwelling sits upon a full brick foundation. Aluminum siding covers the exterior walls of the dwelling, which features aluminum corner boards. The gable ends of the front block are clad in vertical aluminum siding. The steeply pitched, side gable roof that caps the front block is sheathed in asphalt shingles and features gable end returns. Two

interior, brick end chimneys protrude from the roof ridge. The rear ell is capped by a steeply pitched, asphalt shingle-clad, side gable roof. An interior brick end chimney protrudes from the eastern end of the roof ridge.

The dwelling faces west towards Clapham Road. A simple wood entry porch, centrally located on the facade, features brick steps, landing, and simple wood posts. The entry porch replaced a previous wood entry porch with filigreed brackets documented on the previous 1980 survey form. A carpenter-gothic wood bench is located on the north and south sides of the porch and spans between the porch posts and facade of the dwelling. Between 1980 and 2007, a pediment entry porch was added to the secondary entry centrally located on the south elevation of the rear ell. The porch consists of brick steps, landing, and aluminum railing, posts, and balustrade.

The dwelling features six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wood windows in the west and east elevations of the front block. The north and south elevations contain two evenly spaced, four-over-four light, double-hung sash, and wood windows in the gables. The south and north elevations of the rear ell contain six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wood windows in the first story. The first story of the rear ell's north elevation features aluminum replacement windows hung in pairs. The upper story of each elevation features narrow, rectangular, double-hung sash windows, some of which have been replaced. Two evenly spaced, four-over-four light, double-hung sash wood windows light the east gable of the rear ell.

A one-story frame *circa*-1930 tool/wood shed, erected in three parts, is located immediately to the east of the dwelling. The building was converted for use as a dog kennel ca. 1965, and a wire-mesh fence extends outward from the east elevation of the building. The building sits atop a concrete slab, and vertical-board siding, painted white, covers the exterior walls. A steeply pitched, side gable roof, sheathed in asphalt shingles and featuring three separate planes along the ridge, caps the building.

A semi-circular gravel farm lane leads east from Clapham Road to the south side of the dwelling and tool/wood shed. A line of mature deciduous and evergreen trees delineate the north, south, and east borders of the property. Cultivated fields surround the property line outside the tree line to the south and west, and a post-2000 mobile home park is located directly across Clapham Road, immediately to the east of the property.

Figure 8: Thomas James House (CRS # K-2686)

Photograph 8: K-2686, Thomas James House: West elevation, view facing northeast. Note the original windows and replacement porch (September 2007).

Photograph 9: K-2686, Thomas James House: North and west elevations, view facing southeast. Note the gable-end returns and corner boards associated with the Greek Revival style (September 2007).

Photograph 10: K-2686, Thomas James House: South elevation, view facing north. Note the retention of massing (September 2007)

Photograph 11: K-2686, Thomas James House: South elevation of rear ell, view facing north. Note the replacement windows in upper half story and replacement porch (September 2007).

Photograph 12: K-2686. Thomas James House: North and east elevations, view facing southeast (September 2007)

Photograph 13: K-2686, Thomas James House: Former tool / wood shed, south elevation, view facing north (September 2007)

2. Historical Context

The property delineated as 628 Clapham Road in South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, originally was part of lands formally inherited by Mary Skidmore Mifflin on July 24, 1813 (Kent County Recorder of Deeds 1813). Upon Mary Skidmore Mifflin's death, her heirs conveyed a 688 acre portion of the estate in Murderkill Hundred to Thomas Clyde, a resident of New Castle County, Delaware, and Thomas James, a resident of Gloucester County, New Jersey. This deed, dated December 6, 1841, was conveyed in consideration of $4,800. Caleb and Peter Gray were noted as tenants (Kent County Recorder of Deeds 1841). Nine months later, on September 5, 1842, Thomas Clyde conveyed his interest in the property solely unto Thomas James (Kent County Recorder of Deeds 1842). At the time of the conveyance, Thomas James was still residing in Gloucester County, New Jersey. Census tabulations taken in 1840 indicate that Thomas James was unmarried and the only member of his household (United States Bureau of the Census [Census] 1840). Between 1842 and 1850, Thomas James married a woman named Hannah and moved to Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, Delaware (U.S. Census 1850a). An examination of neighboring farms in the vicinity of Thomas James in 1850 indicates that James' farm was one of the larger farms in the area and that he was one of the largest producers of Indian corn (2,000 bushels in the vicinity) (U.S. Census 1850b). Tax assessment data of Murderkill Hundred collected in 1852 indicates that Thomas James owned 600 acres of land, including 300 acres of improved land and 300 acres of old fields and timber. The property included a one-and-one-half story "plain" dwelling, carriage house, barn, and stable, all of which were in good repair. The property was valued at $8,400. Presumably, the one-and-one-half-story dwelling was erected ca. 1845 after Thomas James and his wife Hannah moved to Murderkill Hundred, as this represents a form typical to those dwellings erected in the early nineteenth century in Delaware. The property also included two smaller tenant houses, one of which was inhabited by Purnell Harman. The second tenant house was vacant. Thomas James' livestock included five horses, two colts, one pair of mules, one pair of oxen, eight cows, four young cattle, two calves, 21 sheep, and nine shoats (a young weaned pig) (Kent County Tax Assessor 1852).

Thomas James added the two-and-one-half-story, Greek Revival-style front block between 1852 and 1860. The tax assessment data collected in Murderkill Hundred in 1860 describes the dwelling as a "two-story frame dwelling with kitchen attached." The "attached kitchen" likely refers to the *circa*-1845 one-and-one-half-story "plain" dwelling noted in the 1852 tax assessment. The property also included corn cribs, stables, carriage house, and smoke house, all of which were in good repair and situated on 240 acres of improved land. The farm encompassed 140 acres of old fields and timberlands. A tenant house was in the tenure of Piersol Harman (possibly the Purnell Harman identified in the 1852 tax assessment data). A second farm of 180 acres, also owned by Thomas James, was in the tenure of James Stewart (Kent County Tax Assessor 1860). Census data collected in 1860 indicated that Thomas James' household included his 33-year-old wife Hannah; 11-year-old Annie Vanert; 15-year-old Rachel Gray (black); 16-year-old black laborer William Andrews; and 20-year-old black laborer Richard Townsend (U.S. Census 1860a). It is assumed that James also employed day-laborers to tend his fields. While slavery did exist in all three Delaware counties, census takers counted only 203 slaves in Kent County in 1860. One of the key reasons for the relative absence of slavery was economic: rather poor and poorly drained soil combined with a comparatively short growing season prevented the development of the kind of single-crop, labor-intensive economic system that made slavery economically viable elsewhere. Therefore, in Kent County, farmers and other employers found it more cost-effective to hire workers on a seasonal basis.

Agricultural data collected for the farm indicated Thomas James' farm was one of the largest and most prosperous in Murderkill Hundred (U.S. Census 1860). Farm products included wheat, Indian corn, oats, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, buckwheat, butter, and hay. Maps of Kent County published in 1859 and 1868, as well as tax assessment data collected in 1868, confirm Thomas James' ownership of the property known today as 628 Clapham Road. In 1868, Murderkill was split into two halves, north and south. Thomas James' farm was located in the newly formed South Murderkill Hundred.

Population census data was not located for Thomas James in 1870, but his farm is enumerated in the agricultural schedules for that year (U.S. Census 1870a and 1870b). In 1870, the 328 farms tabulated in South Murderkill Hundred had an average size of 85.9 improved acres and a property value of $6,289.79. Thomas James' farm of 250 improved acres had a value of $20,000. Farm products included 700 bushels of winter wheat (hundred average: 227 bushels); 1,200 bushels of Indian corn (hundred average: 351 bushels); 150 bushels of oats (hundred average: 79.9 bushels); and 200 pounds of butter (hundred average: 109 pounds). Thomas James' farm also produced 150 bushels of Irish potatoes and 150 bushels of sweet potatoes. The value of orchard products was $3,000, which was well above any comparable farm of 200 acres located within the hundred (U.S. Census 1870b). Two years later, Thomas James was still identified as the occupant of his now 300 acre farm. Two tenant houses owned by Thomas James were inhabited by T. Albin and C. Davis. However, by 1880, Thomas James retired from farming and moved his household to Smyrna, Delaware, although he still retained ownership of the farm near Little Heaven (U.S. Census 1880). It is unclear who occupied the farm following Thomas James' departure, and tax assessment data for South Murderkill Hundred in the early 1880s is incomplete.

Thomas James retained ownership of his South Murderkill farm until his death. On September 17, 1897, the executors of Thomas James' estate conveyed "all that certain farm or tract of land and premises in South Murderkill Hundred lying on the east side of the public road leading from Magnolia to Frederica containing 375 acres" to Mary Barnett. The property was conveyed in consideration of $10,450. According to the deed recitation, Mary Barnett already owned land adjacent to the north of her newly acquired property. Census data tabulated in 1900 confirms Mary Barnett and her husband Jacob were farming in South Murderkill Hundred by the early twentieth century (U.S. Census 1900). Mary Barnett died on March 3, 1903. At her death, the 375 acre farm passed to her only surviving son, John B. Lindale. The census data compiled three years earlier indicated that "capitalist" John B. Lindale and his wife, Eliza Ann, were living on Main Street in the nearby village of Magnolia. It appears that John B. and Eliza Ann Lindale never moved to their nearby farm as census data collected in 1910, 1920, and 1930 indicates that the couple resided at their Main Street residence in Magnolia (U.S. Census 1910, 1920, 1930). It is unclear who resided on and operated the farm during John B. Lindale's ownership. However, in 1920, John B. Lindale's occupation is noted as a farmer on a fruit farm. His occupation is not identified in 1910 or 1930. John B. Lindale died on April 24, 1937, and the property was vested to his wife, Eliza Ann. According to an aerial photograph of the property taken in 1937, the farm included the extant dwelling and several agricultural outbuildings, including a barn. The 1937 aerial also reveals a circulation network of farm lanes that intersect throughout the property and bisect through a small, former orchard located to the northeast of the dwelling

Eliza Ann Lindale died on August 30, 1961. Following her death, her executors conveyed the two-and-one-half-story dwelling, four corn cribs, two sheds, a shop, machine shed, cow stable, horse stable, granary, and approximately 240 acres of land to Island Farm, Inc. On July 1, 1962, Island Farm, Inc., conveyed four parcels of land, including the approximately 240 acre Thomas

James property, to King Cole Farm, Inc. Over the next year, King Cole Farm, Inc. subdivided the acreage into separate lots. The field patterns and historic agricultural use of the Thomas James property, including the removal of the barn and several additional outbuildings, may have been replaced at this time. The land adjacent to the west side of Clapham Road was subdivided into a mobile home park. King Cole Farm, Inc. subdivided the Thomas James House and tool shed into a 2.10 acre tract of land and on November 26, 1963, sold the small parcel, including the dwelling and tool shed, to Arthur E. Pulleyn for $4,500. Prior to 1980, Mr. Pulleyn enclosed the first-floor addition on the north elevation of the rear ell, encased the dwelling in aluminum siding, and replaced some of the windows on the rear ell. Between 1980 and 2007, the entry porch on the facade was replaced, and a porch was added to the south elevation of the rear ell. As of 2008, Arthur E. Pulleyn retains ownership of the property, which consists of 2.0 acres.

3. *National Register of Historic Places Evaluation*

The Thomas James House located at 628 Clapham Road was previously documented in October 1980. This documentation identified the dwelling and dog kennel (former tool/wood shed) as extant buildings. No formal National Register evaluation was made at the time.

The Thomas James House embodies elements of a mid-nineteenth-century dwelling with Greek Revival detailing, including symmetrical facade, paneled door with transom, corner boards, and gable-end returns. It retains integrity from its initial period of construction (ca. 1845) and a *circa*-1855 two-and-one-half-story addition. The tax parcel property is recommended eligible under NRHP Criteria C for its architecture**.**

The Thomas James House retains the majority of the aspects of integrity enabling it to convey its architectural significance. Integrity of design is most critical when evaluating individual resources as representative examples of a type under Criteria C. The Thomas James House retains Greek Revival-style detailing and design features, including symmetrical facade, paneled door with transom, corner boards, and gable-end returns. The reconstruction of the front porch and small scale additions to the rear ell do not compromise the integrity of design of the dwelling as it retains its L-shaped print, fenestration pattern, massing, chimneys, and roofline.

The material integrity of the dwelling has been somewhat compromised by the cladding of the roof in asphalt shingles, the encasement of the exterior in aluminum siding, and the replacement of some doors and windows. However, the Thomas James House retains most of those physical elements of construction including brick foundation, brick chimneys, majority of original windows with wooden sills, paneled entrance door, and transom. Integrity of workmanship is evident in the brick foundation, chimneys, entry benches, and wood sills. Based on an examination of historic aerials and mapping, the dwelling appears to retain integrity of location, as it is located adjacent to the roadway and gravel farm lane. The integrity of setting has been somewhat compromised by the loss of the relationship between this and the buildings that once comprised the Agricultural Complex, although it still retains a setting among active agricultural lands adjacent to a gravel lane. The association of the former dwelling with a farmstead complex has been lost by the removal of the agrarian structures; however, the dwelling continues to serve a residential use. The retention of integrity of materials, workmanship, design, and location result in the retention of integrity of feeling.

The Thomas James House is not eligible under Criteria A or C in the area of agriculture due to loss of integrity. In order to be seen as a significant example of an Agricultural Complex, a resource must possess features that date to and retain integrity from the period of agricultural significance. The tax parcel that currently comprises the Thomas James House consists of a small 2.06 acre lot that includes the dwelling and former tool/wood shed, accessed by a gravel

farm lane, and interspersed with and surrounded by large mature evergreen and deciduous trees. With the exception of the single, semicircular, gravel lane, none of the former circulation paths, former pasture areas, and field patterns shown on the 1937 aerial remains.

The integrity of design, feeling, and association of the property as an Agricultural Complex has been altered by the removal of the barn formerly located to the northwest of the dwelling. No agricultural outbuildings remain to convey the types of farming conducted on the property; their loss detracts from the overall integrity of feeling, association, and design of the property as an Agricultural Complex. The Thomas James property only retains a farmhouse and former tool/wood shed.

The former farmstead no longer retains an identifiable plan or arrangement of buildings and structures; the integrity of design and setting of the Agricultural Complex has been compromised by the loss of former outbuildings and circulation paths evident in the 1937 aerials. The property is not eligible under Criteria A because it does not retain sufficient feeling of a farm. The Thomas James property does retain a farmhouse and tool/wood shed but does not retain the feeling of a Agricultural Complex due to the loss of historic outbuildings and landscape features (field patterns, orchards, and gardens) and the introduction of modern development adjacent to the property.

Under NRHP Criteria B, the Thomas James House is not eligible due to a lack of association with a significant individual. Thomas James, who appears to have erected the dwelling in the mid-nineteenth century, is known to have held a large amount of land in the area. However, based on an examination of primary and secondary sources it does not appear that Thomas James carried out any activities that were demonstrably important to the local area.

The Thomas James House is not eligible under Criteria D (potential to yield information important to prehistory or history**).** Eligibility of above-ground resources under Criteria D is rare; to be eligible under Criteria D, a building must possess the potential to yield information on practices or methods of construction. The main block of the Thomas James House is built of frame, a common construction technique in the area and does not appear to have the potential to be an important source of information.

E. Mt. Olive Colored School / Mt. Olive School (CRS # K-2685)

1. Description

The Mt. Olive School is located on the west side of SR 1 in Kent County, Delaware. The property fronts Clapham Road to the west, existing SR 1 to the east and Mulberrie Point Road to the south **(See Figure 9)**. The school sits back off of the highway and the front of the school faces west toward Clapham Road at the end of a gravel drive and is surrounded by some yard space. The former school house is unoccupied. Remnants of a one-story frame produce stand (ca. 1980) are located northeast of the former school.

The one-and one-half-story, frame, side gable school (ca. 1923) faces west and is generally three times longer than it is wide. Overall, the frame walls of the building are clad in vinyl siding and the façade and rear elevation, although the original wooden-shingle siding remains visible at a portion of the rear elevation and at the side elevations. The building foundation is parged and painted white in color. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

The façade (west elevation) features a central pair of entrance doors which are accessed via steps. A fanlight is located above the central opening. The door opening is sheltered by a one-story portico with a curved underside roof and decorative crown which is supported by paired

squared wooden columns. The southern portion of the west elevation retains four original windows, six-over-six double-hung sash, in their original fenestration pattern. To the north of the entrance door, only two window openings remain and the original windows have been replaced with one-over-one double-hung sash.

Figure 9: Mt. Olive School/Mt. Olive Colored School CRS # K-2685)

The fenestration at the rear elevation of the school includes six window openings with double-hung sash windows. The two southern window openings feature large nine-over-nine windows which are nearly double the size of the remaining four openings.

At the gable ends of the building there are cornice returns and brick end chimneys. The southwest and northwest corners of the building are unique in that they feature two cornice returns, which seem to indicate the building was widened; however, the school presented this appearance in a photograph taken soon after its initial construction.

The single addition to the school is a small one-story shed-roofed frame addition to the southwest corner of the building. This addition does not appear in a photograph of the building dating to 1941. The addition was possibly added to the house, also, a stove, as indicated by a metal pipe running from the east elevation of the shed is an addition to the chimney attached to the south elevation of the school.

Also located on the property is a non-contributing, one-story frame produce stand that appears to date to the third quarter of the twentieth century. The produce stand is clad in corrugated metal sheathing at the lower level and plywood at the upper level. The shallow gable roof which

shelters the structure is also clad in corrugated metal sheathing. A shed roof addition is attached to the rear elevation. It is an accessory building that is not operating.

Photograph 14*:* K-2685; Mount Olive School, view looking northwest *(January 2009)*

Photograph 15: K-2685; Mount Olive School, view looking southeast *(January 2009)*

Photograph 16: K-2685; Mount Olive School, view looking northeast (November 2003)

2. Historical Context

The noted school architect James Oscar Betelle designed the Mt. Olive Colored School. Mt. Olive represents a result of the post-World War I movement organized and financed by Pierre Samuel du Pont to reorganize Delaware's segregated educational system and to rebuild Delaware's schools. During the 1920s, schools for Caucasian children were consolidated to serve larger geographical areas with more grades under one roof, while those for African-American students remained small (usually one- or two-room) and limited to elementary grades. Mt. Olive was built as a "two-room" or "two-teacher" school.

Mt. Olive School represents the only known tangible element from a rural African-American rural or "settlement" community in Little Heaven. African-American settlements, as defined in *African-American Settlement Patterns on the Upper Peninsula Zone of Delaware 1730-1940+:Historic Context* (Skelcher 1995), typically include, at a minimum, institutions such as a church and a school building, as well as residential buildings. An African-American church – the Mt. Olive A.M.E. — is located nearby to the east, but the building has been highly altered and there are no recognizable African-American residential buildings in the vicinity. Furthermore, the church and school are now physically isolated from one another. As a community institution, the Mt. Olive School is the last surviving property associated with the Little Heaven African-American Settlement with sufficient integrity to qualify for listing.

The period of significance for the resource extends from its initial construction in ca. 1923 to the 1954. This period of significance encompasses the time in which the resources operated as a two-room colored school house and extends to 50 years from the present.

3. National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Mt. Olive Colored School is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A in the areas of education and African-American heritage for its importance as a locus of rural African-American education in Delaware and Criteria C in the area of architecture, as an example of the 1920s Colonial Revival schools designed specifically for Delaware by nationally-renowned school architect James Oscar Betelle.

The one-and-one-half-story, frame side gable school faces west and is generally three times longer than it is wide. Overall, the frame walls of the building are clad in vinyl siding at the façade and rear elevation, although the original wooden siding remains visible at a portion of the rear elevation and at the side elevations. The façade (west elevation) features a central pair of entrance doors that are accessed via steps. A fanlight is located above the central opening. A one-story portico with a curved underside roof shelters the door opening, and the portico features a decorative crown supported by paired squared wooden square columns.

Under Criteria A, in the areas of education and African-American heritage, Mt. Olive represents the post-World War I movement organized and financed by Pierre Samuel du Pont to reorganize Delaware's segregated education system and to rebuild Delaware's schools. During the 1920s, schools for Caucasian children were consolidated to serve larger geographical areas with more grades under one roof while those for African-American and Native American students remained small (usually one or two room), local, and limited to the elementary grades. While no serious consideration was given to integration, this segregated scheme was intended to improve access to educational opportunities for students of color by minimizing the economic impact of their school attendance. Particularly in Kent County, African-American children worked in farm fields, orchards, and canneries. Significant disruption of that workforce would have caused financial hardship for the children's families and met with the disapprobation of Caucasian employers, who saw little need for the education of African-Americans in any case.

Under Criteria C in the area of architecture, Mt. Olive School represents one of the types of schools designed for Delaware by noted school architect James Oscar Betelle of Guilbert and Betelle, Newark, New Jersey and Columbia University Teachers College. While significant elements of its design—e.g., banked nine-over-nine awning windows, wood-shingle siding, a deep cornice with gable returns, a pedimented portico, and other Colonial Revival details—were common to Betelle schools for Caucasian students as well as those of color, the particular combination of plan, elevation, and detail at Mt. Olive is found only in school for African-American and Native American students. There have been some changes to the building including replacement windows and siding on portions of the façade and the east side (rear elevation); however, these changes do not sufficiently detract from the integrity of design and materials to affect the significance of the resource

While there is archival evidence of more than two dozen schools like Mt. Olive across Delaware's three counties, it is never clear how many are really extant and in what condition. The State Historic Preservation Office is currently undertaking a survey of all du Pont schools. Provided completion, the findings of that investigation will shed more light on how Mt. Olive compares to its contemporaries. Even if others of the same design survive intact, Mt. Olive Colored School is significant for the role it played within its local community.

F. Archaeological Sites

At this time, the full identification, description, development of a supporting historic context, or a NRHP determination has not been undertaken for all early identified archaeological sites. As listed in the *Abstract* section of this document, locations for future Phase II studies and field testing have been identified as parcels 1-1, 1-2, 18, 2-10, 25, 17, 2-8, 2-9, 2-1, 16, 26, 2-3, 2-7, 5-3, 12, and 7.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING'S EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

This section contains a description of the undertaking's effect on historic properties. The results of each are described below.

A. W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex (CRS # 01689)

Figure 10 shows the proposed undertaking at the W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex. In consultation with the DE SHPO, the Little Heaven GSI Project was found to have "no effect" on the W. C. Fountain Agricultural Complex. None of the Criteria of Adverse Effect applied to this property as a result of implementing the Preferred Alternative. The entire project undertaking will not alter the physical characteristics (directly or indirectly) that qualify this property for listing in the National Register. Based on the property's defining characteristics, the transportation elements will only occur near and are separated from the property in such a way that they cause no effect. As a result, discussions on this property with respect to the undertaking will not be discussed any further.

Near the front of the driveway accessing this property, existing Barratt's Chapel Road will remain the same. Barratt Chapel Road will be located further north and continue to its proper realignment junction with SR 1 and Skeeter Neck Road. Existing Barratt's Chapel Road will be cul-de-sac beyond the property's location near the eastern end. The main and contributing agricultural features are remote from the road from both Barratt's Chapel Road and SR 1. The property is essentially adjacent to the undertaking.