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



CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY SURVEY UPDATE FORM

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: John T. Simmons Farmstead

2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: <u>501 Bear Christiana Rd, Bear, Delaware, 19701</u>

3. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent good fair poor demolished

- 4. INTEGRITY: The dwelling and farm buildings have suffered from neglect and vandalism. The windows and doors of the house have been boarded, the barn and farm buildings are in poor condition, some have collapsed, and only the foundation of the granary remains. The Partridge memorial has been dismantled and was stored in a metal storage container on site.
- 5. SETTING INTEGRITY: The entire farmyard and area around the dwelling has become overgrown by trees and brush. Some fields to the south are still cultivated, but the area to the north of the buildings is now used as a credit card data center.
- 6. FORMS ADDED (give number of forms completed for each):

#:	Form:	List property types:
1	CRS 2 Main Building Form	Dwelling
1	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	Barn
0	CRS 4 Archaeological Site Form	N/A
0	CRS 5 Structure (Building-Like) Form	N/A
0	CRS 6 Structure (Land Feature) Form	N/A
0	CRS 7 Object Form	N/A
0	CRS 8 Landscape Elements Form	N/A
1	CRS 9 Map Form	N/A
0	CRS 14 Potential District Form	N/A

7. SURVEYOR INFORMATION:

Surveyor name:	Patti Kuhn/Sarah Groesbeck	
Principal Investigator name:	Patti Kuhn	
Principal Investigator signature:	Pattickun	
Organization:	The Louis Berger Group	Date: <u>June 2012</u>
doc # 20-01-00-05-02	USE BLACK INK ONLY	crs- 10

8. OTHER NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS:

CRS# N04039

This farm was determined locally eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1987 under Criterion C as an excellent example of the mid-nineteenth century of rural north central Delaware, its log section a rare example of a once-numerous type of structure. The outbuildings, especially the granary and dairy barn. were determined to contribute to the significance of the property as examples of agricultural structures built during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Bowers 1987).

National Register boundaries established in 1987 include the house, outbuildings and a portion of the setting immediately surrounding the complex that may have been associated with historic activities of the farm. North, east, and south boundaries were set 200 feet beyond the outermost structural or landscape feature in the complex, while the west boundary included 400 feet of field and farm lane in front of the farmstead.

The property is also being evaluated or reassessed for its National Register eligibility or listing status. This evaluation assessment is triggered by the federal undertaking initiated by DelDOT and the Federal Highway Administration as part of the SR 1 Roth Bridge to Interstate 95, Capacity Improvement Project (T200511001; Federal Aid NH-N067(26)). Further referenced information on this property as well as other in the vicinity, can be seen in the Architectural Evaluation entitled, "Architectural Survey Report, SR 1 Widening, New Castle County, Delaware."

As a result of this 2012 reassessment the recommended historic boundary of the property is limited to the dwelling since it is the only structure on the property that has potential to yield information about local construction technique, particularly log construction in eighteenth-century Delaware. The boundary consists of an 85x116-foot rectangle that encompasses the dwelling. The remaining outbuildings are in deteriorated condition and were built of common construction methods: therefore these structures are excluded from the National Register boundaries. The cemetery has been excavated and has also been excluded from the boundaries.

9. STATE HISTORIC CONTEXT FRAMEWORK (check all appropriate boxes; refer to state management plan(s)):

a) Time period(s)	 Pre-European Contact Paleo-Indian Archaic Woodland I Woodland II
	1600-1750∀ Contact Period (Native American) 1630-1730∀ Exploration and Frontier Settlement 1730-1770∀ Intensified and Durable Occupation 1770-1830∀ Early Industrialization 1830-1880∀ Industrialization and Early Urbanization 1880-1940∀ Urbanization and Early Suburbanization 1940-1960∀ Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization
b) Geographical zone	 Piedmont Upper Peninsula Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp Coastal Urban (City of Wilmington)
c) Historic period them	
	AgricultureTransportation and CommunicationForestrySettlement Patterns and Demographic ChangesTrapping/HuntingArchitecture, Engineering and Decorative ArtsMining/QuarryingGovernmentFishing/OysteringReligionManufacturingEducationRetailing/WholesalingCommunity OrganizationsFinanceOccupational OrganizationsProfessional ServicesMajor Families, Individuals and Events

	Å		DELAWARE STATE H 1	ISTORIC PRES 5 THE GREEN,		-
		CULTURAL RESOURCE MAIN BUILDING FORM	SURVEY	CRS #	<u>N04039.001</u>	
1.	ADD	RESS/LOCATION: 501 Bear Chi	istiana Road, Bear, Delawar	re 19701		
2.	FUN	CTION(S): historic <u>Single-fa</u>	mily dwelling	current vacant		
3.	YEA	R BUILT: <u>1800</u> CIRCA?: 🛛	ARCHITECT/BUILDER:	Unknown		
4.	STY	LE OR FLOOR PLAN: Vernac	ular			
5.	INTE	GRITY: original site	moved			
	<u>if mov</u> N/A	ved, from where		<u>other locatio</u> N/A	<u>n's CRS #</u>	<u>year</u> N/A
-	N/A			N/A		N/A
-	list m	ajor alterations and additions with	years (if known)			year
	a. 2 s	tory wood frame block				ca.1850
	b. N/	4				N/A
6.	CUR	RENT CONDITION: exceller	nt 🗌 good 🗌	fair 🗌	poor 🛛	
7.	DES blan	CRIPTION: (Describe the resource ks.)	as completely as possible.	Use N/A for not a	pplicable; leave	no
	a.	Overall shape: rectangle Additions: smaller 2-story wing is block built ca. 1850-1860	Stories: s original, built during the 18	-	ntury, larger 2 s	tory
	b	Structural system (if known): Log	and wood frame			
	C.	Foundation: materials: fields basement: full partial		ent 🗌		
	d.	Exterior walls (original if visible&	any subsequent coverings):	clapboard		
	e.	Roof: shape: gable materials: asphalt shingle cornice: dentil molding dormers: N/A chimney: location(s): Interior, en	d on gable ends of main blo	ock and ell		
8.	DES	CRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:				
	a	1) Bays 5 bays 2) Windows 12 fenestration regular	penings have been boarded			

Facade (cont'd)

3)	Door(s)	2
	location	center, 1 st story, north end of ell
	type	door opening has been boarded
	trim	N/A
4)	Porch(es)	brick steps

2

- Side: Direction: Northeast b.
 - Bays 1)
 - 2) Windows 2 fenestration gable end boarded type trim N/A
 - shutters N/A
 - 3) 0 Door(s) location N/A N/A type
 - trim N/A Porch(es) N/A
 - 4)
- Side: Direction: SW c. 2
 - 1) Bays
 - 2) Windows 3

fenestration two bays in gable end of ell and main block

- boarded type
- trim N/A N/A shutters
- Door(s)

3)

- 0 location N/A
- type N/A
- trim N/A
- 4) Porch(es) N/A
- d. **Rear: Direction: SE**
 - 1) Bays 5 bay main block, 2 bay south ell
 - 2) Windows 6 (second story completely boarded) fenestration irregular – 3 windows 1st story main block; 1 on 1st story and 2 on 2nd story ell type boarded trim N/A
 - shutters N/A
 - 3) Door(s) 3 2 on main block, 1 on ell location boarded type N/A trim 4) Porch(es) N/A
- 9. **INTERIOR:** not accessible
- 10. LANDSCAPING: The area immediately surrounding house has been mowed, the remainder of the property is overgrown with trees and underbrush
- 11. **OTHER COMMENTS: N/A**

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

	CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY SECONDARY BUILDING FORM		CRS #	N04039.00	2
1.	ADDRESS/LOCATION: _ 501 Bear Christiana Rd, E				
2.	FUNCTION(S): historic <u>Dairy Barn</u> c	current	vacant		
3.	YEAR BUILT: <u>1875</u> CIRCA?: ARCHITECT/BUILDER: <u></u>	Unknown	l		
4.	STYLE/FLOOR PLAN: Round-Roof Dairy barn				
5.	INTEGRITY: original site 🛛 moved 🗌				
	<u>if moved, from where</u> N/A	<u>orig</u> N/A		ation's CRS #	<u>year</u> N/A
	N/A	N/A			N/A
	list major alterations and additions with years (if known)	11/7			year
	a. east portion added during the early 20 th century b. N/A				N/A
6.	CURRENT CONDITION: excellent good		fair		poor 🖂
7.	DESCRIPTION:				
	a. Structural system wood frame				
	b. Number of stories 2				
	c. Wall coverings stone and concrete block				
	d. Foundation stone and concrete block				
	e. Roof structural system rainbow roof coverings corrugated metal openings N/A				
8.	DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:				
	 a. Facade: direction: Southwest 1) bays: 6 (window and door openings are boarded, making i 2) windows: 3 (boarded) 	it difficult	to disce	ern number of	bays)
	3) door(s): 3 (boarded)				

4) other: 1st floor elevation covered by shed roof porch with wood post supports

- b. Side: direction: Northwest
 - 1) bays: 2 visible
 - 2) windows: 1, boarded
 - 3) door(s): 2 on corrugated metal gable end, boarded
 - 4) other: N/A
- c. Side: direction: Southeast
 - 1) bays: 2 visible
 - 2) windows: 1 boarded
 - 3) door(s): 1 boarded at center of gable
 - 4) other: N/A
- d. Rear: direction: Northeast
 - 1) bays: not visible
 - 2) windows: not visible
 - 3) door(s): not visible
 - 4) other: 2 concrete silos on NE elevation w/ gable-front 1 story building between, clad with asphalt shingle siding
- 9. INTERIOR (if accessible):
 - a) Floor plan not accessible
 - b) Partition/walls not accessible
 - c) Finishes not accessible
 - d) Furnishings/machinery not accessible

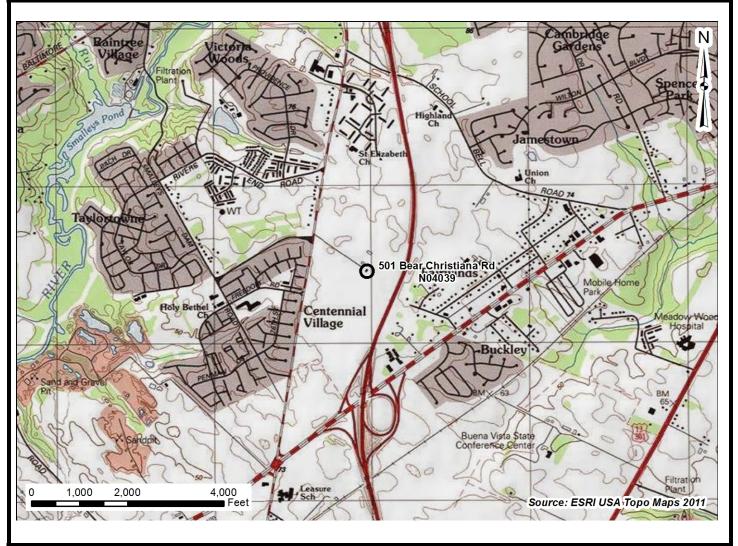
DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE 15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901 CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY CRS # MAP FORM

- 1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 501 Bear Christiana Rd, Bear, Delaware, 19701
- 2. NOT FOR PUBLICATION
 reason:
- 3. LOCATION MAP:

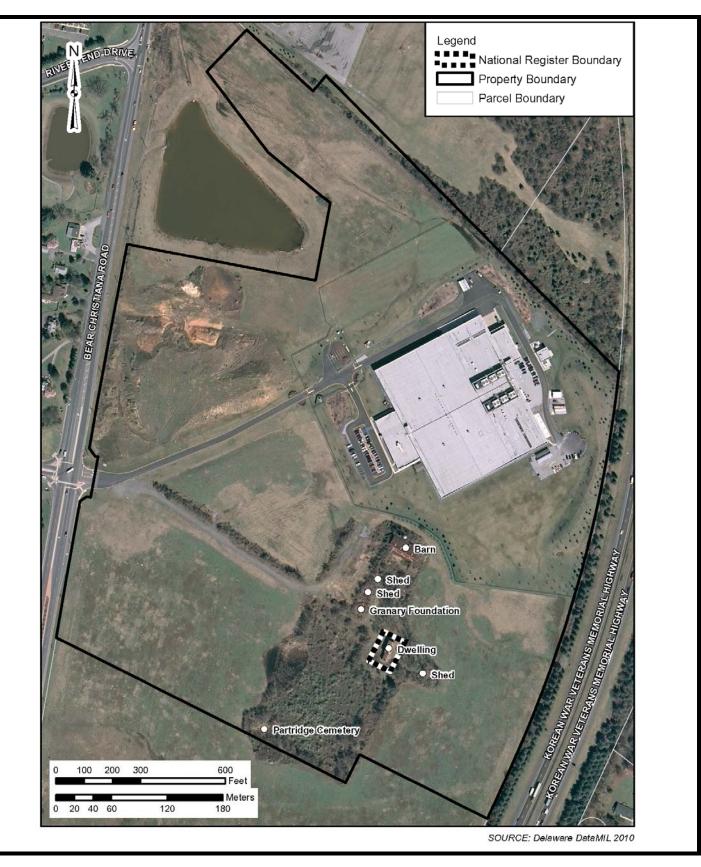
Indicate position of resource in relation to geographical landmarks such as streams and crossroads.

(attach section of USGS quad map with location marked or draw location map)

INDICATE NORTH ON SKETCH



INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN



PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS # N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn	
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Description Facade (west elevation) of main building (.001) looking east; East elevation of main building (.001) looking southwest

Negative location (if other than SHPO)



PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn	
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Description South end of east elevation of main building (.001) looking west; Shed east of house looking northeast

Negative location (if other than SHPO)



PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn	
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Description Southeast corner of barn (.002) looking northwest; South elevation of barn (.002) looking east

Negative location (if other than SHPO)





DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE						CE	
			РНОТ	OGRAPHIC IN	VENTO	RY	
CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn
Descrip	tion Northwest	corner of	barn (.002)	looking east; S	hed (sou	ith of barn) loo	oking south
Negativ	e location (if ot	her than S	SHPO)				
Attach c	contact print(s):						
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn	
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Description Interior of shed attached to granary looking south; Granary ruins looking south

Negative location (if other than SHPO)



PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn
Description Foundation of Granary, south end; Remains Partridge memorial							

Negative location (if other than SHPO)



PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

CRS #	N04039	Date	5/21/2012	Photo Roll #	n/a	Surveyor	S Groesbeck & P Kuhn	
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Description Foundation of Partridge Memorial; Dismantled Partridge Memorial in storage crate

Negative location (if other than SHPO)



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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property			<u></u>		
historic name John T. Simmons	Farmstead				
other names/site number N-4039					
2. Location					
street & number 515 Christiana	Road		not for publication		
city, town Bear			X vicinity		
state Delaware code I	DEL <u>county New Castle</u>	code 003	zip_code_19701		
3. Classification					
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resou	irces within Property		
X private	building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing		
public-local	X district	5	6buildings		
public-State	site		sites		
public-Federal	structure		structures		
	🛄 object	<u> </u>	objects		
		6	6 Total		
Name of related multiple property listing		Number of contri	buting resources previously		
		listed in the National Register			
4. State/Federal Agency Certification					
	and meets the procedural and professions of the National Regis				
State or Federal agency and bureau					
In my opinion, the propertymeets	s does not meet the National Regis	ter criteria. 🗌 See o	continuation sheet.		
Signature of commenting or other official			Date		
State or Federal agency and bureau					
5. National Park Service Certifica	tion				
I, hereby, certify that this property is:					
entered in the National Register					
See continuation sheet					
determined eligible for the National					
Register. See continuation sheet.					
determined not eligible for the					
National Register.					
_					
removed from the National Register.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
other, (explain:)					
	-90-				
	Signature of the	Keeper	Date of Action		

5. Function or Use Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions) Domestic/Single_Dwelling Agriculture/Agricultural_Outbuildings	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) Domestic/Single Dwelling Agriculture/Agricultural Outbuildings
7. Description Architectural Classification enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
Other: 1-house	foundation stone walls log weatherboard roof asphalt other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Simmons farmstead is located on the east side of Route 7. The complex, surrounded on all sides by cultivated and fallow fields, has a setback of approximately 1,000 feet, and due to a rise in the land is not fully visible from the road. The farm is still used for agricultural purposes, primarily a small dairy operation, by a tenant family.

The farmhouse, which faces west, consists of two side-gable units massed in linear fashion that are the products of two separate building episodes, the later of which is estimated to have occurred ca. 1850-1860. The earlier section, containing the kitchen, is a two-story, single-pile unit on a low rubble fieldstone foundation. According to the occupants, this section is constructed of logs measuring approximately 9" x 9", and is covered with wooden clapboards of varying width. Window openings (two at each story on the west side, one on first and two on second on the east (rear)), are fitted with 6/6 double hung sash and flat, unmolded surrounds. An interior chimney in the south gable end features the inscription "AJW 1860" in the mortar (visible from within the attic). (Since none of the recorded owners of this farm had those initials, the inscription may have been the work of a tenant or mason.)

The later, larger section that now constitutes the main block of the house, is a timber-framed clapboarded center-hall I-house on a low fieldstone foundation, with a brick-floored basement under the south end. The symmetrical five-bay facade contains a center entry framed with sidelights and multi-light transom. Windows have 6/6 double hung sash; those on the facade have paneled shutters on the first story, louvred shutters on the second. The narrow front eave is edged with a simple dentil molding. Interior brick chimneys (the stacks of which appear to have been rebuilt) are present at each of the gable ends, which apart from small attic windows have blind walls.

The roofs of both sections have flush eaves at gable ends and are covered with composition shingles. Although a porch has been removed from the main entrance (as evidenced by the remaining shadow) the east elevations of both units have shed-roofed, partially enclosed porches with square posts and concrete slab floors. United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ___7 Page ___1

The interior of the log section contains a kitchen and narrow pantry on the first floor, and two small bedrooms and a passage on the second. The kitchen features a filled-in fireplace with tall (4-1/2 feet) mantel with simple moldings. Beside the fireplace an enclosed winding stair rises to attic level. The first floor of the main block contains two rooms separated by a center stair hall. Fireplaces in these rooms feature rather plain Greek Revival style mantelpieces. A set of built-in cupboards with tall, paneled doors is located beside the fireplace in the south room. The hall retains the original stair with turned newel posts and slender spindle balusters. The second floor contains four rooms, with fireplaces located in the two rear (east) rooms. At the northeast corner is a narrow stair leading to the unfinished attic, which is partitioned into two spaces.

Most of the outbuildings in the complex are located north of the house, the exceptions being a row of three poultry houses with shed roofs and rough plank siding, and the foundations of an ice house located east of the dwelling. One of the principal structures is a large, six-bay granary constructed of nailed dimensioned lumber on fieldstone foundations and footings, clad in vertical plank siding, and featuring a winding stair to the upper level. A machine shed constructed of wood posts with sheet metal walls and gable roof, opens on the east side, extends off the north wall of the granary. Perpendicular to the machine shed is another frame shed, partly open on the south side for machinery, with the east end fully enclosed. This shed also forms the south "wall" of a cattle yard, which is bounded by an open metalclad shed on the west and by the dairy barn on the north. The dairy barn is a large structure with concrete block ground story and wood-framed loft area covered with a high arched "rainbow" roof. Two concrete silos are located at the northwest corner of the barn. On the east edge of the cattle yard are two closed gable-roofed frame sheds and a tall steel windmill.

Approximately 400 feet southwest of the house, at one end of a small fenced pasture, is a stone monument enclosed within barred cage with tall brick corner piers. The inscription of the monument dedicates the object to the four children of James and Margaret Partridge, who owned large tracts of land in this area in the late 18th century, passing them to one son, John, who died in 1831. It is not known if the monument marks an actual grave site, or was intended simply as a commemorative object.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property i	n relation to other properties tewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B X C	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D 🗌 E 🧮 F 📩 G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) _Architecture	Period of Significance <u>late_18th-late_19th_C.</u>	Significant Dates
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Simmons farmstead is locally significant under National Register Criterion C. In terms of the Delaware State Plan, the farmstead contains examples of property types identified for two Upper Peninsula Zone Historic Contexts, Economic and Cultural Trends 1830-1880 (Agriculture), and Landscape 1830-1880 (Architecture and Building). The granary remains to represent, in structural fashion, the pervasive agricultural reforms of the period; while the house, with its two distinct building phases and construction techniques, vividly illustrates the architectural renewal of the region that occurred in the middle decades of the 19th century.

The farmhouse, as the principal structure in the complex, provides an excellent example of the mid-19th century rebuilding of rural north central Delaware when agricultural reforms coincided with construction of new dwellings and outbuildings, and also with expansion and improvement of those then present on the land. The Simmons farmhouse consisted originally of the small log section, retention of which is noteworthy in itself due to the high attrition rate of these once numerous structures. The main block, estimated from stylistic features have been built ca. 1850-60, is a clear and relatively intact example of the center passage I-house, a regionally ubiquitous form here embellished with modest Greek Revival details appropriate to the period of its construction. United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u>

The agricultural structures in the complex, the granary in particular, contribute to the significance of the property as architectural expressions of the evolution of agriculture in the area in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The large granary is a very good example of this structure type, which appeared in association with agrarian reform in the region during the middle decades of the 19th century, and in addition is a prominent visual element in the complex. The early 20th century dairy barn, with extensive use of concrete and its arched "rainbow" roof, illustrates the erection of new structures on farmsteads specifically intended to meet functional and sanitary needs of the modernizing dairy industry.

The land on which this farmstead is located was in the late 18th and early 19th centuries owned by James, and later John, Partridge. By 1849, the property was in possession of John T. Simmons, remaining so at Simmons' death in 1871 (Rea and Price 1849; New Castle County (Hereafter cited as NCC) Wills B2/194). In 1879, Simmons' widow, Catherine, and Sarah Ann Simmons sold the farm to John Janvier of New Castle town, who at his death in 1890 left it to his daughter, Margaret W. Janvier (NCC Deeds H11/230; A29/63). Margaret Janvier retained possession of the farm until 1919, when she sold it to Walter Rash (NCC Deeds A29/63). In 1928 the farm, sold at a Sheriff's sale to pay debts, was conveyed to Richard and Florence McMullen, and remains in the hands of their decendants today.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

New Castle County Deeds, Wills and Orphans' Court Records, Hall of Records, Dover.

Rea, Samuel and Jacob Price, Map of New Castle County, from Original Survey. Smith and Wister, Philadelphia, 1849.

	See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	—
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:
has been requested	State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Eederal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings	University
Survey #	Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Specify repository:
Record #	B <u>ureau of Archaeology & Historic Preser</u> vat
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property approx. 34.2 acres	
UTM References	
A 1 18 4 4 14 10 10 4 14 13 8 18 13 15 10 Zone Easting Northing	B 1 18 4413 9 10 413 8 8 0.50 Zone Easting Northing
C 1 8 4 4 3 6 7 0 4 4 3 8 2 2 0	D[1,8][4 4,3 8,4,0][4,3 8,8 5,0,0]
	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	<u> </u>
The boundary of the Simmons farmstead is as s	hown on the accompanying sketch man entitled
"John T. Simmons Farmstead, N-4039".	Nown on the accompanying sketch map entitled
	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification The boundaries proposed for	this property enclosed an area that is of a
size to preserve the house, outbuildings, a p	
potential archaeological resources that may b	
the farmstead. The west boundary includes 400	
farmstead, while the north, east and south bo	
structural or landscape feature of the comple	
structural and landscape features that contri	
to the significance of the property.	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/titleM. H. Bowers, Architectural Histori	an
organization Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.	
street & number 100 Halsted Street	telephone1960
city or town East Orange	

