

Delaware Government

Preface

The League of Women Voters of Delaware, established in 1957, is open to all men and women of voting age. A basic tenet of the League is that a democracy is competent and functional only through active participation of a well-informed public. The League, a nonpartisan organization dedicated to furthering such participation in government, has compiled and updated this information as a factual presentation of the structure and operation of Delaware's government. We hope readers will find it useful.

The League is indebted to the state, county and local officials and their assistants who furnished information and comments for this updated edition of *Delaware Government*. League members responsible for revising major sections, proofreading, and design are:

Cover: Cathy DeBovis

Photos & Charts: Robert Kallal

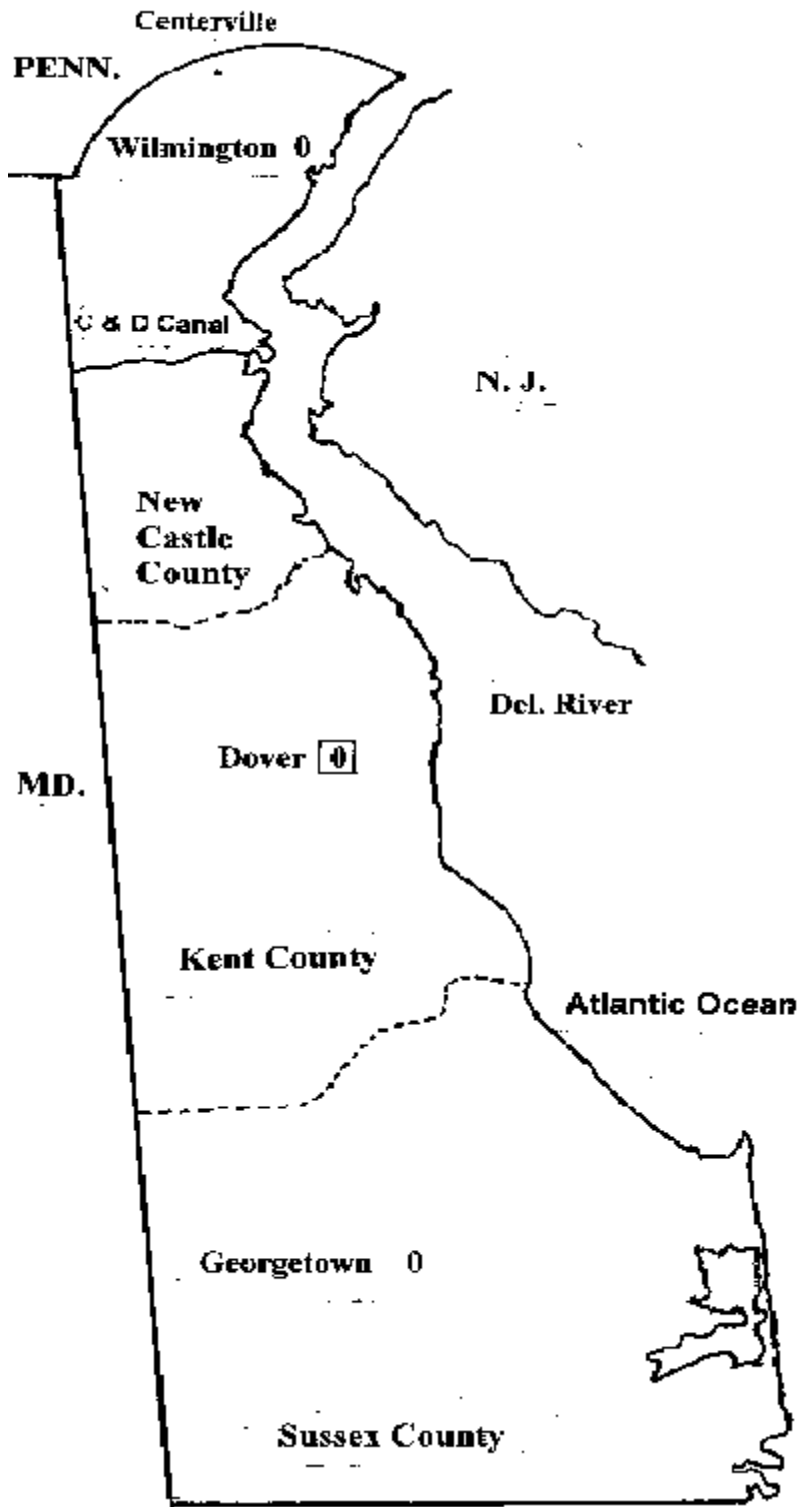
League assistance:

Connie Beattie	Ruth Helm
The Honorable Barbara Crowell	Joyce Johnson
Letty Diswood	Carol Jones
Phyllis Edamatsu	Janet Kramer
Jackie Harris	Liz Ryan
Mark Harris	Liz Shea
Joann Hasse	Carole Walsh
Ron Hasse	Ellen Wasfi

Non-League assistance:

Illustrations: Tom Durmick

Photos: George Ryan-Millar



DELAWARE FACTS

Delaware has an area of 1,982 square miles and ranks 49th in size among the 50 states. It measures 96 miles long but is only 9 to 35 miles wide. The northern section lies on the Piedmont Plateau where the elevation rises from sea level at Wilmington to 447.85 feet above sea level near Ebright Road in northern New Castle County. The state's southern section comprises a flat coastal plain. Climate is moderate with an average rainfall of 44.4 inches per year. In 2006 the population was estimated to be 853,476 with most of it centered in the Wilmington metropolitan area.

New Castle County

Population: 532,034
(2007)

Area: 437 square
miles

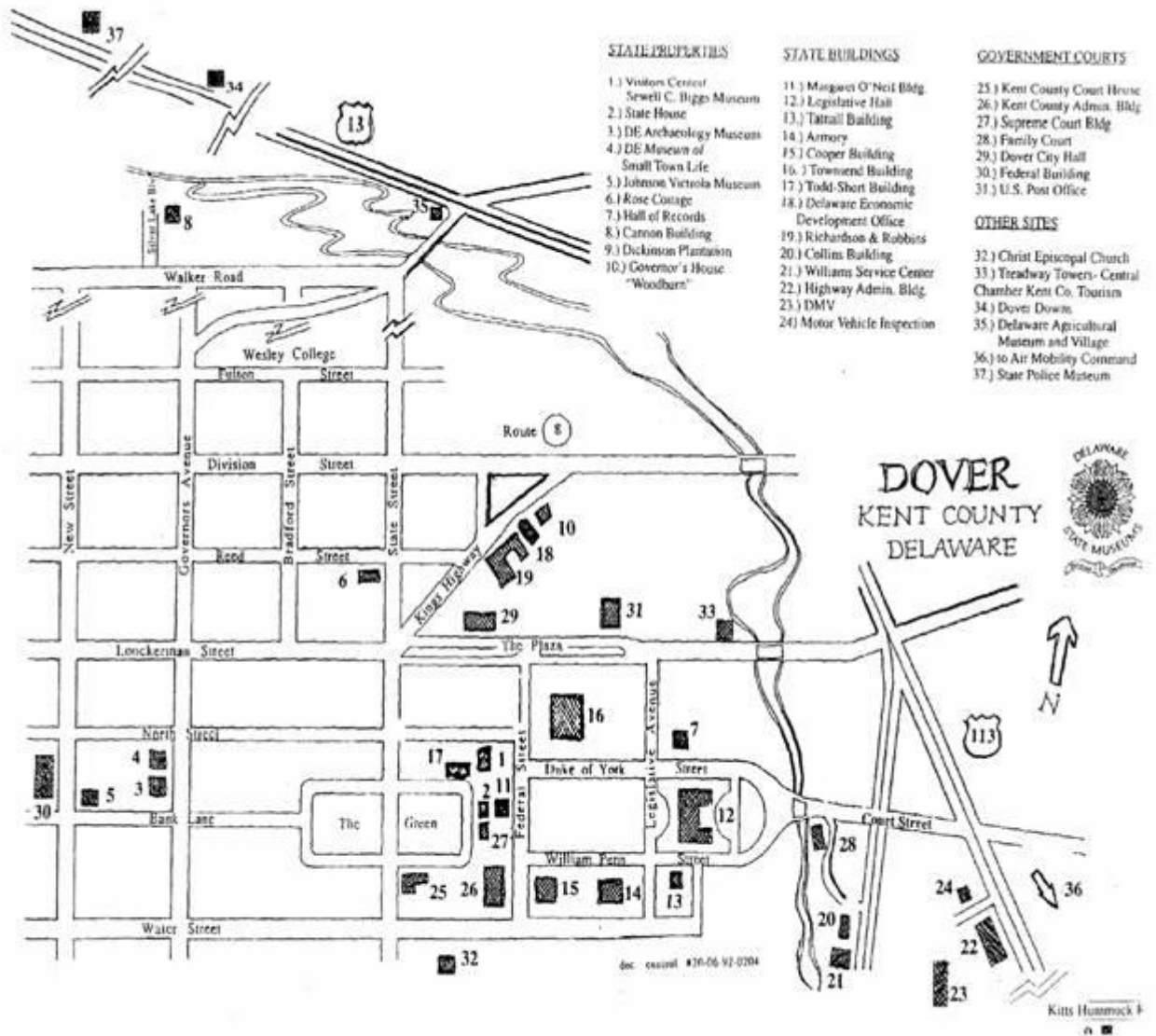
County seat:
Wilmington

Kent County

Population:
147,601

Area: 595 square
miles

Capital Area Map – Dover, DE



Delaware's Symbols

<http://portal.delaware.gov/delfacts>

Nicknames First State

Diamond State

Blue Hen State

Small wonder

Motto Liberty and Independence

State bird Blue Hen chicken

State flower peach blossom

State tree American holly

State bug ladybug

State fish weakfish

State marine animal horseshoe crab

State fossil belemnite

State mineral sillimanite

State soil Greenwich loam

State herb sweet goldenrod

State butterfly tiger swallowtail

State macro invertebrate stonefly

State beverage milk

State star Delaware diamond

