



**86B-037 Wilmer's Park**  
**15710 Brandywine Road**  
**Brandywine**

Originally purchased as a hunting ground in 1947, Arthur Wilmer paid \$6,500 for an old tobacco farm once owned by the Grimes Family. During the 1940s–50s, black entertainers could perform at upscale clubs and theaters; however, many of these clubs did not allow black patrons. Wilmer opened his venue to all patrons. Notable musicians who played at Wilmer's Park included Chuck Berry, Stevie Wonder, The Delfonics, Chubby Checker, The Temptations, Fats Domino, James Brown, Jackie Wilson, Duke Ellington and Ray Charles. Today the original buildings are in a deteriorated state, but a redevelopment has been proposed for the park that would showcase its history. A 1970s poster for the venue is shown above.