

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

DOVER, DELAWARE 19903 U.S. ROUTE 113 - MILFORD TO GEORGETOWN



The Delaware Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, and the Federal Highway Administration have proposed to dualize an approximately 13-mile segment of U.S. Route 113 between Milford and Georgetown. In order to protect cultural resources that might be affected by the planned construction, the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., of East Orange, New Jersey, is conducting a survey to identify prehistoric and historic archeological sites. Research is also being conducted on several historic buildings that are in or adjacent to the Route 1:3 right-of-way.

Prehistoric archeological sites in Delaware can date as far back as 12,000 B.C. The people who occupied these sites - Paleoindians - lived at the end of the Pleistocene, or Ice Age, and curing the start of North America's post-glacial period. Other prehistoric Native Americans, with cultures referred to as Archaic or Woodland varieties, inhabited Delaware until Europeans arrived in the seventeenth century A.D. Depending on a site's age and culture, archeologists might locate stone tools, pottery, and cooling hearths that these prehistoric people once utilized.

Historic archeological sites in Delaware can relate to later Native American groups or the new European settlers. The sites might contain Indian artifacts mixed with Euroamerican goods from the 1600s or bottles, crockery, and building foundations dating to the 1930s.

The systematic archeological survey of the Route 113 project corridor is designed to gather information on the settlements and lifeways of prehistoric and historic inhabitants of the area. A major goal of the work is to protect and preserve our state's cultural heritage. Further information on the cultural resource project is available from Gary Shaffer at Louis Berger (201-678-1960) or Kevin Cunningham at the Department of Transportation (302-736-4644).