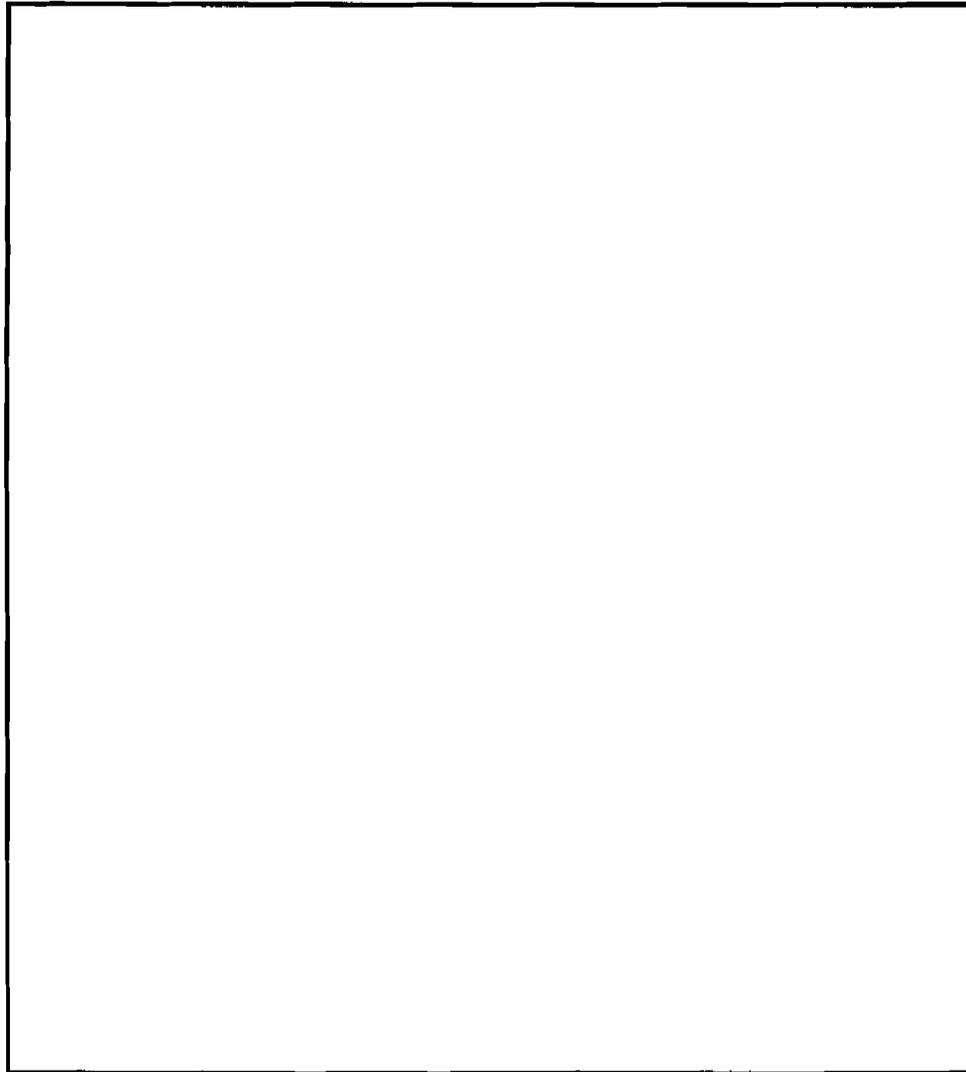


Phase I and II Archaeological Investigations of the Route 896  
Eastern Shore Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Project Area,  
Summit Bridge, New Castle County, Delaware



by

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Delaware Department of Transportation Archaeology Series No. 135

Eugene E. Abbott  
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Delaware  
Department of Transportation

1995



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

**PHASE I AND II ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE ROUTE 896  
EASTERN SHORE NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINE PROJECT AREA,  
SUMMIT BRIDGE, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE**

**DELDOT PROJECT 86-061-20**

**DELDOT ARCHAEOLOGY SERIES NO. 135**

**By**

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**Submitted to**

**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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**and**

**EASTERN SHORE NATURAL GAS**

**and**

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Division of Planning  
Location and Environmental Studies Office**

**Eugene E. Abbott  
Director of Planning**

## ABSTRACT

A cultural resources survey of the Route 896 Eastern Shore Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline right-of-way was conducted to identify, locate, and determine the significance of all prehistoric and historic cultural resources present within the project area. Three historic sites were located in the project area including one standing structure that had not been previously recorded. The Appleton Site (7NC-D-70) consists of an extant structure dating to 1868 and associated outbuildings located 100 feet west of the proposed pipeline right-of-way. Phase II testing indicated that the cultural resources located within the right-of-way were not historically significant.

The Andrew Eliason Site (7NC-D-69) is the remains of an owner- and tenant-occupied agricultural complex dating from the early eighteenth century to the late nineteenth century. Intact subsurface features were identified, including a brick-lined cellar hole, three outbuildings, and the remains of an orchard. Another agricultural complex was identified during the survey, the Richard Griffith Site Areas A and B (7NC-D-71A and B), and consists of the remains of a dwelling house, three outbuildings, a fence line, and a possible trash disposal area. The property was owned by the Griffith family from the mid-eighteenth century to the early nineteenth century, when it was purchased by the Rothwell family. The Rothwells maintained the property until the late nineteenth century. Both agricultural complexes contained well-preserved subsurface features, good contextual integrity, sufficiently high artifact densities, and diverse documentation and are considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. All three sites represent a period of time that is not well-known in the archaeological record of northern Delaware.

Cover Illustration: An aerial photograph taken in 1937 clearly shows the landscape of the Summit Bridge/Mt. Pleasant area.

## DelDOT Archaeological Series Index Information

This form is intended to provide information on the contents of this volume for indexing. It is also intended for researchers to use to check the research methods and topics included in this volume.

Report Title: **PHASE I AND II ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE ROUTE 896 EASTERN SHORE NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINE PROJECT AREA, SUMMIT BRIDGE, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE**

DelDOT Report Number: **135**

Level of Investigations: [Phase I, II, III, Planning Survey, Specialized Study]  
**PHASE I AND PHASE II**

Basic Time Periods Covered:

- All prehistoric
- Mainly prehistoric, some historic
- Equal coverage of prehistoric and historic
- Mainly historic, some prehistoric
- All historic

Site Contexts:

	Prehistoric	Historic
Plow zone/disturbed surface soils	X	X
Intact features		X
Buried artifact-bearing strata		

List up to five major time periods or site types

- 1. WOODLAND I**
- 2. EIGHTEENTH, NINETEENTH, AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES**
- 3. AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX**

List up to eight major topics covered in Conclusions and Discussions of Results

- 1. CULTURAL RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS**
- 2. PREHISTORIC REGIONAL SETTLEMENT PATTERNS**
- 3. OWNER- AND TENANT-OCCUPIED AGRICULTURAL COMPLEXES**
- 4. CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE AND HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT PATTERNS**

Specialized Analyses Undertaken

	Prehistoric	Historic
Blood Residue		
Ceramic Chronology		X
Ceramic Vessel Surface Alterations		
Cordage Twists from Ceramic Impressions		
Faunal Analysis		
Flake Attributes		
Floral Analysis		
Flotation		
Geomorphology and Pedology		
Glass Analysis		
HABS Documentation		
HAER Documentation		
Historic Architecture		X
Informant Interviews		X
Leather Analysis		
Miller Ceramic Index		
Mortar Analysis		
Palynology		
Projectile Point Chronology		
Projectile Point Function		
Radiocarbon Dates		
Soil Chemistry		
Spatial Distribution of Artifacts	X	X
Stone Tool Functional Analysis		
Wood Identification		

List up to 5 other specialized analyses not listed above:

**NONE**

Geographic Area Covered

- New Castle County
- Kent County
- Sussex County
- All State

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Landowners: Summit Airpark, Pat Foley, President; Wilmington Trust Company, Scott Simonton, Contact; Office of Caroline J. DuPont, Bruce Anthony, Contact; Charles and Sarah Goodwin; Jim Deetz; and Frank Forton.

**Curation Note:** All artifacts, site records, analytical data, photographs, slides, and video tapes from the Phase I and II surveys of the Route 896 Eastern Shore Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Project are curated at the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research, Newark, Delaware 19716. The cultural resource survey archaeological site forms relating to this project are on file at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, 15 The Green, Dover, Delaware 19901. For further information contact Jay F. Custer, University of Delaware (302-831-2821) or Kevin Cunningham, Delaware Department of Transportation (302-739-3826).

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