INTRODUCTION

In July of 1998, Thunderbird Archeological Associates, Inc. (TAA), conducted a Phase I archeological investigation of the areas of potential impact connected with the proposed work on Concord Pike, Augustine Cut-off and Rockland Road. These studies were conducted for the Division of Highways, Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). The project was part of DelDOT's planning study for the proposed improvements to US Route 202 (Concord Pike), Augustine Cutoff and Rockland Road in connection with the larger Route 141 (Centre Road) project. This project was carried out in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, and Section 13B of the Federal Highway Act. Figure 1 shows the general project location; Figure 2 shows the study area.

The areas in which specific improvements are to be made and in which archeological testing was conducted covered 10 to 12 acres (Figures 3 and 4); they included: proposed new road alignments for the Augustine Cutoff and Rockland Connector; an area selected for the construction of a storm water management basin; a stockpile area; and three wetland mitigation areas (Areas A2, B and D). Portions of the areas to be impacted by these improvements had been included in a preliminary Phase I walkover by TAA in connection with Route 141 improvements (Taylor et al. 1989). In addition, two known sites along Foulk Road were assessed in terms of the need for additional work; these had been studied in the Route 141 study. One was the site of a blacksmith shop (the Smithy Site, 7NC-B-10/N-10939) identified on the 1849 Rea and Price map; the other was the Weldin Plantation Site (7NC-B-11/N-9453).

The purpose of the Phase I testing was to determine if there were any archeological sites, either prehistoric or historic, located within the areas to be impacted and to determine, within the limitations of a Phase I survey, the size, function and chronological placement of the component or components that might be present. If a particular resource was felt to possess the potential to contribute to the knowledge of local, regional, or national prehistory or history, Phase II work would be recommended. All the archival research notes, field notes and maps resulting from the project are on repository at the TAA Office in Woodstock, Virginia.

William M. Gardner, Ph.D., served as Principal Investigator, while Heather A. Wholey, M.A., acted as Field Supervisor. Sally C. Anderson, M.A., and Wholey carried out the archival research. Andrew Lee, Kelly Scanlon, and Collin Duncan served as Field Technicians. Anderson acted as project coordinator and Joan Walker, Ph.D., as editor of this report. Kimberly A. Snyder, M.A., supervised and participated in the lab work, assisted by Gwen J. Hurst, C. Lanier Rodgers, Leslie Mitchell-Watson, and Katherine Janney. Snyder directed the artifact analysis and carried out the historic ceramic analysis, and Hurst did the glass analysis. Wholey, Anderson, Walker and Gardner contributed to the report.

One new archeological site was identified--the Augustine Cutoff Site (7NC-B-49/N-13717), a late 19th/early 20th century domestic site. In addition, several features were identified which were part of the previously recorded Blue Ball Dairy Site (7NC-B-50/N-4048); these included a portion of a stone foundation and two stone and concrete piers. The eastern edge of the prehistoric Alapocas Run Site (7NC-B-13/N-10941) was included within Wetland Mitigation Area B. A keystone arched stone culvert was identified on Rockland Road, in Wetland Mitigation Area A2.

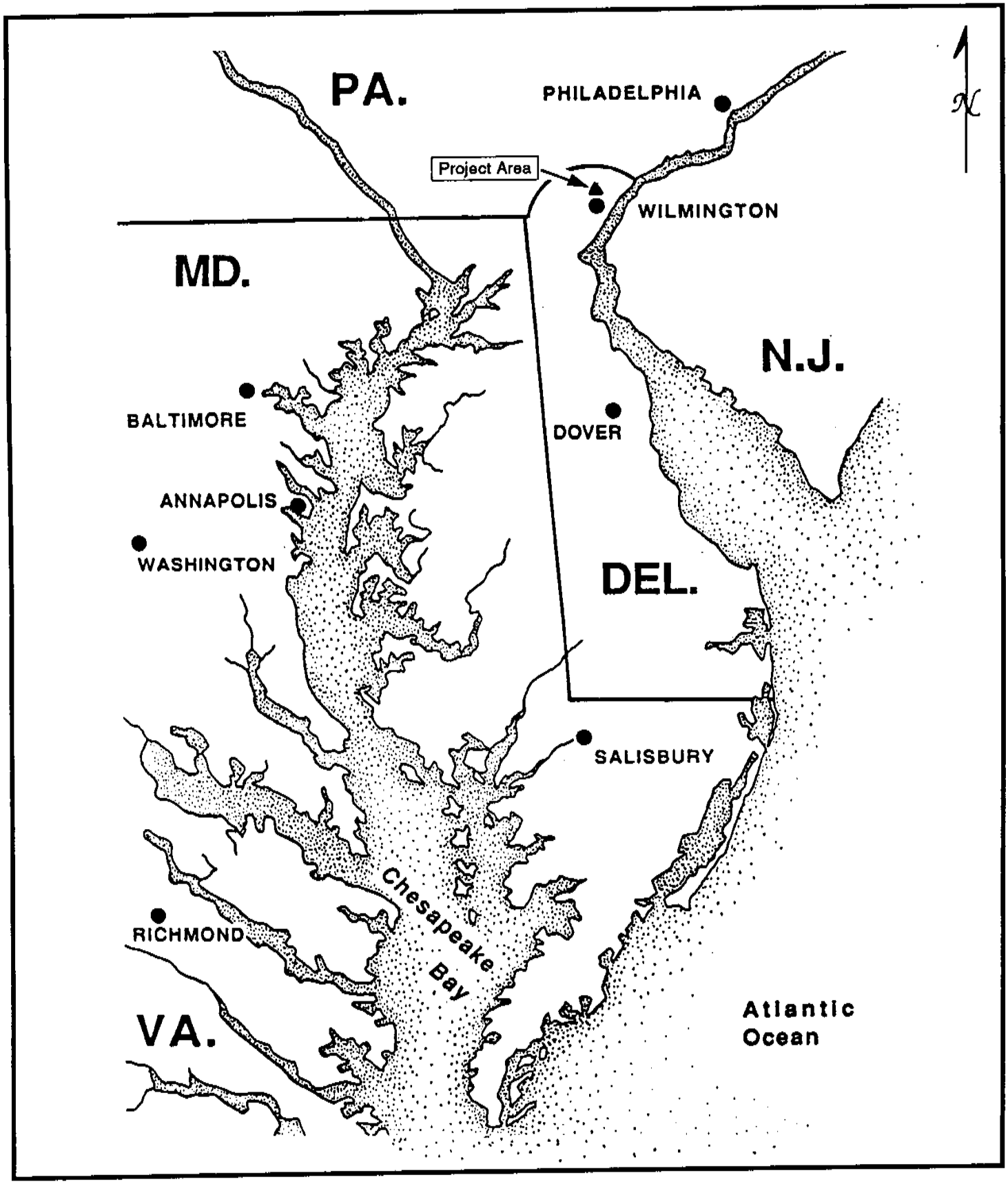

FIGURE 1
Map Showing Project Area

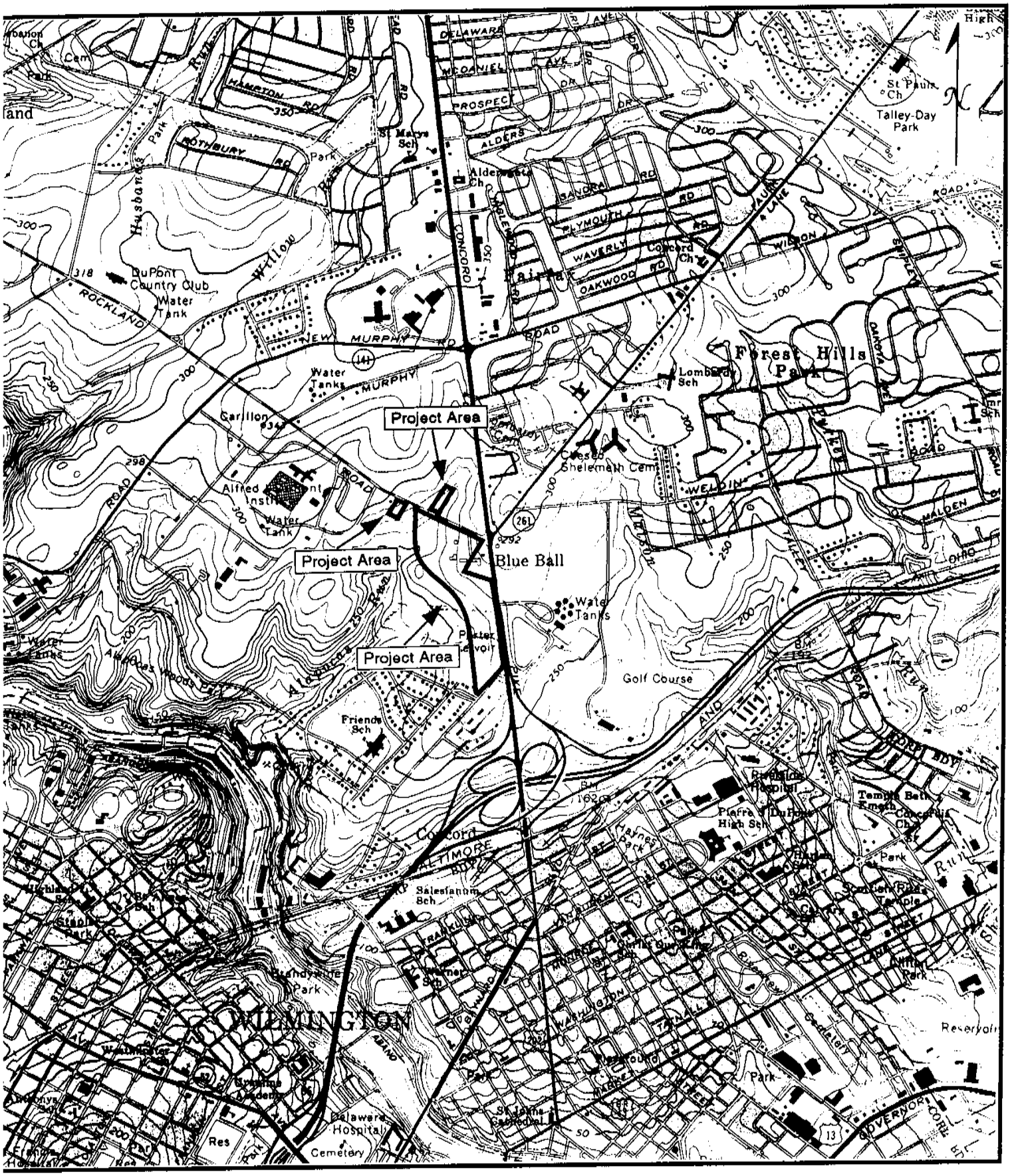

FIGURE 2
Portion of 1967 (photorevised in 1987) Wilmington North, DEL.-PA.
7.5' Quadrangle Showing Project Area
Scale: 1" = 2000'

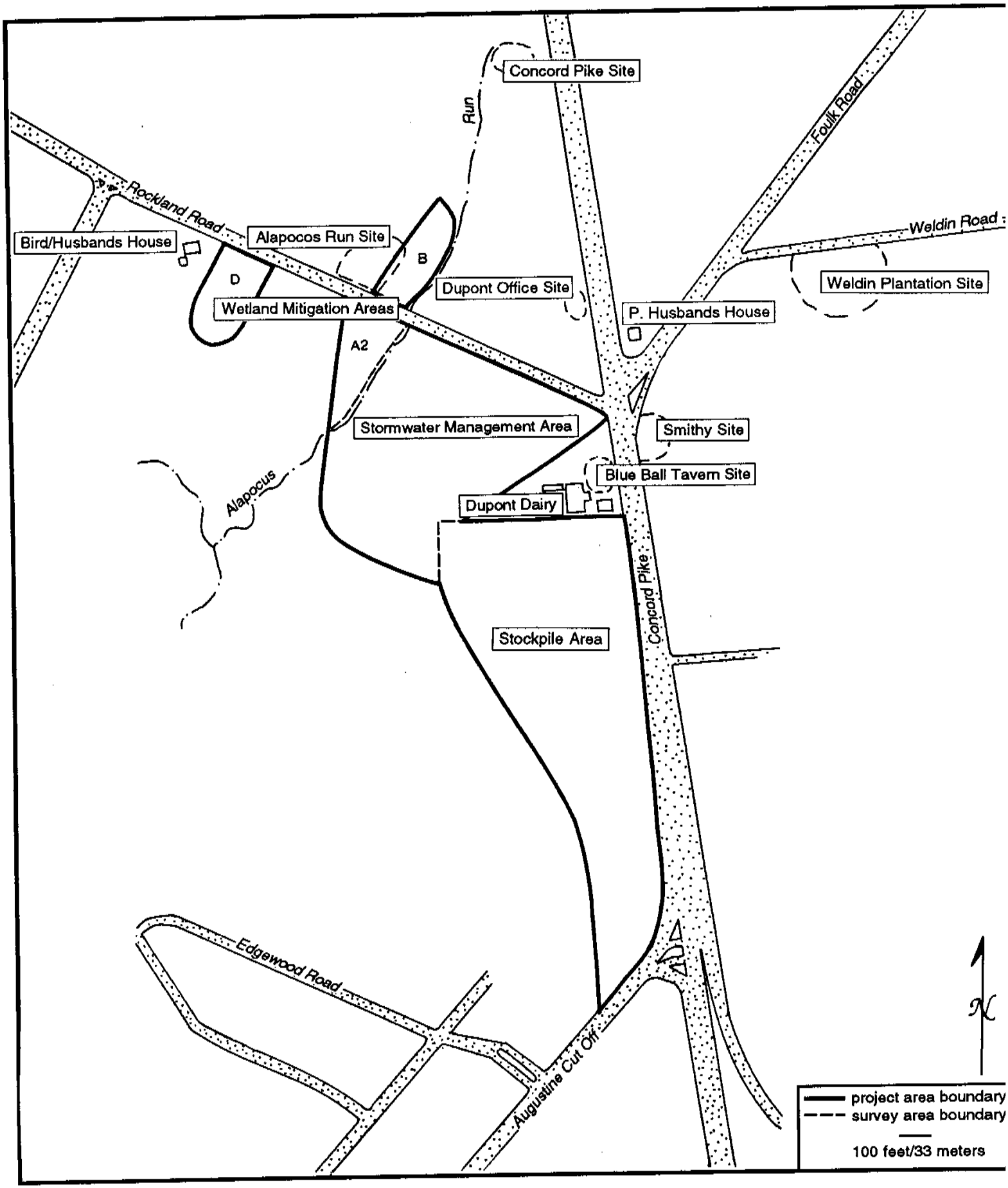

FIGURE 3
Project Map Showing Survey Areas, Previously Recorded Archeological Sites and Standing Structures

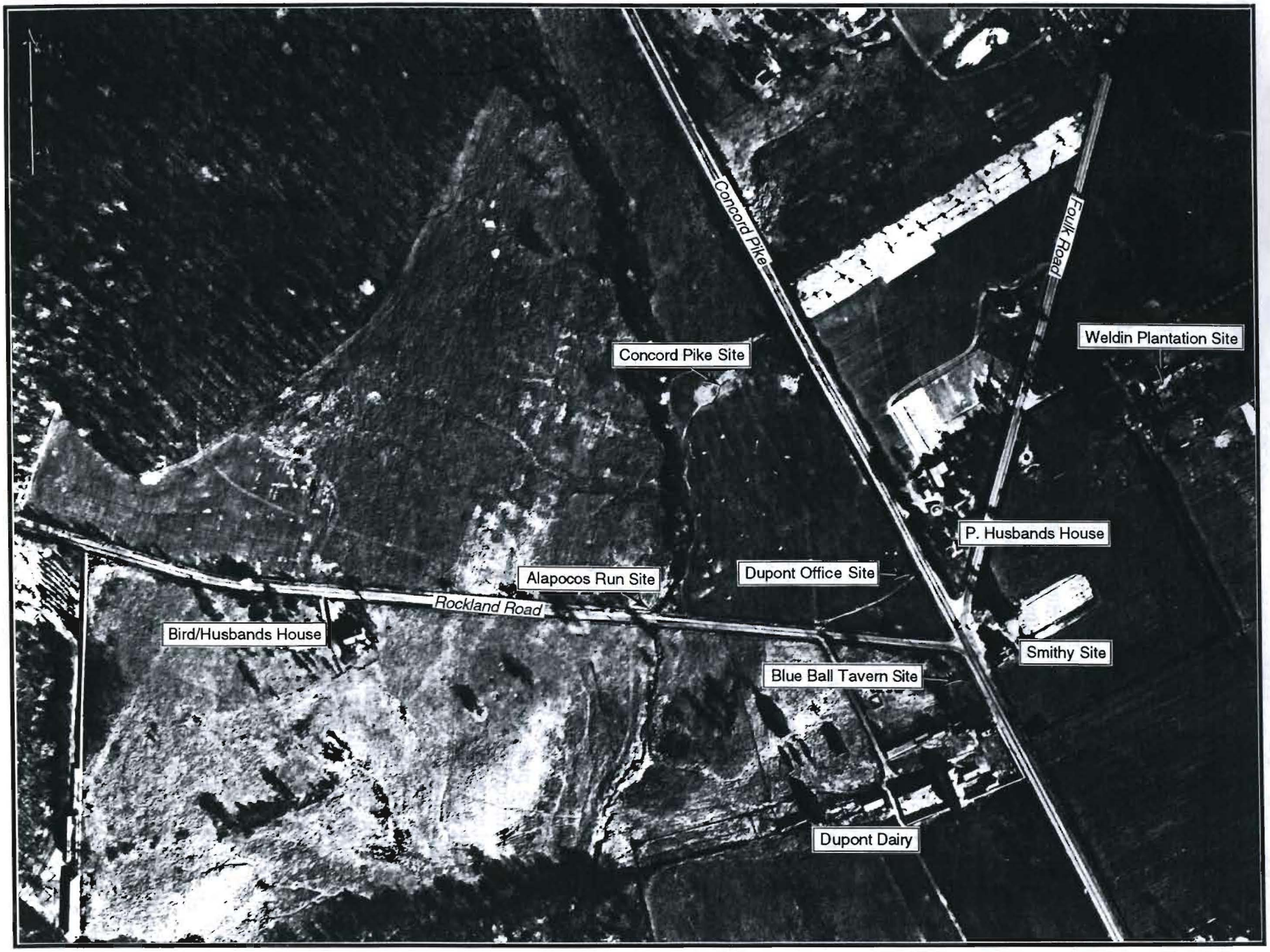

FIGURE 4
Aerial View of "Blueball" Intersection of Foulk and Rockland Roads
AeroService ca. 1930's