The excavation of these 36 Phase II shovel tests completed the Phase II survey of the J. Chandler/Highfield site. Both of the major components of the site were determined not to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria. Evidence of stratigraphic disturbance caused by the destruction of the blacksmith shop and the construction of a multi-car garage and driveway on the site was seen in the deepest cultural levels. Only one partially intact structural feature, a single post mold (Feature C-5) was located and completely excavated. In addition, it is likely that this feature was associated with the attached stables and not with the blacksmith shop itself. No activity related features or other non-structural deposits of artifacts were located in either component. No builder's trench or other sealed deposits, even under the micaceous cap, were located. No evidence of a privy was located by testing or background research, including informants. In addition, the site was small in size and the majority of it excavated during the Phase II Survey. Given these factors, no further work is recommended.

INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL PREHISTORY

The implications of this project for the prehistory of the region are based entirely on negative evidence, as no prehistoric sites were located. According to previous predictive models (Custer and Wallace 1982; Custer and DeSantis 1986), prehistoric sites in the Piedmont Uplands are not expected to survive in high

energy, significantly eroded areas. This model proved valid for the project area.

Although the project area is near Beaver Valley Rockshelter, a known prehistoric site with Woodland I and II components, no intact prehistoric sites were located. Three spot finds in disturbed contexts consisting of a 3/4 grooved axe, a jasper stemmed point and a quartz stemmed point medial fragment, however, were found. These artifacts represent isolated spot finds, and because of the disturbed contexts, are not significant.

IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL HISTORY

The historical and archaeological investigations completed by this project have a number of useful implications for future historical archaeological projects in the region. Presented below are a number of observations relating to the historic development of this area from which research questions for later investigations could be generated. These observations include local and regional economic patterns, historic settlement and community patterns, inheritance patterns, and intersite comparisons.

First of all, the rapid growth, and equally rapid decline of the Beaver Valley community in the nineteenth century is an example of the tremendous impact of fluctuations in the local and regional economy of northern New Castle County on individual settlements. Beginning in the early nineteenth century and lasting until the third quarter of the century, Beaver Valley was a small, but thriving agricultural community built up around the

few mills operating in the area. These mills were largely "one-man" operations sensitive to local and regional economic conditions. These mills, in part because they were small and demanded relatively little capital to operate, changed their product and sources of power frequently in response to local and regional demand. What was a clover mill one year was a woolen mill or Turkish carpet mill the next. Sunnydale paper mill the largest of the mills in the Beaver Valley area, began as a woolen mill and changed its source of power from water to steam and then to a combination of both. But these "advantages" were also disadvantages--individual mills had little to fall back on in times of low demand or catastrophe and tended to close almost as fast as they opened. These mills in Beaver Valley fit the pattern of rural manufacturing identified by Lemon (1972) for the area and provide data on the role of rural industry within the spheres of the two large industrial areas of the region, Philadelphia and Wilmington.

From the first survey of Beaver Valley Road in 1751, farmers in the area looked toward the opportunities of Wilmington and Philadelphia. This is the second regional implication of the project--the impact of the development of a regional road network in northern New Castle County in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries on the development of a specific community. The completion of Beaver Valley Road by the end of the eighteenth century had a significant impact upon the area. The very purpose of the road was to create access to Wilmington and Philadelphia via Naaman's Creek and West Chester via the Concord Pike. With access to these urban markets and economic centers, farmers in

the Beaver Valley area prospered throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. William Hicklen, Amor Chandler and their sons were all able to amass considerable wealth and leave considerable amounts of property to their heirs.

The history of the Beaver Valley project area seems to be largely the history of individual families--particularly the Chandlers. During the first three quarters of the nineteenth century, Beaver Valley was indeed aptly described as "Chandlers' Hollow". Documentary research on the store, blacksmith shop, and tenant and owner-occupied dwellings shows an intricate and complex series of familial relationships. Between the Chandlers, the unmarried daughters of Amor Chandler (Sr.) were carefully provided for by their father and two brothers, Jehu and Amor. And it is land that is the basic family "currency" and the definition of security and wealth. At the death of Amor Chandler (Sr.) in 1813 and the eldest daughter Rachel in 1838, a complex series of land transactions involving minute fractions and shares of parcels were set off. At least four of the Chandlers, Jehu, Amor (Sr.), Amor (Jr.) and Rachel died intestate, yet no record of any disputes, particularly Orphan's Court proceedings, are evident.

The importance of kinship and familial ties in the Beaver Valley community is similar to that identified by Catts et al. (1986) in the northern Route 7 area and provides an interesting comparison. In a study of 113 deed transactions for properties along Limestone Road in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Catts found that in over 70% of the records the buyers recorded

were residents of Mill Creek Hundred, or were purchasing land from relatives (based on surnames). This can be compared to the Chandler family which retained control of almost all of the project area until the late nineteenth century.

The overwhelming importance of land and familial-community patterns in the history of the Beaver Valley area has a number of important regional historical and archaeological implications. First, with most of their wealth expressed in land, agricultural products, and shops, the Chandlers dealt primarily in "goods" that left little material evidence in the form of ceramics and other traditional archaeological evidence. Rachel Chandler's inventory of goods at her death in 1838 is one example of this, she controlled almost $1400 in land, livestock, bank notes, and agricultural products, but owned only $4.00 worth of ceramics, usually the most common historic artifact associated with archaeological determinations of socio-economic status.

This disparity between evidence of social and economic status points toward the need for detailed archival, particularly deed, research and the formation of archaeologically testable hypotheses that include data from other material culture and archival sources. The utility of this approach has been demonstrated in a number of other archaeological investigations, notably Coleman et al. (1984, 1985, 1987), and Catts et al. (1986).

The Beaver Valley area was a small, but thriving community throughout most of the nineteenth century. Archaeological and documentary data gathered during this project can also be used to compare community development in Beaver Valley with other

communities that grew up around similar agricultural manufacturing and transportation points. Examples of other such communities is that identified along northern Route 7 (Catts 1986) and at Fork Branch/Dupont Station (Heite and Heite 1985). The blacksmith shop and store/post office were at the center of the Beaver Valley community and can be compared to the artisan and commercial structures such as the Mermaid Tavern blacksmith and wheelwright shops along Route 7 (Catts et al. 1986) and the John Ruth site in Ogletown (Coleman et al. 1987).

In conclusion, the archaeological and historical data gathered by this project has a number of significant implications for our understanding of the regional history of northern New Castle County, Delaware, and the mid-Atlantic region.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONCLUSIONS

Table 11 lists all of the archaeological sites located and identified by Phase I and II testing in the project area. All of the sites require no further research because they are not

TABLE 11

SUMMARY OF ALL SITES LOCATED BY PROJECT

CRS #	Site # and Name	Status	Work Required
N569.1	7NC-B-18 J. Chandler/ Highfield Blacksmith Shop	Phase I/II testing completed	No Phase III required
N-10955	7NC-B-19 A. Chandler/ Galbreth Store and Post Office	Phase I/II testing completed	No Phase III required
N-11074	7NC-B-20 Sauber House Site	Phase I testing completed	No Phase II required

eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. A short discussion of each of these sites is given below.

Approximately 85% of the A. Chandler/Galbreth site (N-10955, 7NC-B-19) is included in the proposed ROW. Almost all of the the first component, the nineteenth century store and post office structure built by Amor Chandler, is within the limits of construction. This component was extensively sampled during the Phase II survey and evidence of significant disturbance was located. The second component of the site, the early twentieth century house built by T. Galbreth, was also extensively tested during the Phase II survey and evidence of significant disturbance located. As with the A. Chandler component, no intact non-structural features were located. Both components were thereby determined not to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria.

Approximately 30% of the J. Chandler/Highfield Blacksmith Shop site (N-569.1, 7NC-B-18) is included in the proposed ROW. Only the attached frame stables are within the limits of construction. This blacksmith shop is associated with standing structure N-569. This site was determined to be shallow and significantly disturbed. No activity-related or other non-structural features were located. Thus this site was determined not to be eligible for listing on the National Register under any criteria.

The third archaeological site located was the Sauber House site (N-11074, 7NC-B-20). This site is located along a narrow strip of floodplain along Beaver Creek and was determined by Phase I testing to be shallow and heavily disturbed.

Approximately 95% of the Sauber House site is within the proposed ROW and limit of construction. Phase I testing determined the site not to be eligible for listing on the National Register. No Phase II excavations were undertaken and no further research is suggested.