

## ABSTRACT

On behalf of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), The Louis Berger Group, Inc. (Berger), has completed Phase II testing of two archaeological sites on one historic property in New Castle County, Delaware. Both sites are threatened by the U.S. Route 301 Project, and the goal of the studies was to determine if these sites are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and to plan for mitigation of any resources that are considered significant (NRHP-eligible). Both sites are primarily historic and domestic, although some prehistoric artifacts are present. Both are located in active agricultural fields.

Both sites were determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Bowman #3 Site, 7NC-F-85, produced a small collection of 368 historic artifacts, probably representing an occupation lasting only a decade sometime around 1760. The residents must have been tenants, but otherwise nothing is known about them from documentary sources. This site is in a sloping location and has been severely eroded, and no sub-plowzone features were discovered during the testing. The site was deemed to lack the integrity necessary for NRHP eligibility.

The Bowman Tenant Site, 7NC-F-145, produced more than 1,800 artifacts dating to the 1800 to 1880 period. A house is shown in this location on an 1837 plat and an 1868 atlas, but nothing is known about the residents except that they were tenants of the Bowman family. The only feature found during the testing was a small pit nearly empty of artifacts. The site was considered to lack information potential.

This report also discusses the Mrs. Bowman Site, 7NC-F-144, on the same historic property. This site, a larger home dating to circa 1840 to 1960, was determined not eligible for the NHRP after the Phase I testing.

Although all these sites were determined not eligible for the NHRP, they do preserve a record of life on one property across two centuries, and the different kinds of people who lived there.