

ABSTRACT

A cultural resource data recovery project was conducted in the proposed route of Road 356a in Kent County, Delaware. A collection of can-making waste, deposited between 1870 and 1882, was discovered in an area affected by the project. The discovery of this waste led researchers to the site of the Collins, Geddes cannery, which was declared eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

This is a report of excavation of that part of the cannery site that was destroyed by reconstruction of the highway. The ground plan of a principal cannery building was recovered, together with additional can waste. Interpretation included analysis of working conditions, the cannery's state of development, and the place of canning in the community. As an outgrowth of this excavation, the manufacturing theme of the State Plan for Historic Preservation was examined, and data concerning similar sites was accumulated.

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