

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS

This portion of the report presents the results of the archival research, the fieldwork and the laboratory analysis, and is supplemented by a description of the previously identified architectural resources. The architectural descriptions are generally taken from the KKFS 1988 Eligibility Study of Lancaster Pike (Benenson et al. 1988) and the KFS Historic Preservation Group's documentation of Adverse Effect and Memorandum of Agreement (KFS 1993). The properties are listed from west to east by sections (reiterated below), devised to facilitate record keeping in the field and discussion in this report.

Section 1 - from the intersection of Newport Gap Pike (SR 41) to the intersection with Loveville Road (SR 276)

Section 2 - from Loveville Road (SR 276) to Old Wilmington Road (SR 275)

Section 3 - from Old Wilmington Road (SR 275) to Rolling Mill Road (SR 263)

Section 4 - from Rolling Mill Road (SR 263) to Centerville Road (SR 273)

Section 5 - from Centerville Road (SR 273) to Centre Road (SR 141)

Within each section, the cultural resources are described beginning at the western end of the section and progressing east.

Phase I Survey – 1988

The following discussion of the October 1988 Phase I work shall give a generalized overview of the total project area, describing the Phase I survey carried out section by section, discussing first the north side of the road of each section, then the south side. Schematic maps are included with each section to show the locations of the walkovers and testing carried out during this initial survey, as well as the locations of the various cultural resources identified for the project area that are to be discussed in subsequent discussions. All artifacts recovered during this survey are listed in the 1988 Phase I Artifact Inventory following this report.

Walkovers were carried out throughout the entire project area, but some areas lent themselves to closer examination of the ground surface than others, as will be indicated in the following discussion and shown on the Section maps. Shovel cuts and scraping of exposed road cuts and bank cuts were routinely carried out as part of the walkovers. Because the Phase I survey was largely confined to the right-of-way, it was not unexpected to find much construction disturbance from both road building and the construction from the newer houses along the Pike, driveway construction for the houses, and access road construction for other properties, as well as landscaping activities associated with such features as the Hercules Powder Company Golf Course. Test units, then, were excavated in what appeared to be minimally disturbed areas where cultural materials might be encountered.

Section 1 (Figure 5) - Newport Gap Pike (SR 41) to Loveville Road (SR 276)

North Side

Steep slopes with relatively new houses extended east from the Routes 41/48 intersection to the William Jordan property (N-12084), which lay close to, but outside of, the right-of-way; the right-of-way was examined in a walkover in this survey, but was tested in 1992 and is discussed in the Historic Properties portion of this report. Next to this there was a disturbed area where a large pond had been created from the headwaters of Hyde Run and, beyond that, several modern buildings stood; these buildings were flanked by extensive parking lots. The Loveville Post Office (N-12085) (see Historic Properties portion) stood at the northwest corner of the Route 276 intersection, out of the 1988 right-of-way. The right-of-way was examined but appeared quite disturbed.

South Side

Again, fairly steep slopes ran along the roadway. A flat area not far from the SR 41/48 intersection was examined, but revealed no cultural materials. The field just west of the northeast branch of Hyde Run was tested; this field, which belonged to the Episcopal Church (N-13553), was denoted Episcopal Field.

Episcopal Field Site (7NC-B-46)

This branch of Hyde Run was a small stream flowing south from the pond at the William Jordan house, north of the road, and crossing under Lancaster Pike. Five TUs were excavated within the right-of-way, running west to east, with three parallel to Lancaster Pike (TUs 1-3) and two perpendicular to it (TUs 4 and 5), following the course of the stream. These TUs, excavated to explore a small bench overlooking the creek, revealed two distinctive profiles (Figure 6). Soils in TUs 1 and 3 consisted of an Ap horizon overlying a B horizon; TU 3 yielded one large jasper flake or core fragment from the plowzone. The remaining test units revealed a soil profile with an Ap horizon overlying a fine loamy silt C horizon of probable eolian origin, with an admixture of slopewash; the thickness of this zone varied from test pit to test pit and there was a somewhat sharp break with the underlying B horizon. A quartz flake was recovered from the plowzone in TU 2, and in TU 4, two quartz flakes were recovered from the Ap, 0 to 1.0 feet below surface, and two from the C/slopewash horizon, 1.0 to 1.9 feet below surface; this overlaid an Apb which, in turn, overlaid a silty clay B horizon.

In summary, the small site, given the designation of 7NC-B-46, was a low density prehistoric lithic scatter occupying an area within the right-of-way estimated to measure 50 feet along the road and 25 feet wide; it is not known how far the site extends out of the right-of-way. TUs 2, 3 and 4 yielded artifacts consisting of five quartz flakes and a large jasper flake or possible core. No diagnostic materials were recovered. Two of the quartz flakes were thought to have come from the underlying C/slopewash horizon in TU 4, suggesting the presence of a low density site in the C horizon. However, because of the low density of artifacts overall, and the likelihood that the C horizon, a transported slopewash, is also a buried plowzone (based on the sharp break with the underlying soil), no additional work is recommended for the site.

EPISCOPAL FIELD

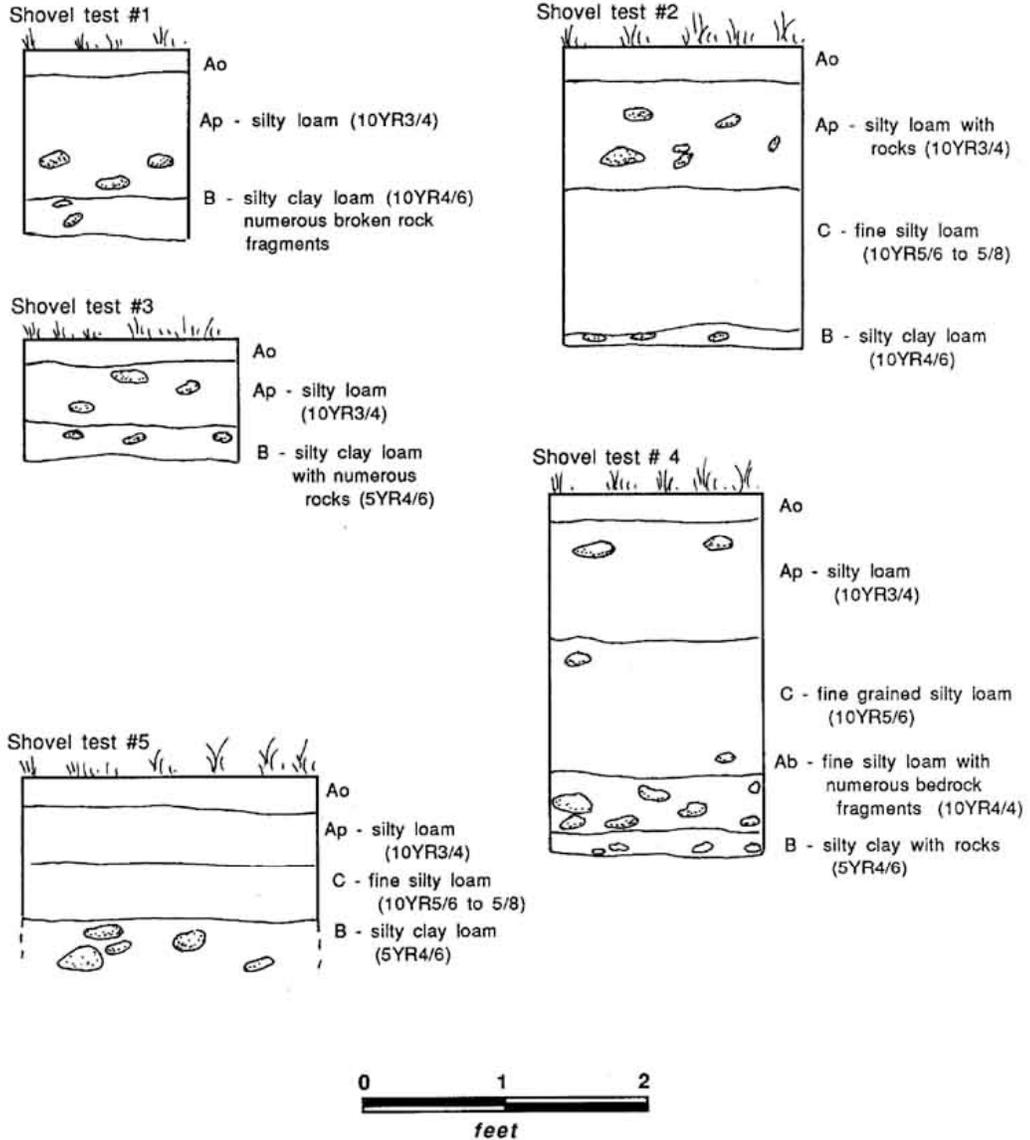


FIGURE 6
Soil Profiles from Episcopal Field

East of Episcopal Field and beyond two modern houses sharing a lot and which included a garage and several sheds was N-12077, a stone wall that ran along the Pike for a short distance; this was associated with a small house. Another portion of this stone wall was visible just west of this site.

Dwelling and Stone Wall (N-12077)

The stone wall and the associated dwelling were located on the south side of Lancaster Pike about 400 feet west of its intersection with Loveville Road. The structure, constructed about 1925, was a small one-and-a-half story frame house/bungalow with a concrete foundation. The stone wall followed the edge of the property, adjacent to Lancaster Pike; just to the west of N-12077 there was another small portion of this wall. The wall, a retaining wall associated with the road, was constructed around 1938 when Lancaster Pike was widened (Benenson et al. 1988); portions of the wall are visible along the Pike. Although the wall was deemed to be “interesting,” neither the wall nor the house were determined to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (Benenson et al. 1988).

The remaining portion of Section 1, between N-12077 and the southwest corner of the Loveville Road intersection, was a field in which the major part of the right-of-way was composed of the slopes of the fill-constructed banks of the present roadbeds. A walkover and trowel scraping of the surface revealed what appeared to be a leveled soil surface with some fill in the right-of-way.

Section 2 (Figure 7) - Loveville Road (SR 276) to Old Wilmington Road (SR 275)

North Side

A 1920s house once stood near the northeast corner of the Loveville Road intersection; it had been removed. Next to this was an open field in which a dirt bike track ran for approximately 180 feet; this followed Lancaster Pike and offered very good surface visibility throughout its length, for it had cut into the ground surface. Several shovel cuts were made along its length; no cultural materials were found, and it was noted that the bedrock was very near the surface in this area. Beyond a relatively new house was the Whitman/Clark Complex (N-10081); the buildings had been destroyed after the architectural study had been prepared and, at the time of the Phase I survey, no archeological work was required within the right-of-way because earth moving activities were thought to have destroyed the archeological potential within the right-of-way as well. In 1998, however, revised plans for this part of the road resulted in the need for more extensive surveying on the north and east sides of the complex. This is discussed in that portion of the report.

A branch of Hyde Run flowed beyond the Whitman/Clark Complex. Three TUs were excavated east to west, one every 100 feet in an area approximately 300 feet in length, just east of the stream, in an area designated Mundy North Field. Thick deposits of colluvium were found to cap the original ground surface in TUs 1 and 2 (Figure 8). Beneath this lay a well developed sequence of Ap, B1, B2 and B3 subsoils. TU 1 yielded no artifacts. A brown glazed sherd of redware, one piece of clear glass, and a shell fragment were recovered from 1.1-1.8 feet below the surface in a buried Ap horizon in TU 2. TU 3 was excavated in the lower floodplain of the creek, and here the soils were predominantly colluvial materials covering alluvial channel fill. A single black chert flake was recovered from the colluvium/Ap horizon in TU 3. This artifact is considered to be transported, and the historic artifacts are thought to be field scatter; therefore, no archeological site was registered for this location, and no further work is recommended.

A steeply sloping terrain lay beyond Mundy North Field; this was not tested. Bordering the 48/275 intersection there was a sizeable area disturbed by building construction for a nursing home and its parking lots.

South Side

The area adjacent to the 48/276 intersection had been badly disturbed by the construction of large buildings and parking areas and their associated landscaping. Coffee Run flowed south of the road at this point. The Coffee Run Mission House and Cemetery (N-272) were set well back from the road, out of the right-of-way of the proposed road widening.

Coffee Run Mission (N-272)

The Coffee Run Mission complex is located on the south side of Lancaster Pike, across from the former Whitman/Clark complex. The proposed road construction will have no effect on this historic property. The main house consists of a two and one-half story, three-bay stone structure with a side gabled shingle roof with a cross gable on the front

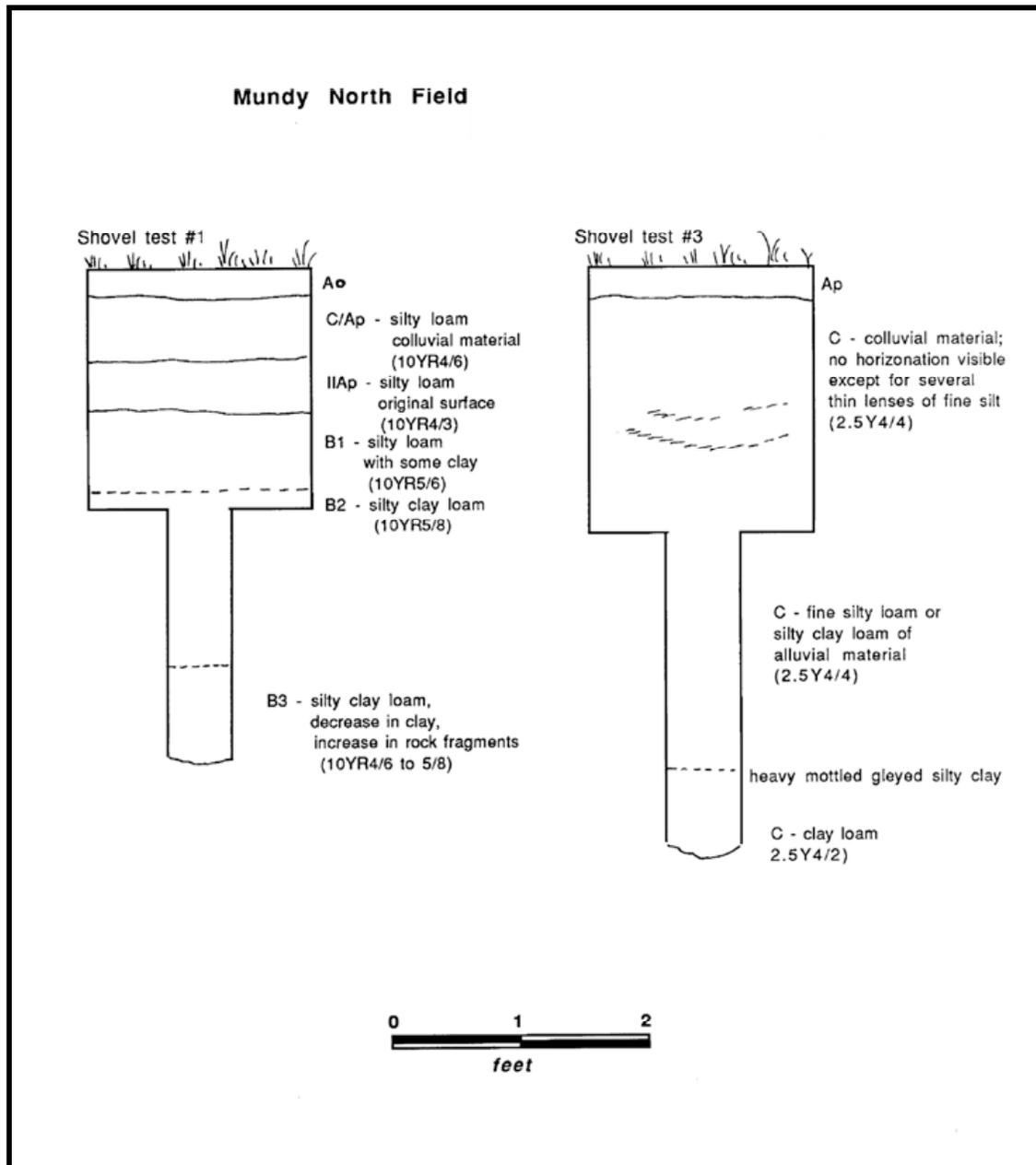


FIGURE 8
Mundy North Field Representative Profiles

facade. A full width single story porch is present on the front and several frame additions are located at the rear of the structure. Other contributing elements include a stone barn, outbuildings and a cemetery with an iron fence west of the house and the cemetery entrance gates which are on Lancaster Pike, also to the west of the house (KFS 1993).

The original mission house was constructed in 1790 on land that had been purchased by British Jesuits in 1772. The cemetery is the burial ground for St. Mary's of the Assumption, a log mission that was the first Catholic church in Delaware. Father Patrick Kenney became pastor of St. Mary's in 1804 and the Diocese of Wilmington grew out of the activities of his mission. The house and outbuildings at Coffee Run were constructed in 1812. The complex was determined to be eligible for nomination to the National Register in 1973 under Criterion A (KFS 1993).

Next to the Coffee Run Mission tract was a recently built house and condominiums. Hyde Run flows to the east of these properties.

Across Hyde Run was the 600 foot area of the right-of-way of Mundy South Field. This area was tested by the excavation of 13 TUs, running east to west, spaced at intervals of 50 feet and parallel to Lancaster Pike where it crossed a small bench or knoll (# 1 through 9), on the gentle slope to the creek's floodplain (#10 and 11), and in the lower floodplain itself (#12 and 13). Testing on the flat bench over the creek revealed an extremely low density of historic ceramics, all recovered from the shallow (circa 6" deep) Ap horizon which overlay the B horizon (Figure 9). In the lower part of the field and in the floodplain itself, the depositional sequence was characterized by thick deposits of colluvium capping the original ground surface.

TUs 1, 3 and 8-13 yielded no artifacts. TU 2 produced a cut nail, a sherd of brown glazed yellow paste earthenware and a brick fragment. TU 4 yielded a single brick fragment, and TU 5, a single clam shell fragment. A green bottle glass fragment and a mortar fragment were recovered from TU 6. TU 7 yielded a single clear glass fragment. No prehistoric artifacts were recovered. The historic artifacts were recovered from the Ap horizon in the units and represent field scatter. No further work is recommended for this section of the right-of-way.

Between Mundy South Field and the intersection at Route 275 a new housing development had disturbed the terrain. The Taylor Tenant House stands across from SR 275.

Taylor Tenant House (N-12078)

The deed search seemed to indicate that the original structure dates circa 1848-1860, although the owners at the time of the survey believed that it dated from 1825. The structure, of post and beam construction, was a two and one-half story, L-shaped clapboard house that had been covered with asbestos shingles. The house had a typical center gable Downingesque design, with a rear wing dating to 1860. The building had been much altered in the twentieth century, with additions made to the side and the rear, changes in windows, and changes in interior details (Benenson et al. 1988).

The first property owner of record was the Reverend Patrick Henry, founder of the Catholic church in the area, who purchased 208 acres circa 1810. In 1824, John Nolan purchased a 117 acre portion of the tract from Henry, who excluded a 61 acre parcel that

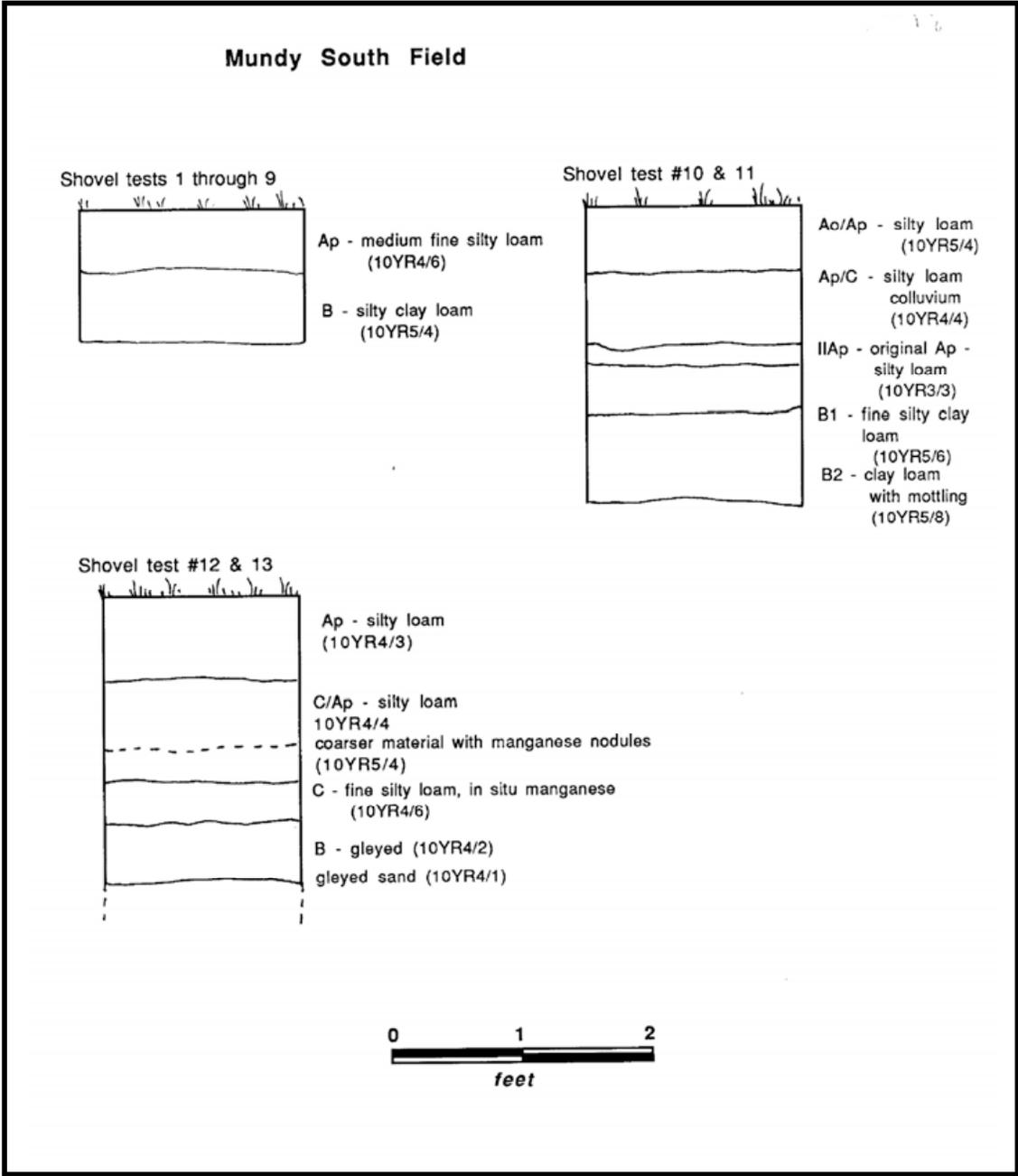


FIGURE 9
Mundy South Field Representative Profiles

included a church, a graveyard, a parsonage and the 92 perch parcel on which Henry lived. In 1833, the 117 acre property, including a tenement, was purchased by Robert Morrison. This may be the reason that the current owners thought the building was of an earlier date. In 1848, the one acre parcel on which the Taylor Tenant House now stands was purchased by John Taylor for \$50.00, who subsequently sold it to John Faust in 1860 for \$1,100.00. The increase in purchase price probably indicates the construction of the current structure, which may have been built as a tenant house belonging to the Cranberry Hills farm. In 1887, 17 acres, including the one acre tract with the tenant house and two other properties, were sold by Robert Faust, a relative of John, to Joshua Leitzenberg. Subsequently, the house has been sold numerous times, and in 1954 a portion of the property was sold, reducing the acreage to the current eight acres (Benenson et al. 1988).

The house, originally of center gable Downingesque design, had been considerably altered. It was a common form when built and had lost its architectural integrity with the alterations; it was not considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion A (Benenson et al. 1988). The proposed road construction will have no archeological effect on this property.

Section 3 (Figure 10) - Old Wilmington Road (SR 275) to Rolling Mill Road (SR 263)

North Side

The Lewis Miller House (N-4075) was located at a bend on the east side of Old Wilmington Road (SR 275) a short distance north of Lancaster Pike. It lay outside of the proposed work at the time of the 1988 survey, but was tested in 1993. A little farther east of this intersection was a dwelling (N-4065) listed in the site files. This mid to late nineteenth century house, of an ell plan with a partial length shed porch and wood Tuscan columns (as described on the site form), no longer existed in 1988, and the site of the house was not to be affected by the road construction as it was well out of the project area. Steep slopes and newly built houses extended from the intersection east to the Barker House site that, at the time of the survey, was also not thought to be affected by the proposed work, but ultimately was tested in 1993.

The area lying between the meander bend of Red Clay Creek and the Barker House property was tested. This area, referred to as *Red Clay Creek, Area 1* (later to be called Barker House East – in the 1992/1993 Historic Properties project), was a narrow wooded portion of the floodplain west of the meander bend of Red Clay Creek. Six TUs were excavated; Figure 11 illustrates several of the soil profiles. TUs 1 through 3 exhibited disturbed profiles in which varying quantities of fill overlay an older humus zone. Two flakes and a point fragment of yellow jasper were recovered from the fill horizon of TU 3, along with a burned spall of whiteware: they are not indigenous to the site area, having been brought in with the fill material. Several quartz flakes were also recovered from the Ap horizon in TUs 4 and 6 where there was no fill horizon. Miscellaneous historic artifacts were also recovered.

These are tabulated below by TU and by soil horizon:

TU 1

Zone 1, fill horizon, 0 – 1.3' below surface:

- 2 pieces slag
- 1 sherd clear glass

Zone 2, buried Ap horizon, 1.3' – 1.6' below surface

- 3 sherds burned whiteware
- 2 brick fragments

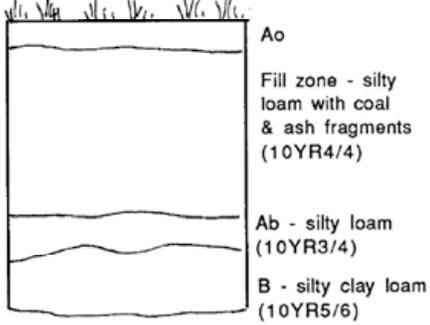
TU 2

Zone 1, fill horizon, 0 – 1.2' below surface

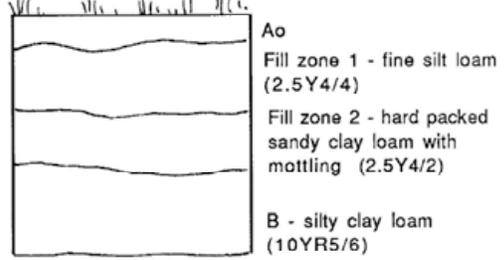
- 2 sherds clear, flat glass
- 1 sherd yellowware
- 1 brick fragment
- 1 coal fragment
- 1 piece slag

Red Clay Creek, Area 1

Shovel test #1 & 2



Shovel test #3 & 5



Shovel test #4 & 6

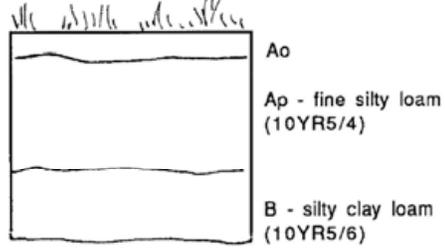


FIGURE 11
Red Clay Creek, Area 1, Representative Profiles

TU 3

- Zone 1, fill horizon, 0 - .6' below surface
 - 1 distal end fragment of a yellow jasper point
 - 2 yellow jasper flakes
 - 1 burned whiteware spall
- Zone 2, buried Ap horizon, .6 - 1.0' below surface
 - 1 quartz flake
 - 1 brick fragment or redware spall

TU 4

- Ap horizon, 0 - 1.0' below surface
 - 1 quartz decortification flake

TU 5

No artifacts

TU 6

- Ap horizon, 0 - 1.0' below surface
 - 1 whiteware sherd
 - 1 brown glazed redware sherd
 - 1 quartzite flake
 - 2 quartz flakes
 - 1 quartz chunk

Because of the scattered nature of this area, stratigraphically speaking, this cluster of artifacts was not registered as a site at the time of this survey.

A modern house stood on the east side of the meander bend; its small garden area provided good surface visibility, but no cultural materials were recovered during a walkover of this plot. A number of TUs (*Area 2*) were excavated in the small open field between this property and the Wilmington and Western Railroad. This was a flat bench west of the railroad tracks that run parallel to the creek; it was the only flat, high terrace area overlooking the creek within the study area. Five TUs were excavated parallel to the right-of-way. Here, again, disturbed soil profiles (Figure 12) were revealed, with dense fill material overlying a B horizon or an older humus horizon. TU 3 yielded a single white quartz flake from the Ap, 0 - 1.0 feet below the surface, and TU 5 yielded two quartz flakes from what was designated Zone 1, a mixed or disturbed A and B horizon that may have been fill, again, 0 to 1.0 feet below surface. This area was ultimately re-tested in 1996 when new highway plans were drawn up and it was selected to be used as a storm water management area.

Two additional areas were examined, confirming the presence of severe disturbance and areas of fill deposits. *Red Clay Creek, Area 3*, was the lower floodplain east of the railroad tracks, and was low and swampy. A 2' by 2' square was excavated, revealing a profile of deep alluvial and colluvial soil deposits capping an older A horizon (Figure 12). Augering with a bucket auger showed a heavily gleyed soil underlying this, with channel gravels being reached at a depth of 4.1 feet below surface. No artifacts were recovered. It is now, and undoubtedly was in the past, too low and swampy for

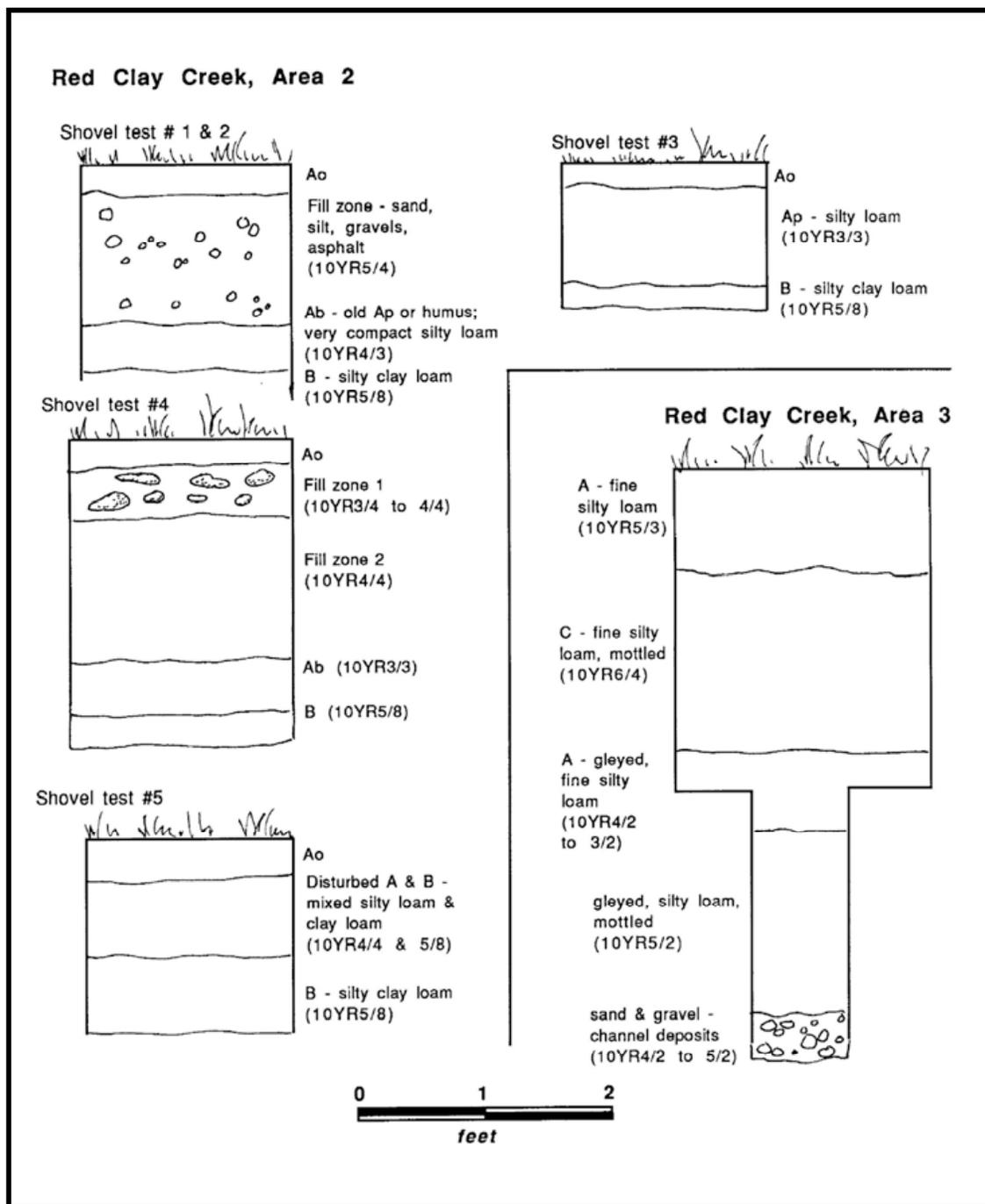


FIGURE 12
Red Clay Creek, Areas 2 and 3,
Representative profiles

occupation. Examination of the lower floodplain of Red Clay Creek on the south side of the Pike revealed a similar situation of low, swampy ground, as well as areas of thick construction fill, particularly along the edge of the Hercules Corporation golf course.

A low floodplain of Red Clay Creek was located northeast of the Wilmington and Western Railroad crossing on Lancaster Pike; this floodplain had been scoured and was crosscut by flood channels. An area of higher ground in this area was augered, revealing a gleyed buried A horizon. A shovel test excavated next to the auger test, put in to sample the buried A horizon, produced no artifacts.

South Side

New houses line the edge of the road from the 48/275 intersection to the boundaries of the Hercules Powder Company Golf Course where the construction of a paved lane to the golf course, earth berms and utility poles were present. In addition, extensive landscaping had severely modified the terrain.

Red Barn (N-10937)

The Red Barn, said to date to about 1850, was originally part of an agricultural complex located southeast of the intersection of Hercules Road and Lancaster Pike. The stuccoed stone house was demolished in 1970, the barn was torn down more recently, and no outbuildings from the complex remain. The barn was an L-shaped, two-story frame building resting on a stone foundation. The exterior walls were board and batten, and the gabled roof was covered with asphalt shingles; these building features were added about 1920. A concrete block garage stood near the barn. The twentieth century alterations had compromised the integrity of the historic structure, rendering it ineligible for the National Register (Benenson et al. 1988).

The property was originally part of Samuel Barker's 340 acre farm (see the Barker House discussion in the Historic House testing section of this report). Although Barker's Warrant of Recovery for the land dates to 1762, land surveys from 1686, 1703 and 1706 were found that included this land in his property on Red Clay Creek. Because of these early dates, it is questionable whether the site known as the Barker House is the original Barker dwelling, since the earliest contexts discovered there produced a mixture of pearlware and whiteware ceramics dating to the early to mid-nineteenth century.

After his death on October 27, 1803, Samuel's sons, William and Abraham Barker, acquired the property. In 1847, after William Barker's death, the property was sold at public auction to Richard Smithurst. The earliest map to show the houses on any of Barker's property is the 1849 Rea and Price Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 2), dating to shortly after the land left the Barker family. South of Lancaster Pike, the name Smithers [Smithurst] is given next to a structure that would be within the boundaries of the Samuel Barker property. In 1857, the property was sold by Smithurst to J. Hulme; however, the 1868 Beers map (Appendix I, Map 3) shows an R. Smithurst at both the Barker House and the other house south of the Pike. It is not known why the 1868 map shows the name Smithurst associated with this property, as well as the property across Lancaster Pike, since the deeds indicate other ownership. In 1868, Hulme's property was again sold at public auction by J. Peoples to William Curry of Philadelphia,

who sold it to John Peoples shortly afterward. Peoples' name is shown with the structure and 194 acres of the Pike on the Hopkins 1881 map. The land remained in the Peoples family until it was sold by Alfred D. Peoples to the Hercules Powder Company in 1929.

The Red Barn and its agricultural complex have been demolished. The property had not been thought to be eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because of modern alterations. Also, the buildings were well out of the impact area, about 1000 feet south of Lancaster Pike, so no archeological testing was required.

Wilmington and Western Railroad (N-4091)

According to the National Register Nomination, the railroad was originally incorporated in 1867 as the Wilmington and Chester Railroad Company, but was renamed the Wilmington and Western Railroad in 1869, and was actually constructed in 1871-1872. The purpose of the railroad was to ship freight from the various mills along Red Clay Creek to Wilmington, although some passenger traffic was also to be included. The railroad, originally 19.92 miles in length, followed the Red Clay Creek valley to Garrett's Snuff Mills, traversed the "Kaolin Valley" to Hockessin, and crossed the White Clay Creek valley to Landenberg in Chester County.

In 1877, the railroad was sold at auction and renamed the Delaware Western Railroad, operating under this name until 1883, when it became the Landenberg Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. In the 1870s, several industries, including Alan Wood's rolling mills at Wooddale, has built their own sidings to link up to the railroad, and the amount of freight shipped continued to increase. After 1900, shipping decreased on the line, and eventually the segment of the line past Hockessin was eliminated, and the track taken up. Track was also removed from Marshallton to Wilmington. The remaining track is 9.1 miles long. The only associated building still standing is the Greenbank Station near Marshallton. It has been moved from its original location at Yorklyn, and stands at the location of the original Greenbank station, which burned in 1968. There are eight wooden trestle bridges, an iron bridge and several areas that were cut for the track grade. One such cut is the Wooddale Cut, about 300 yards long, eleven feet wide and 40 feet deep. On either end of the cut are wooden trestles spanning Red Clay Creek. The cut and trestles are north of the Lancaster Pike right-of-way.

The Wilmington and Western Railroad was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 under Criterion A. It is representative of many small railroads that developed after the Civil War. It provided public transportation for rural New Castle County families and made freight service available to the mills, thus playing an integral role in the economic history of the county.

Limited shovel and auger testing was conducted on the north side of the Pike in the Red Clay Creek floodplain adjacent to the railroad crossing, and also on the south side of the road by the golf course. A bridge (N-12081) crosses Red Clay Creek; this was a concrete bridge with tapered piers built in 1940, and had been determined not to be eligible for the National Register.

East of the railroad track on the south side of the Pike there was a utility pole and a gravel parking lot. An auger test done revealed that the area beside the parking lot had been filled; no additional testing was done in this area.

Section 4 (Figure 13) – Rolling Mill Road (SR 263) to Centerville Road (SR 273)

North Side

On the north side of the Pike, adjacent to SR 263, Rolling Mill Road, was the site of N-12079, the yard and garden of a tenant house which was out of the 1988 project area but which was investigated in the Historic properties 1993 work. About 200 feet of wooded terrain and wetland areas separate this area from the Chandler House property (N-12080).

Chandler House (N-12080)

The original portion of the Chandler House consisted of a two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with a stone basement foundation. It was probably constructed around 1845 in the Tuscan Villa style popular during that time period. There was a rear wing and a side screened porch. The roof was hipped and covered in asphalt shingles and had a moulded cornice. The house had been converted to the Colonial Revival style in the early to mid-twentieth century; this involved creating a new entrance, making changes in the windows, and the addition of asbestos shingles over the clapboard siding. The house was covered with asbestos shingles around 1940 and a sleeping porch, the chimneys and a side entrance were added circa 1920. In the 1930s, a stone wall was built along Lancaster Pike.

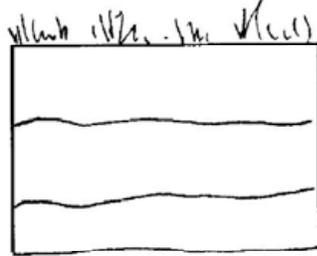
George Chandler settled in the area in 1687, and his descendant, Samuel Chandler, may have built the house, which first appears on the 1849 Rea and Price Map of New Castle County associated with his name. Samuel Chandler retained ownership of the property at least until 1868, when the Beers Atlas also shows his name associated with the property. In 1893, the Baist Atlas shows a Chandler associated with a parcel of an 110 acre parcel of land on which two structures are shown in the location where the present house and stone ruins were found. The ruins are those of a barn or stable. The property was acquired by Lamot duPont Copeland in the twentieth century; he sold it to the Hercules Corporation in 1972.

Several additions to the house have been made, yet the property is thought to retain a high degree of integrity. The house represents an important architectural style that is rare in the area and is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The proposed road construction will have no effect on the historic property (Benenson et al. 1988; KFS 1993). No archeological testing was carried out in the right-of-way as the stone wall constructed along its edge impeded such efforts.

An open grassy field, examined during a walkover, led to the next area that was tested, an upland area overlooking a tributary of Red Clay Creek, approximately .6 mile east of Red Clay Creek proper. Here, seven TUs were excavated, running east to west and paralleling the road, and numerous bank cuts and shovel cuts were examined. The only cultural materials recovered were two quartz flakes from the Ap horizon (Figure 14) of TU 1; this TU was located on the knoll overlooking the small unnamed tributary. Additional testing around this unit failed to produce any cultural materials, and no cultural materials were visible on the ground surface. The flakes are interpreted as representing transient prehistoric use of the area. On the east side of the creek the ground

Red Clay Creek, Uplands

Shovel test #1 through 3

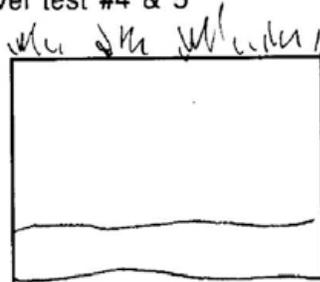


Ao/A1 - fine silty loam
(10YR3/2)

A2 - fine silty loam
(10YR5/3)

B - silty clay loam
(10YR6/6)

Shovel test #4 & 5

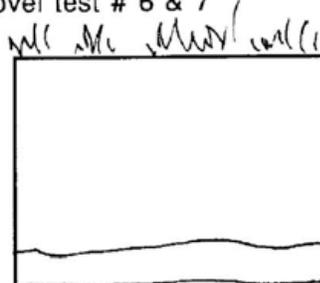


Ap - silty loam
(10YR5/4)

B - silty clay loam
(10YR6/4)

some mottling &
gleying throughout

Shovel test # 6 & 7



Ap - fine silty loam
(10YR4/4)

B - silty clay loam
(10YR5/6)

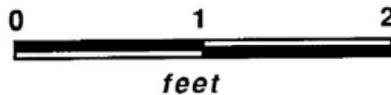


FIGURE 14
Red Clay Creek Uplands Soil Profiles

sloped steadily upwards away from the creek. The intersection of 48 and 273 had already been widened to four lanes, so no testing was carried out next to the road and the present right-of-way.

South Side

The Golf Course extended east to the intersection. An old road cut ran for about 700 to 800 feet up to the stream, approximately 50 feet away from and paralleling the Pike. This afforded excellent surface visibility, for it had been cut almost six feet into the ground, but a careful examination revealed no cultural materials or features. Cut bank exposures and shovel cuts were examined here as well, just as on the north side of the road. Across the stream the ground was low, with the roadbed built up onto a berm above it. No testing carried out in this low lying area. N-279, a now-demolished two-story frame house and springhouse, was apparently well out of the proposed right-of-way. This portion of Centerville Road had already been realigned to join SR 48 directly opposite its northern extension, and a buried telephone cable ran diagonally across the field. Some disturbance to the terrain from the road construction and the cable installation was evident.

Section 5 (Figure 15) - Centerville Road (SR 273) to Centre Road (SR 141)

This final section was an area of heavy development and quite disturbed terrain. Little Falls Creek, a small stream that crosses under SR 48 in the last portion of Section 5, drains south into Little Mill Creek. A number of standing structures of interest occurred here, as well as the area of the Grant Tenancy site just across Centre Road.

North Side

The north side of the road had been heavily built up throughout its length, but the Oak Hill Inn (N-507) and Stone Barn remains (N-508) were still standing, just west of Little Falls Creek. These were tested during the 1993 Historic House project. No testing was done near Little Falls Creek as areas of heavy development have disturbed any likely areas of archeological sensitivity; a walkover was carried out here, but no cultural materials were located. A heavily bulldozed area east of the creek led to the Sedgely Farms development with its access roads; near this was 2 Hedgerow Place (N-13547), and east of this, the Stilley House (N-506) at the junction of Route 48 and Courtney Road.

2 Hedgerow Place (N-13547)

This is a 1941 dwelling built as part of the Sedgely Farms subdivision. It was a late Colonial Revival style house built originally in a two-story L shape. It had a two-story rear addition, probably built within a decade of the original structure, and an attached garage. The exterior was of brick and clapboard siding, and the basement foundation was brick. The roof was side gable with asphalt shingles, and there were two chimneys, one exterior and one interior. The property relates to the 1880-1940+ historic context "Settlement Patterns and Demographic Change in the Piedmont Zone," although neither the individual property itself nor the subdivision were considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The house was listed with the state in 1996; it sat well back from the Pike and the yard was not tested archeologically.

Stilley House (N-506)

The structure was a stuccoed stone and frame dwelling constructed in three sections. The oldest section of the house was stone, and may have dated from the late 1700s; it was enlarged into a two-story section in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, and was further enlarged and updated in the 1920s. The two and one-half story vernacular Italianate style stone wing was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. A two-story Colonial Revival style frame wing was added in the 1920s. The roof was covered with standing seam metal, there were two stuccoed chimneys, and several porches and patios had been added. A one-story frame garage/workshop dating to circa 1930 was located behind the house.

Jacob Stilley purchased this land from George Reed in 1728. The property was in the hands of the Stilley family until 1807, after which it changed hands repeatedly. It was acquired by James Armor in 1847, and he retained title until his death in 1891. Armor's

heirs then sold the property to Edgar Vernon. In 1905, the property was transferred to Edwin Courtney who sold it to local developers Anna and Charles Rupert in 1907. The property became part of their Sedgeley Farms development. In 1961, this property was sold to William C. and Jean D. Gordon.

The house is an excellent example of the evolution of an early house in this section of New Castle County. It was felt to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, as it is a good representation of the three major building phases in the region, and still maintains a high degree of architectural integrity. This property will receive no adverse effect from the proposed road construction (Benenson et al. 1988; KFS 1993).

The Oak Hill Schoolhouse (N-12083) stands further east, beyond a number of new houses in the development. This, too, will be discussed in the Historic House section of the report. Beyond this property there is yet more heavily disturbed terrain, with slopes and drainage gulleys indicative of construction activities. At the 48/141 intersection is the location of the Grant Tenancy site and, north of this, the Letdown complex (N-12685).

Letdown (N-12685)

This property, at 933 Centre Road, encompasses 14 structures in three building complexes. Letdown itself included the Letdown house, garage, cabana and garden with pergola. Letdown was a two-story, five-bay brick house with stucco covering the brick. The cross gabled roof had wood shingles. It was constructed as a wedding gift for a du Pont heir. No dates were given for these structures.

A second group of buildings included the Taylor-Wellford House, a two-story, five-bay structure with a side gabled roof. A one-story, side gabled wing extended from each side of the house, and two front gabled sections were attached to the ends of these wings. The exterior cladding was wood shingle, and the roof was covered in asphalt shingles. A garage, a shed, a guest house and tennis courts were included in this complex. No dates were given for these structures.

The third group of structures was grouped around the Tatnell Tenant House, the earliest portion of which dated to circa 1780. This house was a two-story, four-bay stucco over stone dwelling. It had a side wing constructed circa 1840 and a rear addition and renovations dating to about 1920. The roof was gabled and clad with asphalt shingles. Outbuildings included a garage with vertical board siding and a barn on a stone foundation, also with vertical board siding, both of which dated to circa 1920. A two-story frame carriage house and a smaller tenant house dated to about 1890. The original tenant house was part of a larger Tatnell [Tatnall] estate between 1830 and 1851. It became known as Glenden in 1866, when it was bought by Wilmington banker John Peoples. William Winder Laird and Mary du Pont Laird bought the property in 1916, and it remains in the Laird family.

According to KFS (1993), the property as a whole represented all of the ideals of the Country House Movement, and was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Because the buildings are well outside of the construction right-of-way, no archeological work was required.

South Side

A baseball diamond occupied the southeast corner of the intersection of 48/273; a pasture with good surface visibility was adjacent to it. A walkover and some shovel testing of this area was carried out, as it was thought that this area might prove to have outbuildings or features related to the Breidablik complex, but no cultural materials were encountered. The Breidablik Complex, which lay south of the baseball field, appeared to be well out of the project area, but received testing during the 1993 work.

Bridge (N-12574) and testing along Little Falls Creek

Little Falls Creek is a small stream that crosses Lancaster Pike about 1850 feet east of Centerville Road. A somewhat dilapidated concrete slab highway bridge, officially State Bridge 139, crossed the stream before the highway was widened. The bridge was built in 1939. It was not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Five shovel tests were excavated in a west to east line parallel to the right-of-way, on the west side of this stream. The only artifact recovered from these shovel tests was a single whiteware sherd from the Ap horizon (Figure 16).

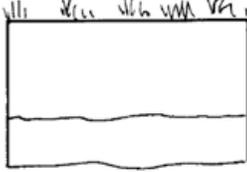
Testing on the east side of the stream, where three shovel tests (west to east) were excavated, revealed a low, poorly drained area having a heavily gleyed soil profile (Figure 16). No cultural material was encountered in this area. It is in this area that historic maps show a toll house and/or gate, and turnpike records indicate appropriations for the gate in 1818. The Rea and Price 1849 Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 2) has the designation "Gate" situated between the homes of M. Journey and J. Armor; however, a crease in the map surface obscures the road in this area. In 1860, a Map of New Castle County by Lake and Beers shows a structure on the south side of the Pike and east of the creek with the label "Toll Gate." In 1868, on the Christiana Hundred page of Beers Atlas, the structure is labeled as belonging to J. Grubb (Appendix II: Map 3). His ownership continues to at least 1881, as is shown on Hopkins 1881 Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 4). Gleyed soils noted in the STPs excavated here indicated that this would have been a poor choice for a building site. In addition, the structure appears to have been far enough from the stream to not be found in the area tested. The presence of a subdivision just east of the area tested probably means that the evidence for the former toll house site has been incorporated into the development and most likely has been destroyed as the terrain had been severely altered by the construction of access roads for the development.

Opposite the Oak Hill Schoolhouse stood Dwelling N-495, a fieldstone farmhouse with two front sections consisting of a two and one-half story portion and a smaller, two-story portion, with chimneys at the outside ends of these sections. A two-story rear wing had a chimney off the larger front section. The west wing, with its single room per story, was thought to have been constructed about 1820. The house sat back from the road, and had not been included in the archeological work.

Highfield Hall, Masonic Home of Delaware (N-12910; 7NC-B-37) was located behind the area of N-495, and will be discussed with the Historic House section.

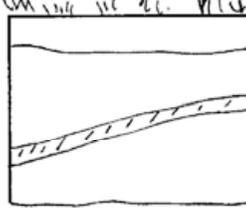
Testing West of Little Falls Creek

Shovel test # 1 through 3



Ap - silty loam
(10YR3/3) many broken schist
fragments in Ap &
top of B
B - clay loam
(10YR4/6)

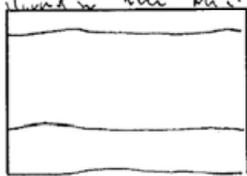
Shovel test # 4



Ao
Ap - silty loam
(10YR4/6)
lens of washed-in
B horizon
Ap - silty loam
(10YR5/3)
B - clay loam
(10YR4/6)

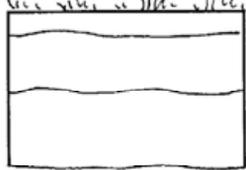
Testing East of Little Falls Creek

Shovel test # 1 & 2



Ao
A1/Ap - fine silty
loam (10YR4/2) both
heavily
gleyed
B - silty clay loam
(10YR6/4)

Shovel test #3



Ao
A1 - fine silty
loam (10YR3/2)
B - silty clay
loam (10YR4/1)

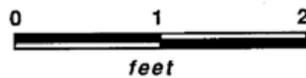


FIGURE 16
Little Falls Creek Soil Profiles

After an area heavily affected by bulldozing activities along the road and its adjacent field was the site of Limerick (N-505).

Limerick (N-505)

Limerick was a dwelling complex located at 4700 Lancaster Pike, on the south side of the road. The L-shaped house had two front sections of three bays each and a rear wing. The foundation was stone, with rubblestone, stucco and aluminum siding on the exterior of the different sections. The roof was gabled and covered with asphalt shingles. The original structure dated to 1815, and in 1936 it was transformed to reflect the Colonial Revival style during the Country House Movement. In addition to the dwelling, several outbuildings were located on the site, including a garage, a springhouse, an icehouse, a shed and a well head. The garage was built on the stone foundation of a former bank barn. The springhouse was a modern stone and stucco structure, the icehouse was of stone and brick. The outbuildings and ruins have been restyled, reflecting the English Garden movement.

The house was initially constructed by Jacob Robinson in 1815, and was used as a tenant property during most of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The 1849 Rea and Price Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 2) shows a structure in this location associated with the name J. C. Grubb. On the Lake and Beers Map of 1860 and on the 1868 Beers Atlas (Appendix II: Map 3), there are two additional structures west of this that seem to belong to Grubb. In 1881, the Hopkins map (Appendix II: Map 4) shows the same group of structures, and “Highfield”, J. C. Grubb Est., 115 acres, is written near these two additional structures. Two maps produced by Baist in 1892 (Appendix II: Map 5) and 1893 show the house and an outbuilding at Limerick, owned by Hy Wood.

In 1936, the house and outbuildings were altered for use as a country estate by the Down family. The house was then owned by Peter du Pont Hayward (TAA 1985). The alterations to the house were designed by Richard Dayton of Homsey Architects and reflect the Country House Movement, adapting early vernacular houses into estates. This movement is also typified by the integration of architecture and landscape. The house was eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The property will suffer no adverse effect as a result of the proposed construction (Benenson et al. 1988).

No archeological testing was carried out in the area just west of Centre Road; this intersection had been tested as part of the widening of that road, and several properties and archeological sites were studied (Barse 1985; Taylor et al. 1987; Taylor et al. 1989). These included the Grant Tenancy site (N-5010) and two prehistoric sites (7-NC-B-7; N-9568) along Little Mill Creek, which have now been destroyed (see Previous Archeological Work section of this report). A 1929 concrete slab span bridge (N-12575) located on Little Mill Creek has been widened. This section of the project area has been widened since the time of the architectural and archeological studies.

Summary of the 1988 Phase I Work

The purpose of the Phase I study was to determine if any significant cultural resources would be affected by the proposed expansion and dualization of this portion of Route 48, extending from SR 41 to SR 141. Surface surveys were made of all land surfaces to be affected by the proposed construction. The major portion of the right-of-way had been severely disturbed by previous widening of the Pike and by housing development projects and their related parking lots and driveways, as well as by significant landscaping projects such as that bordering the Hercules Golf Course. Subsurface testing was carried out in seven localities along the proposed right-of-way in areas deemed to have been of good potential for yielding cultural materials, in particular for prehistoric occupation. The testing revealed low intensity prehistoric remains at five locations, with artifact counts ranging from one to six flakes that had been recovered, for the most part, from the plow zone of each locale. The five loci were in areas near streams, on small rises just off the immediate floodplains of the creeks. Historic materials recovered were sparse and mixed, suggesting field scatter.

The small Episcopal Field Site, 7NC-B-46, was a low density lithic scatter yielding six prehistoric artifacts – five quartz flakes and a large jasper flake or possible core – occupying a small bench overlooking a branch of Hyde Run. These materials were recovered from the Ap horizon and a C horizon in one unit. The other loci produced cultural materials from very disturbed horizons such as fill zones, and these were not registered to receive site numbers.

While the limited number of materials recovered and the limited testing (due to the project boundary limitations as well as the evidence of extensive disturbance throughout the project area) do not afford much scope in terms of descriptions of time period or function of these loci, one can make an assumption that these represent small, transient sites. From information obtained from work carried out in the current project, these five loci were not felt to be of such significance to warrant additional investigations and were not felt to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.