AREAL SURVEYS 1 & 2

Results of the Preliminary Phase I Field Investigations, Area 1

In addition to the linear segments just described, there are two portions of the project area which were designated for areal survey. The first of these, Area 1, is located on the west side on Route 202 (Concord Pike), on either side of Rockland Road (Figures 2, 44, 58, 85 and 86). Its northern boundary follows a portion of Old Murphy Road where Segment 8 joins it from the north. The western boundary extends southward, crossing Rockland Road approximately midway between Old Murphy Road and the Blue Ball intersection. This boundary continues southward following Alapocas Run until it meets Edgewood Road, which defines the southern border of Area 1. The extreme northern section of Area 1 consists of a wooded area of predominantly deciduous trees. The remaining southern portion consists of farmland which was planted in corn at the time of the preliminary Phase I survey.

Two sections of the wooded area were selected for subsurface testing. Archival research revealed no evidence for the presence of historic period sites within this area, and the area can be considered to have a low probability for containing significant prehistoric sites, based on its distance from major streams. The first area examined during the preliminary Phase I survey, Shovel Test Area 1 (STA-1) (Figure 86) was a level area situated on a slight knoll in the northeastern section of the woods. The headwaters for Alapocas Run lie to the east, while a smaller drainage head lies to the west. Both of these drainages are about the same distance from the testing area and, in both cases, are intermittent streams at the nearest points. Three rows of shovel tests were placed on the flat portion of the knoll with four units in each row. Spacing was at 100 foot intervals, and each unit was excavated to subsoil. No archeological remains were encountered during the testing of this area and no additional archeological work was recommended.

The area adjacent to the western intermittent stream flowing through the wooded portion of Area 1 was chosen as the second area for testing during the preliminary Phase I survey, Shovel Test Area 2 (STA-2) (Figures 44 and 86). Flat, well drained tracts adjacent to the stream were tested, with the number and placement of units dependent upon the size and configuration of each tract. No prehistoric sites were discovered in Shovel Test Area 2 (STA-2); however, two 19th-20th century trash dumps were discovered, both included as Rockland Dump Site (Figures 3 and 44). Testing in each area failed to detect any evidence for structures which could be associated with the dumps (Figures 87 & 88). Ceramics recovered from this site include coarse red earthenware - 21 (11.48%), coarse stoneware - 10 (5.46%), creamware - 7 (3.83%), pearlware - 36 (19.67%), whiteware - 98 (53.55%), porcelain - 8 (4.37%), and ironstone - 3 (1.64%). A Mean Ceramic Date of 1842.26 was obtained for the site. All of the glass for which a date could be

FIGURE 85
PORTION OF AREA 1

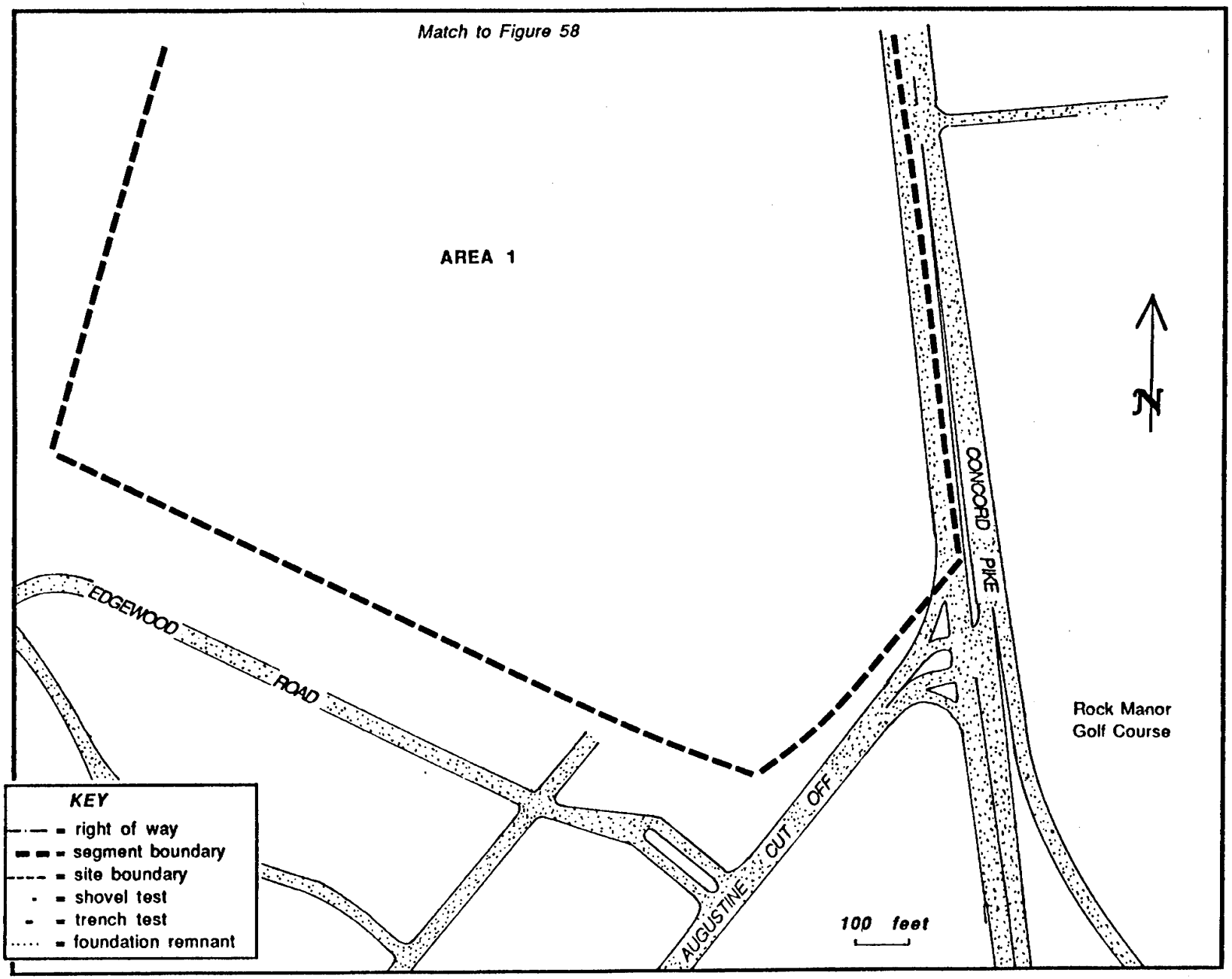


FIGURE 86
PORTION OF AREA 1

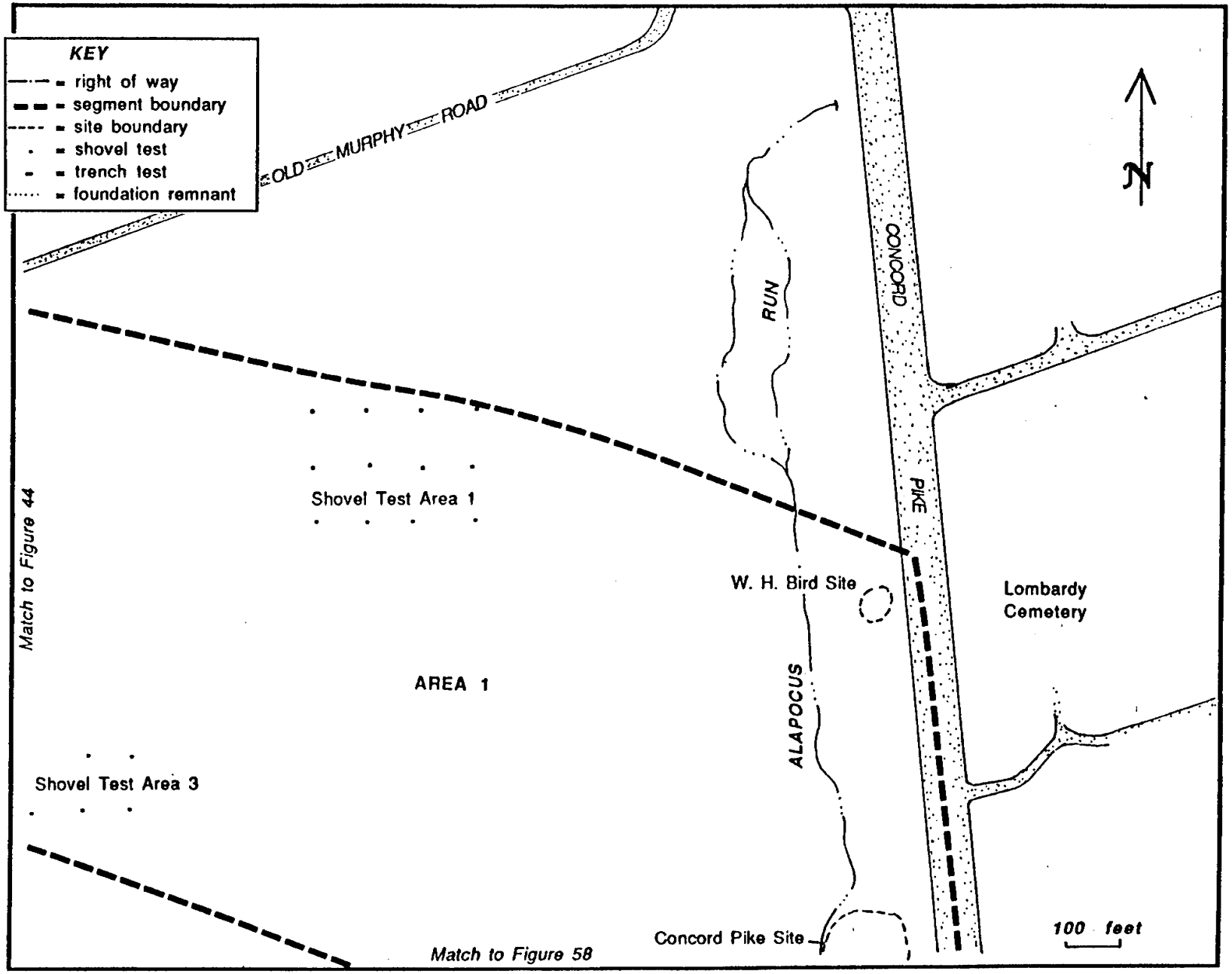


FIGURE 87
ROCKLAND DUMP SITE
Shovel Test Area 2 - C1
Location of Shovel Tests

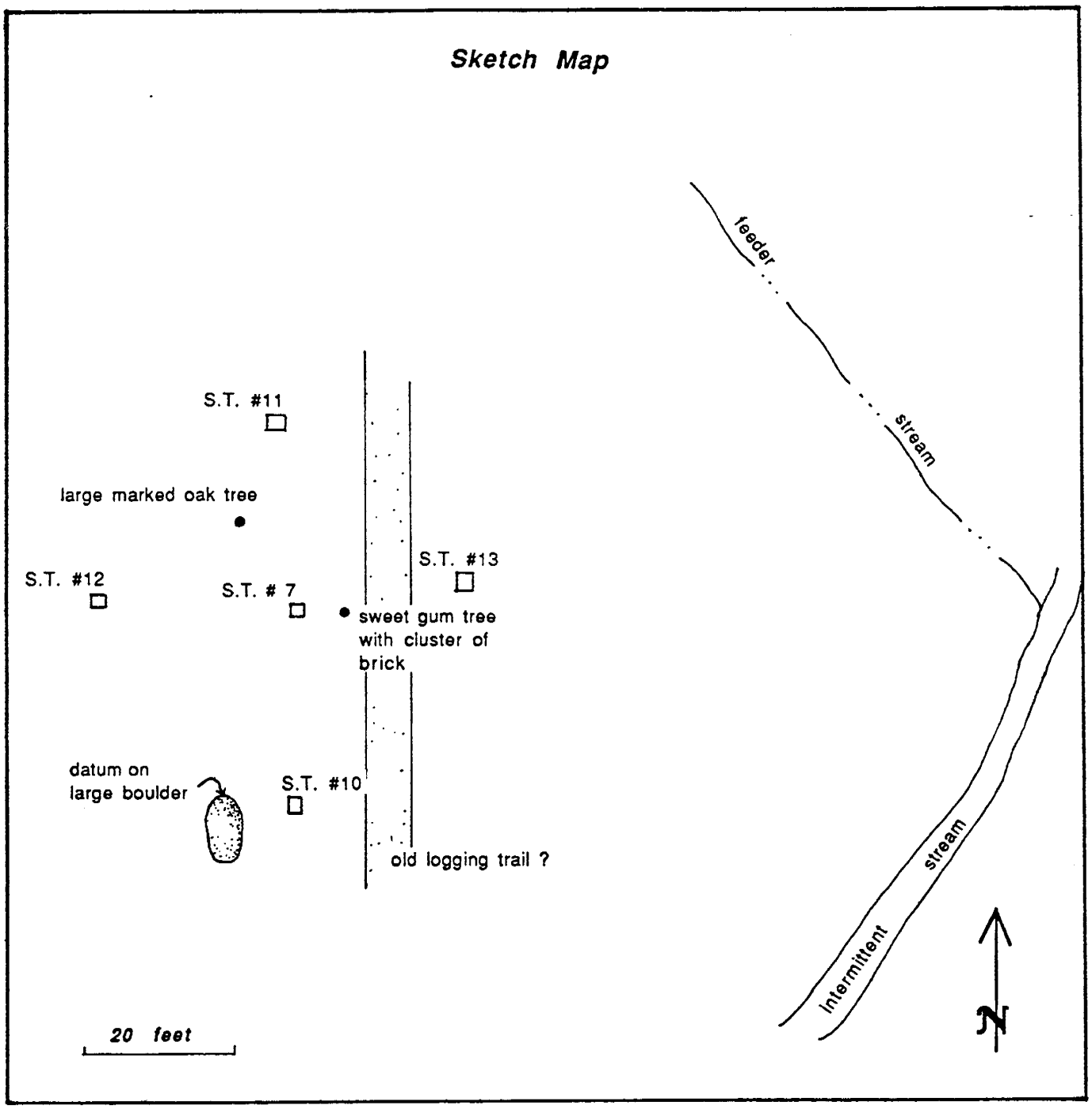
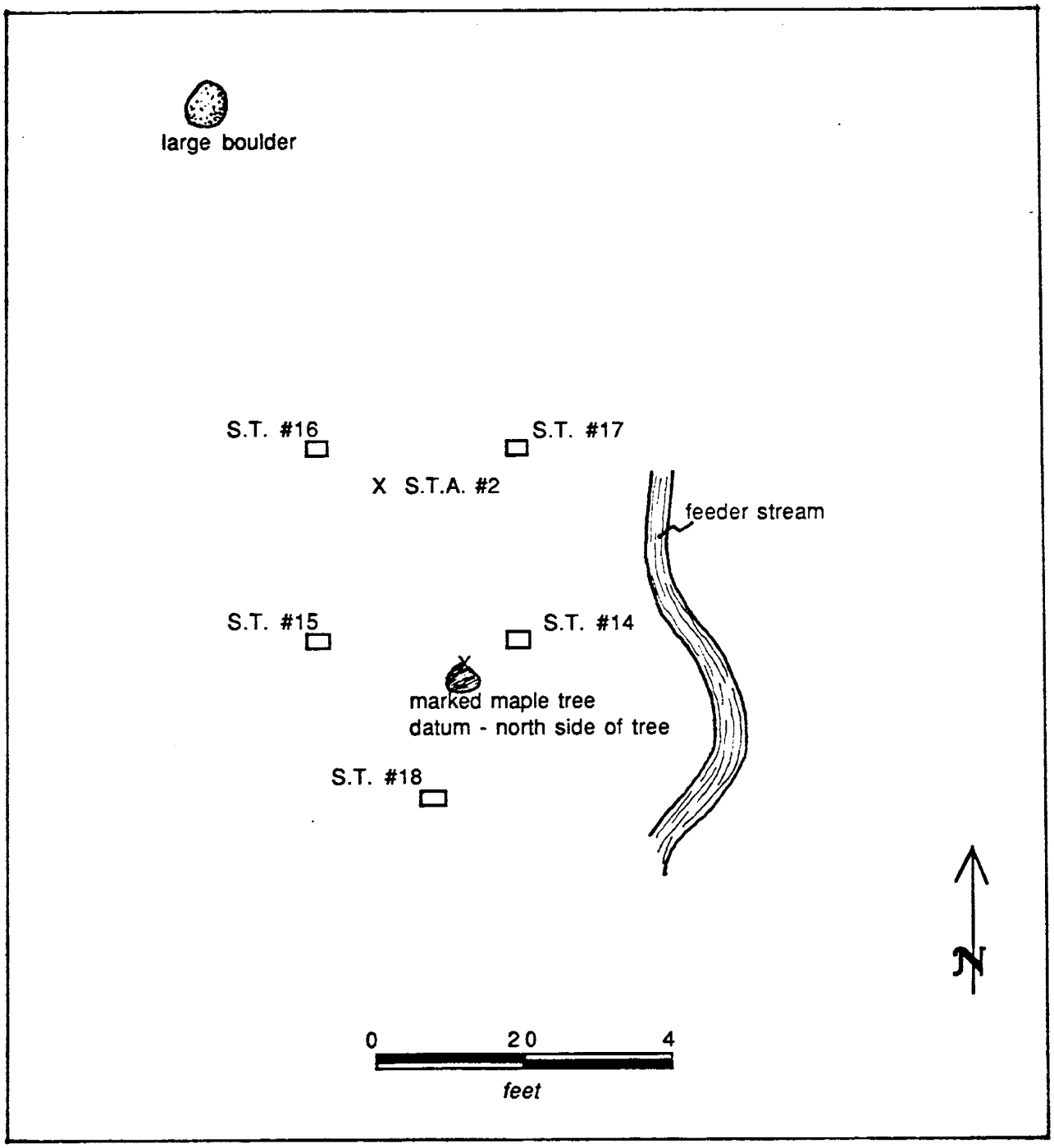


FIGURE 88
ROCKLAND DUMP SITE
S.T.A. #2 - C.-2
Location of Shovel Tests



determined was machine made, dating from 1903-present. No additional work was recommended for the wooded portion of Area 1.

The eastern portion of Area 1 is farmland which was almost completely planted in corn at the time of the preliminary Phase I survey. Visibility was very good in most of the section with the exception of a small area on either side of Alapocas Run, which was covered with a thick grass.

Archival research revealed two potential sites in the area north of Rockland Road along Concord Pike. In both cases, these sites are shown on both the 1860 Beers Map (Figure 10) and the 1868 Beers Atlas (Figure 11). The first, DuPont office site, (Figures 3 & 58), appears as a structure near the Blue Ball intersection and is shown as belonging to DuPont & Co. on the latter map. The second structure is shown as a residence belonging to R. Smith on the 1860 map and later belonging to W. H. Bird. Its location is along Concord Pike across from the present cemetery (Figures 3 & 86).

The preliminary Phase I survey in this portion of Area 1 consisted of a walkover reconnaissance with 100% coverage. Visibility was very good and although some artifacts dating to the late 1800's were recovered from the general vicinity of these two sites, they are considered to represent field scatters. No evidence, in the form of structural remains, subsurface features or intense artifact concentrations, was found for either of the two sites during this investigation. It appears as if the previous dualization and expansion of Concord Pike may have obliterated any intact significant remains.

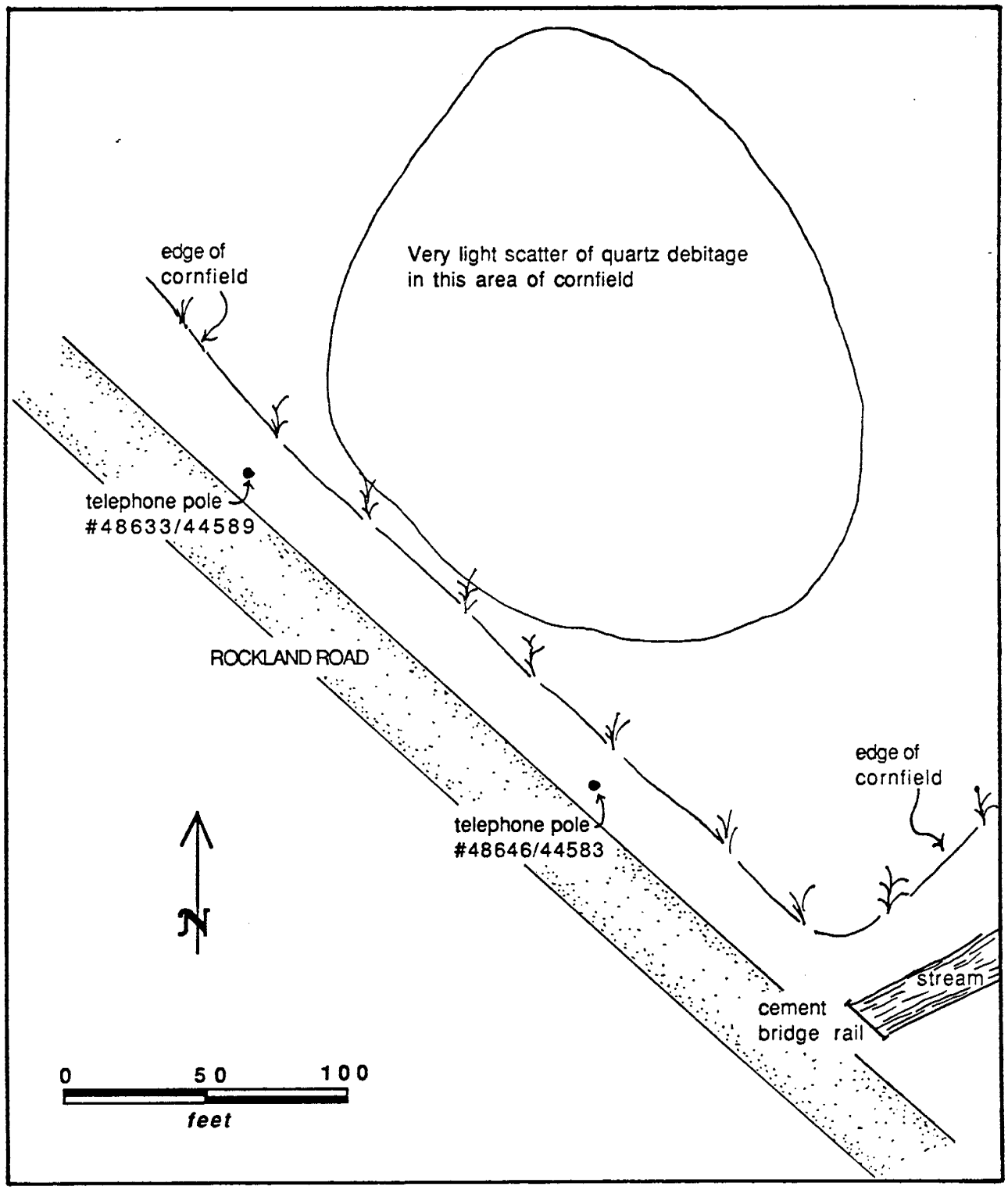
No historic sites were discovered during the preliminary Phase I survey of the cultivated portions of Area 1 north of Rockland Road; however, two prehistoric lithic scatters were discovered, one on either side of Alapocas Run.

The first lithic scatter recovered from this area was designated the Alapocas Run site (Figures 3 & 58). Collecting conditions were favorable and field methodology consisting of a walkover reconnaissance with 100% coverage. The artifacts recovered were debitage, including 12 quartz flakes and 1 chert flake in addition to 7 quartz chunks. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered. The site dimensions are approximately 100 by 150 feet, which constitutes a very thin lithic scatter (Figure 89).

The second lithic scatter was designated as the Concord Pike site (Figures 3, 58 and 86), and is situated on a small knoll just west of Concord Pike. The site area encompasses approximately 150 by 250 feet. Collecting conditions and field methods were identical to the Alapocas Run site.

The artifacts recovered from the Concord Pike site include the following: 1 quartzite corner-notched point (Kirk type), 1 quartz point fragment (untyped), 1 quartz biface, early stage, 1 quartzite

FIGURE 89
ALAPOCUS RUN SITE
Location of Artifact Scatter



core fragment with cobble cortex, 1 quartz core, unifacially worked, 1 quartz chunk, bifacially worked, 6 quartz flakes, 1 quartzite flake and 4 quartz chunks.

Both sites are interpreted as small lithic scatters and both are situated on upland knolls where buried land surfaces or features were not found. The Concord Pike site was revisited during the extended Phase I investigations and collecting conditions were even more favorable. Although another surface collection was conducted at the site, no additional prehistoric material was recovered. No work beyond the preliminary Phase I survey was recommended for either site.

Area 1 on the south side of Rockland Road was divided into two sections based on the surface collections at the time of the preliminary Phase I survey. The cultivated portion comprised most of the area and collecting conditions were very good. Preliminary Phase I field methodology at this location consisted of a walkover survey with 100% coverage. The uncultivated portion is adjacent to Alapocas Run and was covered by dense grass. This was designated as Shovel Test Area 3 (STA-3) and subsurface testing was conducted at this location during the preliminary Phase I survey.

Results from both sections, including the testing at Shovel Test Area 3 (STA-3), failed to recover significant archeological remains other than thinly dispersed historic field scatter. No additional work was recommended for Area 1. Blue Ball Tavern (Figures 3 & 58) and DuPont Dairy (Figures 3 & 58) are also located in Area 1. No fieldwork was conducted at Blue Ball Tavern as Phase I and Phase II fieldwork had been conducted previously by Middle Atlantic Archeological Research (1980) and the site had been determined, on the basis of this previous work, to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. However, additional archival work was conducted and the results are presented below. The DuPont Dairy, although nominated to the National Register on the basis of its architectural merit (it was the first dairy to be designed by an architect) dates to the first quarter of the 20th century; therefore, no archeological work was conducted at this location (Plates 37 & 38). Because the land developer has a demolition permit for the dairy complex the Department of Transportation had P. Thompson complete a set of floor plans (Appendix IV).

Blue Ball Tavern: Results of Archival Investigations

The Blue Ball Tavern site (Plate 39), located at the intersection of Concord Road and Rockland Road, was once a part of the Chestnut Hill land tract, and its property transaction history from 1680 to 1777 (Table 11) is the same as that recorded for the Weldin Plantation site. Table 16 presents the ownership history of the Blue Ball Tavern. As previously noted, Joseph Mortonson, the owner of Chestnut Hill from 1749 to 1771, was listed as an "innkeeper" by trade, although the location or the name of the inn was not recorded. Joshua Mortonson, Joseph's son, inherited the

PLATE 37
DuPont Dairy, Front

PLATE 38
DuPont Dairy, Back

PLATE 39
Blue Ball Tavern

Southeast view

Table 16
OWNERSHIP HISTORY, BLUE BALL TAVERN

Date	Doc	Book	Page	From	To
1680	Deed	M2	563	Empraim Herman	Han(se) Peterson

This is a documentation of a survey made by Herman for Hanse Peterson of the Chestnut Hill tract containing 103 acres.

1700	Deed	Q1	598	Hans Peterson Shellpot Creek	Cornelius Empson Shellpot Creek

This deed transfers the Chestnut Hill tract and a tract of marshland, Wild Hook, for 550 pounds.

1710	Will	B1	224	Cornelius Empson	Charles Empson, son

The will leaves to Charles, the "easterly part" of the Chestnut Hill plantation tract, with the housing and cleared land.

1722	Deed	G1	225	Ebenezer Empson Goal Grange Shelpot Creek	Isreal Peterson Goal Grange Shelpot Creek

The deed transfers the Chestnut Hill tract to Peterson for 30 pounds.

1749	Deed	F2	297	Luloffe & Mary Peterson, Peter & Rebecca Peterson, Andrew & Sarah Peterson, William & MaryAnn Derrickson, & Magdeline Peterson	Joseph Mortonson Brandywine, Md
1752	Deed	F2	298	Ann Peterson	Joseph Mortonson
1755	Deed	F2	245	Jonas Peterson	Joseph Mortonson

Isreal Peterson died intestate, leaving eight children as heirs. These deeds transfer the interest in the property from seven siblings to their brother-in-law, Joseph Mortonson. Joseph was married to Regina Peterson.

1771	Will	L1	140	Joseph Mortonson	Joshua Mortonson son

Joshua receives the plantation and "present dwelling house".

1772	Deed	F2	246	Regina Mortonson	Joshua Mortonson

Regina transfers her interest in the "plantation" to her son.

TABLE 16 CONTINUED

1777	Deed	F2	511	Joshua Mortonson, yeoman	Andrew McKee, Jr.

This deed transfers a ten acre tract sub-divided from the original Chestnut Hill tract of 103 acres. The 10 acres are located on the west side of Concord Road which is the dividing line between the two tracts.

1786	Deed	F2	510	Andrew McKee, Jr. & wife, Mary Brandywine Hundred	John Dickinson Wilmington

McKee sells the 10 acre tract and an adjoining parcel on the west side of Concord Road, totaling 60 acres, to Dickinson for 300 pounds.

1804	Will	Q1	298	John Dickinson	Maria Dickinson, daughter

Dickinson leaves the McKee property of 60 acres, designated "Tract 2" in his will, to Maria. She also receives adjoining property on the west side of Concord Road as well as the Chestnut Hill property located to the east.

1861	Will	Y1	84	Maria D. Logan	William Wister & Joseph Bringhurst, Trustees for Mary Morris Logan, daughter

Maria leaves her "farm known as the 'Blue Ball'" containing 188 acres to her daughter in trust.

1862	Deed	Q7	247	Trustees, estate of Maria D. Logan	Jonas N. Miller
1862	Deed	Q7	250	Jonas Miller and wife, Jane & Lammott DuPont Brandywine Hundred	Henry, Eleauthere Christiana Hundred

These deeds transfer the Blue Ball farm into the DuPont family holdings. Metes and bounds are recorded for the tract.

1907	Deed	M21	1	E. I. DuPont de Nemours Powder Co. Delaware Corp.	E. I. DuPont de Nemours Powder Co. New Jersey Corp.

TABLE 16 CONTINUED

This deed transfers 80 properties between the two corporations. The "Blue Ball Tract" is #48 and includes 188 acres, 55 perches with a 72 perch exception (see Bird-Husbands site). The metes and bounds for the large tract are the same as recorded for Deed Q7:250, 1862.

1909	Deed	D22	155	E. I. DuPont de Nemours Powder Co. New Jersey Corp.	Alfred I. DuPont Brandywine Hundred

The "Blue Ball Tract" is transferred in this deed as Tract 3. The tract has two exceptions listed: a 2 acre exception of undefined boundaries situated on the "north and east on the easterly side" of Rockland Road, and a 72 perches exception (see Bird-Husbands site).

1918	Deed	T27	138	Alfred I. DuPont & wife, Alicia	Dickinson W. Richards New York City
1918	Deed	T27	154	Dickinson Richards & wife, Sally	Alicia DuPont
1918	Deed	T27	168	Alicia DuPont	Alfred DuPont

Tract 4, among other properties.

1921	Deed	M30	544	Nemours, Inc.	Alfred DuPont

Tract 4, among other properties.

1925	Deed	P33	292	A. I. DuPont & wife, Jessie Ball	Brandywine Hundred Realty Florida Corp.
1936	Deed	F40	147	Brandywine Hundred Realty	Almours Securities, Inc. Florida Corp.
1938	Deed	B41	538	Almours Securities	Fla. National Building Corp. Delaware Corp.

Parcel 10, among other properties.

100± acre plantation after his father's death in 1771. The 1771 will mentioned only a "dwelling house" for the property and there is no indication of other commercial buildings associated with the plantation.

Joshua Mortonson was a "yeoman" by occupation, and his property was assessed at the value of 10 pounds in the 1777 and 1778 Brandywine Hundred tax assessments. In 1777, Mortonson sold a 10 acre tract to Andrew McKee, Jr. for the price of 80 pounds. This small tract sold to McKee appears to have been a western portion of the original Chestnut Hill land tract cut off from the rest of the plantation by Concord Road. McKee, a weaver, later sold the 10 acres, plus adjoining land, to John Dickinson for 300 pounds (Deed F2:510, 1787). The total acreage conveyed from McKee to Dickinson was 60± acres on the west side of Concord Road. Although McKee's ownership was brief, the property location is still referred to today as "McKee's Hill" by long-time local residents (Ruth Linton 1986: personal communication).

Maria Dickinson inherited the property from her father in his will dated 1804 and probated in 1809 (Will Q1:298). The property was designated "Tract 2" in the will and consisted of the 60 acres conveyed from McKee in 1787. Maria also received adjoining land on the west side of Concord Road which increased the total acreage to 160± acres.

Although John Dickinson did not mention a tavern located on the property in 1804, operating licenses issued for the Blue Ball Tavern showed that Thomas McKee was the innkeeper from 1808 to 1810, followed by George Miller from 1811 to 1814 (Thomas:II-16). The Blue Ball Tavern was also listed as the polling place for Brandywine Hundred in 1811 (Scharf 1888), and "McKee's Hill" was one of the toll points selected in 1818 by the Board of Managers of the Wilmington-Great Valley Turnpike (former public Concord Road). The exact location of the toll booth at McKee's Hill was not specified in the records (Manuscripts, Delaware Historical Society). The functions of "polling place" and possible "toll", however, are consistent with the use of taverns for a variety of social and political community activities (Catts et al, 1986:157, 184).

Maria Dickinson married Albanus C. Logan, and the 1837 Brandywine tax assessments listed for his estate a 150 acre tract with "stone tavern (Blue Ball)" and an assessed value of $4500. The Rea and Price map (Figure 9) also showed the "Blue Ball Inn" located at the Rockland Road-Concord Turnpike intersection in 1849. By 1852, however, the tax assessment of the Logan estate listed the property as 150 acres with a stone house and frame barn, and seven years later, the tract was referred to as a "farm".

In 1861, Maria D. Logan left her "Blue Ball" farm in a trust for her daughter, Mary Morris Logan. The farm consisted of 188± acres, and at the time the will was written, in 1859, it was in the tenure of Joshua and Huett Hutton. An examination of the 1840,

1850 and 1860 Delaware census records revealed that Joshua Hutton owned property in Wilmington and lived there with his family in 1840 and 1850. In the 1850 census, Joshua was listed as a "butcher" and was 58 years old. Also included in his household were his wife, Ann, age 55; Huet (Huett), carpenter, age 22; Hannah, age 22; Joshua, tinner, age 17; and Sarah, age 16. None of the members of the Hutton family were listed as residents of the state in the 1860 Delaware Census.

The trustees appointed for Mary Logan sold the Blue Ball farm to Jonas N. Miller in October 1862 for $11,000; a week later, Miller sold it for the same price to Henry, Elizabeth and Lammot DuPont (Table 16). In 1893, the Baist Atlas showed a house and three barns/outbuildings for the property, and Scharf (1888:906) notes that the original building for the Blue Ball tavern was "enlarged and converted into a farmhouse, thus removing this old landmark". Nevertheless, a concrete blue ball and post were erected at the intersection of Rockland Road and Concord Pike by Charles Rotthouse sometime after 1900 (see Smithy site discussion) and still serves as a reminder of the former tavern to today's travelers (Figure 58).

In summary, the Blue Ball Tavern was erected sometime before 1808 and served as a commercial establishment to at least the 1840's. In the mid-1700's, the tavern site was part of a larger tract which was owned by an innkeeper, Joseph Mortonson, yet the location of the inn itself was not identified. By 1859, the tavern had probably been converted into a farmhouse and the property was occupied by tenant farmers until the 1900's.

Summary and Recommendations, Area 1

Preliminary Phase I field investigations of Area 1 revealed the presence of artifacts in three locations, the Rockland Dump site and the Alapocas Run and Concord Pike prehistoric sites. The Rockland Dump was determined to be a 20th century trash dump and no extended Phase I investigations were recommended for this site. In addition, although historic map research had revealed the presence of two sites in the area, Dupont Office and W. H. Bird sites, fieldwork in these locations failed to reveal the presence of significant, intact archeological remains. It was felt that the previous dualization and expansion of Concord Pike had destroyed any remains that may have been present. Two areas with prehistoric artifacts were also revealed during the preliminary Phase I investigations, Alapocas Run and Concord Pike prehistoric sites. These sites were felt to be small, lithic scatters with no potential for buried, intact remains and no additional fieldwork was recommended for these locations, as it was felt that their research potential had been exhausted during the preliminary survey.

Two other significant sites are present in Area 1. The first is the DuPont Dairy. This structure had been previously determined to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic

Places on the basis of its architectural merit; however, its 20th century date made archeological investigations unnecessary. The second site, the Blue Ball Tavern, had been tested during a Phase I/II survey of the area in connection with another project (Thomas 1980) and had been determined to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at that time. Therefore, archeological investigations of the area during the survey reported here were deemed unnecessary. However, additional archival investigations were conducted.

Archival investigations of the Blue Ball Tavern during the survey reported here revealed that the structure was erected sometime prior to 1808 and functioned as a tavern from this time until the 1840s. By 1859, it no longer functioned as a tavern and was used to house tenants from this time until the beginning of the 20th century.

AREA 2

Area 2 comprises a cultivated field north of Weldin Road (Figures 3 & 61). The entire area was in corn at the time of the preliminary Phase I survey and collecting conditions were very good. Field methods consisted of a walkover survey with 100% coverage.

Phase I Field Investigations

A single prehistoric site, the Matson Run site (Figures 3, 61 & 90) was discovered in the southeastern corner of the field, adjacent to Matson Run. Artifacts recovered from the site during the preliminary Phase I survey include the following: 1 quartzite point, contracting stem (untyped), 1 quartz small stemmed point (untyped), 1 quartzite abraded milling stone, 1 quartz endscraper, 1 quartz core fragment, 1 quartz biface, early stage, 32 quartz flakes, 1 basalt flake, and 15 quartz chunks.

The site was considered potentially significant for several reasons. First, the artifact classes recovered during the preliminary survey suggested more than simply a lithic scatter. The milling stone and the various lithic reduction stages suggested a certain degree of permanence and a variety of activities not expected for a lithic scatter. Second, two factors suggested a potential for the presence of buried features. These include the relative degree of permanence suggested by the artifacts classes and the topographic setting. The site is situated at the end of a ridge toe adjacent to Matson Run and there is a possibility for buried deposits with associated artifacts.

As noted previously, the Rock Manor & Matson Run sites, while located in different arbitrarily defined survey areas, are actually on the same topographic setting along Matson Run. They are only separated by Weldin Road and a few hundred feet. For this reason, the sites were included in a "resource area" and extended Phase I