

APPENDIX A

PUBLIC INFORMATION HANDOUT



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. BOX 77B
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

THOMAS R. CARPER
GOVERNOR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF
THE DRAWYER CREEK SOUTH SITE
STATE ROUTE 1 CORRIDOR, ODESSA SEGMENT
NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE

The Delaware Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., is conducting archaeological excavations at the Drawyer Creek South Archaeological Site, near Odessa in New Castle County. The site is in the proposed path of State Route 1. State Route 1 is being constructed to relieve congestion on U.S. Route 13 and provide a safer, faster route from Wilmington to southern Delmarva and the ocean beaches.

The Drawyer Creek South Archaeological Site consists of undisturbed prehistoric archaeological deposits located on a low terrace adjacent to and above the tidal marsh along Drawyer Creek, a small tidal river. Previous investigations at the site identified intact archaeological deposits and one feature. The feature consists of a concentration of fire-cracked rock.

On the basis of ceramic sherds recovered from the site and the predominant use of locally available stone cobbles in the tool production technology of the prehistoric occupants, the site has been interpreted as a food procurement and processing station of the Woodland II (circa AD 1000-1650) period. The prehistoric occupants made tools from locally available cobbles and used their ceramic vessels for some activity carried out close to the water's edge, possibly plant processing. The current excavations should provide additional data with which to confirm, refute, or otherwise amend these hypotheses.

The present program of excavations has been designed to recover information with which to address research issues relevant to the understanding of regional and site-specific patterns. Regional themes include chronology, dietary composition and food procurement, and the spatial patterning of activity areas. Site-specific research issues pertain primarily to local environmental conditions and site-formation processes.

At the conclusion of the survey, a report will be prepared for DelDOT and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, which interested persons can obtain from DelDOT. Any artifacts found within the state right-of-way will be turned over to the Delaware State Museum. If you would like additional information concerning the project, please contact Kevin Cunningham, DelDOT archaeologist, at 739-4642, or Charles LeeDecker of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., at 202-331-7775.

