

ABSTRACT

The Robert Ferguson Homestead, 636 East Chestnut Hill Road, Newark, New Castle County, Delaware underwent an intensive archaeological data recovery program. The excavations were conducted June-August 1981 by archaeologists employed by the Delaware Department of Transportation prior to a proposed dualization of Route 4, - Chestnut Hill Road. Utilizing shovel tests, 2 ft. x 2 ft., 3 ft. x 3 ft. and 5 ft. x 5 ft. excavation units and mechanical land stripping, the entire proposed impact area was tested. Historic components related to 19th and 20th century site occupations were identified. Excavation and analysis were directed toward obtaining artifact distributions, feature locations, and non-extant structure locations to answer hypotheses generated by background research. A series of preservation initiatives were employed in conjunction with the data recovery program.