

INTRODUCTION

Project goals

Delaware's Department of Transportation plans to relocate Denney's Road on the north boundary of the City of Dover. As proposed, the new road would cross Mudstone, Fork, and Chance's branches on a new bridge, and would lead to the abandonment of parts of both Denney's Road and Saulsbury Road, including the existing Denney's Road grade crossing over the Conrail tracks at duPont Station (figures 1, 2, 3).

In order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, it was deemed necessary to conduct Phase I and Phase II archaeological investigations.

The Department of Transportation requested a research proposal and budget for such work from Heite Consulting of Camden, Delaware. On July 20, 1984, Agreement 304-1 was executed (Appendix 2).

Goals of the project included the identification and delineation of any prehistoric sites that might have survived in the project area. The researchers were also directed to establish the historical and archaeological significance, if any, of historic-period sites, for purposes of determining National Register eligibility.

Two levels of survey were conducted. In the proposed right-of-way, intensive survey was conducted, with the objective of finding every site. In the larger study area (Figure 2), was considered at the most cursory reconnaissance level.

Surface collection and subsurface testing were conducted only in the right-of-way and its immediate environs. The larger study area is included in the historical background and other summary studies.

One sizable site was found and investigated. The results of this investigation are found in Appendix 7.