

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In a broad sense, archaeology is the study of the past. But it is more than just the dry history of events. What sets archaeology apart is the ability it gives us to reconstruct the everyday lives of people who lived hundreds or even thousands of years ago—we can uncover the pasts of people whose histories were never written and the remnants of whose lives have all but vanished. Archaeological evidence enables us to visualize long-forgotten campsites along the shores of an upland pond, or to picture the places where artisans crafted tools long ago.

In this report, we present the findings from our archaeological studies at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex and draw on them to reveal the lives of those who traversed this landscape long ago. The archaeological information is extensive and the analyses are often complex, but a detailed presentation of the data is a necessary part of discovering and reconstructing the past life ways of Delaware's American Indian inhabitants.

1.1 Project Description and History

The archaeological investigations detailed here were conducted by the Cultural Resources division that was associated at the time with Parsons and has since, as of 2005, been transferred to Versar. To ease potential confusion, the archaeologists who conducted the research are simply referred to in the remainder of this report as the Cultural Resource (CR) Division. Archaeological studies completed prior to the transfer in 2005 are still cited to as having been completed by Parsons, however.

In 1999, the CR Division initiated archaeological site evaluation (Phase II) and data recovery investigations (Phase III) at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex, a series of three prehistoric sites (7NC-J-97, 7NC-J-98, and 7NC-J-99) situated in New Castle County, Delaware (Figure 1.1). The Frederick Lodge Site Complex is located within the Smyrna-to-Pine Tree Corners segment of proposed State Route 1 (SR1), an Interstate standard relief route for the existing US Highway 13. A portion of the Frederick Lodge Site Complex falls into the Wetland Mitigations Area for the SR1 corridor. The Smyrna-to-Pine Tree Corners corridor is approximately 5 miles long, with the proposed right-of-way varying in width from 300-to-500 feet (ft) (91–151 meters [m]). The archaeological components of the Frederick Lodge Site Complex were initially identified during a 1984 survey of portions of the SR1 corridor conducted by the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research (UDCAR) (Custer and Bachman 1986a).

Field work for the Frederick Lodge Site Complex was undertaken by the CR Division in April 1999, in order to assess its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The prehistoric components were determined eligible for nomination to the NRHP under Criterion D, as containing information important to an understanding of Delaware prehistory. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), developed in 1987 by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), provided for the mitigation of adverse effects to significant properties and sites within the SR1 right-of-way if alternative measures such as avoidance were not feasible. Highway construction plans as proposed were to have a direct, adverse effect on the sites. The sites could not be avoided, and in accordance with the

MOA, data recovery excavations were recommended. A Data Recovery Plan was developed to address specific research concerns at the sites, and data recovery investigations were undertaken in November 1999.

The cultural resource investigations at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex were conducted in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The archaeological investigations were carried out according to the standards of the ACHP and the National Park Service (NPS) (36CFR800; 36CFR66). All work was conducted under the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation" (48 FR 44716-44742). Fieldwork was conducted in close consultation with the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO). The work conformed to DESHPO standards as outlined in the *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (1993). Several reports were used as guides to address prehistoric and historical contexts, including *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan* (Ames et al. 1989), *A Management Plan for Delaware's Prehistoric Cultural Resources* (Custer 1986a), *A Management Plan for the Prehistoric Archaeological Resources of Northern Delaware* (Custer and DeSantis 1986), and *Management Plan for Delaware's Historical Archaeological Resources* (DeCunzo and Catts 1990a).

In compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR Part 61), investigators chosen for the project met or exceeded the professional qualifications in archaeology. Michael D. Petraglia, Ph.D., served as Principal Investigator; Christopher Egghart served as Field Supervisor; and Seth Hopkins, Don Sharp, and Robert Meyer served as Crew Chiefs. A complete listing of personnel is included in Appendix A.

1.2 Previous Archaeological Survey and Research

Ten previous archaeological investigations have been undertaken in the SR1 corridor from Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners. Two initial identification (Phase I) surveys were undertaken by UDCAR in 1984 (Custer and Bachman 1986a) and 1992 (Bedell and Busby 1997). The remaining eight studies were undertaken by LBA, and included additional inventory survey of portions of the SR1 corridor, and evaluation and data recovery investigations of sites identified as a result of the various surveys (Bedell 1996a, 1996b, 1996c; LeeDecker et al. 1996; Bedell 1997; Bedell et al. 1997a; Bedell et. al 1997b; Bedell and Jacoby 1998).

1.2.1 UDCAR Investigations

The prehistoric component of the Frederick Lodge Site Complex was originally identified and recorded as three separate sites—7NC-J-97, 7NC-J-98, and 7NC-J-99—during a corridor survey performed by UDCAR in 1984 (Custer and Bachman 1986a; Bedell and Busby 1997). This original investigation consisted of systematic surface survey. Site 7NC-J-97 was discovered on a long north/south trending ridge, with boundaries defined as 220 m north/south by 90 m east/west. Artifacts collected included one biface fragment, one core, one large piece of worked siltstone or argillite, 12 flakes, and an unspecified number of thermally altered stone fragments. Site 7NC-J-98 was identified northwest of 7NC-J-97, along the same ridge. A single stemmed biface was collected from the site (Bedell and Busby 1997). Site 7NC-J-99 was recorded east of 7NC-J-97, on a parallel ridge. Artifacts

collected included a bifurcate point, an early stage biface, a utilized flake tool, a core, 18 flakes, and an unspecified number of thermally altered stone fragments (Custer and Bachman 1986a; Bedell and Busby 1997).

1.2.2 LBA Investigations

In 1997, LBA tested the Frederick Lodge Site Complex area, which was at that time formally designated the Wetlands Mitigation Area for the SR1 corridor. This portion of the corridor consisted of approximately 30 acres set aside for the formation of replacement wetlands to mitigate the loss of existing wetlands through construction activities elsewhere along the right-of-way (Bedell and Jacoby 1998). LBA excavated 331 shovel test pits (STPs) within the parcel on a 20-m grid, along with 54 close-interval STPs to investigate artifact finds on the initial grid (Figure 1-2). Three concentrations of prehistoric artifacts and two concentrations of historical artifacts were identified. While the locations of the prehistoric artifact concentrations did not correspond precisely with the site maps produced by UDCAR following their surface survey, the clusters were assumed to represent the three prehistoric sites identified earlier. One of the clusters of historical material was located within a prehistoric artifact concentration (7NC-J-99). The second concentration of historical artifacts, located in the southwest corner of the Wetlands Mitigation Area, was identified as a discrete site, and it was assigned a separate site number, 7NC-J-224. The CR Division conducted an independent evaluation of 7NC-J-224 in the spring of 1999. The results of that study are documented in a separate volume (Bupp et al. 2003).

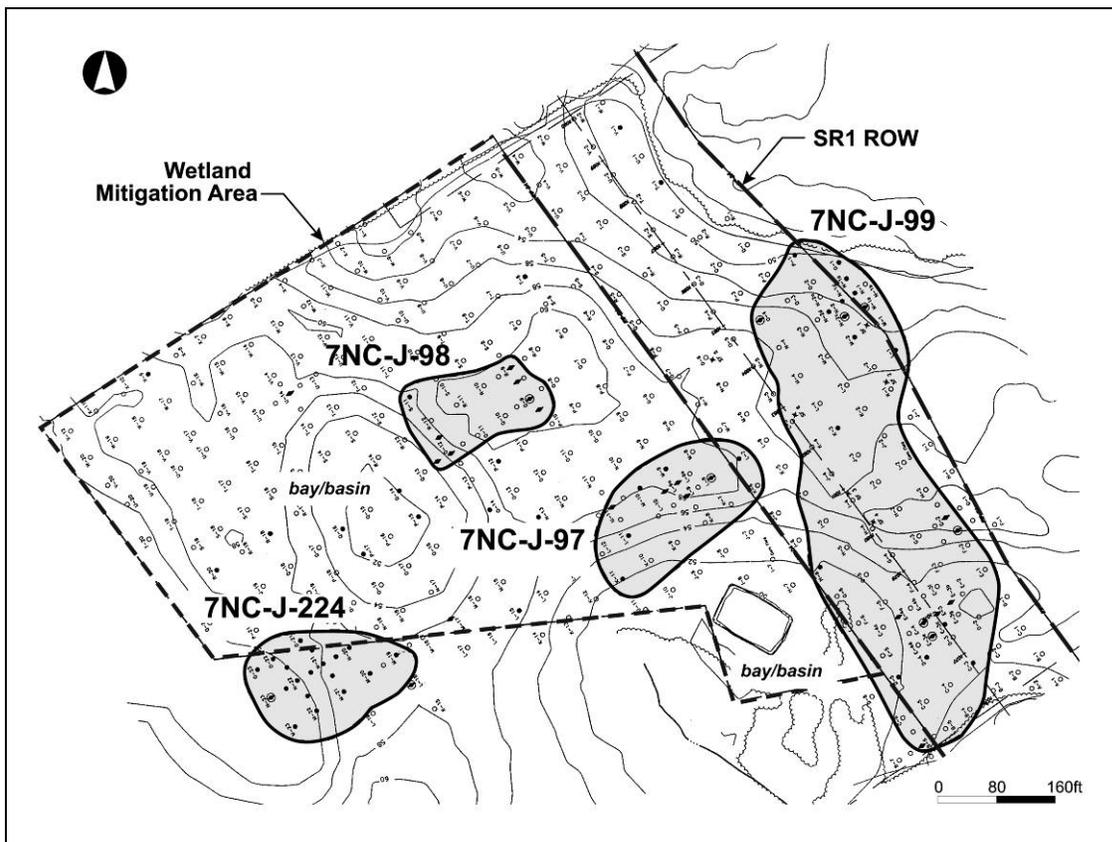


Figure 1-2. LBA Survey, Shovel Test Results and Site Boundary Definition.

Shovel testing indicated that the entire Wetlands Mitigation Area contained a scatter of both prehistoric and historical artifacts distributed across the site boundaries as drawn during the surface collection study. As a result of the LBA survey:

- Site 7NC-J-97 was re-defined based on the recovery of four flakes from plow zone deposits in four STPs. The site was located north of a large depression referred to as a bay/basin. Site dimensions were estimated at 50-x-60 m.
- Site 7NC-J-98 was re-identified on the basis of ten flakes recovered from plow zone deposits in seven STPs. The site was located east of a smaller bay/basin, and its size was estimated at 75-x-45 m.
- Site 7NC-J-99 was re-defined on the basis of nine flakes. The site was located northeast of the larger bay/basin, along a broad sandy ridge. The artifacts were concentrated on the southern end of the ridge. Most of the artifacts were found in the plow zone, however, two items were recovered from sub-plow zone contexts. Historical artifacts were also recovered, concentrated at the northern end of the ridge. They included fragments of pearlware, wine bottle glass, clear vessel glass, and modern amber bottle glass. While LBA interpreted this concentration as a field scatter, they included the caveat that the historical artifact density was higher than is typical for such deposits, suggesting that the cluster could have been associated with a small tenant residence or other type of occupation (Bedell and Jacoby 1998).

Based on the results of the 1997 survey, LBA recommended no further archaeological work at the sites for a number of reasons: the three prehistoric sites were viewed as low-density artifact scatters in plow zone contexts that represented little additional research value; and, the historical component at 7NC-J-99 was considered to be a field scatter that was not associated with a specific occupation site.

In 1997, the CR Division undertook a review of the 83 archaeological sites identified in the UDCAR and LBA surveys of the Smyrna-to-Pine Tree Corners segment of the right-of-way (Parsons 1999a). In consultation with DelDOT and the DESHPO, the CR Division recommended evaluative testing for 22 sites, including comprehensive testing of the three prehistoric sites—7NC-J-97, 7NC-J-98, and 7NC-J-99—within the Frederick Lodge Site Complex. Following analysis of site evaluation (Phase II) data, reported herein (Section 6.1), the sites were recommended eligible for nomination to the NRHP, and concurrence was granted by DESHPO (Appendix B). As noted above, the sites could not be avoided by SR1 construction plans and data recovery investigations were initiated in accordance with the MOA. The results of those investigations form the bulk of the present report.

Several additional documents were prepared during the course of archaeological investigations at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex, including:

- *Management Summary: Phase II Evaluation of the Frederick Lodge Site, 7NC-J-97/98/99/224, New Castle County, Delaware* (Bupp and Auman 1999).
- *Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places, Frederick Lodge Site Complex, 7NC-J-97/98/99* (Bupp 1999).
- *Data Recovery Plan, Frederick Lodge Site Complex, 7NC-J-97/98/99* (Parsons 1999b).
- *Phase III Closeout Summary, SR1: Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners, Frederick Lodge Site Complex, 7NC-J-97/98/99* (Parsons 2000).

1.3 Public Outreach

Public outreach efforts were incorporated by the CR Division into the archaeological research efforts at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex. This detailed technical report, published as part of DelDOT's *Delaware Department of Transportation Archaeology Series*, stands as an important component of these public dissemination efforts. In addition to the technical report, opportunities were taken throughout the course of the field portion of the project to ensure that the research conducted at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex was open to professional and public audiences. The results of the investigation were disseminated to several audiences, including DelDOT, the DESHPO, Delaware's American Indian communities, the greater archaeological and architectural history community, and the general public.

DelDOT has a long-standing history of incorporating public involvement in archaeological discovery and historic preservation, and the work at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex was planned and executed with a similar view to public participation. Press releases and newspaper articles were prepared to advertise the research. Open houses were conducted allowing the public and professional communities to observe and in some cases join in the work in progress (Plates 1-1, 1-2). Meetings and workshops were held with officials of DelDOT, DESHPO, and area Native American groups, while a variety of public talks and professional papers were presented in conjunction with the investigation of the site. The purpose of these events was to involve the public, stimulate dialog, and promote a better understanding of the many lives and cultures that make up our past. Details of the events are presented in Appendix D.



Plate 1-1. Stone Toolmaking Demonstration for School Children at the Frederick Lodge Site Complex.



Plate 1-2. Presenting Results of the Research to Public and Professional Audiences at the Site.

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