

1.0 INTRODUCTION

A highway, State Route 1 (SR1), was proposed as an Interstate standard relief route for the existing U.S. Highway 13, in New Castle County, Delaware. The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), created a planning strategy for cultural resources within the project area beginning in 1984. A predictive model was developed in order to identify high, medium, and low probability areas for the discovery of prehistoric and historical archaeological sites. In 1987, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Delaware SHPO, and DelDOT developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the execution of Section 106 requirements throughout the project area. The MOA provided for the mitigation of adverse effects to historic properties if alternative measures such as avoidance were not feasible.

Site 7NC-J-204 (the Jones Site) was initially identified during a 1992 pedestrian survey and described as a possible late 19th to early 20th century tenant farmstead. The site was located in far southern New Castle County, in Blackbird Hundred. In 1999 and 2000, Parsons conducted Phase II archaeological site evaluation and Phase III data recovery investigations at Site 7NC-J-204. Major features included a probable late 18th-century brick clamp and associated mixing pit for preparing the clay, plus postholes for a probable canopy/shed structure to shelter the brick-molders. Additional features included a barrel well, a brick-lined well, pits, fence lines, and terra cotta drain lines dating from the late 18th through early 20th centuries. This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation and data recovery phases, including specialized analyses of soil and brick chemistry.

1.1 SR1 CORRIDOR PROJECT

The Smyrna-to-Pine Tree Corners segment of the proposed SR1 corridor is located in New Castle County, where it bypasses and crosses the existing U.S. Route 13. The proposed right-of-way (ROW) is approximately 5 miles long, varying in width from approximately 300 to 500 feet (ft) (91–151 meters [m]).

Site 7NC-J-204 (the Jones Site) was initially identified during a 1992 pedestrian survey conducted by the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research (UDCAR) and described as a possible late 19th to early 20th century tenant farmstead (Bedell and Busby 1997). The site was located at the southern end of the 5-mile long portion of SR 1 near Smyrna (Figure 1-1). In 1999 and 2000, Parsons conducted Phase II archaeological site evaluation and Phase III data recovery investigations at site 7NC-J-204.

Phase II fieldwork was undertaken by Parsons between March and August 1999 to determine the eligibility of the Jones Site (7NC-J-204) for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The historical component was determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D, as containing information important to an understanding of Delaware history (Appendix A). Highway construction plans, as proposed, were to have a direct, adverse effect on the site. The site could not be avoided, and in accordance with the MOA, data recovery

1.2 NHPA COMPLIANCE

The cultural resource investigations at the Jones Site (7NC-J-204) were conducted in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The archaeological investigations were carried out in accordance with the standards of the Advisory

Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Park Service (36CFR800; 36CFR60; 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 DelDOT and the Delaware SHPO. The work conformed to Delaware SHPO standards as outlined in the *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (Delaware SHPO 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 1986), *A Management Plan for the Prehistoric Archaeological Resources of Northern Delaware* (Custer and DeSantis 1986), and *Management Plan for Delaware's Historical Archaeological Resources* (De Cunzo and Catts 1990).

Additional Native American artifacts were encountered during the Phase III investigations. However, the frequency and type of artifacts did not provide new information on the Native American component and thus, did not alter the original eligibility determination for that component. Artifact and feature descriptions, artifact distributions, and Native American occupations are documented and are presented in Appendix B.

1.3 PUBLIC OUTREACH

An active public outreach program was considered an important aspect of all the SR1 field investigations, supported and encouraged by both DelDOT and the Delaware SHPO. As long-realized in the twenty-year framework of DelDOT public outreach, much benefit could be derived in reaching out to the public and educating them about the interaction of archaeology and the road building process. The SR1 public outreach effort at the Jones Site was wide-ranging, conducted concurrently with fieldwork and report development and involved a wide variety of people and groups (Table 1-1).

Table 1-1. Public and Professional Outreach conducted during the Jones Site Study

Group or Company	Contact	Visit date	Type
Heite Consulting	Ned Heite	Spring 1999	On site visit
Smyrna High School	n/a	Spring 1999	Slide show and lecture
MAAR, Inc.	Ron Thomas	Spring 1999	On site visit
John Milner Associates, Inc.	Wade Catts, Joe Balicki	Spring 1999	On site visit
UDCAR	Keith Doms	Spring 1999	On site visit
Delaware State Museum	Chuck Fithian	Spring 1999	On site visit
Kentucky Heritage Counsel	Charles Hockensmith	Spring 2000	Professional correspondence
Junior Archaeology Campers Workshop	Laura Lee, Director	July 2000	"Field School" presentation
Archaeological Society of Delaware Conference	n/a	September 2000	Power point presentation
Kenton Mennonite School	n/a	November 2000	on site tour
Society of Historical Archaeology	n/a	January 2001	Power point presentation
Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia	n/a	February 2001	Power point presentation

Group or Company	Contact	Visit date	Type
Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference	n/a	April 2001	Power point presentation

The public outreach program at site 7NC-J-204 included onsite visits by pre-arranged school and other interest groups. The Kenton Mennonite School visited the site in November 2000 during the period when the spoil pile on the Jones Site was being removed (Figure 1-2). The school was interested in having the students learn about archaeology and was particularly interested in old farmsteads. To give the students the feel of an actual Phase I archaeological survey, several differently shaped and glazed modern ceramic vessels were purchased at Wal-Mart, broken, submerged in mud, mixed up, and strewn across the surface of the back dirt area where the context of modern artifacts was immaterial. The students were given a collection bag with grid coordinates, lined up, and performed an impromptu pedestrian survey over the back dirt area to collect all items they thought were artifacts. After the collection process, the artifacts were placed on the ground and sorted by glazing and shape so the students could observe the relationship between artifacts, coordinates and distribution patterns.



Figure 1-2. On site Tour by the Kenton Mennonite School.

Several professional colleagues visited the Jones Site during the field excavations. Wade Catts and Joe Balicki (John Milner Associates Inc. of Alexandria, Virginia and Westchester, Pennsylvania) came to the site to view the brick clamp complex for comparative background

research on two brick clamps they were to excavate near Hughesville, Charles County, Maryland. Keith Doms (then of UDCAR), Chuck Fithian (Delaware State Museum in Dover, Delaware), and Ron Thomas (MAAR Associates, Inc. of Newark, Delaware) also visited the site, providing additional professional insight to the excavations and results.

The outreach efforts also were focused directly at the professional community, with opinions solicited about a variety of topics and sharing of information. Ned Heite, of Heite Consulting in Camden, Delaware, was asked to view the site in the early stages of Phase III investigations to help verify the feature was indeed a clamp. Heite had worked on many brick clamp and kiln sites, and written several articles on the subject in Delaware and Virginia. Charles Hockensmith (Kentucky Heritage Counsel) was contacted about a brick clamp in Kentucky, who, in return, sent information on brick clamps from the Ohio River Valley to add comparative data from the East Coast to the Ohio River Valley.

Offsite presentations on the Jones Site were given to local schools. A slide show and lecture was presented to the Smyrna Middle School 8th grade class in the Spring of 1999 with visual aids including as site maps and artifacts. A power point presentation and hands on lecture entitled “Historical Archaeology for Beginners”, was presented to the Junior Archaeology Campers Workshop in July, 2000 at the Iron Hill Museum, Delaware. Data and artifacts from the Jones Site were used as a test sample for the students to learn about historical archaeology in the field and classroom.

Several presentations were given at professional archaeological conferences, including onboard the HMS Queen Mary, Los Angeles, California at the Society of Historical Archaeology (SHA) in January 2001, and the Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference (MAACs) in Ocean City, Maryland in April 2001. Presentations were also given to the Archeological Society of Delaware in 2000 and to the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia in 2001.