APPENDIX I

PROPOSED PHASE I AND II ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM WITHIN THE PLANNED OGLETOWN INTERCHANGE, NEWARK, DELAWARE

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The purpose of this report is to outline the research strategy to be used to complete Phase I field reconnaissance surveys and the Phase II determination-of-eligibility studies within the Ogletown project area. This discussion will include summary statements on the identification and significance of historic and prehistoric resources located by the initial Phase I survey conducted by Thomas (1980), the location and significance of other historic cultural resources known from recent archival research, and the archaeological methods to be employed in the field reconnaissance and determination of eligibility of all cultural resources within the project area.

The proposed project design involves the construction of roadway improvements in Ogletown, White Clay Creek Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware (Figure 1). The proposed action will involve about one mile of reconstruction and widening of Route 4. Also involved will be improvements to realign and rebuild the intersecting roads that presently share use of Route 4. The proposed project will realign just under one mile of Route 273, approximately one-half mile of Ruthby Road and about 500' of Salem Church road. A major impact will be the construction of a four-lane grade-separated structure and associated roadway carrying Route 273 over Route 4. Figures 2 and 3 show the two proposed design concepts for the project, the Basic Alternative and the Modified Alternative. The present cultural resource survey will provide location and identification information on the cultural resources within the area impacted by the Modified Alternative.

FIGURE 1

Regional and Local Project Area

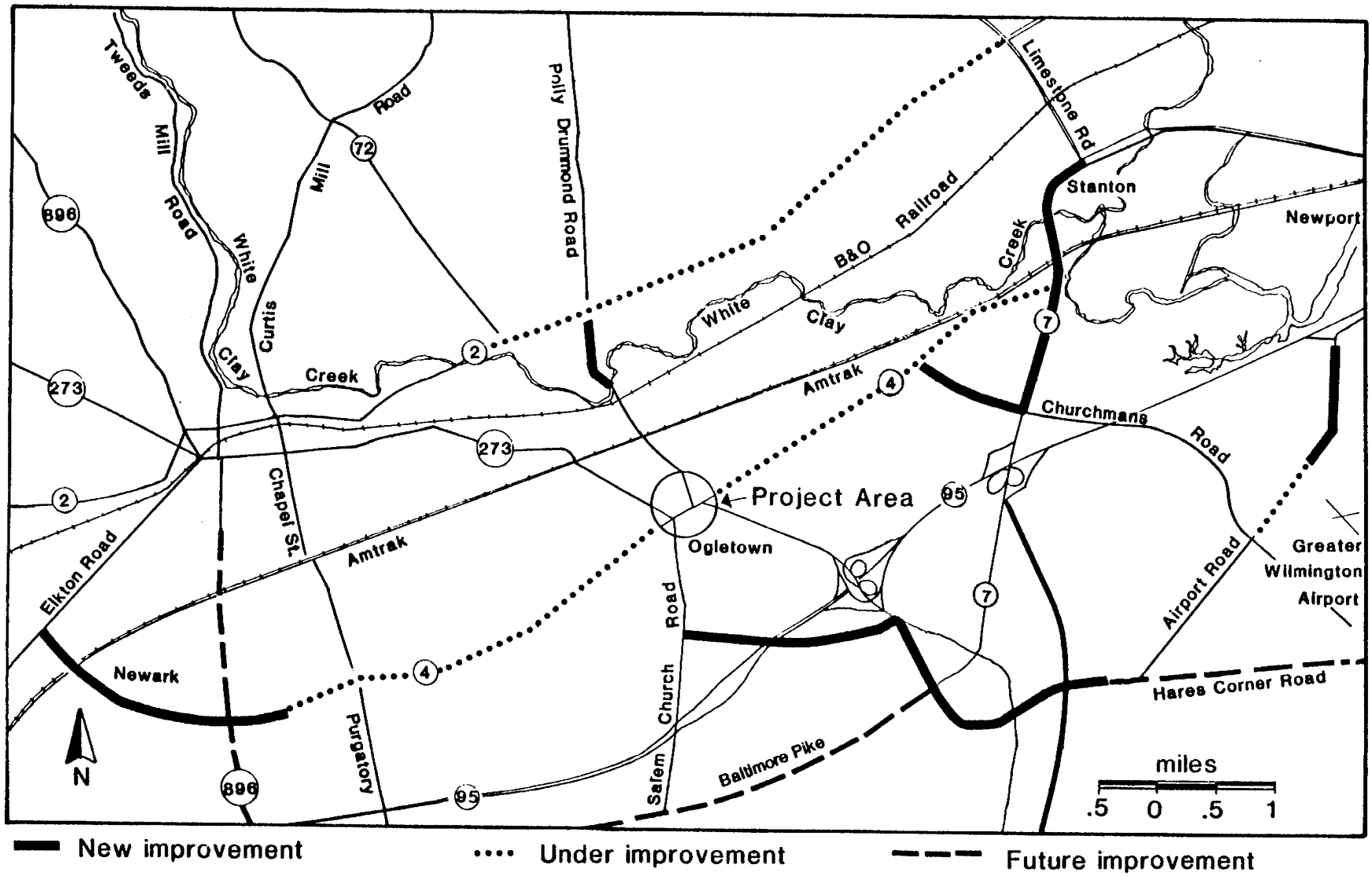


FIGURE 2

Basic Alternative Design Plan

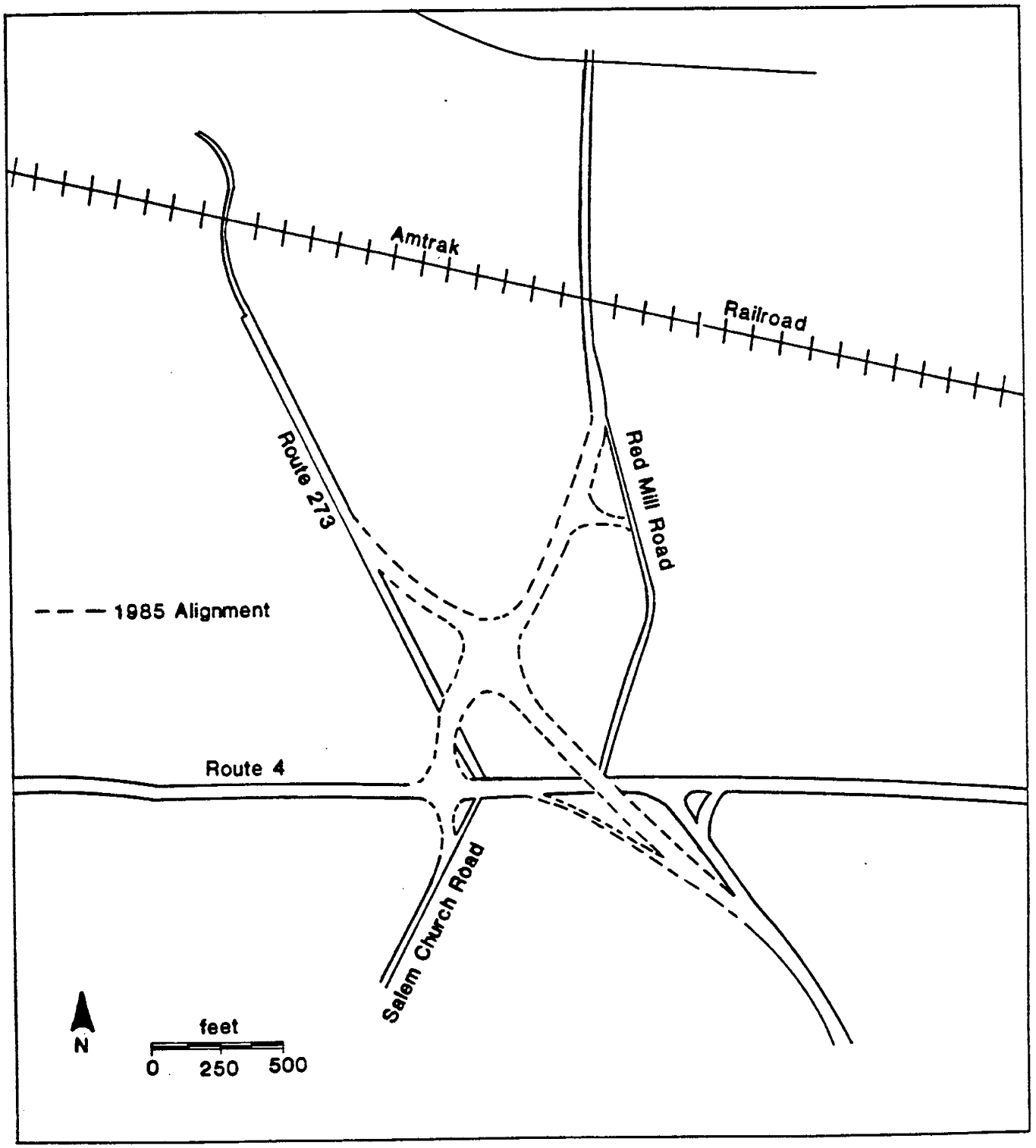
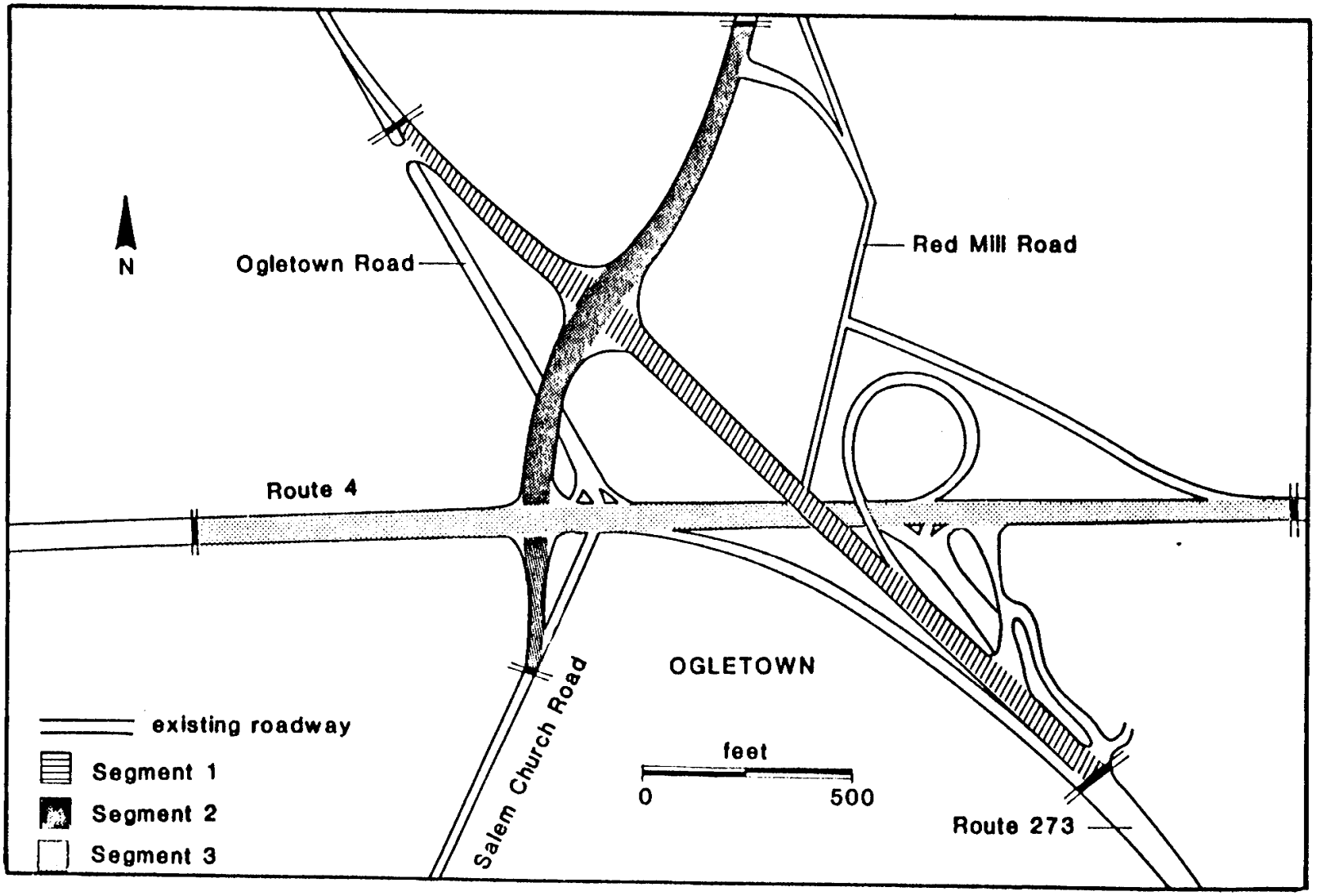


FIGURE 3

Modified Alternative Design Plan

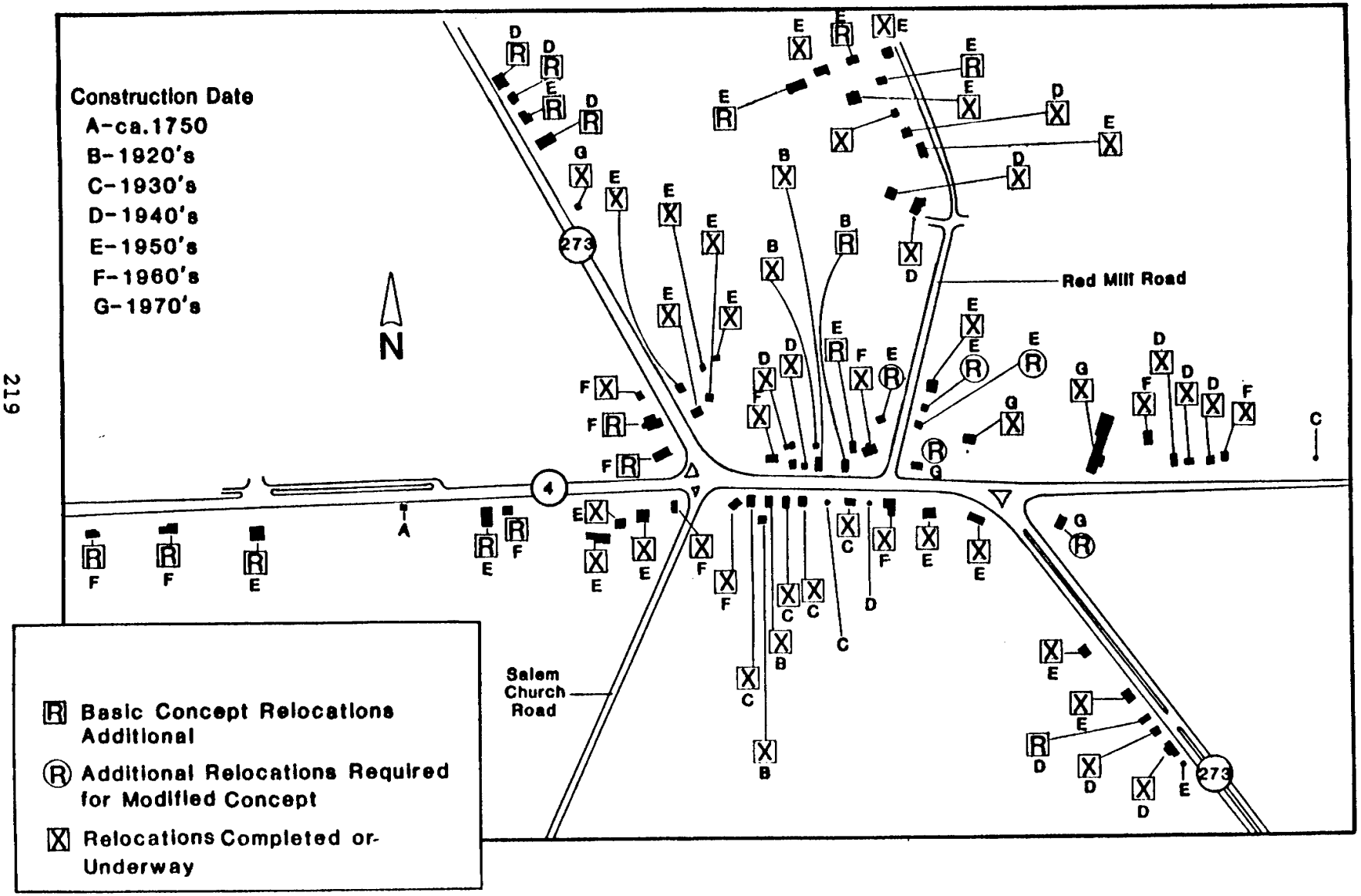


Since its conception in the late 1970's the Department of Transportation has been actively involved in the acquisition of right-of-way within the project area. Their actions have consisted of the purchase of vacant and occupied land and the destruction of the structures occupying the properties. Most of this activity occured in 1973-75 and involved properties shown in Figure 4. The date of construction of the dwellings demolished by DelDOT are also shown on the figure, ranging from the Red House plantation site, constructed in the mid-to-late 17th century to gas stations constructed in the late 1950's. As can be seen a majority of the houses were constructed ca. 1925-1940. According to the demolition specifications, the demolition of these structures should not have caused extensive disturbance to any associated archaeological deposits.

As a part of the preliminary design planning for the Ogletown improvements, Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Research (MAAR) was contracted by the DelDOT to perform a location and identification survey of the area to be affected by the planned project. Thomas (1980) used the following research methods in this initial study. "Archival research was conducted to identify sites of archaeological resources of the historic period. Those standing historic structures previously identified by the Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation as culturally significant were not subjected to further research except when it was necessary to identify periods of occupation for interpretation of recovered artifactual data. Basically, archival research can be equated with map research" (Thomas 1980:p.I-3). The next step was a field survey begun after the

FIGURE 4

DelDOT Property Parcel Map with Building Construction Dates

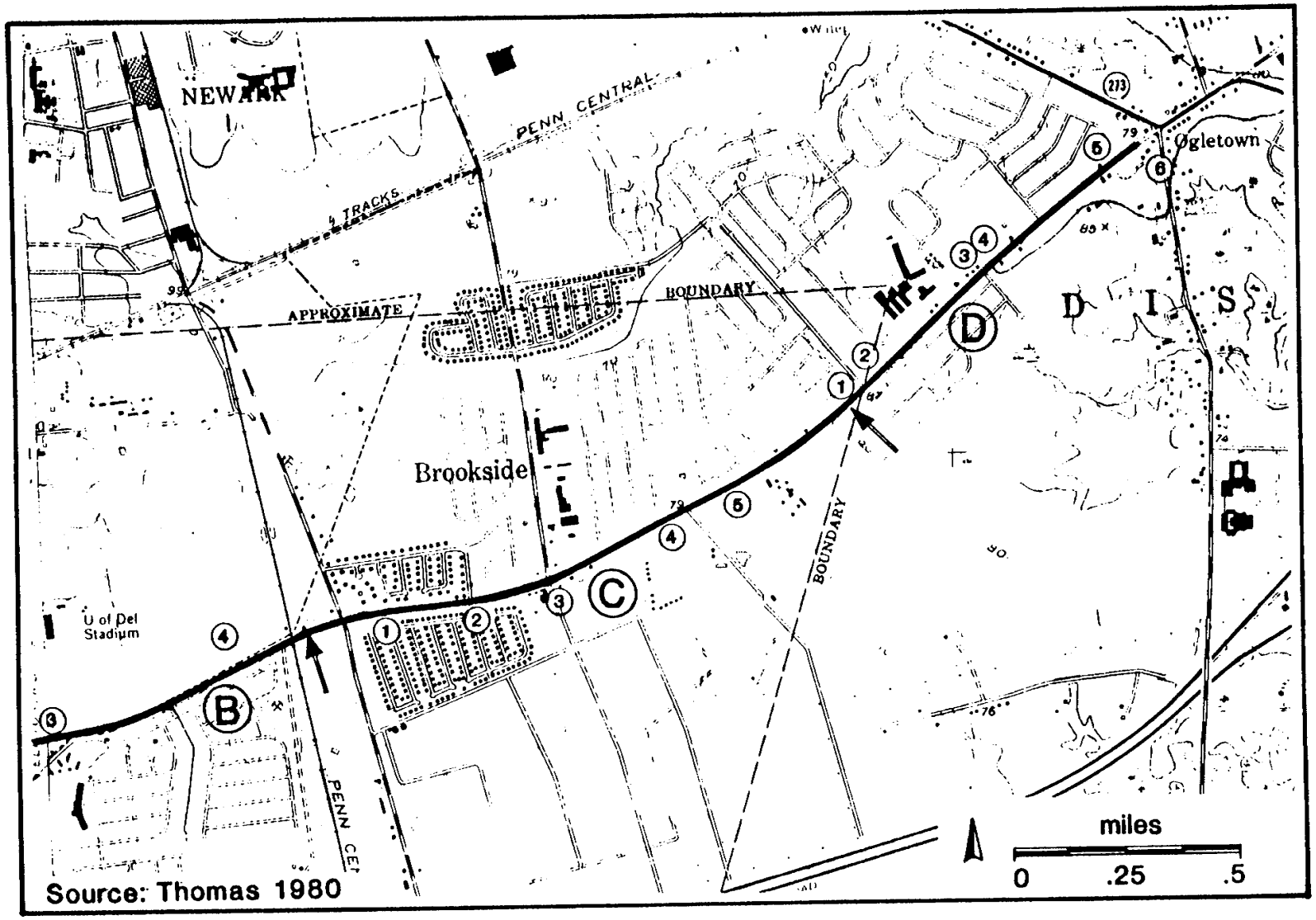


completion of a background study of known archaeological resources and environmental parameters. The study of environmental parameters was used to develop a predictive model for the location of prehistoric archaeological resources. The predictive model developed by Thomas for the project assumed that the occupation of sites was based primarily on soil drainage characteristics. Prehistoric sites would most likely be expected in well-drained areas adjacent to freshwater sources and resource procurement areas. Based on the background research the project area was subjected to a vehicular survey followed by a pedestrian survey covering 100% of all exposed ground surfaces. Subsurface testing consisted of the excavation of post hole tests and where appropriate, measured test units. This subsurface testing was designed to provide additional information to properly evaluate the significance of the identified resources. The final stage of the investigations consisted of an analysis of the identified cultural resources for the purpose of identification of the resources and assessing or evaluating their significance in terms of their National Register eligibility. Unfortunately, the final product of this survey was neither comprehensive in scope nor conclusive in terms of National Register eligibilities.

For organizational purposes Thomas divided the Ogletown project area into two segments, D and E (Figures 5 and 6). Within Segment D in the project area, Locus D-6 (7NC-D-68) was located on the south side of Route 4 approximately one quarter mile west of the intersection of Route 4 with Route 273 (Figure 7). Observed at the ground surface was a rubble-lined 20 by 25 foot cellar hole/foundation, a brick-lined well to the southeast

FIGURE 5

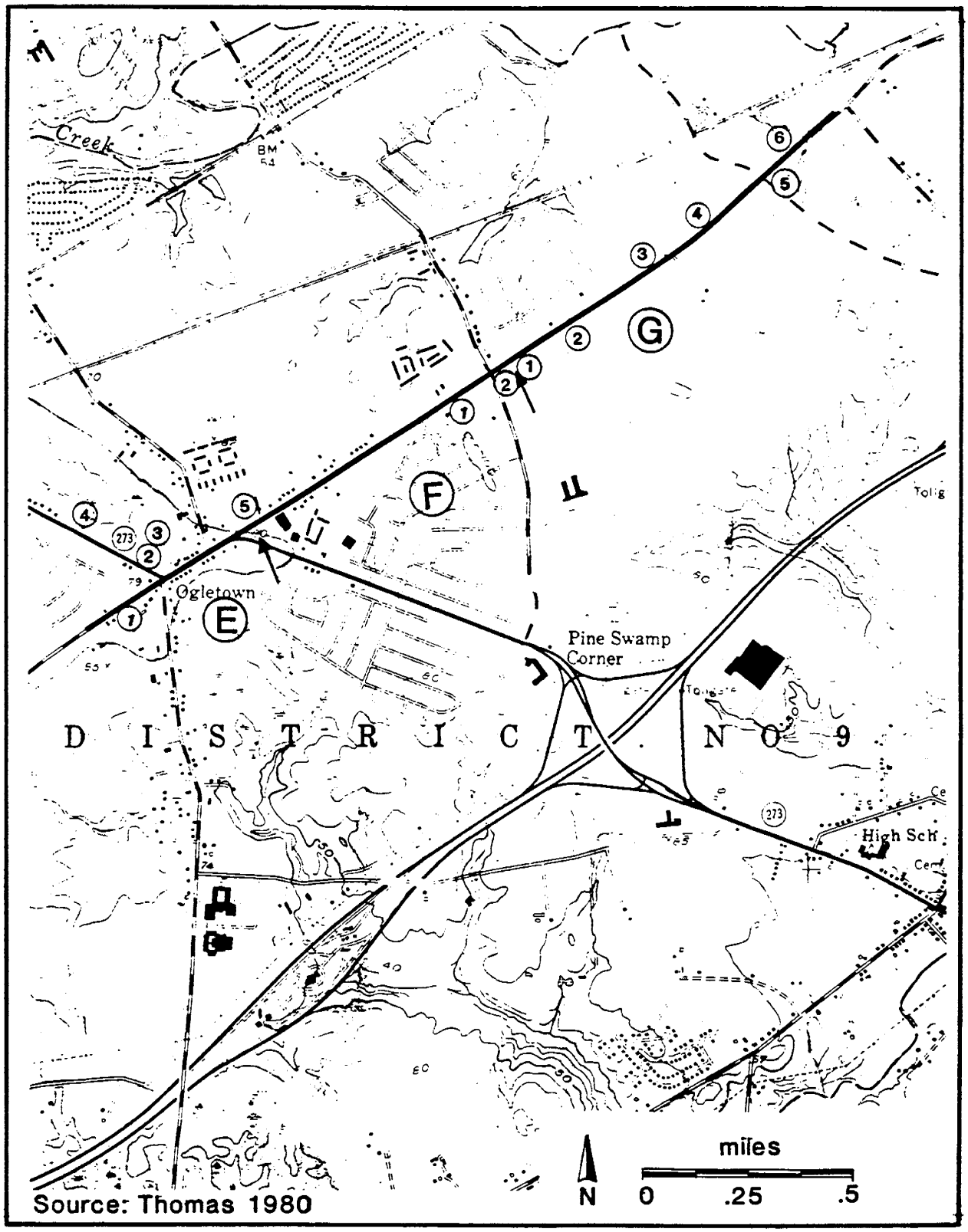
MAAR Project Location–Segments B, C, and D



Source: Thomas 1980

FIGURE 6

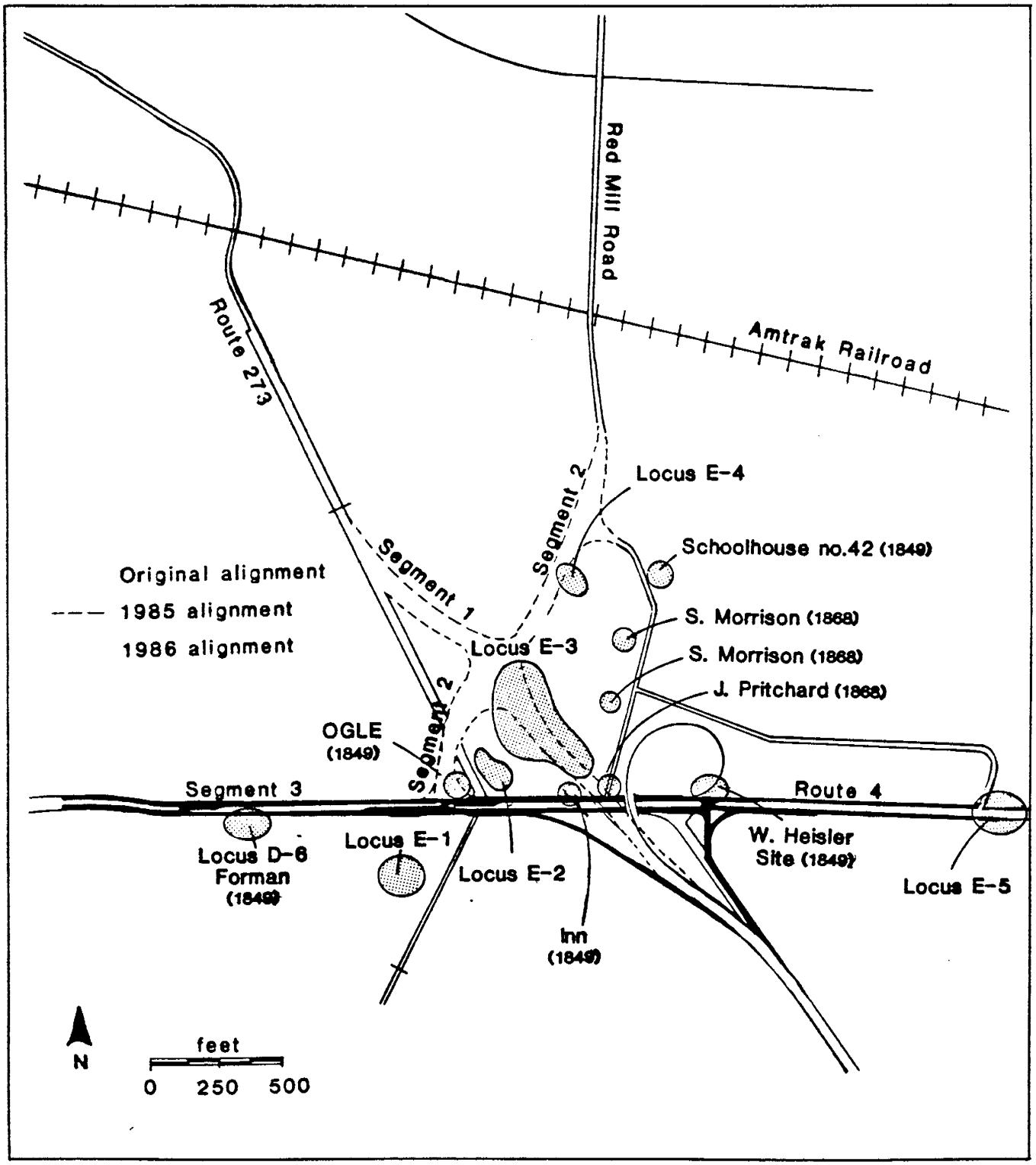
MAAR Project Location–Segments E, F, and G



Source: Thomas 1980

FIGURE 7

Known Site Locations



of the foundation, and a variety of artifacts. The owner of the property restricted access to the property and no subsurface testing was carried out. This locus, known as the Temple property, was determined by Thomas to have been the site of a log cabin which was razed in the late 1950's for highway construction. According to the owner, the removal of the structure was done in a way so that little ground disturbance occured. Thomas (1980:VI-8) recommended that "unless a prudent and feasible alternative can be found, data recovery operations be initiated at the Locus. Data recovery should be thorough and should consist of the excavation of the cellar hole, all subsurface features, and any middens located." The limited historical research that was accomplished associated with this survey indicated that the site was occupied by at least 1849 when it was owned by Forman as shown on the Rea and Price Map of New Castle County (1849).

Additional historical research indicates that this locus was the site of a plantation, historically called the Red House plantation, located within the southwestern section of a 745 acre tract patented by Thomas Ogle in 1739. The survey plat accompanying the warrant for the parcel shows the location of two existing improvements (dwellings) within the platted area. One of these in the same location as the red house plantation (Locus D-6), is labeled as "the improvement sold Thomas Ogle by Jacob Rogers." Thus, the archaeological deposits associated with the site should yield artifacts and features dating to the early 18th century and possibly to the late 17th century. A property appraisal of the Red House associated with the settlement of

Thomas Ogle's estate in 1774 lists "an old house out of repair." Thomas Ogle in his will dated January 27, 1768 bequeathed to his wife Catherine the house known as the Red House in Ogletown together with two hundred acres of land to be laid off from the home tract. The two hundred acre parcel including the house site remained intact until a division sale in the late 1940's. During the ownership of the present owner, Mr. Albert Temple, in conjunction with a road widening project of Route 4 (contract number 1154) it was suggested that the house be moved intact to a new foundation to the south of the existing site. Instead, a decision was made to destroy the house and this was accomplished in early 1954. The house site has remained undisturbed since this demolition and is presently completely covered with a dense vegetation. Several additional archaeological features have been located during preliminary walkovers and limited subsurface augering indicates that the area surrounding the house is unplowed.

From Figures 2 and 3 it can be seen that the present project as proposed will significantly impact the site of the former Red House plantation. Because of the high level of significance indicated by the preliminary research and the relatively undisturbed nature of the archaeological remains, an extensive Phase II excavation will be undertaken. This will consist of the construction of a detailed site map including the house foundation, well, barn foundations, and other features observable on the surface. Following this, a grid will be placed over the site and shovel postholer tests will be excavated to sterile soil

at five foot intervals. Any features located during this testing will be exposed to assess their integrity and size. The integrity of the basement area within the foundation will be assessed by the excavation of two test units, one placed at a corner of the foundation and the other located centrally within the structure. Additional three by three and five by five foot test units will be excavated where surface indications warrant or where the shovel tests yield results to suspect the location of buried features. In conjunction with this archaeological testing, additional historical research will focus on determining the significance of the site within the local and regional historic environment. On the basis of the archaeological and archival research the site's eligibility for listing on the National Register will be determined. It is anticipated that completion of the Phase I/II research at this locus will take approximately one month to complete.

Within Locus E (Figure 6) five archaeological sites were located by the survey of Thomas (1980). A prehistoric locus, E-1 was located in a garden site on a slight rise of land southwest of the intersection of Route 4 and Salem Church Road (Figure 7). Because the site had been reported by a local informant to have yielded numerous prehistoric artifacts, both surface and limited subsurface examination (five post-hole tests) were undertaken. The results from this testing provided no indication of prehistoric occupation. Thomas concluded that "there will be <u>no impact</u> to cultural resources at this locus" (Thomas 1980:XI-9). In order to assure that no prehistoric resources are present at this locus additional work at this locus will be undertaken to

locate and identify the reported cultural resources. The area contained by the site is presently covered by a combination of brush, grass, and tree cover with limited surface visibility. The proposed research will include additional informant interviewing of local collectors, an intensive surface reconnaissance of the ground surface where visibility permits, and subsurface testing across the site to locate and identify the site. If the preliminary testing recovers sufficient artifact densities, further testing will be carried out to determine the integrity, size, and occupation period of the site. Determination of the site's eligibility for listing on the National Register will be completed. It is expected that Phase I testing at this locus will take approximately one week.

Locus E-3 was a site located on a rise of land overlooking several wetland woods just to the northeast of the intersection of Routes 4 and 273 (Figure 7). Informants had reported that dozens(?) of finished artifacts had been collected from this knoll in the past. At the time of the survey the visibility of the area was good and further subsurface testing was also carried out, both with negative results. Artifacts recovered from this locus (7NC-D-69) consisted of one fire-cracked rock, one quartz fragment and two whiteware sherds. Thomas (1980) recommended that further work be carried out at this site should this rise of land be incorporated in the future interchange construction program. Because of the significant impact to the site by the proposed project (Figure 7), the present research will conduct a complete Phase I/II survey within the supposed site boundaries. At

present, surface visibility of the site is very low with over 80% of the site in heavy forest and the remaining area in fallow agricultural fields. The testing strategy in these unsurveyed areas will consist of an unaligned systematic testing program within the 700 foot long and 150 foot wide right of way through the site area. The remaining right of way through the heavily wooded area will be examined through the excavation of measured excavation units placed at regular intervals and at other locations predicted to contain prehistoric sites based on previous research in northern Delaware (Custer 1983). Within the forested area the numerous bay/basin features surrounded by well-drained sandy riseswill be thoroughly examined for signs of prehistoric occupation. Phase I testing of the proposed ROW within 7NC-D-69 will take approximately two weeks, with another two weeks for the testing for the 1200 foot length of ROW for the Salem-Ruthby Road connector through the same forested parcel.

Locus E-4 was on a small heavily wooded rise located along Route 273 and was predicted by Thomas's model to be a possible location of prehistoric occupation (Figure 7). A total of four shovel tests were excavated at this locus and this subsurface testing at the site yielded negative results and no further work was recommended. To insure that no cultural resources are present further field reconnaissance testing employing measured excavation units will be carried out because this locus will be directly impacted by the present project. Methods employed in the initial field reconnaissance and the follow-up Phase II research will be similar to those used at other prehistoric sites in the project area.

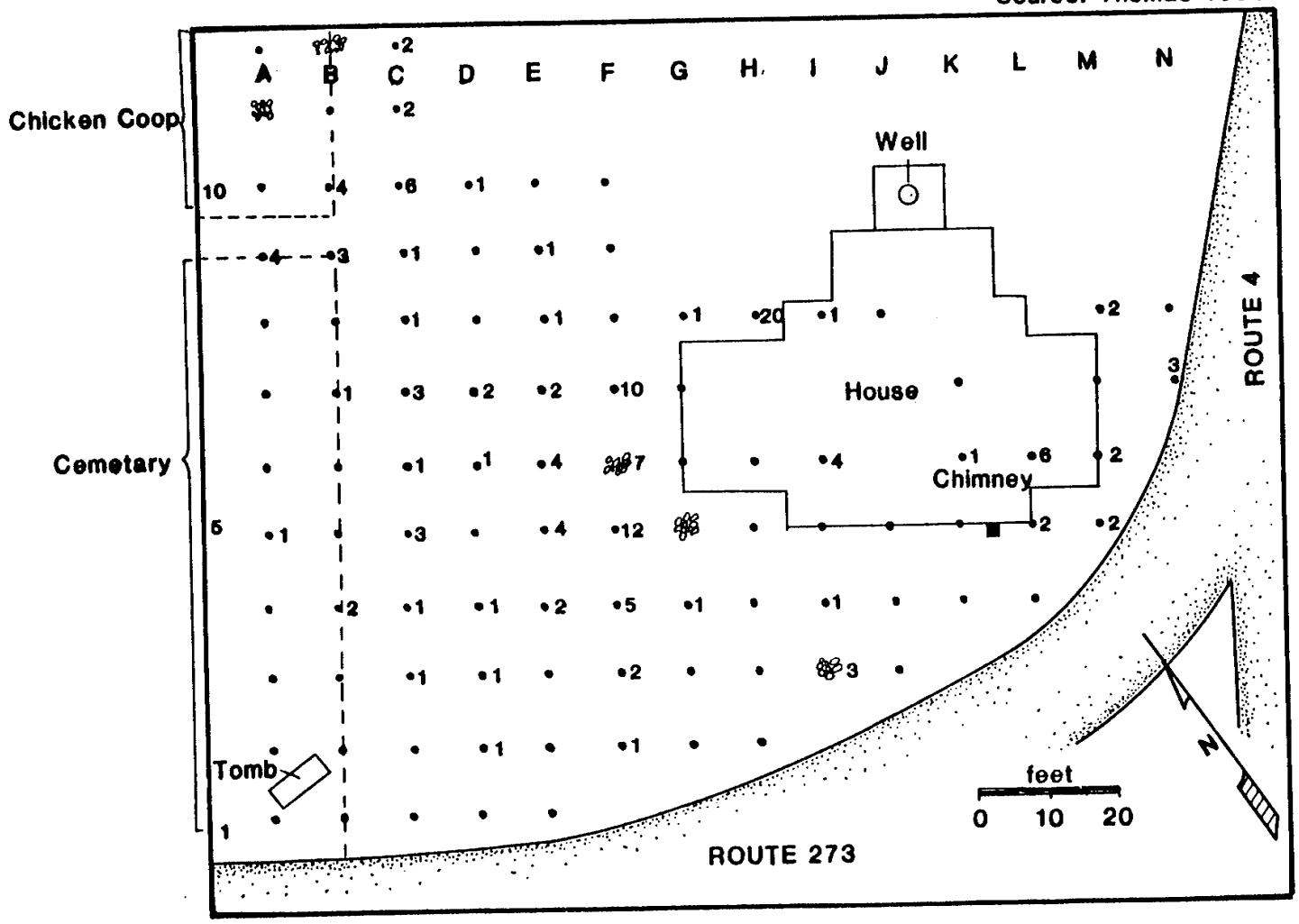
Locus E-5 was another site location predicted by the prehistoric model to possess a high probability of containing prehistoric artifacts (Figure 7). Subsurface testing at this locus consisted of the excavation of eight post-hole tests with negative results. It was determined from this limited testing that no cultural resources existed at this locus. Since the time of this preliminary survey archaeological excavation of this site has been severely impacted by Route 4 road construction and no further work will be undertaken at this locus.

The most significant locus investigated by the Thomas survey was Locus E-2, the Thomas Ogle Site (Figure 7). The site, located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Routes 4 and 273, was subjected to subsurface archaeological testing to determine if significant archaeological remains existed to necessitate archaeological mitigation procedures. Included with this research was the interviewing of local informants to establish the location of outbuildings and other features associated with the site. The subsurface excavation consisted of the establishment of a ten foot grid system and the excavation of 97 post-hole tests. The artifacts recovered from this testing are listed in Table 1 and the location of the post-hole units and the artifact counts recovered from each are listed in Figure 8. Also shown on the figure are the location of the main house foundation, well, chicken coop, and cemetery known from informant interviews. The archaeological testing revealed that a concentration of artifacts can be expected adjacent to the rear of the house foundation and that several intact buried

FIGURE 8

Ogle House Test Grid–MAAR 1980 Excavation

Source: Thomas 1980



• Shovel Test Pit Stone Feature

TABLE 1

GENERAL ARTIFACT INVENTORY

Area Location

DOT - Thomas Ogle House
Historic Artifacts

Catalog #		
# TO- 1	(A-5)	1 redware sherd
# TO- 2	(A-9)	3 redware sherds; 1 bottle glass frg.
# TO- 3	(B-4)	2 whiteware sherds
# TO- 4	(B-7)	1 brick fragment
# TO- 5	(B-9)	3 bone fragments
# TO- 6	(B-10)	1 whiteware sherd; 3 wire fragments
# TO- 7	(C-3)	1 whiteware sherd
# TO- 8	(C-4)	1 whiteware sherd
# TO- 9	(C-5)	2 nails
# TO-10	(C-8)	1 whiteware sherd
# TO-11	(C-9)	1 redware sherd
# TO-12	(C-10)	6 whiteware sherds
# TO-13	(C-11)	1 whiteware sherd; 1 redware sherd
# TO-14	(C-12)	1 metal fragment
# TO-15	(D-2)	1 redware sherd
# TO-16	(D-3)	1 porcelain button
# TO-17	(D-4)	1 nail
# TO-18	(D-6)	1 redware sherd
# TO-19	(D-7)	1 porcelain sherd; 1 redware sherd
# TO-20	(D-10)	1 bottle glass fragment
# TO-21	(E-4)	1 brick fragment; 1 redware sherd
# TO-22	(E-5)	1 creamware sherd; 3 whiteware sherds
# TO-23	(E-6)	2 creamware sherds; 1 whiteware sherd
# TO-24	(E-7)	1 pearlware sherd
# TO-25	(E-8)	1 whiteware sherd; 1 wire fragment
# TO-26	(E-9)	1 plastic fragment
# TO-27	(F-2)	1 redware sherd
# TO-28	(F-3)	1 bottle glass fragment; 1 horseshoe fragment
# TO-29	(F-4)	3 whiteware sherds; 2 bottle glass fragments
# TO-30	(F-5)	8 whiteware sherds; 2 redware sherds; 2 nails
# TO-31	(F-6)	1 bottle glass fragment; 1 flat glass fragment; 4 nails and 1 wire fragment
# TO-32	(F-7)	10 bottle glass fragments
# TO-33	(G-4)	1 bottle glass fragment
# TO-34	(G-8)	1 bottle glass fragment
# TO-35	(H-8)	19 whiteware sherds; 1 redware sherd
# TO-36	(I-3)	2 flat glass fragments; 1 nail
# TO-37	(I-4)	1 bottle glass fragment
# TO-38	(I-6)	1 redware sherd; 3 bottle glass fragments
# TO-39	(I-8)	1 metal spike

TABLE 1 (cont.)

GENERAL ARTIFACT INVENTORY

Area Location

Catalog	# TO-40 (K-6)	1 flat glass fragment
	# TO-41 (L-5)	1pearlware sherd;1 bottleglass fragment
	# TO-42 (L-6)	2 whiteware sherds; 1 redware sherd; 1bottleglassfragment;2flat glass fragments
	# TO-43 (M-5)	1 bottle glass fragments;1flat glass fragment
	# TO-44 (M-6)	2 bottle glass fragments
	# TO-45 (M-8)	2 whiteware sherds; 1 redware sherd
	# TO-46 (N-7)	2 bottle glass fragments; 1 nail

foundations exist scattered throughout the yard area. The soil profiles obtained from this testing showed a moderate amount of disturbance surrounding the outbuildings with lesser amounts of disturbance in the yard area. The stratigraphic profiles obtained from this testing indicate that within the house foundation, brick and stone rubble exist to an undetermined depth. This agrees with the demolition specifications of the DelDOT in the awarding of the demolition 1955 contract to the Wilmington Wrecking Company stating that "this house will be completely removed from the site. The building and sidewalls will be leveled to ground level. Plaster and debris may be used as cellar fill. However, this job will not include the filling of the cellar." The Ogle House was demolished in the Spring of 1955 and since that time the site has been unoccupied. The area surrounding the house has been partially impacted by the widening of the intersection and the emplacement of utility lines. A limited degree of unauthorized artifact looting has

also taken place but this has been limited to metal detecting at relatively shallow depths. Thomas (1980) recommended that:

1) Extensive documentary research should be instituted in order to determine the land use history of the Ogle property and to allow for the interpretation of the archaeological record.

2) Archaeological data recovery operations should be instituted once the decision has been made to include the property within the construction ROW.

3) Data recovery should consist of mechanical removal of all overburden and the exposing of subsurface features indicated through documentary research and post-hole testing. Each feature should then be excavated.

Archival research conducted by Thomas (1980) determined that the site could have been occupied beginning with the purchase of land by Thomas Ogle in 1739 and that the house was later occupied by his son James Ogle.

Further research concerned with the Thomas Ogle site indicates a construction period for the house of circa 1740. Several travellers' accounts of the 1740's mention Ogle's Town and the presence of a tavern run by Thomas Ogle. By the time of a 1762 account the house no longer functioned as a tavern although Ogle still boarded guests. The 1768 will of Thomas Ogle bequeathed to his son James "all the reversion of my large tract together with my mansion house and all the other buildings and improvements thereon." James Ogle's inventory (1794) includes reference only to a house with a front and back room and a two story kitchen.

Due to default of a mortgage to Peter LeMaigre, 250 acres and the dwelling out of the original 368 acre tract was sold at a 1795 sheriff's sale to John Dickinson of the Borough of Wilmington. In a 1799 list of his estate the T. Ogle Site was described as: The dwelling house of brick-two stories-about thirty two feet long, twenty seven feet wide-thirteen windows about five or six feet long, and three feet wide,-a kitchen of brick-one story-about fifteen feet square-a back building of wood about fifteen feet square-a barn of wood about thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide-a small log tenement. All the buildings last described are in ruinous state and inhabited only by poor persons who pay no rent."

Other notable and significant owners of the T.Ogle House and Plantation included George Read of New Castle (1800-1803), Nicholas Le Huray, who operated a clock-making business on the site from 1826 to 1834, and William Hawthorn, the owner during the circa. 1868 period when the house functioned as a hotel. Detailed site specific historic research has not been undertaken on the 19th and 20th century occupation of the site but preliminary findings indicate the existence of a wealth of documentary material. A series of photographs taken ca. 1955 (Plate 1) will be most useful when combined with the documentary information and informant interviews.

For reasons unknown the survey of Thomas (1980) failed to locate or identify either through map research or fieldwork several historic sites listed on historic maps of the area. The Rea and Price Map of New Castle County (1849) locates five additional historic sites within the project area: the Robert

SEE PLATE 17 - PAGE 162

Ogle Site at the northwest corner of the Route 4 and 273 intersection; the John Ruth Inn at the northwest corner of the intersection of Red Mill Road and Route 4; the W.E. Heisler Site consisting of a tenant-occupied structure on the northeast corner of the previous intersection; the main house structure approximately 1000 feet to the east on the north side of Route 4, and School House #42, located on Ruthby Road 1400 feet north of the Route 4 intersection (Figure 7). One slightly more recent historic site, included on Beer's atlas of New Castle County (1868) the S. Morrison house, was also not identified or located as part of the 1980 research. The other historic site on Beer's Atlas, another S. Morrison house was found by the present deed research to have been located within the Ogletown Baptist Church property and will not to be impacted by the present project. Both of these mid-19th century structures are not extant, the S. Morrison house within the project area having been destroyed by the DelDOT in 1974 and the other house at some time during the late 1960's.

Three of the six historic sites not identified by Thomas are presently covered by an asphalt or concrete pavement. The other two, the W.E Heisler main house site and the Samuel Morrison site, both now in vacant land have been impacted to an unknown degree by house demolition activities. The Robert Ogle Site is now occupied by an Arco gas station, the John Ruth Inn formerly by a Mister Donut operation, and the W.E. Heisler tenancy site by a BP gas station. However, subsurface disturbance associated with the Mister Donut operation appears to be minimal, and Orphan's Court plats of the Robert Ogle and W. E. Heisler tenancy

site show that the major subsurface disturbance associated with the emplacement of gas tanks occured away from the main house foundation. The School House #42 site contains the extant schoolhouse structure, extensively modified, surrounded by 20th century structures associated with a small engine business. The rear yard area of the site, now lightly wooded, appears to be well preserved. The basic strategy to be employed in the excavation of the sites under the asphalt will include the removal of restricted areas of asphalt to test for the limits and integrity of the site. Specific excavation techniques will be identical to those employed elsewhere in the project area. Due to the real threat of looting and vandalism to the sites within the project area the initial phase II work will not expose large areas of the sites but will thoroughly test the site within its known limits. The other three sites will be subjected to Phase I/II excavation employing the use of measured units to determine the integrity of the site and shovel-post holer tests to locate features and determine site boundaries.