1.0 INTRODUCTION

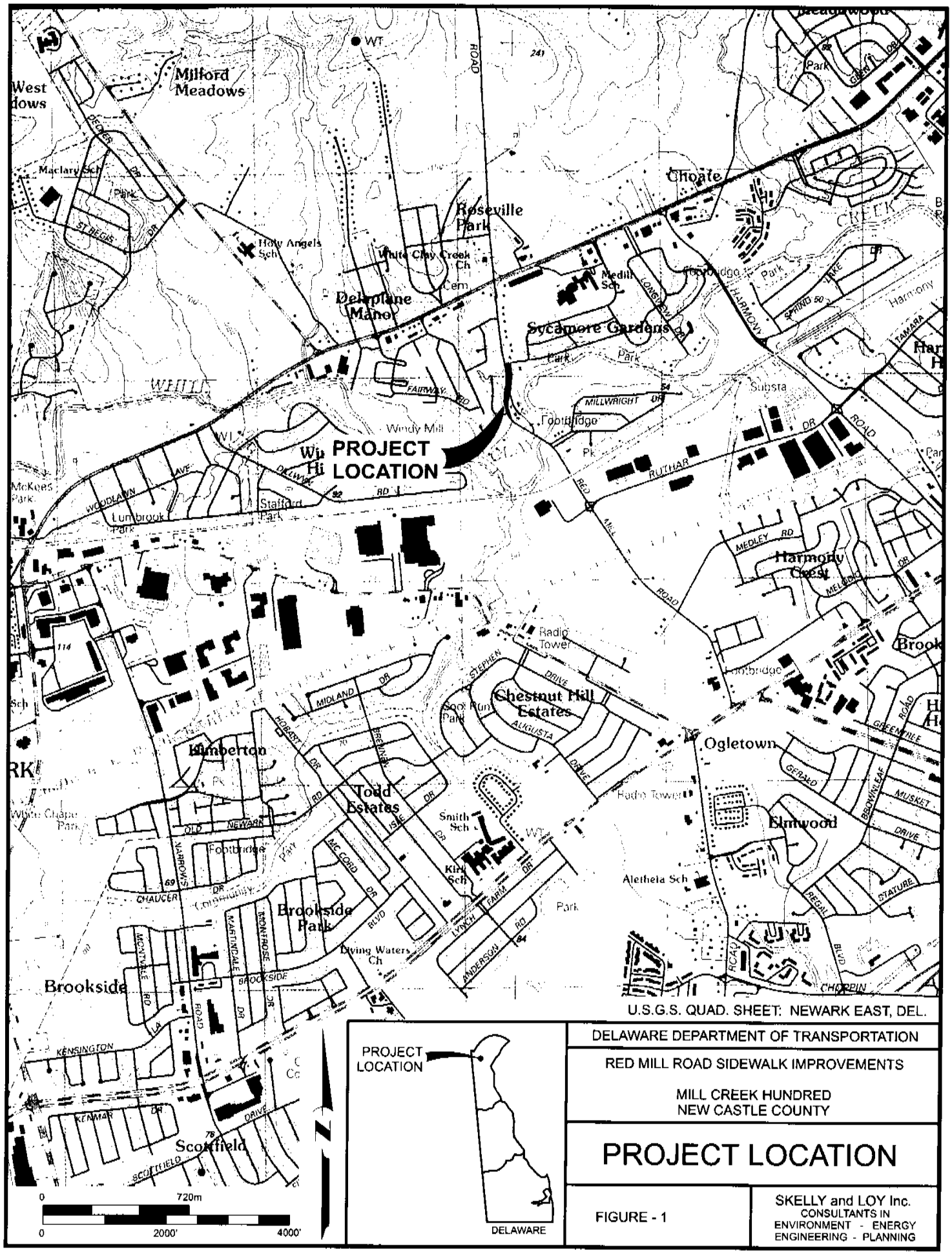
Phase I archaeological and historic resource surveys have been completed in conjunction with the proposed Red Mill Road Sidewalk Improvements project located in Newark (Mill Creek Hundred), New Castle County, Delaware (Figure 1).

1.1 Purpose and Need

The Red Mill Road Sidewalk Improvements project archaeological and historic resource surveys were performed at the request of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) in order to identify any and all archaeological and historic structural resources that might be present within a portion of the project Area of Potential Effect (APE), and to preliminarily assess those resources for integrity and/or significance. By accomplishing these goals, compliance with state and federal legislation, including Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980 and 1992; the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1966, as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; Code of Federal Regulations: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation CFR800; Delaware Code Annotated Title 29 § 8705, 7 § 5301-5309, and 7 § 5401-5411; and Delaware Antiquities Act, is assured. *The Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in the State of Delaware* (Delaware State Historic Preservation Office 1993) were followed in preparing the project research design, methodology, and this report.

1.2 Project Description

The proposed roadway work includes the extension of the existing sidewalk located on the west side of Red Mill Road from its intersection with Darwin Drive at the north end of the project to Mary Ella Drive at the south end of the project. To accommodate the sidewalk extension construction within the existing paved shoulder area, Red Mill Road will be realigned approximately 1.5 m (5.0 ft) to the east. The existing east side sidewalk will be removed and rebuilt approximately 1.5 m (5.0 ft) to the east of its present location. Other improvements associated with the construction include emplacement of new curbs and gutters adjacent to the new sidewalk, reconstruction of the right turn lane on the northbound side of Red Mill Road between Darwin Drive and Old Red Mill Road, and painting the pavement to reflect the new lane alignments.



U.S.G.S. QUAD. SHEET: NEWARK EAST, DEL.

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RED MILL ROAD SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

MILL CREEK HUNDRED
NEW CASTLE COUNTY

PROJECT LOCATION

FIGURE - 1

SKELLY and LOY Inc.
CONSULTANTS IN
ENVIRONMENT - ENERGY
ENGINEERING - PLANNING

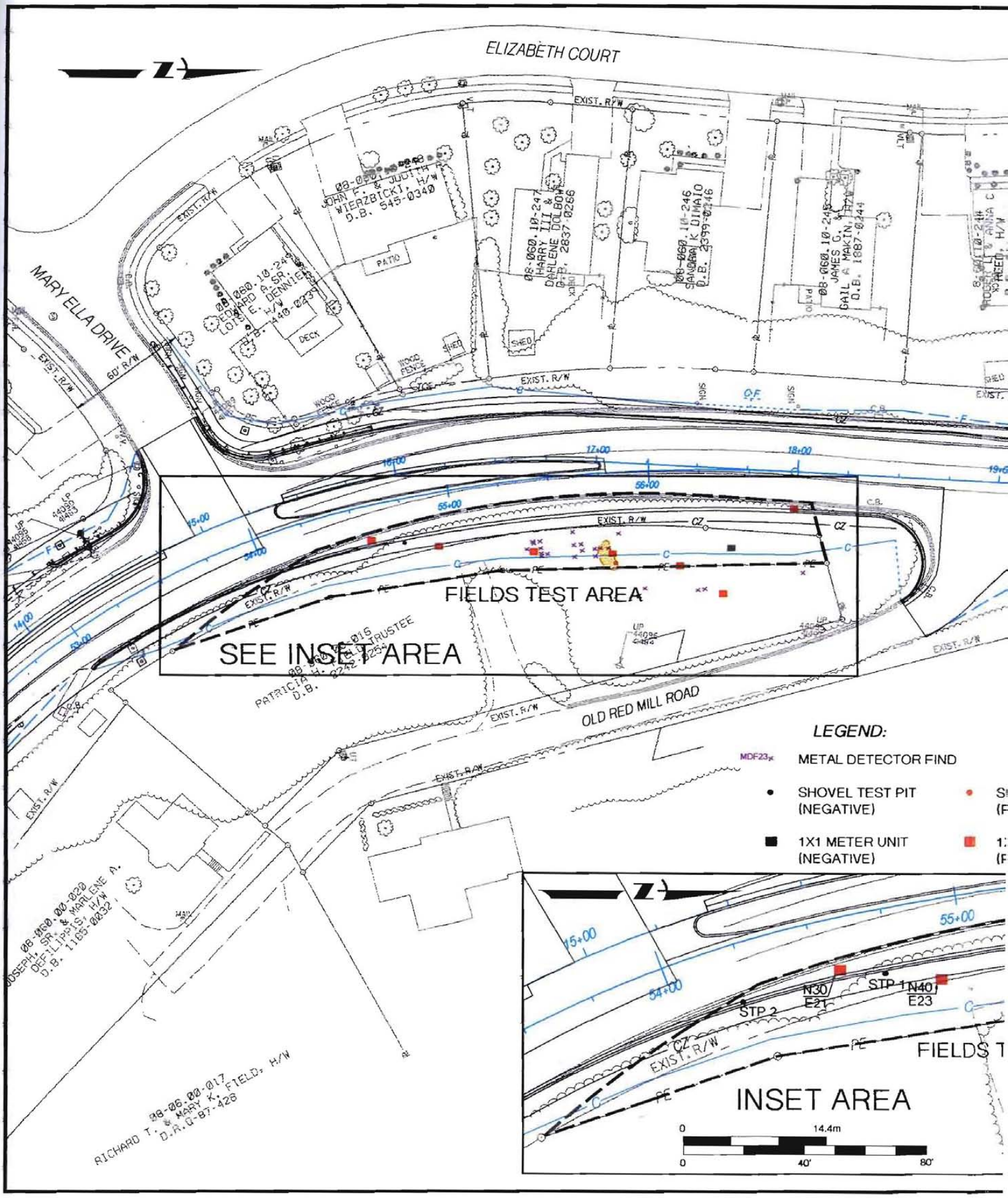
The project APE is located on the Newark East, Delaware 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle (United States Geological Survey [USGS] 1993) in the Piedmont Physiographic Province, and is drained by White Clay Creek. Elevations within the project APE range from approximately 13.7 to 16.8 m (45.0 to 55.0 ft) above mean sea level (msl). Soil types mapped within the project APE include Comus silt loam (Cu) and Delanco silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, moderately eroded (DeB2) (Matthews and Lavoie 1970:Sheet 19). Comus soils are well-drained soils located on floodplains in the Piedmont, while Delanco soils are moderately well-drained soils located on stream terraces in the northern part of the county (Matthews and Lavoie 1970:18). Based on their topographic positions, drainage, and age, both soil types present in the project APE have the potential to contain prehistoric period cultural remains.

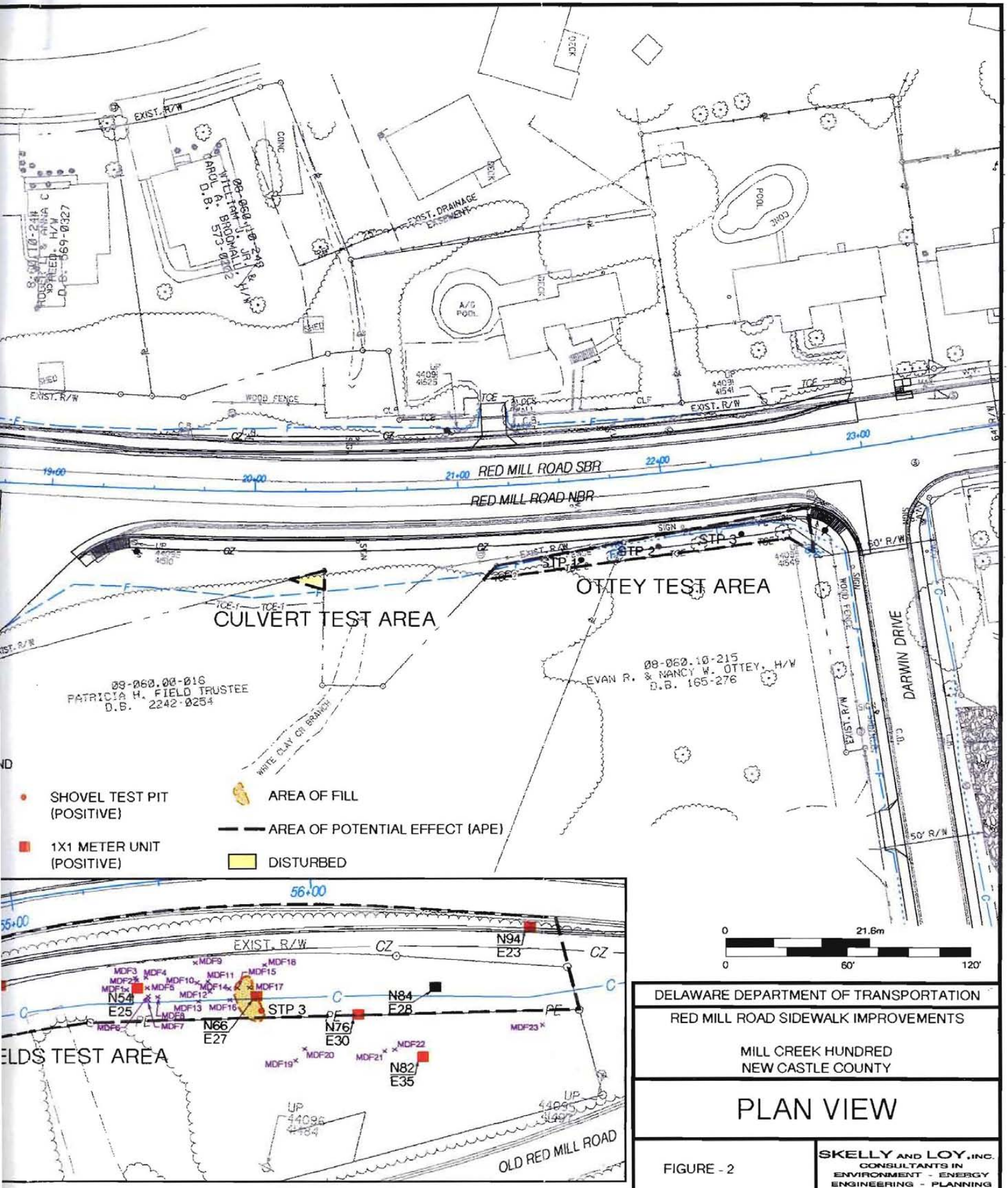
The archaeological survey area consists of three small irregularly-shaped test areas of land on the east side of existing Red Mill Road within the project APE (Figure 2). The northernmost test area (Ottey Test Area) is south of the intersection of Darwin Drive and Red Mill Road. The Ottey Test Area is approximately 315.9 m^2 (3,400 ft^2) in size, and consists of a sodded roadway drainage ditch and yard with large bushes. The landowner indicated that the area is disturbed by a pipeline and that fill had been placed over the entire front yard by a previous property owner.

The Culvert Test Area is a small triangular-shaped portion of land located immediately south of the position of two large culverts at approximately Red Mill Road Station 20+00. This test area measures approximately 13.9 m^2 (150.0 ft^2) in area, has been totally disturbed by the emplacement and maintenance of the culverts and existing Red Mill Road, and is inundated after moderate amounts of rain have fallen.

The southernmost test area is the Fields Test Area, measuring approximately 557.4 m^2 (6,000.0 ft^2) in area. The test area is located along the east side of Red Mill Road between its intersection with Old Red Mill Road to the north and Mary Ella Drive to the south. This area appears to have once been the yard for a two-story, stucco, apartment building identified on a 1970 DelDOT map (Figure 3). According to the current landowner (Dr. Field, personal communication 2001), this test area may also represent a barnyard; a barn was reported as located opposite the northern portion of the test area to the west across existing Red Mill Road. Currently, the test area is comprised of lawn, a paved driveway, and woods with heavy undergrowth vegetation.

Based on the recommendation of DelDOT and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Wilson House, a property located partially within the project APE, was researched to determine if it has any relationship with the National Register of Historic Places


ELIZABETH COURT
MARY ELLA DRIVE
60' R/W
EXIST. R/W
FIELDS TEST AREA
SEE INSET AREA
OLD RED MILL ROAD
LEGEND:
METAL DETECTOR FIND
SHOVEL TEST PIT (NEGATIVE)
1X1 METER UNIT (NEGATIVE)
INSET AREA
STP 1
STP 2
N30/E21
N40/E23
14.4m
40'
80'



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RED MILL ROAD SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

MILL CREEK HUNDRED
NEW CASTLE COUNTY

PLAN VIEW

FIGURE - 2

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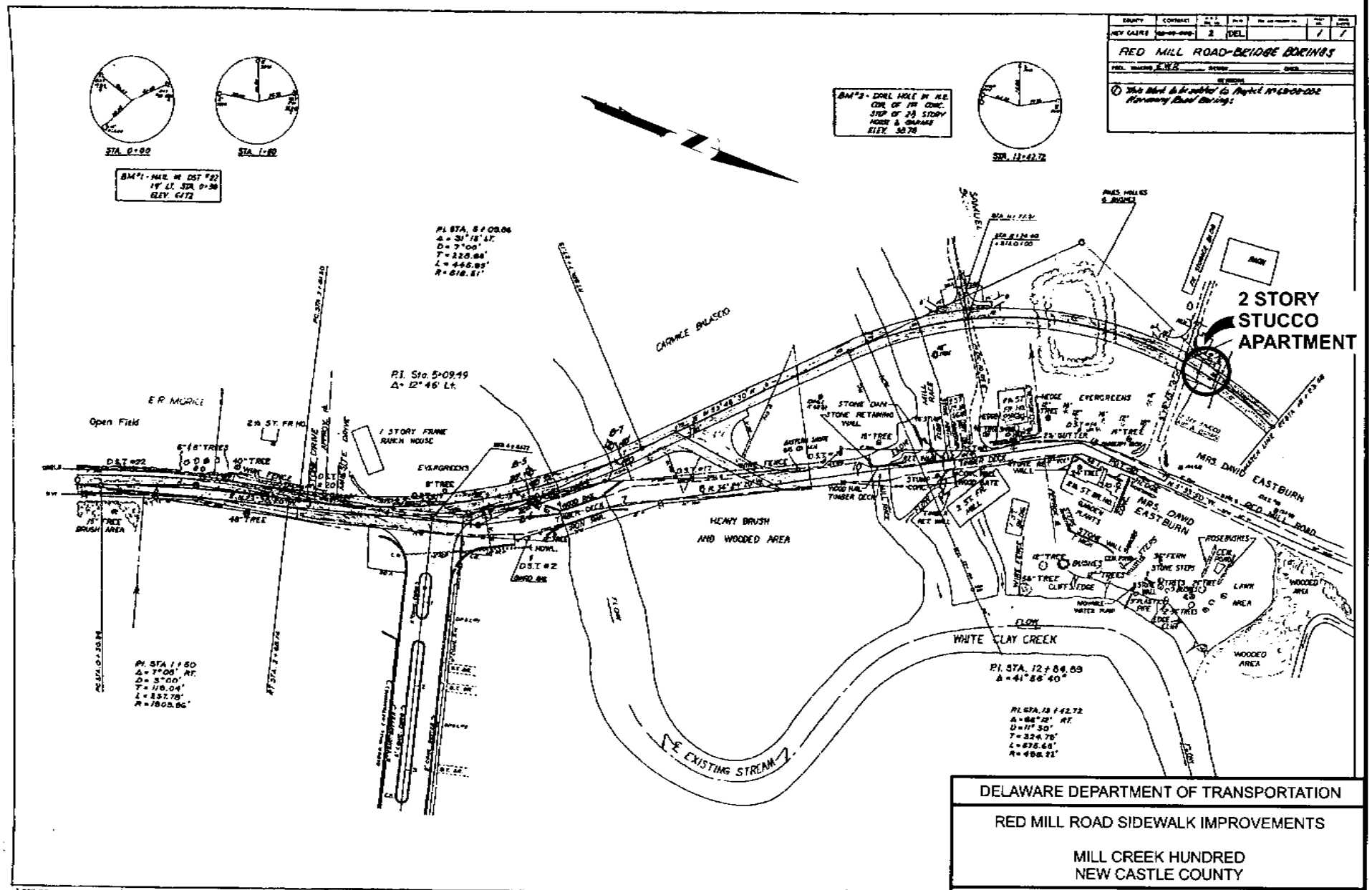

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RED MILL ROAD SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

MILL CREEK HUNDRED
NEW CASTLE COUNTY

PROJECT AREA IN 1970

FIGURE - 3

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ENVIRONMENT - ENERGY
ENGINEERING - PLANNING

SOURCE: DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 1970

(NRHP)-listed England House (Red Mill) property. The England House (Red Mill) property is located partially within the boundaries of the project APE. A portion of the proposed fill area and temporary construction easement for the Red Mill Road Sidewalk Improvements project, as currently designed, occurs within the designated NRHP boundaries for the England House (Red Mill) property and on property associated with the Wilson House.