

## **ABSTRACT**

This report details the findings of an archaeological and historic architectural survey URS Corporation (URS) conducted for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DeIDOT). Work was initiated in response to the proposed State Route 26 Alternative, from State Routes 17 to 361 in Sussex County. A walkover survey and subsurface testing were conducted within the project's archaeological area of potential effects (APE). Background research at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DE SHPO) revealed 11 previously surveyed loci within close proximity to the APE; three of these loci were previously assigned site numbers and subsequently destroyed in construction of a new housing development. In addition, there are several documented sites in the general vicinity of the project area, but none adjacent to or within the APE. The investigation documented two gravestones in a small cemetery that appears on the 1984 USGS topographic map of Bethany Beach. This cemetery is located approximately 400 feet from the current Windmill Road and is not within the project's impact area. Subsurface testing did not locate any new archaeological sites.

Fourteen historic architectural resources were identified within the architectural APE. Six of the resources were previously surveyed in 1981, but National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility criteria were not applied at that time. URS surveyed all 14 resources and found none appear to meet NRHP eligibility criteria.