

7.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Summary

Phase I archaeological survey and Phase II testing were completed for the Route 40 Improvements Project located in New Castle and Pencader hundreds, New Castle County, Delaware. The proposed improvements include the construction of an additional travel lane in each direction along U.S. Route 40 between S.R. 896 and S.R. 1, and the improvement of intersections at S.R. 896 and S.R. 72. The project length is approximately 8.1 km (5.0 mi). The APE was defined as the extent of proposed cut and fill operations, for a total of 103.57 ha (255.91 ac). The APE contains a mixture of intensive commercial and residential development, as well as agricultural fields.

The results of archival research and a geomorphological reconnaissance defined 20 test areas, totaling 0.87 ha (2.16 ac) in area. The remainder of the APE was disturbed (88.75 ha [219.29 ac]) or wet (0.65 ha [1.60 ac]). The 20 test areas were examined through a combination of surface survey and STP excavation.

No previously recorded sites were present in the APE; several previously recorded sites had been present but were destroyed by road or commercial construction. Three historic period sites and an isolated find were discovered during the Phase I survey. The C.M. Whitaker House site (7NC-D-255), a nineteenth century home site with a cellar depression and well, was discovered outside the APE and does not extend into the APE. It was not evaluated as part of the present project.

The Pyle Tenant House site (7NC-D-256) is located partially within the APE. This ca. 1917-1958 tenant house site includes a poured concrete foundation, a well, a privy remnant, and much post-abandonment refuse. A draft context for evaluating twentieth century farm sites is presented, and the site is found to lack the attributes necessary to yield important information. The Pyle Tenant House site (7NC-D-256) is recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Prior to Delaware SHPO concurrence on this recommendation, the entire site was subjected to deep soil removal as part of a non-DelDOT commercial development project. The site no longer exists.

The Corrie House/Cumberland Farm site (7NC-D-242) is located partially within the APE. This ca. 1830-1940 tenant house site included only artifacts. The site was examined through the excavation of 11 STPs and five 1.0 x 1.0 m (3.3 x 3.3 ft) test units. All portions of the site located within the APE exhibited mixed/disturbed contexts; therefore, it was impossible to identify the occupants of the tenant farm during the nineteenth century. A draft context for evaluating twentieth

century farm sites was presented, and the site was found to lack the attributes necessary to yield important information. The Corrie House/Cumberland Farm site (7NC-D-242) is recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Isolated Find 1 is a portion of a non-diagnostic quartz biface. It was found during surface survey, and no additional artifacts were discovered in its vicinity. The biface fragment cannot contribute significant information to our understanding of New Castle County prehistory, and Isolated Find 1 is recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Subsequent to the Phase I survey, the topsoil was graded away from the location of Isolated Find 1 as part of a non-DeIDOT park development project. The isolate location no longer exists.

7.2 Management Recommendations

Over the lifetime of the Route 40 Improvements Project, there have been four archaeological resources to consider and one area of denied access. As Table 19 reflects, two of those resources (Isolated Find 1 and the Pyle Tenant House site [7NC-D-256]) were recommended not NRHP-eligible, and then were lost to non-DeIDOT development. The Corrie House/Cumberland Farm site (7NC-D-242) is recommended not NRHP-eligible, and does not require further management. The C.M. Whitaker House site (7NC-D-255) was not evaluated for listing in the NRHP because it is located well outside of the APE and does not require management by DeIDOT. The only remaining potential archaeology issue is Test Area 4, which is located northeast of Walther Road. DeIDOT has agreed to have a Phase I survey completed for this test area following DeIDOT's purchase of the land. If the Phase I survey is completed and no eligible resources are discovered, DeIDOT will have no remaining archaeology issues, other than the late discovery clauses that apply to all Section 106 projects.

Table 19.
Archaeological Recommendations for the Route 40 Improvements Project APE

Figure 2 Sheet	Sites	Eligibility Recommendation
Sheet 1	7NC-D-113A 7NC-D-113B	SHPO previously concurred that these are both not eligible. No further work.
Sheet 2	7NC-D-110 7NC-D-130C 7NC-D-130B partial	SHPO previously concurred that these are both not eligible. No further work. SHPO previously concurred that 130B is not eligible.
Sheet 3	7NC-D-130A 7NC-D-130B partial	SHPO previously concurred that 130A has been mitigated and that 130B is not eligible. No further work.
Sheet 4	7NC-D-212 Isolated Find 1	SHPO concurred that the Phase III study completed for this site has mitigated the adverse effects. No further work. Not eligible. No further work. (Location now destroyed).
Sheet 5	None	None.

Figure 2 Sheet	Sites	Eligibility Recommendation
Sheet 6	None	None.
Sheet 7	Site 1	Site not evaluated because it is outside the APE. Avoidance is planned under current design. No further work.
Sheet 8	7NC-D-188 and Location 15 (N-12861) Corrie House/Cumberland Farm Site (7NC-D-242)	Site and structure no longer exist. Not eligible. No further work. Site recommended not eligible for NRHP. No further work.
Sheet 9	Site 2, Pyle Tenant House Site (7NC-D-256) NE of Walther Road (Test Area 4)	Site recommended not eligible for NRHP. No further work. (Location now destroyed). Access denied: to be surveyed after DeIDOT purchase.
Sheet 10	None	None.
Sheet 11	None	None.