

## ABSTRACT

This report details the findings of a Phase I archaeological survey conducted by URS Corporation (URS) for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). Work was initiated in response to proposed improvements of Bridge 9 (also known as Smith's Bridge) on Brandywine Creek in New Castle County. A walkover survey and subsurface testing were conducted within the project's area of potential effect (APE). The investigation did not involve an architectural resource survey, as one had already been conducted by Louis Berger & Associates in 1999; this study documented seven architectural resources that are incorporated in the Smith's Mill-Granogue Historic District (N-13716). The present study investigated two areas that had the potential to contain cultural resources. In Area A, historical background research and subsurface testing further determined the northern extent of the Smith's Mill ruins. The only planned construction within this section of the project area is the installation of a utility pole for the temporary relocation of utilities. The excavation of a test unit into sterile subsoil has mitigated any impacts the placement of the pole may have had to cultural resources. Therefore, no further work is recommended within Area A. However, as the mill complex is culturally sensitive and located within and adjacent to the project area, URS strongly recommends several constraints be implemented in order to prevent any inadvertent impacts to the mill site during construction activities.

Due to the fragmentary nature of the recovered artifacts (n=2), and a number of disturbances from several horse trails and bridge and road construction activities, no additional work is recommended for Area B.