

## V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Phase I cultural resources investigation at Smith's Bridge (Bridge 9) did not encounter any new archaeological sites. However, the extent of the Smith/Talley Mill complex, located within the Smith's Mill-Granogue Historic District, was documented. Through historic photographs, it was ascertained that the mill extended north of the visible mill ruins to the southwest corner of Smith's Bridge Road and Creek Road, placing the mill within the area of potential effect (APE). Based on the construction drawings for the proposed improvements to Bridge 9, it does not appear that construction activities will impact the mill complex. The drawings indicate that the only impact proposed for this area is the placement of a temporary utility pole to carry telephone and electric lines across the Brandywine Creek. 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, since the mill complex is culturally sensitive and located within and adjacent to the project area, URS strongly recommends that the following constraints be implemented in order to prevent any inadvertent impacts to the mill site during construction activities: first, the mill site's boundaries should be clearly delineated on all construction documents as a sensitive area; second, all equipment, vehicles, and construction materials should be severely restricted within the mill site. At no time should any equipment, vehicles (commercial or private), or construction materials be permitted to operate, drive, park, or be stored within the boundaries of the mill complex. The only exception would be the necessary equipment to erect the utility pole, which should only enter the area if the ground is firm enough to support its weight. If the ground is too soft to support the equipment, a matting material should be used to prevent any subsurface ground disturbance. Finally, due to the mill site's location relative to the remainder of the construction zone, orange construction fencing and/or flagging tape and appropriate signage should be erected along its perimeter.

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.