by 30 meters east-west (less than 0.2 acres) (see Figure 42; Figure 91). The site was in a wooded area, and the soils initially did not appear to have been disturbed by plowing.

The Pine Circle Site was located during the Phase I survey of the Pine Tree Corners to Drawyer Creek segment of the SR 1 corridor (Bedell 1995a). The location of the site, not predicted by the model employed during the survey, was identified as having high potential for prehistoric sites during the initial Phase I visual inspection of the project corridor. Three lithic flakes and a possible FCR fragment were recovered from three shovel tests in a 20x30-meter area. Since the site did not appear to have been plowed, Phase II significance evaluation was recommended.

2. Environmental Setting

The Pine Circle Site was located in a wooded area adjacent to a ravine with steeply sloping sides, approximately 6 meters (20 feet) deep. The ravine drained west, across U.S. Route 13, to Whitby Branch, a marshy tributary of the Appoquinimink River. The river was approximately 800 meters away. At the time of testing, the ravine held a small pond created by an earthen dam, but it probably contained an intermittent stream prior to construction of the dam.

3. Phase II Testing

The Phase II testing of the Pine Circle Site consisted of the excavation of four test units. The testing failed to locate a definite plowzone, but the soil did appear to have been deflated, probably by a combination of logging and erosion (Figure 92). A total of nine prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the four test units, all quartz, quartzite, chert, or rhyolite flakes.

4. Summary

The Pine Circle Site represents a small procurement station of unknown cultural affiliation overlooking an intermittent stream. The small number of artifacts recovered suggests that the site was used only sporadically, or perhaps only once, by people hunting or gathering along the stream. The soil had been disturbed by modern activity.

L. SITE 7NC-G-137, THE HUTCHINSON/WELDIN STORE SITE

1. Site Description

Site 7NC-G-137 was a nineteenth-century commercial and domestic site located in Fieldsboro, on the southwestern corner of the intersection of U.S. Route 13, Fieldsboro Road, and Noxontown Pond Road (see Figure 46; Figure 93). The site was named for residents listed on the 1868 Beers atlas of Delaware and the 1881 Hopkins map of New Castle County, both of which show a house and a store in this location (Figures 94 and 95). The site spanned two distinct properties. At the intersection, occupying the northern half of the site, was an abandoned antiques store and its associated parking lot. To the south was an active agricultural field. The site measured approximately 75 meters north to south and 25 meters east to west (250x80 feet).

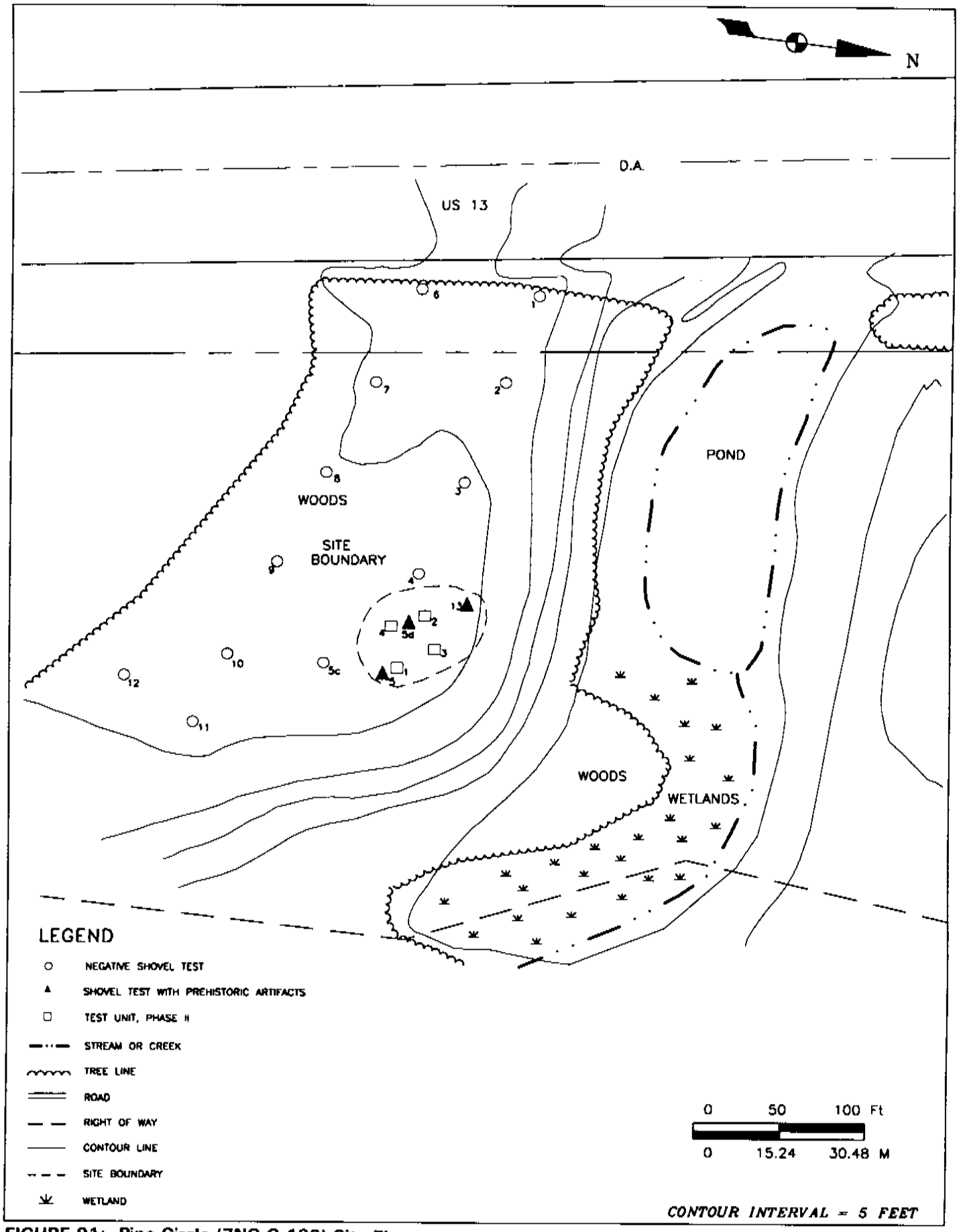

FIGURE 91: Pine Circle (7NC-G-139) Site Plan

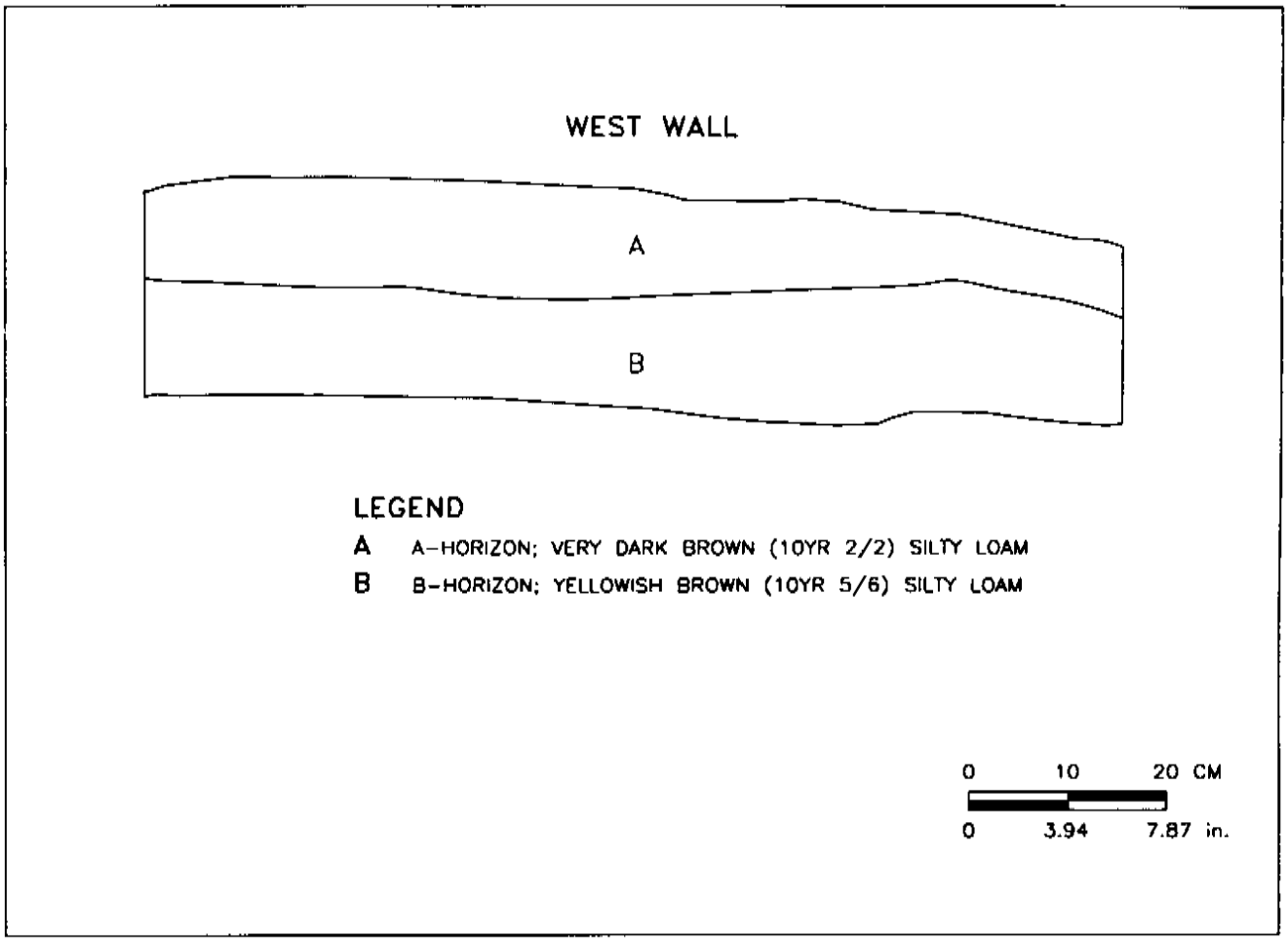

FIGURE 92: Pine Circle Site (7NC-G-139), Stratigraphic Profile of Test Unit 1

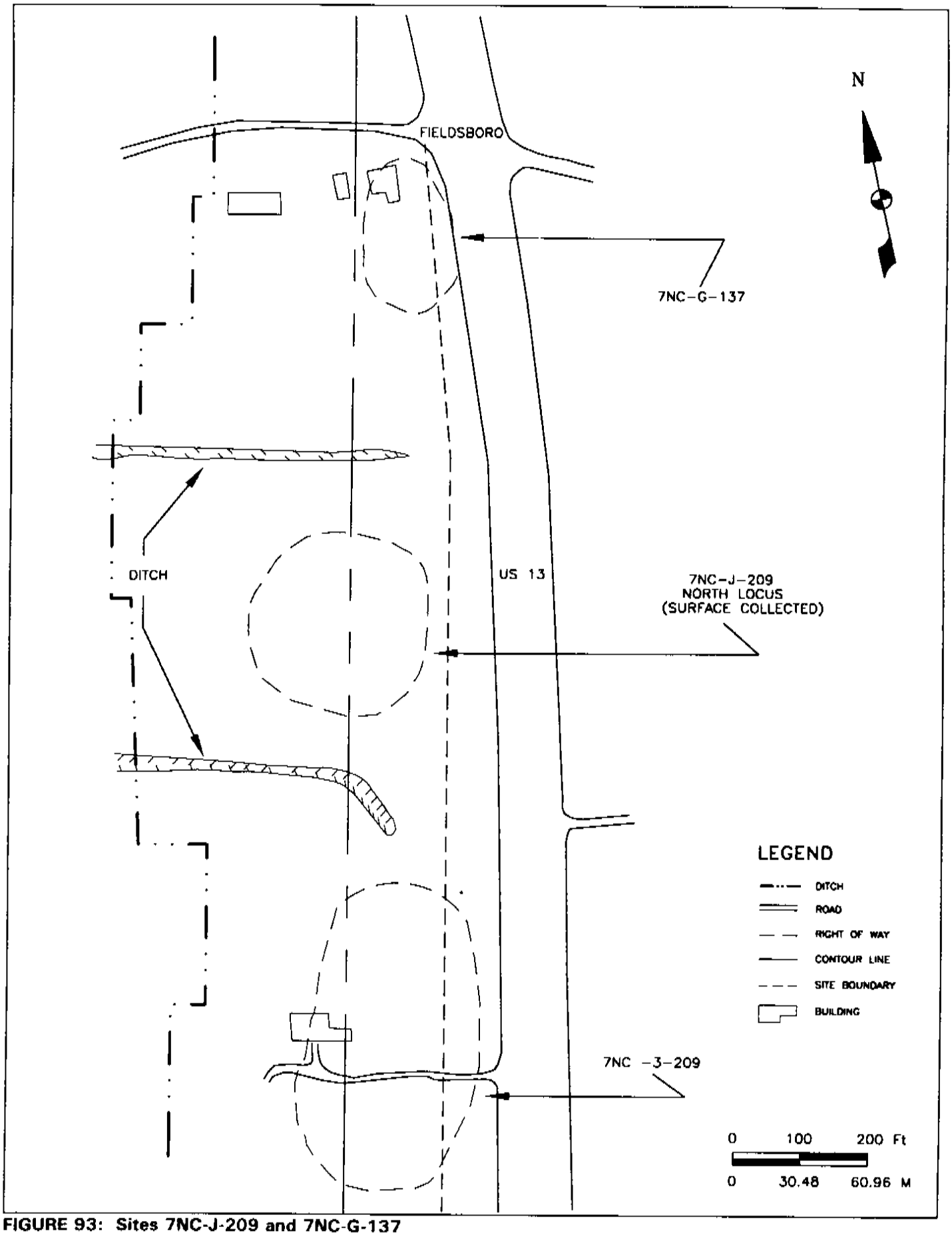

FIGURE 93: Sites 7NC-J-209 and 7NC-G-137

FIGURE 94: Project Area in 1849

SOURCE: Rea & Price 1849

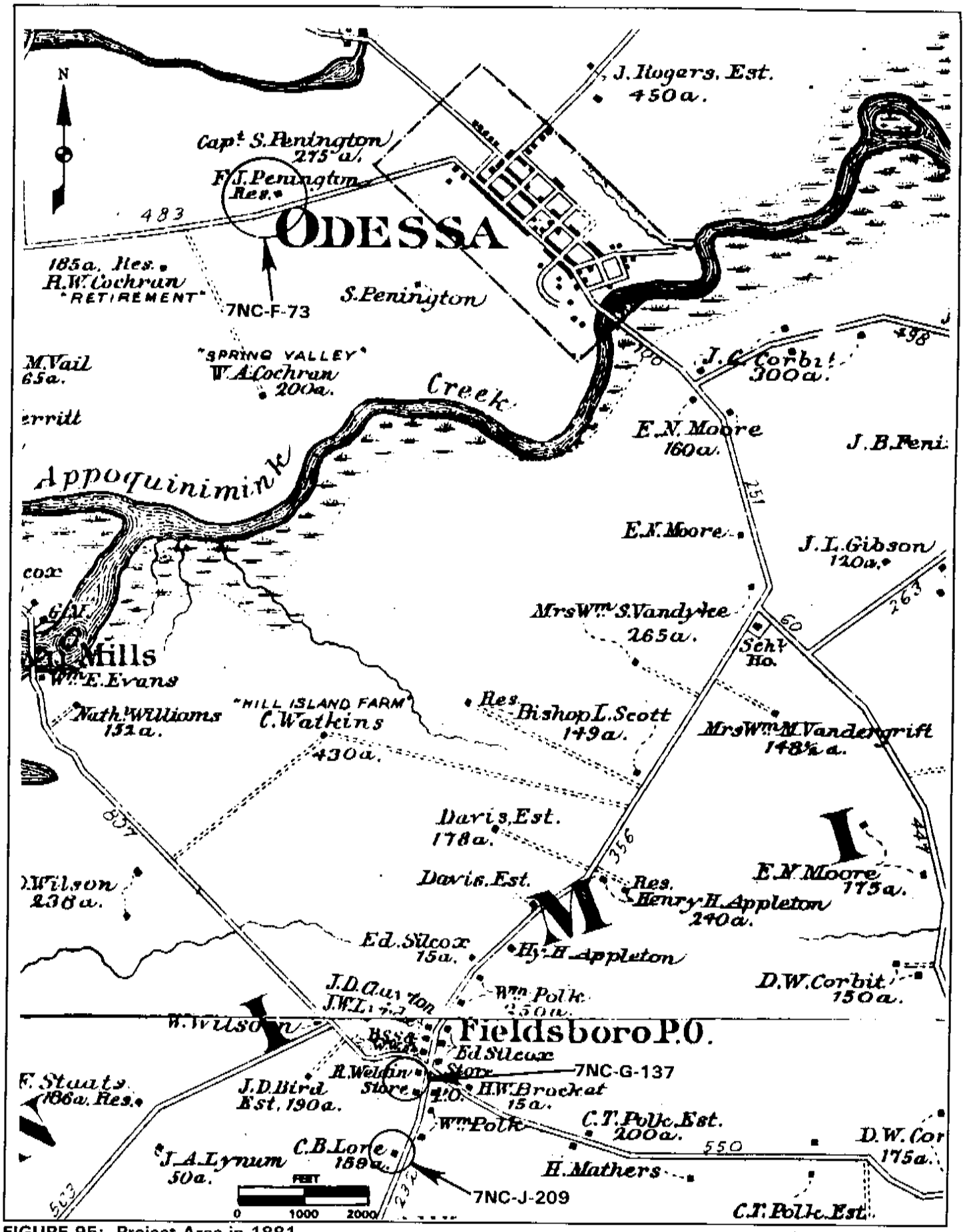

FIGURE 95: Project Area in 1881

SOURCE: G.M. Hopkins 1881

Site 7NC-G-137 was located during the Phase I survey of the Pine Tree Corners to Drawyer Creek segment of the SR 1 corridor (Bedell 1995a). Phase I survey was not carried out on the corner lot, which was largely covered with structures and asphalt pavement, but was limited to the agricultural field adjacent to it. The northern part of this field, closest to Fieldsboro, was a low rise that appeared to be a likely spot for historic structures. Farther south, the field sloped down toward a drainage ditch. Fourteen shovel tests were initially excavated in this area, in two rows of seven shovel test pits extending 140 meters west of U.S. Route 13. A concentration of nineteenth- to twentieth-century artifacts, mostly whiteware and redware, was discovered in the northeastern corner of the field. Six close-interval shovel test pits were excavated around these finds, and one of the additional shovel tests yielded more than 50 artifacts. The material was confined to a strip within 30 meters of the existing highway.

2. Environmental Setting

The site was located in the crossroads town of Fieldsboro, which occupies a low, nearly level rise surrounded by poorly drained Falsington soils. Northeast of the intersection was a small, marshy drainage that ran eastward to join Hangmans Run. A few prehistoric artifacts were found in association with this drainage in the Phase I survey. Several structures were still standing in Fieldsboro at the time of the testing, including a gas station on the southeastern corner of the intersection, a house on the northeastern corner, and a large storage rental facility on the northwestern corner. The southwestern corner, where the site was located, was occupied by an abandoned antiques store and its associated parking lot.

3. Historical Background

Site 7NC-G-137 was located on one of the lots set up by William Fields in his town of Fieldsboro (Table 25). (The founding of this town is described in Chapter III.) The site was on Lot Number 7, the southwesternmost lot, a 40-acre farm that in 1824 included a dwelling house, a kitchen, a stable, and other outbuildings. These structures appear to have been located on Site 7NC-G-137. In 1840, William Polk, who had purchased most of the Fieldsboro lots in 1824, sold a 100-acre farm southwest of Fieldsboro to James Fountain of St. Georges Hundred (NCC Deed Book F-5:201). This farm included Lot Numbers 6 and 7 and Site 7NC-G-137. In 1844, Fountain sold the farm to Benedict Doughten, also of St. Georges Hundred (NCC Deed Book E-6:457). Benedict Doughten died intestate in 1848. On March 2, 1850, James Doughten, his son, petitioned the New Castle County Orphans' Court to assess and divide his father's estate. In addition to the farm in Fieldsboro, Benedict Doughten had owned town lots in Cantwell's Bridge and Smyrna.

Benedict Doughten's heirs were his sons, James and William, his daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Conlyn, all of age, and a minor daughter, Martha Ann Doughten (NCC Orphans' Court Record U-151). On September 9, 1850, the panel of assessors reported that Doughten's property could not be divided equally into four shares (NCC Orphans' Court Record U-148). James Doughten, the eldest son, was assigned the lot in Smyrna, valued at $1,200. William Doughten, the second son, received the lot in Cantwell's Bridge, valued at $1,750. The farm in Fieldsboro was split,

TABLE 25 LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS
SITE 7NC-G-137

DATE	TRANSACTION
1986	Robert A. Benson, from E. Mercer Reynolds, Sr., and Esther K. Reynolds (NCC Deed Book 360:248)
1962	E. Mercer Reynolds, Sr., and Esther Reynolds, from Eugene Thornton, Jr., and Clara Naomi Thornton (NCC Deed Book I-69:76). Price increased from $2,000 to $12,000 in six years.
1956	Eugene Thornton, Jr., and Clara Naomi Thornton, from Robert E. Loss, Jr., and Olive B. Loss (NCC Deed Book L-57:291)
1953	Robert E. Loss, Jr., and Olive B. Loss, from Franklin Paul and Bette D. Butler (NCC Deed Book A-54:56)
	Franklin Paul and Bette Butler, from Edna V. and Ernest Stackhouse and Katherine E. Mundey (NCC Deed Book N-47:447)
1949	Edna V. Stackhouse and Katherine E. Mundey, from Paul H. and Helen Flounders (NCC Deed Book Z-48:167)
1945	Paul and Helen Flounders, from Addie L. and William F. Maree (NCC Deed Book Y-44:513)
1918	Addie L. Maree, from Martha J. Lloyd, widow; Annie H. and William J. Chesney; William B. Weldon, widower; Harry S. and Sarah C. Weldon (NCC Deed Book M-27:432). Price $40.
1869	Rayworth Weldon, from Jacob Richardson, Sheriff, property of Thomas L. Scott (NCC Deed Book L-9:386) Price $1,200, includes two-story house and store.
1868	Thomas L. Scott, from Joseph C. and Catherine Hutchinson (NCC Deed Book Q-8:134)
1866	Joseph C. Hutchinson, from William and Sarah A. Doughten (NCC Deed Book Z-8:243)
1857	William and Sarah Doughten, from Edward Silcox (NCC unrecorded deed)
1853	Edward Silcox, from William and Sarah Elizabeth Conlyn (NCC Deed Book N-6:156)
1850	William and Sarah Conlyn, inherited from Benedict Doughten, one of four parcels into which his property was divided (NCC Orphan's Court Record U-1:156)
1844	Benedict Doughten, from James and Eliza Fountain (NCC Deed Book E-6:457)
1840	James Fountain, from William and Margaret Polk (NCC Deed Book F-5:201)
1810	William Polk, from David Wilson, Sheriff, Fieldsboro lots 1-11, 14, 16, estate of William Fields (NCC Deed Book A-4:395)

with Sarah Conlyn and her husband, William, receiving a 67-square-perch lot on the corner, containing a two-story dwelling and storehouse, valued at $1,300, and referred to as Parcel D. James Doughten received the remainder of the farm, said to include 97 acres with a two-story dwelling, a storehouse, a one-story tenant house, a kitchen, and a stable, valued at $3,000, and referred to as Parcel D (NCC Orphans' Court Record U-1:148, 155-6) (Figure 96).

This division split Site 7NC-G-137 into two lots that have remained separate ever since. Site 7NC-G-137 included both James Doughten's two-story dwelling, which is represented by the southern half of the site in the agricultural field, and Sarah Conlyn's store, located on the northern half of the site on the corner lot. The tenant house was presumably in the vicinity of the current auction barn. This area has been heavily graded.

The house on the southern portion of the site continued to be the seat of the farm until James Doughten lost control of the farm in 1874. Sometime between 1874 and 1881, a new house was built farther south at Site 7NC-J-209, and this house was occupied by tenants until the 1970s. The ownership history of this tract is summarized below, in the discussion of the Lore Farm Site. The 1881 Hopkins (see Figure 93) and 1893 Baist maps show a store in the location of the old James Doughten house, possibly the same structure. This structure is not shown on the 1906 USGS Dover quadrangle.

In 1853, William and Sarah Conlyn sold their lot in Fieldsboro, with its two-story frame dwelling and storehouse, to Edward Silcox for $500 (NCC Deed Book N-6:156). Silcox was an absentee landlord who owned several other lots in Fieldsboro (see Chapter III). In 1857, Silcox sold the store to William and Sarah Doughten (NCC unrecorded deed).

The 1860 population census lists William Doughten (age 32) as a storekeeper and postmaster. In that year, he was head of a household of eight, consisting of his wife, Sarah (age 25), four children under the age of 7, and Mary Vandegrift (age 60) and Lydia Vandegrift (age 19), both from Maryland. The Vandegrifts may have been Sarah's family. In 1861, William Doughten paid tax on two houses and lots with two frame dwellings and one storehouse in Appoquinimink Hundred, with an assessed value of $1,000 (NCC Tax Assessment 1861). In 1866, the Doughtens conveyed the corner store, along with a second lot in Fieldsboro, to Joseph C. Hutchinson for $1,800. The second lot was one acre in size and had a one-story dwelling, a storehouse, and a stable (NCC Deed Book Z-8:243). Joseph and Catherine Hutchinson held the corner lot for only two years; in 1868, they conveyed it to Thomas L. Scott for $1,200 (NCC Deed Book Q-8:134). Hutchinson is shown as the owner of the corner lot on the 1868 Beers atlas (see Figure 10).

In 1869, Joseph C. Hutchinson brought suit against Henry Scott and Thomas and Mary Scott for a debt of $3,000, and in the same year, the corner lot was sold to repay the debt. The buyer was Rayworth Weldon, who paid $1,025 at a public auction (NCC Deed Book L-9:386). Rayworth Weldon was descended from the Weldons who received land grants in Delaware from William Penn and lived for many generations near Blackbird (Pryor 1975:153). R. Weldin [sic] is listed as the owner of the corner lot on the 1881 Hopkins map (see Figure 95), and he retained it until his death in 1894. His heirs, Martha J. Lloyd, Annie H. Chesney, William B. Weldon, and Harry

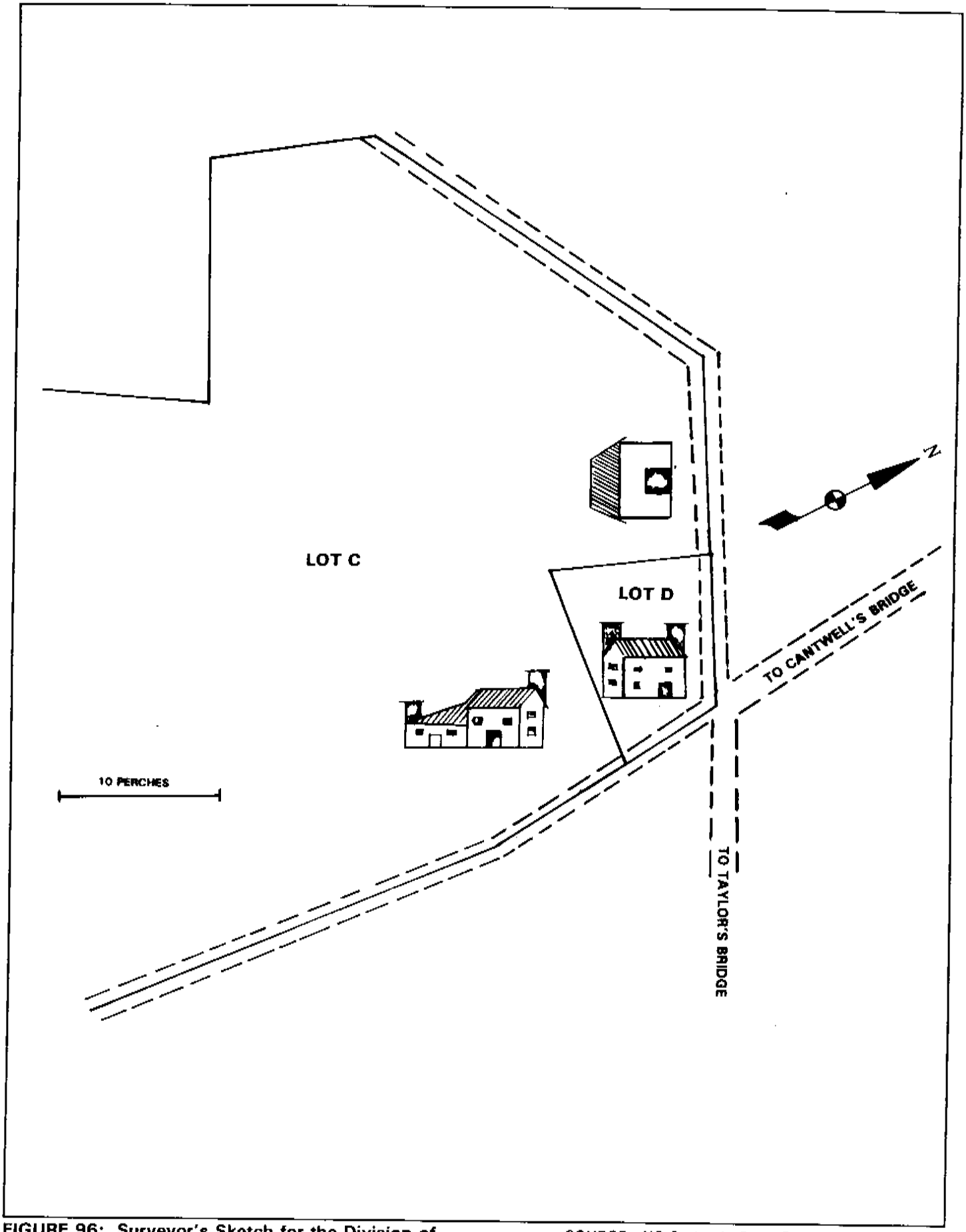

FIGURE 96: Surveyor's Sketch for the Division of Benedict Doughten's Property in 1850

SOURCE: NC Orphan's Court Record Volume UI: 155

S. Weldon, owned the lot jointly until 1918, when they sold it to Addie L. Maree for $40 (NCC Deed Book M-27:432). During the period of Weldon ownership, the corner lot was probably occupied by tenants, but no structures are shown at the corner on the 1906 USGS Dover quadrangle, and the house must have been destroyed by then. The low price paid for the property in 1918 supports this conclusion.

Except for a strip conveyed to the state for the widening of U.S. Route 13, the lot was owned by Addie and William Maree until 1945, when they sold it to Paul and Helen Flounders of Townsend, Delaware, for $125 (NCC Deed Book Y-44:513). The low price makes it unlikely that a house or store had been rebuilt on the site, and it is presumably in this period that the corner lot was plowed. The Flounders held the lot until 1949, when they sold it, along with another lot in Fieldsboro, to Edna V. Stackhouse and Katherine E. Mundey for $800. In June 1953, Stackhouse and Mundey sold the corner lot to Franklin Paul and Bette Butler (NCC Deed Book N-47:447). In September 1953, Paul and Butler sold the lot to Robert Loss, Jr., and Olive Loss, of Odessa, for $1,500. In this deed and in all subsequent documents the lot was said to include 2.25 acres (NCC Deed Book A-54:56). The 1953 USGS Middletown quadrangle shows a structure on the lot, and the large rise in the lot's value suggests that it was built during the ownership of Stackhouse and Mundey. This structure was probably a store.

In 1956, Robert Loss, Jr., and Olive Loss sold the corner lot to Eugene Thornton, Jr., and Clara Thornton, of Elkton, Maryland (NCC Deed Book L-57:291). The Thorntons held the corner lot until 1962, when they sold it to E. Mercer Reynolds, Sr., and Esther Reynolds, of Townsend, for $12,000 (NCC Deed Book I-69:76). In 1986, Mercer and Reynolds sold the lot, together with the store and auction barn that still stand on it, to Robert A. Benson of Kent County for $135,000 (NCC Deed Book 360:248). Benson held the land until 1994, when he sold it to DelDOT for SR 1.

4. Phase II Testing

Phase II testing of the Weldin Store Site consisted of the hand excavation of nine test units in the unpaved portion of the site and the use of a backhoe to dig four trenches in the paved parking lot (Figure 97). One additional test unit was excavated adjacent to Backhoe Trench 2 over a feature identified in the profile of the latter trench. The placement of both test units and trenches was limited by the presence of utilities, in particular a large gas main, parallel to U.S. Route 13, and a buried electric line.

The nine test units excavated in the southern, unpaved portion of the site showed that this entire area had been plowed. No subplowzone cultural strata or features were discovered. Large quantities of nineteenth-century artifacts were recovered, particularly whiteware, redware, bottle glass, window glass, and cut nails. Very little brick was recovered. In general, the artifact distribution in the test units confirmed the findings of the Phase I shovel testing, showing that the area of high artifact density was rather tightly confined against the highway. The highest artifact count was 583 in Test Unit 7, not immediately adjacent to the gas main but 10 meters to the west. Units closer to the gas main also recorded high totals: 571 in Test Unit 6, and 375

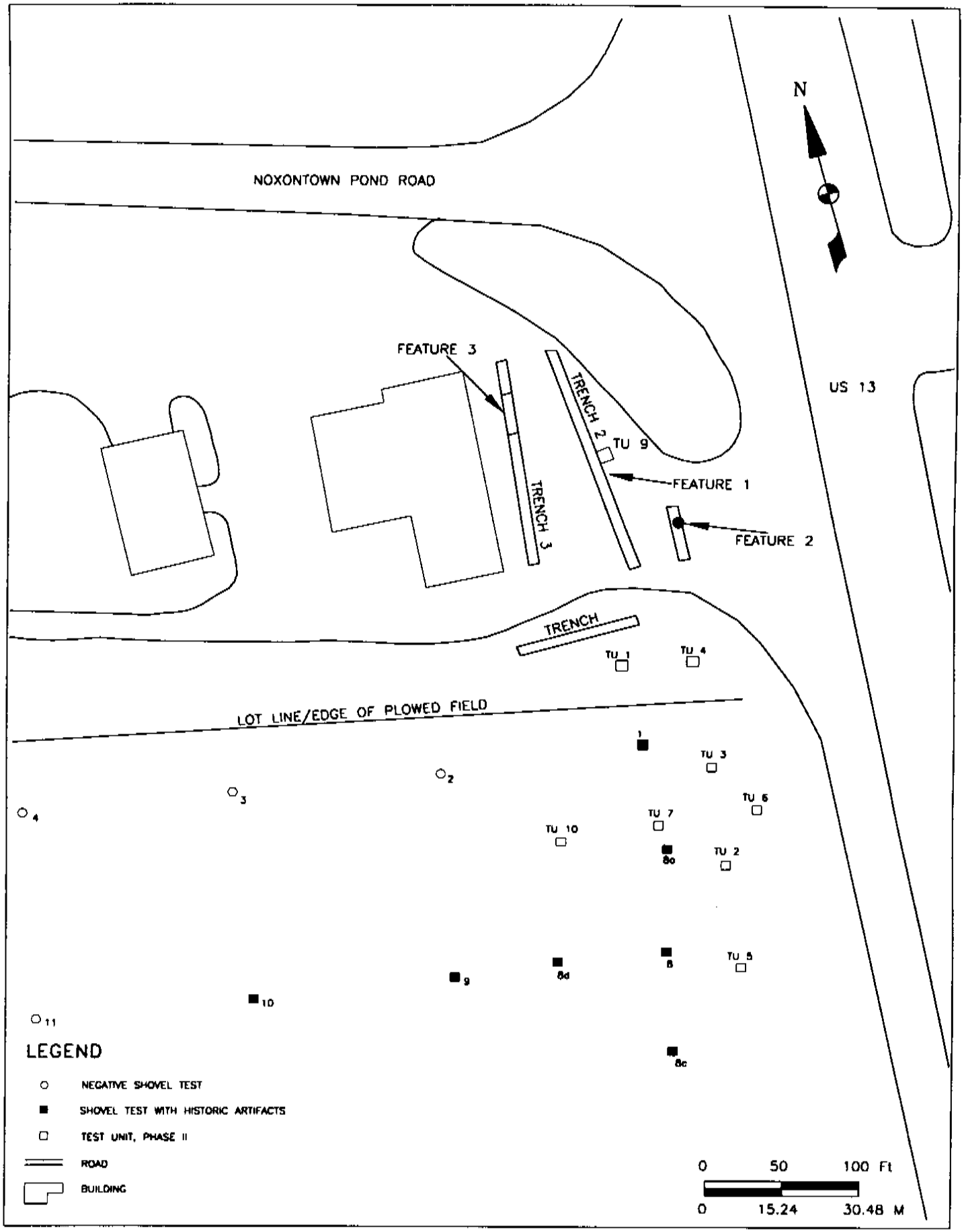

FIGURE 97: Weldin Store (7NC-G-137) Site Plan

in Test Unit 8. North of Test Unit 7, artifact density continued to be high, more than 200 in both Test Units 2 and 3. Density declined rather quickly to the south and west. In Test Unit 5, 10 meters south of Test Unit 7, 90 artifacts were recovered, and in Test Unit 10, 10 meters to the west, 45 were recovered. The artifacts indicate occupation from the first quarter of the nineteenth century (creamware, pearlware, and white clay pipe stems) to the twentieth century (machine-made bottle glass), perhaps with an emphasis on the 1820 to 1900 period (Table 26). A mean ceramic date of 1881 for the collection was derived from a sample of 1,247 datable ceramic fragments (Table 27).

The artifacts clearly indicated a major domestic occupation on the site, the remains that would be expected from the Doughten farm. Table 26 summarizes the historic period artifacts recovered during both Phase I and II investigations at Site 7NC-G-137. However, the only structural remains recovered were nails and window glass. Very little brick was recovered. The houses of Fieldsboro are consistently described as frame and the outbuildings as frame or log, but some brick associated with the foundations of the house would be expected. It is possible that the excavations were on the site of the house and that it simply had very flimsy foundations, perhaps brick piers. However, the widening of U.S. Route 13 and the excavation of the gas main have destroyed the front 15 to 20 meters of the lot. Since maps consistently show the houses of Fieldsboro quite close to the road, it seems likely that the bulk of the house site has been destroyed. The artifacts represent a back yard where considerable trash disposal took place, as well as some of the remains of the house itself.

Four backhoe trenches were excavated on the corner lot, in the paved parking lot of the antiques store (Plate 19). The soil in all four trenches consisted of an upper layer of gravel and asphalt, a second fill layer of redeposited sand subsoil, a plowzone, and subsoil. The plowzone contained substantial numbers of artifacts, but the other strata were essentially sterile. Backhoe Trench 1 was excavated running east to west south of the store, near Test Unit 1, and was 12 meters long. There were significantly more artifacts recovered in Test Unit 1 than in Test Unit 4, which was closer to the road, so Trench 2 was placed to investigate possible structures or features associated with this area of high artifact density. No features or subplowzone deposits were noted in the trench, and the artifact density noted in the plowzone was not high.

Backhoe Trench 2 was excavated in a north to south alignment in front of the store and was 22 meters long. Artifact density at the northern end was not high, but increased in the middle of the trench. After excavation, a feature approximately 60 centimeters deep and 90 centimeters across, with straight sides, a flat bottom, and mixed fill, was noted in the northern wall of the trench (Figure 98). The backhoe was therefore employed to remove the gravel and fill from an area approximately 2 meters square over the feature, and a 1x1 meter test unit (Test Unit 9) was laid out over the feature. A large number of artifacts (N=311) were recovered from the plowzone in this unit, but a higher percentage of these appeared to be more recent (dating from the twentieth century) than the artifacts recovered in the units excavated in the agricultural field to the south. Excavation revealed that Feature 1 was in fact three postholes cutting into one another. Individually, the postholes were not large, and probably represent a fence.

PLATE 19: Backhoe Trenching at the Weldin Store Site, 7NC-G-137

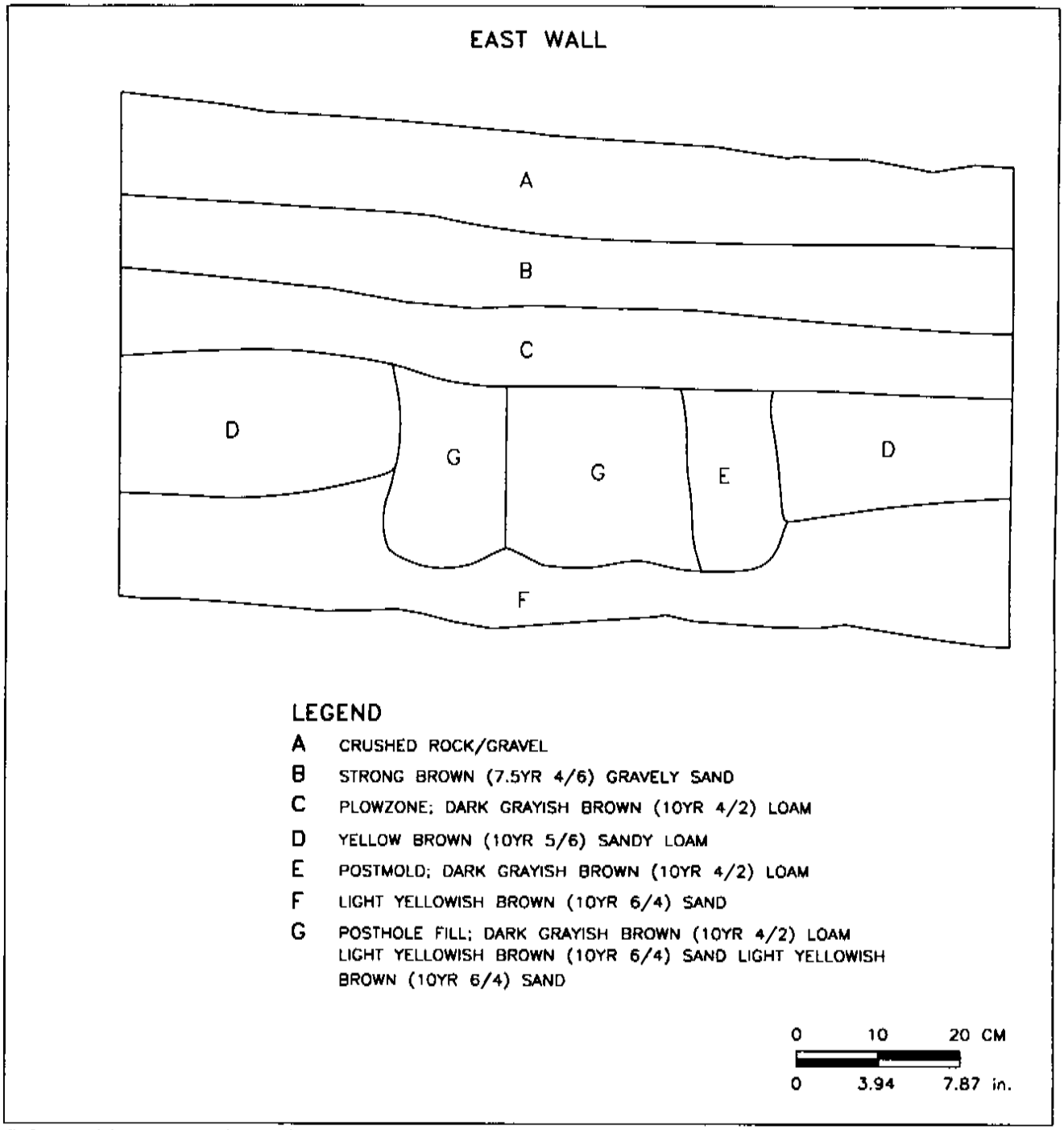

FIGURE 98: Weldin Store Site (7NC-G-137), Stratigraphic Profile of Trench 2

TABLE 26 **ARTIFACT PATTERN ANALYSIS**
SITE 7NC-G-137

ARTIFACT GROUP/CLASS	COUNT	PERCENTAGE
KITCHEN		
Ceramics	1,614	56.2%
Bottles	389	13.5%
Tumblers/Wine Glasses	5	0.2%
Kitchenware (other utensils, bowls, pots, etc.)	1	0.0%
Misc. Glassware	9	0.3%
Kitchen - Other	145	5.1%
Kitchen Subtotal	2163	75.3%
ARCHITECTURAL		
Window Glass	375	13.1%
Nails, Spikes, etc.	288	10.0%
Architectural Decorative Elements	1	0.0%
Architectural - Other	3	0.1%
Architectural Subtotal	667	23.2%
CLOTHING		
Clothing Fasteners	6	0.2%
Shoes	1	0.0%
Clothing Subtotal	7	0.2%
PERSONAL		
Hygiene/Personal Care	2	0.1%
Personal Subtotal	2	0.1%
TOBACCO PIPES		
White Clay Pipes	18	0.6%
Tobacco Subtotal	18	0.6%
ACTIVITIES		
Household Related	7	0.2%
Writing Related	1	0.0%
Activities, Other	6	0.2%
Activities Subtotal	14	0.5%
SITE TOTAL*	2871	100.0%

*Does not include unidentified (38), faunal/floral (41), and misc. building materials (3)

TABLE 27 **HISTORIC CERAMICS**
SITE 7NC-G-137

CERAMIC TYPE/VARIETY (Date Range)	COUNT	PERCENTAGE
COARSE EARTHENWARE		
Redware	323	21.7%
Red-bodied Slipware (1670-1850)	26	1.7%
Buff-bodied Slipware (1670-1795)	1	0.1%
Coarse Earthenware Subtotal	350	23.5%
CREAMWARE		
Plain (1762-1820)	65	4.4%
Overglaze Hand-painted (1765-1810)	2	0.1%
Creamware Subtotal	67	4.5%
JACKFIELD STYLE (1740-1850)	2	0.1%
PEARLWARE		
Plain (1775-1840)	23	1.5%
Underglaze Hand-painted (1795-1825)	15	1.0%
Shell-edge, Green (1775-1840)	2	0.1%
Dipped (1790-1890)	9	0.6%
Transfer-Printed, Blue (1800-1840)	5	0.3%
Pearlware Subtotal	54	3.6%
WHITEWARE		
Plain (1815-1990)	753	50.6%
Shell-edge, Blue (1815-1890)	31	2.1%
Shell-edge, Green (1815-1895)	6	0.4%
Underglaze Hand-painted (1820-1860)	25	1.7%
Transfer-Printed, Blue (1815-1915)	39	2.6%
Transfer-Printed, Other (1815-1915)	12	0.8%
Dipped (1815-1900)	52	3.5%
Sponged (1815-1940)	16	1.1%
Other	8	0.5%
Whiteware Subtotal	926	62.2%
IRONSTONE		
Plain (1840-1990)	83	5.6%
Embossed	13	0.9%
Ironstone Subtotal	96	6.4%
YELLOWWARE		
Plain (1827-1940)	39	2.6%
Rockingham Glaze (1812-1920)	11	0.7%
Yellowware Subtotal	50	3.4%
ORIENTAL PORCELAIN	5	0.3%
GRAY STONEWARE (1800-1940)	6	0.4%
SITE TOTAL	1,489	100.0%

Backhoe Trench 3 was excavated between the southern end of Trench 2 and the gas pipeline. This trench was 6 meters long. One feature was discovered in this trench, a small posthole designated Feature 2.

Backhoe Trench 4 was excavated between Trench 2 and the antiques store. The artifact density in this trench seemed to be lower than that in Trench 2. A feature was discovered in Trench 4—a large pit with sloping sides, filled with sand, designated Feature 3 (Figure 99). Feature 3 was approximately 3 meters across and 60 centimeters deep. Very few artifacts were noted in the fill, but they appeared to date from the nineteenth century (redware and whiteware). Two intact, handmade bricks were found in the bottom of the feature, but there was no sign that they were in place. The function of this pit is not known, but it does not appear to have been structural. In general, it seems to confirm the disturbed nature of the site.

5. Summary

Site 7NC-G-137 represents the remains of two structures shown on the map made for the division of Benedict Doughten's property in 1850 (see Figure 96). The house on the corner lot was occupied from before 1844 until sometime between 1893 and 1906. The structure on the adjacent lot was probably the house mentioned in the 1824 deed. The house had been converted into a store by 1868, and in the 1870s, a new house was constructed, which probably corresponds to Site 7NC-J-209. The store had been destroyed by 1906. Substantial numbers of artifacts suggesting occupation in the 1830 to 1900 period were recovered from plowed contexts on both lots, but apart from the postholes of Feature 1, no foundations or other structural features were found. The locations of both structures have been heavily disturbed by plowing and recent construction, especially the widening of U.S. Route 13 and the installation of utilities.

M. SITE 7NC-J-209, THE LORE FARM SITE

1. Site Description

The Lore Farm Site was a historic farm first shown on the 1881 Hopkins map of New Castle County. The name of the site derives from that map, which attributes the farm to C.B. Lore. The site, which was occupied into the 1960s, was located west of U.S. Route 13 midway between Fieldsboro and Pine Tree Corners (see Figures 47 and 93; Figure 100). One structure, a cinderblock barn, was still standing on the site at the time of the evaluation, and a driveway leading from U.S. Route 13 to the barn was still in use. DelDOT aerial photographs from the 1980s show a house and other buildings on the site, so these structures were demolished quite recently. At the time of testing, most of the site was an active agricultural field, but a tree was still standing on the site, showing that part of it had not been plowed. As defined by Phase I shovel testing, the site measured approximately 150 meters north to south and 100 meters east to west (500x330 feet).

The Lore Farm Site was identified during the Phase I survey of the Pine Tree Corners to Drawyer Creek segment of the SR 1 corridor (Bedell 1995a). The location of the site was predicted from