

## **ABSTRACT**

GAI Consultants, Inc., Monroeville, Pennsylvania, has completed a Phase I archeological survey in association with the State Road (SR) 82 Slope Stabilization Project in New Castle County, Delaware. GAI conducted this project in advance of the proposed improvement and slope stabilization of a segment of SR 82 on behalf of the Delaware Department of Transportation. The total area covered by this survey measured 0.25 hectares (0.62 acres). Research conducted for this project included background research, surface survey, excavation of 11 shovel test pits, and laboratory analysis. This report presents a summary of the results of these investigations.

The Phase I archeological survey identified two groups of fieldstone piers adjacent to a previously recorded millrace that extends along the western margin of the limits of construction. The millrace and masonry features are associated with the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003) situated at the intersection of SR 82 and County Road 253. The previously defined boundaries of this historic district lay 91 meters (300 feet) south of the project area. Although their function and date are uncertain, the stone piers (N-5003.15) may constitute contributing elements to the historic district. Under current project design plans, these features lie adjacent to, and west of, the limits of construction and will not be impacted by the slope stabilization project. It is recommended, however, that caution be taken during proposed construction activities to avoid any impacts to these features or the associated millrace. No further archeological investigations are recommended along the project corridor.