

PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Phase I and II research consisted of two steps: 1) background and archival research, and 2) field survey. Background and archival research consisted of consultation with the staff of the Delaware Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (BAHP), review of historic atlases and maps, interviews with local landowners, review of archival materials such as deeds, tax assessments, probate records, road books and petitions, and other court records, and inspection of aerial photographs on file at the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) - Glasgow Office. Information from previous archaeological investigations concerning the site were consulted (Thomas 1980).

PRELIMINARY ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

The Albert Temple Site was located during a preliminary cultural resources survey by Thomas (1980). Background archival research by Thomas identified the cultural remains located by the Phase I pedestrian survey, including a cellar hole, brick-lined well, and nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts thought to be those associated with a farmstead occupied by 1849 (Figure 7). No subsurface testing was carried out by Thomas because of a denial of further access by the owner, Mr. A. Temple. The summary report by Thomas (1980) and a research strategy developed prior to a Phase I/II cultural resource study by the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research hypothesized that the surviving archaeological resources were related to the

original eighteenth century Red House occupation (Coleman and Custer 1985). Archival research and further extensive archaeological testing within the proposed right-of-way (ROW) confirmed the findings of Thomas (1980) which had determined that the site was well-preserved archaeologically. However, research showed that the archaeological site was not the original Red House Plantation house. Rather, it was a tenant house dating to the mid-nineteenth century (Coleman, Hoseth, and Custer 1987).

Additional background research was conducted on the site as part of the Phase II investigations. The A. Temple Site is included within a 200 acre parcel that is noted as owned by Thomas and Martha Foreman in 1849 (Figure 7). Prior to this date, Martha Ogle Foreman received the parcel by will in 1805 from her uncle, William McMeechen. The original "Red House" house site had previously been located within a parcel and was part of a 790 acre parcel acquired by Thomas Ogle in 1739. The property, historically called "The Red House Plantation" was one of the tracts partitioned out of Thomas Ogle's landholdings by the terms of his 1768 will. After his death in 1771, a property valuation of 1774 assessed the Red House Plantation including 200 acres and an "old house out of repair" at 500 pounds (Table 2). By the terms of Thomas Ogle's will, the property was transferred to his wife Catherine for her lifetime. Beginning with the sale of the house in 1787 to the Philadelphia merchant Peter LeMaigre, the property was owned during the late eighteenth century and through the early twentieth century by non-occupier owners as a tenant farm (Table 3). At least by the time of an 1861 tax assessment,

TABLE 2

VALUATION OF THOMAS OGLE ESTATE -- 1774

	Acres	Value
1-Small lot near Christiana Creek to Thomas Ogle, Jr.	1/2	£6
2-Small lot south side of Christeen St. with a frame tenement thereon		£80
3-Storage and Wharf on Christeen Creek to George Ogle		£200
*4-Plantation on Newark Road	276	£690
5-Lot adjoining afsd. lot of Thomas Ogle, Jr.		£6
*6-1/3 Tract near Ogletown, with a grist and saw mills Dwelling House, etc.	165	£233
7-Undivided right to some lots near Christeen Bridge, bequeathed to Joseph Ogle		
*8-Plantation in and about Ogletown, whereon is a good dwelling house, outhouses, etc.	307	£1535
*9-1/3 of the plantation, grist mills, etc.		£233
10-Lot of ground lying on north side of Nottingham Road and near Christeen Bridge to James Ogle	1	£10
11-Plantation east of Ogletown, poor improvements	185	£462
*12-1/3 of Plantation, Grist mills, etc.	165	£233
13-Lot near Presbyterian Church at Christeen Bridge to Benjamin Ogle	3	£35
14-Plantation in Mill Creek Hundred, land poor	208	£208
15-Lot on west side Christeen Creek, adjoining the same and Elk River Road to Mary Hanson, now McMechen	2	£30
16-Plantation in Mill Creek Hd. adjoining land late of Evan Rice Esq., houses ordinary, land poor	150	£112
17-Lot at Christeen Bridge adjoining the Creek and Elk River Road to Ann Ogle	2	£30
18-Plantation south of Ogletown adjoining land of James Ogle and Thomas Black, log tenement	200	£500
19-Lot on the hill near Christeen Bridge to Catherine the younger	3	£20
*20-Plantation adjoining Ogletown, old house out of repair to the widow during her life	200	£500
21-Plantation in Mill Creek Hd. land poor, housing gone to decay	200	£120
Total	2067.5	£5243

£ = Pounds

* - denoted parcels included with the project area

a frame tenement had been added to the property. The structural remains of this house forms the central portion of the A. Temple Site.

TABLE 3

RESIDENCES OF TENANT FARM LANDHOLDERS
AT THE A. TEMPLE SITE (7NC-D-68)

Landholder	Residence
Thomas Ogle	Ogletown
Catherine Ogle	Ogletown
Benjamin Ogle Anne Ogle Catherine Ogle	Ogletown
Peter LeMaigre	Philadelphia
Alexis Gardere	Philadelphia
William McMeechen	White Clay Creek Hundred
Martha Forman	Rose Hill Plantation, Maryland and Philadelphia
Charles Oldham	Christiana, Delaware
James Oldham	Philadelphia
Laura Day	Upper Falls, Baltimore County, Maryland
John Carswell	Wilmington, Delaware
Elmer Clark	New Castle, Delaware
Godfrey Handby	Brandywine Hundred, Delaware
Leroy Brian	Christiana Hundred, Delaware
John Carswell	Wilmington, Delaware (Leroy Brian becomes a tenant)
Ed and Mary Richards	Newark, Delaware (Burrows are tenants)
Frank Truhler	White Clay Creek Hundred
Albert Temple	Buys house and lives there

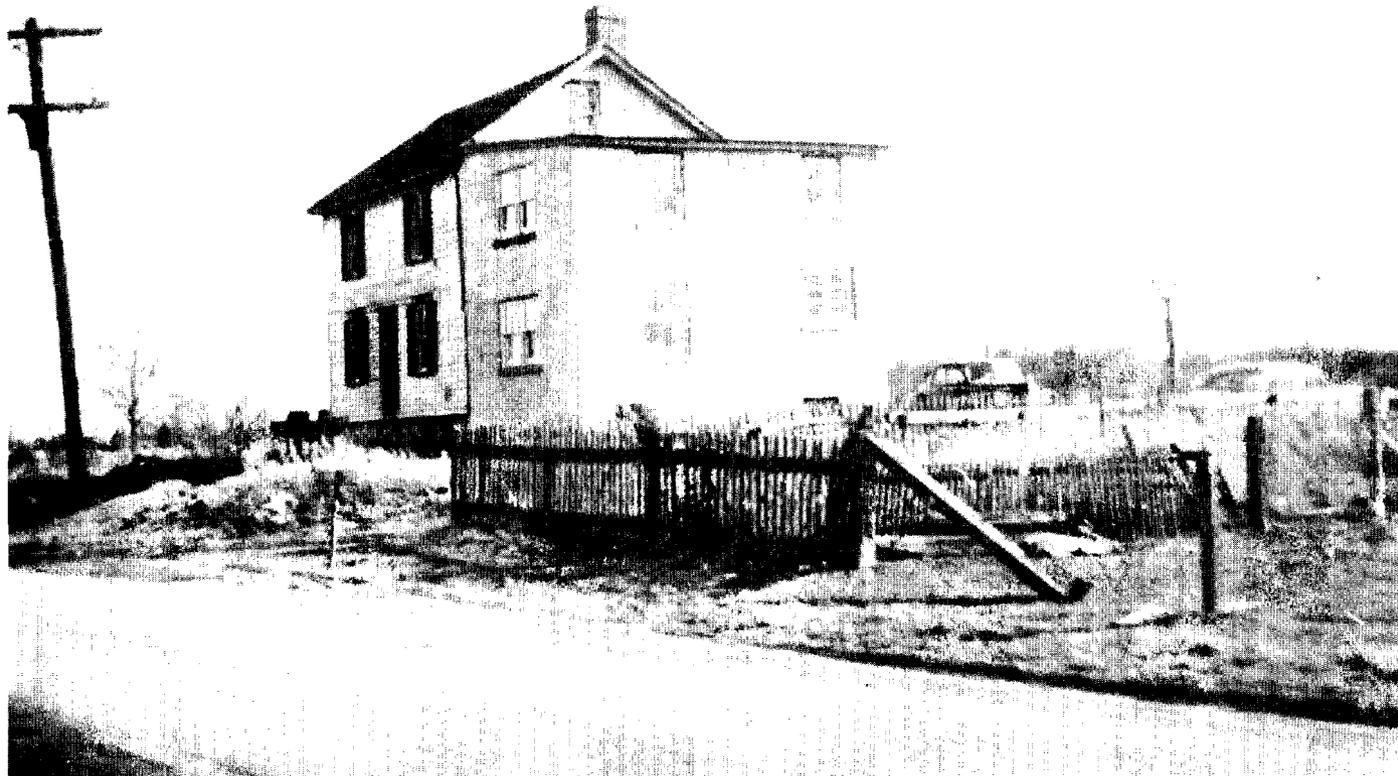
FIELD WORK

Testing of the site area was conducted to verify the conclusions reached by the Phase I background research and to determine the distribution, context, and integrity of the cultural materials. This testing was greatly assisted by a series of photographs in the possession of Harry A. Temple (Plates 2, 3, and 4). In addition to providing photographic evidence of the farmstead, ca. 1955, Mr. Temple provided valuable information on the function and location of outbuildings no longer extant and field and yard divisions at the site. In order to define the distribution of artifacts and identify activity areas for further testing, a grid network was laid out across the site and shovel tests were excavated at five foot intervals. A total of 433 shovel tests were excavated within the proposed ROW to be potentially affected by the project (Figure 12). The distribution map of total artifacts produced by the testing was then used to guide further testing. At least three artifact concentrations were identified (Figure 13) and additional testing was carried out within these activity areas and other areas in the proposed ROW (Figure 14).

A total of 33 test units were excavated within the yard areas in the direct impact zone of the proposed ROW. Test Unit 1, located east of the existing lane, yielded a stratigraphy consisting of a 2' thick fill of road gravels, concrete block fragments and select fill overlying a 3" thick twentieth century topsoil horizon which had been extensively disturbed and a 2' thick horizon of black, organic-rich soil indicative of a swamp deposit. These deposits were interpreted to be the result of the

PLATE 2

A. Temple House, ca. 1950,
Front View, Looking Southeast



Photograph provided by Harry A. Temple.

PLATE 3

A. Temple House and Site, ca. 1950,
Rear View, Looking Northeast



Photograph provided by Harry A. Temple.

PLATE 4

A. Temple House and Site, ca. 1950,
Outbuildings Area, Looking Southeast

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Photograph provided by Harry A. Temple.

filling of a low, swampy area and indicated a very low probability for historic period use or occupation. Additional augering in the surrounding area confirmed that this stratigraphy was present throughout the ROW east of the lane and no further testing was carried out. Testing within the rear yard area (Test Unit 2) produced a medium density of early nineteenth to early twentieth century ceramics and glass from a topsoil horizon. The topsoil horizon in Test Unit 3 in the east yard area yielded artifacts dating to the same time period, and excavation below the plowzone/subsoil interface also recovered a low density of artifacts from rodent disturbed soils.

Further testing in the rear yard area within Concentration No. 2 (Test Unit 4) encountered an assemblage of early to late nineteenth century materials in the topsoil horizon. Beneath the plowzone/subsoil interface was located a partially disturbed 8" thick trash midden horizon containing burned mid-nineteenth century ceramics, charcoal, and brick fragments. Beneath this level was an undisturbed section of the midden containing additional burned ceramics, oyster shell, and large mammal bones. The features, only partially exposed in the east wall of the unit, were cross-sectioned and one-half was left unexcavated. Unit 5 further confirmed the existence of well-preserved features within Concentration No. 2 beneath a plowzone horizon containing a variety of nineteenth and early twentieth century artifacts. Two postholes containing square postmolds were located at the plowzone/subsoil interface 18" below ground surface. Thus, additional testing determined that within an area measuring approximately 120' East-West x 50' North-South,

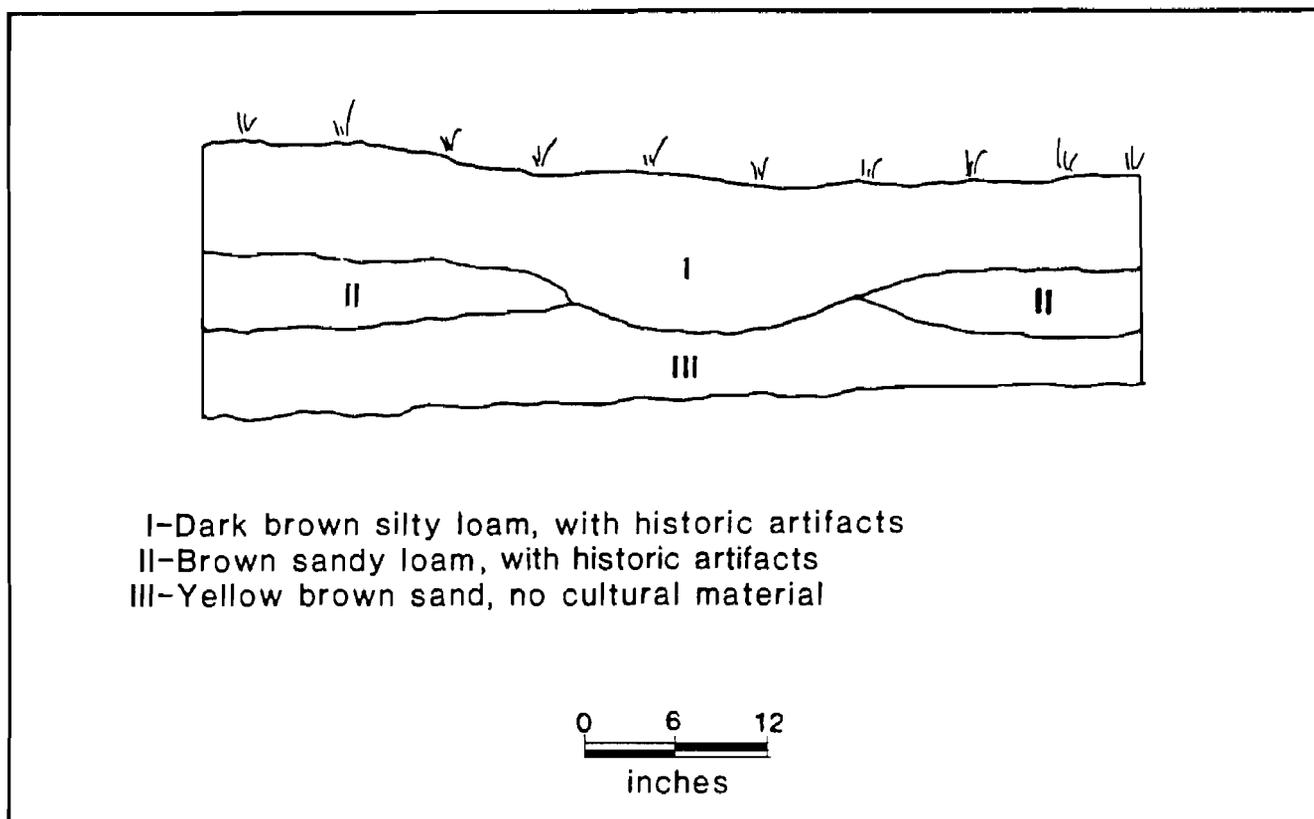
artifact concentrations identified as stratified yard scatter and intact subsurface features were present. A large number of artifacts dating to the early nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century were recovered (Coleman et al. 1987). Location of the site partially within the proposed right-of-way made Phase II investigations necessary, and the results of these excavations are described below.

Phase II testing was designed to determine the site limits, the contextual integrity of the inner yard areas and cellar hole, and the occupation date and probable function of the site. A total of four units (Nos. 6, 13, 14 and 16) were excavated in the inner rear yard area. These units produced additional postholes and molds (Test Unit 6), which provided evidence that disturbance close to the structure was caused by the 1955 addition of a cinder block western wing. However, significant densities of nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts deposited as sheet middens in yard areas were recovered (Figure 15). Two units placed inside and outside of the unfilled cellar hole encountered several nineteenth and twentieth century living floors which will be discussed in detail later. Additional testing was done in the western and eastern areas to define the site's boundaries (see Coleman et al. 1987 for a detailed discussion). In addition, a large trash midden was located at the southern edge of the yard area.

In sum, Phase I/II archival and archaeological research within the proposed right-of-way confirmed the findings of Thomas (1980) which determined that the site was well-preserved

FIGURE 15

A. Temple Site, Test Unit 13, North Wall Profile



archaeologically (Appendix II). However, the site is not the original Red House Plantation house. Instead, it is a tenant house dating to the mid-nineteenth century. Phase I and II testing concluded that the significant component of the site consists of an unfilled cellar hole (25' x 25') identified on the basis of archival and archaeological research as a mid-nineteenth century house foundation, a brick-lined well, a non-extant outbuilding complex, and well-preserved archaeological deposits associated with back and side yard activity areas. At least three activity areas were identified. The subsequent testing of these concentrations through measured unit excavation identified them as midden areas with different stratigraphy,

context, and formation processes. A large area to the south and west of the main yard area, while found to have been plow disturbed, contained well-preserved features and a high density of mid-to-late nineteenth century artifacts (Concentrations Nos. 2 and 3). Outside the main yard area were located the foundations of five large agricultural outbuilding structures. The testing program identified an extensive trash midden also containing mid-to-late nineteenth century artifacts to the west of the main yard area (Concentration No. 1). The site area south and west of the main yard area was found to have been plowed, but features were located intact beneath the plowzone horizon. The site's boundaries were determined by the density distribution of nineteenth century historic artifacts and man-made features. The northern boundary of the site is limited by Route 4. The eastern boundary is defined by an asphalt driveway, the area beyond which shows extensive twentieth century disturbance. The western boundary is defined by a dramatic decrease in artifact frequencies. The southern boundary is defined by the limit of agriculturally-related structures known from historic photographs and a limited archaeological survey. The site is approximately rectangular in dimension and measures 190' east-west by 255' north-south, encompassing approximately 48,450 square feet or 1.1 acres.