

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to describe Phase II test excavations at two prehistoric archaeological sites (7NC-D-70, 7NC-D-72) located in the proposed Route 4 Highway Corridor (Figure 1 and Plate 1). The sites were investigated by the University of Delaware Department of Anthropology under the direction of Dr. Jay F. Custer as principal investigator and David C. Bachman as crew chief. Archaeological research was requested by the Delaware Department of Transportation in compliance with federal cultural resource management legislation. The request-for-proposal and the letter-of-agreement are included as Appendix I. The report is organized into two sections. The first section includes background material, briefly reviews the regional prehistory of the area, describes previous research at the sites, and discusses the possible roles of the sites in relation to the regional prehistory. The second section of the report describes the research carried out during the present project and includes information on methods and research design utilized, artifacts recovered, and their stratigraphic context. Conclusions concerning the eligibility of the sites for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and recommendations for further work are also included.

Appreciation for their support, administration and services is extended to the involved individuals from the Division of Highways, Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the University of Delaware.