

SECTION 6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Richard Grubb & Associates performed a Phase I archaeological survey for the proposed improvements to sidewalks along South Street between Third and West Seventh Streets, along West Seventh Street between the South and Washington Street intersections, and along Washington Street between West Seventh Street and State Route 273 in the City of New Castle, New Castle County, Delaware (see Figures 1.1-1.4). This Phase I survey consisted of background research, archaeological fieldwork, artifact processing and analysis, and report production. Fieldwork included a visual reconnaissance of the APE and the excavation of 35 STPs at 10-meter intervals or judgmentally placed at the locations of proposed utility poles (see Figures 5.1a-e). The research design was considered sufficient to identify the presence or absence of potentially significant archaeological sites in the APE.

Background research indicated there were no registered sites within the APE, but a prehistoric site was located within one mile in a similar setting. An examination of historic maps and secondary source research suggests that several nineteenth and early twentieth century structures were present within the APE, although the majority of these buildings are no longer extant. The APE is located adjacent to and within portions of the grounds of the National Register-listed Stonum and the New Castle Historic District, both of which are designated as National Historic Landmarks. The New Castle & Frenchtown Railroad, one of the earliest railroads in the United States, also traversed a portion of the APE.

No prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the Phase I archaeological survey. A total of 588 historic artifacts were recovered from 32 STPs. Given their association with temporally mixed contexts, and lack of related features or structures, the artifacts are considered the result of secondary deposition, and are not considered indicative of a potentially significant archaeological resource. No archaeological sites were identified. Richard Grubb & Associates recommends no further archaeological survey.

