

III. BACKGROUND RESEARCH

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A search through the Cultural Resource Survey files (CRS) was conducted at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO). Any registered archaeological sites and/or historic structures in the immediate vicinity of the 8th Street project APE were fully examined for temporal and spatial relationship to the project APE. Sites listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* within the project APE were also reviewed at DESHPO.

The Office for Land Use and Planning for the City of Wilmington was also consulted during background research. Resources housed at the Office for Land Use and Planning include the City of Wilmington Archaeological Resources Management Plan and the 1999 Wilmington Historic Resources Survey. Other sources reviewed include the historic map collections on file at the Historical Society of Delaware.

Background research has established that no archaeological sites have been documented within the 8th Street project APE. A 1986 archaeological resources management summary for the City of Wilmington provides a substantial overview of the potential for archaeological remains in the project APE based on settlement patterns and construction activities of a city. Authored by Conrad M. Goodwin, the work, “*Not a Bad Measure of a Man,*” divides the City of Wilmington into blocks, describing the history and structural resources within each block (Figure 3). Goodwin bases the potential for archaeological resources for each block on current standing structures, past construction activities within the block, and previous archaeological surveys performed within the city (Goodwin 1986).

The 8th Street project APE is located within two separate but overlapping historic districts in the City of Wilmington: the Market Street Mall District and the Historic Resources of Market Street District. The Market Street Mall is a City Historic District, encompassing six blocks from 4th Street to 10th Street, and is one of the City’s three historic districts located within the Central Analysis Area of Wilmington (Figure 4). The Historic



Photograph 1: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Shipley and 8th Streets, view southwest (April 2001).