

ABSTRACT

This is a report of Phase I and Phase II archaeological and historical surveys on a site near the hamlet of Rockland, in Christiana Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. This intersection is about to be improved and relocated.

At the Adams Dam site, near the Road 92 and Road 100 intersection, subsurface investigations revealed evidence for a succession of superimposed mill races, which powered a succession of grist and saw mills in the present Brandywine Creek State Park.

An adjacent property, the Henry Francis duPont Winterthur Museum, was added to the National Register of Historic Places on February 24, 1971. The original nomination, for 962 acres, encompassed only the property now owned by the museum. The project area, in Brandywine Creek State Park, was once part of the Winterthur estate under the ownership of Colonel Henry A. duPont, father of the museum's founder. The mill race identified in the project area was a part of the Winterthur estate during a period when the estate's primary function was to supply hay and other requisites for the nearby powder mill through most of the nineteenth century. Since it is an industrial site in its own right, as well as part of the support system for the Hagley powder yards, the mill and the outlying parts of its power system are eligible for inclusion in the Register.

An expanded National Register nomination that includes all of the original Winterthur holding includes the mill ruins and the mill race. The mill and its appurtenant power system are contributing properties in the revised Winterthur historic district.

Removal of the existing roads will afford an opportunity to see elements of the hydraulic power system that have been protected under roadway fill. No further archaeological work is recommended in the area to be affected.

