3.0 RESULTS

3.1 Subsurface Testing

A total of 27 STPs was excavated along the initially proposed centerline. There were four generalized topographic zones crossed by the survey transect. Starting at the western terminus, STPs N100 E100 through N100 E200 were in a fallow field in which the plowzone was heavily rutted and/or scraped by heavy machinery. A typical profile for this section was seen in STP N100 E160. The Ap horizon was 10YR 4/3 brown silt loam, 0-19.0 cm (0-7.5 in) below ground surface (bgs), and the Bt horizon was 7.5YR 4/6 strong brown sandy loam. No artifacts were discovered in this section.

STPs N100 E205 to N100 E235 were in thick brambles surrounding a 1.0 m (3.3 ft) wide creek at N100 E228. A typical profile was seen in N100 E205, which had an A horizon of 10YR 5/2 grayish brown gleyed sandy clay. The water table was reached at 25.0 cm (9.8 in) bgs. No artifacts were recovered from this section.

A second fallow field was examined by STPs N100 E250 through N100 E295. A typical profile for this section was noted in STP N100 E265. The Ap horizon was 10YR 4/3 brown sandy loam, 0-28.0 cm (0-11.0 in) bgs, and the Bt horizon was 7.5YR 4/6 strong brown sandy loam. A single nineteenth century ceramic sherd was recovered from the plowzone of N100 E265, and its presence here is considered the result of field fertilization. No other artifacts were recovered in this section.

An area of small trees and brambles was present from N100 E302 through N100 E345. STP N100 E310 was the only STP with a somewhat intact profile. It had a culturally thickened A horizon of 10YR 3/2 very dark grayish brown silt loam, 0-44.0 cm (0-17.3 in) bgs, and a Bt horizon of 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy loam. STPs N100 E310, N100 E325, and N100 E340 all encountered artifacts and/or foundation remnants associated with the Norman George Farm site. There were surface indications of a disturbed foundation in the N90-100 E310-325 area, and a brick-lined well at N125 E334. Four STPs were subsequently excavated at 15.0 m (49.2 ft) intervals along the E325 line to determine if the site extended north and south to the limits of the APE. A foundation remnant was encountered in N115 E325, a dense cinder fill zone was present at N130 E325, a possible shed pier was encountered at N85 E325, and N70 E325 did not recover any artifacts or

features despite displaced concrete slab foundation pieces on the surface nearby. The Norman George Farm site is discussed in greater detail in Section 3.2.

A third fallow field was captured by STPs N100 E355 through N100 E410. A typical profile was seen in STP N100 E385. The Ap horizon was 10YR 4/3 brown silt loam, 0-20.0 cm (0-7.9 in) bgs, and the Bt horizon was 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy loam. No artifacts were discovered in this section.

At N100 E410, the survey transect crossed an east-west field row of mature Osage Orange trees. A fourth fallow field was examined by STPs N100 E415 and N100 E430. The latter had a profile with an Ap horizon of 10YR 4/3 brown sandy loam, 0-30.0 cm (0-11.8 in) bgs, and a Bt horizon of 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy loam. No artifacts were discovered in this section.

From N100 E438 through N100 E495, the transect crossed a low area of poorly drained soils. The profile of STP N100 E460 was typical. It had an A horizon of 10YR 4/3 brown sandy loam, 0-10.0 cm (0-3.9 in) bgs, over a B horizon of mottled 10YR 7/2 light gray and 7.5YR 5/8 strong brown clay loam. No artifacts were found in this section.

The transect ends at N100 E495 where disturbance associated with the construction of the existing traffic circle was encountered. A total of 27 STPs was excavated on the N100 line, and four additional STPs were excavated on the E325 line at the Norman George Farm site. A single item of field trash was encountered in STP N100 E265, and the Norman George Farm site was discovered at N85-130 E310-340.

3.2 Norman George Farm Site

3.2.1 Site-Specific History

The remains of a farm site were encountered at N85-130 E310-340. The site has been designated the Norman George Farm site after its owner from 1918-1927. Although the site was earlier owned by the Reed family, this name was not applied to the site, to avoid confusion with the earlier Reed Farm site found during the Keene Elementary School study (Bowen *et al.* 2001). Likewise, the historical label, Underwood Farm, was not used because both the early Reed Farm (at the school location) and the twentieth century farm site in the APE were in the boundaries of the 39.3 ha (97.0 ac) Underwood Farm.

Table 1 presents the chain-of-title for the site. Robert Reed purchased the property from Isaac B. Stantos *et al.* in1867 (New Castle County Deeds 1867:Book K8, Page 201). Various Reed descendants owned the property through 1918 (New Castle County Wills 1882:Book M2, Page 299; New Castle County Deeds 1914:Book V24, Page 528). A review of historic maps narrowed the possible construction date for the farm. The Beers (1868) and Baist (1893) map shows no farm at the site location, but the Robert Reed farm is shown on the Baist map, near the present Keene School, with the farm size listed as 39.3 ha (97.0 ac). However, the 1904 quadrangle map (USGS 1904) shows a structure at the farm location. This suggests that the farm was built during the ownership by John Reed, and a 1914 deed is the first of many subsequent deeds to describe the property as Underwood Farm, which contained 97 ac, one rod, and four perches (New Castle County Deeds 1914:Book V24, Page 528).

Table 1.
Chain-of-Title for Norman George Farm Site

Transaction	Details	Reference
Isaac B. Stantos *et al.* to Robert Reed	97 ac, 1 rod, 4 perches	New Castle County Deeds 1867:Book K8, Page 201
Robert Reed to John B. Reed	Inheritance from father to son	New Castle County Wills 1882:Book M2, Page 299
John B. Reed to Emma C. Reed and Anna J. Reed	Inheritance to widow (Emma) and her sister	1912 will reference incomplete, but referenced in New Castle County Deeds 1914:Book V24, Page 528
Emma C. Reed to Anna J. Reed and William A. Reed, Sr.	Purchase for $1,500.00, 97 ac, 1 rod, 4 perches, known as Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1914:Book V24, Page 528
Anna J. Reed, William A. Reed, Mary V. Reed, Robert F. Reed, and Elizabeth Reed to Norman C. George	Purchase for $5,000.00, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1918:Book B28, Page 14
Norman C. George and Nettie B. George to James Healy	Purchase for $4,800.00, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1927:Book W34, Page 24
James Healy and Julia H. Healy to Herbert Wilson Price and Linda Woolley Price	Purchase for $7,500.00, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1934:Book D39, Page 392

Table 1.
Chain-of-Title for Norman George Farm Site
(Continued)

Transaction	Details	Reference
Herbert Wilson Price and Linda Woolley Price to Josiah H. Hagerty and Laura H. Hagerty	Purchase for $10,000.00, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1942a:Book F43, Page 22
Josiah H. Hagerty and Laura H. Hagerty to Lewis M. Hagerty	Transfer for $1.00 from parents to son, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1942b:Book C43, Page 584
Lewis M. Hagerty and Betty Jane Hagerty to Dorothy E. Saulsbury	Short-term transfer for $5.00, Underwood Farm	New Castle County Deeds 1943a:Book S43, Page 211
Dorothy E. Saulsbury to Lewis M. Hagerty and Betty Jane Hagerty	Return to original owners for $5.00 following 2-day ownership by Saulsbury	New Castle County Deeds 1943b:Book S43, Page 210
Betty Jane Hagerty and Lewis M. Hagerty to Helen E. Beiderman and George H. Beiderman	Purchase for $45,000.00, Underwood Farm, 97 ac, 1 rod, 4 perches	New Castle County Deeds 1951:Book Y51, Page 81
Helen E. Beiderman to State of Delaware	Purchase for Bay Bridge Connector project	George Beiderman, Jr., Personal Communication 2002

The Robert Reed household is documented in the 1880 U.S. Census population schedule (Intellectual Reserve, Inc. 2002). Robert is described as a 63-year-old, Irish-born farmer. His wife Margaret (aged 66 years) and daughter Jane (aged 28) were also born in Ireland, but his son John (aged 24, a farm laborer) was born in Delaware. This suggests that Robert Reed purchased the 39.3 ha (97.0 ac) approximately 10-12 years after arriving in America.

John B. Reed appears on the New Castle County tax assessments for 1904 and 1911, but no details are provided for the farm (New Castle County Tax Assessment 1904, 1911). Anna J. Reed is listed in the 1917 assessment as owning 30.8 ha (76.0 ac) worth $3,500, no stock, a frame house, and a frame barn (New Castle County Tax Assessment 1917).

In 1918, various Reed descendants sold the property to Norman C. George. Underwood Farm sold for $5,000.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1918:Book B28, Page 14).

The 1922 pre-builds for the Route 40 dualization label the property as belonging to Norman George (State Highway Department 1922). A hedge-lined, north-south drive is illustrated.

The 1924 tax assessment characterizes the farm during the George ownership. The 36.4 ha (90.0 ac) of tillable land was valued at $3,600.00, the 2.8 ha (7.0 ac) of unimproved land was valued at $100.00, the buildings were assessed at $1,300.00, and the stock was valued at $350.00 (New Castle County Tax Assessment 1924). This is the first mention of stock on the farm, and George may have been the first to begin dairy operations at the site.

Norman C. George and Nettie B. George (his wife) sold Underwood Farm to James Healy in 1927 for $4,800.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1927:Book W34, Page 24). In 1935, pre-build maps again illustrate the entrance drive with hedges on both sides (State Highway Department 1935). The property is labeled as belonging to James Healey (also spelled Healy).

The 1929 tax assessment shows James Healy owning 34.91 ha (86.25 ac) of tillable ground (valued $3,100.00), 2.8 ha (7.0 ac) of unimproved land ($100.00), stock ($1,300.00), and buildings ($3,000.00) (New Castle County Tax Assessment 1929). The significant increase in stock value and building assessment from1924 to 1929 suggests that Healy expanded the dairy farm operation.

In 1934, James Healy and Julia H. Healy (his wife) sold Underwood Farm to Herbert Wilson Price and Linda Wooley Price (his wife) for $7,500.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1934:Book D39, Page 392). The farm still contained just over 39.3 ha (97.0 ac).

The 1939 tax assessment suggests that the Prices may have been having financial difficulties. Herbert Wilson Price is shown as owning 31.8 ha (78.6 ac) of tillable land ($2,825.00), 2.8 ha (7.0 ac) of unimproved land ($100.00), and buildings ($3,000.00). The stock value of $1,150.00 was crossed out, suggesting that Price lost his stock during the recording period (New Castle County Tax Assessment 1939).

In 1942, the Prices sold the farm to Jesiah H. Hagerty and Laura H. Hagerty for $10,000.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1942a:Book F43, Page 22). The same day, Jesiah and Laura Hagerty sold the farm to their son, Lewis M. Hagerty, for $1.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1942b:Book C43, Page 584).

In 1943, Lewis M. Hagerty and Betty Jane Hagerty (his wife) sold the farm to Dorothy Saulsbury for $5.00 (New Castle County Deeds 1943a:Book S43, Page 211). Two days later, Ms. Saulsbury sold the property back to Lewis and Betty Jane Hagerty for $5.00 (New

The farm was apparently razed by DelDOT in anticipation of the Bay Bridge Connector project. The typical methods of destruction for this period would have included undermining of the silo until it collapsed and the bulldozing of all structures. The Bay Bridge Connector project never came to fruition and the property has remained under DelDOT control through today. The farm location has been allowed to grow up in small trees and brambles, while the surrounding fields continued to be used for agricultural purposes.

3.2.2 Archaeological Findings

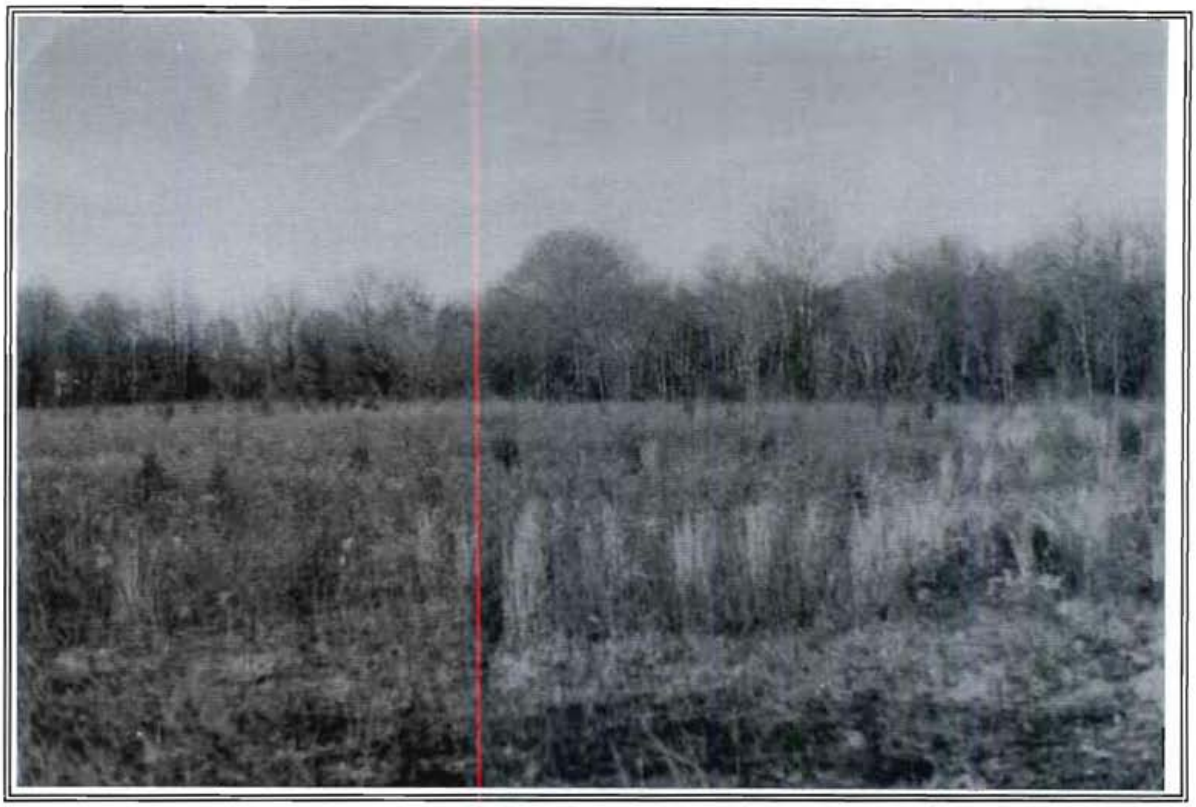
As discussed above, the site was represented by surface indications of partially intact foundations and an open, brick-lined well (Photographs 1-6). Despite surface indications of razing, several STPs also hit possibly partially *in situ* foundation remnants. The artifacts recovered were overwhelmingly architectural (e.g., window glass, wire nails) and household refuse was not encountered.

The surface contours of the site are very uneven, suggesting possible razing of the farmstead with heavy equipment. Fragments of displaced, poured concrete shed foundations and displaced fence posts were seen along the eastern edge of the site. The archaeological remains must be considered relative to the nature ofthe former structures (see Table 2). The farm buildings generally had substantial foundations and concrete floors. The complete razing of such structures would have required extensive and deep disturbance.

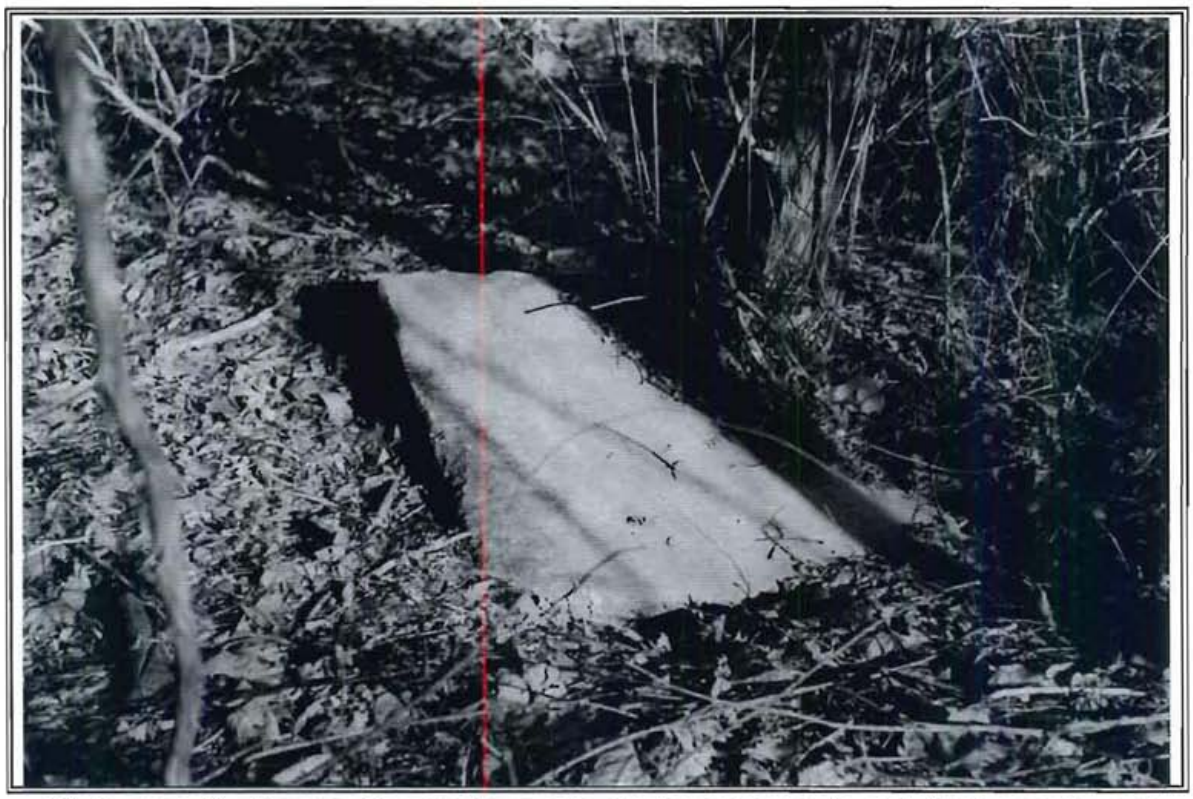
Based on maps and aerial photographs, the house was present north of the APE. A walkover of this area failed to note any intact foundations, cellar depressions, or chimney bases associated with the house. The well found during the survey was the outbuilding well, formerly housed within the loft barn.

3.3 Summary and Recommendations

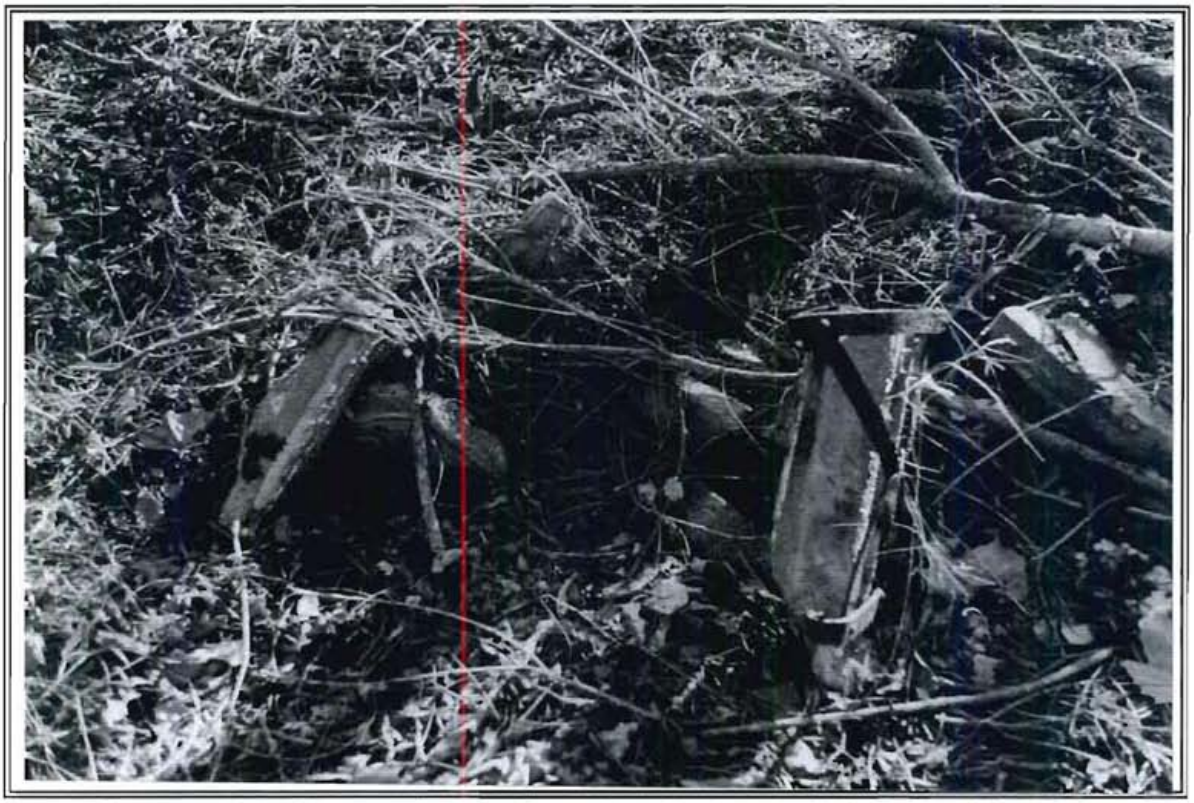
Background research indicated that there were no previously recorded archaeological sites or NRHP-eligible or -listed properties in the APE. The preliminary Phase I field survey of the proposed YMCA Connector Road utilized screened STPs at 15.0 m (49.2 ft) intervals. The survey resulted in the discovery of a field dumping item (a single historic ceramic) and the Norman George



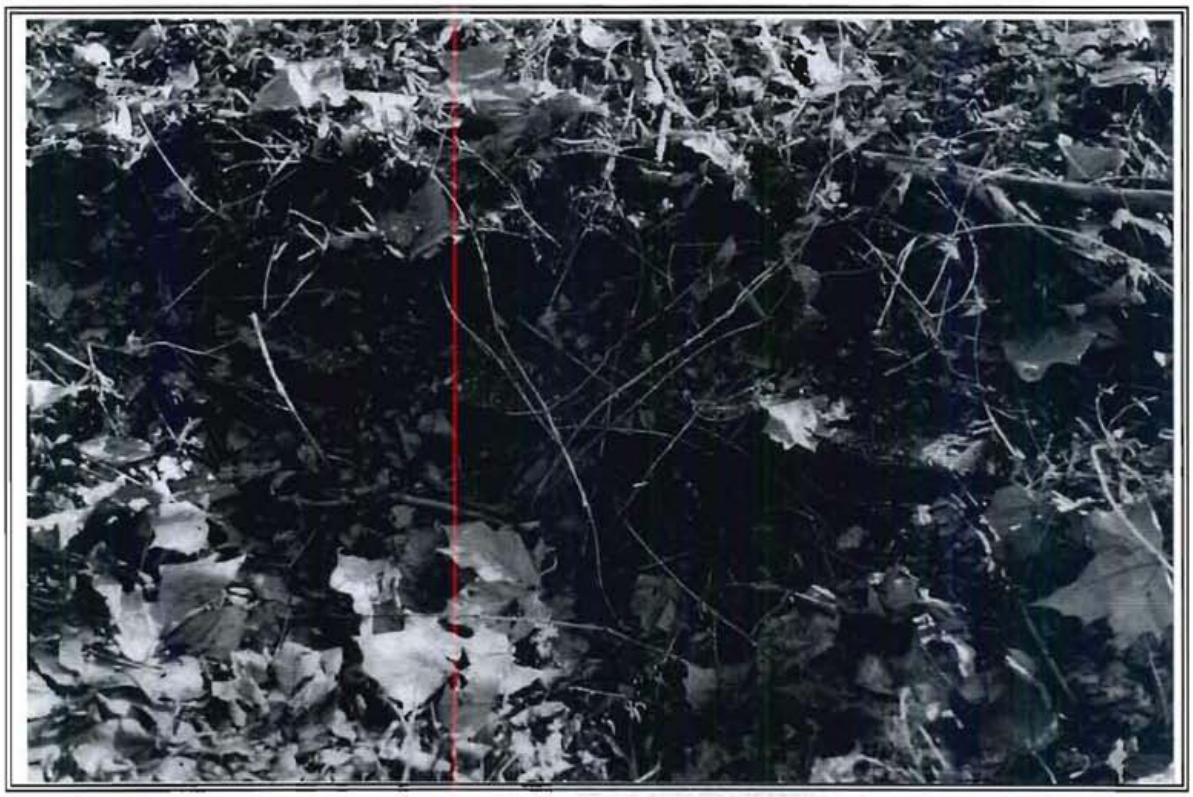
Photograph 1. Norman George Farm site, facing east.



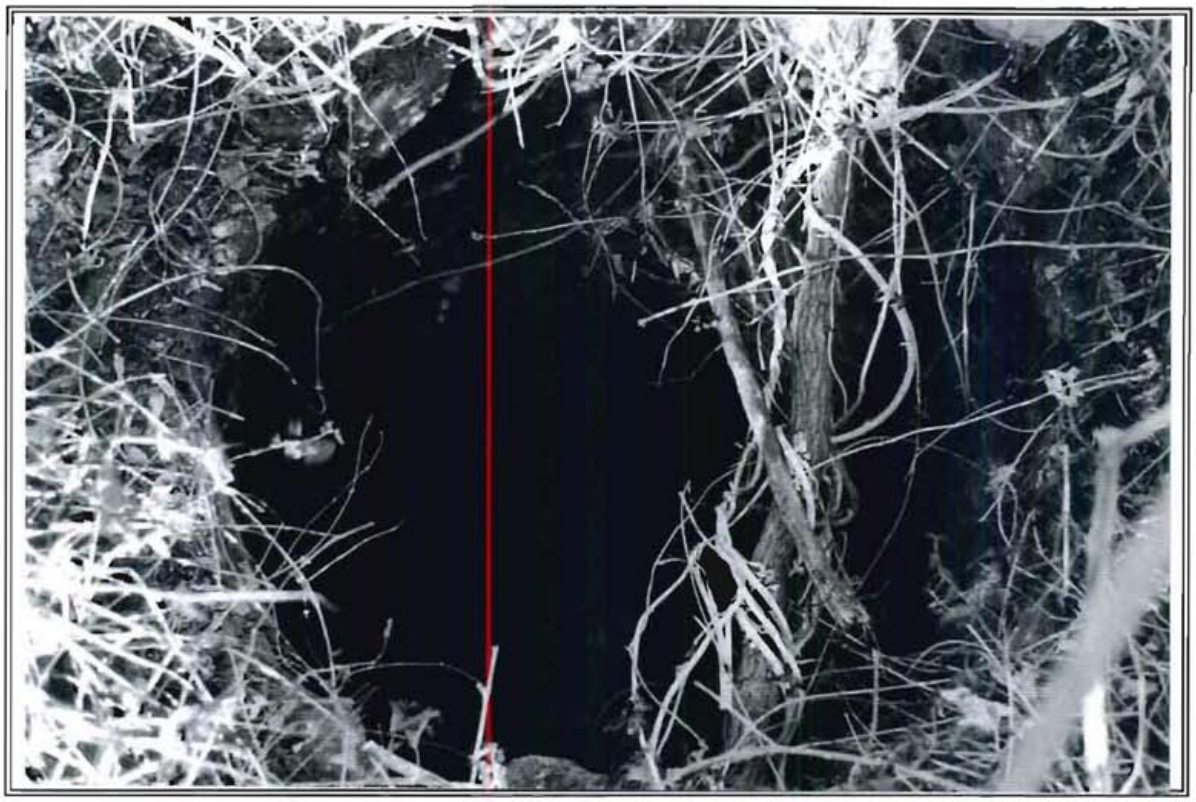
Photograph 2. Norman George Farm site, displaced concrete slab, facing southwest.



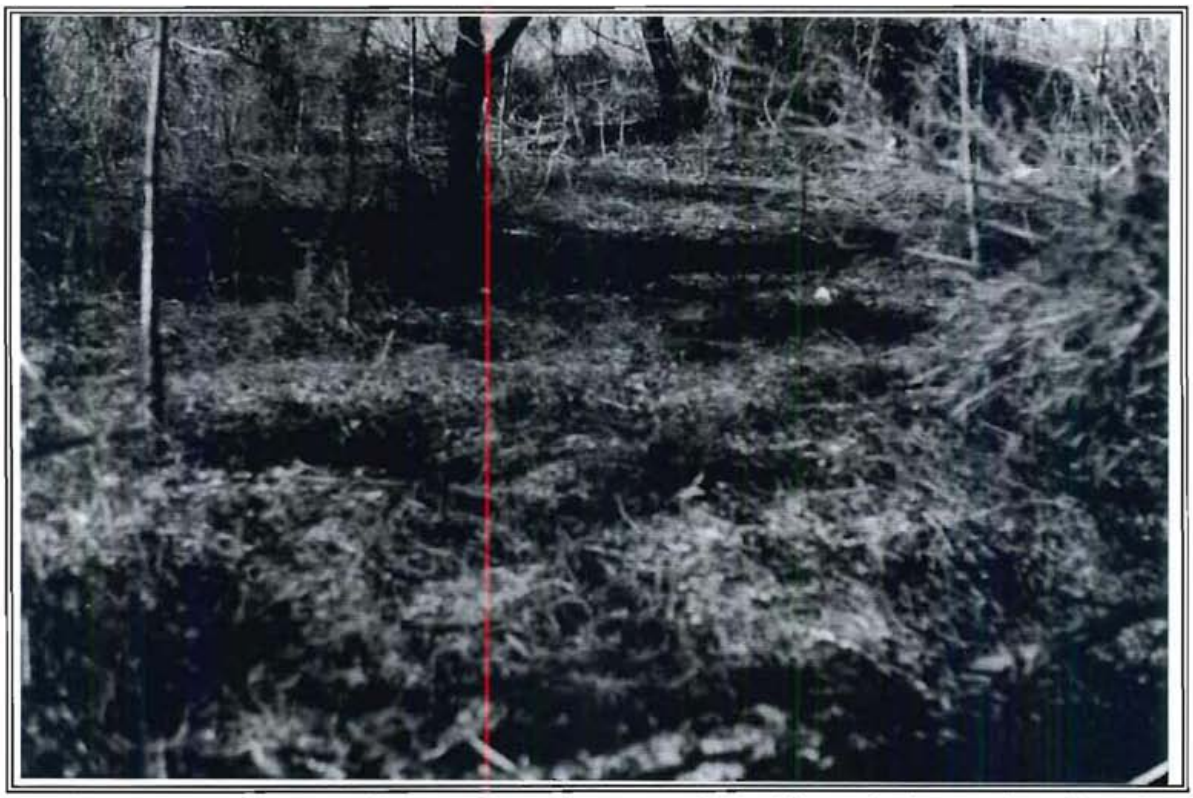
Photograph 3. Norman George Farm site, displaced rubble from milking barn, facing northwest.



Photograph 4. Norman George Farm site, partially intact foundation, facing west.



Photograph 5. Norman George Farm site, well, facing north.



Photograph 6. Norman George Farm site, area of razed barn, facing east-southeast.

Farm site. Insufficient archaeological data have been gathered to support a NRHP recommendation for the Norman George Farm site. Upon completion of the final design, the need for further Phase I survey and evaluation of the Norman George Farm site will be discussed with DelDOT and the SHPO. To minimize impacts to the Norman George Farm site, it is recommended that the road be placed as far south as feasible in the site area.