

VOLUME I
PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
STROUD SITE (7NC-G-180)
NEW CASTLE COUNTY
DELAWARE
DELDOT PARENT AGREEMENT 1537, TASK 6

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**Volume I
Phase II Archaeological Survey
Stroud Site (7NC-G-180),
New Castle County
Delaware**

DelDOT Parent Agreement 1537, Task 6

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Phase II archaeological survey was conducted by Dovetail Cultural Resource Group at the Stroud site (CRS # N-6693; 7NC-G-180) within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) of the Northern Stormwater Management Pond footprint associated with the proposed State Route 301 project. The proposed stormwater facility is situated at the northwest corner of Hyetts Corner Road and U.S. Route 13 in New Castle County, Delaware. The Phase II archaeological survey evaluated the archeological significance of the Stroud site identified within the APE during a previous Phase I archaeological survey conducted by Dovetail Cultural Resource Group. Since federal funds are being used for the project, the work was completed in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its regulations (36 CFR 800), and as stipulated in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the U.S. Route 301 (Route 301) project.

The Phase II archaeological survey at the Stroud site included background research, the excavation of 63 shovel test pits (STPs) and 20 one-meter-square test units (TUs), geochemical analysis, and artifact processing and analysis. Background research indicated that a two story house had been erected near the site as early as 1738 - 1739. Twenty-six STPs and six TUs were excavated during a Phase I archaeological survey of the APE. Collectively, the two surveys at the site yielded 6,805 artifacts. Of these, five artifacts were identified as Native American in origin, and the remainder consisted of historic cultural material dating from the mid-eighteenth to the mid- to late nineteenth century. Prehistoric Native American artifacts were found in contexts with historic cultural material and include one jasper flake, one quartz flake, one chert flake, one fire-cracked-rock fragment, and one jasper Madison-type projectile point. The highest concentration of historic artifacts was in the southeast portion of the site, which yielded architectural and domestic material dating from the late eighteenth to the nineteenth century. Two features were identified, including a post stain and a wooden post surrounded by concrete. The two features may mark a former fence, the location of which is also suggested by anthropogenic geochemical residues. The recovered archaeological material and identified stratigraphy appears to represent an occupation zone in the side yard of the main house or an outbuilding, such as a kitchen or quarter, associated with former owner occupants and tenant residents between the mid-eighteenth century and late nineteenth century. This side yard was defined as the site core.

Based on the application of the National Register Criteria of Evaluation to the site data, the Stroud site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D for its ability to contribute significant information on the domestic life, social context, subsistence/agriculture, and/or settlement patterns in New Castle County during the Period of Transformation from Colony to State (1770-1830) and the Period of Industrialization and Capitalization (1830-1880). The initial results of Phase II archaeological testing, data analysis, and background research were detailed in a Phase II archaeological management summary report completed in April of 2013 that was submitted to and approved by the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT). The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs concurred with the Phase II archaeological management summary report recommendations and, in consultation with the DelDOT, determined that an appropriate alternative approach to mitigate adverse effects to the site would be to synthesize geochemical analyses data from historic archaeological sites in Delaware. The Stroud site alternative mitigation report is presented in Volume 2 (in preparation). The submission of the Phase II archaeological survey report (Volume 1) partially satisfies the cultural resources survey requirements for the Stroud site as stipulated in the MOA.

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