

1992/1993 ARCHEOLOGICAL TESTING AT TEN HISTORIC PROPERTIES AND SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW UP WORK

This portion of the report presents a summary of the results of Phase I and II archeological testing at historic properties to be affected by the proposed dualization of State Route 48 (Lancaster Pike). The architectural descriptions and historic backgrounds are included in each discussion; much of this information was obtained from the CRS forms for each property (KKFS 1988, a through j) and augmented by archival investigations by TAA. These properties include:

Section 1

- The William Jordan House (N-12084) – Phase I
- The Loveville Post Office (N-12085) – Phase I and II

Section 3

- The Lewis Miller House (N-4075) – Phase I
- The Barker House (N-12082) – Phase I and Phase II
- Rolling Mill West (N-12911) - Phase I [added during fieldwork]

Section 4

- Rolling Mill East/Dwelling (N-12079) – Phase I and II

Section 5

- Breidablik (N-12086) – Phase I
- The Oak Hill Inn (N-507) – Phase I
- The Stone Barn (N-508) – Phase I and II
- The Oak Hill Schoolhouse (N12083) – Phase I and II
- Highfield Hall (N-12910) – Phase I

Again, as in the Phase I work discussed earlier, the areas to be tested on most of the properties consisted of a relatively narrow strip of land immediately adjacent to Lancaster Pike in what would have been the front yard of the structures. It was expected that this would have affected the nature and extent of the resources revealed during the course of the survey. In general, more extensive activity areas and intact features (such as outbuildings or middens) would be more likely to have been present in the back yards.

All relevant plates for each site follow the discussion of that site.

Section 1 - Newport Gap Pike (SR 41) to Loveville Road (SR 276)

William Jordan House (N-12084; 7NC-B-32), Phase I

Architectural Description

The William Jordan house, located at 6809 Lancaster Pike, stands on the north side of the road 0.1 mile from the western project limit and circa 80 feet from Lancaster Pike (see Figure 5). The eastern section of the house was thought to have been constructed circa 1810, when William Jordan owned the property (KKFS 1988a). It is thought that the large 3-bay stone late Federal style addition with a semicircular frontispiece and pedimented portico was constructed on the west side sometime between 1829 and 1906, at the time that the Reverend Thomas Love owned the property. The portico was removed and a Georgian Revival frontispiece added circa 1930, and a large frame addition constructed on the back of the house about the same time. A number of modern alterations, such as the greenhouse addition, have been made, and the original stucco was removed in 1985. Because of these changes, the house was determined to be ineligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of its architectural merits. This is one of the standing structures where archeological testing was limited to the right-of-way which crosses the property at a distance away from the front of the house; those portions of the yard – i.e., closer to the house itself and to the sides and back of the house - that were most likely to produce significant archeological remains were not contracted to receive testing as they would not be impacted by the proposed highway construction.

Historic Background

While the name Jordan is shown associated with a symbol for a tavern on the 1820 Heald Atlas (see Appendix II: Map 1) just west of the intersection of Newport Gap Pike and Lancaster Pike, no structure is shown at the location of the house site under study; however, the map, for the most part, shows only commercial structures. This name on the map may refer to either William Jordan himself, although his will does not refer to a tavern property, or perhaps it was a Jordan relative who ran the tavern. William Jordan died in 1820, apparently without issue. His residence and about 40 acres, along with a cow, a bed and bedding, were left to Rebecca Jordan, his mother, to use during her lifetime. At her death, the property was to be divided among William and John Reader (sons of James Reader), John Jordan (son of John Jordan), William Jordan (son of James Jordan), Jordan Dixon (son of Thomas Dixon) and William Howard (son of William Howard), with the exception of William Reader who was to have twice as much as the others. His will also directed that 60 acres of his land be sold to pay his debts, with the surplus to be divided amongst his brothers and sisters or their heirs. Hannah Springer received a bed and bedding and John Jordan, his nephew, received his silver watch (DB R:462, NCC probate record, 1822-30).

In 1823, the property was sold by Jordan's executors. Two years later, in 1825, the property was transferred from John Menderhall to John Montgomery. Since no other deeds were recorded since the 1823 sale, it is possible that Menderhall was the unnamed party to the earlier sale. In 1829, most of the original property was transferred from

Montgomery to the Reverend Thomas Love, pastor of the Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church from 1825-1862 and of the lower Brandywine Church until 1865. A structure is shown in that approximate location on the 1849 Rea and Price map (see Appendix II: Map 2) with the name T. Love to the left and below the structure and the words "Loveville P.O." above it; the 1868 Beers Atlas (see Appendix II: Map 3) also shows the name Love associated with the property. It must have been during Love's ownership of the property that the circa 1830 additions were made. His daughter, Mary E. Springer, is shown as the property owner on the 1881 Baist Atlas, and in 1906, Springer sold the property to Harlan Highfield who owned the property until 1936 and who constructed the rear addition. The property was owned by Nicholas Ferrara, Jr., at the time of the 1992 survey.

Results of the Phase I Testing

The right of way within the William Jordan House yard was tested at the Phase I level in October of 1992 in order to determine if significant archeological deposits were present. Six test pits were excavated in a line parallel with the roadway (Figure 17). The soil profiles in TUs 1, 2, 4, and 5 revealed an Ap horizon (0" to circa .8") of loam [10YR4/4 – dark yellowish brown] with many rocks overlying sterile subsoil [7.5YR5/8 - strong brown silty loam]; historic artifacts from these units were sparse (see Appendix III, Artifact Inventories, Historic Properties Testing). TU 1 yielded a redware sherd, a whiteware sherd, three glass fragments, and coal fragments; a jasper flake was also recovered. TUs 2 and 5 yielded a few cinders and clinkers. The soil profile in TU 3 consisted of a recent fill zone overlying a thin layer of soil showing evidence of burning. This soil was underlain by a plowzone with sterile subsoil at its base (Figure 18). The plowzone in TU 3 yielded ironstone fragments, a ceramic marble, a bolt, cut nails, a window glass fragment, and bone fragments, as well as slag, coal and cinders. TU 6, excavated within a few feet of TU 3, also showed a fill level overlying the black, burned lens. Below this lay a compact, rocky subsoil. Trenches were dug to the south (Trench 3-A) and east (Trench 3-B) of TU 3 in an attempt to follow the dark layer (see Figure 18). The burnt layer in these trenches contained coal, cinders, nails and glass. No features or structural remains were found associated with the burned layer, which appears to be burned debris spread over part of the yard.

Summary and Recommendations

The architectural eligibility study of the William Jordan house had determined that the standing structure lacked integrity and was not considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Phase I archeological investigations were conducted only in the part of the yard that is in the area to be affected by the proposed road construction. This testing resulted in the registration of an historic archeological site, 7NC-B-32, thought to be associated primarily with the William Jordan house. The portion of the yard that was tested lay about 75 feet from the front of the house; it produced relatively few artifacts and lacked contextual integrity. The artifacts were recovered from fill or from a thin burned lens that is interpreted as having been spread over the area. No features were found in association with the burned lens or in the remainder of the area tested. The portion of the site within the right-of-way is not likely to yield significant research data that would make it eligible for the National Register.

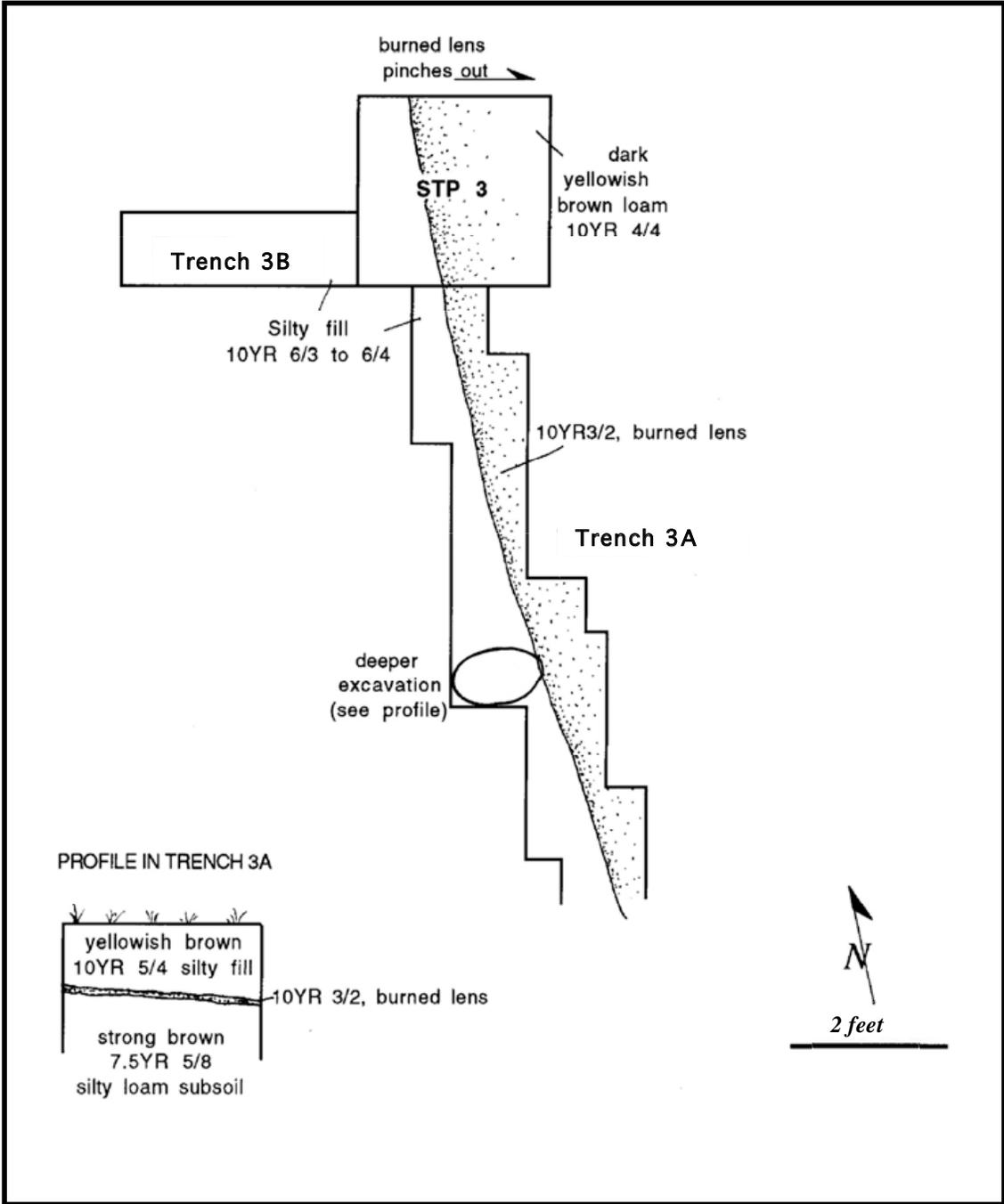


FIGURE 18
William Jordan House, Soil Profile from TU 3 and
Plan Map of TU3 and Trenches 3A & 3B



PLATE 2
Excavating in the right-of-way in front of the William Jordan House

Loveville Post Office (N-12085; 7NC-B-39), Phase I

Site Description and Historic Background

The dwelling known as the Loveville Post Office, located on Lancaster Pike at the northwest corner of its junction with Loveville Road (Route 246) (see Figure 5), was a two-story, four-bay brick house covered in stucco and asbestos shingles (KKFS 1988b). According to Bower and Abbot (1991), the original construction dated to about 1850, and the rear carport was added about 1960. The gabled roof was covered with asphalt shingles. There was an exterior chimney on the west end and a central chimney. A porch on the east end dates to circa 1945 (Benenson et al. 1988). Several outbuildings and the remnants of outbuildings were present on the property as well. These included the ruins of a stone barn, a workshop that formerly had been used as a chicken house, an outhouse that had been capped and was in use as a shed, and a stable. Although the CRS form (KKFS 1988b) refers to the ruins of the “former shoe shuddery”, it does not indicate its location on the sketch map.

According to Alwin and Dorothy Archer, the occupants of the house, changes included a patio and carport added to the rear of the structure in about 1959. In addition, the house had been treated for termites, resulting in disturbance to the area around the foundation. The dirt floor in the basement had been modified and was covered with concrete. The Archers also pointed out an old road that began just west of the intersection and ran between the house and the barn remained. They believed that this was an old alignment of Loveville Road. A comparison of the Heald Atlas of 1820 to later maps showed a similar alignment at that time, and on all other historic maps, the road alignment appeared to be the same as it appeared at the time of the Phase I Survey.

No structures are shown in this location on the 1820 Heald Atlas (Appendix II: Map 1). The 1849 Rea and Price Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 2) showed a structure here, although the words ‘Loveville P. O.’ above that location could be interpreted to be associated with the William Jordan house, at the time owned by T. Love, whose name appears below and to the left of that house. A newspaper clipping found in the DHS library reprinted an 1849 list of post offices from Pratt’s Business Directory, in which Loveville village is listed with T. Love as postmaster. The Price and Rea map of Delaware of 1850 also shows Loveville P. O. associated with what is now the William Jordan house.

The 1860 Henry and Eckel New Castle County map (reproduced in KFS in 1991) shows two buildings close to the intersection and oriented along Lancaster Pike, the one further west labeled ‘A. Robinson’ and the one at the intersection shown as ‘Shoe Sh and P O’. When he died in 1860, Aaron Robinson owned the property with the two structures on it, one a shoe shodder and one a post office. An 1860 list of New Castle County Manufactures lists 42 boot or shoe manufacturers with a combined annual product of \$196,241.00 (Coleman et al. 1985:48). The Beers Atlas of 1868 (Appendix II: Map 3) also shows two structures, but with the ‘Shoe Sh’ located north of the post office along Loveville Road. Robinson’s 1860 will left his nephew, Jacob R. McClellan, his “bed and bedding chest and settee” and his niece, Margaret Ann McClellan, his “cape of drawer and carpet” (New Castle County Probate). He directed that his real estate be sold by his

executors within one year of his death, his debts to be paid, and that the remaining money is to be invested with the interest divided yearly between his sister, Rebecca McClellan and his Nephew, Jacob. His inventory of goods and chattel contained furniture, a gun and a saddle as well as “2 broad axes, a pitching axe, lot augers, a bowing(?) machine and dog, chestnut posts and rails, a grain cradle and mowing scythe, 2 sapping (?) hammers, 3 barrels, a maul and wedges, a lot of tools, a wood horse and a drawing knife, a lot of oak shingles, a lot of boards, 2 benches and a hogshead”.

In 1862, two parcels with buildings were sold to Calvin W. Highfield by the executors of Robinson’s estate. The Beers Atlas of 1868, as mentioned above, shows the ‘Shoe Sh’ located north of the post office along Loveville Road, thus it seems that Highfield kept the shoe shop on his property. The 1881 Hopkins Map of New Castle County (Appendix II: Map 4) shows a structure at the intersection and a structure on its west side, matching those on the 1860 Henry and Eckel map. Neither a shoe shop nor a post office is indicated, and the name associated with the property is C. Highfield, Jn.(?). The 1893 Baist Atlas of New Castle County again shows both structures associated with the name C. Highfield. The name Loveville is given to the area, but no post office is shown. A 1908 listing of post offices does not include Loveville (Conrad 1908). In 1906, Highfield’s daughter sold the property to William L. Shakespeare. Harry Archer bought the property from William Shakespeare in 1911. Although the acreage of the property had been reduced, the Archer family still owned the property at the time of the survey (Benenson et al. 1988).

Although the 1868 Beers Atlas examined during the historic map search shows a “shoe sh” as possibly being present on the property, and the architectural survey form states that a “shoe shuddery” was located on the property, it is unclear what the term “shoe sh” or “shuddery” actually refers to – it may be either a human shoe shop or a blacksmith. Lists of manufacturers in the Wilson/Slack Complex report (Coleman et al. 1985) do not include either Aaron Robinson’s or C. W. Highfield’s names. In addition, a U.S. Census Industry Schedule does not list these names either. However, the census records only list manufacturers with an annual gross product of \$500.00 or more (Coleman et al. 1985:133) – perhaps the “shoe shuddery” listed on the 1868 Beers Atlas had a smaller gross product and was not included because of this. The inventory of Aaron Robinson’s belongings appended to his will does not list any tools which would relate either to the operation of a blacksmith (i.e., forges, anvils, bellows, etc.) nor does it list any tools or materials which would suggest his occupation as having been a shoemaker for people (i.e., leather, awls, lasts, etc.) – unless those tools were simply not specified in the will. This seems rather unlikely, however, as they would have been relatively valuable, and such items have been listed individually in other wills, c.f. Alexander Wilson (Coleman et al. 1985).

Results of the Fieldwork

The Loveville Post Office site was tested at the Phase I and II levels of investigation to determine what archeological remains existed and whether the site was eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural eligibility study indicated that ruins of a workshop were extant on the property, and conversations with Mr. Archer indicated that the ruins had been near the Loveville Road intersection, and

that widening of the intersection had destroyed them. There is also a set of ruins northwest of the house, said to have been a barn. In addition to the site's potential for containing historic period resources, prehistoric materials - a Late Archaic grooved axe, an argillite contracting stem projectile point and an untyped quartz projectile point - had been found just adjacent to the north side of the property and were in the collection of the Archers.

The area surveyed included all of the yard, since DelDOT planned a storm water management pond here, as well as an expanded right-of-way. A walkover of the property indicated that several areas of the yard had been altered to a point where archeological remains would be unlikely to be found. These disturbances include the stone retaining wall built as part of an expansion of Lancaster Pike about 1938 (as with the stone wall associated with N-12077, it was constructed when the road was widened), alterations to the house and to the old well, the installation of a septic tank and drain field in the part of the yard along Loveville Road, and the old roadway. Twenty-five test units were excavated, and auger tests were made in several locations (Figure 19). The artifacts recovered are listed in Appendix III, Artifact Inventories, Historic Properties Testing.

TUs 1 and 4 were excavated in a small level area of the front yard between the sidewalk and the retaining wall for the road. Soil profiles in these units showed an Ao horizon and a fill zone (a terra cotta pipe ran through the fill zone) overlying a buried Ap horizon that terminated sharply on the subsoil (Figure 20). Artifacts found in the buried Ap included older materials—one creamware sherd and two pearlware sherds and cut nails—as well as more recent wire nails. Other artifacts included an undecorated redware sherd, a redware pie plate fragment, bottle and window glass fragments, two kaolin pipe stem fragments, a brick, a 4-hole button and cinders. A terra cotta pipe ran through on the east side of these units in Level 2.

TU 21 was excavated in the front yard close to the stone wall; the soils consisted of a 4" A horizon overlying a gravel and rock fill layer which ended 10 inches below surface on a rocky, orange clay subsoil 10" below surface. A few artifacts, including window and bottle glass and a cut nail, were recovered from the A and rock fill layers; these are a result of filling in behind the wall after its construction. No *in situ* A horizon was found.

Three TUs, 2, 5 and 19, were excavated west of TUs 1 and 4 near a corner of the house. These units were adjacent to each other, and all soil profiles showed a circa 8 inch A horizon, then a layer of rock rubble which overlay subsoil at a depth of 12 to 14 inches below surface. In some of the units bedrock was reached below the A horizon or rock rubble, and several auger tests in the area came down on bedrock at depths of 5 to 48 inches below the surface. The plowzone yielded a mixture of late eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century ceramics including pearlware, whiteware, ironstone, a single sherd each of Scratch Blue creamware, Rockingham ware, porcelain, a ceramic marble and a kaolin pipe stem. In addition, bottle glass (including machine made and mold blown), window glass, cut and wire nails, a wrought nail, bits of plastic, oyster shell, brick, coal, mortar and cinders were recovered from these units. The rocky fill layer produced fragments of pearlware, whiteware, and porcelain, a coarse stoneware sherd with a Bristol Slip, machine made and other bottle glass, cut and unidentified nails, a plastic curtain fragment, bone, chert flakes, brick, and coal. The soils are all considered to be fills, and none contain intact artifact contexts.

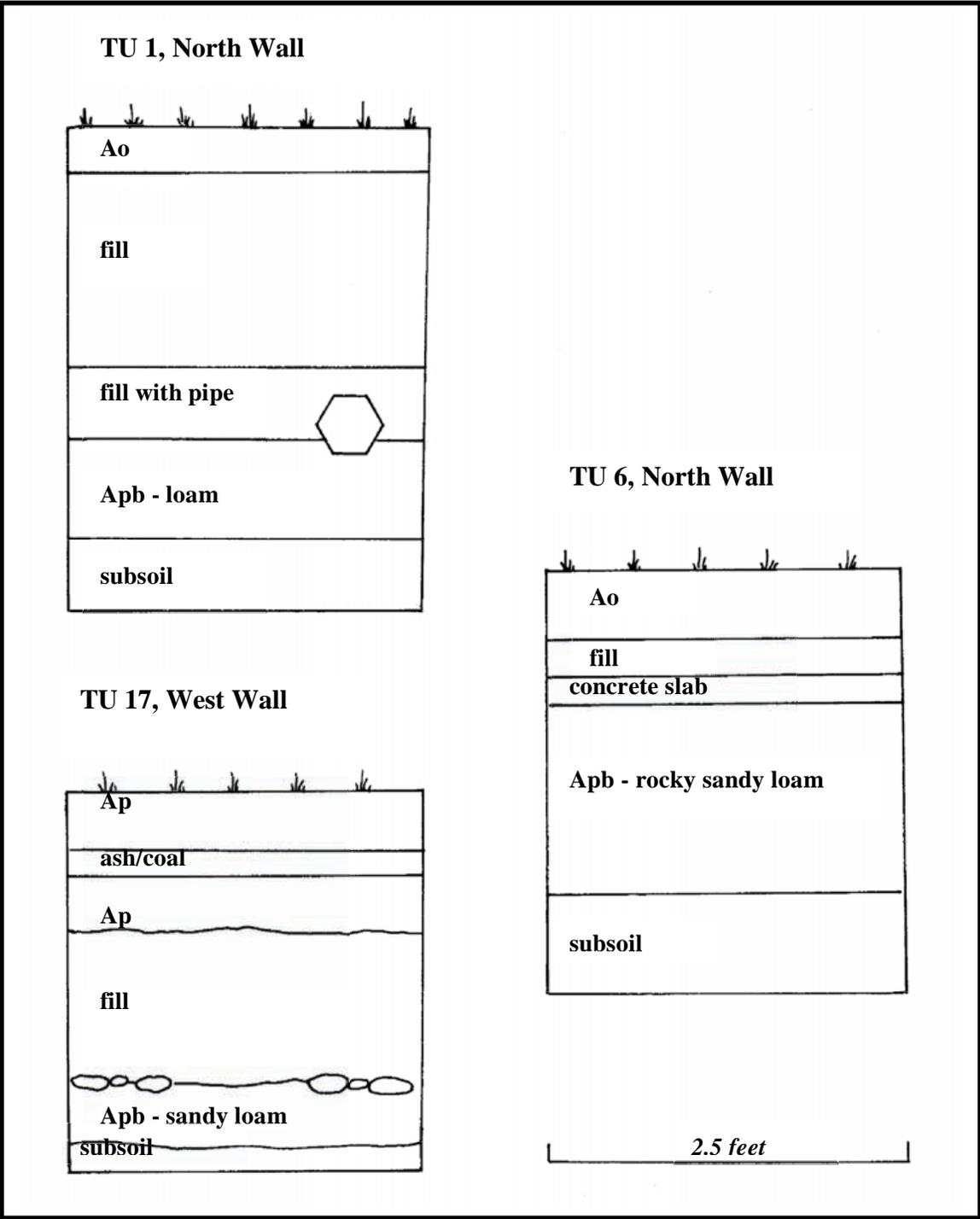


FIGURE 20
Loveville Post Office, Profiles Exhibiting an Apb Horizon

TUs 3, 23 and 27 were excavated near the chimney on the west end of the house, just north of the TUs discussed above. TU 3, closest to the chimney, showed a plowzone overlying subsoil, while the other two units exhibited a layer of rocky fill under the plowzone. Mixed artifacts similar to those discussed above were recovered from the plowzone and fill horizons. TU 20, a trench excavated west of these three TUs, proved to be shallower, with a soil profile showing a plowzone and a transitional level with a lot of rock, which terminated on bedrock. Here only a few cut nails were recovered.

TUs 24 and 25 were excavated in the back yard, west of the rear wing and carport area. The soil profile exhibited a 6" to 12" deep plowzone overlying a clay subsoil. Artifacts recovered included redware and pearlware ceramics, window glass, cut and wire nails, can fragments, oyster shell and brick.

TUs 6 through 10 and 26 were excavated along the east side of the house. TU 9 was excavated close to the front southeast corner) corner of the house, and here the soil profile showed a fill zone lying between the plowzone and the subsoil. The plowzone produced a whiteware sherd, terra cotta fragments, probably from a flower pot, window and bottle glass fragments including one from a machine made container, a Boyd's cap liner fragment, a zinc canning lid fragment, cut and wire nails, Miscellaneous hardware, oil lamp parts and brick fragments. The fill yielded a single undecorated pearlware sherd, a single undecorated delft sherd, window and bottle glass, a cut nail, a piece of rubber hose and a walnut shell.

TUs 8 and 26 were excavated adjacent to a well which, according to information provided by the occupants of the house, was a 25 foot deep hand dug well that had been modified and redrilled, thus it was not expected that intact archeological contexts within the well would be found. The well, capped with an octagonal wooden box, was found nine inches below the ground level. In TU 26, the plowzone was underlain by some sandy, gravelly fill and then deep clayey fill with large gravel to a depth of three feet. A trench excavated from this unit toward the east showed that fill continued for at least five feet from the cap. No other structural features were found. All artifacts came from the plowzone above the well, and consisted of creamware, pearlware, whiteware, redware and yellowware sherds, window and bottle glass fragments, cut and wire nails, Miscellaneous metal, plastic, shell, bone, brick and putty.

TUs 6, 7 and 10 were excavated adjacent to the east side of the structure. TU 10 was excavated under the porch of the house. The unit was excavated to a depth of 24 inches and it appeared to be subsoil; the topsoil had been removed. No artifacts were found in this unit. The soils in TU 7, excavated beside the porch steps, consisted of a plowzone overlying subsoil. Artifacts included a redware spall, a terra cotta flowerpot fragment, window glass and bottle glass, and a can fragment. TU 6 was excavated behind the house by the rear wing, and the soil profile showed a fill horizon associated with the driveway construction, a concrete slab about two inches thick, and a buried plowzone. The buried plowzone yielded a redware spall, whiteware and pearlware sherds, window and bottle glass fragments, cut and wire nails, brick fragments and a quartz chunk. The remainder of the original backyard area had since been covered by a carport, a patio and a paved parking area. Because these were excavated into the rising slope of the backyard, there is no likelihood that intact contexts exist beneath them.

TUs 11 through 14 were excavated east of the area of the well, towards Loveville Road, and all showed soil profiles consisting of an Ap horizon overlying subsoil. TU 13 was excavated midway between the house and Loveville Road. A redware and a pearlware sherd, window glass fragments, cut and unidentified nails, brick and coal were recovered from the plowzone. TUs 11, 12 and 14 were excavated as closely as possible to the junction of Loveville Road and Lancaster Pike, in an area where Mr. Archer had indicated a foundation had been present prior to the widening of the present intersection. The TUs produced many cut and wire nails, two wrought nails, and some window glass. A few redware sherds, one pearlware sherd, bottle glass, Miscellaneous metal, clinkers, bone and brick were recovered as well. No evidence of a foundation was discovered in this location, although the predominance of window glass and nails suggest that an outbuilding of some kind may once have occupied the area. It seems likely that any foundation remains have been removed or were destroyed by the intersection enlargement. Auger testing was used to supplement the shovel testing in these four TUs. The soil profiles below the plowzone in the eight auger tests seemed to be natural B horizons, increasing in clay and schist with depth; occasionally bedrock was reached. Gleying was noted in a few tests, and one test ended in a buried organic horizon that was interpreted as representing the area of a former swamp.

TUs 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22 were excavated on the higher landform towards the north end of the impact area. TU 15 was excavated to the west of the workshop, and the other test units surround the structure. This structure had been used in the past as a chicken coop and stable. The soils in TUs 15, 16 and 22 consisted of an Ap overlying subsoil, while TU 18 exhibited a level of fill and a buried plowzone below the topsoil. A pit-like feature was found in the northeast corner of TU 17 under an ash and coal layer immediately below the plowzone. This feature was approximately 2 feet wide and 15 inches deep, and appeared to be some kind of pit excavated into a fill horizon. The buried plowzone was also present in this TU. Artifacts recovered from the plowzone in this part of the yard include porcelain electrical insulator fragments, pearlware and whiteware fragments, two stoneware sherds, one with an Albany slip, terra cotta flowerpot sherds, window and bottle glass, plastic, cut and wire nails, a door hinge, a sliding door latch and other miscellaneous metal. No artifacts were found within the pit feature described above and no functional attribution can be made. The buried plowzone produced no artifacts, and no evidence for previously existing buildings was found.

Summary and Recommendations

The original structure on this property was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century and has undergone considerable alteration since then, at least in its exterior. The architectural assessment of this property (Benenson et al. 1988) indicated that the alterations compromised the building's integrity to such an extent that it did not meet the eligibility criteria for the National Register. This is disputed by Valerie Cessna, a preservation planner for New Castle County who feels that, although there is a marginal level of structural integrity, the structure may meet the eligibility criteria in other ways. For example, it may be eligible if it can be demonstrated that it was the home of Reverend Love after whom the community was named, thus making it potentially eligible under Criteria B and C.

Archeological investigations conducted at the Loveville Post Office and Shoe Shop resulted in the registration of archeological site 7NC-B-39, yielding both historic and prehistoric materials. The investigations also showed that the property had been disturbed by twentieth century alterations to the house and yard (i.e., the construction of the carport and patio), recent repairs and maintenance (i.e., the foundation disturbance due to termite infestation) and road construction (i.e., which affected the area of the proposed shoe shop). Also, a gravel road and a drain field have been constructed within the limits of the yard. According to Mr. Archer, the hand dug, stone lined well on the property had been re-drilled in recent times. A twentieth century outhouse on the property is currently capped with cement and is used as a shed.

Intact surfaces, buried A horizons, were found in only four of the units, TUs 1 and 4 in the front yard and in TU 6 on the structure's east side. A stone wall was built along the road when Lancaster Pike underwent alterations in the 1930s, and therefore the area around TUs 1 and 4 that might have archeological potential is extremely small. The artifacts recovered from the buried plowzone in the front yard area included creamware and pearlware sherds, dating from about 1780 to 1820, in association with both cut (post 1800) and wire (post 1860) nails. The area around TU 6, to the east of the structure, has been extremely disturbed by the construction of a carport and patio. It is unlikely that the undisturbed area extends much beyond the confines of the unit, and the potential for finding intact features in this location is therefore remote. The buried plowzone in this unit produced a somewhat mixed group of artifacts including whiteware and pearlware sherds and cut nails, but wire nails were also found. No artifacts were recovered from the buried plowzone in TU 17. No other areas with potential for undisturbed deposits were located, including the area near the intersection, where a possible foundation had been reported.

A shoe shop appeared at the site location on historic maps from 1860 and 1868. Excavations at the Glatz site in New Castle County, where a cobbler's shop operated from the 1820s to the 1840s, produced leather fragments and buckles from trash pits interpreted as the remains of the shop (Catts and Bachman 1987). Research by the authors indicated that a shop often consisted of a relatively small structure, called a ten footer, but usually about 12 feet square, that was located in the front yard of the residence (referencing their research on Lynn, Massachusetts, shoemakers). No separate structure was found at the Glatz site, although an addition to the house may have served this function (Catts and Bachman 1987:33). If the shop at Loveville was located close to the intersection, it is probable that previous road alterations have destroyed any evidence of such a structure. According to the landowner, this is likely the case. The other potential location was in the back yard, along Loveville Road, as the 1868 Beers Atlas seems to indicate. Perhaps the shoe shop was in or near the current workshop; however, no indication of an early structure was found in the archeological testing.

Besides the lack of evidence for a structure relating to the shoe shop at Loveville, no artifacts were recovered that could have been definitely associated with such a workshop. Documentary evidence sheds no light on this, as the wills and inventories which were examined list no tools which might have been associated with a cobbler's shop. At the Glatz site, probate inventories for the two cordwainers who resided on the property included lasts, shoemakers tools, benches and leather and leather processing equipment.

As mentioned earlier, the manufacturers' lists that were examined showed no names known to be associated with the property.

The architectural evaluation concluded that the Loveville Post Office has undergone considerable interior and exterior alteration in the mid-twentieth century which has significantly altered its architectural integrity, and that it was not considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register, although it was noted that archeologically significant materials might have been present (Benenson et al.1988). A letter dated January 15, 1993, from Valerie Cesna, a Historic Preservation Planner for New Castle County, disputes these conclusions. Ms. Cesna states that the report does not thoroughly evaluate the property and that, although the report states that considerable interior alteration had been done, the architectural consultants did not enter the building. She added that the eligibility surveys are designed to make a first level of evaluation on the architectural significance of a structure and do not provide the depth of information necessary to fully evaluate a structure according to other criteria. However, she does agree that there is a marginal level of structural integrity. In Ms. Cesna's opinion, the structure needs additional evaluation before its eligibility can fully be assessed for a number of considerations: 1) the oldest portion is of braced frame construction is nogged with stone and brick of which there are few examples of this type of construction in the region; 2) she feels it was the home of Reverend Love circa 1830-1850 after whom the community was named; and 3), based on the current owners research, the building once functioned as a tavern. If so, Ms. Cesna feels the structure may be eligible for nomination to the National Register under the Transportation theme.

As previously discussed, only a small area of intact archeological remains are still present on the property. Most of the archeological area is not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as it lacks contextual integrity. The areas of intact archeological materials present are extremely small and it is unlikely that additional archeological work will yield significant research data, thus making the site ineligible under Criterion D.



PLATE 4
Loveville Post Office, backyard



PLATE 5
View of barn ruins [not included in project area]

Section 3 - Old Wilmington Road (Route 275) to Route 263 (Rolling Mill Road)

Lewis Miller House (N-4075 and N-4075A; 7NC-B-33), Phase I

Site Description and Historic Background

The Lewis Miller House (N-4075) was located on the east side of Old Wilmington Road, about 350 feet north of Lancaster Pike (see Figure 7). It was sometimes referred to as the Old Hobson Farm. It was a circa 1870 structure on a 20 acre tract which included the ruins of an earlier house and outbuildings which predated 1870; these outbuildings (given the CRS number N-4075A) included a brick privy, poultry sheds and a frame barn with vertical siding which rests on a stone foundation (Benenson et al. 1988). The original house, a brick dwelling with a rubblestone basement, was a two and one-half story ell with partial length porches on the front and south sides; the ell had been filled in with an addition, and a smaller addition is attached to the back of this. The side gable roof had a Gothic front gable, and was shingled with asphalt. The architectural evaluation concluded that the complex embodied distinctive characteristics of the Gothic Revival style applied to a typical vernacular form, and its level of architectural integrity made it potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (Benenson et al. 1988). The stabilized stone foundation remains of the earlier dwelling (N-4075A) were found across the driveway to the north of the occupied house; the date of these ruins is not known. A well was located on the east side of the ruins. There was also a one-story block garage dating to about 1950 (Benenson et al. 1988).

The property was originally purchased as part of a 91 acre tract in 1818 by George Simmons of Wilmington (Benenson et al. 1988). Heald's 1820 map (Appendix II: Map 1) shows the name Simmons penned in, along with a symbol for a tavern, in the location of the stone ruins. The map's penned in changes date to the late 1830s or 1840s, since the Philadelphia to Baltimore Railroad had been drawn in. More property was added to the tract, as an 1844 deed stated that the property consisted of 103 acres, including a house and a barn (Benenson et al. 1988). The 1849 Rea and Price map V (Appendix II: Map 2) shows the name D. Bowman associated with the same structure Simmons had occupied. The property passed through a number of owners, until John Hollingsworth sold the property to Lewis Miller in 1859 (Benenson et al. 1988). The 1868 Beers Atlas (Appendix II: Map 3) shows both the Lewis Miller house and the earlier structure, indicating a slightly earlier date for the construction of the standing dwelling than was estimated by the architecture. In 1901, Lewis Miller sold the property to Harry Hobson, who subdivided the property and sold a 20 acre tract with the house to his sister-in-law, Romaine McCormick, the owner at the time of the survey, in 1980 (Benenson et al. 1988).

Results of the Fieldwork

The Lewis Miller House was tested at the Phase I level of archeological investigation in order to determine if potentially significant archeological deposits were present. TUs 1 and 2 were excavated at the curve in the road where the driveway meets the road (Figure 21). These test units exhibited a recent Ao horizon over fill. TU 1 contained asphalt chunks within the fill, and TU 2 had a layer of asphalt, which seems to confirm

information provided by Ms. McCormick that the original road alignment was slightly closer to the house. Below the fill lay a buried plowzone and below this was subsoil. TU 1 produced no artifacts, except a possible coal fragment in the buried plowzone. The Ao and silty loam fill in TU 2 yielded three redware sherds, an ironstone sherd, two whiteware sherds, a rivet and a strap iron fragment, coal, brick and cinders, and a chert flake. Four redware spalls were found in the underlying buried sandy loam plowzone. It appears that the part of the property to be affected by road construction is already disturbed, and no significant archeological remains were discovered in the right-of-way.

At the northeast corner of the road intersection a garage and parking area occupy an area where part of the hill has been cut down level with the roads (according to the owner of the property, he cut down this area for parking). The owner also stated that an earlier garage stood at the corner, at the same location. TUs 4 through 8 were excavated in a line parallel to Lancaster Pike, on the top of the hill and on the gentle slope on the east side of the hill. This property is within the Lewis Miller House National Register Boundary. TUs 12 and 13 were excavated north of this line, also on the top of the hill. While no artifacts are in evidence for these units, the field notes state that TU 12 yielded a few redware fragments and a wire, and TU 13, nails, a brick, and mortar. TUs 4 through 6 showed a soil profile of a plowzone overlying subsoil, while TUs 7, 8, 12 and 13 exhibited a rocky brownish (10YR 4/3) loam Ap terminating on bedrock. The artifacts from the plowzone in these units were sparse, and are considered to be field scatter. Items recovered include pearlware, whiteware and redware sherds, window and bottle glass fragments, wire nails, miscellaneous ferrous metal, plaster fragments and an oval brass escutcheon.

TUs 3 and 9-11 were excavated on a gentle slope of the hill east of TUs 4 through 8, still in a parallel line with Lancaster Pike (Figure). TU 3 showed an Ao horizon and shallow plowzone overlying the B horizon soils. All levels were an extremely sandy and gravelly soil, indicating a deflated soil. No artifacts were recovered from this unit. The soils in TUs 9, 10 and 11 consisted of a thin organic layer overlying a thick layer of sandy soils showing occasional lenses, apparently the result of slope wash. At a depth of about two feet, a redder, more clayey B horizon soil was encountered. All of the artifacts recovered came from the slope wash levels, including bottle glass, a whiteware sherd, one pearlware sherd, redware spalls, brick fragments and a cut nail.

Summary and Recommendations

The Lewis Miller property, an 1870 structure with earlier outbuildings and the ruins of an earlier house, was determined to be eligible for nomination, on the basis of its architectural merit, to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The boundary of the architectural resource was determined to include the structure and the surrounding agrarian area (KFS 1993).

Archeological testing was conducted in two areas of the Lewis Miller House. The first was within the proposed right-of-way in front of the historic house; this resulted in the identification of an historic archeological site, 7-NC-B33. Additional testing was conducted in a section of the right-of-way along the north side of Lancaster Pike, which property is also within the National Register boundary. Artifacts in this area, recovered from the plowzone and from slopewash, are considered to be field scatter. The agrarian

setting of the site, along with the presence of a barn and poultry sheds, would result in this site being included in the agricultural complex property type.

Although the property may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of architectural merit, the archeological site located within the two project right-of-way areas lacked contextual integrity, as the artifacts were either contained with plowed soil or were found in soils which represent secondary deposition. The portions of the site located within the two areas of the right-of-way produced archeological materials from disturbed contexts, and by themselves are not likely to yield significant research data; these portions of the property would not be considered eligible to the National Register under Criterion D.

Barker House (N-12082; 7NC-B-38), Phases I and II

Site Description and Historic Background

The Barker House was located on the north side of Lancaster Pike, west of Red Clay Creek on property owned by the Hercules Powder Company (see Figure 10). In the architectural evaluation of the dwelling (Benenson et al. 1988; KKFS 1988d) it was concluded that the first section of the vernacular house had been constructed circa 1800, with a later Greek Revival addition to the rear and an early twentieth century Colonial Revival additions and porch. The structure was described on the cultural resource form as being an L shape and of frame construction, with a rubblestone foundation and 10 inch clapboard on the exterior walls. There were two doors on the front of the house. The plan map indicated that the front section was built in two stages, with two chimneys on the eastern section and an addition to the west of it. There were two enclosed porches in the rear ell and along the western side of the rear addition. The interior details were largely unaltered, especially the early part of the building, which had the original fireplace mantels, cupboards, floors, beaded beams, chair rail and baseboards. The Barker House was considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, but was demolished in 1989/1990 (Benenson et al. 1988). A former tenant who occupied the house just before its demolition stated that the original house was of log, not frame, and had a dirt floored cellar and two very large hearths.

The remains of a stone barn were also present on the property. A 1940s Colonial Revival house had been constructed on part of the stone foundation of the barn but this has since been demolished. A granary/garage was once located between these structures, and probably dated to the mid-nineteenth century (Benenson et al. 1988).

The original 340 acre tract of land containing the Barker House was acquired by Samuel Barker in 1762 through a Warrant of Recovery (KKSF 1988d). After his death, his sons, William and Abraham, acquired the property on October 27, 1803. His will also left his wife, Rachel, a black mare, two cows, a feather bed and linens, other miscellaneous furniture and \$300.00 to be paid over three years (NCC Probate Record #S0071-82). His daughters, Mary McKnight, Esther Eva. (Evans?), and Bouche (?) Evans each received \$100.00, and Bouche (?) Evans also received a “genteel riding horse”. The remainder of his estate was left to his sons. In addition, Samuel Barker appeared to have an indentured servant, as the both the inventory and appraisal list a “negro Girl called Abigail” being worth \$50.00. It is assumed that if Abigail had been a slave, she would have been listed as such, since it also lists “One Negro Boy called George, a slave”, as being sold for \$200.00. The remainder of the inventory lists extensive household goods, farm animals, grains and other produce, farm implements and miscellaneous tools. According to KKFS (1988d), the house appears to date from this time.

William and Abraham Barker are listed as mill owners in Christiana Hundred in 1804. William Barker’s 1847 probate records (NCC Probate Record #0098-0118) include, in addition to extensive household goods and contents of a workshop, large numbers of posts, rails, timber, saws, chains and other items, indicating that the mill was a sawmill.

In the Wilmington Turnpike Company's 1831 meeting minutes, reference was made to a bridge over Barker's race. The location of the mill and race is unknown.

After William Barker's death in 1847, the property was sold at public auction to Richard Smithurst. A structure is shown at the Barker House location on the 1849 Rea and Price Map, but no owner's name is given. South of Lancaster Pike, the name Smithers is given next to a structure that would also be within the boundaries of the Samuel Barker property, as shown on a 1706 land map. In 1857, the property was sold by Smithurst to J. Hulme; however, the 1868 Beers map (Appendix II: Map 3) shows an R. Smithurst at both the Barker House and the other house south of the Pike. It is not known why the 1868 map shows the name Smithurst associated with this property, as well as the property across Lancaster Pike, since the deeds indicate otherwise. In 1868, Hulme's property was again sold at public auction by J. Peoples to William Curry of Philadelphia, who divided the land and sold it within two years. In 1868, Edward Sowden purchased the 126 acre property containing the Barker House from Curry. His name is associated with the property on both the 1881 Hopkin's Map (Appendix II: Map 4) and Baist's 1893 Atlas, while Jno. Peoples name is shown with the structure and 194 acres south of the Pike. In 1928, the property was sold to Helen Wright, who built the circa 1940 house on the remnants of the old stone barn. The Hercules Powder Company purchased the land in 1942.

Results of the Fieldwork

The Barker House was tested at the Phase I and II levels of investigation to define the site limits and to determine if archeological deposits were present which met the eligibility criteria for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. A proposed road improvement alternative, no longer under consideration, would have destroyed the site, and would have impacted a lower terrace east of the house site on Red Clay Creek. Phase I testing of the house site and the lower terrace showed intact archeological remains in both locations. The site complex was divided into Sector A, the site of the house, barn and granary, and Sector B, the lower terrace. Initially, Phase II investigations were limited to Sector A of the site, but Phase II testing was subsequently conducted at Sector B, when it was decided to use that area to construct a storm water management pond. The plans limited the impact on Sector A of the site to spreading fill soil along the roadway. The area of impact was a ditch and utility poles have been placed on the side of the ditch.

For the purposes of the field investigations, Sector A was divided into Areas A-D; Sector B, the lower terrace, was referred to, then, as Area E. A stone structure found in a stream bottom in a wooded area west of the site may have been a springhouse and was recorded, but not tested, since it was never within the proposed impact areas. Area A would have been the front and back yards of the house, as well as the slope to its east, a side yard. The foundation location had been determined by examining an aerial photograph that showed large trees immediately adjacent to the house; these trees were able to be located in the field. Area B consisted of the area around the garage/granary. Area C encompassed the stone barn remains, on which a twentieth century house had been built and later destroyed. Area D was a small area on the north side of the barn remains. The areas tested are shown on Figure .

Area A: includes the front yard and back yard of the house, and the slope to the east, a side yard

As stated above, the location of the house was determined by examining the aerial photographs provided by DelDOT and comparing them to the large and distinctive evergreen trees that still surrounded the area of the structure foundation. These trees had been planted extremely close to the house foundation on the east and west sides and along the edge of the front (south) porch, which the photograph showed to be a concrete porch across the entire house front. Beginning near the front of the house and extending north and west, Areas A and B of the site had been covered with fill soil after the buildings were demolished.

Thirty test units (TUs A1-A30) were excavated in Area A (Figure 24), and these yielded a large number of artifacts ranging in age from a scatter of prehistoric materials to the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries. Parts of the foundation of the nineteenth century house were revealed in TUs A12 and A14. According to a former tenant, the eastern end of the house was log and had a dirt floor cellar and two huge hearths. When he lived in the house, the front porch was cement to the ground. The foundation was filled with rubble from the demolition. The area behind and including the house foundation was overlain by approximately two feet of fill. A sealed buried Ap horizon was found in a number of units, beginning near the eastern edge of the house and covering the side yard east of the house.

Four TUs were excavated south of the area of the front porch. TU A3 was several yards away from the porch, and it appeared from the soils encountered that the original soil surface had been removed; no artifacts were recovered. TUs A8-A10 were excavated closer to the structure, and all showed a buried soil surface under recent fill. TU A9 had too many tree roots to complete the excavation, but the others showed a plowzone covered by fill and underlain by a B horizon. Ceramics from the buried plowzone included sherds of whiteware, pearlware and redware; other artifacts included cut and wire nails, a can fragment, window glass, coal and plastic. This artifact mixture suggested that this was the yard surface until the time that the house was demolished.

TU A4 was expanded into a 7 foot long trench, and was excavated under what had been the concrete porch. The soils in the unit (Figure 25) showed a level of recent fill (Level 1), an organic horizon (Level 2) with modern materials including a roofing nail and plastic, a probable demolition layer with large rocks (Level 3), a thin yellow clayey layer (Level 4) that covered only part of the trench and may be redeposited subsoil, and a circa 10 inch thick organic level (Level 5) containing bricks and rocks and large numbers of artifacts. At the base of this trench, subsoil was reached. Level 2 produced mixed artifacts similar to those recovered from in front of the porch. Artifacts from Level 3 included whiteware and pearlware ceramics, but the glass included later machine made bottle fragments, and both cut and wire nails were recovered. Level 4 produced a much smaller number of artifacts, primarily ceramics, including pearlware, whiteware, redware, stoneware, and yellowware sherds; other items found included cut and wrought nails, kaolin pipe fragments, a brass button and small amounts of window and bottle glass. Level 5 was originally interpreted as an early cellar fill, but might also be a front yard midden deposit or material that had been disposed of under an earlier porch. The ceramics include pearlware and whiteware, a fairly large quantity of redware, and small

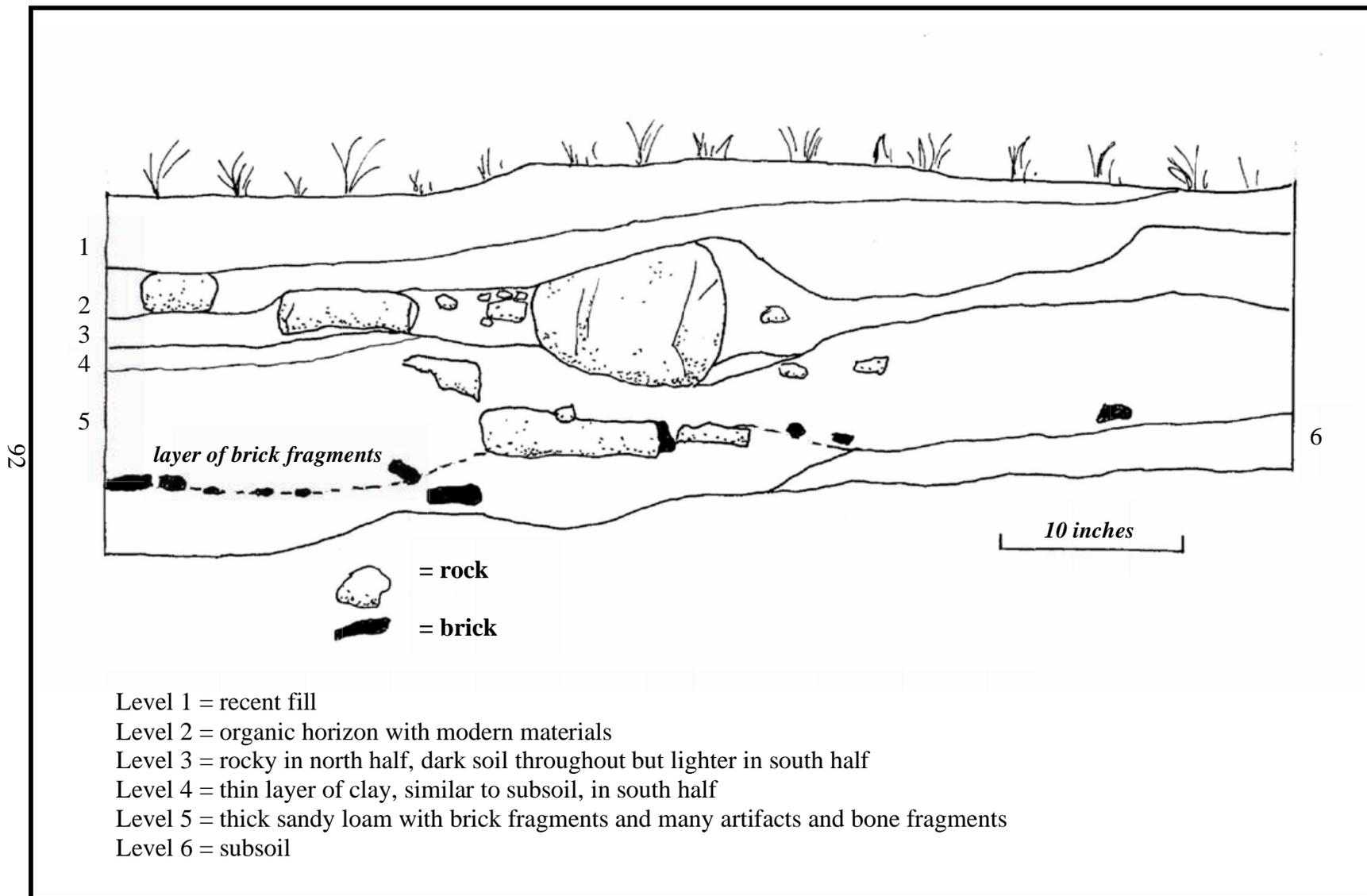


FIGURE 25
Barker House, Area A, TU A4 Trench, East Wall Profile

amounts of yellowware and stoneware. Some window and bottle glass was recovered, and the few identifiable nails included one wire and two cut nails. Kaolin pipe fragments, bone, and a brass button were also recovered. A date in the early to mid-nineteenth century is indicated for this level by the ceramics, assuming the single wire nail is intrusive from the overlying levels.

TU A12 produced a deep modern fill overlying building rubble. It was extended into a 10 foot long trench in which the northeast corner of the foundation was uncovered. Outside of the foundation, a buried plowzone was discerned, beginning 17 inches below the surface and extending 8 inches. Although the ceramics are pearlwares and whitewares, there is a large amount of window glass, and the presence of two wire nails and a crown cap indicate some mixing. This area appears to have been the original yard surface covered by recent fill.

TUs A13, A14 and A16 were excavated under the front section of the house. TU A13 had no buried organic horizon, and no artifacts were recovered, while TU A16 had a very thin organic layer above the subsoil that produced a few brick spalls. TU A14 was expanded to a 2.5 by 5 foot unit after a substantial buried A was discovered. Only a few artifacts were recovered from this fill; these were whiteware and redware ceramics, window glass, a cut nail and oyster shell. This unit would have been below the part of the house that may have been the west side addition to the original log structure.

In the area that had probably been under the rear addition, TU A24 showed recent fill and a possible midden layer overlying a buried A horizon. TU A23 was excavated under an area where a porch had been built into the ell of the house, and recent fill continued to a depth of 2.5 feet, at which point the unit was abandoned because of depth. This area was subsequently excavated with a backhoe to expose the underlying deposits.

Backhoe Trench 1 profiles exhibited a 6-9 inch level of midden. Towards the eastern end of the house, the midden ended on subsoil, while in the center of the trench, a 6 inch deep buried plowzone underlay the midden. None of these buried horizons that were exposed using the backhoe were screened, so no artifact samples were recovered. The south side of the trench showed that the cellar of the house measured almost 25 feet in length. This also provided corroborating evidence that the western portion of the front section of the house was an addition to the original eastern end, since the front section of the house is mapped at about 40 feet long on the cultural resource form.

Backhoe Trench 2, north of the first trench, uncovered just the edge of the midden about 6 feet from its east end. Most of Trench 2 had deep modern fill with the original yard surface below. The backhoe trenches indicated that the midden covered a maximum area of 15 by 40 feet in area along the rear of the house. Other backhoe trenching in the back yard uncovered a well. The backhoe operator had been present when the house was demolished, and remembered the well still being open at that time. He estimated the depth at 40 feet. The well was filled at that time.

Sixteen test units were excavated on the east side of the house on a slope leading toward Red Clay Creek. Ten of these (TUs A1-2, A5-7, A11, A15, A17, A26 and A28) were found to contain a sealed buried plowzone that was covered by a thick fill level (see Figure 24). This fill was of an earlier date than that post-demolition fill covering most of the site. Units surrounding these on the north and east sides (A18-19, A22, A25, A27 and

an unnumbered unit) did not have a buried plowzone, but exhibited a 9-12 inch sandy loam Ap overlying the sandy clay B horizon. These TUs delimit the buried plowzone within an area about 45 by 60 feet on the east side of the house. Artifacts from the buried plowzone indicate that it was the yard surface during the nineteenth century. Artifacts recovered from the buried Ap include redware, whiteware, pearlware, yellowware, porcelain, coarse stoneware, ironstone, kaolin pipe bowl and stem fragments, window and bottle glass (some mold blown, one with a glass tipped pontil mark), cut nails, a hinge fragment, unidentified ferrous metal, brick, mortar, coal, slag, bone, oyster shell, a chert flake, a jasper flake, and six pieces of quartz debitage. A brass button, stamped "Extra-Rich Robinson & Co. 1837-1865", was also recovered. A mean ceramic date for the buried Ap horizon, both in the east yard and behind the house, was calculated at 1829.55. Glass recovered from the buried plowzone included windowpane glass of potash, soda and lime-soda. The first of these date to before 1864, while the lime-soda dates after 1864. The number of identifiable sherds showed about half before and half after 1864. The earliest bottle glass, in TU A6, was hand blown (1750-1850), while the majority had dates of manufacture within the nineteenth century. Several later glass fragments were found, one dating 1880-1915 (TU A6), three duraglass fragments (1940+) in TU A1, and six bottle glass sherds (1910+) in A17. The buried plowzone must have been a yard surface through much of the nineteenth century, and possibly into the twentieth, although because of the small amount of glass within the level and the early mean ceramic date, the twentieth century sherds may be intrusive. The three units where they were found were in one area of the buried yard near the top of the slope.

Four test units were excavated along the west and southwest sides of the house. The soil profiles in TUs A20 and A21 showed a level of recent fill, a probable level of demolition with rocks and ash, and a rocky layer of a loamy soil containing artifacts, below which was the subsoil. The third level, a buried Ap, would have been the yard level during the time the house stood, and the few artifacts recovered from this horizon included whitewares, pearlwares, window glass, pieces of formica, a toy hammer, a wire nail and cinders. TUs A29 and A30 were closer to the road and showed only an Ao horizon developed on subsoil, indicating that the topsoil had been removed. No artifacts were recovered.

Area A - 1996 Testing

Additional testing was done at the Barker House on either side of the driveway and beyond the ditch along the highway (see Figure 24). Although this area is not within the area of impact on the current planning maps, the test units were excavated so that all boundaries around the site would be tested thoroughly. TU A31 exhibited a plowzone overlying subsoil, and produced no artifacts. TU A32, found to be an old driveway leading to the house, showed two levels of fill. The upper level contained slag and coal, the lower level, a piece of pearlware and a redware sherd. The fill levels overlay a plowzone from which a pearlware sherd was recovered.

TU A33 was dug just west of the driveway and near a small stone and concrete wall, an edging for the driveway to the 20th century house. The soils showed two fill horizons overlying an older Ap, under which was the B horizon. The upper fill horizon contained redware and ironstone sherds, wire nails and some glass. It is probably the result of filling behind the wall. The second was a layer of gravely fill, probably from driveway

material, and contained no artifacts. The buried plowzone contained redware, pearlware, whiteware and ironstone sherds, a few glass fragments, a piece of shell and a brass disk. The ironstone sherds comprised the greater part of the artifacts.

TU A34 revealed a probable post hole with what appear to be a fragment of a post. Redware and whiteware sherds, small glass fragments and two cut nails were recovered from the plowzone, while the feature produced an unidentified nail and two iron fragments.

The ceramics from TU A33 are mixed, and the post mold in A34 does not appear to be very old. This area should probably not be included with the portion of the Barker House considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The front yard of the site along the highway is bounded by a disturbed area that is currently a ditch, and where utility poles have been erected. It is this area where the most recent maps show that fill will be deposited. This work will not impact the Barker House site.

Area B: the location of the garage/granary

Ten test units (TUs B1- B10) were excavated in this area which lay between where the house once stood and the barn remains (see Figure 24). A portion of this area, particularly the area immediately around the garage foundation, was overlain by recently deposited clay fill including a layer with demolition debris ranging circa 8-12" below surface. A buried plowzone lay beneath this fill in TUs B1, B2, B4 and B6, in and immediately surrounding the garage site. The buried plowzone produced whiteware, redware and ironstone sherds, window and bottle glass fragments, unidentified nails, unidentified ferrous metal fragments, brick, bone, oyster and clam shell, and a quartz flake. Based on the absence of pearlware, the artifacts within the buried plowzone in Area B are perhaps more recent than those from the buried surface at the house.

The soils in TUs B3, B5, B8 and B9 are in a plowed field below the garage area and exhibited a plowzone overlying subsoil. B3 and B5 were disturbed by a trench containing a metal pipe that ran through the squares. B9 had two stains at the base of the plowzone that were quite shallow, probably representing rodent disturbance.

TUs B7 and B10 are in a low area in front of a row of shrubs, on the east side of the area and close to the Area A well. A dark stain was present on the surface of TU B7; this feature extended to a depth of 16 " and yielded burned glass and nail fragments. The feature appears to be a recent pit dug into the accumulated soil. The soils in these units contained a thick accumulation of dark loamy soil, extending to 18 inches in B7 and to 24 inches in B10. This was excavated in three levels, although the artifacts are similar from all levels, and both test units ended on clay subsoil. Ceramics from these test units included redware, ironstone, whiteware, pearlware and porcelain. Window, bottle (including one mold blown bottle fragment) and lamp chimney glass were recovered, but a number of the pieces are more recent machine made glass. Miscellaneous metal includes recent shotgun shells, can fragments, both cut and wire nails, and copper wire. Fragments of clay pigeons were also recovered. One of the whiteware sherds exhibited a maker's mark, John Maddock & Son, Burslem, Great Britain, which dates to some time after 1891 (Kovel and Kovel 1953:71). This area appears to be a late nineteenth and twentieth century trash disposal area.

Area C: the area east of the old stone barn and the twentieth century house foundation

Nine test units were excavated in Area C, within and to the east of the remains of the old barn and the twentieth century house foundation (Figure 26). The soils from some of the units in these areas consisted of a plowzone over sterile subsoil, while layers of fill resulting from the demolition of the structures, or possibly from the construction of the gravel driveway, overlay the plowzone in other tests. Artifacts from this area were sparse and consisted primarily of architectural materials, such as nails and window glass from the demolished structure and machine made bottle glass. Except for two cut nails, the artifacts are probably twentieth century.

Area D: the area northwest of the Area C foundation remains

Four test units were excavated around the northwest corner of these ruins (see Figure 26), and all showed an Ap overlying sterile subsoil. Artifacts from the Ap were primarily twentieth century materials such as machine made bottle glass and pop top tabs.

Springhouse

The stone remains of a springhouse were found in a drainage cut roughly 200 feet west of the stone barn remains. The structure was about 15 feet square, and had a doorway on the north, or downstream, side. No excavations were conducted at the springhouse as it is out of the project right-of-way. Bottles dating to the twentieth century had been dumped on the surface around the springhouse remains. A license plate dating to 1946 and a machine made milk bottle were collected from the surface.

Sector B, Area E: the lower area along Red Clay Creek

Phase I Testing – January 1993

Eleven TUs were spaced at a maximum interval of 50 feet in the area of the proposed storm water management facility generally in the central part of what is now the storm water management area (Figure 27). In 1988, six test units had been excavated in the eastern portion of the area (see 1988 Phase I survey - Red Clay Creek, Area 1), and a few prehistoric and historic artifacts were recovered.

TUs E1-5 and TUs E9-11 exhibited soil profiles consisting of an Ap overlying subsoil. Some flood deposition was noted in augering that was carried out to examine the soil below the very plastic clay subsoil. Artifacts were rather sparse from these eight TUs: these included 20 redware, three pearlware and two whiteware sherds, 13 clear bottle glass sherds, two cut nails, six wire nails, four nail fragments, a military button, and pieces of brick and mortar.

There was evidence of burning in the vicinity of TUs E6-8, and large quantities of slag and cinders were visible on the ground surface. These soil profiles included lenses of mixed ash and slag as well. Remnants of a structure were encountered in TU E8, representing a foundation comprised of both conglomerate rock and schist. One corner and two articulated walls were identified. A thin (1") but discontinuous veneer of concrete covered a 10 square foot area between TUs 7 and 8; this did not appear to have been deliberately laid down, however, and was too thin to have supported a structure. It may represent the discard of a cement truck clean-out. Numerous concrete fragments had been dumped in the area. In one area where the concrete was fractured, a rectangularly shaped conglomerate rock slab measuring 4.5' long by 34" wide by 5" thick was visible on the ground surface. Three square indentations had been carved in the slab's surface. Nails, wood and slag were recovered from the slab indentations where fill soils were present. The function of this slab is not known.

Artifacts recovered from TUs E6-8, Ap horizon, included: one redware, one whiteware, and 14 stoneware sherds (undecorated), 17 fragments of green, 12 blue/aqua, 11 brown, and 92 clear bottle glass, eight cut nails, 56 wire nails, 33 unidentified nails, 20 household and miscellaneous items, and large amounts of slag and burned materials

Most of the artifacts recovered in the 1993 work consisted primarily of non-diagnostic bottle glass; some ceramics were present, but were not numerous and consisted primarily of utilitarian wares, and are suggestive of a residential site, although the area has been subjected to trash dumping in recent years.

Additional Testing, Phases I and II - 1996

Phase I

Ten TUs (numbers 25-29, 31-32 and 36-38) were excavated in areas apart from the foundation, covering the area of a proposed stormwater management facility (see Figure 27). A light scatter of artifacts was found in the plowzone across most of the wastewater management area, including historic artifacts that probably relate to the early occupation

of the Barker House, historic artifacts from the later use of the property, and prehistoric artifacts recovered from the terrace overlooking Red Clay Creek. The prehistoric artifacts recovered during this testing consisted of nine quartz flakes, one quartz chunk and one chert flake, all from plowed soil. The earlier testing in the area had produced two quartz flakes from plowzone soils and a jasper point fragment and two jasper flakes from fill soil.

Artifacts that can probably be attributed to the earlier historic occupation by the Barker family (documented from 1762 to 1847) include creamware, pearlware, porcelain and whiteware sherds, Albany slipped stoneware sherds, and a few cut and wrought nails. Several pre-1864 soda windowpane fragments were found. These artifacts probably represent field scatter that was deposited during the early occupation of the house.

Census research from the late nineteenth century records showed that, during the 60 year occupation of the Barker House property by the Sowden family, the property continued to be used as a farm, with “farmer” listed as the occupation of the head of household. Artifacts that may date to this occupation (1869 to 1928) include whiteware and ironstone ceramics, glass bottles and windowpane and lamp chimney fragments, and both cut and wire nails. There are enough glass bottles dating to this period to suggest that a trash dump may once have existed, but no evidence of an intact trash deposit of this date was found. A drilled well (a square pad of concrete and a six inch metal pipe in which water could be seen) was discovered, and TUs 32 and 33 were excavated nearby. Two formica fragments, an amber bottle fragment and a rubber O-ring were recovered from the plowzone. Quite a few rocks were found near the surface of these units, but they were irregular in shape, and none formed articulated walls.

Phase II

The foundation discovered on the banks of Red Clay Creek during the earlier work at the Barker House was included in the Barker House site as 7NC-B-38, Sector B. The Phase II work at this site involved relocating the foundation and excavating test units to uncover parts of the foundation and collecting a larger sample of artifacts in an attempt to determine the date and function of the site.

Fifteen TUs were excavated in and adjacent to the foundation (numbers T1-4, T8, 35, 40-47) (Figure 28). Several of these were excavated in an attempt to define edges of the foundation. A row was placed along the east side of the foundation remnants. Finally, several units were excavated in a small feature adjacent to the foundation.

The foundation (Feature 1, TUs 40 and 42-47) appears to have been built by using rock to fill and level the site, which was then capped with concrete (Plate). An articulated rock corner had been discovered during Phase I testing (TU E8) and an area of concrete floor had been exposed (TU E7). Two types of concrete had been used, differentiated by the overall color and the size of the pebbles visible in each matrix. The floor was thin (about an inch thick), and had cracked in many places. In some TUs it appeared that two layers of concrete had been laid. Along the northern and western edges the concrete had broken up into pieces, and in the northwestern corner these pieces were mixed with unarticulated rock and a few bricks and brick fragments. A profile of a TU excavated in the foundation is found in Figure 29. Although the exact dimensions could not be determined because of the poor condition of the foundation, it measured approximately 15 feet north-south by 18

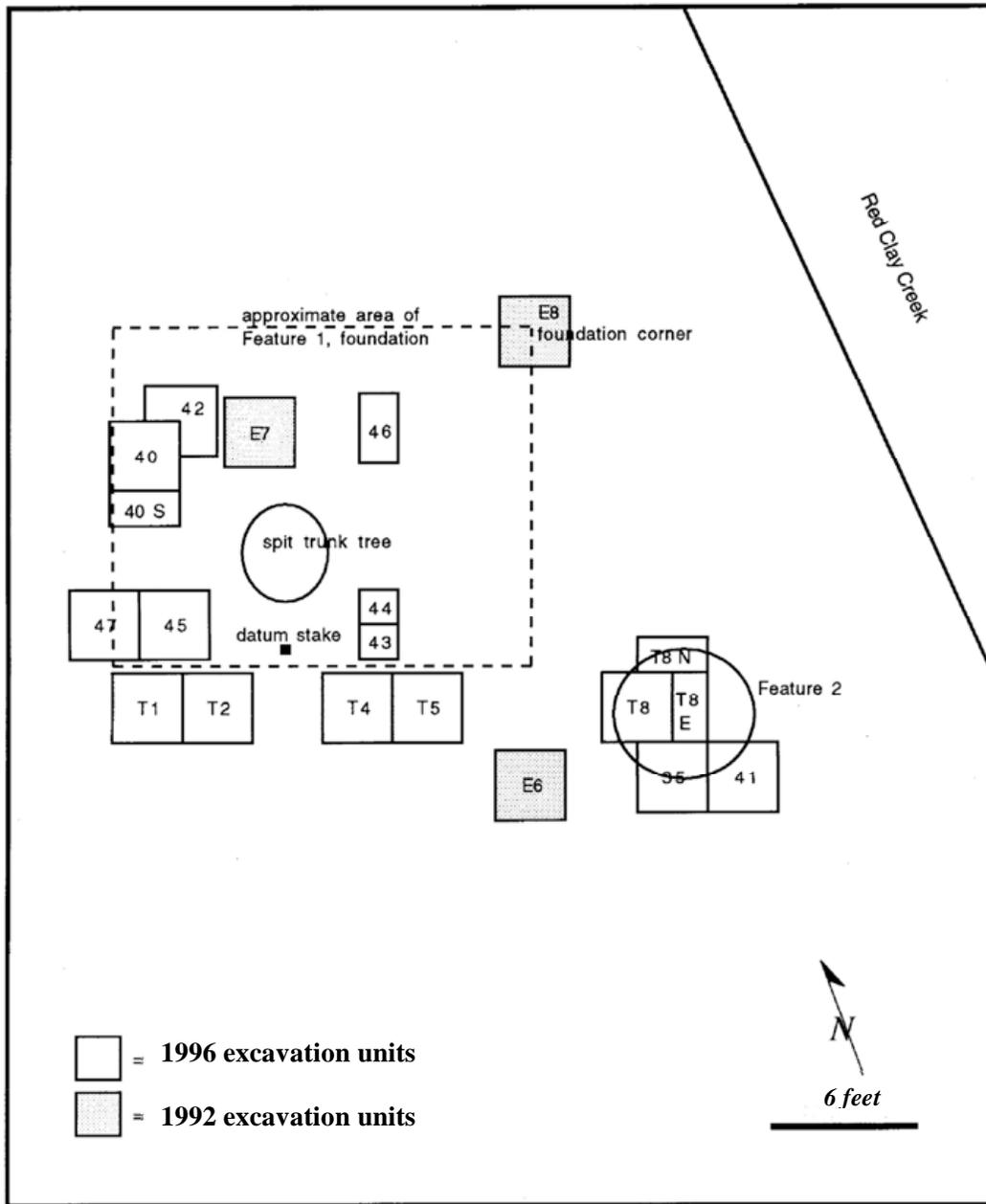


FIGURE 28
Barker House East, Sector B, Area E,
Plan Map of Test Units in Area of Foundation

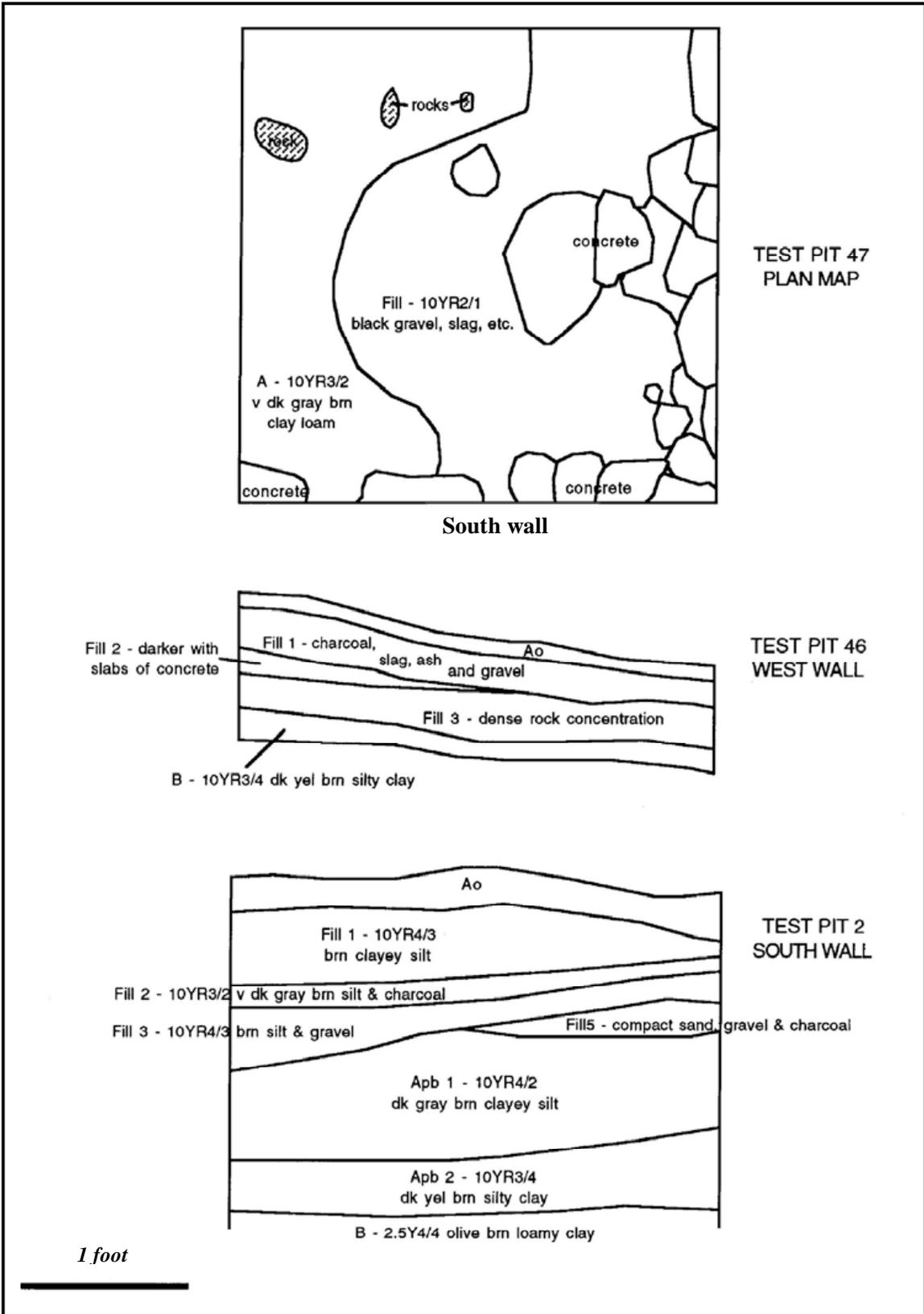


FIGURE 29
Barker House East, Plan Map and Profiles from the Area of the Foundation

feet east-west. Artifacts found in the Ao horizon on the foundation were mostly glass bottle fragments (only one could be dated, and that dated to post-1910), wire nails, a post-1864 window glass fragment, and miscellaneous items including bone, iron fragments, a piece of plastic and a tube from a radio or television.

A 3 foot wide trench was staked out along the south side of the foundation; this was divided into eight 3-foot sections. Five of these were excavated (see Figure 27), four (T1, 2, 4, and 5) next to the foundation and one (T8) east of the foundation in what proved to be another feature. In units T1 and T2, a concentration of rock at and just under the surface on the north side of the units was probably rubble from the foundation. Also just below the Ao horizon were several shallow layers containing various mixtures of soil, gravel, slag, charcoal and ash. A profile showing the levels is found in Figure 29. These levels undulate and are sometimes discontinuous. They are interpreted as episodes of dumping, probably from a stove or furnace, and extend to a depth of 11 to 16 inches below surface. Artifacts recovered from the various levels where dumping occurred included wire nails, unidentified nails and other iron fragments, coal, two pieces of porcelain (post-1890), and small pieces of glass of various dates (pre-1865 and post-1874 window glass and post-1910 bottle glass).

Below this, two successive buried plowzones were excavated. The first of these produced no artifacts, and the second produced an unidentified iron fragment. The soil horizon below this exhibits manganese staining and is either a leached plowzone or possibly an eluviated B horizon soil. No artifacts were recovered. A clayey B horizon was reached at 28 inches below surface.

Units T4 and T5 showed similar profiles, although the dumping levels seemed less complex and only one buried plowzone could be distinguished. The artifacts recovered from the Ao and Levels 1 and 2 were primarily glass, nails (mostly wire nails), and pieces of coal, slag and clinkers. The buried plowzone contained late nineteenth and twentieth century glass and a wire nail. Excavations ended on a silty clay B horizon, and auger testing below this showed a level of coarse flood deposited sand at about 30 to 40 inches below surface and a gray micaceous sandy clay B/C horizon below this.

Feature 2, a concentration of rock and dark soil on the southeast side of the foundation, was discovered in unit T8 (Figure 30). On the surface, concrete slabs and other rubble were strewn about the area. Unit T8 was expanded to the east and the north, and two additional units, numbers 35 and 41, were excavated along the south side of the feature. The feature contains an irregular area of unarticulated rock measuring approximately 6.5 feet in diameter, at a depth of 3 to 10 inches below surface near its center. The rock is in a matrix of dark grayish brown silty clay containing charcoal and slag. Deposits of slag and gravel were most noticeable along the southern side. After exposing some of the feature, the feature was excavated in units 35 and 41. A soil profile can be seen in Figure 30. Below the rocks, the charcoal and slag continued to the top of the B horizon. The feature soils contained ironstone cup fragments and a small whiteware fragment, a few pieces of window glass, wire and unidentified nails, one possible wrought nail, clinkers, slag, a few brick fragments and a leather fragment.

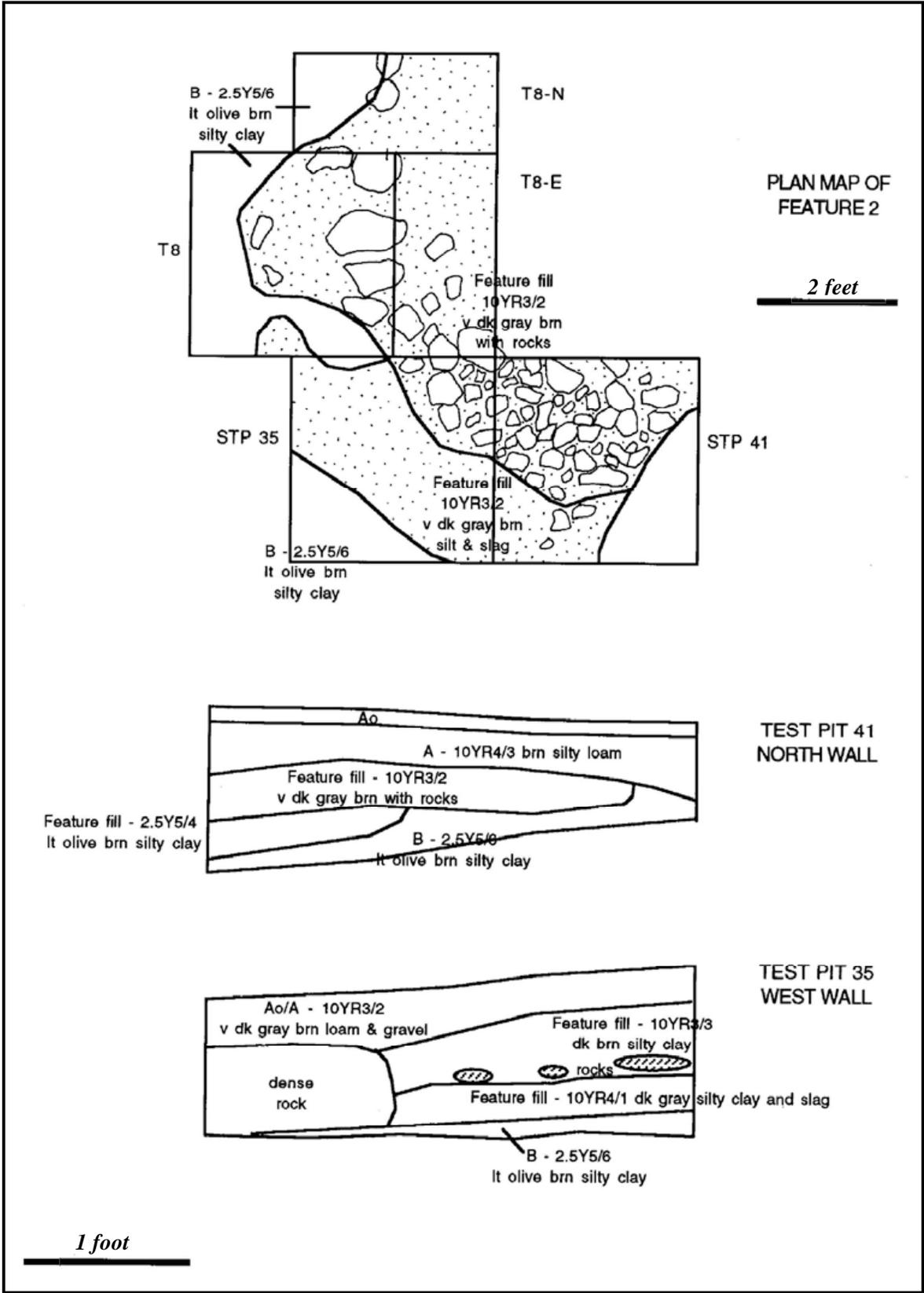


FIGURE 30
Barker House East, Plan Map and Profiles of Feature 2

Summary and Recommendations

The Barker House was a residence originally constructed in the eighteenth century but which had nineteenth and early twentieth century alterations. Although the house had been considered to be potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, it was demolished in 1989/1990 by the owner. Archeological remains at the Barker House site have been given the number 7NC-B-38, and the site has been divided into Sectors A and B. Sector A, includes the excavations at Areas A-D, while Sector B (or excavation Area E) is the Barker House East, where the remains of the garage or workshop were discovered.

Initially (prior to 1830), the property appears to have been an owner occupied farm with possibly a small home manufacturing cooper's industry. The owner, Samuel Barker, appears to have been relatively well off as, at his death, his inventory and appraisal list includes one slave and what appears to be an indentured servant. This is characteristic of the economy of the period (De Cunzo and Catts 1990:60). Increasing urbanization and industrialization are characteristic of the period from 1830 to 1880, and the property appears to have been subject to considerable speculation during this period as it was sold several times. This is not unusual, given the complex economic changes which were occurring at this time. It is difficult to say whether it was owner occupied or occupied by tenants during the period from 1830-1880. It appears to have been owner occupied for most of the period, but may have been occupied by tenants during some of this period, as some of the owners listed in the deeds did not live in Delaware. After the period from 1800-1830, this area of Delaware experienced an agricultural crisis caused by soil exhaustion and agricultural failure. One may ask if the relatively frequent change of ownership represent a response to this crisis. The change of owners may instead reflect the increasing suburbanization of the landscape. The Barker House appears eligible under any number of themes, including landscape trends (De Cunzo and Catts 1990:82).

Archeological investigations at the Barker House were separated into Areas A, B, C and D of the portion of the site designated Sector A. Work in Area A included excavations in the area of the filled in basement and in the yard. A portion of the basement was excavated, and excavations northeast and east of the basement area revealed an intact buried plowzone dating to the nineteenth century. North of the basement, in what was the back yard, a sheet midden, a buried plowzone and a well were found when a backhoe was used to strip away fill soils. A buried plowzone and a post mold were found in test pits excavated west of the current driveway, about 75 feet west of the house site, but because of the mixed nature of the assemblage, this area has not been included with the eligible portion of the site. Remains of wood within the post mold make it likely that it is a relatively recent feature.

The Area B excavations were conducted around a garage/granary dating to the mid-nineteenth century. These excavations revealed a buried plowzone in some units. This horizon was overlain by fill containing a mixture of nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts. The plowzone, whether buried by fill or not, also contained mixed nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts. Other than a modern pipe trench, no features were found. The excavations in Areas C and D were conducted in the vicinity of a barn, where a twentieth century house had been built on a portion of the stone barn walls, and had later

been demolished. Few artifacts were recovered from this area, and those artifacts that were recovered were either from the plowzone or from fill layers associated with the demolition of the house and/or the construction of a gravel driveway.

Portions of Sector A, specifically Area A, contain intact archeological remains which are considered to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. The site dates to an historic time period not yet well represented in the archeological record of Delaware and it is likely to yield significant research data. If the site cannot be avoided, Phase III excavations are recommended in Area A. To reiterate, only 7NC-B-38, Sector A, Area A, is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This is the area where the well, the sheet midden and the buried A horizons are located. Neither the storm water management facility nor the highway alignment, as planned at the time of the latest excavations in 1996, will impact Sector A of the Barker House site. Areas B, C and D are not considered to be contributing elements of the site as they lack integrity and therefore do not meet the eligibility requirements for Criterion D, that is, they are unlikely to yield significant research data. Although the 1940's structure was built on the ruins of an older stone barn, the construction and demolition have obliterated any intact archeological remains that may once have existed at the barn.

A stone springhouse foundation was discovered several hundred feet west of the Barker House site. The remains measured about 15 feet square. No testing was done there, as it was out of the project area and was expected to suffer no effect. Bottles dating to the twentieth century had been dumped on the surface around the springhouse remains.

Testing in Area E (or Sector B) also showed that the important archeological components of the Barker House (Sector A, Area A) did not extend into the proposed storm water management area or along the current roadway east of the driveway leading to the house. Phase I and II excavations were completed at 7NC-B-38, Sector B, and provided artifacts and construction information on the foundation that was discovered there. The foundation (Feature 1), a second area of rock (Feature 2) and the area adjacent to these features were investigated, and proved to be twentieth century features with mixed artifact assemblages. Because of the concrete floor and the preponderance of artifacts such as window glass and wire nails, combined with the relative absence of ceramics that might indicate a domestic site, it was felt that this site represents a small garage/workshop area. This area is not eligible for nomination to the National Register, since further work would not be likely to yield new information about the site; additional archeological work is not recommended for that area.

A scatter of lithic materials was evident throughout the Barker House site. Some artifacts were recovered on a terrace overlooking Red Clay Creek in Sector B of the site, and others were found in Areas A and B of Sector A. The quartz artifacts were confined to plowzone contexts. Jasper artifacts were recovered from fill soils near Lancaster Pike, and were not considered to be part of the site.



PLATE 8
Barker House, Sector A, TU A12 extended, East wall



PLATE 9
Barker House, Sector A, TU A12 extended, West Wall



PLATE 10
Barker House, Sector A,
TU A12 extended, North view



PLATE 11
Barker House, Sector A,
Trench A4, West wall



PLATE 12
Barker House, Sector B
Feature 2, floor plan
[1996 Phase II Excavation]



PLATE 13
Barker House, Sector B
TU 47, Feature 1, floor plan of foundation
[1996 Phase II Excavation]

Rolling Mill West (N-12911, 7NC-B-30), Phase I [1992]

Rolling Mill West is that area west of and adjacent to Rolling Mill Road where an informant had revealed the remains of a structure (portions of an articulated stone wall near Red Clay Creek and architectural debris in a bulldozed area) that supposedly stood between 1910 and 1960. There was also a pump house in the ditch near these remains.

Site Description and Historic Background

This site was discovered after a pump house was seen in the ditch along Lancaster Pike near the northwest corner of its intersection with Rolling Mill Road. Inspection of the wooded area in which it was located revealed an articulated stone wall between the area tested and Red Clay Creek. In addition, architectural debris and bulldozed areas were noted on the surface. Based on information provided by local residents (Mr. and Mrs. Biggs), the house in this location was supposed to have stood between 1910 and 1960. Phase I investigations were conducted at the house remains, which were referred to in the field as Rolling Mill West. None of the historic maps consulted for this study, including the 1904 USGS topographic map, show a structure of any kind on the property, although the 1954 USGS Kennett Square topographic map shows a building in that location. Although it was reported to have been destroyed circa 1960, it still appears on the topographic map that was photorevised in 1986.

Results of the Fieldwork

A Phase I survey of the area was done following the discovery of surface architectural debris; ten test units, with TU 1-3, nearer the intersection, and the remainder in the area of the architectural debris (Figure 30). The TUs in each of the two areas were excavated at 10 to 15 foot intervals within the approximate area of the proposed right-of-way.

TUs 1 and 2 were excavated in the center of the area in the area where the structure had apparently been located, according to a local informant. They exhibited a circa 9" sterile A horizon of clayey loam overlying a very rocky yellowish brown, sandy clay fill about 26" thick that, in turn, overlay the B horizon clay subsoil. The fill zone produced four can fragments and a brick fragment, a wire nail and two bone fragments. Large rocks were present near the base of the fill, but were not articulated.

TU 3 was excavated near the location of the pump house. The soils in this unit consisted of an Ao horizon developed on a fill zone, underlain by a buried Ap horizon and then subsoil. Tar paper fragments and part of a plastic dish were recovered from the Ao horizon. The structure is assumed to have been contemporaneous with the demolished house.

The remainder of the TUs were excavated east of the stone wall, between the wall and Rolling Mill Road. The soils in this area consisted of an Ao horizon capping fill soil. The fill soil varied in depth, and TUs 5, 6 and 8 exhibited articulated cinder block foundation remains (Figures 30 and 31). The fill overlay subsoil.

The Ap horizon in TU 4 produced tar paper fragments, a paper carton fragment, three brick fragments, three concrete fragments and a clinker, as well as window and bottle glass. The fill yielded ten tar paper shingles and two asbestos shingles.

TU 5 (Figure 31) was similar in its profile except that the Ao horizon was very thin, only 2 ½” thick. A portion of a cinder block foundation was encountered at a depth of circa 20 inches (Figure 31). The Ao horizon in TU 5 produced a wire nail, strap iron fragments, an unidentified ferrous metal fragment, two brick fragments, window and bottle glass, tar paper and lead fragments. The fill horizon yielded bone, shell, wire nails, brick fragments, mortar pieces, cinder block fragments, window and bottle glass, a glass rod, a clinker, and plastic tile fragments.

TU 6 showed evidence of the cinder block foundation as well, at 13” below surface. The artifact content was rather sparse; the A produced a wire nail, a brick fragment, a coal fragment, tar paper roofing material, window glass and Rolling Rock beer bottle fragments. TU 7 revealed a shallow A horizon overlying subsoil, indicating that the area around this unit had been bulldozed. A single piece of flat glass was recovered from the top of the subsoil.

TU 8 exhibited the same profile as that of TU 5, and the foundation was also uncovered here as well. Artifacts from the Ao horizon included two cut nails, five brick fragments, two cinders, tar paper fragments, a plastic flower, bottle glass, and mica from an electric insulator. The fill produced the usual array of building debris with some window glass and Boyd’s cap liner fragments.

TU 9 had a similar profile, but the fill horizon did not produce any architectural debris or any other artifacts. The A horizon yielded a strap iron fragment, a mortar fragment, 29 brick fragments and bottle glass. TU 10 was sterile, yielding no cultural materials.

In general, then, artifacts from the A horizon at the site consisted of domestic debris such as bottle glass, shell and bone, and architectural materials, mixed with more modern roadside trash. A broken oil lamp was found on the surface near TU 4. The fill produced primarily architectural debris, including window glass, tar paper, slate fragments, brick and cinder block fragments.

Summary and Recommendations

This twentieth century domestic site appears to have been a common domestic building type. The site had been severely disturbed by bulldozing and filling. Additional work would be unlikely to contribute significant information on local or regional history.

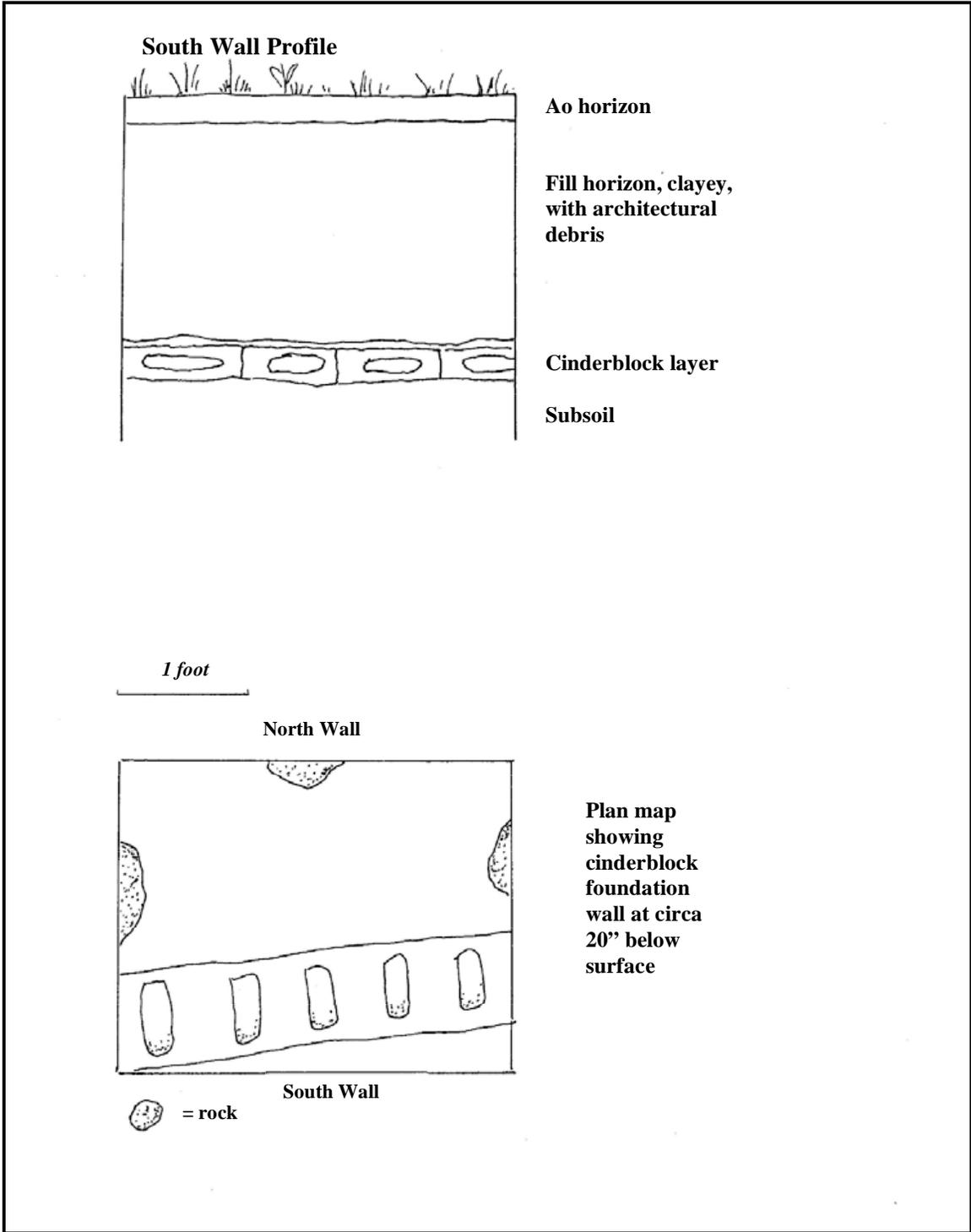


FIGURE 32
Rolling Mill Road West, Profile and Plan Map of TU 5 Showing
Cinderblock Foundation Wall