

which might have been present. No additional archeological work is recommended for the Bird-Husbands House.

Summary and Recommendations, Segment 8

Preliminary and extended Phase I archival and archeological investigations conducted in Segment 8 revealed only three areas which had the potential to contain archeological resources. These were standing structures: the Sweeney site, the William Murphy house, and the Bird-Husbands House. Old Murphy Road house was not investigated as it was too recent in age, i.e. 20th century.

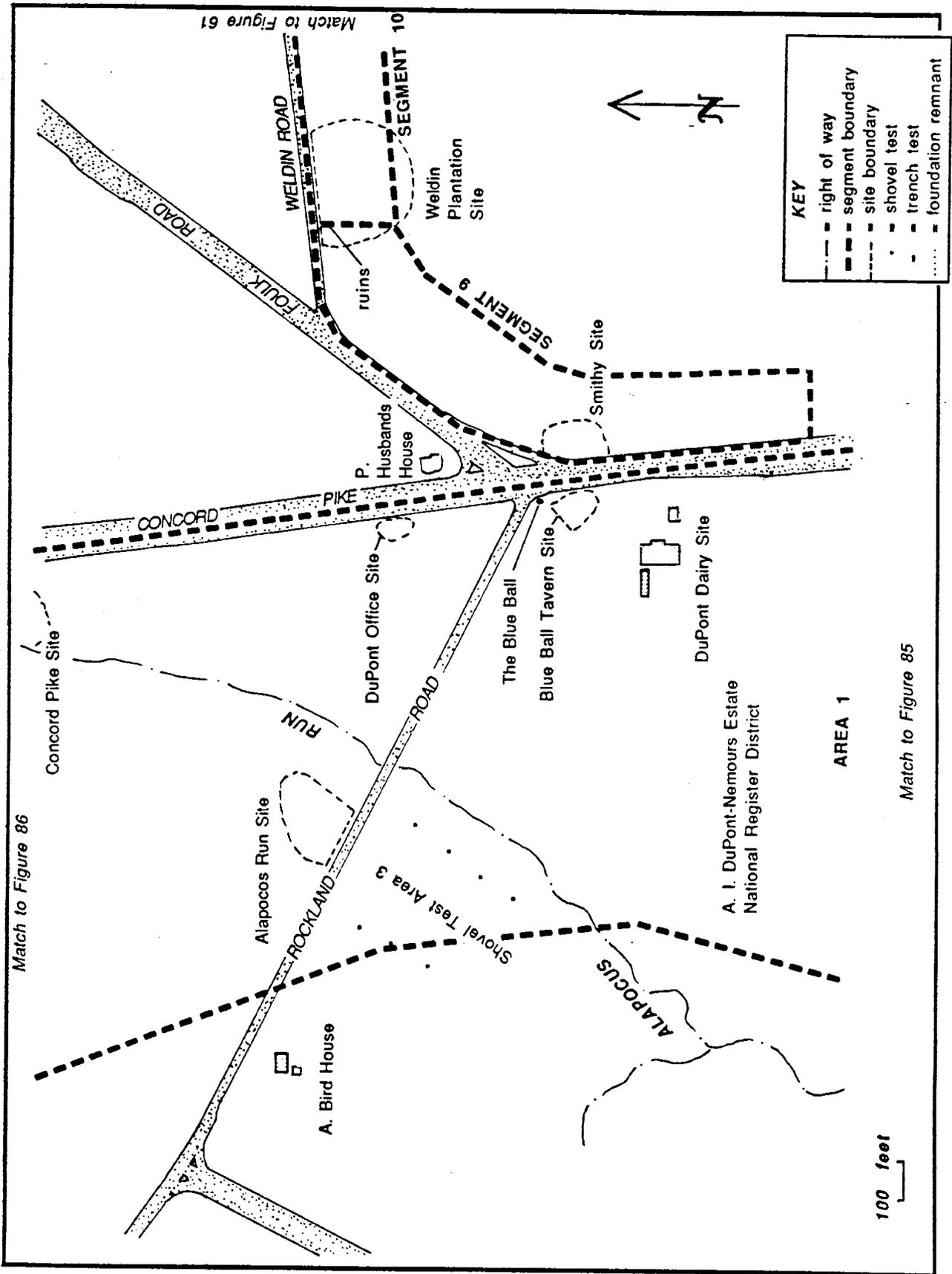
Archeological fieldwork conducted at the Sweeney and Bird-Husbands houses revealed that modern ground alteration had resulted in extensive disturbances to the yard areas surrounding the structures. No intact features or contexts were found at either site and no additional archeological work is recommended.

Archeological fieldwork could not be conducted at the William Murphy house as the occupant of the structure was ill at the time of the survey. Archival work was conducted, however. This revealed that the house was probably built in the 1840's by George Murphy and occupied by the Murphy family until 1870. After 1870, the house had been occupied by a series of tenants. No statement regarding the research potential of the archeological resources at the William Murphy house can be made as no archeological fieldwork could be conducted here.

SEGMENT 9

Segment 9 (Figures 2 and 58) lies on the east side of Route 202 (Concord Pike) and extends from the Wilmington reservoir up to Weldin Road. The corridor is 200 feet wide, as measured from the edge of Concord Pike. The entire area in Segment 9 was in corn at the time of the preliminary Phase I survey and surface visibility was very good. Preliminary Phase I field investigations consisted of a walkover survey with 100% coverage and surface collection. Archival investigations revealed a smithy site at the Blue Ball intersection on the east side of Concord Pike (Figure 58). This smithy appears on the 1849 Rea and Price map and is situated within the confines of Segment 9. Preliminary Phase I investigations revealed a dense surface concentration of artifacts at this location, some of which dated to the mid-19th century or the period during which the smithy was shown on the Rea and Price map (Figure 9). The results of the preliminary and extended Phase I investigations at this location are presented below. No other archeological sites were encountered during the field investigations of Segment 9.

FIGURE 58
SEGMENTS 9, 10 & AREA 1



Smithy Site, 7NC-B-10

Results of Archival Investigations

The Smithy site is located on the east side of Concord Pike just south of Foulk Road (Figures 3 & 58). The site location is included in the original Chestnut Hill tract, and the property ownership history is the same as presented for the Weldin Plantation site (see below) and is summarized in Table 11.

The first historical record of a blacksmith shop at the site is the 1849 Rea and Price Map which showed a structure labeled "Smithy" at the Concord Turnpike-Foulk Road intersection (Figure 9). The Blue Ball Inn was located directly across Concord Turnpike (west) from the Smithy, and other researchers have found a similar association and proximity of a tavern and blacksmith shop in New Castle County during the 19th century (Catts et al. 1986). Tax assessments for 1849 and 1852 of the Albanus C. Logan estate, however, failed to list the shop or any commercial structure for the property. Likewise, none of the property transactions prior to 1914 mentioned a blacksmith shop in connection with the Chestnut Hill tract. Nor did later maps, such as the 1881 Hopkins Map and the 1893 Baist Atlas show structures at that location.

Further documentation of a blacksmith shop on the Chestnut Hill Plantation did not occur until the 1905 South Brandywine Hundred tax assessment of J. Atwood Weldin, owner of the property from 1896 to 1919. Weldin was assessed \$350 each for a blacksmith shop and a wheelwright shop. As previously discussed, these buildings were located at "Blue Ball corner on Concord Road" according to J. Atwood's will made in 1914. A 1917 USGS map also showed a structure on the east side of Concord Pike across from the Blue Ball Dairy.

It appears that Charles A. Rotthouse (Rothouse) operated the blacksmith and wheelwright shops on the Weldin property in the early 1900's. The Wilmington City Directories for 1913 to 1919 gave Rothouse's home residence as Washington Street in Wilmington, in addition to listing him as a "wagonbuilder" or "blacksmith" on "Blue Ball Road" during those same years. Ward (1968:64) states in her discussion of the Blue Ball Inn that a Charles R. Rotthouse conducted a blacksmith and wheelwright shop nearby and that the present "concrete blue ball was made and erected" by him. Relatives of Charles Rotthouse still living in the area confirm that he constructed the blue ball and post which is standing today as a local landmark on Concord Pike (Ruth Linten 1986: personal communication).

Results of Preliminary Phase I Field Investigations

A dense concentration of historic artifacts (Figure 59) was observed at this location during the preliminary Phase I surface reconnaissance. The artifacts were concentrated in an area measuring approximately 150 by 100 feet. While the majority of the

TABLE 11

OWNERSHIP HISTORY, SMITHY AND WELDIN PLANTATION SITES

| Date | Doc | Book | Page | From | To |
|------|------|------|------|----------------|------------------|
| 1680 | Deed | M2 | 563 | Empraim Herman | Han(se) Peterson |

This is a documentation of a survey made by Herman for Hanse Peterson of the Chestnut Hill tract containing 103 acres.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1700 | Deed | Q1 | 598 | Hans Peterson yeoman Shellpot Creek | Cornelius Empson Shellpot Creek |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

This deed transfers the Chestnut Hill tract and a tract of marshland, Wild Hook for 550 pounds.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------|------------------------|
| 1710 | Will | B1 | 224 | Cornelius Empson | Charles Empson, son |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------|------------------------|

The will leaves to Charles, the "easterly part" of the Chestnut Hill plantation tract, with the housing and cleared land.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1722 | Deed | G1 | 225 | Ebenezer Empson Goal Grange Shelpot Creek | Isreal Peterson Goal Grange Shelpot Creek |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

The deed transfers the Chestnut Hill tract to Peterson for 30 pounds.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1749 | Deed | F2 | 297 | Luloffe & Mary Peterson, Peter & Rebecca Peterson, Andrew & Sarah Peterson, William & MaryAnn Derrickson, Magdeline Peterson Brandywine, Md. | Joseph Mortonson |
|------|------|----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|--------------|------------------|
| 1752 | Deed | F2 | 298 | Ann Peterson | Joseph Mortonson |
|------|------|----|-----|--------------|------------------|

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|----------------|------------------|
| 1755 | Deed | F2 | 245 | Jonas Peterson | Joseph Mortonson |
|------|------|----|-----|----------------|------------------|

Isreal Peterson died intestate, leaving eight children as heirs. These deeds transfer the interest in the property from seven siblings to their brother-in-law, Joseph Mortonson. Joseph was married to Regina Peterson.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1771 | Will | L1 | 140 | Joseph Mortonson | Joshua Mortonson son |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------|-------------------------|

Joshua receives the plantation and "present dwelling house".

TABLE 11 CONTINUED

1772 Deed F2 246 Regina Mortonson Joshua Mortonson
Regina transfers her interest in the "plantation" to her son.

1785 Deed F2 298 Joshua Morton, John Dickinson,
alias Mortonson & esquire
wife, Anne, North Philadelphia
Liberties, Philadelphia

Morton(son) transfers the Chestnut Hill plantation and 8 acres of marsh on Cherry Island to John Dickinson for 900 pounds. No buildings are mentioned.

1804 Will Q1 298 John Dickinson Maria Dickinson,
daughter

Dickinson leaves the Mortonson property, designated "Tract 1" as well as adjoining property on the east side of Concord Road to Maria. She also receives several tracts on the west side of Concord Road, including the Blue Ball Tavern.

1861 Will Y1 84 Maria D. Logan Dr. John D.
Philadelphia Logan, son
Philadelphia

Maria leaves the Chestnut Hill Farm, containing at that time, 193+ acres to her son.

1862 Deed P7 449 John D. Logan & Jacob R. Weldin
wife, Susan W.
Brandywine Hundred

Logan sells the Chestnut Hill Farm to Weldin for \$14,200. Metes and bounds include the original 100 acres and the additional adjoining properties left to Maria Dickinson Logan in 1804.

1896 Deed C17 117 Equitable Jacob & Thomas
Guarantee & Trust Weldin
Co., for Eliza
Weldin, lunatic

1896 Deed C17 113 J. Atwood Weldin Thomas T. Weldin

1896 Deed C17 109 Thomas T. Weldin Jacob Atwood
& wife, Emma Weldin

Jacob R. Weldin dies intestate in 1892, leaving his three children, Eliza, J. Atwood and Thomas T., as heirs. These deeds divided the entire estate between the children, with J. Atwood receiving his father's house and 93 acres, plus the original Weldin homestead farm of 35+ acres.

TABLE 11 CONTINUED

| | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1914 | Will | II | 233 | Jacob Atwood Weldin | Jacob R. Weldin, son |
|------|------|----|-----|------------------------|-------------------------|

J. Atwood leaves his real estate to his son, Jacob R. Weldin, with the stipulation that it be sold 10 years after his death.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1934 | Deed | B39 | 109 | J. R. Weldin & Equitable and Trust, Trustees | St. John's River Development Co. Florida Corp. |
|------|------|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

| | | | | | |
|------|------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1936 | Deed | F40 | 164 | St. John's River Development Co. | Almours Securities, Inc. Florida Corp. |
|------|------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|

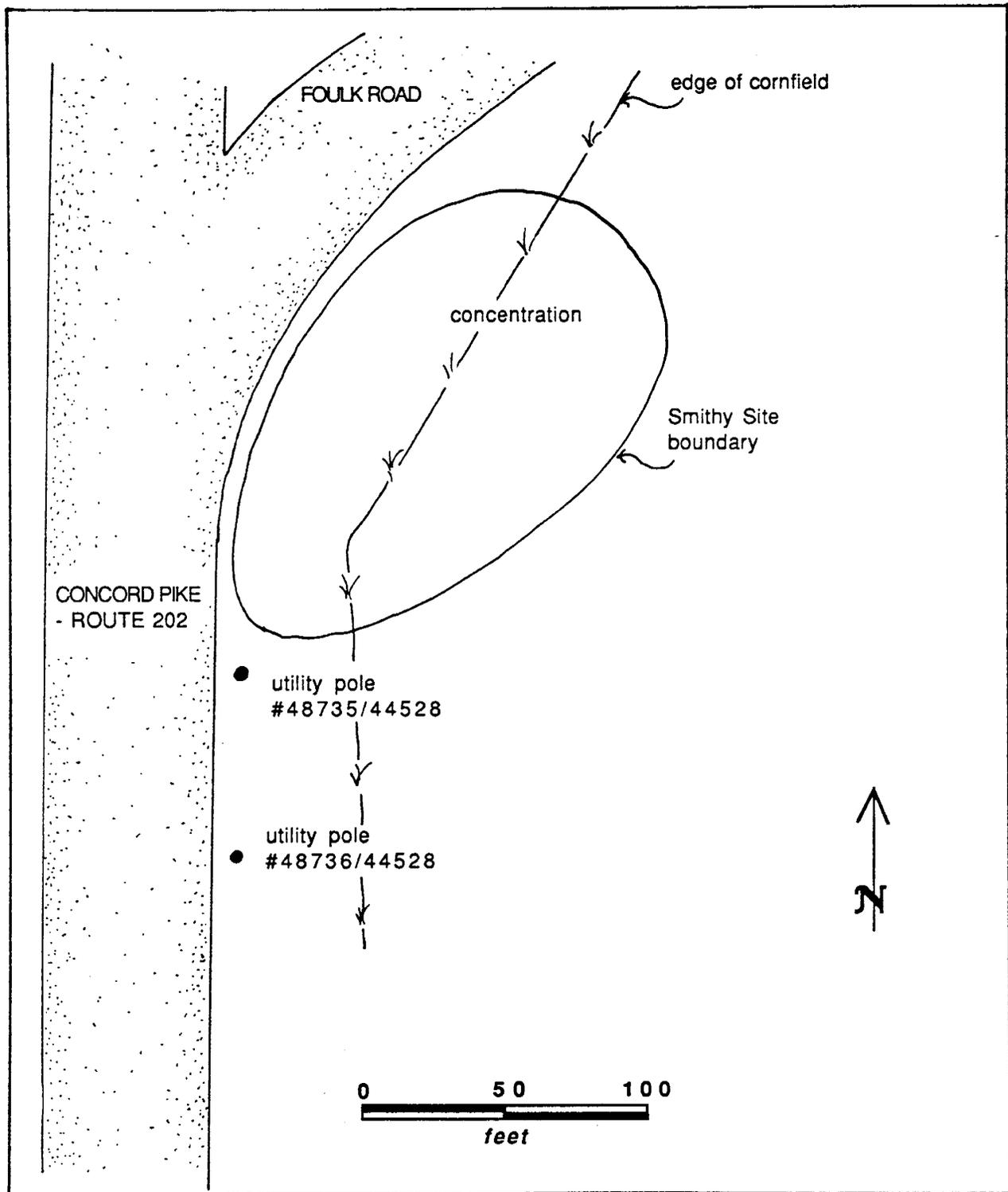
| | | | | | |
|------|------|-----|-----|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1938 | Deed | B41 | 538 | Almours Securities | Florida National Building Delaware Corp. |
|------|------|-----|-----|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|

The Weldin Property is Parcel No. 22, Tract 1, in this deed.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|-----|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1983 | Deed | U121 | 146 | St. Joe Paper Company Florida Corporation | Al-Zar, Ltd. Florida |
|------|------|------|-----|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|

Florida National Building merged with St. Joe Paper Company in 1942, making St. Joe the owner of the property.

FIGURE 59
SMITHY SITE
Location of Surface Artifact Concentration



artifacts recovered from the surface are relatively recent (20th century), there was a sufficient amount of earlier material (19th century) in the assemblage to justify additional fieldwork, especially in light of the fact that the surface concentration was in the location of the Smithy as shown on the 1849 Rea and Price map.

The Mean Ceramic Date from the preliminary investigations was 1855.18. The major ware type recovered from the site during the Phase I investigation was whiteware - 215 (57.18%), followed by porcelain - 55 (14.63%), ironstone - 46 (12.23%), pearlware - 17 (4.52%), coarse red earthenware - 27 (7.18%), stoneware - 6 (1.60%) and yellowware and other coarse earthenware - 9 (2.39%).

Most of the artifacts recovered from the preliminary Phase I investigations were classed as South's function Group 1 (kitchen) - 938 (82.35%). The remaining artifacts were classed as the following: Group 2 (architectural) - 186 (16.33%), Group 6 (personal) - 3 (.26%) and Group 8 (activities) - 12 (1.05%).

Results of Extended Phase I Fieldwork

The extended Phase I fieldwork included an intensive subsurface testing strategy designed to locate any foundation remains or features datable to the occupation of the Smithy. Figure 60 shows the artifact concentration and placement of the test units. Several structural features were discovered below the surface, however all of these were associated with a 20th century service station at this location which was demolished during the 1950's or the 1960's. These features included cinder block footings and filled-in pits which probably contained buried fuel tanks. Artifacts recovered during the subsurface testing included 20th century materials which could be related to the gas station.

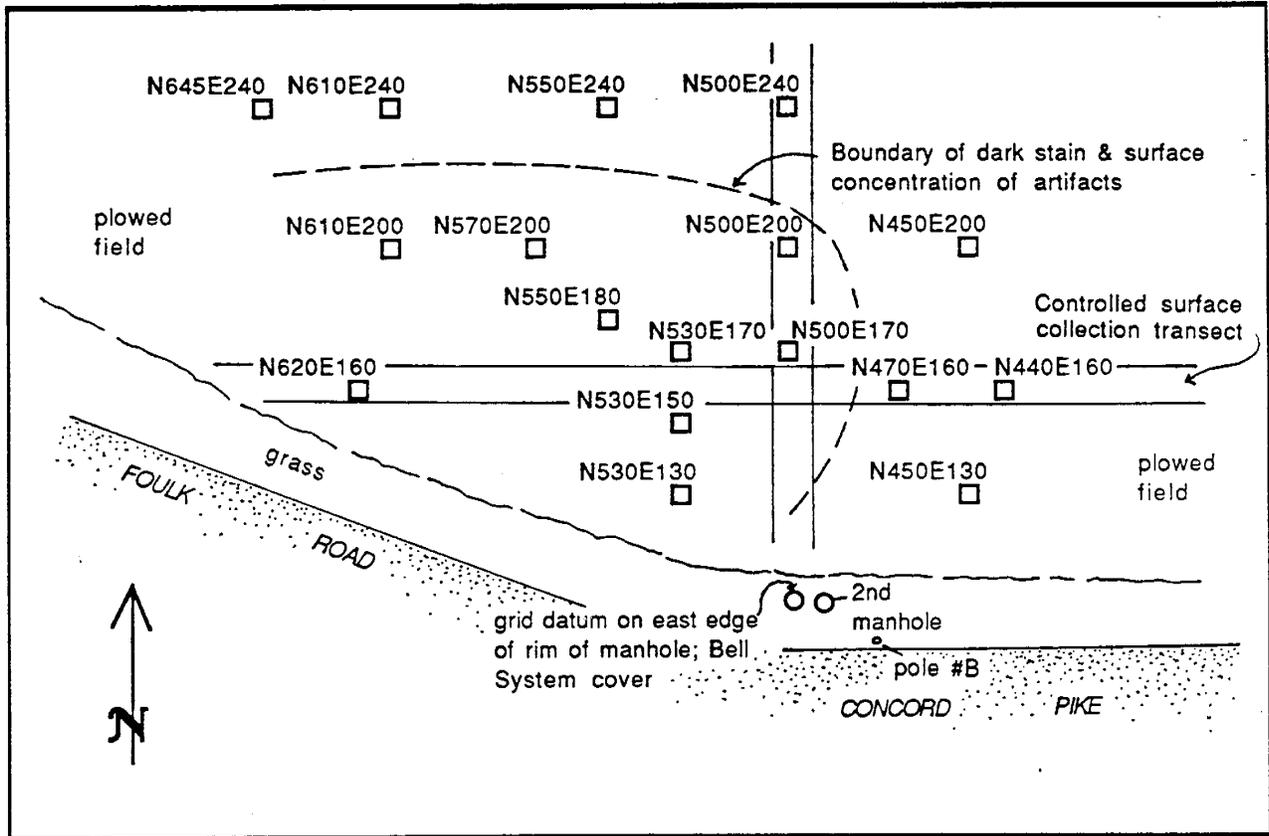
The Mean Ceramic Date for the extended Phase I investigations was 1855.23. The ware type breakdowns were slightly different from those obtained from the preliminary investigations. They are: ironstone - 322 (62.16%), whiteware - 66 (12.74%), porcelain - 44 (8.49%), coarse red earthenware - 24 (4.63%) yellowware and other coarse earthenware - 9 (.07%), pearlware - 5 (.97%) and stoneware - 10 (1.93%).

In contrast to the preliminary investigations, all of South's function groups were represented in the extended Phase I artifacts and different percentages were obtained as well. They are: Group 1 - 1457 (47.02%), Group 2 - 1442 (46.53%), Group 3 - 7 (.23%), Group 4 - 3 (.10%), Group 5 - 11 (.35%), Group 6 - 15 (.48%), Group 7 - 6 (.19%) and Group 8 - 158 (5.10%).

The P. Husbands Site (N4049)

This site, although outside of the boundaries of Segment 9, lay immediately adjacent to it at the northeast corner of Foulk Road and Concord Pike (Figures 3 & 58). As stated in the Previous

FIGURE 60
SMITHY SITE
Location of Extended Phase I Test Units



□ = excavation unit



Archeological Investigations Chapter this site had been determined, on the basis of architectural merit, to be potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by Thomas (1980:III-2). In addition, P. Thompson (1986) evaluated the architectural merit of the site in connection with the extended Phase I survey reported here and submitted a Determination of Eligibility form for it. After consultation with personnel from the BAHP and DelDOT, it was decided that the site was unlikely to contain archeological remains because of extensive alterations to the house and the yard. Therefore, no fieldwork was conducted at this site.

Summary and Recommendations, Segment 9

Preliminary Phase I testing in the Segment 9 area revealed only one location which had the potential to contain significant, intact archeological resources. This was the Smithy site. Archival investigations of this site revealed that a site labeled "Smithy" was shown on the 1849 Rea and Price map but other documentation such as tax records failed to list the shop. Subsequent documentation did not list or record the shop until the early 20th century.

Extended Phase I testing revealed that the location of the site had been extensively disturbed by the construction of a 20th century gas station and no intact archeological remains were present. No additional archeological work is recommended.

The only other potential archeological site location was the P. Husbands house (N-4049) and, after consultation with DelDOT and BAHP personnel, it was decided that extended Phase I archeological fieldwork was unnecessary in this location because of extensive modern disturbances to the site. This site, based on the projected extent of these disturbances, is not recommended for additional archeological work.

SEGMENT 10

Segment 10 (Figures 2, 58 and 61) follows the south side of Weldin Road, beginning at Faulk Road and extending 1200 feet to the east. It is 200 feet wide from the edge of Weldin Road. Its western section is wooded, while the eastern section was open and in corn at the time of the preliminary Phase I investigations. Surface visibility was very good for the section in corn and surface reconnaissance of that area failed to reveal any significant archeological remains. Based on archival research, the wooded section corresponds to the location of Chestnut Hill, a 19th century plantation site with a history extending back into the 1700's. This is known as the Weldin Plantation site and is covered in the following pages.