

I.0 INTRODUCTION



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The following Management Summary details the results of a Phase IB archaeological investigation conducted by A.D. Marble & Company of Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, for the proposed SR 1 Frederica Interchange project located in Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, Delaware. The study is part of the SR 1 Corridor Capacity Preservation Program. This study was performed for Century Engineering, Inc. and the Delaware Department of Transportation (DeIDOT).

DeIDOT has proposed to redesign the intersection of SR 1 and SR 12, located north of the town of Frederica (Figure 1). The proposed roadway design, referred to as “Conceptual Alignment,” has been developed by Century Engineering, Inc. and will redirect northbound vehicular traffic on SR 12 across SR 1 via a bridge to the northbound lane of SR 1 (Figure 2). This proposed design eliminates traffic on SR 12 northbound from crossing SR 1 at an unsignalized intersection and merging with the northbound lane of SR 1 from a short merge lane on the left side of the roadway. The Conceptual Alignment includes the creation of an access road from the east side of SR 12, a bridge over SR 1, and the formation of a “T” intersection with the northbound lane of SR 1 approximately 106.7 meters (350.0 ft) north of the existing SR 12/SR 1 intersection. Other areas in the project design include the creation of merge lanes on the east side of the SR 1 northbound lane approximately 487.7 meters (1600.0 ft) north of and 213.4 meters (700.0 ft) south of the existing SR 12/SR 1 intersection.

A previously prepared Phase IA Planning Study assessed the sensitivity for historic and prehistoric archaeological resources within the Conceptual Alignment (Emory 2003). This work demonstrated that the majority of the Conceptual Alignment has a high potential for undocumented historic and prehistoric archaeological resources. The assessment of high archaeological potential for historic sites is based on the presence of the *circa*-1860s Soulie Gray House (Cultural Resource Survey [CRS] #K-835), located in the Area of Potential Effect (APE) on the east side of SR 1. The house and outbuildings were photodocumented by the Delaware Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in August 1980, recording the architectural characteristics of the farm complex. Although the Soulie Gray House was destroyed by a fire in

1993, the remains of the house foundation, as well as the remains of outbuildings, privies, wells, middens, and other farm features, may still be present in the ground. The presence of prehistoric/historic artifact scatters found in CRS #K-6720, located on the south side of a farm pond in the APE, and CRS #K-835, the Soulie Gray House property, offers some evidence for intact historic archaeological remains.

The assessment of high archaeological potential for undocumented prehistoric archaeological sites is based on several factors. The project study area exhibits minimal land disturbance, which permits good preservation of prehistoric deposits and cultural features. SR 1 and SR 12 present the major land disturbances within the project APE, while the remainder of the land consists of plowed agricultural fields. Second, multiple prehistoric archaeological sites have been documented along both sides of the Murderkill River. One documented prehistoric site, 7K-F-11, is situated within the project APE in a plowed agricultural field on the north side of the Murderkill River between SR 1 and SR 12, while a prehistoric/historic resource, CRS #K-6720, is recorded adjacent to a farm pond in the APE north of the Soulie Gray House (Figure 2).

Additional prehistoric sites were recorded on the north bank of the Murderkill River east and west of the project area (Figure 2). In 1972, Griffith and Artusy (1976) recorded the Robbins Farm #1 Site (7K-F-12) on the west side of SR 1, approximately 7.6 meters (25.0 ft) west of the current APE, as part of an archaeological survey of the project corridor for the proposed Dover Bypass project. In 1975, limited salvage archaeology at 7K-F-12 for the dualization of U.S. 113 identified a Native American storage refuse pit (Feature 1) that contained Keyser Cord Marked and Potomac Creek Wares, ceramic types traditionally found in western Maryland and northern Virginia (Stocum 1977). The presence of numerous documented prehistoric archaeological sites within and surrounding the project study area suggests the project area contains high potential for undocumented prehistoric resources.

The Phase IB archaeological survey of the SR 1 Frederica Interchange project was conducted on March 4 through April 29, 2004. The APE was defined by the right-of-way limits of the project and divided into four distinct collection areas, Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4, each with its own specific field collection methodology (Figure 2). A combination of controlled surface collection, shovel

test pit (STP) excavations, and 1.0-meter by 1.0-meter (3.3-ft by 3.3-ft) test units were employed within the APE.

This Phase IB Survey was performed for DelDOT, in compliance with the provisions of the DESHPO Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines. In addition, all cultural resource evaluations were conducted in accordance with Section 106 of The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties set forth in 36 CFR 800, as amended; 23 CFR 771, as amended; guidance published by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP); Sections 1(3) and 2(b) of Executive Order 11593; and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1966. Funding for the cultural resources survey was provided by DelDOT.