

I. Introduction

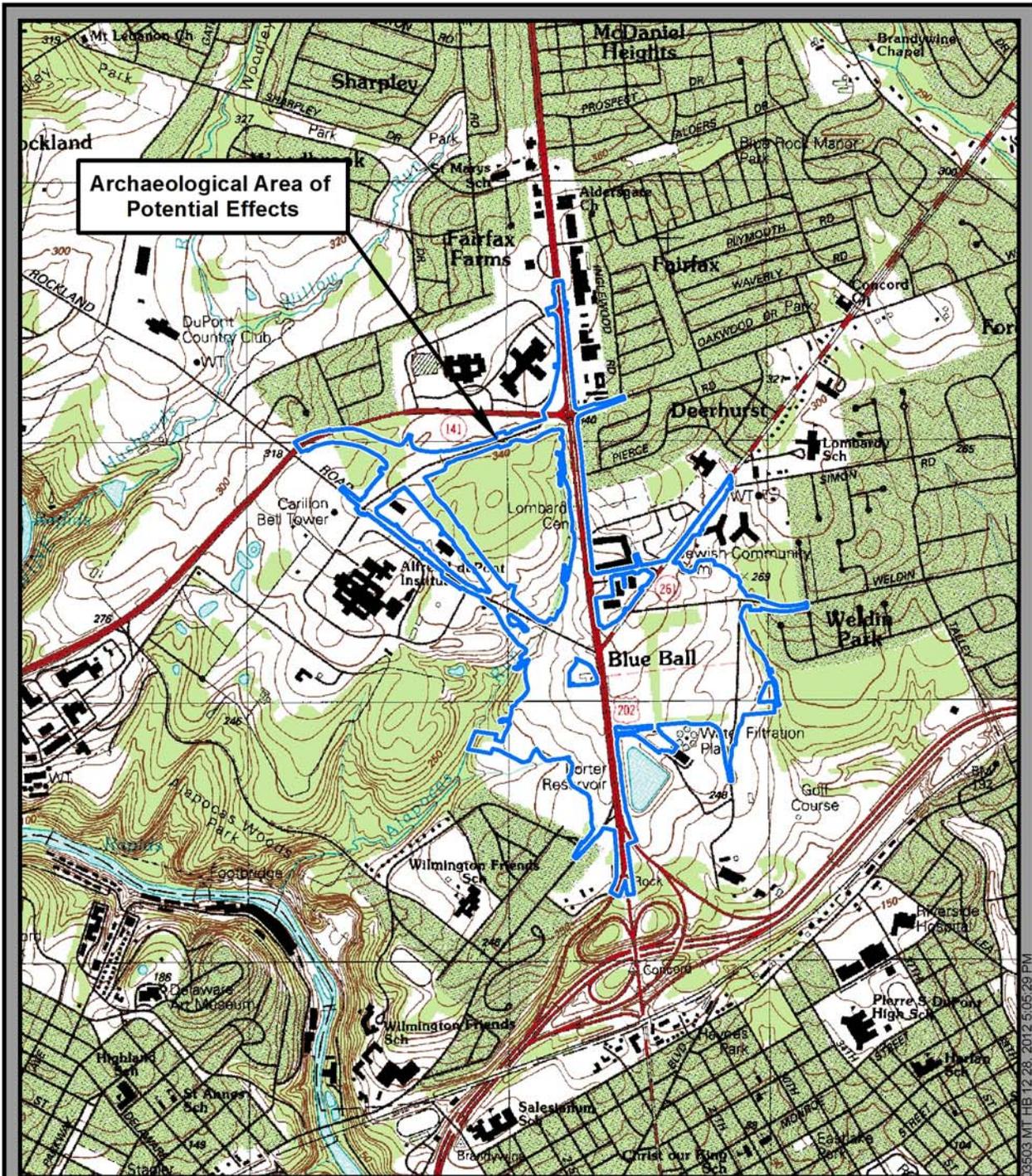
The results of the Phase I Archaeological Identification Survey and Phase II Evaluation Surveys of the Weldin Plantation Site (7NC-B-11), the Ronald McDonald House Site (7NC-B-54), and the Augustine Cutoff Site (7NC-B-49) conducted for the Blue Ball Properties Area Transportation Improvement Project, Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware (*Figure 1*) are presented in this report. The archaeological investigations were performed by McCormick Taylor, Inc. for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The project involves improvements to the Route 202 (Concord Pike) corridor between the Interstate 95 interchange and the project's northern terminus at the AstraZeneca corporate entrance, just north of Delaware Route 141. The proposed project includes the construction of a new alignment for Delaware 141 between the existing Astra Zeneca plant and Rockland Road to a new end at the interchange with U.S. 202 and Delaware 261. Proposed West Park Road will travel between Augustine Cut-off and Delaware 141 to the west of U.S. 202 and proposed East Park Road will be built between Augustine Cut-Off and Weldin Road to the east of U.S. 202. New overpasses are planned for Concord Pike over relocated Delaware 141 and relocated Delaware 261 (Foulk Road).

The archaeological survey was conducted in compliance with applicable state and Federal guidelines. State and Federal mandates that apply to the project include: the Federal Highway Act of 1966 as amended; the National Historic Preservation Act of 1968 as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Archaeological and Historic Act of 1974; Executive Order 11593; the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 CFR § 800); and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office's *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (October 1993).

The Phase I Archaeological Identification Survey was performed pursuant to 36CFR§800.4(b), *Identify historic properties*, which specifies that "The agency official shall make a reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey." The Phase II Archaeological Evaluation Survey was conducted in accordance with 36CFR§800.4(c), *Evaluate historic significance*. This clause indicates that "The agency official shall apply the National Register criteria (36CFR§63) to properties within the area of potential effects that have not been previously evaluated for National Register eligibility."

McCormick Taylor completed the identification and evaluation of architectural (Arnold and Post 2001) and archaeological properties within the area of potential effects for the project. The Federal Highway Administration determined that the following properties within the area of potential effects for the project were eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: the Concord Pike Milestone (N-12684), 1 Rock Manor Avenue (N-12673), 13 Rock Manor Avenue (N-12676), the Nemours Historic District (N-14008), "Wartime" Deerhurst Development (N-13802), the Porter Reservoir (N-14003), the Jewish Community Cemetery (N-14004), the Ronald McDonald House Archaeological Site (7NC-B-54/N-13785), and the J. R. Weldin

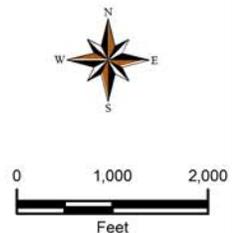


Archaeological Area of Potential Effects

Figure 1
Archaeological Area of Potential Effects
Blue Ball Area Properties Transportation Improvement Project
Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware

(Wilmington North, DE 7.5' USGStopographic Map, 1993)

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Archaeological Site (7NC-B-11/N-9453). In addition, Lombardy Hall is a National Historic Landmark.

The Federal Highway Administration found that the project would have an adverse effect on numerous historic properties eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places, including the Weldin Plantation Site, 7NC-B-11. DeIDOT and FHWA developed mitigation for the adverse effects in consultation with the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other consulting parties for the project. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was subsequently executed on January 30, 2002 (*Appendix A*).

A project's area of potential effects (APE) is defined by 36CFR§800.16(d) as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties." The area of potential effects (APE) is defined for archaeological resources as any area in which ground disturbance may occur. The APE for the Blue Ball Properties Area Transportation Improvement Project is approximately 181.63 acres (73.50 hectares). Approximately 36.84 acres (14.91 hectares) was determined to have been previously disturbed and approximately 67.33 acres (27.25 hectares) was previously subjected to archaeological investigations. In addition, approximately 32.62 acres (13.20 hectares) were not tested after consultation with the SHPO determined that the testing was not warranted. Approximately 44.84 acres (18.15 hectares) of the APE was tested during the Phase I Archaeological Identification survey.

A total of 496 STPs were excavated during the Phase I Archaeological Identification Survey. No archaeological sites were identified during the Phase I Survey. Three previously identified archaeological sites were subjected to Phase II Archaeological Evaluation Investigations: the Weldin Plantation Site (7NC-B-11), the Augustine Cutoff Site (7NC-B-49), and the Ronald McDonald House Site (7NC-B-54). At the completion of the Phase II Archaeological Evaluation Survey, McCormick Taylor recommended the Weldin Plantation Site (7NC-B-11) eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D for the significant information it can contribute to our understanding of the evolution of rural farm life in New Castle County Delaware from the late eighteenth to early twentieth centuries. The Ronald McDonald House Site (7NC-B-54) was also recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D, as the site offers a unique opportunity to consider a procurement site in the context of the broader network of sites within the Piedmont region. The Augustine Cutoff Site (7NC-B-49) was recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP. The site was heavily disturbed during the widening of Concord Pike and the subsequent placement of utilities along the edge of the western roadway in the twentieth century.

Management summaries were prepared and submitted to DeIDOT, FHWA, the Delaware SHPO, and other Consulting Parties as testing was completed for certain portions of the APE. Two management summaries were prepared for the initial Phase I work (Shaffer 2000; Shaffer 2001a), and a management summary was prepared for each of the three Phase II investigations (Shaffer and Eiswert 2000; Shaffer and Eiswert 2001a; Simons *et al.* 2001). As the project design progressed, additional areas were proposed for development, and supplementary Phase I testing was conducted (Shaffer 2001b; Shaffer and Eiswert 2001b). In addition, there are certain areas that were proposed for development after the survey was completed that the SHPO agreed

did not need to be tested archaeologically. This document includes all of the information that was contained in the seven management summaries. All of the work described in this report was included in previous management summaries and was reviewed and concurred upon by DeIDOT and the SHPO. The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive description of the Phase I Archeological Identification and Phase II Archeological Evaluation Investigations that were completed for the project.

The Principal Investigator for the Phase I Archeological Identification and Phase II Evaluation Investigations was Barbara Shaffer. Robert Eiswert served as the Archeological Field Director for the Phase I Archeological Identification Survey and the Phase II Archeological Evaluation Investigations for 7NC-B-11 and 7NC-B-54. Jonathan Bream was the Archeological Field Director for 7NC-B-49. Kevin Simons evaluated 7NC-B-11, the Weldin Plantation Archeological Site, for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Richard Baublitz provided technical assistance and evaluated 7NC-B-54, the Ronald McDonald House. Francine Arnold, Barbara Shaffer, Kevin Simons, Andrew Wyatt, Kathleen Diehl, David Kimmerly, and Robert Eiswert completed the background research. Dorothy Daly completed the vegetation survey. Macon Coleman, Scott Emory, and John Mark Joseph were Archeological Field Technicians and served as Field Supervisors when necessary. Additional Archeological Field Technicians included Elise Alexander, Daniel Angelo, Jeffrey Bowdoin, Brenda Weller, Timothy Coan, James Di Vietro, Kathryn Ersoz, Colin Ferriman, Bonnie Lassiter, Elizabeth Korb, Timothy Manscl, Wayne Mellin, David Orr, Kevin Simons, Rebecka Weinstein, and Joshua Wilson. Pre-contact artifacts were analyzed by Andrew Wyatt and the historic artifacts were analyzed by Brenda Weller. Graphics were produced by Mike Goeckel, John Watson, Jennifer Regina, and Charles Kumpas. Qualifications of key personnel are in *Appendix B*.