

## ABSTRACT

The Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., conducted an archaeological and architectural assessment of the proposed 105-acre Borrow Pit and Wetland Mitigation Site No. 5 associated with planned improvements to a 13-mile portion of U.S. Route 113, between Milford and Georgetown, Sussex County, Delaware. The purpose of this work was to provide information for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in consultation with the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office in the Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

The architectural survey recorded one dwelling, the William H. Ward House (CRS #S-3212), that appears eligible for the National Register. Erected in the early 1880s, it constitutes a largely intact example of the single-pile hall-parlor plan house that was common throughout Lower Delaware during most of the nineteenth century. It originally served as the residence of William Ward, who acquired the land in 1880 and farmed here until his death in the early 1890s. Ward's widow, Orpha, lived in the house for several decades, finally passing the property on to her youngest son, Frank Ward, in 1912. The property was sold out of the Ward family in 1976. Archaeological deposits associated with the Ward House were generally confined to plowzone and disturbed surface contexts and contained material dating from the nineteenth to twentieth centuries.

The archaeological survey did not result in the identification of any significant sites. Based on landform and drainage characteristics, the project area did not contain any areas of high potential for prehistoric occupation. One prehistoric projectile point base was found, and it appears to be an object lost during hunting. Historic and modern material was widely scattered throughout the survey area but in low density. The most concentrated area of historic material, located along Road 243, is probably not associated with occupation of the survey area.