

PHASE I INVESTIGATION REPORT

Bridge 1-651 on Newport Road over CSX



Christiana Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware

► Prepared for:



Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)
P.O. Box 778
Dover Delaware 19903

in association with:



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62 Rockford Road, Suite 201
Wilmington, Delaware 19806

► Prepared by:



A.D. Marble & Company
375 East Elm Street
Suite 200
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

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ABSTRACT

This Phase I Investigation Report presents the results of a detailed cultural resource planning study conducted in preparation for the proposed Bridge 1-651 replacement project in Christiana Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. This project includes the replacement of the existing bridge that carries Newport Road over CSX rail lines to conform to CSX requirements. The construction of a pedestrian link between the Delcastle Technical High School campus to the southeast of the bridge and the Marshallton School, which provides additional classroom space for the technical school, northwest of the bridge, is also planned. This report was prepared in conjunction with Pennoni Associates Inc. (Pennoni) for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) to assist in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) eligibility evaluation of above-ground resources present by 1958 (the cut-off date for the study) and to inform of the potential need for archaeological investigations with the Area of Potential Effect (APE).

DelDOT, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DE SHPO), Pennoni, and A.D. Marble & Company staff attended a field view on September 10, 2007 to identify potential cultural resources located within the project area. DelDOT subsequently corresponded with DE SHPO staff to determine the APE and the appropriate scope of work for the project. Generally, the APE is limited to all properties adjacent to the preferred alternative.

A total of sixteen (16) resources of 50 years in age or older were identified within the project area, within or immediately adjacent to the APE. Fourteen (14) of the resources have been previously surveyed. Of the 14 previously identified resources, seven are located outside the APE for the proposed project and will be unaffected. No further work was undertaken for these seven resources.

Nine (9) resources are located within the APE for the proposed project. Within the vicinity of three of the resources within the APE, the proposed work is currently limited to sidewalk construction within the existing right-of-way: the Delmarva Power West Substation (Cultural Resource Survey [CRS] No. N-13102); the dwelling at 3620 Kiamensi Street (CRS No. N-13112); and the dwelling at 3716 Kiamensi Avenue (CRS No. N-13118). In consultation with the DE SHPO, DelDOT established that updated documentation and National Register eligibility evaluations were not necessary for these three resources. Should the design be altered and have the potential to effect these resources, then documentation may need to be undertaken.

Four previously identified resources included within the DE SHPO inventory are located within the APE. Bridge 1-651 on Newport Road over CSX (CRS No. N-13599) was previously determined not eligible for listing in the National Register. As this opinion was prepared more than ten years ago, the resource was re-examined. Due to recent alterations, A.D. Marble & Company has determined the bridge lacks sufficient significance and integrity for National Register eligibility. The remaining three previously identified resources were not previously evaluated. The dwelling at 1601 Newport Road (CRS No. N-13110), the dwelling at 1500 Newport Road (CRS No. N-13111), and the Marshallton Consolidated School (CRS No. N-13114) were previously documented as part of the *Reconnaissance-Level Architectural Survey of Marshallton and Vicinity, Christiana and Mill Creek Hundreds, New Castle County, Delaware*

prepared by Susan Brizzolara, Caroline Fisher, and Valerie Cesna of the New Castle County Department of Planning in 1993. Due to a lack of architectural significance, the dwellings at 1500 Newport Road (CRS No. N-13111) and 1601 Newport Road (CRS No. N-13110) are recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register. A.D. Marble & Company prepared CRS documentation for the Marshallton Consolidated School; however, a formal evaluation of eligibility was not prepared at this time due to the limited nature of work proposed along School Lane in the vicinity of the resource.

A.D. Marble & Company documented and evaluated two newly identified resources aged 50 years in age or older within the APE that lacked sufficient integrity and significance to be considered eligible: the dwelling at 1605 Newport Road (CRS No. N-14466) and the Marshallton Heights subdivision (CRS No. N-14467). The dwelling at 1605 Newport Road (CRS No. N-14466) is an altered example of a common early to mid-twentieth-century dwelling. The Marshallton Heights subdivision (CRS No. N-14467) is an example of a residential subdivision that was laid out on the outskirts of Wilmington ca. 1923 and sporadically built up over the next 40 years. Its initial layout was compromised by the construction the Marshallton Consolidated School in the early 1930s and post-1958 residential infill.

Based on background research conducted for this investigation, soils data, and the assumed intact nature of deposits, the archaeological potential is generally considered to be low within the APE. One area of exception is the portion of the APE that buffers the railroad and extends to the southern end of the project area. In this location there may be moderate to high potential for containing significant archaeological resources.

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