

5.0 FIELD RESULTS

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This section presents the results of the Phase I field work. The results are presented as intuitively defined testing areas in order to help the reader grasp the survey findings (Figure 12). The areas were divided according to property types: the residential property at the intersection of the Clarence Street and Slaughter Street intersection (Test Area A), the open and industrial areas in the center of the tested portion of the APE (Test Area B), and the two residential properties at the north end of the APE (Test Area C).

The cultural materials recovered in each area are discussed in light of the most current definitions for “archaeological site,” “historic field scatter,” and “isolated find/find spot” that are provided in the DESHPO’s *Guidelines/Instructions for Using the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office’s Archaeological Survey Report Form* (2008).

DESHPO (2008:1) defines an archaeological site as:

a locus of human activity, indicated by the presence of: buildings, structures or ruins; watercrafts; artifact concentrations; soil discolorations; or other surface, sub-surface or sub-aqueous signs of the modification or use of a geographic area bounded by visible natural or cultural features such as ephemeral or permanent streams, roads, or field boundaries.

DESHPO (2008:2) defines a historic field scatter as:

a light density of dispersed, ca. 1830 to 1920 period artifacts in a currently or formerly plowed field, with no soil discoloration, ruins, or any other indication of a historical activity area. Field scatter is the result of the 19th and early 20th century practice of field manuring to increase the fertility of the soil, and for purposes of these Guidelines, does not constitute an archaeological site. If the assemblage contains a high percentage of architectural artifacts, or pre-dates ca. 1830, the source is unlikely to be manuring; further research and /or testing may be needed to determine if a site is present.

DESHPO (2008:2) defines an isolated find as:

a place where a single artifact or two were found, with no other indications of a site, such as soil discolorations visible on the surface, oyster shell, or coal bits in a concentration, or where testing found no other artifacts or features.

It is the opinion of A.D. Marble & Company that the Phase I investigation identified three archaeological sites.

5.1 Test Area A: The Henry Site

A.D. Marble & Company conducted STP excavations in the southern portion of the testable part of the APE (Test Area A), which is located in the flat, lightly wooded area immediately north of the intersection of Clarence and Slaughter streets (Figure 12; Photographs 1 to 5). The field crew observed a small berm (push-pile derived from the use of heavy machinery) between STP 5 and STP 6 and small piles of soil and macadam north of STP 5 and east of STP 4. The field team recovered a concentration of temporally mixed historic and modern artifacts dating generally from the late nineteenth century to the late twentieth century. The historic materials are likely associated with the occupation of the frame dwelling that was first established ca. 1874 at this location (i.e., in Lot 59 of the nineteenth century-era Accretio subdivision). Test Area A also includes a small portion of the adjacent parcel, Lot 60, of the Accretio subdivision; however, given the similarity in the types of materials found in the single STP (STP 3W) excavated on this adjacent property, it was concluded that the materials were associated with the Lot 59 structure. The 1887 Roe map depicts this dwelling and notes that it was inhabited by someone named “Henry,” although James Kerbin legally owned the property at this time. Sanborn insurance mapping shows that this dwelling was present at this location until at least 1969. The structure is absent on an aerial dating to 1992 (<http://datamil.delaware.gov>, accessed September 20, 2010).

Findings from the background research are consistent with this conclusion. This 3,160-square foot parcel originated as Lot 59 of the Accretio subdivision and was owned by James Kerbin until 1903, at which time the eastern half of the lot was conveyed to Frank Ridgeway for \$75 (Kent County Deed Book V8:1). The 1919 Sanborn shows a two-story frame dwelling fronting the north side of the intersection of Clarence and Slaughter streets with a one-story frame stable



Photograph 1: View of Test Area A at Clarence Street and Slaughter Street intersection, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 2: View of Test Area A in vicinity of STP 2, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 3: View of Test Area A in vicinity of STP 6, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 4: View of berm in Test Area A near STPs 4 and 5, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 5: View of southwestern edge of Test Area A from STP 4, facing south (September 2010).

at the north end of the lot. Sanborn maps depicting the property and dating to 1929, 1950, and 1969 show the same two-story dwelling, but the one-story frame stable is no longer present. The address of 701 Slaughter Street first appears in the deed record in 1968 when Harry Greenberg purchased the property from the Receiver of Taxes of Kent County for \$25 (Kent County Deed Book D25:497). Aerial photographs confirm an extant structure on the parcel in 1968, though aerial mapping in 1992 fails to show this structure. Currently, the parcel is vacant.

The field crew excavated nine STPs in Test Area A (Photograph 6). Stratigraphic profiles generally consist of an approximately 30-centimeter thick dark brown silt loam that overlies yellowish brown sandy loam subsoil (Figure 13: see Test Area A – STP 3; Photograph 7). STPs 3N and 4 contained a thin 10-centimeter thick yellowish brown/mottled grayish brown silt loam topsoil/fill. Six of the nine STPs were placed in 50-foot intervals. Three radial STPs (STPs 3N, 3W, and 3S) were placed in 15-foot intervals around STP 3 because the field team encountered early sherds of whiteware and cream-colored ware mixed with more recent materials, including asbestos tile fragments, a small brass tube, and a vacuum tube in the top layer of STP 3.

The field team recovered 1,209 artifacts from Test Area A (Appendices A and C). Domestic/kitchen debris accounts for 418 items (35 percent) of the assemblage. Diagnostics from this group include 33 whiteware sherds, ten cream-colored ware sherds, five ironstone sherds, six pearlware sherds, a manganese-glazed redware sherd, and a thick colorless salt-glaze stoneware sherd. The assemblage also includes late-nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century porcelain and semi-porcelain sherds. The assemblage contains 332 pieces of bottle glass that were amber, aqua, cobalt, colorless, dark aqua, emerald green, light green, milk, or olive in color. Other glass materials included ten colorless tumbler fragments, a glass jar fragment, and vessel glass fragments (five colorless, two jadeite). A single kaolin pipe bowl fragment, three pieces of unidentifiable metal, a piece of sheet metal, and a piece of strap metal were also recovered.

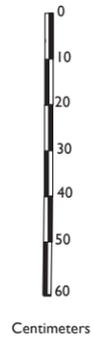
Approximately 48 percent (n=577) of the assemblage is represented by architectural debris. Thirty-three of these are brick fragments; 27 are asbestos tile fragments. Two pieces of concrete, eight pieces of mortar, a plaster fragment, and a doorknob are present in the assemblage. Also,



Photograph 6: Recording excavation results from STP 3W in Test Area A (September 2010).



Photograph 7: Test Area A, STP 3W profile (September 2010).

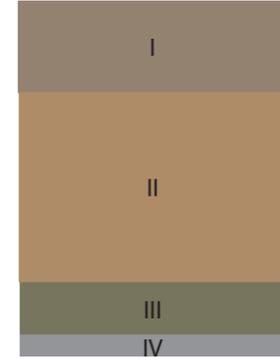


Test Area A
STP 3



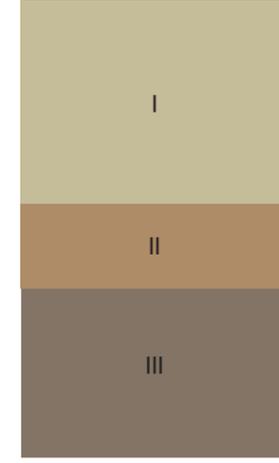
Stratum I: 10YR 4/3 Dark brown silt loam
Stratum II: 10YR 5/4 Yellowish brown sand loam

Test Area B
STP 5



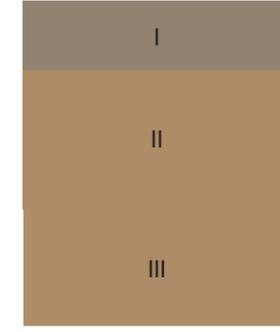
Stratum I: 10YR 4/3 Dark brown silt loam with macadam and gravel (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown sand loam with 10YR 5/8 Yellowish brown clay pockets and macadam (fill)
Stratum III: 10YR 4/2 Dark grayish brown silt loam with macadam (fill)
Stratum IV: Cement chunks

Test Area B
STP 9



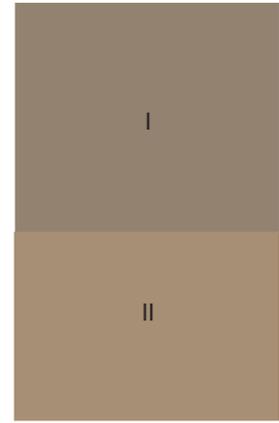
Stratum I: 10YR 7/2 Light gray fine sand loam with macadam (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown fine sand loam with 10YR 5/4 Yellowish brown sand loam with heavy macadam (fill)
Stratum III: 10YR 3/2 Dark grayish brown sand loam with macadam (fill)

Test Area B
STP 11



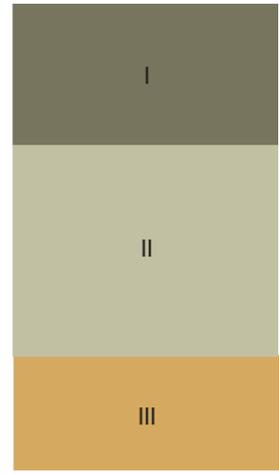
Stratum I: 10YR 4/3 Dark brown silt loam (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown compact silt sand with concrete, gravel, and macadam (fill)
Stratum III: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown loose sand with macadam and concrete (fill)

Test Area B
STP 16



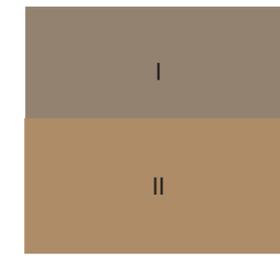
Stratum I: 10YR 5/4 Yellowish brown silt loam (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown coarse sand loam with gray clay pockets, concrete, and macadam (fill)

Test Area B
STP 18



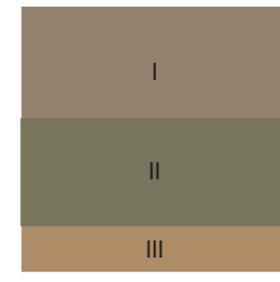
Stratum I: 10YR 4/2 Dark grayish brown silt sand loam
Stratum II: 2.5Y 7/1 Light gray compact sand with 10YR 2/2 Very dark brown mottling
Stratum III: 10YR 7/8 Yellow coarse sand with pea gravel

Test Area B
STP 23



Stratum I: 10YR 4/3 Dark brown compact silt loam (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown extremely compact silt clay

Area C
STP 3



Stratum I: 10YR 4/3 Dark brown compact silt loam with gravel and macadam (fill)
Stratum II: 10YR 4/2 Dark grayish brown silt loam with coal, coal ash, and debris (fill)
Stratum III: 10YR 5/6 Yellowish brown sand loam with pea gravel



Figure 13
Representative Shovel Test Pit Profiles
Clarence Street Extension Project
Kent County, Delaware

248 pieces of window glass, 233 nails (61 cut, 155 wire, 11 unidentifiable-type nails, six roofing), a bolt, a rivet, ten screws, three spikes, a tack, six linoleum tile fragments, and two tar/asphalt shingles complete the assemblage of architectural-related materials. Overall, the assemblage contains a relatively high percentage of architectural materials, which in light of the definition for a site suggests the assemblage is not a historic field scatter, but is instead an archaeological site. These materials occur where a structure is depicted on very early twentieth-century mapping.

It is the opinion of A.D. Marble & Company that the materials recovered in Test Area A field constitute an archaeological site: namely, a nineteenth- to mid-twentieth-century historic domestic site. The field team recovered the materials from the upper layers of the STPs in Test Area A. The inclusion of the recent artifacts suggests that the materials are derived from the post-1969 demolition of the dwelling that stood at this location. Based on the history of occupation of the property, the site has been named the Henry Site. The property on which the site is located has the associated CRS #K-6972.011.

5.2 Test Area B

A.D. Marble & Company conducted STP excavations in the central portion of the testable part of the APE (Test Area B), which is located north of Test Area A, east of Vine Street, and south of Lincoln Street (Figure 12; Photographs 8 to 18). The northwest-to-southeast-flowing Tar Ditch bisects the test area. The portion of the test area west of Tar Ditch is open, flat, and sparsely vegetated, while the portion of the APE east of Tar Ditch is also generally flat, but it is heavily vegetated at its northern extent. The eastern margin is situated in the industrial park and contains a large warehouse structure and an area at the back (the western limit) of the industrial park that is presently used for caching storage containers. The eastern bank of Tar Ditch exhibits a steep slope.

Historic atlas maps and aerial photographs verify that Test Area B was never occupied (at least after 1868 when the Accretio subdivision was established). As previously mentioned, a 1968 aerial photograph of the project area shows a bright reflective surface in Test Area B. This kind of reflection on aerial photographs typically connotes a “dirt” surface that is literally composed



Photograph 8: View of Test Area B from STP 17, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 9: View of Test Area B from STP 14, facing southeast (September 2010).



Photograph 10: View of Tar Ditch from Test Area B: STP 4, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 11: View of portion of Test Area B located inside the industrial park, facing southwest (September 2010).



Photograph 12: View of storage containers in Test Area B industrial park, facing south (September 2010).



Photograph 13: View of storage containers; note macadam tarmac. Facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 14: View of north edge of Test Area B near STP 21, facing south (September 2010).



Photograph 15: View of Test Area B ground conditions near STP 18, facing east (September 2010).



Photograph 16: Tunneling through dense vegetation near STP 24 in Test Area B, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 17: Macadam dump between STPs 19 and 20 in Test Area B (September 2010).



Photograph 18: View of Test Area B from vicinity of STP 22, facing south (September 2010).

of sediment. These reflective surfaces are commonly identified in early aerials depicting freshly plowed farm fields. Test Area B was not farmed in 1968. The nearby agricultural field located south of the APE (specifically south of North Street) shows that some fields exhibited crop cover at this time. It appears that the bright, amorphous area in Test Area B lacks any vegetative cover. It is surmised that this area was not farmed; instead, it is believed the area was undergoing intensive ground disturbance and that this area was mechanically prepared at or around the time that the 1968 aerial photograph was taken. It is also hypothesized that the general area around Tar Ditch was treated to shore up the waterway and/or to reduce the severity of overbank flooding or erosion. Excavation results derived from the shovel testing in Test Area B support the hypothesis that this portion of the APE was extensively mechanically altered.

The A.D. Marble & Company field team placed 25 STPs (STPs 1 to 25) in Test Area B (Figure 12). STPs 1 to 17 were located west of Tar Ditch; STPs 18 to 25 were located east of Tar Ditch. Four STPs in Test Area B and south of Tar Ditch were not excavated. STPs 4 and 17 were situated on impenetrable asphalt and concrete; STP 14 was located on a macadam and gravel driveway. After laying in STP 8, the field crew realized that this STP was outside of the APE; thus, it was not excavated. The loss of data that might have been recovered from these four STPs is considered negligible because the data recovered from the remainder of the STPs in Test Area B west of Tar Ditch yielded redundant information. In other words, each of these STPs confirmed the suspicion that the central portion of the APE (Test Area B) had been intensively disturbed.

Four distinct depositional packages of fill were observed in the western portion of Test Area B (Figure 13: Area B – STPs 5, 9, 11, and 16; Photographs 19 to 21). The profiles generally vary in depth and sediment composition. However, the presence of asphalt/macadam was a common denominator in all but the uppermost layers of STPs 11 and 16. None of the STPs in this portion of Test Area B reached intact subsoil. The excavation of each STP was terminated when the field crew encountered impassable large chunks of concrete and/or macadam. Excavations in this area were *extremely* difficult. Individual STP excavations required an inordinate amount of labor effort, as the crew wielded breaker bars to loosen the fill deposits to remove fist-sized amounts of strata matrix for screening. Given that the crew encountered intact B-horizon subsoil at



Photograph 19: Test Area B, STP 5 profile; note macadam and concrete fill (September 2010).



Photograph 20: Test Area B, STP 11 profile; note large chunks of concrete (September 2010).



Photograph 21: Test Area B, STP 12 profile; note macadam and concrete fill (September 2010).

approximately 30 centimeters below the ground surface in Test Areas A, C, and in a few STPs in Test Area B east of Tar Ditch, it is strongly argued that this section of the APE had been stripped and filled in the relatively recent past (later twentieth century). Inferences drawn from the 1968 aerial and the finding of modern debris near the base of STPs in this section support this argument.

In addition to the abundant asphalt and concrete, artifacts recovered from STPs on the west side of Tar Ditch (STPs 1 to 17) include brick fragments; mortar and plaster; window glass; wire nails; steel wire; chicken wire; automotive lamp cover fragments; shell fragments (mostly oyster); coal/coal slag; amber, aqua, cobalt, colorless, emerald green, light green, and milk bottle glass fragments; metal can fragments; ironstone, soft-paste porcelain, eroded redware, and whiteware sherds; colorless glass vial fragments; Styrofoam; and foil (Appendix A). Note that modern materials (i.e., foil, Styrofoam, macadam, concrete) were recovered from deeply buried deposits in the test area.

The field crew excavated STPs 18 to 25 in the heavily vegetated portion of Test Area B located on the east side of Tar Ditch and at the north end of Test Area B (Figure 12). Two depositional profiles were observed in this area. STPs 18 and 25 exhibited approximately 30-centimeter thick A-horizons overlying culturally sterile subsoils (Photograph 22). The field team identified 20-centimeter thick dark brown silt loam deposits identified incontrovertibly as fill layers that overlaid culturally sterile subsoil in the remaining STPs in the area (Photographs 23 and 24).

Temporally mixed assemblages were recovered from the A-horizon and fill layers, suggesting that these strata recently developed or were recently deposited. In addition to macadam and concrete, artifacts recovered east of Tar Ditch included a piece of unidentifiable wall-mounted hardware with a ratchet wheel (possible retractable clothesline), wire nails, a rivet, a screw, a terra cotta redware sherd, lead cap with cork liner, window glass, a Bakelite coat button, coal, coal slag; amber, cobalt, colorless, and olive (1) bottle glass fragments; and whiteware sherds (Appendices A and C).



Photograph 22: Test Area B, STP 18 profile showing intact “natural” layers; A-horizon to subsoil (September 2010).



Photograph 23: Test Area B, STP 19 profile; note Layer I (fill). Showing fill to subsoil (September 2010).



Photograph 24: Test Area B, STP 20 profile; note red shag rug recovered from Layer I (fill). Showing fill to subsoil (September 2010).

Historic aerials and mapping show that this portion of Test Area B contained no historic-era occupations. The proximity of the area to the undeniably disturbed portion of Test Area B west of Tar Ditch suggests that this portion of Test Area B also witnessed some degree of mechanical alteration in the mid- to late-twentieth-century. It is the opinion of A.D. Marble & Company that no archaeological sites were identified in this section of the APE.

5.3 Test Area C: The E. Adams Site and The R. Baynard Site

A.D. Marble & Company conducted STP excavations in the northern testable portion of the APE, which contains two residential properties fronting Forest Street (Photographs 25 and 26). From west to east, the addresses of these properties are 716 Forest Street (CRS #K7125) and 712 Forest Street (CRS #K7126). The field team excavated seven STPs (STPs 1 to 7) in Test Area C. Two STPs (STPs 4 and 5) were placed in the yard of 716 Forest Street (Photographs 27); the remaining STPs were placed in the yard of 712 Forest Street (Figure 12; Photographs 28 and 29). The field crew recovered historic and modern artifacts in both yard deposits. The materials are likely associated with the occupation history of each property (Appendices A and C).

Deed traces shed light on these property histories. Kent County property records indicate that the dwelling at 716 Forest Street was constructed ca. 1925 and that the dwelling at 712 Forest Street was constructed ca. 1920. Visual inspection and map research confirmed these dates. The garages on both properties appear contemporary with their respective dwellings. The structures currently occupy individual small parcels that were part of a larger tract owned by James M. Kerbin from 1867 to 1910. The 1887 Roe atlas and the 1867 deed indicate Kerbin's triangular, 2-acre, 43 perch parcel was Lot 24 on the "Plot VI" map and was bounded by Forest Street (then Horsehead Road) to the north, the intersection of Forest and Lincoln streets to the east, and Lincoln Street to the south. This Kerbin parcel was entirely within the APE and included two dwellings on the south side of Forest Street (no longer extant) by 1887 (Roe 1887; Kent County 1867 Deed Book F5:132). Kerbin conveyed the entire tract to George C. Bolan on April 21, 1910, for the sum of \$600. No structures were mentioned in this deed (Kent County 1910 Deed Book X9:72). The tract was later subdivided and the dwellings and associated outbuildings at 730, 726, 722, 718, 716, and 712 Forest Street, as well as the former commercial building at the intersection of Forest and Lincoln streets, were constructed on the land (Agricultural



Photograph 25: Test Area C, front of 716 Forest Street, facing west (September 2010).



Photograph 26: Test Area C, front of 712 Forest Street, facing east (September 2010).



Photograph 27: Test Area C, 716 Forest Street, STPs 4 and 5 transect, facing south (September 2010).



Photograph 28: Test Area C, STPs 1 to 3 transect location, between 712 and 716 Forest Street, facing north (September 2010).



Photograph 29: Test Area C, STPs 6 and 7 transect location, facing south (September 2010).

Stabilization and Conservation Service [ASCS] 1937, 1954, 1961; USGS 1931). The earliest known owners of these structures are E. Adams (716 Forest Street) and R. Baynard (712 Forest Street).

The area that included these properties was outside of Dover's corporate boundaries and remained largely undeveloped in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The area west of the Delaware Railroad that is bounded by present-day Saulsbury Road to the west, North Street to the south, and Fulton Street to the north was annexed by the City of Dover between 1913 and 1937, though the area remained sparsely developed until the 1960s (Rand McNally 1913; ASCS 1937, 1954, 1961). The dwellings at 716 and 712 Forest Street and several adjacent dwellings were present by the 1930s. The dwellings are shown in 1937, 1954, and 1961 aerial photographs (ASCS 1937, 1954, 1961; USGS 1931). Pre-1969 Sanborn maps do not provide coverage of this area. The dwellings are also depicted on the 1969 Sanborn map (Figure 10).

E. Adams Site

STPs 4 and 5 were located in the yard of 716 Forest Street (Figure 12). STP 4 contained an approximately 30-centimeter thick, mottled brown and yellowish brown silty loam with gravels. The layer is likely a fill layer related to residential landscaping. It contains pieces of coal and asphalt. The second layer is a 10-centimeter thick dark grayish brown silty loam that the field crew identified as an A-horizon. This layer yielded a wire nail, single fragments of colorless bottle glass and window glass, aluminum foil, and a few pieces of coal and coal ash that were discarded in the field. This layer overlies yellowish brown, fine sandy silt subsoil that contained no cultural materials. STP 5 also contained three similar layers. The second layer identified as an A-horizon in the adjacent STP 4 yielded a wire nail, a metal grommet, fragments of window glass and aqua and colorless bottle glass, sherd of a thin-bodied unglazed redware, a fragment of red ball clay pipe bowl, and pieces of vinyl siding and aluminum foil (both discarded). These materials are likely associated with the occupation history of 716 Forest Street; these 16 artifacts represent the site assemblage (Appendix A). The site is named the E. Adams Site; the historic property is associated with CRS #K7125 (A.D. Marble & Company 2010).

R. Baynard Site

STPs 1 to 3, 6, and 7 were located in the yard of 712 Forest Street (Figure 12). The STP profiles are generally similar to those observed in STPs 4 and 5: landscape topsoil overlies an A-horizon that overlies culturally sterile subsoil. The top/fill layer typically contains chunks of asphalt concrete and road gravels. The A-horizon contains nails (four cut, six wire), three brick fragments, five window glass fragments, one lamp chimney glass fragment, bottle glass fragments (three amber, three aqua, four colorless, one dark aqua, one emerald green), glass, unidentifiable metal fragments, one redware (likely terra cotta) and two pearlware sherds, one oyster shell, six small mammal bone fragments, and a plastic button. A sample of coal and coal ash was collected from this layer as well, but plastic and foil that were recovered were discarded. The majority of these materials are likely associated with the occupation history of 712 Forest Street; these 50 artifacts represent the site assemblage (Appendix A). The pearlware sherds date earlier than the R. Baynard Site occupation; it is hypothesized that these sherds were originally deposited as a byproduct of field manuring in the earlier nineteenth century, and then later incorporated into the landscape fill present at the site. The site is named the R. Baynard Site; the historic property is associated with CRS #K7126 (A.D. Marble & Company 2010).

It is the opinion of A.D. Marble & Company that two archaeological sites were identified in the Test Area C section of the APE. The artifacts recovered from STPs 4 and 5 constitute the assemblage of the E. Adams Site (CRS #K7125), and the artifacts recovered from STPs 1 to 3, 6, and 7 constitute the assemblage of the R. Baynard Site (CRS #K7126).