

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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This report details the results of a Phase I identification-level archaeological investigation conducted by A.D. Marble & Company of Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, for the proposed Clarence Street Extension Project in the City of Dover and East Dover Hundred, Kent County, Delaware (Figure 1). The project area extends south from Forest Street to North Street, west to Cherry Street, and east along Slaughter Street. The purpose of the Clarence Street Extension Project is to improve the efficiency of the downtown Dover transportation system by creating a north-south connector that extends the existing grid system and improves access to the existing transit and sidewalk network. The proposed 750-foot extension of Clarence Street was identified in the City of Dover's Strategic Development Plan for the West Side. This study was performed for Century Engineering, Inc., on behalf of the City of Dover. The project is funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The archaeological Area of Potential Effect (APE) includes the project alignment as well as buffer areas that may be disturbed due to construction impacts related to staging, stockpiling, access roads, and stormwater management basins (Figure 2). The archaeological APE is irregularly shaped, stretches between Forest Street and North Street, crosses through the approximate center of the aboveground portion of Tar Ditch, and extends to the west along Vine and Slaughter streets. Tar Ditch is the remnants of a tributary of the St. Jones River; it is the only open portion of the waterway and the remainder has been piped underground. The APE encompasses an approximately 4.4-acre (1.8-hectare) area consisting of residential, commercial, and industrial properties. The portion of the APE located between Forest and Lincoln streets is situated in residential commercial properties, the central portion is situated in a combination of industrial and residential properties, and the southernmost portion is situated within residential and industrial properties. The APE is historically sensitive, as it is composed of areas adjacent to or in the margins of the Potential Lincoln Park Industrial Complex (CRS #K7117) and the West Dover Historic District (CRS #K6972) (A.D. Marble & Company 2010). The APE is located approximately 500 feet west of the Victorian Dover Historic District (CRS #K00396). The southern end of the APE is adjacent to the north of the Eden Hill Estate, which is a historic property listed in the National Register of Historic Places (5/8/1973).

The objective of the archaeological investigation was to identify archaeological resources in the APE. Background research (field view) and examination of project mapping determined that only a fraction of the APE (approximately 2.7 acres of the 4.4-acre APE [61 percent of the APE]) would undergo Phase I archaeological resources identification survey (field work). The field work was accomplished via shovel test pits (STPs). A.D. Marble & Company excavated a total of 38 STPs during the investigation.

The Phase I investigation revealed evidence of historic and modern occupation of the APE. The A.D. Marble & Company field team recovered 1,801 historic and modern artifacts and 83 faunal remains (likely historic or modern) during the investigation. Historic artifacts include domestic and architectural debris such as fragments of bottle and window glass, nails, and brick fragments as well as sherds of nineteenth- to twentieth-century ceramic forms. Chunks of concrete and asphalt were also commonly recovered from the STPs.

The investigation identified three archaeological sites. One of these sites, the Henry Site (CRS #K-6972.011), is a small historic domestic site that is located near the southern end of the APE at the intersection of Clarence and Slaughter streets. Early-twentieth-century mapping documents the presence of a residential structure and outbuilding at that location. A mix of nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century household artifacts including bottle glass, whiteware, stoneware, redware, brick fragments, nails, plastic, asbestos shingle fragments, aluminum foil, and macadam are present in the site assemblage. The second and third sites are the E. Adams and R. Baynard sites. These are historic domestic sites that are located at the northern end of the APE with the respective property addresses of 716 and 712 Forest Street (newly identified historic resources CRS #K7125 and CRS #K7126, respectively, in A.D. Marble & Company's Determination of Eligibility Report [2010]). The assemblages contain a mix of modern and historic materials that include coal ash, brick fragments, nails, bottle glass, whiteware, terra cotta, plastic, unidentifiable metal, and asphalt. The associated structures are not considered to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (A.D. Marble & Company 2010). A mix of historic and modern artifacts is present elsewhere in the APE, but these areas occur in places that appear to have been heavily disturbed in the very recent past (late twentieth century). Excavations in the central portion of the APE show that this area was recently prepared via the

mechanical placement and tamping down of modern fill. It is hypothesized that this fill was placed at this location to prevent meandering or erosion of the banks of Tar Ditch, which runs northwest to southeast through the APE.

This Phase I survey was performed in compliance with the provisions of the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO) Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys; the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines; 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 1969.

A.D. Marble & Company conducted the Phase I archaeological field work in September 2010. Richard White and Frank Dunsmore served alternately as field directors; Russell Stevenson, Dawn Chesheak, and Joelle Browning served as field technicians. Christine Gill directed the laboratory processing and cataloging of the artifact collection; Michael Lenert served as report coordinator and author.