

FINAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS
AT THE DAIRY QUEEN SITE (7NC-D-129),
NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE

DELDOT PROJECT 79-103-06 DELDOT ARCHAEOLOGY SERIES NO. 63

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ABSTRACT

Phase II excavations at the Dairy Queen Site (7NC-D-129) in northern New Castle County, Delaware, revealed a prehistoric occupation in shallow, partly disturbed Holocene soils. The site was occupied during Woodland I times (ca. 3000 B.C. - A.D. 1000) and was probably a hunting/processing camp where limited tool refurbishing and butchering took place. Lithic utilization patterns focused on the use of primary jasper resources, probably derived from the Christina drainage. This focus on primary materials contrasts with other local site assemblages dominated by secondary cobble materials and highlights the variability of Woodland I lithic procurement systems within a limited area. Blood residue analysis of materials from the site showed post-depositional contamination of artifacts via pedogenesis and this analysis provides important base line data for regional applications of blood residue analysis. The site is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to its small size, limited functions, and disturbed contexts. No further work is recommended.

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