

PREVIOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL WORK IN THE PROJECT AREA VICINITY

Phase I and II investigations had been conducted along Route 141 from north of Prices Corner (Routes 141 and 2) to Route 52 (Kennett Pike) by TAA (Barse 1985). In this study, three prehistoric sites as well as the multicomponent H. Grant Tenancy site, 7NC-B-6 (N-5010), were recorded.

The prehistoric sites, 7NC-B-7A and 7B (N-9568, A and B), were found in a cornfield near the southwest corner of Routes 48 and 141 outside of the area of impact; Locus A was on a small knoll in the floodplain of Little Mill Creek and Locus B, on a terrace above and to the east of the first. Locus A dates to the Middle Archaic period and Locus B, to the Middle or Late Archaic period. The third site, 7NC-B-6, produced a prehistoric component of primarily quartz debitage, but there were no temporally diagnostic artifacts and the prehistoric materials came from plowed soil. The site was located at the northwest corner of Lancaster Pike and Centre Road. In addition, a prehistoric site overlooking Little Mill Creek, N-3684, had been discovered by H. Geiger Omwake; this site had produced evidence for Early Archaic and other, probably later, Archaic occupations, yielding a Kirk/Palmer point and contracting stem points, cores, bifaces, unifacial tools and debitage.

Data recovery excavations were conducted at 7NC-B-6, the H. Grant Tenancy site, also by TAA (Taylor et al. 1987); the site produced the remains of a domestic structure that dated to the early to mid-nineteenth century and which had been associated with a farm, the remains of a well and an outbuilding. Early ownership of the tract is unclear because of changes in the road alignment. Deed and map research indicated that the house was owned by Henry Grant in the mid-1800s, and it was hypothesized that it was occupied by a tenant. The excavations and subsequent economic analysis of the artifacts neither clearly proved nor disproved the tenancy hypothesis, but a slightly higher economic status of the occupants was obtained than had been predicted for a tenant occupying the premises.

In 1988, the KKFS Historic Preservation Group undertook an eligibility study of the standing structures along this segment of Lancaster Pike that is the current project area for DelDOT (Benenson et al. 1988); a second National Register eligibility study was submitted by KFS in 1991 (Bower and Abbot 1991). Information on eligible properties has been expanded and a draft *Documentation of Adverse Effect and Memorandum of Agreement* has been prepared by the KFS Historic Preservation Group (1993). An historic structure report and cultural analysis was done on the Oak Hill Inn by Shogren and Shogren (1987), and an archival search was completed for the owners of Limerick or the Peter Hayward House (N-505), south of Lancaster Pike and about a quarter mile west of Centre Road (Stephenson and Thompson 1987).

The following list of historic properties is adapted from the several drafts of the architectural studies, and the time periods have been modified to reflect archival and archeological results of this project. These time periods are taken from the Delaware Historic Preservation Plan (DeCunzo and Catts 1990). These sites will be discussed in more detail in the field results section of the report.

The properties are listed from west to east by the five survey sections used in this report to organize the results of the archival and field investigations; these sections were devised to facilitate both record keeping in the field and the discussion of the results of the research in this report. Figure 4 shows the locations of the Sites and Historic Structures.

Section 1 - from the intersection of Newport Gap Pike (SR 41) to the intersection with Loveville Road (SR 276)

Section 2 - from Loveville Road (SR 276) to Old Wilmington Road (SR 275)

Section 3 - from Old Wilmington Road (SR 275) to Rolling Mill Road (SR 263)

Section 4 - from Rolling Mill Road (SR 263) to Centerville Road (SR 273)

Section 5 - from Centerville Road (SR 273) to Centre Road (SR 141)

Section 1

William Jordan House, N-12084 (Not Eligible)

1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; vernacular farmhouse complex

Dwelling/Stone Wall, N-12077 (Not Eligible)

1880-1940; 1925 frame bungalow with stone wall built in 1938 on property

Loveville Post Office, N-12085 (Not Eligible)

1830-1880, 1880-1940; early nineteenth century shoe shop (no longer extant); the house that was once the Post Office had been considerably altered

Section 2

Whitman/Clark Complex, N-10081 (Not Eligible, now demolished)

1830-1880?, 1880-1940; twentieth century building complex vernacular frame farmhouse and barn

Coffee Run Mission, N-272 (Listed April 1973 under Criterion A)

1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; dwelling, cemetery with wall, agricultural buildings

Taylor Tenant House, N-12078 (Not Eligible)

1830-1880, 1880-1940; center gable Downingsque structure, altered by renovations and additions

Section 3

Lewis Miller House, N-4075/4075A (Eligible under Criterion C)

1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; late nineteenth century agricultural complex with a Gothic Revival style dwelling (N-4075), ruins of an earlier stone house (N-4075A), believed to date from the early nineteenth century, and agricultural buildings

Dwelling, N-4065 (Not Eligible, demolished)
1830-1880 or 1880-1940; frame house

Barker House, N-12082 (Once Eligible, now demolished; archeological site eligible under Criterion D)
1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; a farmhouse complex with eighteenth century house (with nineteenth and twentieth century additions), a mid-nineteenth century frame granary/garage, the ruins of a stone barn and demolished circa 1940 house that had been built on the barn foundation

Red Barn, N-10937 (Not Eligible, demolished)
1770-1830 (?), 1830-1880; associated with remains of nineteenth century agricultural complex which included a stone house and a number of outbuildings, now demolished

Wilmington and Western Railroad, N-4019 (Listed 1980 under Criterion A)
1830-1880, 1880-1940; approximately 10 mile line from Marshallton to Hockessin

Section 4

Red Clay Creek Bridge, N-12081 (Not Eligible)
Built 1940, concrete bridge with tapered piers

Dwelling, N-12079 (Not Eligible)
1880-1940, early twentieth century cottage, predated by earlier structures (on 1881 Atlas) that may have been associated with the sulphur spring on the property

Chandler House, N-12080 (Eligible under Criterion C)
1830-1880, 1880-1940; Tuscan Villa style, circa 1840, altered early/mid twentieth century in Colonial Revival style, agricultural buildings

Section 5

Breidablik, N-12086 (Eligible under Criteria A and C)
1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; original dwelling and additions - a “gentleman’s country seat”, restored circa 1925 in Colonial Revival style of the Country House Movement; associated dairy farm is not eligible

Oak Hill Inn and Stone Barn, N-507, N-508 (Listed 1991 under Criteria A and C)
1730-1770, 1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; early eighteenth century vernacular log and stone building, formerly a tavern; associated with a stone barn’s ruin and a springhouse

2 Hedgerow Place, N-13547 (Not Eligible)
1880-1940; dwelling built in 1941 in the late Colonial Revival style

Stilley (or Armor) House, N-506 (Listed 1991 under Criterion A)
1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; eighteenth century original house altered in Italianate style, then enlarged and updated in Colonial Revival style in twentieth century

Dwelling, N-495 (Eligibility not determined)
1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; stone dwelling with original wing from circa 1820s

Oak Hill Schoolhouse, N-12083 (Not Eligible, demolished; archeological site determined eligible under Criterion D, mitigated)
1770-1830, 1830-1880, 1880-1940; considerably altered since it was constructed in the nineteenth century, earlier schoolhouses stood at this location

Highfield (Masonic Home of Delaware), N-12910 (Eligible under Criterion C)
1830-1880, 1880-1940; Italian Villa style dwelling and Masonic Home addition in academic Georgian Revival style; outbuildings and Downingsque landscape

Limerick (Peter Hayward House), N-505 (Eligible under Criteria A and C)
1770-1830, 1880-1940; Colonial Revival conversion of early dwelling into country estate; outbuildings and ruins reflect the English romantic garden movement

Little Mill Creek Bridge, N-12575 (Not Eligible)
Built 1929, concrete slab, has been widened

Letdown, N-12685 (Eligible under Criteria A and C)
1830-1880, 1880-1940; estate overall is important to the twentieth century Country House movement; Letdown is a stuccoed brick dwelling, cabana and garage. Associated with it are the Taylor-Welford house, a dwelling with garage and guest house; the Tatnell Tenant House (N-502), 1830-1880, a late eighteenth century agricultural complex; and Glenden Carriage House (N-503) an 1890 stable or carriage house, extensively altered

Historic Properties by Survey Area and
Initial Time Period

Section	1730-1770	1770-1830	1830-1880	1880-1940
1		William Jordan	Loveville Post Office	Dwelling N-12077
2		Coffee Run Mission	Whitman/Clark Taylor Tenant House	
3		Lewis Miller Barker Red Barn	Dwelling N-4065 Wilmington & Western RR	
4			Chandler	Red Clay Creek Bridge Dwelling N-12079
5	Oak Hill Inn	Breidablik Stilley House Dwelling N-495 Oak Hill School Limerick	Highfield Letdown	N-12574 Bridge 2 Hedgerow Place Little Mill Creek Bridge