

I. INTRODUCTION

The Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Berger), has undertaken Phase II archaeological investigations of Site 7K-C-386E, the Ford Farm Site (Locus E) (Plate 1), on behalf of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), which sponsored the excavations. The study has been carried out in accordance with the instructions and intents of Section 101(b)(4) of the National Environmental Policy Act; Section 1(3) and 2(b) of Executive Order 11593; Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; 36 CFR 771, as amended; the guidelines developed by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, published November 26, 1980; and the amended Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties, as set forth in 36 CFR 800. As a recipient of funding from the Federal Highway Administration, DelDOT undertook this investigation to comply with federal cultural resource management policies that require consideration of the effects of construction on significant historic or prehistoric resources.

The Ford Farm Site, Locus E, was initially identified during a Phase I survey of the proposed Scarborough Road corridor from McKee Road to U.S. Route 13/Dupont Highway, in Kent County, Delaware (Heite and Blume 1992, 1995a). Locus E of the Ford Farm Site lies almost entirely within the proposed corridor and would therefore be destroyed by the proposed construction. The Phase II investigations of Locus E were conducted by Berger between May 27 and June 17, 1997. Phase I investigations of three proposed stormwater basins/stockpile areas were undertaken during this period as well. Phase I investigations were also conducted for two wetland replacement areas.

The Phase II field research at the Ford Farm Site, Locus E, was designed to delineate the boundaries of the site locus, to determine the nature and depth of its deepest occupations, and ultimately to ascertain its National Register eligibility. The Phase I investigations at the site (Heite and Blume 1992, 1995a) had recovered prehistoric artifacts from both shallow and deep contexts in Locus E. Additional artifacts, both historic and prehistoric, were recovered from Locus E during Berger's Phase II investigations.

The Phase I investigations of the stormwater basins and wetland replacement areas were undertaken to supplement previous Phase I work on the project corridor (Heite and Blume 1992). The additional Phase I work was necessitated by changes made to the project design which modified the original area of potential effect. Of particular concern was the Stormwater Basin No. 3 area, located adjacent to the White Marsh Site (7K-C-390), a prehistoric archaeological site investigated as part of the original Phase I survey of the project corridor (Heite and Blume 1992). Although no sites were located as a result of Berger's supplemental survey, a few isolated finds were recovered.

Artifact inventories both for Berger's Phase I supplemental surveys and for the Phase II work at the Ford Farm Site, Locus E, are provided in Appendices A, B, and C. The results of flotation analysis of samples from the Ford Farm Site are presented in Appendix D. The resume of Berger's Principal Investigator for the project is provided in Appendix E. A copy of the handout prepared for distribution during fieldwork to interested members of the public is included as Appendix F.