

I. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

URS Greiner Woodward Clyde (URSGWC) conducted an archaeological and architectural survey for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), in response to the proposed intersection improvements of Route 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Brackenville Road in New Castle County (Figure 1). The purpose of the project is to upgrade the intersection and adjacent roadways in order to improve capacity and enhance safety. Improvements will consist of reconfiguring the approaches to the intersection within its immediate vicinity. In addition, improvements will be made adjacent to Route 41 extending for a distance of 400 meters south of Brackenville Road and 1650 meters north. These improvements consist of upgrading the shoulders and drainage systems, repaving and installation of new guardrails. The area of impact varies approximately 10 to 15 meters off the edge of Route 41 and Brackenville Road. The goal of the investigation was to locate cultural resources within the project's area of potential effect (APE), and to determine if a more detailed study of the APE is required (Figure 2).

The archaeological component of the project was performed pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800), the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 and 23 CFR 771. This work will also followed the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office's "*Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware*", and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Documentation* (48FR44734-37). A preliminary walkover reconnaissance survey of the proposed project area was conducted by URSGWC on September 23, 1999. This was followed by subsurface testing from October 28 to 29, 1999 under the supervision of Jeffrey Harbison, Field Supervisor, and assisted by Joseph Moore. Anne Brockett conducted the historic background research and architectural survey. The Principal Investigator for the project was Edward Morin, with Lynda Bass preparing the graphics for the report.

A search of the archaeological site files at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DE SHPO) indicated that there are no known archaeological resources within the APE. No new archaeological sites were identified by the present work and no additional archaeological investigations are recommended within the APE. Further, two historic buildings were identified and assessed within the project's historic architecture Area of Potential Effect (APE) that are more than 50 years. One of these was the Chandler-Taylor House and the other, an associated carriage house. Neither is recommended as National Register eligible.

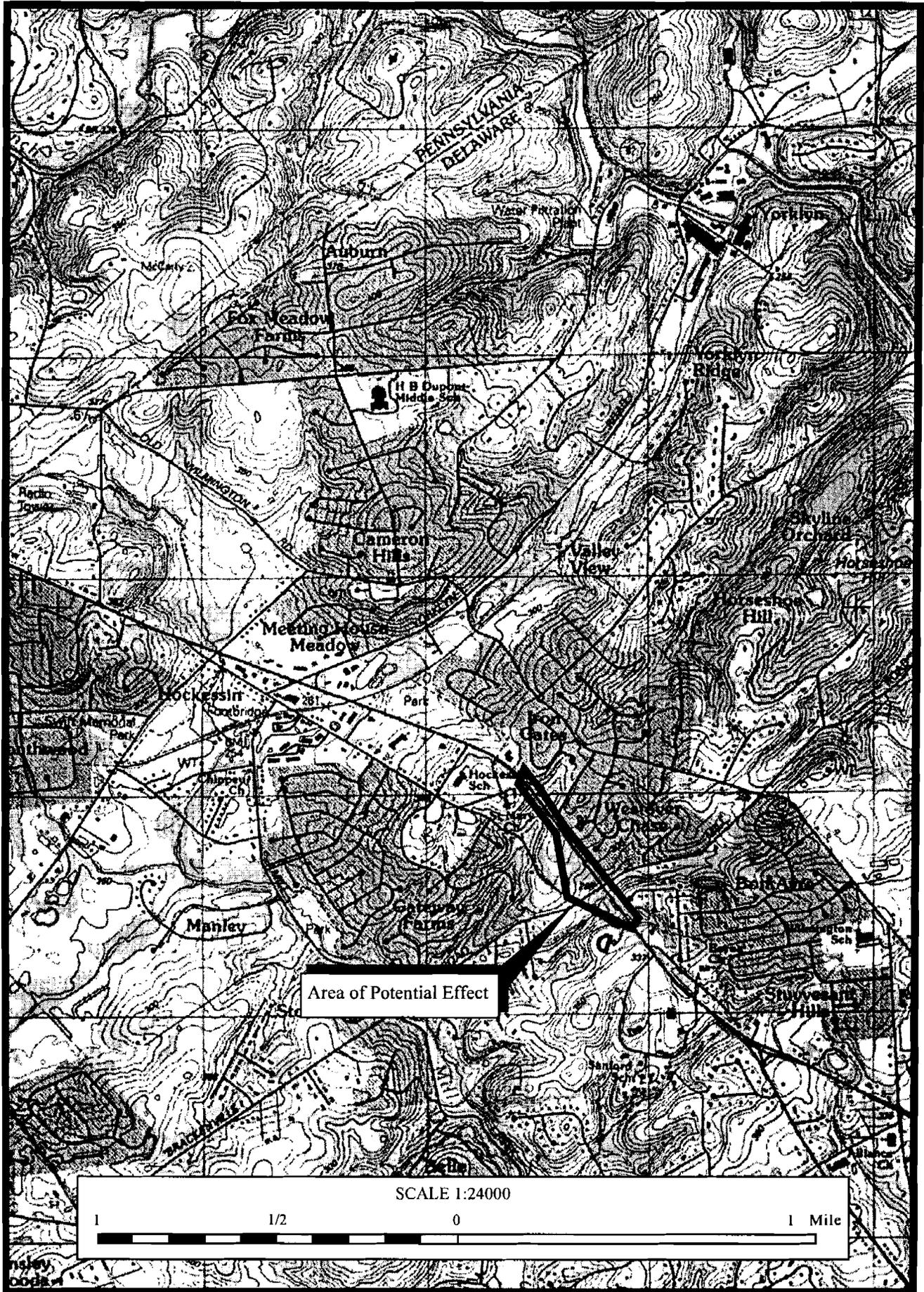


Figure 2 Portion of 7.5 USGS Kennet Square Delaware Quadrangle Topographic Map, Showing Area of Potential Effect (APE)