

II. RESEARCH DESIGN

Research Objectives

The research objectives for this project include:

1. Identification of previously recorded cultural resources in the project area and vicinity.
2. Preparation of a cultural history to provide background information about the project area and vicinity.
3. Documentation of cultural resources identified during fieldwork.
4. Correlation of cultural resources in the project area with the research questions, goals and priorities in *The Delaware Comprehensive Preservation Plan*.

Methodology

General Background Research

KSK's project team conducted background research to gain an understanding of the historical and architectural development in the area and to identify and assess previously prepared documentation to avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts. KSK thoroughly searched pertinent literature to identify historical information about the project area and vicinity. Appropriate primary and secondary source materials pertaining to the area were also examined. KSK consulted the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DESHPO); the Delaware State Archives; the New Castle County Planning Department and Historic Preservation Department in New Castle; the Delaware State Historical Society in Wilmington; Morris Library at the University of Delaware in Newark; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia; and Van Pelt Library at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. KSK examined relevant historic maps and atlases, aerial photographs and local histories, and also reviewed previous cultural resources surveys and National Register nominations for properties, structures, and sites located within and near the project area.

Archaeological Investigations

The archaeological component of the background research was initially combined with the findings of a pedestrian reconnaissance of the archaeological Area of Potential Effect (APE) in order to generate a detailed sensitivity model for the study area. Given the nature of archaeological deposits the APE for these investigations was defined as encompassing only those specific areas within the S.R. 41/Hockessin project area where proposed improvements will result in subsurface disturbances (Figure 10a-b). KSK's pedestrian reconnaissance involved the visual inspection of the entire archaeological APE, as well as the recordation of current topographic and environmental conditions and other relevant characteristics of the area. The specific goals of the pedestrian reconnaissance were:

1. To gather information regarding current conditions within each proposed mitigation site;
2. To identify any environmental conditions at these locations that may have favored or limited the formation and preservation of archaeological deposits; and



Plate 1. Overview, facing west, showing triangle area at intersections of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike), Valley Road, and Old Lancaster Pike.



Plate 2. Overview, facing east along north side of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike), showing the northwestern APE boundary.

3. To search for any surface evidence of possible cultural resources deposits, especially those related to previously recorded Native American sites and previously documented historical structures.

The resultant sensitivity model was designed to assess the relative probabilities for the occurrence of historic and/or Native American archaeological deposits within different parts of the study area. These probabilities reflect not only the potential that archaeological resources originally existed in any portion of the APE, but also whether such resources are likely to have survived subsequent disturbance.

Field testing was performed following a review of the sensitivity model by DESHPO and DelDOT archaeologists and was conducted in order to determine the presence or absence of subsurface cultural resources within the archaeological APE. The field testing strategy was designed to evaluate the predictions of the sensitivity model and involved the excavation of a series of close interval shovel test pits (STPs), as well as a number of larger, one meter-by-one meter excavation units (EUs). Upon completion of the field testing regimen, all recovered artifacts were removed to KSK's laboratory facilities in Pennsauken, New Jersey for cleaning, analysis, and stabilization for long term curation. More detailed descriptions of the specific methodologies employed in the archaeological field investigation and subsequent lab analyses are presented in Chapter IV.

Historic Architectural Investigations

In addition to the background research discussed above, the specific methodology for completing the survey of historic architectural resources included a windshield survey, field investigations, detailed research, completion of survey forms, and an evaluation.

This project began with a windshield survey of the project area to determine if any historic architectural resources were present in the vicinity of the proposed improvements. Historic Architectural Resources are defined as properties containing buildings, districts, structures and objects constructed prior to 1950. The windshield survey revealed the presence of several historic architectural resources (Plates 1-10).

KSK staff examined project plans and established the APE for architectural resources. Based on the proposed improvements, the APE area was defined as including properties fronting the improvements or have sightlines to the improvements. The APE includes properties along SR 41 from Ash Tree Lane to Avenue and along Old Lancaster Pike to Valley Road. KSK also evaluated the properties from SR 41 to Beech Tree Lane as a potential overlapping historic district.

KSK staff conducted field investigations in the APE to identify and document architectural resources constructed prior to 1950 that have not been previously recorded. Each resource identified during the fieldwork was photographed, and field notes were taken describing the resource's appearance, integrity, and proximity to the proposed improvements.

Using the data acquired during the research and field investigation phases, KSK staff evaluated each resource within the contexts outlines in the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan* and the *Delaware Historic Context Master Reference and Summary*, and federal guidelines for determining National Register eligibility, 36 CFR 60.4 entitled "Criteria for Evaluation" (included in Appendix A).



Plate 3. Overview, facing east at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Valley Road, showing stream culvert and southern section of APE.



Plate 4. Overview, facing east at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Valley Road, showing northern section of APE.



Plate 5. Overview, facing east at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Railroad crossing, showing southern section of APE.



Plate 6. Overview, facing east at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and STP # 28, showing northern section of APE.

The *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan* identifies the following preservation priorities that may apply to historic architectural, or above-ground, resources in the survey:

1. Priority Historic Themes for Above-Ground Resources:
Agriculture (#1)
Transportation and Communication (#5)
Settlement Patterns and Demographic Change (#11)
Architecture (#12)
2. Priority Chronological Periods for Above-Ground Resources
1770-1830 +/- Early Industrialization (#1)
1830-1880 +/- Industrialization and Early Urbanization (#2)
1880-1940 +/- Urbanization and Early Suburbanization (#3)
3. Priority Geographic Zones for Above-Ground Resources
Upper Peninsula (#2)

Report and Survey Form Preparation

Following the completion of the historic architecture field investigation and the creation of the archaeological sensitivity model all background and field-collected data were assembled in a detailed management summary (December 6, 2000). This management summary described investigative procedures initiated and results thus far generated, as well as KSK's interpretations regarding whether any potentially National Register-eligible historic structures are contained, and archaeological sites are likely to be preserved, within the respective APE's.

The present report was assembled following the completion of archaeological field testing and discusses the final findings and interpretations for both the historic architectural and archaeological components of this investigation. All findings and analyses described above were documented in writing and assembled in this draft report according to requirements presented in the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan* and *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware*. Maps and photographs are included as Figures and Plates, respectively. Delaware Cultural Resource Survey (CRS) Forms and Archaeological Site Forms were prepared for each resource identified in the APE and are included as Appendix A and B, respectively.

This preliminary report is being submitted for review to WRA, DelDOT, and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (DE SHPO) for concurrence with the understanding that upon the receipt of comments, the KSK will prepare the final report.



Plate 7. Overview, facing west at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Happy Harry's commercial structure, showing northeast boundary of testable APE.



Plate 8. Overview, facing east at intersection of S.R. 41 (Lancaster Pike) and Happy Harry's commercial complex, showing disturbed area outside of testable APE.



Plate 9. Overview, facing west at intersection of Old Lancaster Pike and Yorklyn Road.



Plate 10. Overview, facing east at intersection of Old Lancaster Pike and the Wilmington and Western Railroad.