

2.0 RESEARCH DESIGN

Research contexts provide the basis for determining the kinds of data collected and the analyses performed given the specific characteristics of the resource and the nature of the investigation. Research contexts also establish a standard for assessing the research potential of archaeological resources which are usually evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Broad research contexts must be identified and specific research domains, themes, and questions must be defined. Research contexts indicate the types of site information that may be important and are considered along with the level of site integrity required for eligibility determinations. The research contexts provide the framework within which to assess the information potential of a site and focus the types of analyses performed. Research objectives for this Phase II study include identifying appropriate Native American and historical research domains within geographical and temporal constraints, and defining research themes and questions associated with the contexts.

2.1 NATIVE AMERICAN RESEARCH CONTEXTS

Native American research contexts in Delaware are based on broad time periods representing changes in cultural adaptations through time (Custer 1986, 1989, 1994). The Native American sites along the Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners portion of the SR1 corridor are located in the Upper Coastal Plain region and occur in the Mid-Drainage physiographic zone. The Native American occupations represent Archaic, Woodland I, and Woodland II Periods.

2.1.1 Archaic Period Contexts

The Archaic Period (6500 B.C.-3000 B.C.) coincides with the appearance of Holocene environments including mesic oak-hemlock forests, and later, oak-dominated forests and the subsequent shift in floral and faunal resources. Plant processing flourished in the Archaic Period as evidenced by numerous types of groundstone tools. With changes in environmental conditions, Archaic sites are located in a wide variety of environmental settings indicating the variation in types, geographic availability and seasonality of subsistence resources. Although generalized foraging is assumed as the main resource procurement strategy, seasonally specialized, transient procurement stations are identified, functioning as support facilities for estuarine base camps and suggesting the beginning of scheduled, logistically planned use of the landscape (Gardner 1978; Custer 1986).

One of the most important environmental changes affecting prehistoric populations throughout the Middle Atlantic region during the Archaic period was the gradual rise in sea level accompanying the retreat of the continental ice sheets. Among the effects of inundation were a marked rise in local water tables, an increase in shoreline complexity associated with estuary development, and a consequent increase in floral and faunal resources in newly formed marsh or wetland areas (Potter 1982). Large marshes and swamps became an important focus of occupation during the period (Gardner 1976).

The reorganization of lithic technology reflected in the selection of non-cryptocrystalline raw material is seen as the major cultural break signaling the onset of the Archaic. In contrast to the previous settlement focus on lithic raw material quarry sources, a new pattern involving the

serial exploitation of a variety of primary and secondary lithic sources became embedded within a more generalized procurement system (Custer 1989:128).

Because relatively few single component Archaic sites have been studied, only a few specific research priorities have been established (Custer 1986). The location of Archaic procurement sites in association with bay/basin features represents a site function and regional settlement research issue. Site types associated with the Archaic Period include macro-band and micro-band base camps, and procurement/processing locations (Custer 1986:184).

2.1.2 Woodland I Period Contexts

In the Woodland I Period (3000 B.C.-A.D.1000), a pronounced cultural change began from the mobile hunter-gatherer groups in the Archaic, to the development of estuarine and riverine adaptations that provided stable and intensive subsistence resources. Regional environments during the Woodland I were initially characterized by the prevalence of an oak-hickory forest. The rate of sea level rise slowed, allowing riverine and estuarine environments to form that were stable enough to support significant populations of shellfish and anadromous fish (saltwater fish such as salmon or, on the East Coast, sturgeon, that spawn in freshwater streams) in larger streams (Oldale 1986). The focus of settlement shifted during the initial part of the period to these riverine and estuarine locales to take advantage of the increasingly predictable fish and shellfish resources (Custer 1978; Gardner 1978). Macro-band camps occur in areas adjacent to freshwater/saltwater interfaces and along the floodplains of major drainages (Custer 1986, 1994).

Some evidence for changes in regional settlement patterns occurs during the final stages of the Woodland I, with semi-sedentary base camps, referred to as macro-band base camps, increasing in size (Custer 1989, 1994). Studies indicate a shift in the locations of these base camps from small, creek floodplains to large, river floodplains. This proposed shift may have set the stage for the local development, or acceptance, of horticulture (Snyder and Gardner 1979; Gardner 1982). On the Delmarva Coastal Plain, Custer (1986, 1994) notes a shift in base camp locations from confluence areas of freshwater streams and estuaries to locations farther upstream.

With increased sedentism, more extensive trade and exchange systems were developed along with an increase in social complexity. Both processes are inferred from the appearance of exotic lithic raw materials as well as artifacts and mortuary ceremonialism associated with cultures from the Mississippi and Ohio River Valleys (Custer 1989).

The main research priority for the Woodland I consists of defining the variability of adaptations as evidenced by changes in settlement and subsistence patterns, both temporally and geographically. Research topics identified for Woodland I sites include paleoenvironmental studies, chronology, household settlement patterns, community settlement patterns, regional settlement patterns, lithic technology, ceramic technology, subsistence systems, trade and exchange, mortuary ceremonialism, prehistoric migrations, and trends in socio-cultural evolution. Site types associated with Woodland I include macro-band and micro-band base camps, transient camps, procurement/processing locations, quarries, and quarry reduction sites (Custer 1986:184).

2.1.3 Woodland II Period Contexts

The Woodland II Period (A.D. 1000-1600) is characterized by an increase in sedentism. A decrease of exotic lithic materials and non-local mortuary practices indicates an apparent breakdown in trade and exchange networks operating in the early portions of the Woodland I. A marked period of cultural stability is suggested by the absence of ceramic variation throughout the period. Two regional Woodland II complexes are recognized within Delmarva, distinguished by distinctive ceramic wares, Minguannan and Townsend, and certain variations in settlement pattern. There is little indication of widespread sedentism associated with Minguannan Complex sites; there are no large villages, nor is there a marked shift in settlement near fertile bottomlands suggestive of horticultural practices. The second Woodland II cultural complex, Slaughter Creek, occurs mostly in the Low Coastal Plain. Settlement is characterized by large macro-band base camps and villages, particularly south of the Mispillion River.

Research topics identified for Woodland II sites include chronology, settlement patterns, lithic technology, ceramic technology, subsistence systems, and trends in socio-cultural evolution. Site types associated with Woodland II include macro-band and micro-band base camps, and procurement/processing locations (Custer 1986:184).

2.1.4 Native American Domains, Themes, Questions, Datasets and Expectations

Broad research themes have been defined for the Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Woodland II and Contact Periods (Custer 1986); research topics for the Woodland I Period have been refined and include additional themes (Custer 1994). Research themes, questions, and datasets applicable to these domains for specific time periods have been identified (Table 2-1).

Expectations for Native American settlement and use of the project area was based on previous studies in the Delmarva and archaeological site distribution patterns (Custer 1989; 1994). In addition, the environmental variables such as distance to permanent water, presence of seasonal water, presence of lithic material sources, were also considered.

Paleoindian Period. A low frequency of Paleoindian sites was expected based on the low overall density of recorded Paleoindian sites on the Delmarva Peninsula.

Archaic Period. Small temporary camps dating to the Archaic Period associated with bay/basin settings were expected.

Woodland I Period. Small lithic reduction sites and hunting camps dating to the Woodland I Period were expected along the secondary drainages and in upland areas. Larger temporary camps were anticipated along the permanent water sources in the project area such as along Blackbird Creek.

Woodland II Period. A low frequency of small temporary camps exhibiting Woodland II Period ceramics such as Mockley, Minguannan and Townsend, were expected to occur.

Table 2-1. Native American Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets

Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
Archaic	Lithic Technology	<p>How are lithic materials procured: embedded strategies during seasonal rounds or focused lithic procurement forays?</p> <p>Are different lithic materials utilized for tool types?</p> <p>Are different types of technology employed based on the forms of lithic materials procured (i.e., quarried vs. cobble collection)?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess lithic procurement strategies and production technologies includes identification of local and non-local material types, distances to specific lithic source locations, presence or absence of cortex, type of debitage and cores and comparison of tool types with material types (e.g., curated tools of non-local materials or expedient tools of local cobbles).</p>
	Settlement Patterns	<p>How are different types of Archaic sites (i.e., base camps, micro-band base camps and procurement sites) distributed across the landscape?</p> <p>How are bay/basins utilized in the Archaic time period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess settlement patterns includes site and various types of resource locations (i.e., water sources, bay/basins, ecozone boundaries).</p>
	Subsistence Practices	<p>What types of subsistence resources were procured and processed by Archaic groups?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess subsistence practices includes preserved floral and faunal remains and food processing tool kits.</p>
Woodland I	Paleoenvironment	<p>What types of environmental change occurred during this time period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess paleoenvironment includes sites with stratigraphy with distinct soil layers, preserved pollen to examine vegetation changes, and macrofloral remains to identify vegetation.</p>
		<p>What types of local environmental settings were selected and why?</p>	
		<p>What was the role of aeolian erosion and deposition during this time period and how does it affect site formation processes?</p> <p>How do survey methods address aeolian buried sites?</p>	
Chronology	Chronology	<p>What types of projectile points can be used to refine the chronological placement of sites during this time period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess chronology includes securely dated feature contexts or stratigraphic contexts (with datable organic materials) with associated projectile point types and ceramic types.</p>
		<p>Does the variability in projectile point styles reflect functional differences or chronological differences?</p>	
		<p>What types of projectile point types are consistently associated with ceramic types?</p>	
Settlement Patterns	Settlement Patterns	<p>Household Settlement Patterns- What types of house forms exist?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess household settlement patterns includes intact subsurface features with associated living floors.</p>
		<p>What kinds of variability may be expected in house forms?</p>	
		<p>Community Settlement Patterns- What types of features are interrelated in consistent patterning that may represent household clusters?</p> <p>How are household clusters associated and patterned within the community?</p> <p>Regional Settlement Patterns- What types of sites occur on the</p>	

Table 2-1. Native American Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets (Continued)

Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
		<p>landscape and what environmental zones are they associated?</p> <p>Can seasonal rounds be identified?</p> <p>How did changing freshwater/saltwater interfaces along major drainages affect base camp locations through the period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess regional settlement patterns includes site and resource location information; floral and/or faunal remains that are seasonally discrete.</p>
	Lithic Technology	<p>What types of lithic material procurement strategies were used?</p> <p>Were different types of lithic reduction used based on raw material type (i.e., quarried material vs. cobble collection)?</p> <p>What types of tool kits were manufactured and used during this period?</p> <p>Was lithic material selected based on tool type produced?</p> <p>Are functional distinct tool kits associated with different types of sites?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess lithic procurement strategies and production technologies includes identification of local and non-local material types, distances to specific lithic source locations, presence or absence of cortex, type of debitage and cores and comparison of tool types with material types (e.g., curated tools of non-local materials or expedient tools of local cobbles).</p> <p>Information needed to assess functionally discrete tool kits includes discrete tool types and tool kits from different types of sites with single components.</p>
	Ceramic Technology	<p>What manufacturing variability occurs within ceramic types?</p> <p>What variability occurs in surface treatment within ceramic types and does it reflect manufacture or social identifiers?</p> <p>Does the variability of cordage twist within and between ceramic types demonstrate ethnic group affiliations or regional interaction patterns?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess ceramic technology includes adequate samples of ceramic types containing information on temper, inclusions, manufacture (technique [modeling or coil], thickness, firing), surface treatments (both interior and exterior), and decoration.</p> <p>Information needed to assess cordage variability includes adequate samples of ceramic types exhibiting cord marks or net impressions to examine cordage twist and net construction.</p>
	Subsistence Systems	<p>What types of subsistence information can be derived from flotation data?</p> <p>Can seasonality be determined for shellfish collecting?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess subsistence practices includes preserved floral and faunal remains and food processing tool kits.</p>
	Trade and Exchange	<p>Does the presence of non-local materials indicate trade or exchange?</p> <p>Does the presence of non-local materials indicate increased mobility and direct procurement rather than trade?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess trade and exchange includes non-local materials such as lithics or ceramic types, source locations or manufacturing locations, and distribution of non-local materials across the landscape.</p>
	Mortuary Ceremonialism	<p>Does ceremonialism associated with the Delmarva Adena imply social ranking/stratification?</p> <p>Does differential diet and health indicate variation in social status?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess mortuary ceremonialism includes an adequate sample of human remains and associated grave goods.</p>
	Prehistoric Migrations	<p>What types of population migrations occurred?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess prehistoric migrations includes non local raw materials and artifact styles, and linear distributions of non-local materials through time.</p>

Table 2-1. Native American Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets (Continued)

Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
	Trends in Socio-Cultural Evolution	<p>What types of cultural change occurred during this period? Did Woodland I groups become increasingly more sedentary throughout the period? Did increasing sedentary practices result in larger villages?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess trends in socio-cultural evolution include changes in tool types, changes in subsistence practices, changes in settlement patterns, and changes in ceramic technology.</p>
Woodland II	Settlement Patterns	<p>Household Settlement Patterns- What types of house forms exist? What kinds of variability may be expected in house forms? Community Settlement Patterns- What types of features are interrelated in consistent patterning that may represent household clusters? How are household clusters associated and patterned within the community? Regional Settlement Patterns- What types of sites occur on the landscape and what environmental zones are they associated? Can seasonal rounds be identified? How did changing freshwater/saltwater interfaces along major drainages affect base camp locations through the period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess household settlement patterns includes intact subsurface features with associated living floors. Information needed to assess community settlement patterns includes groups of associated features such as intact living floors, postholes, thermally altered stone concentrations, and discrete activity areas.</p>
	Subsistence	<p>What types of subsistence practices occurred? Did subsistence resources change throughout the period?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess regional settlement patterns includes site and resource location information; floral and/or faunal remains that are seasonally discrete.</p>
	Trends in Socio-Cultural Evolution Trade and Exchange	<p>What types of cultural change occurred during this period? Did Woodland II groups become increasingly more sedentary throughout the period? Did increasing sedentary practices result in larger villages? Does the presence of non-local materials indicate trade or exchange? Does the presence of non-local materials indicate increased mobility and direct procurement rather than trade?</p>	<p>Information needed to assess subsistence practices includes preserved floral and faunal remains and food processing tool kits. Information needed to assess trends in socio-cultural evolution includes changes in tool types, changes in subsistence practices, changes in settlement patterns, and changes in ceramic technology. Information needed to assess trade and exchange includes non-local materials such as lithics or ceramic types, source locations or manufacturing locations, and distribution of non-local materials across the landscape.</p>

2.2 HISTORICAL RESEARCH CONTEXTS

With the goal of contributing knowledge to the broader cultural patterns contained within the research domains, the historical sites along the Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners portion of the SR1 corridor were investigated within temporal, spatial (i.e., geographical), and thematic historical contexts. The time periods pertaining to these historical resources include 1770-1830: Transformation from Colony to State, 1830-1880: Industrialization and Early Urbanization and 1880-1940: Urbanization and Suburbanization (De Cunzo and Catts 1990). The geographical area is the Upper Peninsula.

2.2.1 1770 to 1830: Transformation from Colony to State

During the period of the American Revolution and early National period, the St. Jones River drainage remained agricultural in focus. During the war, the British noted the importance of Lebanon as a port, and several raids along the St. Jones River were mounted by Tory privateers in an effort to disrupt local commerce. The St. Jones River and its associated wetlands were also an important resource for hunting, fishing, and trapping, making farmland along it more valuable.

However, during this period, the economic importance of the St. Jones River drainage declined. The importance of the landing for travel was gradually superseded by the construction of interior roads. The population growth of the lateeighteenth and early nineteenth centuries forced many new farmers to clear and farm lands of poor or marginal quality (De Cunzo and Catts 1990; De Cunzo and Garcia 1992). Continued intensive farming without effective crop rotation or fertilization may have led to soil depletion. The farming of marginal lands and a downturn in the price of wheat resulted in hardship for many agriculturists. After areas west of the Allegheny Mountains were opened to Euro-American settlement after the Revolution, people from Kent County began to move to the new Northwest territories (including what is now Ohio and Illinois) (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE] 1996).

These abandoned marginal farm lands were incorporated into the holdings of wealthier farmers. The trend towards tenant farming increased considerably during this period. The development of new sources of income in industrial and urban areas partly offset agricultural declines in the early part of the nineteenth century. During this time, road networks were expanded or upgraded, and turnpike companies were chartered. In 1829, the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal was opened, providing a fast way of crossing the Peninsula (Lothrop et al. 1987). The growth of railroads significantly influenced the course of Delaware's economic development, providing access to important urban markets to the west and north, and resulting in the emergence of new towns and changes in agriculture and industry.

2.2.2 1830-1880: Industrialization and Early Urbanization

Agriculture was reinvigorated in Delaware with the introduction of new crops and the advent of improved agricultural techniques. This period witnessed an agricultural revival fueled in part by improved farming methods. Large deposits of marle, a natural fertilizer, were uncovered during the excavation of the Chesapeake and Delaware canal in the 1820s. Gouverneur Emerson, a Philadelphia physician, experimented with scientific farming on farms he owned in central

Delaware. He experimented with crop rotation and the use of fertilizer, and is credited with the introduction of guano as a fertilizer in Delaware. The Kent County Agricultural Society, which encouraged the use of improved drainage, fertilizer, and farm machinery, was founded in 1835 (U.S. DOE 1996; Thomas and Payne 1996).

Peaches began to supplant wheat in importance following their introduction during the 1830s, particularly in New Castle County, which had better access to urban markets than areas of the state further south. The peach industry spread and grew rapidly. Peach agriculture expanded to Kent County with the introduction of rail lines and corresponding improved market access there. Railroads were built in New Castle County first, then the lines were extended to Dover, and then further south, to Seaford by 1856, and Selbyville by 1878. By the 1880s, Dover, Wyoming, and Camden were major centers of peach production. A peach canning factory was located in Lebanon. Nevertheless, in Kent County, grain, vegetables, poultry and livestock continued to be the primary agricultural products.

Tenant farming was an important phenomenon in the region. Following the agricultural depression of the 1820s, many farms had been bought up by large landowners. These landowners then leased their land to tenant farmers. The prevalence of tenant farming increased all over the state throughout the nineteenth century. By 1900, more than half of all farmers in Delaware were tenants or sharecroppers. Farmers of the lower peninsula of Delaware have been characterized as being more self sufficient than those in the northern part of the state, who were more heavily influenced by the proximity of large markets in Philadelphia and Baltimore. At mid-century, home manufacture was still an important source of income for Kent County farmers (U.S. DOE 1996; Thomas and Payne 1996).

2.2.3 1880-1940: Urbanization and Suburbanization

Between the years 1870 and 1900, a decrease in the percentage of the population engaged in agriculture and an increase in the number engaged in industry and manufacturing occurred (De Cunzo and Catts 1990; De Cunzo and Garcia 1992). Although there was an increase in manufacturing in Dover, agriculture remained the economic mainstay. Farm size in Kent County also declined. Farmers diversified their crops, shifting from staples to growing perishable produce such as tomatoes, apples, potatoes, strawberries, and other fruits and vegetables in response to market demands in the eastern U.S. Tenant farming also increased in frequency at this time. During this time, internal transportation and interregional routes continued to improve. The Dupont Highway (State Route 13) was completed in 1923. Commercial strip development along major transportation arteries ultimately lessened the importance of small crossroads communities (U.S. DOE 1996; Thomas and Payne 1996).

2.2.4 Historical Research Domains, Themes, Questions, Datasets and Expectations

Four research domains are pertinent to potential types of occupations at the historical resources located along the Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners corridor: Domestic Economy, Manufacturing and Trade, Landscape, and Social Group Identity, Behavior, and Interaction (De Cunzo and Catts 1990). Research themes, questions and datasets applicable to these domains for specific time periods have been identified (Bedell 1999, DeCunzo and Catts 1990, DeCunzo and Garcia 1992) (Table 2-2).

Table 2-2. Historic Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets

Research Domain/ Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
<i>Domestic Economy</i> 1770-1830 1830-1880	Agricultural Production	How did agricultural decline and industrial development between 1800-1830 affect the agricultural production of the occupants of the historical sites in the SR1 corridor? What types of agricultural/ livestock activities were emphasized by the occupants of the historical sites between 1800-1830? How did the range, variability and content of the agricultural families' production and consumption strategies adapt to the changing farming economy and to increasing industrialization from 1830-1880? How did the agricultural reform movement and the change in crop focus affect agricultural practices, processes and products from 1830-1880?	Economic practices through time are investigated by studying the layout of a rural farmstead complex, as represented by building foundations and archival information. Other archaeological and historical investigations in Delaware have compared the layout and square footage of tenant and owner occupied rural houses, as well as the configuration of the farm complexes from which they stemmed (e.g., Scholl et al. 1994; Grettler et al. 1996). Datasets required to address economic practices include archival research (i.e., deeds, tax records), archival maps identifying building function, discrete clusters of temporally and functionally diagnostic artifacts used to determine building function and consumption patterns (i.e., refuse disposal areas), vertical stratigraphy with datable contexts, horizontal distribution of temporally and functionally diagnostic materials, economic indexing of vessel remains, and faunal and floral remains including butchering marks on bone (e.g., farm butchered [chopped or hand sawn] versus commercial butchering [electric saw]).
1880-1940	Agricultural Tenancy	Did the occupants of the historical sites shift their agricultural focus from staples to perishables in the early 1900s? Were the types of occupations in the Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners corridor prior to 1856, owner occupants or tenants?	
All Time Periods	Consumer Behavior/ Lifeways	Was there a difference in the types of agricultural production between the owner occupants and tenants? What types of food consumption patterns are evident from the different occupations of the historical sites? Were food choices based on cost, ethnicity, time period or site function? Were more food items produced and processed locally at different periods of time? Were more food items procured from town at different periods of time? Were containers reused and adapted or discarded?	

Table 2-2. Historic Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets (Continued)

Research Domain/ Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
<i>Manufacturing and Trade</i> All Time Periods	Trade and Exchange Networks	To what extent were the occupants engaged in local and regional markets? Did this change through time as a result of increasing accessibility or socio-economic factors? Do changes in consumption preferences/patterns occur with the advent of mass production?	Datasets needed to address trade and exchange include industrialized goods such as cookware, serving ware, bottles, and personal items with established locations and dates of manufacture.
<i>Landscape</i> All Time Periods	Site and Social Organization	Did the organization of site activities and building function change through time? Do variations in site organization reflect shifts in agricultural practices, socio-economic status, ethnicity, or environmental factors?	Distributions of temporally and functionally diagnostic features and artifact types provide information concerning site function as a residence, specialized activity area (e.g., livestock raising, tool maintenance), or primary or secondary disposal areas. Datasets needed to address site function and land use include archival records of farm building layout, locations of temporally and functionally discrete features, and discrete clusters of temporally and functionally diagnostic artifacts suggesting specific use areas.
<i>Social Group Identity, Behavior and Interaction</i> All Time Periods	Household Composition Ethnic Identity	How did household composition change through time? Did household composition vary by labor needs or religious affiliation? How did the new concept of class influence the organization of social group identity, behavior and interaction in 1800-1830 occupations? What was the ethnic identity of site occupants? Did the ethnicity of the occupants change through time? How did ethnic identity influence agricultural practices and site organization?	Datasets needed to address social information such as household composition (e.g., gender, age), socio-economic status, and ethnicity include archival research (i.e., county and school records, census or city directory entries); temporally diagnostic gender-specific artifacts such as thimbles, perfume bottles, curlers, cuff links, garter belt snaps, lingerie pins; temporally diagnostic age-specific artifacts such as baby bottles, metal toys, miniature china sets, and doll parts; temporally diagnostic ethnic-specific artifacts such as ornamental items or religious jewelry, beads, crystals, cowrie shells, or colonoware; temporally diagnostic luxury items such as fine china, and ornamental lamp parts.

Table 2-2. Historic Research Domains, Themes, Questions and Datasets

Research Domain/ Time Period	Theme	Research Question	Dataset
	Socio-Economic Status	How did the various households compare and contrast across social, economic, and occupational groupings? And how did they compare and contrast over time? Does the material culture, particularly ceramics, reflect status differences between site households through time?	

Historical settlement expectations were based on access to major waterways, incipient trail/road networking, and topography.

1770 to 1830: Transformation from Colony to State. Historical resources include small farmsteads located along major waterways or along the coast. A low frequency of 1770-1830 historical sites was anticipated in the project area because of the limited waterways and overland access routes during this time.

1830-1880: Industrialization and Early Urbanization. A higher frequency of mills, meeting houses, commercial development and farmsteads is expected in the project area during this time. Some mill activity was expected along the waterways; meeting houses and commercial development was anticipated at crossroads. Most initial farmsteads were expected to occur along established overland transportation routes (i.e. the King's Road). Secondary farmsteads were expected to occur further away from transportation routes and waterways as those areas would have been settled first.

1880-1940: Urbanization and Suburbanization. A high frequency of farmsteads along the increasing road network was anticipated with commercial development and additional residences associated with the railroad.