The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) will construct a new alignment for U.S. Route 301 in southern New Castle County, Delaware, from just south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal as far as the Maryland State Line southwest of Middletown. Prior to this construction, archaeological surveys are required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to ensure that significant archaeological resources within the potential area of effect are identified, evaluated and treated to minimize any adverse effects upon them within the limits of construction.

The Elkins A & B sites were identified by Archaeological and Historical Consultants, Inc. (A&HC) during a Phase I survey conducted in 2009. A single Delaware Cultural Resource Number N14524 was assigned to two archaeological sites, identified as A and B, located around the headwaters of a north-flowing tributary of the Scott Run. In 2011 Hunter Research, Inc. (HRI) conducted Phase II investigations at both locations.

Historic research into the property indicated that by 1684 the property was part of a 525 acre parcel owned by Amos Nichols with a house present by 1686 with the cart road from Bohemia Landing to Reedy Island as the southern property boundary. This road was used for both legal and illicit trade. In 1707 John Greenwater had acquired the property and built a house on the property by 1739 as referenced by an adjacent deed stating that the parcel was located “at the head of a valley and before John Greenwater’s door”. A stone-lined root cellar dating to between circa 1740 to 1780 revealed during Phase II Investigations at the Elkins A site may very well represent Mr. Greenwater’s house. Phase III “Data Recovery” will seek to gather more information about this forgotten resident of Delaware and his properties.

**David S. Clarke**
DelDOT Archaeologist
Department of Transportation  P.O. Box 778-800 Bay Road, Dover, DE 19903
Phone: (302) 760-2271  Fax: (302) 739-8282
david.clarke@state.de.us  www.archaeology.del dot.gov
The Elkins B Site, exposed during Phase II Investigations, consisted of a cellar hole containing artifacts dating to between circa 1690 and 1740. Could this be John Greenwater’s first house?

The artifacts from this cellar hole revealed the former resident had the latest goods from Europe and the colonies.

Redware vessels of special note are thought to have been made by the Hillegas brothers in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from the late 1720s to 1746. Examples of these redwares were also recovered from the nearby Scott Run Historic site.