

The presence of intact subsurface features, undisturbed artifact-bearing deposits, and the association of the site with a mid-eighteenth century owner and tenant occupation led to the determination that the Mannee-Cahoon House Site is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D--the site has yielded and is likely to yield, further information important in history. Thus, avoidance is the recommended mitigation alternative. Should avoidance prove impossible due to the direct and indirect impacts of proposed construction, then data recovery would be the suggested alternative.

Recommended data recovery operations would concentrate on the area of highest artifact density and the primary locus of domestic activity as indicated by archival research and Phase I and II testing. Data recovery operations would concentrate on the identification of further intact land surfaces, additional subsurface features, and intact artifact deposits.

JOHN DENNY HOUSE

Figure 28 shows the location of the proposed right-of-way and the limits of archaeological testing south of Kent 12 (Whitehall Landing Road) and east of present Route 13. Figure 29 shows the location of all Phase I and II subsurface testing within the proposed right-of-way. Archival research identified a late eighteenth to early nineteenth century farm owned by John Denny located in this area. Archaeological testing, however failed to locate the house or any evidence of any historic occupation of the presence of the proposed right-of-way south of

Kent 12 and north of the G. W. Cummins Outbuilding Component. Following is a discussion of the archival evidence of the John Denny House and Phase I and II efforts to locate the site.

John Denny House History

The John Denny House was first located on a 1770 road return for the laying out of a road from the King's Highway (present Route 13) to Whitehall Landing on the Leipsic River. This house may have been a tenant house associated with a second structure on the property, an owner-occupied house that is the eighteenth century component of the G. W. Cummins House (K-156.1) as suggested by Caley and Baynard (1987). A portion of this road return showing John Denny's house is shown in Figure 21. Deed research indicated that John Denny owned 100 acres in that area from 1765 until his death sometime between 1797 and 1803. A summary of the chain of title for the John Denny House property for the period 1684-1838, when the property was purchased by G. W. Cummins, is given in Table 5.

John Denny and his older brother Christopher owned two adjacent 100 acre parcels on both sides of White Hall Landing Road east of the King's Highway (present Route 13). The two parcels were oriented along the same northeast-southwest axis as the Belmont Hall property adjacent to the west. John and Christopher Denny received their father Philip's 200 acres in August 1741. Philip Denny had purchased the land from William Edwards of Queen Annes County, Maryland in September 1735. The parcel was originally part of a 600 acre tract known as "Pairmans Choice" which was warranted to Henry Pairman by William Penn in Caley 1684 (Caley and Baynard 1987).

TABLE 5

**CHAIN OF TITLE FOR THE JOHN DENNY HOUSE
1684-1838**

Transaction	Acres	Date	Deed Reference
From Ann Denny to George W. Cummins and his wife Evaline M.	107	1/15/1838	M-3-41
From Elizabeth Denny to Ann Denny	107	11/11/1826	M-3-41
From William Denny to his daughters Elizabeth, Sarah, and Evelina Denny	107	11/10/1815	Will ?
From Edward Ford and his wife Hester (Denny) Ford, dau. of John Denny decd., to William Denny	100	8/11/1804	I-2-57
From Thomas Denny, son of John Denny decd., to William Denny	100	1805	I-2-75
From Christopher Denny to his brother John Denny	100	5/8/1765	R-1-32
From John Denny to his brother Christopher Denny	100	5/8/1765	R-1-31
From Philip Denny to his sons Christopher and John Denny	200	8/12/1741	M-1-125
From Christopher and Esther Williams to Philip Denny	200	9/1/1735	L-1-166
James Robass to Christopher Williams	200	2/8/1730	K-1-120
Nicholas Sinnot & wife Susannah (Edwards) Sinnot to James Robass	200	8/15/1730	K-1-42
William Edwards (decd.) to wife Susannah Edwards	200	7/21/1725	Will ?

TABLE 5 (cont.)

Transaction	Acres	Date	Deed Reference
Henry Pairman to Wm. Edwards	200	1/26/1684	B-1-134
William Penn to Henry Pairman	600	1/26/1684	M-1-155

Note: In 1838 the John Denny property becomes part of the G. W. Cummins property. The chain of deed for the Cummins property after 1838 is summarized in Table 4. The pre-1735 deeds are summarized from Caley and Baynard (1987), used with permission.

Philip Denny died in 1744 and his sons Christopher and John shared the 200 acres until 1765 when they split the property into two equal 100 acre shares. By 1770 both brothers were living in separate structures on their properties although it is likely that both of them grew up in their father's home which was probably located on Christopher's portion. However, they may have grown up on what becomes John's portion at the site of the G. W. Cummins House (K-156.1) as suggested by Caley and Baynard (1987). John Denny received the southern half of the property where his house appears on the 1770 road return. Figure 30 shows a 1769 plat of the 1765 division of John and Christopher Denny and shows the portion of John's property tested by the Phase I and II surveys.

In 1797 John Denny was assessed for property valued at £918 which placed him in the wealthiest 40% of all assessed Duck Creek Hundred residents that year. Denny's 100 acres consisted of 70 acres of improved land and a frame dwelling house, kitchen, and barn. Denny was also assessed for numerous animals including five horses, two colts, and 13 sheep. Denny also owned three

slaves: a 60 year old man, a 21 year old woman, and her child, a five year old boy.

In 1803, John Denny's heirs were assessed for their father's 100 acres which were valued at \$1600. The "plantation" as it was described was almost entirely cleared and contained an "old log dwelling house." This "old log dwelling" is probably the frame dwelling described in 1797 although it is possible that the frame dwelling had been replaced by a log structure.

William Denny, John Denny's nephew, purchased the 100 acre farm from his uncles' heirs in 1804 and 1805. In 1810 William Denny was assessed for 100 acres of land which were described as the "John Denny Farm". Although a structure is shown on the property in a 1805 Orphan's Court Plat of the lands of John Denny, deceased (Figure 31), no structures were listed for the property. In 1816 the John Denny farm was still owned by William Denny and included a "log house, barn, and stables in bad repair in [the] tenure of Adam Lewis." This log house described in 1816 appears to be the same house that appeared in the 1803 tax list.

William Denny died ca. 1816 and in his 1815 will left his "Uncle John Denny's" farm to his three daughters: Elizabeth, Sarah, and Evelina. According to the will, the farm in 1815 was tenanted by Adam Lewis.

In 1822 the John Denny farm was owned by the heirs of William Denny. In a Duck Creek Hundred tax list made in that year, the John Denny farm contained a "new brick dwelling house in the tenure of Ann Denny." Ann Denny was the widow of William and appears to have succeeded Adam Lewis as the occupant of the property after her husband's death. Again, the location of log

and then brick dwellings on the John Denny property is not known except that it is not within the proposed right-of-way.

In 1828 the property appears in the assessment of Ann Denny, the widow of William. At this time the property is described as including a "brick and frame dwelling, smokehouse, barn, cribs, stable and c. in good repair." The property and dwellings were in the tenure of Ann Denny herself.

Ann Denny sold the John Denny property to George W. Cummins in 1838. Cummins was a local landowner with large real estate holdings and added the 100 acres of the Denny farm to his estate, "Woodlawn." No structures appear on the Denny farm parcel property on Byles' 1859 and Beers' 1868 atlases indicating the structures described in 1828 were gone by 1859.

In conclusion, archival research indicated the presence of a owner and tenant occupied farm on the south side of Whitehall Landing Road on a 100 acre property first set off by John Denny. Denny lived on the property until his death between 1797 and 1803. A log and then brick and frame dwelling and related outbuildings were on the property as late as 1828. Phase I and II archaeological testing did not locate the remains of any eighteenth or nineteenth century structures or features. Testing, however, did determine that the site is not within the limits of the proposed right-of-way.

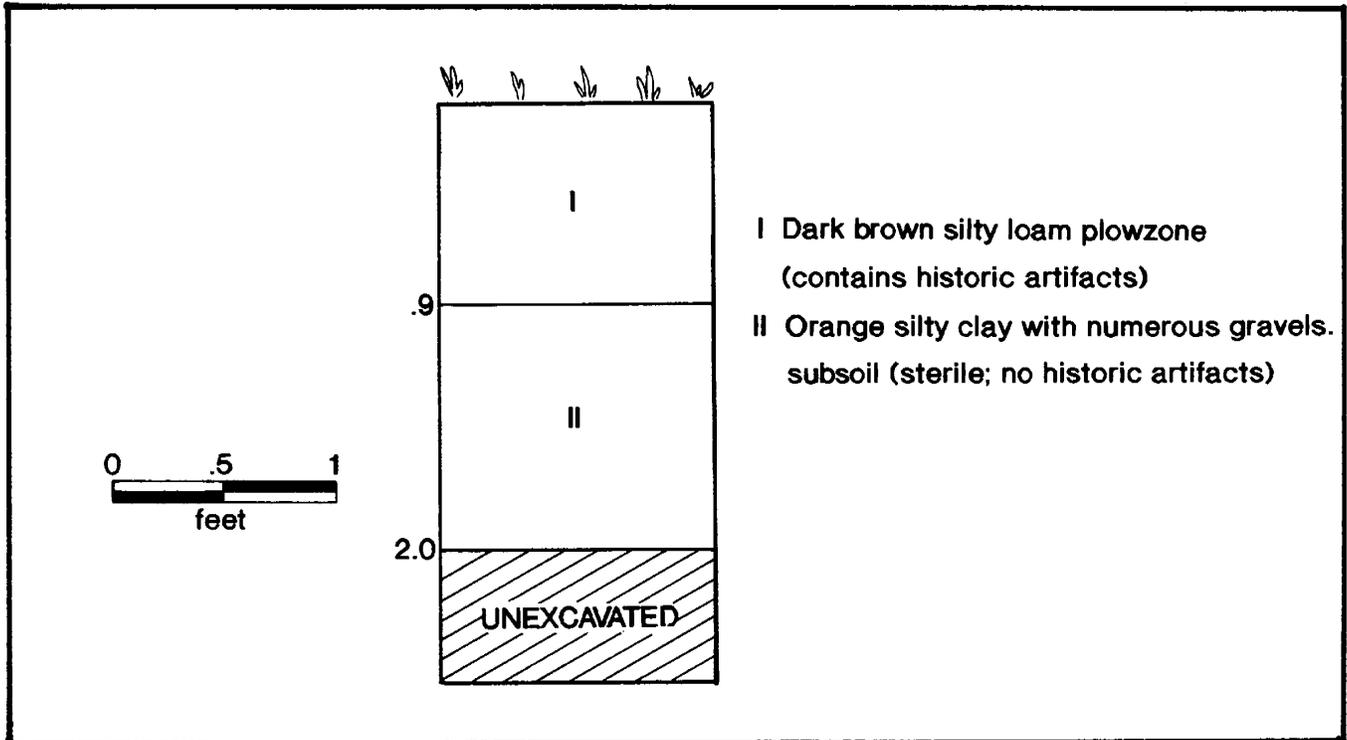
Phase I Survey Results

Phase I testing consisted of a controlled surface collection and shovel test pits excavated at 40' intervals. Shovel test pits were excavated along the centerline and both edges of the proposed right-of-way from Kent 12 (Whitehall Landing Road) south approximately 1200' to the northern limit of the G. W. Cummins House Outbuildings Component (K-156.2, 7K-A-104). All of this area has been plowed and at the time of the controlled surface collection in no-till soybean stubble. Visibility was good with approximately 80% of the ground surface visible.

Phase I testing located three loci of low artifact density (2 to 11 artifacts per shovel test pit) within a consistently

FIGURE 32

John Denny House, Profile of Shovel Test Pit N640E0



very low artifact density (less than 2 artifacts per shovel test) for the entire proposed right-of-way. A total of 78 shovel tests were excavated. The location of all Phase I and II testing is shown in Figure 29. A typical shovel test pit profile showing the stratigraphy of the area tested is shown in Figure 32.

Only 20 total historic ceramics were found in the 78 shovel tests excavated. Almost all of these 20 total historic ceramics were nineteenth century redwares, pearlwares, and whitewares. No features, structurally-related remains, or diagnostic eighteenth century artifacts were recovered. All artifacts were recovered from disturbed plowzone contexts. However, because of the potential for eighteenth century remains and the potential for

intact features below the plowzone, a Phase II survey was recommended.

Phase II Survey Results

Phase II testing consisted of the excavation of 75 3' X 3' test units along the centerline and both proposed right-of-way limits. Testing was concentrated in the three areas of slight artifact density identified by Phase I testing. The location of these areas and all of the Phase I and II tests is shown in Figure 29.

The density of artifacts identified by Phase II testing continued to be low (2 to 30 artifacts per 3' X 3' test unit). The three slight concentrations identified by the Phase I Survey were determined to be insignificant as artifact density was consistent over the entire 1200' right-of-way which indicates the presence of a general plow scatter.

Phase II testing did not locate any significant artifact concentrations, features, or diagnostic eighteenth century artifacts except for 13 small pieces of creamware. All artifacts recovered were found in disturbed plowzone contexts. A total of 1,050 artifacts were recovered during Phase I and II testing (Appendix II), including 401 ceramics. Redwares (32% of all ceramics), pearlwares (25%), and whitewares (23%) were the most common ceramic types found. All of the historic ceramics recovered were small and heavily weathered making distinctions based on decoration impossible. The mean ceramic date of all the historic ceramics found was 1802.9 excluding redwares and 1801.9 including redwares. However, these mean ceramic dates should be

interpreted with caution due to the small size of the ceramic sample.

A total of 53 nails and nail fragments were recovered along the entire 1200' proposed right-of-way. Thirty of these nails can be identified as cut nails. Similarly, relatively few brick fragments (205 fragments weighing 2.3 kilograms) were found by archaeological testing. No concentrations of structurally-related artifacts were located by either Phase I or Phase II testing.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In conclusion, archaeological testing confirmed that the John Denny House is not within the limits of the proposed right-of-way and thus will not be impacted by the construction of the Proposed State Route 1 Relief Route. Archival research indicated the potential for an owner- and tenant-occupied agricultural complex occupied from the third quarter of the eighteenth until the second quarter of the nineteenth century. No historic features or concentrations of artifacts were located and no further work is recommended.

G. W. CUMMINS HOUSE OUTBUILDINGS COMPONENT

The G. W. Cummins House Outbuildings Component (K-156.2, 7K-A-104) are located approximately 200' east of the G. W. Cummins House (K-156.1) in a plowed woodlot (Figure 33). The limits of the site appear in Figure 34. The site consists of the remains of seven mid-nineteenth and twentieth century agricultural outbuildings associated with George W. Cummins' large farm, "Woodlawn." All of the outbuildings but two are located within