4.0 PREDICTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.1 Pre-contact Period

The following is a summary of the detailed information regarding pre-contact archaeological potential for the US 301 Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange project archaeological APE. According to the predictive modeling completed by Baublitz et al. (2006) the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE is located within a low probability area for pre-contact period archaeological resources.

Review of previously completed cultural resource management reports which have utilized the Delaware archaeological site files for the US Route 301 Project Development project area did not yield any previously recorded pre-contact period archaeological sites within or adjacent to the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE prior to the US Route 301 Project Development archaeological surveys (A.D. Marble & Company 2005; Baublitz et al. 2006; Burrow et al. 2009; Liebeknecht et al. 2010). Review of previously completed cultural resource management project reports for Section 2 of the US Route 301 Project Development project completed by Hunter Research, Inc. (Burrow et al. 2009; Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010) pertinent to the area, indicate the presence of one pre-contact period lithic scatter, Area 19 Site A (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010: Figure A-2, Table D-1). Area 19 Site A is located on the east side of existing US 301 and immediately adjacent to the northern and eastern portion of the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE. A total of ten non-diagnostic pre-contact period isolated artifacts were identified in the survey of Section 2 Area 15, Area 16, and Area 18. These areas are adjacent to the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE (see Figure 2:Sheets 4 and 5). Based on the results of the predictive model, the presence of only one previously identified lithic scatter and several pre-contact period isolates nearby, and the presence of moderate disturbance within the archaeological APE, it is considered to have a low probability to contain pre-contact period archaeological sites.

4.2 Historic Period

A review of historic maps indicates that there are several potential historic period archaeological resources within or adjacent to the US 301 Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange project archaeological APE (Baist 1893; Hopkins 1881; and Rea and Price 1849). At least two historic subdivisions including the J. Taylor Tract and the Armstrong Farm comprise much
of the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010). The results of the US 301 Section 2 Phase IB survey confirmed the presence of historic archaeological sites adjacent to and within the Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange archaeological APE (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010). Area 15 Site A is located in the northwest corner of the intersection of Armstrong Corner Road and existing US 301 and is associated with the historic Armstrong Brickyard which was established in 1878 (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010). Area 16 of the Section 2 Phase IB survey found historic artifacts assessed as field scatter resulting from the nineteenth century occupation of the former Armstrong house (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010: Table D-1). Area 19 Site A and the Armstrong/Rogers House Site are both located in Area 19 of the Section 2 Phase IB survey area. The Armstrong/Rogers House Site and the associated historic component of Area 19 Site A both date to approximately 1824-1850 (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010). Area 18 of the Section 2 Phase IB survey area reportedly yielded early twentieth century period domestic materials which were assessed as field scatter (Liebeknecht and Burrow 2010).

High potential for historic archaeological resources was defined by Baublitz et al. (2006:64) as an “area that lies within 42.7 m (140.0 ft) of an existing structure that predates 1940, or within 42.7 m (140.0 ft) of the former location of such a structure that is no longer standing, as indicated by reference to historic maps, or within 42.7 m (140.0 ft) of an intersection on an historic map.” Multiple structures are depicted on historic maps within the limits of the US 301 Contract 2C Armstrong Corner Interchange project archaeological APE, and especially in the vicinity of the intersection of Armstrong Corner Road with existing US 301. Because of the structures depicted within the archaeological APE on historic mapping and because of the historic archaeological sites identified adjacent to or within portions of the archaeological APE during the Section 2 Phase IB survey, the archaeological APE is considered to have moderate potential for historic period archaeological resources.