

ABSTRACT

This report documents a Cultural Resource Reconnaissance of DE RT 273; RT 7 to U.S. 13 in New Castle County, Delaware, performed by Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc. (CHRS, Inc) of North Wales, Pennsylvania for the Delaware Department of Transportation from May through December of 1987.

The proposed highway project involves improvements to Delaware Route 273 from just east of Delaware Route 7 to just west of U.S. Route 13. This project would consist of widening the present road to a four-lane highway with a fourteen-foot, non-crossable median. The area examined by the survey included the existing right-of-way and all necessary construction easement right-of-way.

Eleven standing structures were examined during the survey. Of the eleven only one appeared to have local merit, i.e., "Tat Tat," but this structure does not meet the fifty-year criteria or appear of sufficient importance to qualify for an exclusion. None of these structures appear to meet the criteria of eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Three historic archaeological sites, the Taylor/Anderson site (7NC-E-87), the Bethel Church site (7NC-E-88), and the Clyton Farm site (7NC-E-89), were located in the project corridor. The Taylor/Anderson site appears to be a late nineteenth century farmhouse. The Bethel Church site was the location of a Baptist church and associated buildings dating from the early nineteenth century. The Clayton Farm site appears to be an early twentieth century farm complex. No prehistoric archaeological sites were identified. Two sites, the Taylor Farm site and the Clayton Farm site, were determined to be ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and no further work was recommended. The Bethel Church site appears to meet the criteria of eligibility, but no further work was recommended.