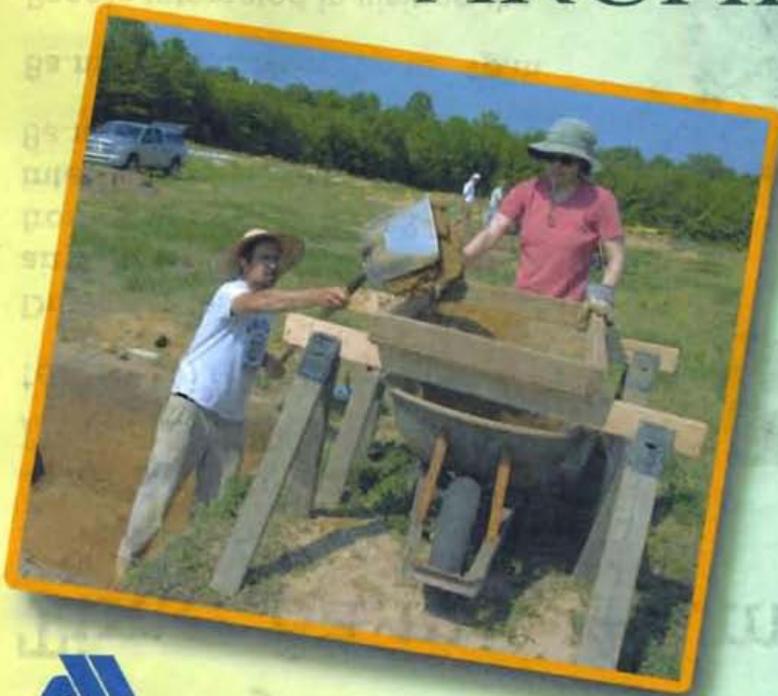


ARCHEOLOGY AT DELAWARE AIRPARK

OPEN INVITATION TO
ARCHEOLOGISTS AND THE
PUBLIC TO VISIT ONGOING
EXCAVATIONS OF TWO
NATIVE AMERICAN SITES
IN CONNECTION WITH
AIRPARK IMPROVEMENTS



Date: June 22, 2006

Time: 8a.m. – 4p.m.

**Delaware Airpark
127 Durham Lane
Dover, DE 19904
tel. (302)760-2080**

Sponsored by:

**Delaware Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Delaware River and Bay Authority**

Due to issues of safety and security, airpark staff will escort visitors to and from the excavations at 2-hour intervals during the day, beginning at 8a.m. Escort times:

8a.m., 10a.m., Noon, 2p.m., 4p.m.

People interested in visiting the excavations must check in with airpark staff at the terminal.



The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) are offering the public and groups firsthand views of major archeological excavations in advance of proposed improvements to the Delaware Airpark.

Two Native American sites discovered are from a period prior to the arrival of Europeans. Research shows that the sites were used for thousands of years as temporary camps by groups of Native Americans dating from about 7000 B.C. to A.D. 1000. The tasks performed by the Native Americans in each of the camps included the manufacture of tools made from a variety of stone materials. Some stone is not from the local area, indicating that people traded with other groups or they traveled great distances to collect it themselves.

Other finds include:

- Tools such as arrowheads, knives, scrapers, and chopping implements.
- Ceramic bowls were made and used by some of the people in both camps.

The Delaware Airpark is located on a natural ridge separating the Leipsic and St. Jones rivers. Native Americans who traveled to this area undoubtedly took advantage of the bountiful resources that were available in this setting.

DelDOT purchased the 45-acre Airpark in 2000 from a private operator. The DRBA manages and operates the facility. The site has been home to an airport since 1954. Currently, the site is a vital link to aviation resources, and serves as the airfield for Delaware State University's aviation training program.

The Airpark expansion includes lengthening the runway to meet federal standards among other improvements and is needed to service the air transportation needs of central Delaware. DelDOT held public workshops on the airport plans last year.

The archeology investigations are being conducted by John Milner Associates, Inc., which is under contract to DelDOT.

During the archeology tours, Airpark staff will escort visitors to and from the site at 2-hour intervals during the day.



**For more information,
please call the Office
of Public Relations,
DelDOT at
302-760-2080**

