

## FIELD METHODS

The Phase I archaeological field methods included a mixture of pedestrian survey, shovel test pitting, and the excavation of 3'x3' test units within and immediately adjacent to the proposed ROW. The entire length of the Early Action Segment was subjected to pedestrian survey, including the main trunk of the proposed highway, connector roads, service roads, and toll booth locations. Some of the areas within the proposed ROW had been surveyed as part of the 1985 U.S. 13 Relief Route planning study for Kent County (Custer, Bachman, and Grettler 1986). Due to changes in ground surface visibility, many of these fields were resurveyed as part of the Phase I work reported here. The 1985 survey data was incorporated into this report and will be briefly summarized.

The standard excavation procedure was to place shovel test pits (STPs) at 40-foot intervals along the centerline of the ROW. The interval was reduced to 10 or 20 feet in locations which were thought likely to produce cultural material based on the predictive model or local topography. The STP lines were also extended at angles to the centerline and line segments were placed parallel to the centerline at measured distances when favorable conditions were encountered. In some cases, when a site was found within the proposed ROW, a preliminary estimate of its extent was determined by "chasing" the artifact distribution

with an STP line from within the ROW to a point perhaps well outside of it. Although the site size estimates presented in this report do not formally represent the site limits, they were made so as to provide a partial basis for estimating the extent of Phase II work recommended for the site. Stratigraphic soil data was recorded on standardized log sheets. Some portions of the ROW were not subjected to subsurface testing at the normal interval. These were areas of poorly drained soils (chiefly Fallsington and Othello series) which were demonstrated in this survey to have virtually no chance of producing cultural remains. In these areas, the STP interval was increased to 200 feet and auger testing was done between the 200-foot nodes to determine the limits of the unproductive soils within the ROW.

All of the test units were excavated to culturally sterile soils and all excavated soil was screened through 1/4-inch mesh. All test units were mapped on 1/600th scale, one-foot contour field maps (scale: 1 inch equals 50 feet) provided by the Division of Highways. These highly accurate maps were keyed to the centerline surveyors stations (STA) and allowed for the accurate placement of finds made during the Phase I cultural resource survey.