

the artifact yield is expected to be low. Recommended data recovery excavations in Area II would include mechanical stripping of the plowzone to expose any exposed features and excavation of all features. The level of effort of excavation of any portion, or all of, Area II is considerably less than Area I.

#### **IZAT-DYER HOUSE SITE**

The Izat-Dyer House Site (K-493, historic component of the Carey Farm Prehistoric Site, 7K-D-3) is located in a plowed field in the northwest corner of the Carey Farm. The prehistoric component of the Carey Farm Site will be discussed in a separate report. The Carey Farm is located approximately two miles south of Dover west of present Route 113 and north of present Route 10. The location of the site with respect to the proposed right-of-way is shown in Figure 99. The site is not within the limits of the proposed right-of-way, but all of the site will be affected by proposed construction if the Carey and adjacent Island Farms are taken as gravel pits as current construction plans specify.

Archival research has identified the site as the remains of a mid-nineteenth century owner- and tenant-occupied frame house. Phase II testing identified the limits of the site which appear in Figure 100. The limits of the Izat-Dyer Site were determined by shovel tests pits which were excavated at 20' intervals through the area of concentrated artifacts identified by the Phase I Survey and were continued in all directions around the site until artifact densities reached less than two artifacts per shovel test pit. Thus the limit of excavation corresponds to the limits of the site (Figure 100).

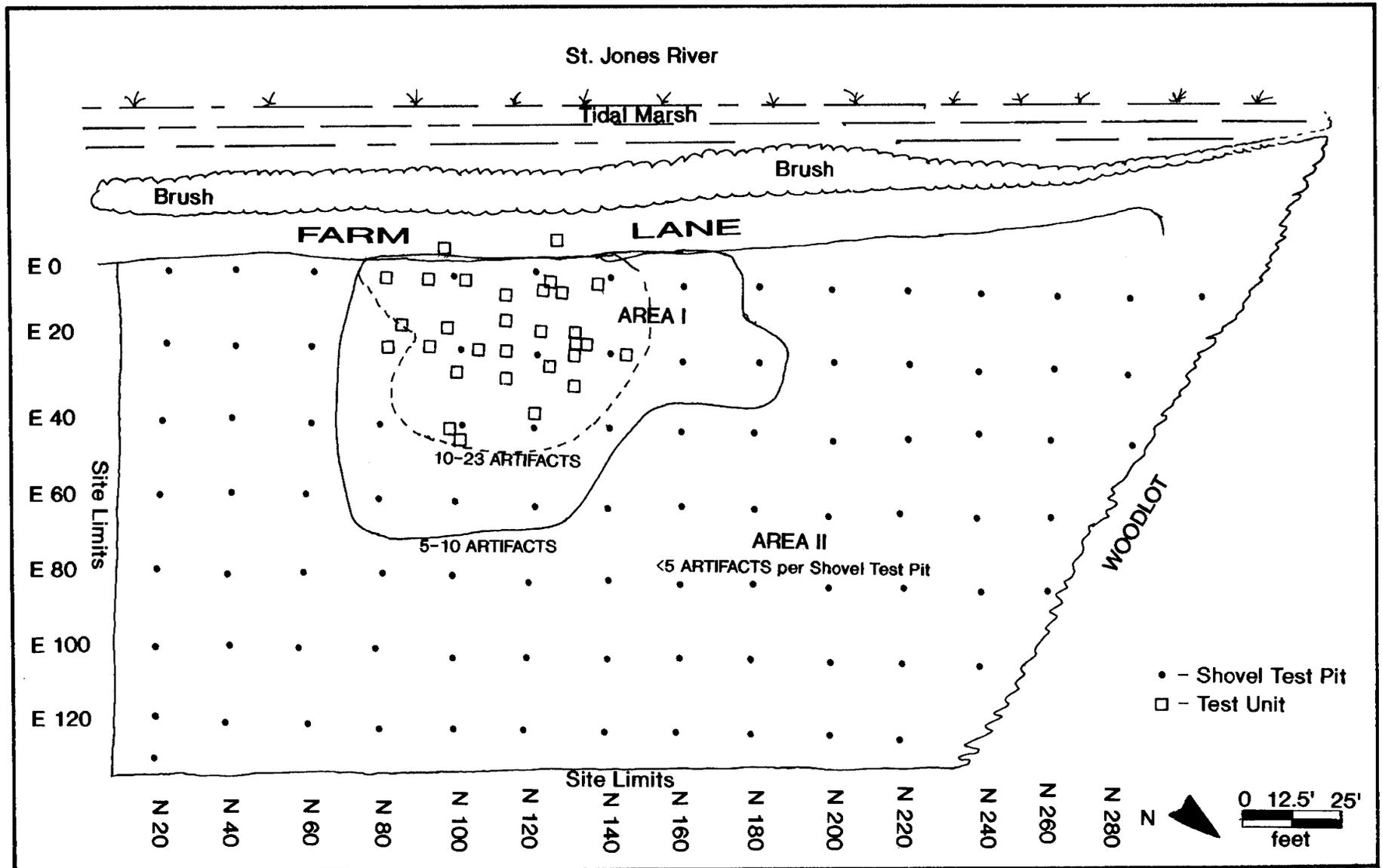
Phase I and II archaeological testing did not locate any subsurface features and all artifacts recovered came from disturbed plowzone contexts. Phase II testing thus determined that the site was not potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register. No further work is recommended.

### **Site History**

The Izat-Dyer Site appears on Byles' 1859 Atlas as a structure associated with "J. Izat" (Figure 90). The William Dyer component was then identified on Beers' 1868 Atlas where the structure appears as "W. Dyer" (Figure 91). The Izat-Dyer Site is located on an approximately 30 acre parcel that lies between

FIGURE 100

Izat-Dyer House Site, Location of Site Limits,  
All Phase I and II Excavations, and Total Historic Artifact Density



the Dover-Kitts Hummock Road (present Route 113) and the St. Jones River to the west. The land comprising the site was originally part of a much larger earlier tract known as "Troy." Troy was originally warranted by John Biggs by 1685 and contained 300 acres of land along the east side of the St. Jones River. Immediately north of Troy was "Aberdeen" a 400 acre tract first warranted to Thomas Clifford in 1680. The division line between the Aberdeen and Troy tracts remained a stable boundary and still exists today as the division line between the Carey property (containing the Izat-Dyer House Site) and the Island Farm property (containing the C. Kimmey Tenant Farm Site, K-6440).

The approximately 30 acre Izat-Dyer property was first set off from the Troy tract in 1829 when Thomas Stevenson purchased 20 acres of land for \$7.25 from the estate of Joseph Harper, deceased. Stevenson at the time lived in Dover and the Izat-Dyer property was probably not occupied until 1833 when Roger and Derrickson Molleston purchased 20 acres from Thomas Stevenson for \$17. A chain of title for the Izat-Dyer Site from 1829 to 1970 emphasizing the period of occupation in the nineteenth century is summarized in Table 13.

The Mollestons were free negroes who appear in the 1828 Dover Hundred tax list as tenants. The 20 acres they purchased was described as "wood cripple," a term used to describe the wooded and swampy fringe along rivers and streams. The "wood cripple" purchased by the Mollestons in 1833 appears in a 1866 Orphan's Court plat of the lands of Francis Register (Figure 89). The Izat-Dyer house also appears along the edge of this

TABLE 13

**CHAIN OF TITLE FOR THE IZAT-DYER HOUSE SITE  
(K-493, 7K-D-3), 1829-1970**

<b>Transaction</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Deed</b>
From William H. Vaughn to Paul R. and Freda B. Carey	106	11/18/1970	S-26-472
From Ralph Carey to decd. and intestate to sole heir Paul Carey			S-26-472
From Walter and Mary M. Ware to Ralph and Anna Carey	118	11/10/1944	Q-16-442
From William E. and Lydia S. Maloney to Walter Ware	111	12/13/1932	G-14-398
From William Dyer to William, Frank, and Howard Maloney	650	10/2/1919	P-11-185
From George M. Rockwell to William Dyer	30	12/11/1884	Q-6-298
From William Dyer to George Rockwell	30	7/7/1868	D-5-578
William Dyer assigned all of the lands of Francis Register by the Kent County Orphan's Court		3/28/1867	Q-6-248
From William Atkinson, Sheriff to Francis Register	35	4/22/1860	R-4-388
From Elisabeth H. Mitchell to John Izat	35	4/19/1855	K-4-256
From Charles M. Wharton to Elisabeth H. Mitchell	12-15	6/8/1844	T-3-238
From Roger and Priscella Molleston to Elisabeth H. Mitchell	20 (moiety)	2/20/1841	Q-3-81
From Derrickson and Martha Molleston to Elisabeth H. Mitchell	20 (moiety)	3/2/1840	Q-3-82
From Thomas Stevenson to Roger and Derrickson Molleston	20	11/2/1833	G-3-225
From Nehemiah Clark, Sheriff to Thomas Stevenson	20	12/9/1829	G-3-225

woods which is described in 1866 as "about 15 acres of Marsh and Cripple." It is not known if the Mollestons erected a house on their property.

In 1841 Roger and Derrickson Molleston sold the 20 acre property to Elizabeth Mitchell in two separate deed transactions. The total price of the parcel was \$41, slightly more than the price paid by the brothers in 1833, which suggests that the property was not improved by the addition of a structure in this period. No specific structure is described in the deed.

In 1844 Elizabeth Mitchell purchased the 15 acre property adjoining the Molleston woodlot to the east thus completing the 30 acre Izat-Dyer parcel shown in Figure 89. Mitchell purchased the land for \$125 in 1844 from Charles M. Wharton who received the property from John, Samuel, and Thomas Brinkloe of Philadelphia. The parcel was described as "12 or 15 acres of upland, part wood and part cleared" and extended from the Dover to Kitts Hummock road west to the St. Jones River. From this description, it appears that the marsh and wooded cripple previously owned by the Mollestons was considered to be the edge of the river.

In 1855 Elizabeth Mitchell sold 35 acres to John Izat who appears at the Izat Dyer Site on Byles' 1859 Atlas. Izat paid \$600 for the property which included both marsh and cleared upland. The price paid by Izat was more than triple what Mitchell paid in 1844 which suggests that the property was improved with a structure. Thus the Izat-Dyer house can be tentatively dated to 1844 and 1859 between when the two parcels were united and when it appears on Byles' 1859 Atlas. This date is consistent with

the mid-to-late nineteenth century artifact assemblage recovered by Phase I and II excavations where creamwares and pearlwares, the only diagnostic early ceramic types found at the site, accounted for only 3% of the total ceramics recovered.

In 1855 Izat mortgaged the property to Mitchell for \$400 and lost the property in 1859 after he defaulted. It is likely that Izat then left the area as he does not appear in the 1860 or 1870 censuses of Dover Hundred. The property was then sold by the sheriff, William Atkinson, to Francis Register a wealthy local farmer who owned land on either side of the Izat-Dyer property and a large neighboring farm across the Dover to Kitts Hummock road. Register paid \$540 for the 35 acre property in 1860.

Francis Register died in 1866 and in 1867 the Kent County Orphan's Court assigned all of Francis Register's land including the Izat-Dyer property to William Dyer. Dyer had previously received most of Francis Register's property from his heirs including the main 250 acre farm across the Dover to Kitts Hummock Road immediately to the east. An Orphan's court plat produced at the time clearly shows the Izat-Dyer House near the St. Jones and the Register house along the east side of the road (Figure 89).

While William Dyer owned the property, the Izat-Dyer site was tenant occupied. According to deed records, Dyer lived north of the site and across the Dover to Kitts Hummock Road on a 242 acre farm also owned by Francis Register as appears on Beers' Atlas (Figure 91). In the 1870 census Dyer appears as a 41 year old dry goods merchant. Dyer lived with his 39 year old wife

Emily and three other people: 6 year old Willemina Smith, 7 year old Louisa Chase, and 15 year old Elias John, a black servant.

William Dyer sold the Izat-Dyer property in 1868 to George M. Rockwell, a large area landowner. Rockwell purchased the property back in 1884. Rockwell lived in Dover which indicates that the Izat-Dyer Site was occupied by tenants. The size of the property was given as 30 acres and 94 square perches; the difference in size from earlier deeds is probably due to changes in the course of the St. Jones River and adjacent marsh that form the western boundary of the site.

Dyer sold the Izat-Dyer property as part of a 650 acre parcel in 1919 to William, Frank, and Howard Maloney. This 650 acres included property on both sides of the Dover to Kitts Hummock road. The Izat-Dyer house does not appear on a ca. 1913 map of Kent County postal routes which indicates that the structure was gone by then. Thus it appears that the Izat-Dyer house was gone by the 1920's which coincides with the end of the Izat-Dyer site property as a distinct parcel and Dyer's retirement to his house in Dover.

Frank Maloney then purchased 118 acres of the 650 acre property that consisted of the land along the west side of the Dover to Kitts Hummock road. The subsequent deed transactions are summarized in Table 13.

In conclusion, archival research indicates that the Izat-Dyer Site was occupied from the mid-nineteenth century, ca. 1844-1855 to the early twentieth century and was gone by 1913. The site was both owner-occupied (by John Izat from 1855-1859) and by tenants (perhaps by John Izat as Elisabeth Mitchell's

tenant from 1844-1855 and by unknown tenants after 1859). These dates of occupation are consistent with the results of Phase I and II excavations which are presented next.

### **Phase I Survey Results Summary**

The Phase I Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the area of the structure shown on Byles' and Beers' atlases (Figures 90 and 91) and the 1866 Orphan's Court plat of Francis Register's land. A small concentration of historic artifacts was identified in a plowed area near the northwest corner of the Carey Farm property. This concentration is approximately 200' south of the unrelated twentieth century concrete block foundations identified by Bachman et al. (1988).

Historic artifacts recovered by the Phase I pedestrian survey included 17 whiteware, four stoneware, and three redware fragments which indicated a mid-nineteenth century occupation. Also recovered were one fragment of ironstone and one molded olive bottle glass fragment. No structural remains were located except for 100 grams of small brick fragments. Numerous prehistoric artifacts were also found. On the basis of documentary research and the results of the Phase I survey, a Phase II survey was undertaken.

### **Phase II Survey Results**

Phase II testing consisted of the excavation of 92 shovel test pits and 30 3' X 3' test units. Phase II testing identified the limits of the site which appear in Figure 100. Phase II testing did not identify any intact historic features and all historic artifacts were recovered from disturbed plowzone

contexts. The site was determined not to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register and no further work is recommended.

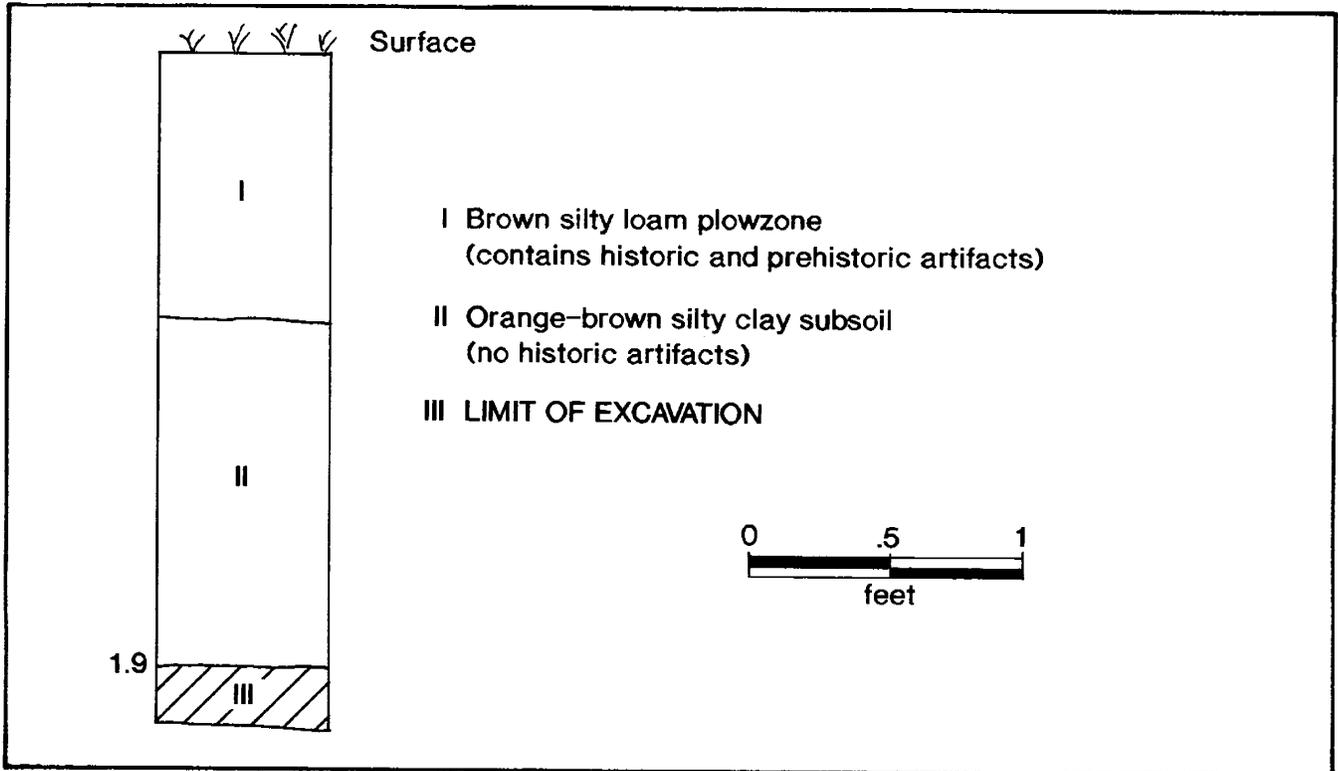
Within the site limits, two distinct areas can be noted. These two areas are shown on Figure 100 which also shows the location of all Phase I and II tests. Area I consisted of the highest artifact densities recovered at the Izat-Dyer Site. Compared with other historic sites along the State Route 1 Relief Route, artifact densities at the site were meager at best. Two slight concentrations of artifacts within Area I however were noted and appear as contour lines on Figure 100. Area I shovel tests contained between five and 23 artifacts each with the highest area of concentration within Area I containing 10 to 23 artifacts per shovel test pit.

Artifacts recovered from Area I included numerous mid-to-late nineteenth century redware, whiteware, and stoneware, fragments. Two pieces of Staffordshire and one piece each of tin glazed and blue shell edged pearlware were also recovered. A few small brick and nail fragments were also recovered in addition to numerous clear and aqua bottle glass fragments. All of the historic artifacts in Area I were recovered from the plowzone which consisted of a dark brown sandy loam. A typical soil profile is shown in Figure 101.

Area II consists of an area of low artifact density around Area I. The density of artifacts found in Area II was less than five artifacts per shovel test. Historic ceramics recovered in Area II consisted of whitewares, including one piece of polychrome whiteware, and non-diagnostic redwares. Significantly

FIGURE 101

# Izat-Dyer House Site, Profile of Shovel Test N20E0



fewer brick and nail fragments and other structurally-related artifacts were found in Area II than in Area I. As in Area I, all of the historic artifacts recovered in Area II were found in the plowzone.

On the basis of the total artifact density and the distribution of domestic and structurally-related artifacts, Area I was identified as the core of the site. A series of test units were then excavated in Area I to locate historic features and to recover additional artifacts.

A total of 30 3' X 3' test units were excavated during Phase II testing at the site. No historic features were identified by these tests although a number of prehistoric features were located. None of the prehistoric features were excavated.

The density of historic artifacts recovered from the Phase II units was consistent with the density of the artifacts identified by Phase I testing. A total of 3,628 historic artifacts were recovered during Phase I and II testing and are described in Appendix II.

Ceramics comprised the bulk (53%) of the historic artifacts recovered. Whitewares and redwares were the most common ceramic types found and comprised 73% and 12% respectively of the total ceramics found. Lesser amounts of ironstone (6%), pearlware (4%), stoneware (2%), and yellowware (1%) sherds were found. All of the ceramic sherds recovered were small and heavily plow damaged. Thus no attempt was made at vessel reconstruction or ceramic analyses based on vessel decoration or form. The mean ceramic date of all of the ceramics found at the Izat-Dyer Site was 1850.4 including redwares and 1857.8 without redwares. These dates are consistent with the mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation indicated by archival research. The mean ceramic date values of the different ceramic types is given in Appendix I.

Other historic artifacts found at the core of the Izat-Dyer Site by Phase II excavations included fragments of molded clear and aqua bottle glass, glass serving ware, and household lamp glass. Bottle glass fragments alone made up 22% of the total historic artifacts found. Structurally-related artifacts, including window glass, comprised 14% of the total number of artifacts recovered.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

In conclusion, archaeological testing and archival research has identified the Izat-Dyer Site as the remains of a mid-to-late

nineteenth century house. The site was both owner and tenant occupied. No features were identified and no structural remains were located although historic maps and artifact distributions confirm the location of the site. On the basis of the degree of plow disturbance to the site, the lack of historic features and the low numbers of historic artifacts found, the site is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and no further work is recommended. However, as the historic component of the Carey Farm Prehistoric Site which is eligible for the National Register, the portions of the Izat-Dyer Site excavated as part of the associated prehistoric site will constitute data recovery operations.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL HISTORY**

The eleven historic archaeological sites in the Early Action Segment tested by Phase II operations can be used to study four primary research domains as identified by the Historic Archaeological Resource Management Plan for Delaware (De Cunzo and Catts, 1990) and the Delaware Statewide Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan (Ames et al. 1987). Broadly interpreted, these research domains seek to reconstruct and analyze major changes over time and place in the social and economic landscape of central Delaware in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Specifically, all of the sites tested are agriculturally-related and could be used to trace the critical social and economic changes that occurred in central Delaware over the eighteenth, nineteenth and early