
**Final Archaeological Investigations
of the Glatz Site,
Route 7 North, New Castle County, Delaware**

by
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of Transportation

John T. Davis
Director
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OF THE GLATZ SITE,
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ABSTRACT

Archaeological excavations at the Bernard Glatz House site (7NC-D-102) on Limestone Road (Route 7) in northern New Castle County, Delaware, recovered domestic and commercial artifacts, and identified features associated with a 19th and early 20th century occupation. Archival research indicated that the house site had been occupied by a cordwainer, Bernard Glatz, from 1833 to 1845. Comparisons of Glatz' economic standing with other tradesmen and farmers living in northern New Castle County during that time indicate that Glatz was not a prosperous man and that he ranked among the lower one-third of Mill Creek Hundred residents. Patterns of refuse deposition at the site were similar to those associated with 18th century occupations, even though the vast majority of the artifacts post-dated 1830. The Glatz property was probably part of a single street village which was emerging around the nearby Mermaid Tavern during the early 19th century.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR'S PREFACE

Archaeological investigations at the Bernard Glatz site were undertaken under "emergency salvage" conditions. The site was located partly within the proposed right-of-way of the Route 7 North highway corridor and partly on private land scheduled for development and construction of an office complex. After the initial identification of the site, grading for the construction of the office complex began. The plowzone of the site was removed and a series of subsurface features, including a house foundation, were exposed. At that time the developer allowed for the salvage excavations, which were accomplished in one week. This report describes the results of these excavations and subsequent archival research. As a result of these studies, we now have a glimpse of the life of a shoemaker who lived and worked in a small rural hamlet. Bernard Glatz was not a rich, or prosperous man, and the study of his material culture in comparison with that of other individuals provides insights into the archaeological study of socioeconomic status.

Jay F. Custer
Principal Investigator
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Abstract	i
Principal Investigator's Preface	ii
Table of Contents	iii
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	iv
List of Plates	iv
Introduction	1
Environmental Setting	5
Regional History	5
Background Research Results	22
Excavation Results	35
Summary and Conclusions	48
References	59
Personnel	64
Appendices	66
Appendix I: Inventory of Goods and Chattels of Bernard Glatz, May 10, 1842	66
Appendix II: Artifact Inventory	69
Appendix III: Notes on Site Numbers	79
Appendix IV: Glossary	81

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1: Project Area Location	2
Figure 2: Division of Bernard Glatz' Property after His Death in 1842	27
Figure 3: Detail of Limestone Road from Rea and Price "Map of New Castle County, Delaware" (1849) ..	29
Figure 4: Detail of Limestone Road from D. G. Beer's "Atlas of the State of Delaware" (1868)	30
Figure 5: Detail of Limestone Road from G. W. Baist's "Atlas of New Castle County" (1893)	31
Figure 6: Glatz Site Map	38
Figure 7: Glatz House Foundation (Feature 37) and Builder's Trench (Feature 3)	40
Figure 8: Profile of Glatz House Well Excavation	47

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1: Chain of Title for the Glatz Property	23
Table 2: Glatz Site Features	36
Table 3: Mean Ceramic Dates for Features from the Glatz Site	51
Table 4: Values of Common Items in the Inventories of Bernard Glatz and Three Contemporaries from the Second Quarter of the 19th Century	54
Table 5: Occupations of Lot Owners between Mermaid Tavern and Curtis Mill Road	57

LIST OF PLATES

	Page
Plate 1: Salvage Excavations at the Galtz Site	3
Plate 2: Remains of the Stone House Foundation	39
Plate 3: Feature 28, Prior to Excavation	44
Plate 4: Feature 21, Top of the Stone Lined Well showing Fill Lens above the Shaft	46