
II. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This cultural resource study identified 30 historic properties in the general project area. Eight of these historic properties are either listed on the National Register or appear to be potentially eligible for listing. These properties (or resources) are:

180 Welsh Tract Road (N-12868)
Welsh Tract (Old School) Baptist Church and Parsonage (N-264)
Cooch's Bridge Historic District (N-190)
239 Chestnut Hill Road (N-12872)
191 Chapman Road (N-6775)
Thomas Montgomery House (N-1601)
Lewis Weldin Farmhouse (N-6783)
Henry L. Churchman House (N-1603)

The first four properties are located west of the Turnpike Service Area and the proposed Turnpike improvements. Of the remaining four properties, the project will affect only one property, the Lewis Weldin Farmhouse at the Turnpike/State Route 7 interchange. There are no direct impacts to this historic resource; rather, proposed improvements near this location may introduce adverse visual impacts. Appropriate mitigation measures will be determined through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Regarding archaeological resources, 82 sites have been recorded within one mile of the Turnpike corridor. Of these sites, 57 are prehistoric, 8 have both prehistoric and historic components, 13 are historic archaeological sites, and 4 are of undetermined cultural affiliation, although probably prehistoric. The high frequency of sites is a reflection both of the archaeological sensitivity of the area and the intensity of previous surveys undertaken in northern Delaware. Five recorded archaeological sites are in the vicinity of the Delaware Turnpike; however, only two of these sites will be potentially affected by the proposed project. These sites are N-3719 (7NC-E-1), located near the intersection of the Turnpike and State Route 141, and N-9356 (7NC-E-58), located immediately north of the Turnpike along the western shore of Churchmans Marsh.

Previous investigations at Site 7NC-E-1, which consisted only of surface collections, produced evidence of Archaic, Woodland I, and Woodland II occupations. Recovered artifacts included ceramics, groundstone tools, soapstone, and numerous projectile points and other flaked stone tools. The site has been described as a series of sites within a large area surrounded by swamps. Site 7NC-E-58 has been described as a temporally nondiagnostic cobble reduction site (Custer 1980). Further testing is required to refine site boundaries, determine significance, and assess whether adverse impacts could occur as a result of the proposed project.