



In order to reveal and preserve the rich Nanticoke and Euro-American history of the S.R. 24 area, portions of the project area will be examined for archaeological resources prior to construction. DelDOT is asking for Nanticoke tribal members, long-time residents, landowners, and others to help not only identify and interpret any below ground remains uncovered but to help bring forth the history of the S.R. 24 project area through the sharing of information, photographs, artifacts, and remembrances.



S.R. 24 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Delaware Department of Transportation
(DelDOT)

For more, or to contribute information about the S.R. 24 Improvements project,
please contact:

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Nanticoke Indian Tribal Office 302-945-3400
Barbara Gundy, Skelly and Loy, Inc. 1-800-340-7538
DelDOT Public Information Office 1-800-652-5600



ARCHAEOLOGY &
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT





DelDOT is planning safety improvements to two portions of State Route (S.R.) 24 in your area. The northernmost portion is between Plantation Road and Love Creek. The second portion is further south between Holly Lake Road and Oak Orchard Road at the Nanticoke Indian Museum. DelDOT's plans include widening the existing two-lane road into three lanes with shoulders and a center turn lane.



This area of Delaware has a long and rich history waiting to be revealed through the telling of traditional Native American stories and dances; interviews with landowners and long-time residents; and historic and archaeological studies. The people of the S.R. 24 area are the vital link in the telling and understanding of this history.



Harmon School (past)
(photo courtesy Nanticoke Indian Tribe)

Delaware is part of the traditional homeland of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe. Long before Euro-American settlers visited this area, the Nanticoke people were living in the area and fishing, hunting, and farming. Despite many years of continued pressure from Euro-American settlers and the emerging government to abandon their homeland, many Nanticoke remained in the area and have contributed significantly to the economy, development, and history of the S.R. 24 project area. Today, over 550 Nanticoke people who live in Sussex County maintain their special relationship with a changing S.R. 24 project area by retaining their heritage through preservation of their traditions.



Nanticoke Indian Museum (present)
(formerly Harmon School)

Euro-Americans who moved into the area also farmed, traded, and fished. The S.R. 24 project area has remained essentially rural throughout its history, with the chief agricultural industry being orchards. The S.R. 24 area has been a transportation corridor since 1928 when the roadway was constructed between Harmon School and Angola. The building of the roadway has opened the area to additional commercial ventures and development.

