

**Appendix A**

**HUNTER RESEARCH TECHNICAL PROPOSAL**

**HUNTER RESEARCH, INC. SR1 AND 30 PHASE II S10315, 7S-C-100 July 8, 2010**

**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, S.R. 1 AND S.R. 30 CEDAR CREEK HUNDRED,  
SUSSEX COUNTY  
DELAWARE**

**PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE SURVEY  
OF SITE S10315, 7S-C-100**

**PARENT AGREEMENT 1415**

**TASK \*\* 14**

**TECHNICAL PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

**Prepared for:**

**Delaware Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 778  
Dover, Delaware 19903**

*ACCEPTED  
PROPOSAL*

**Revised August 4, 2010**

## **A. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS**

1. The current project area formed part of a Phase I archaeological cultural resources survey undertaken in July 2009 by Hunter Research Inc. at the intersection of State Route 1, Cedar Neck Road and State Route 30, southeast of Milford, Sussex County, Delaware. The work was undertaken for the Delaware Department of Transportation in anticipation of Section 106 requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The survey identified the area of the then-proposed locations of Ramps A and B, connecting State Route 30 and State Route 1 south of Cedar Neck Road, as of potential interest because of the presence, on the 1868 Beers map, of the Shockley house: a locally prominent family whose 18th-century members included a prominent Loyalist.

Field methods comprised shovel testing, and, in the areas of proposed Ramps A and B, surface collection survey.

Work to the Phase II (evaluation of significance) level was recommended for the area of proposed Ramps A and B connecting State Route 1 and State Route 30/Cedar Creek Road. Artifacts, soils and topographic features combined to indicate that there are potentially significant archaeological cultural resources on the western half of this proposed ramp corridor. In particular, a small but distinctive collection of 18th-century material was recovered here, and a probable 18<sup>th</sup> century feature, possibly a cellar or basement was located. Also recovered from the same general area was a lithic prehistoric assemblage. This comprises less than a dozen items, but includes thermally altered rock and a probable Woodland I projectile point of broadspear affinity. This lithic scatter is probably associated with the south-flowing relict stream visible on the project aerial photographs.

Recommended Phase II investigations comprised supplementary historical research and additional field investigations.

2. Proposal for a ramp alignment to the south of, and parallel to, the previous Ramp A and B alignments triggered the need for a second Phase I survey. This was undertaken by Edward Otter, Inc. in November 2009. This investigation also comprised shovel testing and surface collection survey. Like the previous work, both prehistoric and historic (18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century) materials were recovered. Woodland I and II projectile points and Hell Island (c. 600-1000 AD) and somewhat earlier Mockley-type ceramics were recovered.

The land tenure history of the property was studied in some detail, and Otter deduced that the first owner to actually reside on the property was probably Curtis Beckworth, who owned the property from 1807/22 to 1831, while noting that earlier tenancies were quite possible even though not recorded. Otter's work identified a heavy concentration of historic artifacts close to the east side of Route 30 and south of the new proposed ramp alignment. This corresponds generally with the location of the Shockley house site on the 1868 Beers map, but includes 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramics and pipe stems.

## **B. PROJECT TASKS**

### **1. Supplementary Background Research**

Limited additional primary research will be undertaken with two objectives. One is to establish more precisely the location of the Shockley House shown on the Beers and other historic maps, and to explore the possibility that CRS S10315 is the Shockley Structure (we feel this is unlikely). The second is to seek data on 18<sup>th</sup> century tenants who may have been responsible for the artifacts recovered in the Phase I surveys. This work will be performed by subconsultant Ed Otter (see Personnel Section below), who will provide a written section for inclusion in the report.

On completion of the research, a conference call will be held with DelDOT to review the results and adjust the field strategy and approach if needed

### **2. Field Investigations**

#### **i) Overall objectives of the Phase II field investigations**

A. To define the horizontal and vertical limits of the archaeological resources represented by S10315, 7S-C-100, and of the site in Otter Area 1 (which is to be assigned a CRS and Site number as part of the forthcoming revisions to the Phase I survey). It is understood that site boundaries may extend beyond the formal Area of Potential Effect and that investigations will therefore be required beyond the APE.

B. To establish the integrity of the resources at S10315, 7S-C-100 and Otter Area 1. This is defined as the preservation of patterning among artifacts and features capable of analysis that will provide significant information about human activity in the past. For historic period resources this should at a minimum include the presence of sub-plowzone cultural stratigraphy and features in association with artifacts. For prehistoric resources, the presence of temporally an/or culturally diagnostic artifacts in association with horizontal concentrations of other artifacts is considered to demonstrate integrity.

C. To develop preliminary interpretations of the date and function of site S10315, 7S-C-100 and Otter Area 1 pending more detailed artifactual and stratigraphic analysis, and to place these within the Historic Context Framework established by the State of Delaware. Currently, the diagnostic prehistoric materials appear to reflect use over an extended time period of 2000 years plus in this setting. Historically, the artifacts and historical documents suggest site potential periods of significance within the 1630-1730 (Exploration and Frontier Settlement), 1730-1770+ (Intensified and Durable Occupation), and 1770-1830 (Transformation from Colony to State) time periods in the Lower Peninsula. The Domestic Economy and Landscape domains are likely to provide the thematic framework for evaluation.

#### **ii) Methods**

While supplementary surface collection, machine-assisted plowzone stripping, and geophysical survey have all been proposed for this undertaking, the consensus view is that the above objectives can be achieved through manual excavation. It is therefore proposed to excavate 1000 square feet of the approximately 10-acre area (including the prehistoric site in Otter Area 1), in the manner shown in Figure A. These excavations will typically comprise 9 sq. ft. (1 sq. m.) or 25 sq. ft (2.3 sq. m.) units, either in squares or in rectangles (1.5 x 6 feet or 2.5 by 10 feet).

Within the project area these will be assigned as roughly as follows: 30% to the ramp alignment, 20 30% to the house site south of the alignment, 30% to the area north of the ramp (including the area not subjected to detailed Phase I survey), and 5% to the prehistoric site in Otter Area 1. Remaining footage will be used on the subsurface feature identified in the Hunter Research Phase I study and for judgmental additional testing. 10 7b

SEE THE SITE MAP, WHICH IS THE CORRECT STRATEGY  
I.B/W.L.  
9/21/10

Excavation units will be placed using geospatial data acquired in the Phase I work, and will be located so as to intersect with high artifact concentrations, features and apparent blank areas. Initially, about 50% of the units will be placed at regular intervals along the ramp alignment, the northern area and the prehistoric site, and across the area of high artifact concentration to the south of the ramp alignment that probably represents the later house site. Placement of the other units will be based on the on the results of these investigations and will be decided in consultation with DelDOT and DelSHPO as appropriate.

Excavation techniques will follow standard practice, with all soils being screened through ¼ ' mesh, artifacts being bagged by provenience, and excavation proceeding through the identification of distinct stratigraphic contexts or, in their absence, natural horizons excavated in arbitrary levels. Plans and at least two profiles will be drawn of all excavation units. Horizontal and vertical control will be provided by the use of a total station. Units will be backfilled no later than the end of the fieldwork.

### 3. Analysis

The stratigraphic information will be examined in tandem with the vertical and horizontal artifact distributions in order to determine the sequence, chronology and integrity of both the prehistoric and historic components.

Artifact analysis of the materials from the Phase I and II investigations will classify and catalog materials using a modified version of the South scheme in an Access database application. Some specific items will be researched in some detail. Artifacts and records will be curated to the standards and requirements of the Delaware State Museum. These include the acquisition of specialty plastic storage boxes. Costs are presented for storage of 5000 artifacts (Combined Phase I and II). Metal artifacts will be divided into items requiring no conservation and those requiring conservation. The latter will be further divided based on level of deterioration and information value/significance. Consultation will take place with DelDOT and DelSHPO to establish the need for, and value of conservation. It is not in fact anticipated that items requiring conservation will merit it because they will be deteriorated ferrous items. These will be cataloged and discarded, and this action noted in the database sent to the State Museum.

#### **4. National Register Eligibility Assessment**

The National Register eligibility of the identified resources will be established with reference to local and state historic context documents and to the *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archaeological Properties* (Little et al., National Register Bulletin 2000). Documentation will be prepared in a format compatible with Sections 7 and 8 of the National Register Registration Form.

#### **C. PROPOSED SCHEDULE**

From Notice to Proceed:

- NTP+2 weeks: completion of historical research
- NTP+10 weeks: completion of field investigations
- NTP+20 weeks: completion of Artifact analyses
- NTP+25 weeks: submittal of draft report
- Draft submittal + 30 working days: submittal of final report and delivery of artifacts and records to DSM

#### **D. PERSONNEL/SUBCONSULTANT**

In addition to Hunter Research Staff, **Edward Otter, Ph.D. of Edward Otter, Inc.** will be performing the following tasks as a subconsultant:

##### **Background Research:**

Beginning with the previous work and expanding research to include peripheral properties in an effort to gain additional insights into the property and occupants. All documents (wills, deeds, mortgages, etc) indexed under each owner and occupant of the property will be examined. A revised history of the property will be prepared. It is anticipated that research will require three days. Report preparation will require one day.

##### **Site mapping:**

Laying out a site grid using the total station and integrating the various aspects of the field maps should require no more than one day a week in the field or an estimated five days. Graphics production will require an additional three days.

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