

ABSTRACT

Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations were conducted at the Thomas Williams Site (7NC-D-130), a National Register Site in Glasgow, Pencader Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. The project was funded by the Delaware Department of Transportation prior to the construction and realignment of State Route 896 around the village of Glasgow. Located in a plowed field east of the village, the site contained both prehistoric and historic remains. The prehistoric component was found to be confined to the plowzone, and was the result of intermittent occupation of the site dating from the late Paleo-Indian to Woodland I periods (7,000 B.C. - A.D. 1600). The historic component of the site consisted of over 200 features, including two root cellars, a stone-lined cellar hole, a brick-lined well, privy pits and post holes/molds dating from the late eighteenth through early twentieth centuries. Historic research found that the site was successively occupied by a tenant farmer (1792-1846), a stone mason (1846-1875) and a black laborer (1887-1920s). Archaeological remains were found to be associated with all three of the periods, with the tenant farmer and black laborer occupations the best archaeologically represented. Intra-site and inter-site comparisons were conducted using the soils information and artifact data that was recovered, providing insights into the material remains of rural tenants, mechanics, and black laborers.