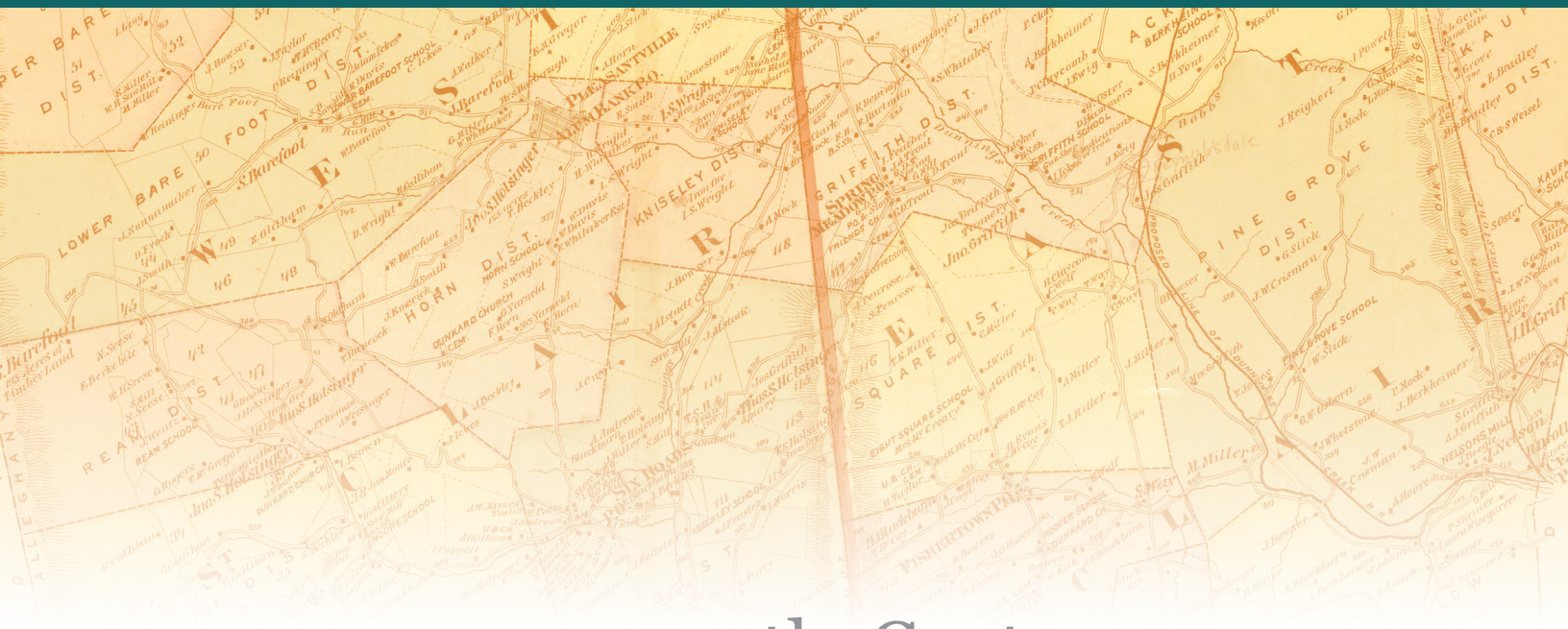

19th Century Quakers on the Frontier

Archaeological Data Recovery Excavations at the Snook Farm Site, 36BD217

Peace Equality Simplicity Truth

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Cover Image: 1877 Map of West St. Clair Township

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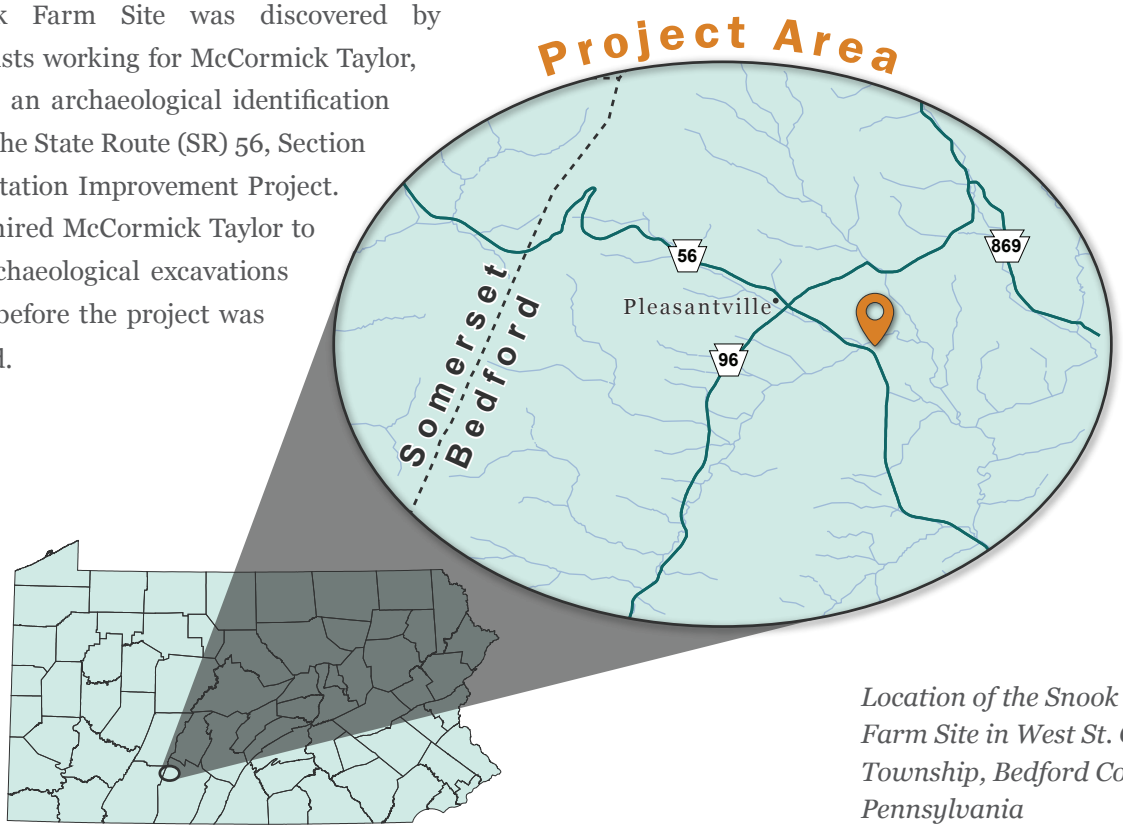
Introduction

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sponsored archaeological data recovery excavations at the Snook Farm Site, 36BD217, located in West St. Clair Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

The Snook Farm Site was discovered by archaeologists working for McCormick Taylor, Inc. during an archaeological identification survey for the State Route (SR) 56, Section 8 Transportation Improvement Project. PennDOT hired McCormick Taylor to conduct archaeological excavations at the site before the project was constructed.



Location of the Snook Farm Site in West St. Clair Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

The Purpose

The SR 56 project was constructed to improve safety at the intersection of SR 56 and Ridge Market Road. It included replacing the SR 56 bridge over Dunning Creek, widening SR 56, adding turn lanes at the intersection, and improving the sight distance along the roadway.

During the project development process, PennDOT conducted numerous environmental studies, which included a Phase I archaeological identification survey and a survey of historic buildings. Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, FHWA and PennDOT are required to consider the project's effects on buildings and archaeological sites that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, the surveys were designed to identify buildings and sites, and then determine if they are eligible for the National Register.

A Guide to Learn More

Archaeology is the scientific study of the human past through recovery and analysis of features and artifacts.

- As a scientific discipline, archaeology requires the use of many technical terms. In effort to define these terms, words that are ***highlighted and bolded*** can be found in the Glossary (Appendix A) on page 22.

- For more information on the work of archaeologists and the study of the human past, please reference Appendix B on page 23.

- Archaeologists interact with sensitive materials and historic data and therefore, they must adhere to a set of ethics. For more information on archaeological ethics, please see Appendix C on page 25.

Site Discovery *and* Significance

During the project development process, a survey of historic buildings and a Phase I archaeological identification survey were undertaken. In the survey of historic buildings, PennDOT and FHWA determined that the Snook Farm House was eligible for listing in the ***National Register of Historic Places***. Based on historic photographs, archaeologists believe that the house was built in the early 1800s and is a two-bay, two-story side gable stone building. The south gable end is banked into a steep slope which is behind the house, while the north gable end faces Ridge Market Road.

During the archaeological survey of the Snook Farm, PennDOT discovered several archaeological sites. Some of them were ***Native American*** sites and others were historic sites (dating to after European settlement). Several of the sites were determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places after the Phase I archaeological identification survey. PennDOT was able to redesign the project to avoid all of the sites except for the Snook Farm Site. It was decided that more information was needed to determine if the Snook Farm Site was eligible for the National Register. Therefore, Phase II archaeological evaluation investigations took place at the Snook Farm Site and helped PennDOT determine that the site was eligible.

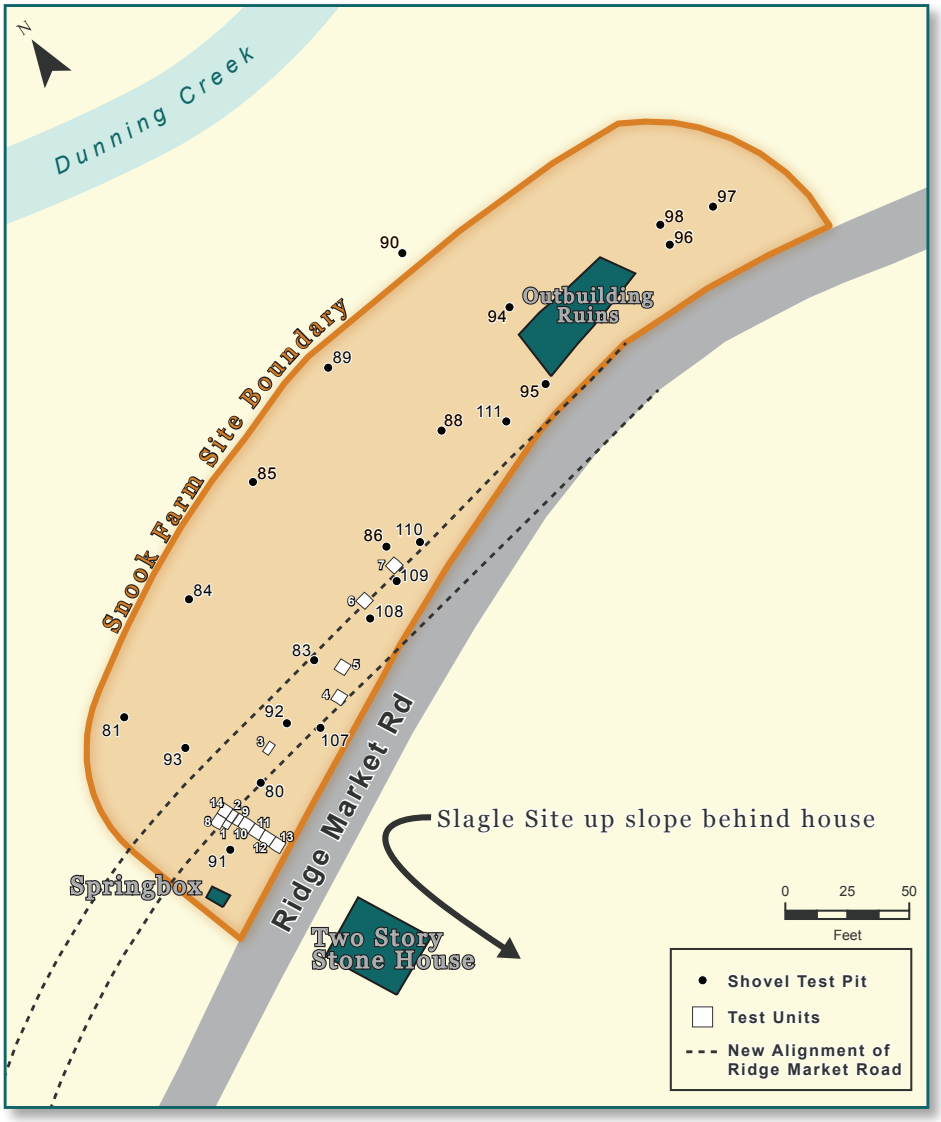
The Snook Farm House, built in the early 1800s. The Snook Farm Site is located to the north of the house, across the road, and the Slagle Site is located on a slope to the south of the house.

Two of the sites identified by PennDOT were associated with the Snook Farm House: the Snook Farm Site, 36BD217, and the Slagle Site, 36BD265. The Snook Farm Site originally served as a location where Native Americans procured and reduced ***lithic*** material which was quarried nearby. The site later served as a farmstead that was occupied during the 1800s and 1900s. The Slagle Site was also identified as a site where Native Americans processed lithic material which was quarried nearby and additionally produced a small amount of historic artifacts dating to the 1800s.

Because the project could not avoid the Snook Farm Site, PennDOT conducted Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations at the site as ***mitigation***. The Slagle Site was avoided by the redesigned project and therefore archaeological data recovery excavations were not conducted at the site. However, the Slagle Site will be discussed in this booklet because the Snook Farm House, the Snook Farm Site, and the Slagle Site are all part of one property and together tell the story of the people who lived there.

Phase I: The Snook Farm Site

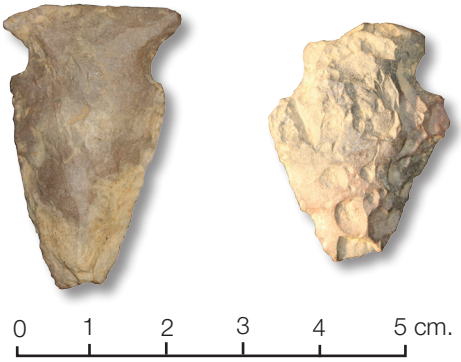
During the Phase I archaeological identification survey, 25 circular shovel test pits, approximately two feet in diameter, and one 3x3 foot square test unit were excavated in the area that was later defined as the Snook Farm Site. The Phase II archaeological evaluation investigations included five additional circular shovel test pits and six additional square test units. After this work was done, PennDOT and FHWA determined that the site was eligible for the National Register, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred.



About 2,000 Native American ***artifacts*** and 4,500 historic artifacts were found at the site during the Phase I and II excavations. The house was built on the same spot that Native Americans had used before people of European descent came to the area. Most of the Native American artifacts were mixed in with the historic artifacts, which meant that the Native American deposits had been disturbed by the later occupation.

The Native American artifacts were made of local lithic material. Based on placement in the soil, archaeologists believe that they belonged to the ***Archaic Period***, which dates from about 8000-1800 B.C. (or 3,800-10,000 years ago). It did not appear that the Native Americans were actually living at the site on a long-term basis, but that they were quarrying the lithic material nearby and doing some initial processing of it (breaking it into smaller pieces) at the Snook Farm Site so that they could take it away with them and make it into finished stone tools somewhere else. A few stone tools, ***projectile points***, were found at the site.

The historic artifacts appeared to be deposited in a midden, which is a trash deposit. The portion of the site impacted by the SR 56 project is across the road and down a slope from the Snook farm house. The people who lived in the Snook Farm house dumped the artifacts over the slope into the trash deposit. Remains of a springhouse were found in the midden.



Native American side-notched projectile points found at the Snook Farm Site. A total of four projectile points were found at the site.

The Snook Farm house is to the right. The archaeological excavations were completed on the slope immediately across the road from the house where a midden (trash deposit) was found.

Lithic material found at the Snook Farm Site. This is the stone material that is left over when stone tools are made. Over 99% of the Native American artifacts found at the site were lithic material left over from making stone tools.

The Snook Farm Site was determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D for the information it contained about Native Americans and about the people who lived there in the 1800s and 1900s. Because the Native American artifacts were mixed in with the historic artifacts, it was decided that little more could be learned about the Native American portion of the site by doing more excavations. There have been very few archaeological excavations of sites dating to the nineteenth century in western Pennsylvania, which meant that we were more likely to learn important information about the lives of people who lived here during that time period. For these reasons, the Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations focused on the historic part of the site.

Remains of the springhouse found in the midden at the Snook Farm Site, 36BD217, facing southeast.

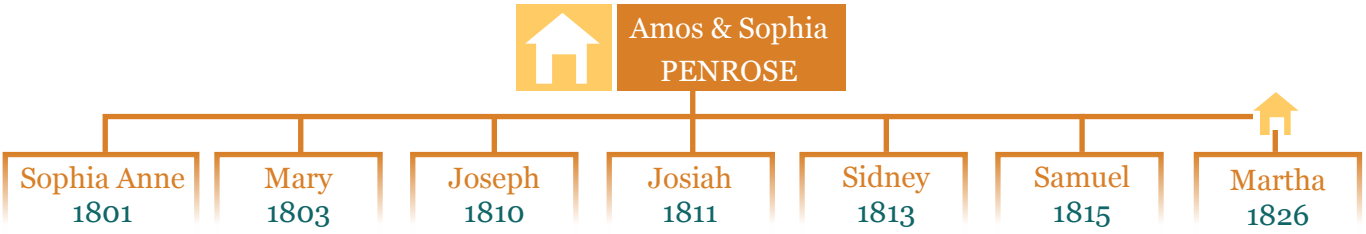
Remains of the outbuilding associated with the Snook Farm Site (36BD217), facing west.

History *of the* Snook Farm Site, 36BD217

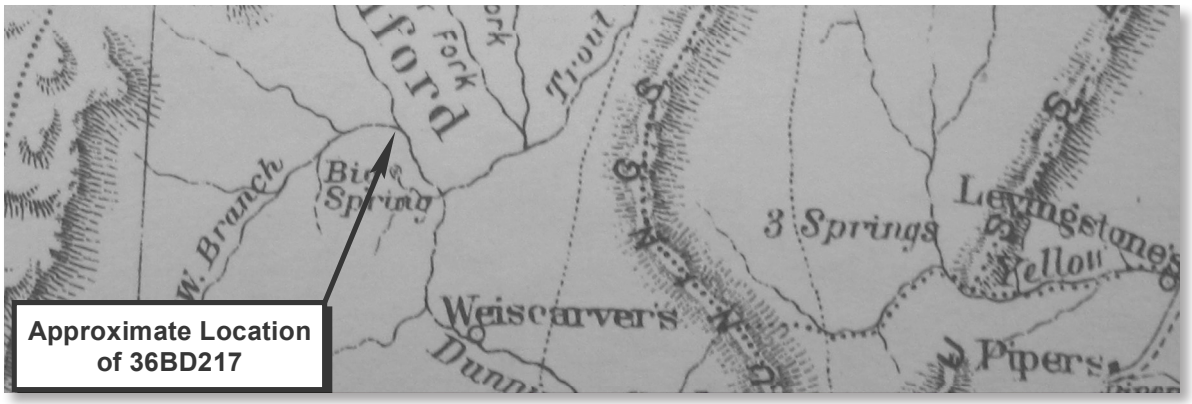
To interpret the excavations and artifacts found at any site, it is important to first understand the historic context, which includes the history of the area and the people who lived at the site.

Historic research revealed that the Snook Farm house was likely built by a Quaker named Amos Penrose (1776-1850). Amos moved to Bedford County with his parents, Thomas and Abigail Penrose, in 1783. On June 4, 1800 Amos married Sophia Harbaugh. The Snook Farm property was purchased by Amos Penrose in 1816.

Amos and Sophia Penrose had seven children: Sophia Anne (1801), Mary (1803), Joseph (1810), Josiah (1811), Sidney (1813), Samuel (1815), and Martha (1826). Amos died in 1850, and it appears that his daughter Martha inherited the property that included the Snook Farm house. Martha married in 1866 and her mother, Sophia, continued to live at the farm.

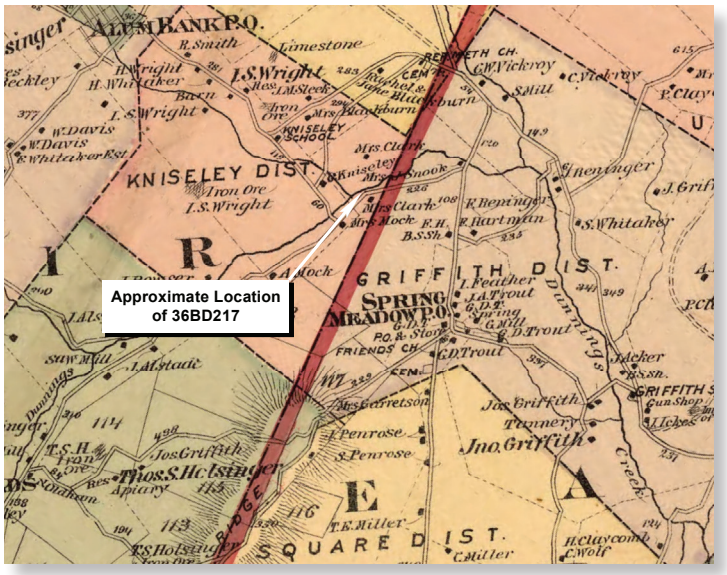


Martha Penrose inhabited the property until it was acquired by George Renninger and his wife in 1879. One year later, they sold the property to Omar Davis. Omar died in 1887 and his wife Margaret inherited the house. In 1907, Margaret, remarried and using the name Smith, sold the property to Martha Snook. The current owners are Kathy and Gary Slagle. Kathy is a relative of Martha Snook and as of 2014, the property has been owned by the same family for 107 years.

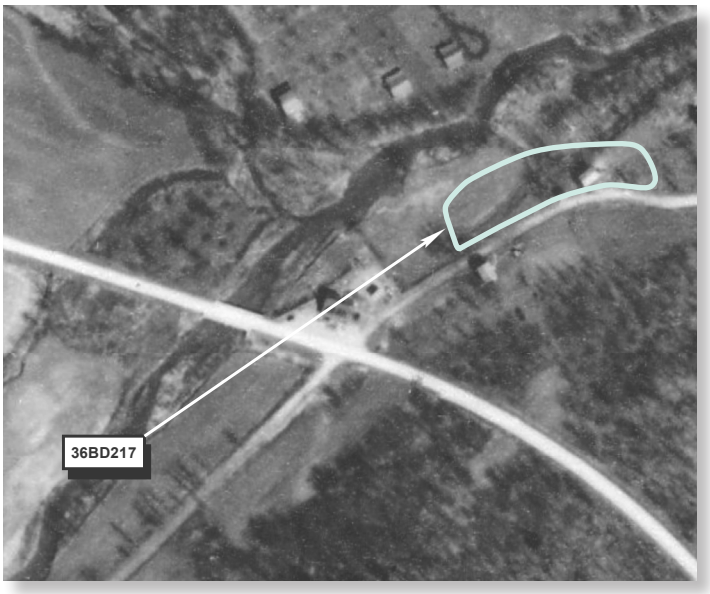


Approximate location of the Snook Farm Site (36BD217) in 1775.

Approximate location of the Snook Farm Site (36BD217) in 1861.



Approximate location of the Snook Farm Site (36BD217) in 1877.



1939 aerial photograph of the Snook Farm Site (36BD217).

Historic maps

Historic maps can help show the age of the site. By examining the maps, you can look back through time to see when a residence first appears on the map. Historic aerial photographs can be used to study how the property changed through time. The addition or demolition of buildings can sometimes be identified through these photographs.

Peace
Simplicity
Truth

The Quakers, or Religious Society of Friends, is a Christian denomination established during the mid-1600s in England. The Quaker faith focuses on the ordinary individual's own experience with Christ. A central theme is the concept that truth is continuously revealed to the individual from God. The local congregation for Quakers is called a Monthly Meeting.

Truth
Equality
Simplicity
Peace
Simplicity
Truth
Equality
Peace

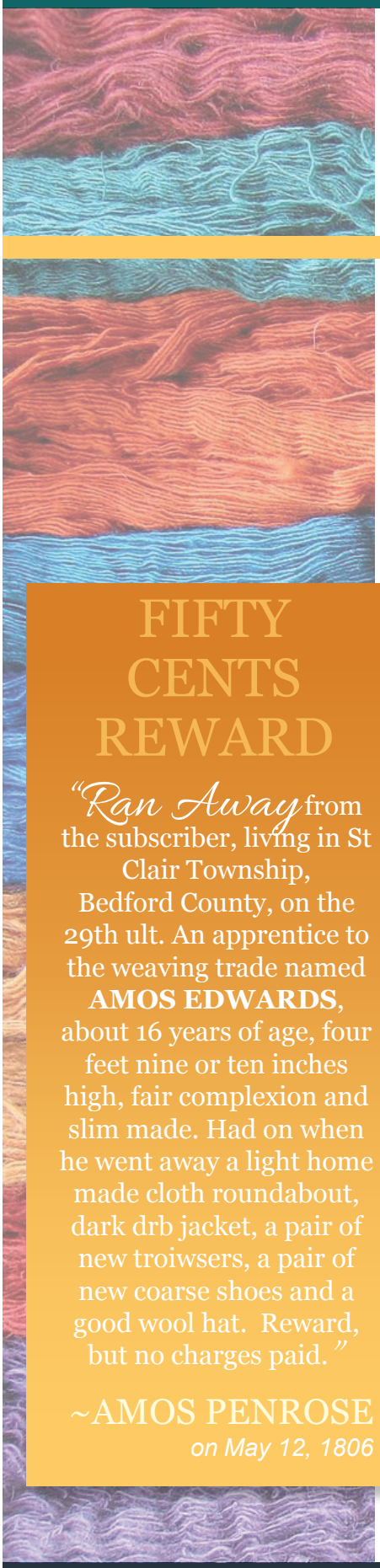
The Quakers *in* Bedford County

Quakers began to move to what is now Bedford County in the late 1700s. Many of the Bedford County Quakers were of Irish ancestry and had previously resided in Newbury and Menallen Townships, York County (which is now in Adams County). The Fishertown Meeting built its first meeting house in 1793 and Thomas and Abigail Penrose were actively involved with the Fishertown Meeting from its beginning. The Fishertown Meeting belonged to the Dunning Creek Monthly Meeting, which belonged to the Warrentown Quarterly Meeting, which in turn belonged to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

The Dunning Creek Monthly Meeting kept detailed records of births, deaths, marriages, and new members, along with meeting minutes about challenges the community faced. The minutes proved a fascinating insight in the lives of the Quaker families, including the Penrose clan. On January 26, 1817, Amos' brother, Thomas Penrose, was brought before the Monthly Meeting because he was accused of drinking in excess. In addition, another of Amos' brothers, William, was cited for "un-chastity" and "giving off in a disorderly manner."

In the 1820s there was a division in the Quaker Church: Elias Hicks, who was from Long Island, New York, was a preacher and gifted speaker. Hicks preached differing views from many traditionally held Quaker beliefs, such as beliefs related to the virgin birth and the divinity of Christ. Hicks was also an abolitionist who called for the boycott of products made by slaves. Hicks was labeled a heretic by the Quaker Church establishment, and there was a split between those who followed Hicks, called Hicksites, and the Orthodox Church.

The division between the Hicksites and the Orthodox Church spread to the Fishertown Meeting. In 1829, the Hicksites in Fishertown separated from the Orthodox Church and in 1832 they built their own church in Spring Meadow. The Penrose family was involved in this controversy that was playing out on a national scale. Thomas Penrose, Amos' brother, hosted Elias Hicks at least once during the early 1800s. Amos disowned his membership in the Orthodox Church and joined the Hicksite Meeting in 1831, where he became an elder. Amos' wife, Sophia, also disowned the Orthodox Church and became a minister in the Hicksite Church.



Weaving Industry

Based on historic research of Amos Penrose's will, historians believe he was a skilled weaver and employed apprentices in his household or at a shop in the neighborhood. His 1850 will noted his ownership of trade equipment, including a loom and tackling, big wheel, and hand cards. It was common to engage in home manufacturing during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in America. The trade of a weaver required training, equipment (loom, wheel, hand cards, etc.) and access to raw materials (sheep or flax). The Penrose family, like many families in the area, owned sheep throughout the nineteenth century.

It is likely that Amos Penrose practiced the trade of weaver in his father's household and later in his own homestead or shop. Further evidence of Amos Penrose's occupation as weaver is furnished by an advertisement which notes a runaway apprentice in his service in 1806 (see box). It was common during this time for those who had home industries to hire apprentices, who would owe a certain number of years of service to their employer in exchange for learning a trade.

FIFTY CENTS REWARD

"*Ran Away* from the subscriber, living in St Clair Township, Bedford County, on the 29th ult. An apprentice to the weaving trade named **AMOS EDWARDS**, about 16 years of age, four feet nine or ten inches high, fair complexion and slim made. Had on when he went away a light home made cloth roundabout, dark drb jacket, a pair of new troiwsers, a pair of new coarse shoes and a good wool hat. Reward, but no charges paid."

~AMOS PENROSE
on May 12, 1806

Amos Penrose's Will Inventory - 1850

Domestic Items	Value
Eleven (11) split bottom chairs	4.50
Dining table	3.50
Corner Cupboard	5.00
Lot of queensware	3.87
Lot of tin ware	1.00
Two (2) flat irons	.44
Irons	.20
Pot rock and chain	.50
Tin plate stove and pipe	5.00
Candle stand	.62
Bed and bedding	4.00
Bed and bedding	10.00
Bureau	3.00
Bed and bedding	4.00
Bed and bedding	4.00
Old table	.25
Lot of bed clothes	9.50
Old chest	.37
Old table	.25
Standing churn	.25
Lot of iron pots, kettles, etc.	4.45
Two wooden bowls	.12
Washing machine	.12
Ten plate stove	5.00
Old flour barrel	.12

Inventory of Amos Penrose's Possessions - 1805 Will

Tools	
Domestic Manufacturing	**Value**
Loom and tackling	10.00
Hand cards	.18
Sheep skin	.37
Big wheel and reel	1.00

Tools	
General	**Value**
Saw and drawing knife	.37
Steel yards	.50
Tar can	.25
Lot of old axes	.75
One (1) axe	1.50
Wheel barrow	2.00
Shovel and tongs	.25
Hand bellows	.37
Lot of old irons	1.50
Old barrels	1.00
Mall rings	.37
Shaving horse	.37

Agriculture	
Animals/Supplies	**Value**
Saddle bridle and saddlebags	1.00
Cow and calf	15.00
Red cow	12.50
Red bull	9.00
Yearling calf	4.50
Pair drawing chains	.25
Mare and colt	12.50
One (1) swine	4.00

Food	
Crops	**Value**
Oats per bushel	.35
2/3 of five acres of buckwheat	6.00
2/3 of 3 acres of corn	
Half bushel	.12

Tools	
Agriculture	**Value**
Dung hook	.18
Ox Chain	.37
Harrow	2.50
Plough	
Log chain	
Three (3) bags	1.50
Grind stone	.50
Lot of old scythes	.18
Windmill	7.50
Wagon ladder	1.25
Cutting box	1.25
Plough shovel	.37
Five bee scaps	10.00
Lot of garden tools and hay fork	1.75

It is likely that Amos used the Snook Farm House for his weaving industry, and the house may not have functioned as a traditional farmhouse. Based on the 1861 map, several other buildings that are no longer standing and were associated with the property were probably part of a small rural Quaker industrial complex. It likely would have included a gristmill, sawmill, and blacksmith shop. Interestingly, the gristmill and blacksmith shop are both on the historic maps to the south of the road close to the stone dwelling, but no evidence of these structures was encountered during a walkover of the area by the archaeologists. The sawmill would have been powered by water. In addition, the springbox drainage appeared to flow into the head mill race from Dunning Creek just to the northwest of the structures, indicating that it also may have contributed water power to the sawmill.

The Underground Railroad

In Bedford County, members of the Quaker Church, who were noted for their abolitionist stance, played prominent roles in the operation of the Underground Railroad. Fishertown was noted as one of the most important communities along the Underground Railroad in Bedford County. The Fishertown-Johnstown-Clearfield route was a major escape route for slaves in western Pennsylvania. The route through Fishertown follows the approximate path of present-day SR 56. Several active members of the Underground Railroad, known as conductors, operated in the vicinity of Pleasantville. Individuals provided food and secure locations for escaped slaves, including secluded locations on Chestnut Ridge, while seeking to avoid detection.

The Penrose family played an important role in the Underground Railroad. The Penrose property, now the Snook Farm House, was the first station on the route, about ten miles north of Bedford. According to Joseph Penrose, son of Amos and Sophia, the line ran from Cumberland, Maryland, to Altoona, Pennsylvania. In *Recollections of the Underground Railroad*, Joseph Penrose, recorded the occasion of his first remembrances of his family's involvement with the Underground Railroad around 1849-1850. In 1904, he wrote a letter describing how he saw runaway slaves who were being hidden on his family's property when he was a small child. He said that they were hidden among the boulders on the slopes behind the house.

View of the historic Penrose/Snook property along Ridge Market Road, facing east.

Jan 29th 1904.

Dear I. H. Betz:-

Friend Hiram Blackburn handed me your letter of Jan. 26th, directed to him in which you would like information in regard to the Underground Railroad, which was so gloriously carried on in Bedford County during the days of slavery in this country. Well Mr. Betz, I am 58 years old, Born of decendents of Friends or Quakers, of which it is useless to say was always found to be anti-slavery People. But now to the point that you ask for. -----This railroad run from Cumberland, Maryland to Altoona, Pa., and on through Center County and further than that Iam not able to give you any account and can only speak of the line from Bedford North--but this one colored manRev. Fidler I was well acquainted with, and a fine colored man he was---From Bedford this line run North, and on that line Friends (or Quakers) in the following order--Samuel Way, David Way and then Samuel Way and Cyrus Way and then came Amos Penrose and William and Thomas Penrose (brothers of Amos) and Amos Penrose two sons, Josiah and Samuel Penrose, of which I am a son of the latter--and our own farm, where my Grandfather lived when this work was being carried on.---I could show you the hiding place today, where in a lonely place in the rocks on my grandfather's farm,--where when I was but a small boy Ifirst saw the first runaway slaves.- My grandfather Amos Penrose always seen to ~~i~~ giving them their meals and at this time he had three to feed-two big colored men and a womas.-- When we went to their hiding place this colored woman grabbed me and kissed me and then commenced to cry as though her heart would break and said that she had a little boy that she left at home, just my size.-- This was my first experience and I shall never forget it, and suppose it happened when I was about three years ol d. It was about ten miles North of Bedford and was the first stationafter leaving Bedford and called the Quaker Settlement.---Then Northwest of this was a family by the name of Walker that came to this County from Adams County.-- The old gentlemen's name was Abner and he had a son Benjamin Walker that done a great deal on this line.---I have heard my grandfather Samuel Penrose and Uncle Josiah saythat there never was a slave caught by their owners after it passed into Benjamin Walker's hands.--Of Course there was plenty of men in those days that lived along the line that was in sympathy with the work and a good work it was, but when the genuine work had to be done the Ways, the Penroses and the Walkers had to do it--As have said from this North to Center County, cannot give any names for as you will see by my age I was young and the line was destroyed by the hand and pen of the greatest man that was ever born in this or any other country-Abraham Lincoln. If this proves to be any account to you, you are welcome to it-if not-just throw it into the waste~~r~~ basket---Yours Respectfully- Joseph Penrose.

Archaeological Data Recovery Excavations *at the* Snook Farm Site, 36BD217

For the Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations, a trench was excavated from the top to the bottom of the slope where the midden was located. The trench was five feet wide and thirty feet long.

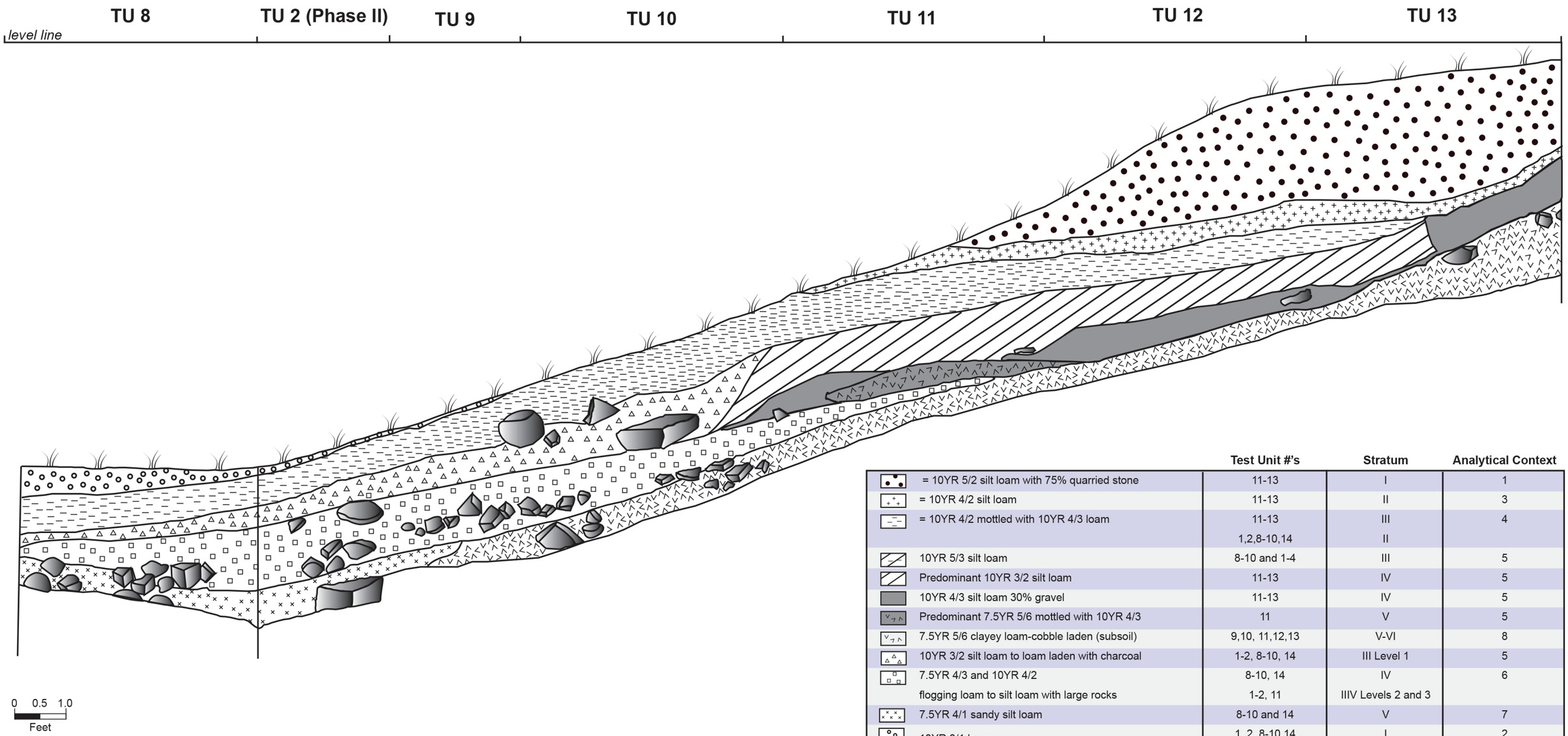
A 5 foot by 30 foot trench was excavated at the Snook Farm Site, 36BD217, for data recovery excavation.

The excavations revealed that the soils were dumped over the slope in a series of depositions. The soils in the trench were carefully mapped and records were kept about which deposit all of the artifacts came from. Over 9,500 historic artifacts were found during the archaeological data recovery excavations. At the bottom of the trench, there were several notched timbers. It is possible that the timbers were used as cribbing around the springhouse to line the channel flowing from the springhouse.

Household artifacts made up a large majority of the artifact assemblage, which consisted mainly of ceramic fragments, including redware, ironstone, pearlware, whiteware, stoneware, yellowware, porcelain, and bone china. The household artifacts also included glass items, including over 1,200 bottle glass fragments, such as fragments of alcohol bottles, medicine bottles, milk bottles, and nursing bottles. Canning supplies were also found.

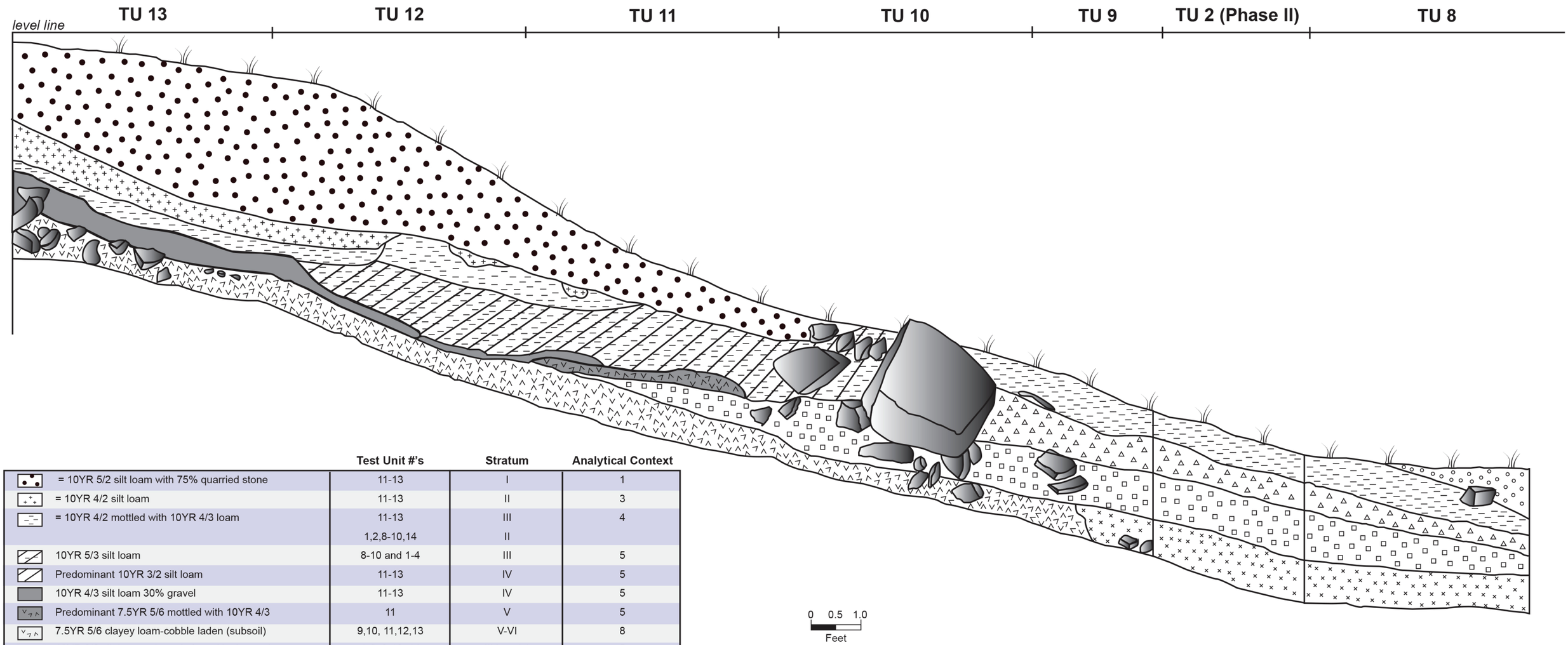
Notched timbers found at the bottom of the trench.

Feature 1 - East Profile



	Test Unit #'s	Stratum	Analytical Context
= 10YR 5/2 silt loam with 75% quarried stone	11-13	I	1
= 10YR 4/2 silt loam	11-13	II	3
= 10YR 4/2 mottled with 10YR 4/3 loam	11-13	III	4
	1,2,8-10,14	II	
10YR 5/3 silt loam	8-10 and 1-4	III	5
Predominant 10YR 3/2 silt loam	11-13	IV	5
10YR 4/3 silt loam 30% gravel	11-13	IV	5
Predominant 7.5YR 5/6 mottled with 10YR 4/3	11	V	5
7.5YR 5/6 clayey loam-cobble laden (subsoil)	9,10, 11,12,13	V-VI	8
10YR 3/2 silt loam to loam laden with charcoal	1-2, 8-10, 14	III Level 1	5
7.5YR 4/3 and 10YR 4/2	8-10, 14	IV	6
flogging loam to silt loam with large rocks	1-2, 11	IIIV Levels 2 and 3	
7.5YR 4/1 sandy silt loam	8-10 and 14	V	7
10YR 3/1 loam	1, 2, 8-10,14	I	2
Rocks			

Feature 1 - West Profile



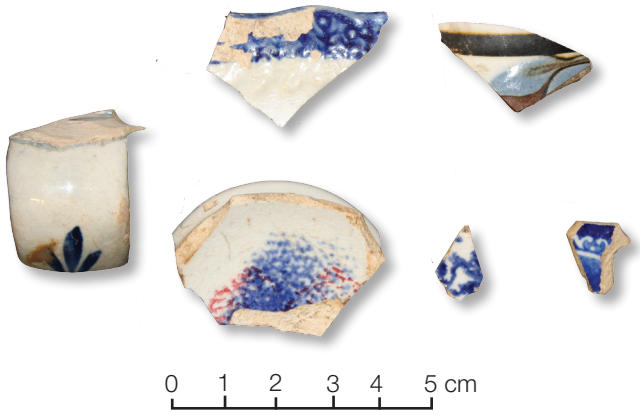
	Test Unit #'s	Stratum	Analytical Context
= 10YR 5/2 silt loam with 75% quarried stone	11-13	I	1
= 10YR 4/2 silt loam	11-13	II	3
= 10YR 4/2 mottled with 10YR 4/3 loam	11-13	III	4
	1,2,8-10,14	II	
10YR 5/3 silt loam	8-10 and 1-4	III	5
Predominant 10YR 3/2 silt loam	11-13	IV	5
10YR 4/3 silt loam 30% gravel	11-13	IV	5
Predominant 7.5YR 5/6 mottled with 10YR 4/3	11	V	5
7.5YR 5/6 clayey loam-cobble laden (subsoil)	9,10, 11,12,13	V-VI	8
10YR 3/2 silt loam to loam laden with charcoal	1-2, 8-10, 14	III Level 1	5
7.5YR 4/3 and 10YR 4/2	8-10, 14	IV	6
flogging loam to silt loam with large rocks	1-2, 11	IIIV Levels 2 and 3	
7.5YR 4/1 sandy silt loam	8-10 and 14	V	7
10YR 3/1 loam	1, 2, 8-10,14	I	2
Rocks			

Fragments from an ironstone saucer with a brown grape leaf pattern.

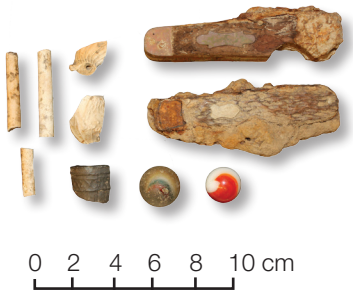
Iron stove parts.

Architectural remains were also numerous and included mostly nails and brick. Clothing related items such as buttons made of bone, wood, brass, copper, iron, shell, and glass were found, along with brass grommets, an iron buckle, an iron rivet, and leather shoe fragments. Numerous personal items, including pocket knives, a watch or eyeglass lens, pipe stems and bowls, and marbles were also recovered.

Over 400 pieces of animal bone were also found at the site. The majority of the bones were cow bones, but other species included pig, chicken, deer, turtle, and cat. Almost all of the different parts of the cow were found on the site, including parts that wouldn't have been sold by a butcher, which shows that the people living here were likely butchering cows on the site. There was also evidence that they were eating veal. On the other hand, most of the pig bones found were head bones. This might indicate that they were buying the heads to make head cheese, scrapple, or sausage.



Fragments of pearlware dishes.



Personal items, including white clay and stoneware tobacco pipe fragments, pocket knives, and glass marbles.

What Did We Learn?

Snook Farm Site, 36BD217

Fragments of an ironstone plate with a William Young & Sons maker's mark from Trenton, NJ.

Medicine bottle embossed with the manufacturers. John Gilbert & Co. from Philadelphia is to the left and Dr. Jayne's from Philadelphia is to the right.

Pewter spoon

The Snook Farm Site is an isolated site in a rural setting occupied by persons of the Quaker faith who were known for their plain lifestyle. This led archaeologists to initially believe that most of their possessions were made locally. However, the discovery of imported glass bottles, ceramic vessels, and other non-local goods shows that the people living at the Snook Farm Site were acquiring a fair number of items from outside the region.

Every day ceramics (redware and stoneware), represented 73% of the recovered ceramics, and were acquired locally. However, about 27% of the ceramic assemblage came from farther away, showing that they were participating in a larger market economy. Pearlware items were generally produced in England and porcelain items were mostly produced in England and China. Early nineteenth century hand painted, spattered, shell edged, and transfer printed designs were present, as were mid-nineteenth century sponged and transfer printed designs, and early twentieth century glazes and decal decorations, none of which were made locally. Artifacts possessing ***maker's marks*** which identified the manufacturer or place of manufacture also provided insight into participation in market economy. Four ceramic vessels were manufactured in England, one in Japan, one in Trenton, NJ, and one in Canonsburg, PA.

Pharmaceutical bottle glass also shows that the residents of the Snook Farm Site purchased goods from outside the region. Pieces of six medicine bottles were found, and two of them had embossing on them which allowed for identification. One identified the druggist John Gilbert & Co. of Philadelphia. The other bottle was a Dr. Jayne's patent medicine bottle, also of Philadelphia. The presence of these bottles indicated that the people who lived at the Snook Farm Site purchased medicines, some of which were shipped from Philadelphia.

The excavations at the Snook Farm Site provided evidence that inhabitants had access to outside goods and markets. Items made in England, Japan, and Trenton were likely shipped through Philadelphia, a significant gateway throughout the 1800s for products from the east and overseas. Goods from Canonsburg were probably shipped by way of Pittsburgh. By 1834, the

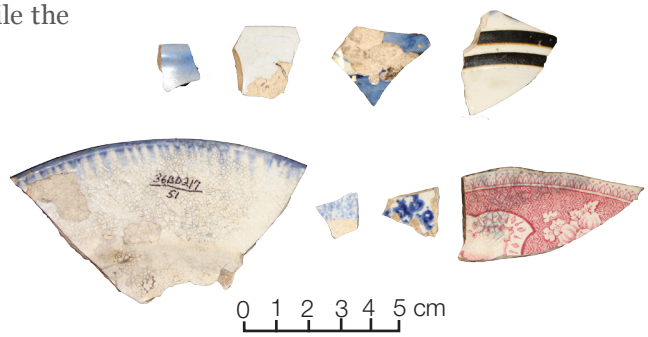
Pennsylvania Canal connected Pittsburgh to Philadelphia and by 1854 the Pennsylvania Railroad ran between the two cities, allowing people who lived in this area access to items from both places.

The results of the excavations and artifact analysis were also compared to the results of excavations from three other sites in western Pennsylvania and one Quaker Site in eastern Pennsylvania. The sites in western Pennsylvania were the Livengood Site in Somerset County, 36SO219, the Shaeffer Farm Site in Armstrong County, 36AR410, and the Cunningham Farm Site in Indiana County, 36IN332. The Quaker site in eastern Pennsylvania was the Hoopes House Site in Chester County, 36CH732.

The comparison of the ceramic artifacts and the animal bones found at all of the sites highlighted the differences between the sites. The types of ceramics used varied greatly by site. All of the sites in western Pennsylvania had at least some ceramics that came from the west, including Canonsburg, Pennsylvania or the states of Ohio, Indiana, and West Virginia. The Livengood Site had ceramics from Baltimore, which the Snook Farm Site did not, even though it was closer. Not surprisingly, all of the ceramics from the Hoopes House Site in eastern Pennsylvania came from that area or through Philadelphia. The Hoopes House Site also had the highest percentage of inexpensive ceramics, which was not expected, since this site, located in Chester County, had the easiest access to buying a variety of different goods. The residents of the Armstrong Site and the Hoopes House Site both used more local ceramics than the other sites and did not seem to participate as much in the wider market economy.

Fragments of a pearlware saucer with a painted Adam's Rose design

The animal bones found at all five sites show that butchering was occurring at all of the sites. As mentioned earlier, there were many more cow remains than pig remains at the Snook Farm Site. This made the Snook Farm Site unusual, as the other four sites all had more pig bones than cow bones. The Livengood Site, the Shaeffer Farm Site, and the Hoopes House all had sheep bones, while the Snook Farm Site and the Cunningham Farm Site did not.



Fragments of whiteware dishes with a variety of decorations.

The comparison of the ceramics and animal bones found at the Snook Farm Site, the Livengood Site, the Shaeffer Farm Site, and the Cunningham Farm Site has shown that during the nineteenth century, people living in rural outposts of western Pennsylvania were not as isolated as some might think. They had access to goods made in a variety of places, including England and Japan, and were acquiring products coming through Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Baltimore.

The SR 56 project was redesigned to avoid the Slagle Site, but the artifacts found point to the likelihood that the site was the place where the slaves were hidden.

The Slagle Site, 36BD265

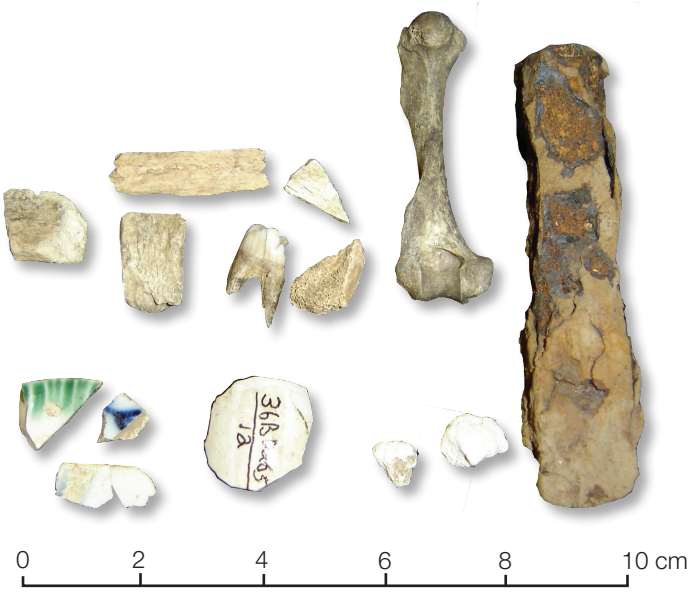
As explained in the last section, Joseph Penrose said that around 1849-1850, *escaped slaves were hidden in the boulders on the slopes* behind the house.

The location of the Slagle Site matched the description in Joseph Penrose's letter of the slaves' hiding place. It is on the lower slopes of Chestnut Ridge and the landform was littered with boulders. The artifacts were found on a relatively flat spot on an otherwise relatively steep hillside about 300 feet to the south of the house.

As with the Snook Farm Site, the Slagle Site contained Native American artifacts as well as artifacts from the nineteenth century. The Native American artifacts are similar to the ones at the Snook Farm Site, although there were only 272 of them. It appears that the Slagle Site also dates to the Archaic Period and might have been used for a similar purpose as the Snook Farm Site – as a processing station for lithic material quarried nearby.

There were 48 historic artifacts found at the Slagle Site. Most of the artifacts were dishes for cooking or eating, including redware, stoneware, whiteware, and creamware ceramic fragments. A pig tooth was also found, which might be evidence of a meal that someone had here. There was also a skunk leg bone, but that is believed to have been deposited naturally.

The historic artifacts seemed to be an anomaly when they were first found, because there doesn't appear to be an immediately logical reason for their being here. This area, being upslope from the house, would have been an impractical and inconvenient place to throw away household trash. On the other hand, it would have been a fairly convenient location to sneak food to slaves that were hiding in this forested area, as it was relatively remote and the location actually overlooks the house and road, providing a good viewing



Historic artifacts found at the Slagle Site. They may have been used by escaped slaves being hidden on the Underground Railroad.

point for a hideout. The historic artifact assemblage is small, which could either be a result of the limited archaeological testing performed (because the project was redesigned to avoid the site) or because the location was used for an extremely brief period of time. We cannot prove that the Slagle Site is the location that was described by Joseph Penrose as a hiding place on the Underground Railroad, but the evidence is very strong. If it is the Underground Railroad hiding place, it was very exciting to connect Joseph Penrose's letter and the artifacts. Standing among the boulders behind the house provided a connection with this very important and exciting chapter in our history.

Appendix A:
Glossary

Archaic Period: A Native American cultural period dating to about 8000-1800 B.C. or 3,800 to 10,000 years ago. During this period, Native Americans were hunter-gatherers who did not have permanent villages. They moved around during the different seasons to hunt and gather different types of animals and plants. The population was very small at the beginning of the Archaic Period, and each group had a fairly large territory. Population size grew throughout the Archaic Period, and as a result, each group's territory shrank in size. Also throughout the Archaic Period, the Native Americans began using a wider variety of plant and animal resources.

Artifact: Any portable object made, altered, or used by humans.

Assemblage: A collection of things. Archaeologists refer to all of the artifacts recovered from a site as an artifact assemblage.

Lithic: Stone or rock. Native American artifacts made of stone are referred to by archaeologists as lithic artifacts or being made of lithic material.

Maker's mark: A symbol, sign, or character put onto a product by the manufacturer to identify who made the product. Archaeologist's sometimes find maker's marks on ceramic, metal, or glass artifacts and can use the mark to tell when and where it was made.

Midden: A trash dump. Middens are often darker than the surrounding soil because they are full of decaying organic material.

Mitigation: Measures that reduce the adverse effects of project construction on archaeological resources. Phase III archaeological data recovery is one type of mitigation.

National Register of Historic Places: The official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation.

Native American: The people who were living in the Americas before Europeans arrived. The Native American sites referred to in this booklet were occupied by Native Americans prior to the arrival of Europeans in the Americas. There are also sites that Native Americans lived at after the arrival of Europeans.

Projectile point: A general term used for chipped stone tools used as the tip for spears and arrows. Commonly called arrowheads or spearpoints, some projectile points were also used as knives.

Underground Railroad: Routes and a series of secret hiding places used by escaped slaves to reach free states and Canada. The Underground Railroad was not actually a railroad, nor was the route underground (although some of the hiding places were underground). It had "conductors" who helped the slaves travel from "stop" to "stop." Families along the route helped hide, feed, and take care of slaves on their journey.

Appendix B:
What Does An Archaeologist Do?

The most common question archaeologists get is "Do you find dinosaur bones?" Archaeologists don't actually look for dinosaur bones, although some archaeologists may find them by accident occasionally. Archaeology is the scientific study of the human past through the recovery of material remains and the analysis of those remains. People have lived in North America for at least 13,000 years.

Here in Pennsylvania, archaeologists study the past lives of people who have lived here both before and after the European colonization of the New World. There are four basic components to an archaeological study: background research, fieldwork, laboratory analysis, and documentation. Each of these components is equally important, and fieldwork should never be undertaken unless the other three are also going to be completed.

Background research should be conducted before beginning any field work. Background research tells us what is already known about an area, including where archaeological sites are already recorded and what work has been done at those Sites. It also allows us to develop a context for the site. A historic context contains information about what is already known regarding a site's specific time period, location, and type. The context is the framework within which the site's importance can be evaluated. Background research will often continue throughout the field work, laboratory work, and report write-up, as new information from the excavations and analyses comes to light.

One component of background research is reviewing research that has been previously conducted.

Fieldwork is the on-Site investigation of an area or archaeological site. Field work can consist of a variety of different activities. In Pennsylvania, these activities often include reconnaissance, controlled surface collection, subsurface sampling or testing, and intensive excavations.

Field reconnaissance involves walking over an entire area to assess the conditions. During the walk-over, the archaeologists look for previously disturbed areas, evidence of archaeological sites on the surface (such as artifacts or foundations), water sources, how steep the ground is, and any other factors that may help them determine if there might be any archaeological Sites present.

Controlled surface collection is the systematic collection of artifacts that are visible on the surface of the ground. It is usually done immediately after a field has been plowed and after it rains, as this often brings artifacts to the surface. When archaeologists are walking fields looking for artifacts during a controlled surface collection, they walk in rows that are a set distance apart, and they record the location of the artifacts they find.

Subsurface sampling or testing of an area is often done to determine if sites are present. Also, subsurface sampling or testing of a known site is done to assess whether the site is significant. It usually includes the excavation of shovel test pits or test units. Shovel test pits are round holes that are approximately 2 feet in diameter and test units are square holes that are approximately 3.3 by 3.3 feet. Sometimes backhoes can be used to cut trenches or to remove overburden that is covering up a Site.

Intensive excavations are usually full-scale investigations where a large portion of the Site is excavated to recover the important information that can be learned from the Site. It usually includes excavating blocks of test units and any features that are identified.

Laboratory analysis is the processing of the artifacts found during field work. This includes washing, labeling, inventorying, analyzing, and packing the artifacts in appropriate containers for curation. Curation is the storage and maintenance of archaeological artifacts in an appropriate facility. The artifacts should be stored in archivally safe bags and boxes and the facility should be climate controlled. A very important aspect of curation is that the artifacts are made available to other people in the future who might want to use them for additional research.

Documentation is writing the results of the archaeological investigations and making them available to other researchers and the general public. There are usually at least two different types of documentation. A detailed technical document is prepared for other archaeologists. It usually includes all of the data that was generated during the excavations and analyses, so that other archaeologists can use that data for their research. The second is a booklet (such as this one), brochure, poster, exhibit, website, or other avenue for the public to learn about the Site and the important information that was learned from the Site.

Intensive excavation being conducted at Site 7NC-B-11, a historic farm complex in Wilmington, Delaware.

Preparing reports for other archaeologist and also for the public is an important component of archaeological investigations.

Artifacts are returned to the lab for processing and analysis.

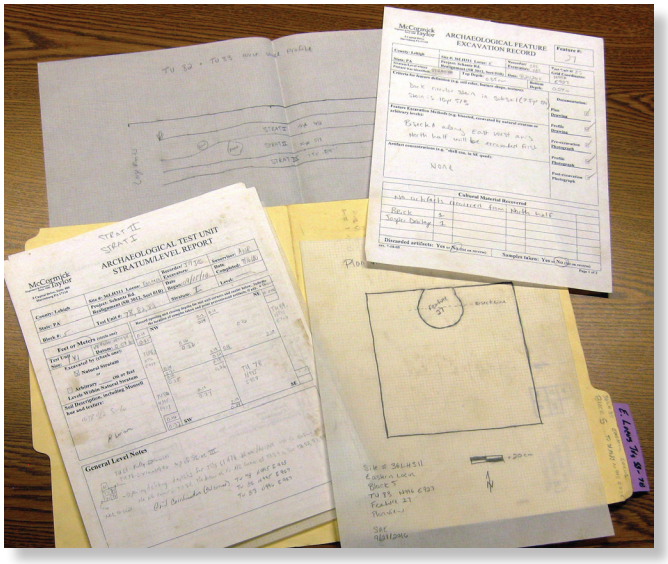
Appendix C:
Archaeological Ethics

Archaeologists adhere to a set of ethics. This means that they recognize there are appropriate and inappropriate activities and behaviors to follow when conducting archaeological investigations. Conducting archaeological excavations is destructive – once someone has excavated a portion of a site, it is destroyed. If the important information from that portion of the site is lost, it can never be obtained again. Ways the information could be lost would be if excavations were carried out haphazardly, careful records not kept during excavations, artifacts not properly analyzed, results not written up and made available to the public, or any number of other reasons. This is why it is so important that all archaeological work be conducted in a manner which follows accepted protocols and why trained archaeological professionals should supervise all archaeological excavations.

One of the core beliefs at the center of archaeological ethics is the idea that archaeological sites are an important part of our shared heritage and the results of the excavations should benefit the public. Anyone participating in archaeological research should strive to be a good steward of the Site, the artifacts, and the information that is recovered.

If you are involved in an archaeological project, always remember that you are destroying or damaging the Site. The reasons for conducting the excavations should outweigh the damage. Good reasons for conducting archaeological excavations are that the site is slated for destruction by some kind of construction project (such as the roadway project for which this booklet has been written) or that the site contains information that is so significant that it will contribute greatly to our knowledge of the way people lived during a specific time period in a certain place (such as the work often conducted by universities and the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology).

The Society for American Archaeology, an international organization dedicated to the research, interpretation, and protection of the archaeological heritage of the Americas, has eight principles that archaeologists should follow. If you plan to become involved in archaeological research, you should take a look at them. They can be found on their website at www.saa.org, under the section entitled "About the Society."



The paperwork completed by archaeologist is an important part of the documentation of the archaeological investigations. These records will be permanently curated with the artifacts.

Appendix D:
Why Does PennDOT do Archaeology?

Many PennDOT, as well as local road and bridge, projects receive funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). There are federal and state laws that require agencies or individuals to take historic properties into consideration any time they receive federal or state funding, licensing, or assistance. Two of these important laws are Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (along with the regulations that enforce it, 36CFR§800) and the Pennsylvania History Code (37 Pa. Cons. Stat., Section 507 et. seq.). We often call the process that PennDOT goes through when it is considering historic properties the Section 106 process.

The underlying assumption of these laws is that historic properties, including archaeological Sites, are important to all Americans. Our Federal Government believes this and has explained why in the National Historic Preservation Act:

"The Congress finds and declares that -

(1) the spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage;

(2) the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people;

(3) historic properties significant to the Nation's heritage are being lost or substantially altered, often inadvertently, with increasing frequency;

(4) the preservation of this irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans."

As a result, agencies such as PennDOT and FHWA are required to consider the effects on historic properties within the area of potential effects of any projects they carry out, approve, or fund. Historic properties are defined by regulation as districts, Sites, structures, buildings, objects, or traditional cultural properties that are listed in, or are eligible for, listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Historic properties are also referred to as cultural resources. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The regulatory definition of the area of potential effects is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties. For archaeological Sites, the area of potential effects is any place in which ground disturbing activities could occur for a project.

The State Historic Preservation Office administers the national historic preservation program at the state level, reviews National Register of Historic Places nominations, maintains data on historic properties that have been identified but not yet nominated, and consults with federal agencies during the Section 106 process. In Pennsylvania, the State Historic Preservation Office is the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Bureau for Historic Preservation. To successfully complete the Section 106 process, PennDOT and FHWA work with the State Historic Preservation Office, any Federally Recognized Tribes that are interested in the project, and other parties to complete

are interested in the project, and other parties to complete the steps listed below.

- Identify properties within the area of potential effects that are listed in, or are eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places.

- Determine if the project will have an effect on the property, and if so, if the effect will be adverse. An adverse effect occurs when an undertaking may directly or indirectly alter characteristics of a historic property that qualifies it for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

- When PennDOT projects have an adverse effect on a historic property, PennDOT must explore measures to minimize or mitigate the effect.

For this booklet, we only talk about how PennDOT considers the effects of its projects on archaeological Sites, although they also consider buildings, bridges, historic districts, and other above ground man-made structures.

There are three phases that PennDOT follows when considering whether the project will affect archaeological Sites.

- *Phase I archaeological identification surveys* are intended to locate archaeological Sites within the area of potential effects.

- *Phase II archaeological evaluation investigations* are conducted to determine if an archaeological Site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The results of the investigations should also provide the time period in which the Site was used, the boundaries of the Site, and some idea of the artifacts types and distribution and, soil characteristics found at the Site. If the Site is determined to be eligible, PennDOT must assess if the project will have an effect on the Site, and if so, if the effect will be adverse. For PennDOT projects, an adverse effect usually means that the project will destroy a part or all of the Site.

- *Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations* are conducted on Sites that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as mitigation if PennDOT activities will have an adverse effect on the Site.

Our Federal Government believes that historic properties are significant to the Nation's heritage. Photograph of intensive excavations at Site 36BK876, a historic farmstead in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

PennDOT and FHWA are required to involve the public throughout the process of identifying historic properties, determining if they are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, assessing if the project will have an effect on properties that are eligible, and mitigating those effects that are adverse.

To learn more about PennDOT's public involvement process for historic properties and find out about projects that are being developed in your area and how you can get involved in them, you can go to the **Pennsylvania Transportation & Heritage website** that PennDOT has set up for this purpose: www.paprojectpath.org.

To find out more about the Section 106 process, you can read *A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review*. Go to www.achp.gov and click on **Working with Section 106**.

Careful record-keeping is essential during archaeological investigations.

www.paprojectpath.org

www.achp.gov

Appendix E:
For Further Reading

Comfort, William Wistar

2000 *The Quakers: A Brief History of Their Influence in Pennsylvania.* Pennsylvania Historical Association, University Park, Pennsylvania.

Eiswert, Robert H., Barbara J. Shaffer, Andrew Wyatt, Cristie L. Barry, Jerry A. Clouse, Charles A. Richmond, Francine F. Arnold, and Kathleen M. Diehl

2012 *Phase III Archaeological Data Recovery Excavations and Alternative Mitigation for 36BD217 for the S.R. 0056, Section 008 Transportation Improvement Project, West St. Clair Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania.* Report prepared by McCormick Taylor, Inc. for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Engineering District 9-0, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. Report on file at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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1907 *The Annals of Bedford County, Pennsylvania.* Gazette Publishing Company, Bedford, Pennsylvania.

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1985 *A History of Dunning's Creek and Fishertown Monthly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends.* Anundsen Publishing Co., Decorah, Iowa.

Appendix F:
Getting Involved in Archaeology

The best way to get involved with archaeology is to join a local chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA).

About the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology:

Organized in 1929 to promote the study of the prehistoric and historic archaeological resources of Pennsylvania and neighboring states; Encourage scientific research and discourage exploration which is unscientific or irresponsible in intent or practice; Promote the conservation of archaeological Sites, artifacts, and information; Encourage the establishment and maintenance of sources of archaeological information such as museums, societies, and educational programs; Promote the dissemination of archaeological knowledge by means of publications and forums; Foster the exchange of information between the professional and the avocational archaeologists (www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com).

Local chapters of the SPA often do research, conduct archaeological excavations, process and analyze artifacts, and write reports and other publications. They do most of this through the efforts of volunteers.

The SPA local chapter in the Bedford County area is Chapter #20, the Somerset County Chapter. It meets at 7:00 P.M. on the last Tuesday of the month, March through November, at the Somerset County Historical Center, 10649 Somerset Pike (Rt. 985), Somerset, PA (as of the publication of this booklet). The Chapter website is http://www.quemahoning.com/Somerset.html.

Another way to volunteer doing archaeology is through the United States Forest Service's **Passports in Time Program**. The US Forest Service uses volunteers to do archaeology and other historic preservation activities at interesting sites throughout the National Forests in the country. Further information is on their website at www.passportintime.com.

Other opportunities to get involved can often be found at local colleges, universities, and historical societies. Contact local societies and the anthropology departments at nearby schools to find out if they are doing archaeology and if they accept volunteers.

Look for these other titles in the *Byways to the Past* series:

At the Sign of the King of Prussia
Richard M. Affleck

Gayman Tavern: A Study of a Canal-Era Tavern in Dauphin Borough
Jerry A. Clouse

A Bridge to the Past: The Archaeology of the Mansfield Bridge Site
Robert D. Wall and Hope E. Luhman

Voegtly Church Cemetery: Transformation and Cultural Change in Mid-Nineteenth Century Urban Society
Diane Beynon Landers

On the Road: Highways and History in Bedford County
Scott D. Herberling and William M. Hunter

Industrial Archaeology in the Blacklog Narrows: A Story of the Juniata Iron Industry
Scott D. Herberling

Connecting People and Places: The Archaeology of Transportation at Lewistown Narrows
Paul A. Raber

Canal in the Mountains: The Juniata Main Line Canal in the Lewistown Narrows
Scott D. Herberling

The Walters Business Park Site: Archaeology at the Juniata Headwaters
David J. Rue, Ph.D.

The Wallis Site: The Archaeology of a Susquehanna River Floodplain at Liverpool, Pennsylvania
Patricia E. Miller, Ph.D.

Small is Beautiful: Native American Occupations at Site 36MG378, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Andrew Wyatt & Barbara J. Shaffer

Don't Judge the Ground by its Cover: The Shannon Site
Emma K. Diehl

The Snook Farm Site, 36BD217, is a nineteenth century archaeological site located in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Part of the site was impacted when the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation made improvements to the intersection of State Route 56 and Ridge Market Road. The Penrose family lived on the site from the early to the late 1800s. The Penroses were Quakers who had a weaving industry at the site. In addition, the Penroses participated in the Underground Railroad and hid slaves on their property. Artifacts found at the site have shown that the Penroses were getting some of their possessions from faraway markets, including Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, England, and Japan. Excavations at the Snook Farm Site have provided insights into what life was like in Bedford County in the 1800s.

Equality Peace Simplicity Truth

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION