ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP SEWER HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP, LEBANON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CLIENT:

Hanover Engineering Associates

PROJECT SPONSOR:

Heidelberg Township

REVIEW AGENCY:

Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission

PROJECT STAFF:

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RGA completed a Phase IB/II archaeological survey for the proposed Heidelberg Township sewer. The project involved the construction of four pump stations and 83,300 linear feet of gravity sewer, with sections proposed along the south side of Historic Schaefferstown. The Phase IB archaeological survey identified potentially significant archaeological resources within six areas of the project corridor: three prehistoric sites and three historic sites. A Phase II archaeological survey was subsequently conducted at five of the six sites to evaluate the sites' eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The project was redesigned to avoid the sixth site, the Schaefferstown East Historic Site.

Phase II archaeological investigations at the three prehistoric sites resulted in the recovery of few additional artifacts. Investigations at the Haller Farm Historic Site recovered artifacts related to a former early twentieth-century silo complex and a nineteenth-century outbuilding. None of these sites were considered significant and no additional work was recommended in these areas. Investigations at the Schaeffers Meadow Site exposed a series of burnt planks overlain by heterogeneous fill that contained a mix of late eighteenth to late nineteenth-century artifacts. The feature was identified as either the remains of a previous bridge or of a structure related to agricultural practices in the meadow.