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Birdwood Mansion Rehabilitation Archaeological Monitoring of Construction Activity

The goal of the construction monitoring at Birdwood will be to document, through photographs and scaled drawings, unanticipated cultural deposits and features that may be encountered as well as to record areal soil development. As opportunities arise, unprovenienced collections of material culture will be made from back dirt soils.

Once construction activities have been initiated, a qualified archaeologist will make periodic visits to the project area for monitoring purposes. Areas where Phase I archaeological investigations have recovered significant quantities of material culture or identified buried cultural features, will be considered potentially sensitive areas and will be monitored closely by archaeologists. If significant cultural features are identified during monitoring of construction activities, archaeologists will temporarily stop work in the area of interest to expose, clean and document the feature through photographs and maps. If a cultural feature identified during monitoring is believed to be significant enough to warrant additional archaeological investigation, the University of Virginia Foundation project manager will be notified immediately.

All fieldwork will be performed under the direct supervision of an experienced archaeologist who meets or exceeds the professional qualifications promoted by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR).

Steve Thompson, PhD, RPA

Principal