An intensive soil survey of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard Complex was made by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service in June 1969. This survey was requested by the Navy to furnish basic soils data and interpretations needed to further develop the area. Immediate use will be made of the information for landscape planning and for planning new or expanded engineering projects. The survey was performed under a reimbursable agreement.

Presently about one-half of the approximately 1300 acres of land in the "Shipyard Complex" is highly built-up. This part of the area supports large buildings, docks, and the like with all of the connecting land surface paved with concrete or asphalt. The rest of the area is much more open and undeveloped.

Soil Scientists Albert D. Backer and Edward A. Tompkins from the Doylestown SCS office worked with Navy Staff Conservationists to conduct on-site investigations at the Philadelphia base. A soil map (scale about 1" equals 600') and soil descriptions were prepared on the basis of data gathered. In addition, a comprehensive study and analysis were made of deep boring data obtained at various times since 1918. The deep boring data were supplied by the Navy. Representative borings were selected along two intersecting transect lines across the "Shipyard Complex". These lines were centrally oriented approximately east-west and north-south. Vertical profiles were then drawn along these transects to show the kinds, thicknesses, and position of "below ground" geologic materials. The vertical profiles extend to a depth of about 80 feet and cover the full length and width of the area. Terms used in labeling the layers correspond to the terms of the boring data drawings.