



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN133

Site Name: Brewer Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Wright # S/BP-1, Beaver Pond

Historic

Brief Description:

Early & Middle Woodland shell middens, Possible Late/Terminal Archaic short-term camp

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code 19)MtMve

Latitude 39.0399 Longitude -76.5604

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 0-2%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Topography

- Floodplain
- Hilltop/bluff
- Interior flat
- Upland flat
- Ridgetop
- Terrace
- Low terrace
- High terrace
- Rockshelter/cave
- Hillslope
- Unknown
- Other
- Shoreline

Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Severn River

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tidewater/marsh <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Minimum distance to water is 10 m | | | |

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1860 - 1900
- ca. 1900 - 1930
- Post 1930

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

- ### Prehistoric
- Multi-component
 - Village
 - Hamlet
 - Base camp
 - Rockshelter/cave
 - Earthen mound
 - Cairn
 - Burial area
 - Misc. ceremonial
 - Rock art
 - Shell midden
 - STU/lithic scatter
 - Quarry/extraction
 - Fish weir
 - Production area
 - Unknown
 - Other context
 - isolated find

- ### Historic
- Urban/Rural? Rural
 - Domestic
 - Homestead
 - Farmstead
 - Mansion
 - Plantation
 - Row/townhome
 - Cellar
 - Privy
 - Industrial
 - Mining-related
 - Quarry-related
 - Mill
 - Black/metalsmith
 - Furnace/forge
 - Other
 - Transportation
 - Canal-related
 - Road/railroad
 - Wharf/landing
 - Maritime-related
 - Bridge
 - Ford
 - Educational
 - Commercial
 - Trading post
 - Store
 - Tavern/inn
 - Military
 - Battlefield
 - Fortification
 - Encampment
 - Townsite
 - Religious
 - Church/mtg house
 - Ch support bldg
 - Burial area
 - Cemetery
 - Sepulchre
 - Isolated burial
 - Bldg or foundation
 - Possible Structure
 - Post-in-ground
 - Frame-built
 - Masonry
 - Other structure
 - Slave related
 - Non-domestic agri
 - Recreational
 - Midden/dump
 - Artifact scatter
 - Spring or well
 - Unknown
 - Other context

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N Other samples taken

Historic context samples Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		Koens-Crispin	
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types			
Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Popes Creek	4
Dames Qtr	2	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	13	Mockley	15
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		1		Stoneware	
Earthenware		Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	2	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	3	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhenish	3	Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>						

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	115	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	3	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	19	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	39	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features	
Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lithic Material		Fer quartzite		<input type="checkbox"/>		Sil sandstone		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	24	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	8	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	116	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	41
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features		Privy/outhouse		Depression/mound		Unknown	
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>						

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 2: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 3: +/- years BP Reliability

Sample 4: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 5: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 6: +/- years BP Reliability

Sample 7: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 8: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 9: +/- years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at N/A

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18AN133, also known as Brewer Point site (sometimes called Wright # S/BP-1, Beaver Pond, or Brewer Pond) is located on Sherwood Forest Road (the northern terminus of the Sahlin Farm Road) near Crownsville, Maryland. The site is comprised of Early & Middle Woodland shell middens, and a possible Late/Terminal Archaic short-term camp. The soil is almost uniformly Annapolis fine sandy loam—a glauconitic, fluviomarine sediment, varying largely in terms of slope and, to a lesser extent, late 20th-century surface modifications and possibly plowing of the more level surfaces. The site occupies the top of a bluff overlooking the wooded, deeply cut ravines that run eastward to Brewer Pond, and a broad expanse of the Round Bay portion of the Severn River. Most of the area is mowed meadow with a few trees. The western portion is wooded and borders a deeply cut ravine to the west. There are no structures on site, although a dwelling is proposed in the wooded area on the west side of the site.

The project area is just north of the crossroads hamlet of Iglehart, a couple of miles east of Crownsville. It is part of Angelin's Discovery and Richardson's Joy (aka Fradsum). Lord Baltimore awarded a patent to William Anglin (1713) for the 60-acre parcel the patentee would call Anglins Discovery. The surveyor described it in 1714 as "a certain piece of vacant land partly cultivated and partly not...on the south side of Seaverne River...beginning at a bounded ash standing in a swampy bottom...being a boundary of a tract of land called Richardsons Joy". Anglins Discovery would be combined with Richardsons Joy in subsequent conveyances. The entire 229 acres was a part of the Reverend Mr. Fowler's farm in the 1860s and the entirety of the Klassen farm in the 1870s. In the early 20th century, a German speaking family—the von Schwerdtners—occupied the 229-acre farm. The remains of their farmhouse, which had burned in the 1920s, and a deep well, survive on the Finizio tract to the north. A cemetery, with a single headstone and a footstone, survives between the Sahlin Farm and Finizio tract, but is owned by another. The US Government seized the family's land in 1918 under the provisions of the 1917 Trading with the Enemies Act (50 U.S.C. App., 1 et seq.). US Attorney General Homer S. Cummings, successor by law to the Alien Property Custodian of the United States, conveyed 126 acres of what became Sahlin Farm to Oscar Sahlin in 1937.

The only surviving son of Friedrich and Anna Katharina von Schwerdtner, Ernst Ottomar von Schwerdtner, successfully sued the government for his father's moiety, granted to Ernst under the provisions of his father's will. He was unsuccessful in recovering his mother's share, which she stipulated would be sold and the proceeds bequeathed to several heirs in the USA and Germany).

Local attitudes towards the von Schwerdtners during the first quarter of the 20th century have not been researched. The fact that Friedrich von Schwerdtner returned to Germany in August 1914, more than two years before the USA entered the First World War may not have mitigated the anger of those who lost family in the war. Local lore has it that the farm burned in or around 1920, although plats of the farm prepared by local surveyor J. Revel Carr depict the main dwelling in 1930. The depiction, however, is not an accurate representation of the surviving footprint of the dwelling, nor does it illustrate at least two other buildings within 100 ft of the dwelling; so the reader should not read too much into the drawings.

This site was originally recorded by Henry Wright, of the University of Michigan. The site form was filled out by Tyler Bastian, State of Maryland archaeologist, in 1970. The site form mentions an Archaic point.

In 2005, Gibb Archaeological Consulting conducted Phase I testing of a nearby tract of land which included shovel testing of the west end of 18AN133 and 2 1/2 foot by 2 1/2 foot units, salvage of eroding pit on bluff, and surface collection of the eroded pit material on the steep bluff face. The site boundary was expanded to include area to the west. Ceramics dating to the Accokeek phase of the Early Woodland and the Selby Bay phase of the Middle Woodland were recovered, along with rhyolite and quartzite flakes. The site appears to be a series of small shell middens and pits along the bluff above the Severn River and Brewer Pond. Standard interval shovel testing (65-ft) identified scattered flakes, oyster shell, and remnant oyster shell midden. Water-screening of material from a thin midden remnant through window screen mesh yielded a quartzite and a rhyolite flake, but no pottery or bone. The midden was sampled with a 2 1/2 by 2 1/2 ft excavation unit. No material was recovered from beneath the midden. Salvage of a small remnant of an oyster shell pit eroding out of the bluff yielded no cultural material, however, surface collection of the steep bluff below led to the recovery of two large sherds: a Mockley net-impressed bowl rim with a drilled hole, and a cord-impressed Accokeek sherd. Other fragments of Accokeek were noted further east along the bluff near the Anne Arundel County property line.

Phase II testing was conducted by Gibb Archaeological Consulting in February of 2017. Fieldwork included 185 shovel test pits at 25-ft intervals on 12 transects of varying lengths at 25-ft intervals, instrument mapping, and 10 3x3-foot excavation units adjacent to shovel tests that encountered possible features. Two intact midden deposits were recovered in their entirety, the shell and approximately 10 liters of soil subjected to water-screening through window mesh at the laboratory. Results of water-screening were identical to those from the 2005 study. A few flecks of charcoal, but mostly oyster shell scale, were recovered.

Surface reconnaissance revealed some disturbance to the surface of the site in terms of driveway gravelling, placement of two trailers, and evidence of intended disturbances represented by stacked timbers and other materials for construction on or near the site. Eroding shell-filled pits or sheet middens were noted at two points along the bluff: the ravine edge south of the trailers and extending eastward to the County land, and around the bases of several large trees. Crushed and whole valves also appear intermittently across much of the surface, particularly in the eastern portion of the study area. A telephone interview with the current owner confirmed that he had cleaned the area of materials, including masonry rubble, that had been illicitly dumped.

Shovel testing produced only 66 artifacts. Given the nature of the deposits—shell middens—which typically yield little more than shell, that result is unremarkable. Finds included several Early and Middle Woodland pottery types, an Early Woodland Rossville projectile point, and a possible Terminal Archaic Bare Island projectile point. But fully one-third of the finds represents an early Colonial period site, and those finds largely clustered in the southeast corner of the study area. Fire-cracked rock and all types of flakes, as well as core fragments and a hammerstone, were recovered from the shovel tests, but their numbers are too small to suggest any patterning. Shovel test B4 did produce the three quartz core fragments suggestive of a lithic reduction area. Shovel testing revealed intermittent deposits of oyster midden across the 4-acre testing area, including a Late Archaic (non-shell) component, as well as Early Woodland (Accokeek and Popes Creek pottery, and possibly Eastern Shore Dames Quarter) and Middle Woodland (Mockley pottery) components. The field crew discovered an unanticipated early 18th-century component in the southeastern corner of the study area. Shovel testing and stratigraphic excavation revealed evidence of mechanical grubbing and some cutting and filling, confirmed by the current owner to have occurred in the late 1980s or early 1990s. Those actions have degraded portions of the site, particularly in the western half. Erosion also has taken its toll on the soils along the bluff edge and in a large, broad drainage in the north-central portion of the study area.

Historic era artifacts concentrated in the southeastern quadrant of the site. They include well-preserved handwrought nails, redwares, North Devon sand tempered earthenware, and a neck sherd from Rhenish gray stoneware bulbous mug. Although few, these clustered objects suggest an early 18th-century domestic site.

Based on the shovel test findings, nine excavation units were excavated to explore a possible lithic reduction area near B4 (TU5) and possible intact shell middens. A tenth unit was excavated near TU9 to increase the sample size of historic era artifacts in an attempt to more securely date the historic component. Excavations encountered remnant oyster midden deposits in the south-central and southeastern portions of the study area. These units produced small numbers of aboriginal artifacts, few of which are temporally diagnostic. The numbers of the latter are too few to confidently date the underlying and surrounding intact midden, and most units yielded aboriginal and early Colonial material, further precluding reliable component attribution.



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Unknown

Excavation units recovered 397 objects weighing a total of 2.588 kg. Prior assessments by Wright (1973) and Gibb (2005) suggested Early and Middle woodland components at the Brewer Pond site, and a possible Archaic component. The projectile points and pottery recovered from the combined shovel tests and excavation units confirm those assessments. A Late Archaic/Transitional Archaic (aka Terminal Archaic) presence is indicated by the Savannah River, possible Bare Island, and Lamoka projectile points, while the Rossville point probably represents the Early Woodland period. The number of recovered classifiable projectile points is small (n=4) and, when the heavily reworked condition of half of those points is coupled with the overlapping type descriptions used by archaeologists in the region, they offer an inconclusive characterization of the site's occupation.

The Accokeek and two possible Dames Quarter sherds represent Early Woodland occupations. Popes Creek pottery appears to span the scientifically imposed boundary between Early and Middle Woodland periods and Mockley is well-established as Middle Woodland and, particularly, as representing the Selby Bay phase of that period. Those classifiable sherds offer a more convincing characterization of the periods during which the site was occupied; but 34 sherds is a small sample, especially given the extent and intensity of testing.

There is a clear early Colonial era component at the Brewer Pond site, but the task remains of determining when that occupation occurred, both as a means of suggesting who might have occupied the site and as a way of determining the larger social and economic contexts of that occupation. The field crew recovered 16 measureable ball clay tobacco pipestems from the combined shovel test and stratigraphic test units, of which one is 4/64ths of an inch and the remaining 15 are 5/64ths of an inch. The small bore sizes suggest an 18th-century occupation.

The ceramic assemblage is small, and none of the finds would be out of place on sites dating to the late 17th (1660s+) through early 18th centuries (ca. 1725). The presence of North Devon material suggests that the Manganese Mottled ware may be from that region, which would date it to the very late 17th and very early 18th centuries. The combined pipestem bore and ceramic data suggest first quarter of the 18th century, which is to say, the possession of Anglins Discovery by William Anglin, succeeded by Patrick Creagh. We know that Anglin was imprisoned in October 16, 1722 (Archives of Maryland, Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly 1720-1723: 27), presumably for a debt owed Thomas Cockey, and Creagh acquired Anglins Discovery on January 17, 1722, Old Style calendar, which means January 17 of 1723. His unspecified petition for relief was rejected by the Lower House of the General Assembly on October 18, 1722. William Anglin left little of a paper trail, and appears only to have possessed the 60 acre tract, which the surveyor's description suggests was largely uncultivated and that which was had been cultivated, perhaps by angling himself rather than a tenant.

The aboriginal components of the Brewer Point site (18AN133) lack stratigraphic and horizontal integrity and, therefore, lack historical significance. The first quarter of the 18th-century component has high focus and visibility and represents a relatively rare site type in Anne Arundel County and in a setting that may be unique for sites of the period for this region. While it is not the dwelling site of Patrick Creagh (1723-1724) or Benjamin Tasker (1724+), it may be that of their predecessor, the impecunious William Anglin (by 1713 through 1722). The southeastern corner of the Brewer Point site on the subject parcel appears to have research value (Criteria C and D) and I recommend its preservation in place or data recovery based on well-formed and well-informed research questions based on the kinds of data that the Phase II investigation demonstrates are present. The remainder of the Brewer Point site on the subject parcel lacks horizontal and vertical integrity and meets none of the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95008791, 18AN133 SF