



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN1533

Site Name: Belvoir Burned House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late-19th to Early-20th century domestic site

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code AoC

Latitude 39.0258

Longitude -76.5774

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 5-10%

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

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Deep

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tidewater/marsh <input type="checkbox"/> | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Minimum distance to water is 85 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

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

- 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
- Y
- Y

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

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

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

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

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		Koens-Crispin		0	
Clovis	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehanna	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Palmer	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Vernon	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Piscataway	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Calvert	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Le Croy	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Guilford	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Brewerton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Otter Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Levanna	<input type="text" value="0"/>		

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shepard	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Keyser	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Townsend	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Watson	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Minguannan	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mockley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Page	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="text" value="0"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jackfield	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>	English Brown	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Borderware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Buckley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	North Devon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text" value="24"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Creamware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Pearlware	<input type="text" value="1"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text" value="0"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay		0	
Flaked stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Ground stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Stone bowls	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Rimsherds	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

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

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related		2	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text" value="1694"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="text" value="16"/>		
Glass (all)	<input type="text" value="1036"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Architectural	<input type="text" value="2999"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Furniture	<input type="text" value="37"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="text" value="53"/>		
Arms	<input type="text" value="6"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Clothing	<input type="text" value="86"/>	Misc.	<input type="text" value="699"/>		
Personal items	<input type="text" value="35"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<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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Brief

Description:

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18AN1533, also known as the Belvoir Burned House site, is a late-19th to early-20th century domestic site located on the Belvoir property in Crownsville, Anne Arundel County. The site is located in a wooded area northwest of the Belvoir Mansion. The site represents the location of a dwelling house that was destroyed by fire in the early twentieth century, and the local soil profiles are reflective of the domestic occupation and its incendiary destruction. Underlying a thin layer of topsoil, two historic strata deposited during the fire were found overlying what appeared to be culturally sterile soil. Soils on site are Annapolis loamy sand, 5 to 10 percent slopes.

The earliest potential reference to the occupation of 18AN1533 is inferred from the 1870 Census, which lists the Gross family in very proximity to the contemporaneous owners of Belvoir. This proximity is reflected in other census data, and subsequent genealogical descent ties the Gross family to this site.

In 1870, 50-year-old Moses Gross headed a household of 11 other people, all of whom were African Americans, ranging in age from 2 to 45. This included nine members of the Gross family along with two apparently unrelated farm laborers. All members of the household aged 14 and older were listed as farm laborers. Among the household was 22-year-old Lewis Gross who, prior to arriving at Belvoir, was listed in the 1860 Census as a free African American living on a white-owned farm near Prince Frederick in Calvert County, Maryland.

Lewis is enumerated in the household of a white farmer/owner named Dennis Monett, along with 4 other black children all aged 14 and under. Lewis and 3 of the other black children share the last name with free black families in nearby households. There is a near-by household headed by a Ned Gross, who lives with his wife Jinny and 5 children, and also John Gross an oysterman. It is unclear the exact relationship between Lewis and these families, as that info is not included in this version of the census. It is possible that all these families lived and worked near each other and inhabited a series of structures or additions to structures that confounded the understanding of the enumerator. This residential pattern is likely evidence of connected families of African-descended agricultural laborers living in syncretic family structures. Lewis was likely working as a farm laborer.

Though the two were not wed until 1900, Lewis and Melvina Gross had two children together: Richard Gross was born in 1869 and Martha Gross was born in 1872. The Gross family remained in the home through at least 1880; James Butler, a 25-year-old farmhand also lived with them at the time.

Martha Gross gave birth to her first child, Mary E. Thomas in 1894; the Thomas surname indicates the father was likely from one of the Thomas households in the vicinity of the Gross home. Frank Green married Martha Gross in 1897 and the household at that time included Mary E. Thomas and siblings John H. and Rosa Green. The Green family likely began occupancy of the tenant house by 1890, since Lewis Gross, when enumerated in the 1890 Census, was attributed to a household distant from Belvoir (though in the same election district).

The dwelling the Green family occupied presumably represents one of at least two tenant houses located on Belvoir by the early twentieth century. The Polyanski family owned the property by this time, and a 1905 tax assessment of Rev. Casimir Polyanski lists several of Belvoir's built improvements. These included one dwelling (the main house), two barns, one stable, one corn house, and two quarters; the quarters likely represent tenant houses.

Census data from 1900 and 1910 present two different Green households. The Green family accounted for in the 1900 Census were Frank Green (b. May 1872; age 28), a farm laborer, and his wife Martha (b. August 1878; age 22), who had been married for three years and had four children: stepdaughter Mary E. Thomas (b. December 1894; age 5); son John H. (b. July 1895; age 4); daughter Rosa (b. November 1897; age 2); and a newborn daughter Gertrude (b. August 1899; age 10 months).

In the 1910 Census, the Greens were separated from the Polyanskis, Belvoir's contemporaneous owners, by just one household entry. This supports the physical proximity of the Green's dwelling and Belvoir, which presumably correspond to the two dwellings depicted on a 1907 USGS map. The 1907 map continues to show the road to the landing.

According to the 1910 Census, Martha Green (age 32) worked as a laundress/cook, was married for 13 years, and had 10 children (with nine surviving). She was listed as the head of a household that included seven children and five relatives: daughter Margaret (age 12); son Frank (age 9); son Sherman (age 7); daughter Elizabeth (age 5); daughter Laura (age 4); daughter Anna L. (age "18/12"); newborn daughter Adaline; brother Roland Groschia (Gross), a saw mill worker (age 19); sister-in-law Martha Brown, an odd jobs laborer (age 24); nephew William (age 9); niece Carrie (age 3); and "niece" Josephine (age "10/12"). The "niece" who is mis-identified in the 1910 census was really her nephew Joseph. Frank Green is not documented in 1910, and neither are the children Thomas, John H., Rosa or Gertrude who were listed in 1900; one of these children died as in 1910 only nine of Martha Green's 10 children were living. Based on comparison of the Green children enumerated in the 1900 and 1910 census, Martha Green may have had 11 children as Rosa Green, listed in 1900 at age 2, would have been 12 in 1910, the same age as Margaret Green. However, there is no Margaret listed in 1900 neither is there a Rosa listed in 1910. Therefore, Margaret and Rosa could be twin sisters or, possibly, the same person.

Martha Green and her family's occupancy of what is now 18AN1533 abruptly ended just one year after they appeared on the 1910 Census. On the afternoon of Sunday, October 1, 1911, their home was destroyed by fire, as reported in a local periodical, *The Evening Capital*:

"On Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock a fire occurred on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Polyanski, at "Belvoir," near Crownsville. It was in one of the tenement houses on the place occupied by Martha Green and family, colored. The house was burned to the ground and nothing was saved and all that can be seen is the chimney and stove.

There was no fire in the house and the children were not at home, as they had all left earlier in the day to gather chestnuts. Martha Green cannot account for the fire, as there had not been any fire in the stove since breakfast. When the little children saw the smoke they ran to the large house for Mrs. Polyanski, but it was too late, everything was gone. All of the family had bought everything on Saturday for the week and, of course, that was burned up with all their clothes and money. Many of the kind neighbors near and far will do what they can for the family, as they are all hard workers."

The Greens did not rebuild and instead "found a house to live in on Mr. Clinton Carr's farm, near Crownsville", having received "clothing and bedding" from families throughout the area. The fire effectively ended all domestic occupation of 18AN1533, and no further site activities could be gleaned from the



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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

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Unknown

documentary record. This is consistent with the archaeological results presented below, which suggest that the only post-occupation activities to have occurred were efforts to salvage some of the brick/stone piers on which the dwelling lately stood.

The Burned House site was discovered during a Phase I/II investigation of the Belvoir property in Crownsville, Maryland. The property is now owned by Rockbridge Academy who permitted archaeologists to investigate the property under a Maryland State Highway Administration project to investigate the cultural resources of General's Highway.

The site consisted of the remains of a tenant house that was constructed and occupied beginning around 1870 and which later accidentally burned and was then abandoned in 1911. Descendants of the family that supposedly lived in this house were contacted as part of this project. Family oral history has it that the house was burned down when a 15 year old girl had a mishap whilst playing with gunpowder in the attic. She was unable to escape and perished there. However, no human remains were uncovered to corroborate this story, and the newspaper account of the fire claimed all residents were out of the home.

Preliminary artifact data reveal a wide variety of artifact types and classes representative of diverse domestic activities and objects. The volume and variety of burned artifacts suggests that the house burned while it was still occupied. The dwelling's footprint and orientation could not be ascertained, but several partially intact sandstone piers and the sheer volume of charcoal and nails suggest it was a frame dwelling that lacked continuous foundation.

Block excavation resulted in the recovery of 6,194 artifacts, including representatives from the activities (n=15), domestic (n=2,227), personal (n=114), structural (n=2,955), and undefined use (n=883) functional groups. Artifacts were recovered from feature (n=346) and non-feature (n=5,848) contexts.

The activities group accounts for 0.26 percent of the assemblage (n=16) and includes eight coins, three ammunition, three tools, one writing utensil, and one piece of a musical instrument. The coins include three Indian head pennies (two legibly dated 1891 and 1905), three liberty nickels (two legibly dated 1905 and 1910), one probable Barber half-dollar (1896), and one wheat penny (date illegible). Interestingly, all of the coins were recovered from TU 12.

The domestic group accounts for 36.16 percent of the assemblage (n=2,249). The artifacts include 1,678 ceramic sherds, 515 glass fragments, and 56 pieces of metal. Domestic artifacts were most heavily concentrated in TU 12 at the southern end of the excavation block (n=892).

The 1,678 ceramic fragments include a limited variety of assignable ware types, with the majority (n=1,357) representing refined earthenwares that have been too badly burned to identify. Of the identifiable types, white granite is the most common (n=159), followed by stoneware (n=159), porcelain (n=23), whiteware (n=9), yellowware (n=3), and single examples of redware and pearlware. Most of the diagnostic ceramics (n=340) date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century, though earlier examples are present in much more limited quantities (e.g., pearlware, certain decorated refined earthenware).

Most of the 515 pieces of domestic glass were too fragmentary to identify form. Identifiable forms include bottle (n=28), jar (n=11), canning jar lid (n=10), cup (n=1), and lighting glass (n=1) fragments. The 56 domestic metal fragments represent a variety of forms and uses. Stove pieces were the most common type of domestic metal artifact (n=31), followed by a variety of utensils (n=10), artifacts associated with food storage (n=9), furniture springs (n=3), and lamp components (n=1). Two unidentified fasteners may be remnants of trunk/luggage hardware. Half of the domestic metal artifacts were recovered from TU 16 (n=28), including 21 of the stove fragments and all of the furniture and lighting artifacts and possible luggage hardware.

Personal artifacts account for 1.86 percent of the assemblage (n=116) and include artifacts associated with clothing (n=84), toys (n=25), tobacco/alcohol (n=5), and grooming/health (n=2). Buttons are the most common clothing artifact and include bone (n=15), Prosser (n=13), porcelain (n=8), iron (n=8), copper alloy (n=8), composite (n=2), and black glass (n=2) varieties. Toys included a variety of ceramic tea set pieces (n=19), along with ceramic marbles (n=3), pieces of an iron wheel/horse (n=2), and part of a porcelain doll (n=1). Tobacco/alcohol artifacts include pieces of a ball clay pipe (n=2) and alcohol bottles (n=3). Lastly, the grooming/health artifacts include part of a milkglass cosmetic jar and a medicine bottle. Personal artifacts tended to be fairly evenly distributed across the excavation block.

Eighteen personal artifacts exhibit diagnostic traits. Most were manufactured between the mid-late nineteenth century to the present, though earlier artifacts were present. The two alpha shank buttons and the wire eye button were produced around the turn of the nineteenth century, while a staff officer's button was identified as dating to the 1840s-1860s. This button may have originated from a Civil War-era uniform as these uniforms were briefly sold as durable clothing after the war.

Structural artifacts account for 47.51 percent of the assemblage (n=2,955). Remnants of the building's hardware comprise the most common structural category (n=2,775) and consist of a wide variety of fasteners and metal fixtures. Among these, nails are most common (n=2,667) and include cut (n=1,710), wire (n=897), and unidentified (n=60) examples. Artifacts attributed to the building material category are much more poorly represented (n=180) and consist of objects associated with the dwelling's fabric. Window glass is the most common building material (n=140), followed by wire (n=35) and very few examples of mortar (n=3), brick (n=1), and tile (n=1). Artifacts of undefined use account for 14.21 percent of the assemblage (n=884) and include a wide variety of materials that could not be definitively attributed to one of the other functional groups. All but seven of the 36 vertebrate bones from the Burned House site were identifiable at least to taxonomic Class. This portion of the assemblage included mammal (NISP 23), bird (NISP 2), and reptile (NISP 4) remains. Identified mammal specimens included a domesticated cattle (*Bos taurus*) rib, domesticated pig (*Sus scrofa*) molar, and eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) ischium. The two bird specimens were from domesticated chicken (*Gallus gallus domesticus*). Four turtle carapace fragments complete the assemblage of identified vertebrates. The invertebrate assemblage includes one shell of a three-toothed snail (*Triodopsis*) and a small unidentified snail.

Three features were identified during the block excavation at 18AN1533. Features 7 and 16 appear to be pits that were excavated to salvage usable sub-structural remains that were not significantly damaged in the fire. Feature 7 most likely represents a pit excavated to recover the useable remains of a structural pier at some point after the fire. The pit was then backfilled with debris from the fire.

In total, 276 artifacts were recovered from Feature 7, the majority of which were structural, glass, or unidentifiable use. The functional distribution indicates Feature 7 was backfilled with generic debris from the site and did not serve another, specialized disposal function. The prevalence of wire nails (n=31) among the diagnostic artifacts (n=103) suggests that if Feature 7 does represent a pit excavated to salvage building material, the event took place no earlier than the early twentieth century. The documentary record indicates Feature 7 would have been excavated after the fire on October 1, 1911.

Feature 16 likely represents the location of a robbed foundation pier. In total, 40 artifacts were recovered from Feature 16, the majority of which are structural artifacts. The functional distribution indicates that Feature 16 was backfilled with generic site debris and does not appear to have been purposely excavated for more specialized refuse (e.g., kitchen midden). As with Feature 7, Feature 16 dates to sometime after the October 1, 1911 fire.



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Feature 22 likely represents the heavily disturbed remnants of brick and ironstone structural piers. Feature 22 was comprised of disarticulated, heavily burned brick and local ironstone surrounded by a large scatter of mortar fragments. Two concentrations of bricks and smaller fitting stones were identified at both of the feature's extremities, suggesting that these possibly served as brick piers. Each concentration intersected the unit's walls, precluding a determination of their exact size, but their plan view appearance suggests that they might have been squared prior to disturbance. A moderately dense, heavily disturbed linear scatter of structural debris, including uncut ironstone, brick fragments, and mortar, was observed stretching between the two concentrations. Feature 22 likely represents two brick and stone foundation piers. The scatter of debris between them appears to be the displaced/collapsed remains of part of the piers.

Thirty artifacts were recovered from Feature 22, the majority of which were structural or unidentifiable use. The artifacts' functional distribution suggests that generic site debris was incidentally deposited when the piers were disturbed. This event likely occurred shortly after the 1911 fire indicated in the site history, and the wire nails (n=8) indicate the event could not have occurred before the late nineteenth century.

The documentary and archaeological record tend to agree that the socioeconomic status of the Gross/Green families was modest. With family members serving as either farm or domestic laborers, disposable income may have been in short supply. This is supported by the recovered artifacts, which suggest the occupants were of limited means. Identifiable ceramic ware types are dominated by white granite (n=159), an inexpensive stone china markedly more affordable than porcelain and widely available throughout the United States. Stoneware (n=120) was also common, often lacking decoration and attributable to generally utilitarian uses. Porcelain (n=23) was the next most frequently observed ceramic, but it is unclear if it is hard paste, soft paste, or bone china. Given the context and time period, the latter may be more likely, which offered an economic alternative to more expensive Chinese porcelain.

Despite presumably modest earnings, enough disposable income was available to provide children's toys. As noted in the documentary record, Martha Green had nine surviving children by 1910, seven of whom were living with her at 18AN1533. Children were a fixture of the site since at least the 1870s, when several people under the age of 14 were part of Moses Gross' household. Twenty-five toy remains were identified, constituting the largest group of artifacts associated with recreational activities onsite. These included a variety of ceramic tea set pieces (n=19), along with ceramic marbles (n=3), pieces of an iron wheel/horse (n=2), and part of a porcelain doll (n=1). Given that children outnumbered adults late in the site's history, it is perhaps unsurprising that some of the family's disposable resources went to acquiring toys.

Recreational behaviors are also evident from other artifacts, albeit to a much more limited extent. Smoking pipe fragments and beer/whisky bottles may be indicative of social behavior or private recreation and would have been common to many contemporaneous domestic occupations. A single harmonica reed speaks to music in the Gross/Green household, utilizing one of the most widely available and popular folk instruments of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Diet at the Burned House included beef, pork and chicken. The cattle rib, unidentified innominates and pig molar suggest that meaty elements (ribs, hams or rumps, and cheeks) were consumed at the site. Turtles and squirrel may have supplemented the diet or might represent intrusive animals. Snails are most likely intrusive.

Site 18AN1533 represents the archaeological remnants of a tenant house that burned during the occupancy of Martha Green and perhaps 12 other family members on October 1, 1911. While no one was home when the dwelling was destroyed, nearly all of the family's possessions were lost, leaving little to be salvaged other than the masonry piers that supported the building. The artifacts from 18AN1533 suggest the family were of modest means. The building appears to have been a rectangular frame structure supported on brick piers with a central brick chimney. Several shovel test pits were excavated in the vicinity of the site and six units were excavated in the main house area. Excavation generally revealed two historic strata deposited during the incendiary event that destroyed the dwelling in the first quarter of the 20th century. This study only investigated deposits interior to the former dwelling. Other archaeological features (e.g., middens, privies, wells) could be present exterior to the building footprint and could contribute additional information on the broader range of occupational periods.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

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