



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN243

Site Name: Crystal Springs

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

extensive Archaic - Woodland lithic concentration

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code 6) CaC2

Latitude 39.1307

Longitude -76.7945

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 49 m

Site slope 6-10%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed Stream

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 100 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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 High terrace

Hilltop/bluff Rockshelter/cave

Interior flat Hillslope

Upland flat Unknown

Ridgetop Other

Terrace

Low terrace

Ownership

Private

Federal

State of MD

Regional/county/city

Unknown

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675 ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720 ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780 Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric context

Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Other

Hispanic

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

Multi-component

Misc. ceremonial

Village

Rock art

Hamlet

Shell midden

Base camp

STU/lithic scatter

Rockshelter/cave

Quarry/extraction

Earthen mound

Fish weir

Cairn

Production area

Burial area

Unknown

Other context

Historic

Urban/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

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
		Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

Prehistoric Sherd Types

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

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 1891	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 507	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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

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

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 11
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

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

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Crystal Springs site (18AN243) is an extensive Archaic and Woodland period lithic concentration situated on State-owned land near Jessup in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The site is situated on a triangular wedge of level land between two tributary streams to Dorsey Run, right at the Anne Arundel-Howard County border. The land was previously in cultivation, but has since grown up in secondary growth, with shrub species including multiflora rose, blackberry, and some early successional trees including tree of heaven, black cherry, and mulberry. During the period of indigenous occupation, the site was probably in deciduous woodland populated predominantly by oak and hickory trees. Soils at the site are Russett fine sandy loams and Chillum loam.

The site has been known to local collectors (an Ed Piper, a Frannie Miller of Jessup, and Dennis Webb of College Park) for several decades. One of these collectors, Dennis Webb, collected from the site in the late 1960s and reported it to the State Archeologist in 1972. Artifacts reported to have been collected from this location included grooved mauls, pestles, and flaked quartz tools.

In 1977, a preliminary reconnaissance was made of a proposed 115 kV transmission line corridor that passed near the site. Shovel testing was conducted within the corridor, but did not reveal any cultural resources in the vicinity of 18AN243. Researchers at the time suggested that the largest concentration of artifacts had likely been destroyed by construction of Maryland State facilities. The corridor survey appears to have passed to the east of the site boundary.

The site was noted in a survey of Maryland Prison properties conducted in 1980. In 1978, the Maryland Board of Public Works issued a policy statement requiring that all properties, owned or to be acquired by the state, be assessed to determine the nature, extent, and significance of all historic and prehistoric cultural resources. In compliance with the policy statement, six properties (approximately 2500 acres) of the Maryland Division of Correction were assessed for archeological resources, the state-owned property on which 18AN243 is situated being one of them.

During the 1980 survey, 14 random shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated in the southern third of the site and the rest of the area was sampled through surface collection in 3 meter wide transects. A concentration of artifacts was encountered for a distance of 80 meters within the collection transects. Artifacts recovered included a stemmed Calvert point, a stemmed Holmes point, a projectile point fragment, 2 unifaces, 1 biface, a core, 4 retouched flakes, 4 hammerstones, 1 anvil, 3 grinding stones, and 99 flakes. All of the materials were quartz and quartzite. In addition to the prehistoric items, several historic artifacts were collected, which are likely field scatter or refuse from nearby roads and railroads. These include a ceramic tile, 9 pieces of brick, 4 pieces of whiteware, a stoneware sherd, 10 clear glass fragments, a pipe fragment, and a molten glass fragment.

The site was next the subject of research attention in 1991 when personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust performed a field check of the site. The field check was a preliminary effort to determine if remnants of the site still existed in an area where the Baltimore Gas and Electric (BG&E) Company was considering constructing an electrical substation. That work involved the excavation of eight shovel test pits at 30.5 m (100 ft) intervals on both the north and south sides of a road that cuts through the area. The STPs were around 35-40 cm in diameter. Artifacts recovered included a quartz projectile point tip, 5 quartz flakes, 3 quartzite flakes, 1 quartzite shatter fragment, 1 whiteware sherd, and 15 bottle glass fragments. The STPs showed that natural stratigraphy might be largely preserved, with only minor areas of gravel dumping and fill deposition. Based on these findings, the MHT staff concluded that Phase II work could still be worthwhile.

The most recent stage of fieldwork at 18AN243 was undertaken in 1992 on approximately 5.5 acres of State-owned land, which encompasses the site, and which was under evaluation by BG&E as a potential site for an electrical substation. Prior to purchase of the property by BG&E, and en lieu of the 1991 field check results, the Maryland Historical Trust insisted on a more rigorous Phase II investigation to assess the extent of cultural materials remaining within the parcel.

The 1992 work entailed the plowing of the field within the site boundaries to facilitate surface collection and the excavation of eight 1 X 1 m test units. Surface collection took place in within 10 meter-wide transects. These transects were subdivided into 20 meter long collection areas to maintain tighter control. The transects were then walked, two persons each, and pin flags were placed at the location of artifact finds. Green flagging was tied to flags marking significant finds such as points and late-stage bifaces. Time constraints forced the commencement of surface collection of the plowed field before a significant amount of rain had fallen. After rain finally washed the surface of the field, it was apparent that more artifacts were visible in the already collected fields. As a consequence, these transects were re-collected, resulting in a significant increase in the number of artifacts recovered.

Upon completion of the surface collection, three shovel tests were excavated to test the nature of the soils and depth of the plowzone. Then eight 1 X 1 m test units were opened up in areas where concentrations of flakes were encountered or projectile points had been found during surface collection. One unit was placed in a lower concentration area to sample the northeastern part of the site. Soil was excavated from the units according to the natural strata and screened through hardware cloth. Strata thicker than 10 cm were excavated in arbitrary 10 cm levels.

The Phase II study produced more than 2300 artifacts (2274 prehistoric and 82 historic), including 20 diagnostic projectile points. The projectile point types represented a wide range of cultural affiliations from Early Archaic through Late Woodland periods. No hearths, postmolds, pits or features of any kind were observed during excavation. Fragments of fire-cracked rock were recovered, but in insignificant quantities. A concentration of artifacts was noted in the west-central portion of the site, which was elevated slightly above the surrounding field(s). This concentration ends abruptly as it nears a railway and rail right-of-way. It is highly likely that the much of the site was largely destroyed by construction of the railroad. The situation to the east is much the same. A large warehouse is now situated in the area where much of the collecting is thought to have taken place prior to the 1970s. The site as now defined is really a "remnant".

Evidence of plowing and other disturbances related to past construction or roads railroads, and structures on or near the site was noted at 18AN243. In addition, historic artifacts were recovered in levels below prehistoric artifacts in some test units. Researchers suggested that it was possible that completely removing the plowzone with a combination of a backhoe and shovel scraping might reveal the existence of subsurface features not detected by the limited unit excavations. Such features, if they existed, would have to be contained in the hard-packed clay layer beneath plowzone.

Very few historic artifacts were recovered during this investigation and none were deemed significant (aside from the fact that they prove the site is disturbed). The few sherds of whiteware and glass present, as well as several fragment of brick and glazed brick, appear to have been secondarily deposited. A single



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Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief
Description:**

Unknown

flattened Civil War-era Minié ball found in one of the units can be accounted for by the presence of a large Union camp that was situated at nearby Annapolis Junction. The historic assemblage has not been included in the artifact tables above.

Prehistoric artifacts recovered during the 1992 Phase II excavations included 1 Kanawha point, 7 Bare Island/Holmes points, 2 Brewerton corner-notched points, 3 Fishtail points, 1 Vernon, 1 Calvert point, 1 Savannah River, 1 Rossville, 1 Selby Bay, 1 Madison, 1 Levanna point, 100 bifaces, 127 biface fragments, 1,524 pieces of debitage, at least 1 piece of fire-cracked rock, at least 1 hammerstone, and 501 other lithics. The vast majority of the artifacts (2,175) were quartz, with the remainder being quartzite (55), rhyolite (38), chert (4), and argillite (2).

Site 18AN243 can best be described as a lithic scatter with 5,000 years of prehistoric cultural materials concentrated in 35 cm of 20th century plowzone. In its modern day form, it constitutes the outlying fringes of a much larger base camp. The projectile point assemblage found during the 1992 study support Early Archaic through Late Woodland cultural affiliations. In terms of numerical distribution of projectile points, it would appear that the most intensive occupation of the project area took place during the Late Archaic and Early Woodland Periods. Despite the quantity and variety of artifacts recovered, no temporal patterning was evident.

The evidence suggests that the majority of the site has been destroyed by railroad construction, road work, plowing, and the construction of state buildings on the site. Lacking any concrete evidence that features actually exist within the buried clay layer, additional archeological work is likely to be futile. Construction of the BG&E substation was approved and undertaken and what remained of the site would have been further impacted. In any event, those cultural materials impacted are believed to have been in the plowzone and, therefore, not significant enough to impeded the project. The site should not be considered to have significant research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):