



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN546

Site Name: Duck's Run

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Woodland shell midden

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9626

Longitude -76.4785

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 0

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

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 33 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Contact period site  ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675  ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720  ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780  Post 1930

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



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN546

Site Name: Duck's Run

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Woodland shell midden

## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		Koens-Crispin	
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehanna	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	1442
Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	28
Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
<b>Earthenware</b>		Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>					Wt Salt-glazed	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	358
Fire-cracked rock	20	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	73	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	1471	Uncommon Obj.	1
Rimsherds	20	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		Sil sandstone	
Jasper	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	hematite, granit	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Hearth in Test Units 1 and 2 - North-central portion of site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input 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: 920 +/- 110 years BP Reliability High Sample 2: 810 +/- 80 years BP Reliability High Sample 3: +/- years BP Reliability

B-11638: charcoal and shell sample from hearth in Test Unit 1 (midden level, north-central part of site), assoc w/ Townsend sherds

B-11639: charcoal and shell sample from hearth in Test Unit 2 (midden level, north-central part of site), assoc w/ Townsend & Potomac Creek sherds

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



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN546

Site Name: Duck's Run

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Late Woodland shell midden

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Duck's Run (18AN546) is a Late Woodland period shell midden site containing the remains of a seasonal camp site south of Annapolis in Anne Arundel County. The site is situated a short distance inland from the Chesapeake Bay shorefront on the east side of a Peninsula near the confluence of the Severn River and the bay. An intermittent stream runs along the northern edge of the site and marshes are situated to the south. The site and the surrounding terrain are level to gently rolling, and at the time of the site's discovery, it was the grassy lawn of a mid-20th century log vacation home, part of a larger complex of such structures. Two small frame outbuildings were located on site that served as small animal pens. Soils at the site are Monmouth loamy sands

The site was first identified in 1982 when personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust were notified of plans for a new housing development for the site and surrounding area. The SHPO review process determined that this project had the potential for affecting archeological remains that might be National Register eligible. A federal permit was required for the construction project to move forward and so a preliminary reconnaissance of the area was carried out in October of 1982.

The tenant at the 18AN546 property reported encountering shell and prehistoric pottery when excavating various holes around the yard. A single shovel test pit (STP) was placed in the yard area adjacent to one of the aforementioned outbuildings. It revealed a roughly 15.24 cm (6 in) layer of black soil shell midden beneath 45.72 cm (18 in) of sterile sand. This midden layer produced 2 Mockley sherds, 1 Rappahannock Fabric Impressed sherd, 2 Rappahannock Plain sherds, a turkey bone fragment, and 14 oyster shell fragments. Based on these findings, it was recommended that additional investigation be made to determine the extent of the shell midden, and examine the specific nature of the cultural deposit and its components.

Two stages of fieldwork were carried out in 1984 as plans were firming up for development of the 52 acre "Village of Chesapeake Harbour" property. The development was to include condominium apartments, beach villas, a marina, and a restaurant. The initial work was an intensive survey conducted in February of 1984. This work entailed the excavation of 31 STPs (each 50 cm square), and five 1 X 1 m test units.

An initial group of 18 STPs were placed across the site in 4 parallel transects spaced 15.24 m (50 ft) apart. The STPs were excavated at 30.48 m (100 ft) intervals along the two outermost transects and at 15.24 m intervals along the inner two transects. Thirteen supplemental STPs were then excavated based on the analyzed data from the initial 18 systematic STPs to get a better handle on the limits of the prehistoric deposit. Each shovel test was excavated down to culturally-sterile subsoil. All excavated soil was screened through hardware mesh and STPs found to contain shell midden soils were water-screened. Soil samples were collected from the STPs for later analysis. All data was recorded on standardized forms and profile sketches were drawn.

The locations for the five 1 X 1 m units were based on the analyzed STP data. These were placed in areas containing dense concentrations of prehistoric material. These were designated Test Units 1-5. Test Units 1 and 2 were excavated adjacent to one another, as were Test Units 3 and 4. This was done because of the substantial depth of the midden deposit in these areas and the need to step down without having the unit profiles collapse. Each of the test units were excavated according to natural soil strata. All of the soil was water-screened and hardware mesh was used. Soil samples for flotation processing were also collected from each one.

During the field investigation, the ground surface was inspected as work progressed. Only a few artifacts were collected in this manner, however, because of the surface of the terrain in the site area was mostly covered by lawn.

The results of the STPs and the excavation of the first five test units showed that the site consisted of a dense oyster shell midden deposit containing a substantial amount of prehistoric artifactual and faunal remains. This cultural deposit was found to be almost entirely capped by overlying soil strata. Nearly all of the prehistoric midden was intact and undisturbed, and retained its original depositional context.

Based on these findings, the development's construction plan was modified to minimize its effect on the Duck's Run Site. The prehistoric cultural deposit and adjacent terrain were subsequently covered with fill soil to raise the elevation of the ground surface. Following the revised project plan, the new ground surface above most of the site was to become the location of a parking area bounded by sidewalks and lawn. However, in some portions of the site development construction involved the excavation of several trenches in and around the prehistoric cultural deposit. This work included digging structural foundation footing trenches and four utility line trenches.

Filling atop the site served two purposes. It prepared the terrain for construction by raising the elevation of the ground surface, and it sealed most of the site from further disturbance. However, MHT requested that additional units be excavated in those portions of the site that would be impacted by the foundation footings and utility trenches. A total of 7 additional 1 X 1 m test units were ultimately excavated; designated Test Units 6 through 12. Excavation methods for the test units were as described for the previous 5. This work was conducted in April 1984.

The 1984 Phase II testing at 18AN546 revealed the site to be an intact prehistoric shell midden deposit that is largely undisturbed. The most common chronologically diagnostic artifacts are sherds of Townsend Series shell-tempered pottery. Townsend Ware is diagnostic of the Late Woodland prehistoric cultural period, which dates between AD 800 and 1600.

The site appears to contain two discrete concentrations of midden material, a larger one in the northern part of the site, and a smaller one in the southern part. These concentrations of shell are probably the remains of at least two separate episodes of occupation that occurred during the Late Woodland prehistoric period. The northern and southern midden deposits are separated by terrain that contains very little midden material. This indicates that they were deposited during two different occupation episodes.

Aside from the midden deposits themselves, no other discrete cultural features are mentioned in the body of the full site report, however, data in the report appendices suggests at least one hearth (fire pit) was encountered in the north-central portion of the site. Artifacts recovered included 3 triangular points (1 Levanna), 1 unidentified point tip, 2 biface fragments, 1 possible quartzite core, 108 pieces of debitage (91 quartz, 12 jasper, 4 chert, 1 rhyolite), 10 hammerstones, a granite grinding stone, a possible stone platform, a hematite ball, 60 pieces of anthracite coal (appears to be from prehistoric contexts), 20 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 1,437 Townsend sherds (Rappahannock fabric-impressed, Rappahannock incised, Rappahannock plain, and Townsend corded), 1 Potomac Creek sherd, 28 Sullivan Cove sherds, 94 white-tailed deer bones, 1 gray squirrel bone, 2 raccoon bones, 75 other mammal bones, 10 wild turkey bones, 3 other large bird bones, 1 rattlesnake bone, 2 box turtle bones, 15 Pseudemys turtle bones, 8 other turtle bones, 5 catfish bones, 1 other sucker fish



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN546

Site Name: Duck's Run

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Woodland shell midden

Unknown

bone, 2 perch bones, 1 gar bone, 12 other fish bones, 11 land snails, and abundant oyster shell fragments (estimated in the table above as 100 pieces). Twenty of the prehistoric sherds were rimsherds.

In addition to the above artifacts, additional faunal and some floral remains were recovered through the flotation of soil samples. The flotation samples yielded the following faunal remains (not included in the tables above): 1 deer bone, 35 mammal bone fragments, 1 bird bone, 1 terrapin bone, 64 fish bones, 27 snail shell fragments and abundant oyster shell. Very few identifiable floral remains were recovered through flotation. The assemblage included 31 pieces of wood charcoal, 8 charred hickory nut fragments, and 2 unidentifiable seed fragments.

The earlier occupation of the site dates to around AD 1100 and probably was responsible for the creation of the northern concentration of midden material. This places it in the later stages of the Late Woodland cultural period's Little Round Bay Phase (AD 800 – 1200). The interpreted date of AD 1100 is supported by the pottery types encountered and two small triangular projectile points recovered from that portion of the site, as well as two radiocarbon dates. The radiocarbon dates came from two samples of burned wood and shell recovered from a hearth feature in the north-central portion of the site. These samples yielded uncalibrated dates of  $920 \pm 110$  years before present and  $810 \pm 80$  years before present respectively. The former, when calibrated (2 sigma), corresponds to a calendrical date of AD 895 – 1281. The latter corresponds to a calendrical date of AD 1030 – 1377.

The total time that the northern portion of the site was occupied is open to interpretation. Further study would be required to obtain data that might indicate whether the occupation was by a small aboriginal band on a seasonal basis or over several years, or whether it was inhabited for a shorter period by a larger band.

The southern portion of the site appears to have been inhabited at a different time from the northern part. An important chronologically diagnostic artifact that allows the southern midden concentration to be dated is Sullivan Ware prehistoric pottery. Though this ware is a minority type in the southern midden, it was not found at all in the northern part of the site. Sullivan Ware is diagnostic of the Sullivan Cove Phase of the Late Woodland period (ca. AD 1200 – 1600). It appears reasonable to conclude that the southern midden area represents a reoccupation of Site 18AN546 during that cultural phase. No complete projectile points were recovered from the southern part of the site. However, two projectile point fragments that were found appear to be of the types that would have been in use during the Sullivan Cove Phase.

The occupation of the southern midden was less intensive than the northern midden. The terrain covered by that deposit is less than the northern, and the thickness of the midden is significantly less. It appears reasonable to conclude that the southern midden was occupied for a shorter period of time and perhaps by less people than the northern midden.

The Phase II investigations at 18AN546 in 1984 served to define the limits of the site and to sample its contents. Most of the work was focused on the parts of the cultural deposit that were to be affected by the housing development's utility pipes and foundation footings. As a consequence, the sample excavations were no random nor directed towards addressing specific research questions. The rest of the site is preserved beneath extensive layers of fill, which has been capped with asphalt pavement, concrete sidewalks, and lawn. The majority of Site 18AN546 remains intact and protected from further disturbance. In its present condition, this site contains undisturbed cultural deposits of archeological significance. The information gathered during 1984 shows that the site includes two physically separate concentrations of cultural material that date from different (but successive) periods of occupation. Consequently, Site 18AN546 should continue to be considered a significant prehistoric site.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000564, Site Files