



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN579

Site Name: Timbuktu #1

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic quartz cobble quarry

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code UoD

Latitude 39.1708

Longitude -76.7278

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation

m

Site slope

5-15%

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) Deep Run

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 35 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

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
- 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?

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

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		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 Mtn	<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"/>	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 Cr	<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"/>	Eng Dry-bodie	<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		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	1852	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	7
Fire-cracked rock	26	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	62	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<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

Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" 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	
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

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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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Timbuktu #1 site (18AN579) is a Late Archaic quartz cobble quarry located between Elkridge and the Arundel Mills area in northern Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The site is situated on a gently sloping terrace, above the swampy floodplain between a second order creek and a fourth order creek draining towards the Patapsco. At the time of the site's discovery, it was wooded with river birch, sycamore, red maple, sweet gum, and tulip poplar, along with an understory and ground cover of poison ivy, Virginia creeper, greenbriers, Japanese honeysuckle, and southern arrowwood. The primary vegetation during prehistoric times likely consisted of hardwoods such as oaks, sweetgum, and yellow-poplar. Soils at the site are of the Beltsville-Chillum-Sassafras association.

The site was first identified during a Phase I survey conducted in 1985 and 1986. The field project was carried out along three proposed alternates for the expansion of MD 100. The various highway alternatives would span the roughly 7.5 miles between MD 3 and US 1, passing the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport. Since the highway improvements would receive state and federal monies, the mandates of the NHPA act and related state legislation required the fieldwork.

The field methods involved an initial ground reconnaissance of the three highway alternates to locate above ground structural remains, eliminate low probability areas from the testing strategy, and better determine moderate to high probability areas requiring further investigation. Low probability areas included steep slopes, industrial or residential disturbances, and wetlands. The remaining moderate to high probability areas were grouped together to form survey tracts and they were subjected to surface collection in areas of exposed ground surface and excavation of shovel test pits (STPs) to located buried archeological deposits. The STPs were approximately 35 cm in diameter, with depth varying according to soils in the specific area. The fill from each STP was examined (but not screened) for artifacts and the stratigraphy was recorded. In the survey tract which contained 18AN579, a total of four STPs were excavated and surface collection was undertaken along a nearby dirt road, which led to the identification of the site.

Artifacts recovered during the 1985/1986 Phase I operations at 18 AN579 included a non-diagnostic projectile point, 3 preforms, a drill, 3 other bifaces, 4 scrapers, a utilized flake, 58 flakes, 11 chunks, 44 shatter fragments, and a hammerstone. All of the recovered materials came from the top 20 cm of soil. The site was estimated to be roughly 45.5 X 15 m in size. Based on these findings, Phase II testing was carried out in 1987.

The 1987 Phase II work was also related to the MD 100 highway expansion project. At 18AN579 the Phase II fieldwork entailed the excavation of 435 STPs and nine 1 X 1 m test units. The shovel tests were placed at 3 m intervals along transects 3 m apart. Each was excavated to sterile subsoil (generally 50-60 cm below surface) and screened through hardware cloth to recover artifacts. Artifact finds were then mapped and the data was used to inform the placement of the 1 X 1 m units.

The STPs clearly revealed significant clustering of quartz gravel and artifacts. The site could be pretty clearly sub-divided into nine quartz gravel clusters. Seven of the units were situated in five of these clusters. The other two units were placed outside of cluster areas more-or-less to confirm that the site boundaries had been accurately identified through shovel testing. The test units were excavated in natural levels, except where natural levels exceeded 10 cm in depth. In the latter case, arbitrary 10 cm levels were used to subdivide the natural levels. All soil was screened through hardware cloth. Upon completion of each level, the unit was recorded on standardized forms, drawn, and photographed. Profiles were drawn documented upon completion of each full unit.

The stratigraphy of the site was found to be fairly consistent throughout: a 5-10 cm organic topsoil overlying a 10-20 cm thick yellowish brown silt layer, with a much lighter clayey subsoil beneath. Areas near the point overlooking the floodplain tend to have deeper individual layers, while the slopes are more shallow. Historic artifact were lightly scattered across the site, but rarely intrude into even the second layer of soil. The quantities of historic items are very insignificant and can be accounted for by trash dumping along the terrace edge followed by limited bioturbation and erosion. The historic artifacts are not included in the artifact tallies in the tables above. The distribution of prehistoric artifacts exhibited clear evidence of distinct lithic work areas (corresponding to the aforementioned clusters). Based on this evidence, the site appears to be essentially intact below 10 or 15 cm. These deposits continue to considerable depth throughout, especially in the north-easternmost gravel/artifact cluster. However, there is no clear domestic midden and no cultural features were identified. This would not be entirely unexpected at a site that appears to have been utilized as a lithic quarry. The relatively deep deposits of the site, suggest the possibility of examining changing use of the site over time.

Artifacts recovered during the Phase II investigations at 18AN579 include a rhyolite Holmes point, an unidentified quartz stemmed point, 16 other quartz bifaces in various stages of production, 5 utilized/retouched flakes, 23 cores, 1,562 flakes, 111 pieces of shatter, 7 tested cobbles, 56 unmodified cobbles, 26 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 4 hammerstones, an anvil/nutting stone, 6 shell fragments, and part of a turtle shell.

Site 18AN579 appears to be a quartz cobble quarry, where only bipolar reduction techniques in the very initial stages of production were used. Production at the site included all stages from procurement to the making of preforms. These preforms were completed, or turned into tools, elsewhere. The character of habitation at the site may be thought of as non-domestic, although flake tools indicate that some domestic functions were probably conducted back from the terrace edge.

The aforementioned cobble/artifact clusters were interpreted to represent single work areas. In the case of the 4 smaller concentrations, they were probably used by the same group or groups of people. The 5 larger clusters could be either large work areas or several reoccupations or reuses of the same spot by unrelated groups of people alternating with more or less long periods of disuse. The clusters do not have thick layers of nearly pure debitage as has been found at some quarry sites. This suggests that none of the work areas were used over long periods or by large semi-permanent groups of people specializing in making large quantities of preforms. Rather, the work areas were probably used on a temporary basis by the same group or groups of people for a period of a generation or two after which it was forgotten and no longer used. The smaller clusters would probably have been used by 3 to 5 workers at a time, or a small band of hunters replenishing their stock of preforms. Extrapolating this group size would mean that some of the larger clusters probably represent two, three, or slightly more work areas. Because of the hypothesized work force and itinerant nature of lithic procurement conducted at the site, the work areas were probably rarely used at the same time.

Perhaps the most important conclusion to be drawn from the testing project is that the site does contain untapped data with which to address questions of lithic procurement during the Late Archaic Period. Specifically, the site has the potential for addressing questions concerning the internal functioning of a



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quarry, bipolar lithic technology, technological change, and such methodological questions as determining significant differences in object, reduction and size indices, determining significant differences in artifact patterns, or determining which artifact classes are most useful for examining culture change and process at quarry sites. Further, the site is not overpowering, in the sense that there is not so much overlapping of material that work areas cannot be defined. Apparently work areas can and have been defined. On the other hand, it is not so small or insignificant that the lessons learned could not be applied to other more complex quarries. A site such as 18AN579 might be able to produce some quarry site patterns that could be used to unravel more complex quarry sites and serve as a baseline for comparison with non-cobble, non-quartz quarries as well as with other quartz cobble quarry sites.

Ultimately, the Timbuktu #1 site (18AN579) was determined to have integrity and be capable of answering relevant archeological questions and was determined eligible for listing on the NRHP. A decision was made to preserve the site in-place, as a means of mitigating the threat to the site from the MD 100 extension project. The site was covered with geo-textile fabric and carefully buried using heavy machinery. The road was then built atop the site, essentially burying the site intact.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000706, 00000558, Site Files