



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN603

Site Name: Prehistoric Procurement

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic and Woodland short-term resource procurement

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.1763

Longitude -76.6455

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 24 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

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Muddy Bridge Branch

- | 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 0 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
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- 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
processing station

- ### 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		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	<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"/>	1	

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone		Staffordshire		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-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		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 63	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	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

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input 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		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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Description:

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18AN603, the Prehistoric Procurement site, is a Late Archaic and Woodland short-term resource procurement locale near the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Airport in northern Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The site is situated in the heavily modified landscape of the airport runway grounds. It is bisected by Muddy Bridge Branch which is a tributary of Sawmill Creek, located to the east. Soils of the area belong to the Evesboro-Rumford-Sassafras association of loamy sands.

The site was identified and documented in 1986, during a combined Phase I survey and Phase II testing program carried out to evaluate the impact on cultural resources of the (then) proposed expansion of a runway at BWI Airport. The work was mandated by the Maryland Department of Transportation and State Aviation Administration. Phase I fieldwork consisted of non-systematic walk-over survey, opportunistic shovel test pit (STP) excavation, and systematic STP excavation. In the vicinity of 18AN603, systematic shovel testing was carried out every 15.24 m (50 ft) along transects 22.86 m (75 ft) apart. When nothing was found along Muddy Bridge Branch, an area of moderate to high site potential, two additional transects, one on either side of the stream, were added. STPs along those transects were then spaced 7.62 m (25 ft) apart. This was supplemented with a few judgmentally placed STPs once the site was discovered. A total of 88 STPs were excavated during Phase I work. The STPs measured about 30 cm in diameter. Excavation was by natural stratigraphic soil level using a manually operated post-hole digger. Soil was passed through hardware cloth and artifacts were bagged by stratigraphic level. STP data and profiles were recorded on standardized forms.

Site 18AN603 was recognized as a scatter of prehistoric artifacts. Some historic artifacts were encountered, but the quantity and types of materials were consistent with the known use of the area for farming activities. Thus, the historic component was not investigated further and historic artifacts are not cataloged here or in the tables above. Immediately following the discovery of Site 18AN603, Phase II testing was initiated with the goal of determining National Register eligibility. It included the excavation of 28 systematically and judgmentally placed 1 X 2 meter test units. The systematically placed tests were situated at 15.24 m intervals along transects 22.86 m apart. Excavation proceeded by natural stratigraphic levels, with arbitrary 5 cm levels established within the natural ones. Fill soils were screened through hardware cloth. Soil samples for flotation were taken from each stratum and screened through 1.6 mm (1/16 in) hardware cloth, but no carbonized plant materials or microlithics were recovered. Units were excavated into sterile soil with shovels and trowels and each unit was drawn and photographed in profile upon completion.

Generally, artifact densities were very low. Twenty-four of the twenty-eight 1 X 2 m test units produced fewer than four artifacts. Exceptions north of the stream were in units that contained bipolar cores (see below). Two units at the base of the rise south of the stream were also very productive. One disturbed potential hearth feature was encountered. The site appears to be a fairly intact remnant of what was once a much larger site that has been altered on all sides by the encroaching BWI-related facilities.

The vast majority of the material recovered from 18AN603 is debitage of local origin. With the exception of one rhyolite flake (probably from outcrops in the Catoctin Mountains to the west) all could have been derived from pebble and cobble deposits located at the site. These include 3 utilized flakes, 48 flakes, 3 pieces of shatter, and 3 cores of quartz and 4 flakes and 1 core of quartzite. About half of the flake assemblage suggests early stage biface manufacture and about half suggests late stage biface thinning/retooling. Two of the quartz cores appear to have been reduced by bipolar percussion. Bipolar percussion, as a means of reducing quartz cores, has not been recognized in the Mid-Atlantic archeological record. However, in southern New England it has been associated with the Late Archaic. Thirty heat-treated and cracked rocks were recovered from the site. Twenty-two found in close association may be part of a disassembled hearth feature. One prehistoric ceramic vessel sherd was recovered from the surface of the site. It is either Moyaone or Potomac Creek.

Site 18AN603 was part of an extensive prehistoric, procurement/processing station which saw short, recurrent visits by small groups. Site usage occurred at least during the Late Woodland period and probably during the Late Archaic/Early Woodland Period when a wetlands environment, rich in biotic resources, existed at this location. Exploitative foray bands were probably attracted there not only because of the highly productive nature of this kind of environmental setting, in terms of floral and faunal resources, but because it was also an abundant source of quartz and quartzite.

High quality pebbles and cobbles of predominantly quartz were quarried on-site from the eroded stream bed to fashion expedient flake tools and possibly to generate bifaces for more formal tool types to be further modified at another location. The data indicates that expedient flake tools were produced mostly from bipolar cores for a specific localized task (i.e., butchering game and/or processing a soft vegetal substance) and then after limited use were discarded on-site. Also, there is evidence that finished biface tools, possibly brought from another location, were utilized and maintained on site.

Intra-site variation in usage was apparent. Cores were only found on the stream's northern floodplain where the only other artifact types were flakes (some utilized) and pieces of shatter. Activities there appear to have involved the limited reduction of pebbles and cobbles to process meat and/or vegetation. Flakes were also found on the rise south of the stream and pottery and heated rocks (hearths) were unique to that area. Unfortunately, most of this rise was heavily disturbed during the construction of a State Highway Administration building, which caused grading into deep pebble sand deposits and made an accurate interpretation of the data from this area impossible. The recovered material, however, suggests a more sedentary utilization of land compared to the northern floodplain. The rise may have been utilized as a temporary habitation area by the exploitative foray bands or it could be a small remnant of a more permanent nature. The extremely altered condition of the terrain in that area prohibits the formulation of a strong case for either hypothesis.

Though intact deposits were encountered at 18AN603, the data recovered is characteristic of a prehistoric procurement/processing station. Thus, relatively complete reconstructions of the activities that occurred at the site were possible. The collection of additional data is, therefore, not likely to lead to additional new information. For this reason, the site is not considered a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000554