



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN762

Site Name: Cooper Road

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early & Late Archaic and possibly Early & Late Woodland short-term or base camps, World War I training area

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.1124 Longitude -76.7558
Elevation m Site slope 0

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater 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 Midw

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 20 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

Historic

Urban/Rural? Rural

Domestic

- Homestead
- Farmstead
- Mansion
- Plantation
- Row/townhome
- Cellar
- Privy

Industrial

- Mining-related
- Quarry-related
- Mill
- Black/metalsmith
- Furnace/forge
- Other

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

WWI Military training area

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples
Soil samples taken N
Flotation samples taken N Other samples taken

Historic context samples
Soil samples taken N
Flotation samples taken N Other samples taken



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN762

Site Name: Cooper Road

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Early & Late Archaic and possibly Early & Late Woodland short-term or base camps, World War I training area

Unknown

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"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	2
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	2	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	1
		Levanna	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"/>	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	414	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	8	Unmod faunal	1
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input checked="" 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"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>
		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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	fox holes, zig zag trenches	
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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN762

Site Name: Cooper Road

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Early & Late Archaic and possibly Early & Late Woodland short-term or base camps, World War I training area

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Cooper Road Site (18AN762) is the site of a series of Early Archaic through Late Woodland short-term camps on the Fort George G. Meade property in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The site is situated on the first terrace above an unnamed tributary of Midway Branch. The site is in woods, north of a path and sewer line, installation of which appears to have partially disturbed the site. Native vegetation is chiefly scrub hardwoods, with occasional Virginia Pine. Most of the surrounding landscape is heavily developed due to the encroachment of Ft. Meade facilities. Soils at the site are Evesboro and Galestown loamy sands, which are excessively well-drained and ideal for woodland, wildlife, and community development.

The site was first identified in 1989 during a large-scale Environmental Assessment of the Fort Meade property by the US Army Corps of Engineers. An appendix in the report is dedicated to a Phase I cultural investigation on 4 alternative sites for a (then) proposed childcare facility for the National Security Agency (NSA). The NSA complex occupies approximately 2,200 acres in the northwestern portion of the Fort Meade military reservation.

Twenty-one shovel test pits were excavated in the vicinity of 18AN762 during the 1989 survey. The STPs were generally 40 X 40 cm in area and were excavated to a depth of approximately 30 cm. STPs were placed approximately 15 meters apart and soils were sifted through hardware cloth. Both prehistoric and historic artifacts were recovered from the shovel tests. The historic resources were determined not to be significant, as these were related to past military use of the area as a training facility. Zig-zag style foxholes (characteristic of World War I) were noted in the vicinity and the historic materials are related to this period. These materials are not included in the tables above.

The prehistoric artifacts, however, were largely concentrated in a roughly 30 X 15 m area and a charcoal lens (a potential feature) was encountered in one of them. A total of 53 prehistoric lithics and 1 shell fragment were recovered from 4 positive shovel tests. The artifacts included bifacially worked quartz preforms, a bifacially worked quartz 'section', quartz scrapers, a quartzite core, quartz flakes, a gray chert flake, a split pebble, and the single shell piece. Based on these findings, Phase II testing was recommended if that particular alternative was chosen as the site for the NSA childcare facility. The facility was eventually built elsewhere.

The most recent stage of archeological fieldwork at 18AN762 came in 2002. In May of that year, a 50-year lease was signed conveying all housing, except historical homes, to Meade Communities, LCC. As part of the agreement, 2,862 dwelling units in five housing parcels (known as Argonne Hills) were conveyed to Meade Communities. In addition, about 1,000 acres were leased for the construction of approximately 308 new family housing units, ancillary support facilities, and for the development of storm water management and community aesthetic enhancement. Such a development constitutes an undertaking subject to the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966 and, thus, a Phase II testing project was carried out at 18AN762 which would have been impacted by the (then) proposed development.

Phase II work at 18AN762 entailed the excavation of additional shovel test pits and eleven 1 X 1 m test units. In order to re-identify the site and locate artifact concentrations, archeologists excavated 11 STPs at 10 m intervals. Shovel test pits were excavated in 10 cm increments within natural soil strata and all field data was recorded on standard field forms and in general field notes. Photographic documentation was also used. All soils were screened through hardware cloth to recover artifacts. Based on the STPs, the site is about 400 square meters in size. No artifact concentrations were found, and STPs yielded only between one and two artifacts each.

Eleven 1 meter square test units were then excavated within undisturbed areas of the prehistoric site. Although soils varied slightly across the site, the profiles were generally consistent. The one exception was the subsoil in the northern half of the site, which appeared to contain more clay. The typical soil profile consisted of five strata (Ao and A Horizon, A2, Bt1, Bt2, and C Horizons), which were excavated in arbitrary 10 cm levels. No features were found during the Phase II evaluation. The STPs and test units on the southeastern portion of the site contained the fewest artifacts, while those in the north central and northwestern portions of the site contained more artifacts. The test unit on the highest part of the landform produced the greatest number of artifacts (roughly 38% of the assemblage).

Site 18AN762 appears to have been a temporary campsite occupied repeatedly from the Early Archaic through the Late Woodland Periods. The site's location near a wetland and tributary of Midway Branch would have been attractive to prehistoric inhabitants of the region.

In total, 369 artifacts were recovered during the Phase II evaluation of Site 18AN762. The assemblage included 8 projectile points, 8 bifaces, 6 unifaces, 3 cores, 319 flakes, 17 pieces of shatter, and 8 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The prehistoric inhabitants of the site showed a preference for quartz raw material in manufacturing their tools. The raw material assemblage is comprised of 89.7% quartz (332 objects), 4.9% rhyolite (18), 4.3% quartzite (16), 0.5% chalcedony (2), and 0.5% chert (2). The quartz and quartzite are available locally in pebble and cobble form from the ground and stream bed, while other materials would likely have been obtained through trade or travel. Seven of the projectile points could be assigned to diagnostic types, including 1 chert Kanawha point, 1 rhyolite Brewerton side-notched point, 1 quartz Brewerton, 2 quartz Piscataways, 1 chert Levanna, and 1 quartz Madison. The distribution of projectile points clearly indicated that there was no vertical integrity to the site deposits.

No cultural features were identified during the Phase II investigations at 18AN762. Furthermore, with the mixing of temporal periods evident, and the resulting lack of vertical and horizontal patterning, the site has little potential to yield significant information about the prehistory of the region. The site was determined to be ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It should not be considered a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000619, 97001741