



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN931

Site Name: Field Site # AA 3.3

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Early Woodland base camp, short-term resource procurement

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.1031

Longitude -76.7636

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 46 m

Site slope 5-10%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed trib. of Little Patu

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 35 m

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

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
- 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

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"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<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"/>		

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	96	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	3	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	2	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	2	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 type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input checked="" 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 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:

Site 18AN931, also known as Field Site # AA 3.3, is a Late Archaic and Woodland base camp, and short-term resource procurement site on the Fort George G. Meade property in western Anne Arundel County. The site is situated on the northernmost end of a high ridge above an unnamed tributary to the Little Patuxent River. Soils at the site are very shallow Evesboro and Galestown soils. The surrounding landscape ranges from suburban to semi-rural land use.

The site was first recorded in 1993. At that time, the US Army Corps of Engineers was developing a Cultural Resource Management Plan for Fort George G. Meade. This was being prepared to comply with Army Regulation 420-40 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended.

The 1993 Phase I survey entailed the excavation of a total of 41 shovel test pits (STPs), initially placed at 20 m intervals, and then reduced to a 10 m interval once STPs began producing artifacts. Shovel tests measured between 35 and 50 cm in diameter and were excavated to at least 50 cm below surface, or 10 cm into sterile subsoil, whichever came first. Soils were removed by natural strata and were sifted through hardware cloth. The position of each shovel test, the depths of individual soil horizons, and the presence or absence of cultural material was recorded in the field on standardized forms. In addition, any areas devoid of vegetation were examined visually for cultural materials.

Six of the STPs produced prehistoric cultural materials, revealing a site area roughly 30 X 40 meters in size. A total of 38 prehistoric artifacts were collected from these, as well as three 50 X 50 cm test units excavated in the area of greatest positive STP concentration. These were excavated to a depth of approximately 50 cm below surface and fill was removed in arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural strata. All units were excavated to at least 20 cm below the last level containing pre-modern cultural materials. Soil screening, recordation of results, and artifact collection followed the procedures outlined above for shovel testing. To ensure adequate recordation, one wall of each test unit was profiled and photographed.

Thirty-three of the 38 cultural materials were recovered from intact strata, at depth in excess of 8-11 cm below surface. The artifact assemblage included 3 projectile points/bifaces, 1 biface fragment, 2 bipolar cores, 5 utilized flakes, 24 unmodified flakes, 1 piece of shatter, an unmodified ironstone fragment, and 1 hammerstone. The three projectile point/knives could be assigned with some confidence to known regional types. These types included a quartz Lamoka point, a quartz Patuxent point, and a quartz Orient Fishtail point.

It was thought that 18AN931 might represent an ancillary locus of nearby 18AN930 (see synopsis report). It was suggested that if future construction should threaten the site, Phase II testing should be carried out.

In 2003, at the request of the US Army's Department of Public Works-Environmental Management Office at Fort George G. Meade, a combined Phase I/II investigation was conducted on several previously identified archeological sites at Fort Meade. The investigation was warranted because a 50 year lease was signed in 2002 on 1,000 acres of property at the installation for the construction of approximately 308 new family housing units (for military families), ancillary support facilities, and associated storm water management and other facilities. The construction constituted an undertaking that was subject to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The archeological studies were also carried out in accordance with Army Regulation 200-4 and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, which requires that all archeological investigations on federal property be carried out by permit issued by the Federal land manager.

Phase II testing at 18AN931 began with an intensive STP survey of the ridge and the area between the ridge and stream. STPs were spaced at an interval of 15 meters, and the survey was aimed at re-identifying the site location. Each STP was approximately 40 cm in diameter and was excavated in stratigraphic layers to a depth of 10 cm into subsoil, or culturally sterile horizon. Soils from the excavated tests were screened through hardware cloth in order to assure uniform recovery of cultural materials. Detailed notes on soils, depth of each STP, artifact recovery, and profile data were recorded on standardized forms.

The survey was broken into three study areas based on topography. Loci 1 and 2 were located along the ridge and separated by a slight change in elevation and a narrowing of the ridge, while Locus 3 consisted of the small level area below the ridge and adjacent to the stream. Prehistoric artifacts were recovered from each of these three areas.

Locus 1 appears to be what was originally identified as 18AN931 in 1993. Twenty-seven STPs were excavated within Locus 1 in order to identify the site location and artifact concentrations. Three of these produced prehistoric lithic debitage and, thus, seven 1 X 1 meter square test units were excavated within Locus 1. In Locus 2, 52 STPs were excavated. Five STPs located near the center of Locus 2 were positive for prehistoric artifacts. This concentration of artifacts was clearly distinct from the artifact concentration in Locus 1, each separated by a 100 meter area void of artifacts and topographic features. Therefore, it was determined that Locus 2 constituted a separate site, which was assigned the site number 18AN1240. This site is discussed in its own synopsis report. In Locus 3, 29 STPs were excavated. Of these, four were positive for prehistoric artifacts. However, the positive STPs were widely dispersed, and therefore the artifacts were considered isolated finds and not a site. It is possible that these artifacts were eroded from 18AN931 and 18AN1240 and were deposited along the stream. Eroded soil profiles support this theory. The discussion that follows will, thus, focus solely on the excavations and artifacts that occurred within Locus 1.

Again, seven 1 X 1 m test units were excavated during Phase II operations within Locus 1, or 18AN931. Test units were also excavated stratigraphically to culturally sterile soils and soils were screened through hardware cloth. Again, appropriate data was recorded on standardized forms. Drawings and photographs were taken of the soil profiles. Photographs were also taken of any cultural features and to document field conditions.

The typical soil profile included three strata overlaying subsoil. The northern end of the site featured a much more compressed soil profile than the southern end, suggesting that the northern area might have suffered from erosion over time. Two of the test units in the northern portion of 18AN931 produced no prehistoric artifacts. Soils in the southern end were deeper and tended to contain more artifacts. No cultural features were identified and there appeared to be no horizontal spatial patterning to the distribution of prehistoric artifacts.

In total, 65 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the Phase II evaluation of 18AN931. None of these were formal stone tools. The assemblage consisted of 3 cores, 48 flakes, 9 pieces of shatter, 3 fragments of fire-cracked rock, and 2 ceramic vessel sherds. Ninety percent of the lithic assemblage (54 items) is comprised of quartz, with the rest being chert (3 objects), rhyolite (2), and quartzite (1). The quartz and quartzite are available locally in pebble and cobble



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form. The sherds were quartz tempered, but far too eroded to associate with a specific pottery type.

Site 18AN931 appears to have been a camp site occupied from the Late Archaic through the Woodland Period. The site's location overlooking a tributary of the Little Patuxent River would have been attractive to prehistoric inhabitants of the region. The site's temporal designation is based on the results of the Phase I study. The Phase II evaluation of the site yielded only two eroded, quartz-tempered ceramic sherds dating to the Woodland Period. No other diagnostic artifacts were recovered, and no features were identified during the Phase II excavations. The artifact density is low, and no horizontal or vertical patterning was observed. It is therefore concluded that 18AN931 has no potential to yield significant information regarding prehistoric lifeways in the Maryland Coastal Plain.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000748, 97002686