



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AN974

Site Name: A-2 Site 1

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle to Late Archaic and Early or Middle Woodland short-term camps or base camps

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.1122

Longitude -76.7460

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 55 m

Site slope

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) Tributary of Midway 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 20 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context
- 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?
 - 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	1723	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	23	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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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Description:

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18AN974, also known as A-2 Site 1, consists of a series of Middle to Late Archaic and Early or Middle Woodland short-term camps or base camps located on the Fort George G. Meade property in Anne Arundel County. The site is situated on the edge of a low terrace just above the floodplain of an unnamed tributary of Midway Branch. The site setting is wooded, but it is surrounded by residential development for the military base. Soils at the site are primarily Fallsington sandy loams.

The site was first identified in 1995 during the course of a Phase I survey of approximately 2,210 acre of the Fort George G. Meade property. The work was conducted to supplement a Cultural Resource Management Plan being developed for the base. The Phase I work entailed the excavation of 151 shovel test pits (STPs) at 20 m intervals throughout the woods, with retests at 10 m intervals between positive finds. STPs were approximately 30 X 40 cm in size. In addition, a single 1 X 1 m test unit was excavated to get a better look at local stratigraphy. A total of 33 fragments of lithic debitage and chipped stone tools were recovered during the Phase I work.

Based on the 1995 fieldwork, the site was characterized as a lithic reduction and resource procurement camp. It was determined to be approximately 1.2 acres in size. Most artifacts were recovered from the BE horizon, suggesting that the site retained integrity and, thus, Phase II work was recommended.

Phase II work was carried out at the site in 2002. In May of that year, a 50 year land lease was signed conveying all housing, except historical homes, to Meade Communities, LCC: a total of 2,862 dwelling units on the base in 5 parcels. 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. The proposed action constitutes an undertaking that is subject to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. The archeological evaluation of Site 18AN974 was 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 (in this case, the Installation Commander).

The Phase II investigation of 18AN974 included manual excavation of shovel test pits and 1 X 1 m square test units. A review of the Phase I survey indicated that a sufficient number of STPs were excavated to adequately identify the boundaries of the site. Phase II STPs were used to re-identify the site and to identify artifact concentrations. Soils were excavated in 10 cm increments within natural soil strata. All field data was recorded on standard field forms and in general field notes. A site map depicting the locations of STPs, test units, above-ground features, and areas of disturbance was prepared. Photographs of any archeological features, soil layers, and general site conditions were taken. All soil from STPs and test units was screened for artifacts through hardware mesh. Following the archeological fieldwork, a Trimble Pro XRS Global Position System (GPS) backpack unit was used to map the boundaries of the site.

Nineteen STPs at 20 m intervals were initially excavated at 18AN974 in 2002. As a result of the STP excavation, archeologists identified a concentration of artifacts near the wetland. Eighteen 1 X 1 m test units were then placed in the area of artifact concentration. Test Units 1 through 8 were placed at an interval of approximately 10 meters across the artifact concentration. Test Units 9 through 18 were then arranged in the center of the concentration, in the vicinity of Test Unit 2, which yielded more artifacts and a higher number of diagnostic materials than the other seven initial units.

Soil profiles observed in the test units were consistent. The typical soil profile consisted of five natural strata, which were excavated in arbitrary levels within natural strata. The Ao layer was dark brown humus and loamy sand, and the A1 stratum consisted of dark grayish brown loamy sand. The A2 stratum was yellowish brown loamy sand, averaging 20 cm in thickness. Stratum B consisted of olive yellow clayey sand, which became progressively more yellowish brown with depth. This layer averaged 35 cm in thickness, and was excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels. Subsoil was yellowish brown clayey sand. The only exception to the typical soil profile was in two units which were placed adjacent to 20th century military training features (foxholes and a zig-zag trench). A roughly 35 cm thick layer of overburden was noted in these units, the product of the excavation of the military features.

No culturally significant features were encountered during the Phase II evaluation. However, three large (about 12 cm in diameter) fragments of fire-cracked rock were located at a depth of approximately 48 cm below surface and at the top of the third arbitrary level within Stratum B. These rocks were clustered in the northwest corner of the unit. No charcoal was present to suggest the rocks were part of a hearth.

In total, 1,715 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the Phase II evaluation of 18AN974. Artifacts included 9 projectile points, 10 bifaces, 2 scrapers, 5 cores, 1,631 flakes, 33 pieces of shatter, 23 fire-cracked rock fragments, and 2 prehistoric pottery sherds. Diagnostic materials included two grit-tempered body sherds (likely Early to Middle Woodland), 3 Middle to Late Archaic Halifax points, a Late Archaic Holmes point and a Middle Archaic Otter Creek point. Most of the artifacts were produced from a variety of local quartz (1,559 objects) and quartzite (72). Non-local materials included 2 pieces of chert, 3 of jasper, and 77 rhyolite artifacts. No patterns were detected in either the horizontal or vertical distributions of artifacts.

Based on the quantity and variety of artifacts, site 18AN974 appears to have been a base camp occupied repeatedly from the Middle Archaic through the Middle Woodland Periods (ca. 6500 BC-AD 900). The horizontal distribution of debitage suggested the possibility that distinct use areas could be identified, however, the diagnostic artifacts are distributed across the site, and do not appear to be clustered by temporal period. This lack of clustering precludes assignment of culture periods to the debitage clusters. In addition, there was no vertical stratification of the diagnostic artifacts, which further inhibits assigning debitage clusters to culture periods. Based on the presence of a limited amount of fire-cracked rock, hearth features were likely present, although none were identified during the Phase II investigations.

The vertical and horizontal mixing of the archeological components, as well as the lack of features, indicate limited potential for site 18AN974 to yield significant information regarding prehistoric lifeways. In addition, 20th century military activity, including excavation of a long zig-zag trench and several foxholes, has partially disturbed the prehistoric site. Therefore, site 18AN974 appears to have limited research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97001526, Site Files