



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP74

Site Name: Slayton House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) 112 Duke of Gloucester Street

Historic

Brief Description: 18th-20th century standing rowhome

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9732

Longitude -76.4982

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 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) Spa Creek

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 178 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown prehistoric context

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 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 Misc. ceremonial

Village Rock art

Hamlet Shell midden

Base camp STU/lithic scatter

Rockshelter/cave Quarry/extraction

Earthen mound Fish weir

Cairn Production area

Burial area Unknown

Other context

Historic

Urban/Rural? Urban

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

Post-in-ground

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

Flotation samples taken

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"/>		

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"/>	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"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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 type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input 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

Numerous 18th and 19th century architectural and landscaping features

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	500
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	coal

Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" 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"/>	pet burial, drains, brick floors	
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input checked="" 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 University of Maryland

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Slayton House (18AP74) site is the archeological remains associated with an 18th-20th century standing rowhome in the downtown area of Annapolis, Maryland. The site is situated along Duke of Gloucester Street, not far from its intersection with Newman, and is part of a row of Georgian-style townhouses known as "Ridout Row" (AA-461). The Slayton House is the center section of Ridout Row. It is situated on a plot of land that slopes from the rear of the house down to the City Dock area of downtown Annapolis. The surrounding landscape of Slayton House is heavily developed as an urban area. Soils at the site are Collington and Wist sandy loams as well as some human transported soils.

Ridout Row is an excellent example of the Georgian London townhouse transplanted in America. The masonry structure is Flemish bond, an architectural feature which would be outstanding even in England. Ridout Row is divided into three rowhomes with wide end chimneys, the center structure (Slayton House) being pedimented. These are perhaps the earliest standing examples of high-style urban rowhouses in Annapolis, and even the Chesapeake region.

John Ridout came to Maryland in 1753 as secretary to Governor Horatio Sharpe. In 1764 he married Mary Ogle, daughter of the late governor Samuel Ogle. A few years later, he bought 2 large lots on Duke of Gloucester Street and on one of them he constructed a large mansion for his family. On the other, he began construction of a row of townhouses as an investment that he hoped would pay off handsomely. Many government officials and planters spent several months each year in town on business or for sessions of the courts and the General Assembly. Annapolis needed upper-class rental properties. However, as the building was nearing completion, the colonies entered a period of political unrest with talk of a split with Great Britain. Property values fell and in September of 1774, Horatio Sharpe wrote to John Ridout that his, "...houses had been refused by every insurance office in London".

Later that year, Ridout wrote to his mother-in-law, Anne Tasker Ogle, who was living in London, saying that he was about to finish the "Middle Tenement" in his new building and that he had a potential tenant for the building if she (Mrs. Ogle) was no longer interested in renting it. Ridout rented the center unit to Mrs. Ogle from 1784, when she returned from England, until 1799. In addition to the house, Mrs. Ogle had use of the yard, outlet, and stable associated with it.

Mrs. Ogle owned several slaves who lived in or near the house. It is not clear from the 1790 census how many slaves she owned but there are several records indicating the purchase of slaves, and payments made for provisions and clothing for slaves. In 1786 she purchased from William Gibson a mulatto girl called "Crissy". Later that same year, she bought for, "the sum of sixty pounds current money the Negro Lad Jim, the son of Rachel...". There are also records of Mrs. Ogle having paid for cloth to be made into clothing for slaves and also that she paid wages to hire other people's slaves to transport and stack cut wood.

In 1800, Mrs. Ridout, who had inherited the property from her husband, leased it to Anne Ogle Gibson and John Gibson, her daughter and son-in-law. In addition to the Gibson family, which consisted of the parents and at least 3 children, 6 slaves also lived on the property. The Gibson family lived there until 1811 when the house was sold to John Brewer. A detailed description of the house and property is provided in a Maryland Gazette advertisement from 1810 (see full site report).

John and Anne Gibson sold the property in July 1811 to John Brewer, whose household at that time consisted of 13 free white people, 8 slaves, and 1 free colored person. In 1835 the property was sold, as part of Brewer's estate, to John S. Selby who sold it in 1837 to Nicholas John Watkins and Margaret Watkins.

Nicholas Watkins was a clergyman and a tailor and he and his family lived in the house until 1855. The US Census records for 1840 show that the Watkins family consisted of Nicholas and his wife, 1 female aged 10 to 15 years, 1 female aged 20 to 30 years, and 1 female aged 50 to 60 years. In addition there were 6 slaves: 1 male aged 24 to 36 years, 3 females under the age of 10, 1 female aged 10 to 24 years, and 1 female aged 24 to 36 years. In 1850, the composition of the Watkins household had changed somewhat. It consisted of Nicholas and his wife, aged 66 and 61 respectively, a daughter named Sally who was 24 years old and a female named M. Green who was 61 years old. The Watkins' owned 13 slaves all of whom were women and children. This group consisted of 6 girls under the age of 13 years, and 7 women between the ages of 25 and 60.

In 1855 the house was occupied by John and Margaret Mason, who lived there until 1863. From 1863 to 1879 the property was owned by Nicholas Brewer, son of John Brewer, who lived there with his wife Barbara and their four children. Their oldest child, a daughter named Alice, married Albert Ross, a Pennsylvanian who had graduated from the Naval Academy in 1867. When Nicholas Brewer died in 1874, his three sons were under 21. He left his family in debt, and the house at 112 Duke of Gloucester Street had to be sold at auction to pay these debts. Albert Ross purchased his wife's former home at the auction for \$4,425. After Alice's death in 1897, Ross kept the house until 1915 when he sold it to Thomas and Frances Waggaman.

In 1923, the Waggamans sold it to Charles C. and Pauline Slayton. In 1959, Morgan Slayton inherited his boyhood home and returned to live thereafter his stepmother's death. He had graduated from the Naval Academy in 1933 and served in the Navy for 30 years. From 1963 to 1976, he was a Professor of Political Science, Director of the Atlantic Division, and Associate Dean of the University of Maryland, University College. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Historic Annapolis Foundation, to which he left his house when he died in 1992. Historic Annapolis is one of the primary partners in the Archaeology in Annapolis program.

Archeological work at the Slayton House property (18AP74) took place during three different summers. A test excavation consisting of 4 small units and two 1.83 m (6 ft) trenches took place during a two week period in the summer of 1995 using a paid field crew. For 8 weeks in June and July of 1996 and 8 weeks in June and July of 1997, excavation took place with the help of University of Maryland field school students, volunteers, and paid staff. In all, 45 individual units (of varying size) were excavated both in the ground floor of the house and in the yard.

After superimposing a grid system over the site, excavations was begun with the removal of modern floor surfaces within the house and the sod and topsoil in yard areas. A variety of tools, including picks, shovels, and crowbars were used to remove the floor surfaces made of brick or concrete. Once the floor or sod was removed, levels were dug stratigraphically using masonry trowels and shovels. Arbitrary levels were used for any layers exceeding 15.24 cm (6 in) in depth. Recorded data for each excavated level included photographs, maps (profile and plan view), a listing of artifacts, soil definition, and elevations taken either with a transit or with line levels pulled from known elevation/datum points. Soils were generally screened through hardware cloth. Some features from units located within the house were screened through window screen mesh in order to retrieve tiny artifacts such as beads and pins. Water screened samples for most levels or features were collected during the 1997 excavation. About 20% of each soil pailer was wet screened using window screen mesh. The



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excavation of some units was halted when work became too difficult and the potential information to be gained seemed small and did not warrant further excavation.

A total of 135 features were discovered, including outbuildings, a well, a privy, drains, sidewalks, etc. In general, excavation revealed evidence of occupation of the lot since the early 18th century (pre-dating construction of Slayton House and the rest of Ridout Row). An intact late 18th century ground surface was identified, on which John Ridout built the rowhouses. In addition, subsequent changes in the landscape and uses for the yard were documented.

During fieldwork it became clear that many changes had been made in the house and yard. Some evidence was found that indicated the kind of work performed by the African Americans who lived at the property. Some evidence was found that may indicate the practice of an African-related belief system or African-American folk beliefs. A great deal of evidence was found to indicate that the yard had been used for utilitarian purposes in the 18th and 19th centuries. The yard was mainly a work space and a place that supplied the needs of everyday life. It was heavily used and modified repeatedly by the people who lived there. In the early 20th century the yard was made into a garden with ornamental plants and trees, flower gardens, a fish pond, and a paved area for table and chairs.

A detailed artifact catalog was prepared for the site, but no copy of this catalog is available at MHT. Artifacts documented on MHT site forms include whiteware, ironstone, late creamware, ca. 1775, pearlware, peasant-palette pearlware (1795-c. 1820), stoneware, porcelain doll parts, buttons (brass, shell, bone, glass, and metal), a black bead, a Chinese coin, a brass bell, pins, lamp glass, bottle glass, a crab claw, bone, fishbone and scale, oyster shells, and peanut shell. Many of these items were interpreted as evidence of 18th and 19th century African-American folk beliefs. The assemblage is documented in the table above with a minimal estimate of 500 miscellaneous items.

Site 18AP74 proved to be an intact archeological site relating to Maryland's colonial history and including evidence related to the African-American slave community of Annapolis. The assemblage from the site is a valuable research resource. Due to the extent of the 1990s excavations, no further investigations at the site are recommended. However, if severe or deep ground-disturbing activities are to take place on the property, they should be monitored by a qualified archeologist.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97000416