



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP76

Site Name: 141/143 Main Street

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

18th century artifact concentration

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9751

Longitude -76.4922

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 5.4 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

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 182 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Y

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric context

Unknown context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Y

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? Urban

#### 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

sidewalk or walkway area

## 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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>	17			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"/>

## 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input 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"/>	343	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>		Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	291	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>		Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	19	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 checked="" 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 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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Description:

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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18AP76 (or 141/143 Main Street) consists of an 18th century artifact concentration in downtown Annapolis. It appeared to be a deposit of domestic yard scatter dating to the early to middle 18th century. The deposit is largely a remnant surrounded by deposits related to 20th century utility emplacements. The low terrace surrounding the site is heavily developed as an urban area, with sidewalks, graded and contoured road right-of ways, and commercial development. Soils at the site are Collington and Wist sandy loams, as well as human transported soils.

Within the surviving land records for early land purchases within the City of Annapolis, no land transactions have been located that identify the earliest owner of the parcel that contains Site 18AP76. In general, until approximately 1702, ownership of most of the newly established properties or tracts within the city was vested in a relatively small group of wealthy planters and merchants. Many of these original lot owners subsequently sold their properties to a second generation of upper class citizens, many of whom (like Charles Carroll) were colonial government leaders. Although these lot-holders resided in the city for at least part of the year, they generally leased at least portions of their properties to smaller middle-class entrepreneurs and professionals. The system of long-term leases, which ordinarily were granted for periods of 99 years, did not become common practice in Annapolis until after 1710. Although a few early independent craftsmen and merchants rented and developed portions of these lots, most properties remained as larger unified residential parcels until the 1730s.

William Bladen acquired title to Lot #27 (which includes Site 18AP76) at some point prior to 1718, when the earliest town Plat was drawn up. Bladen served as the Secretary, attorney general, and clerk of the province, was well-off economically, owned several plantations in the area, and may have run some early mercantile enterprise in the city. When he died in 1718, he bequeathed Lot #27 to Benjamin Tasker, husband of his daughter Ann. At some time prior to 1759, Tasker leased portions of Lot #27 to Samuel Gaither, an innkeeper who already occupied the property. The recorded 1759 rental agreement described the parcel as beginning "at the northwest corner of the said Lot and Tenement [an eighteenth century rental structure] now in Gaither's possession". Gaither's rented portion lay immediately south of James Chalmers' property and north of a parcel owned or rented by William Elting. Rent for the property was set at £9 per year.

The documentary identification of William Elting as Samuel Gaither's next-door neighbor provided an interesting link to some of the materials that would be found at 18AP76 during excavations in the mid 1990s. The original deed between Benjamin Tasker and Elting could not be located. However, records relating to Elting's participation in other legal proceedings involving exchanges of property and money delineated his social and economic status. For example, in 1754, he utilized some of his personal property as collateral for a loan and the inventory suggests a comfortable lifestyle for the man. More importantly, these records also divulged Elting's occupation. In a court action during which he posted bond for one Barton Rodgett, Elting is identified as a "barber and peruke [wig] maker". His services as a wig maker were also advertised in the Maryland Gazette in 1754. The recovery of several kaolin clay wig curlers from the deposits at 18AP76 likely provides a direct link between the site and Elting's business.

During the mid 18th century, the Gaither parcel figured prominently in local events associated with pre-Revolutionary War friction with the British. On September 2nd, 1765, a crowd estimated at between 300 and 400 people assembled to protest the enforcement of the recently passed and much maligned Stamp Tax. During the demonstration, the crowd reportedly pulled down a structure belonging to Zachariah Hood. This building was said to be under repair to accommodate the reception of cargo of goods. It is possible that Hood had been selected as stamp master for Annapolis, and that the "cargo" may have included a shipment of official stamped paper. Hood's storehouse apparently occupied a portion of the Gaither property, as the Gaither's obtained compensation for damages caused by the mob.

After Samuel Gaither's death, his widow continued the reside on the property in Annapolis. The Anne Arundel tax list for 1783 documented that Ann Gaither owned a one acre lot valued at £500, one slave (£10), a small amount of silver plate, and some "other property" valued at £11. By 1798, two 7.32 X 3.66 m (24 X 12 ft) frame dwellings, one with a shed addition, were present on the two-part Gaither lot. At least one additional unidentified outbuilding was associated with each of the dwellings. Anne Gaither apparently continued to occupy part of the property through the end of the 18th century, while leasing a second dwelling to Joseph Clark (an Annapolis merchant) in 1783, and to John Wheeler in 1798.

Ann Gaither's son Henry, a resident of Montgomery County, inherited his mother's Annapolis properties in 1808. Henry Gaither apparently continued his mother's practice of leasing the parcel, and in 1818, Basil Shepherd, a resident of Ann Arundel County, became the new tenant. Between 1818 and 1830, the subdivision of the property into two lots (the residential lot and the rental lot) apparently became a permanent arrangement, and the frame buildings that formerly stood on the properties were replaced by two storey brick structures. Shepherd constructed one of these dwellings, while the second residence was owned by Jeremiah Hughes. Property descriptions suggest that Shepherd's lot remained large enough to abut the rear yard of the City Tavern (a hotel complex that occupied a large lot on the southeast corner of Conduit and Main Streets. One 1830 deed mentions the tavern's brick stable as a major landmark on the northern boundary line of the Shepherd parcel.

After the Civil War, the development of the 18AP76 lot followed the general pattern of commercialization that characterized all of the properties along Main Street. Fire insurance maps for the late 19th and early 20th centuries indicate that a variety of small businesses occupied the structure. The second floor probably provided dwelling space for the business owner and his family. These tenant businesses changed frequently. They included a sewing machine (in 1891), a tin shop (in 1903), a cloth and carpet store (in 1908), and a tailor's shop (by 1913).

One 20th century development that affected all of the commercial and residential properties on Main Street involved the installation and subsequent upgrading of Annapolis' stormwater and sewage disposal system. Prior to the 1930s, a graduated 24-30 inch underground combined stormwater and sewage disposal line was installed along Main Street. This pipeline emptied directly into the waters of City Dock at the foot of Main Street. This system was modified extensively beginning in 1934. At that time a part of the federally funded New Deal public works project, a new separate system of sewage disposal pipes was installed in Annapolis. Sewage routed through the new system was processed at the city's new sewage treatment plant. However, the older 24-30 inch line continued to be used to channel storm water runoff, albeit with an auxiliary drain added in the 1930s to intercept runoff and prevent it from discharging directly into the City Dock.

The site was first examined archeologically in 1995 during the course of cultural resource management investigations for the Main Street Reconstruction Project in Annapolis. The project entailed replacing existing utilities and repaving the sidewalks and street of Main Street Annapolis from Church Circle to



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Description:

Compromise Street. The City of Annapolis received state financial assistance for the project, making it subject to compliance with Article 83B, Section 5-617 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Locations were chosen along the street for investigation based on the planned installation of several Electrical Man-hole (EMH) vaults which were the construction activities deemed most likely to impact previously undisturbed ground.

EMH 3 was proposed for the foot of main street in the vicinity of the site. Two test units were excavated in this location leading to identification of 18AP76. Test Unit 1 was a 60 cm X 3 m unit paralleling the roadway within the sidewalk area. Test Unit 2 was also 60 cm X 3 m in size and was placed adjacent to Test Unit 1 on the west side. The street or sidewalk pavement and underlying concrete bed was removed mechanically in each unit. Units were then hand-excavated below the pavement. Both units were excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels within natural or cultural stratigraphic levels. An excavation level form, including recordation of the datum location and elevation, depth of the stratum, excavation method, artifact content and density, the presence or absence of features, and appropriate soil descriptions, was completed for each level. All units and features were mapped, photographed, and recorded. Representative plans and profiles depicting stratigraphic sequences within the unit were drawn. Soil characteristics were described using standard soil nomenclature and color chart designations. All soils were screened through hardware cloth. A 1 liter sample of soil was taken from selected stratigraphic and cultural levels for flotation analysis. Samples of brick, mortar, charcoal, and oyster shell fragments were saved. All other non-modern cultural materials were collected.

The stratigraphy and features of Site 18AP76 relate primarily to the emplacement of utilities along Main Street during the late 19th to early 20th centuries. A builder's trench for granite curbstones that were located along the north edge of the units occupied much of the north half of the units to a depth of approximately 80 cm below the existing sidewalk. This trench had a terminus post quem (TPQ) after 1890 based on the presence of two wire nails. Archival evidence suggests that these curbstones were put into place during the 1890s, when much of Main Street was paved or repaved. This work included "resetting the curb". It seems clear that the builder's trench was dug into earlier deposits, since the bulk of the diagnostic ceramics have median manufacture dates from the 18th century.

Feature 1-01 occupied the south half of the units and was interpreted as shoring related to the emplacement of the pre-1930s stormwater and sewage lines that run under the sidewalk south of the unit. The sharply defined division of the units along a north/south line from just under the sidewalk suggests that the upper fill in the southern half of the units represents part of the builder's trench for the utility emplacement. In Test Unit 1, this upper trench can be dated from the first quarter of the 20th century, based on the presence of a solid rubber tractor-type tire in the fill. The lower portion of the builder's trench for Feature 1-01 in Test Unit 1 contained three strata. The middle stratum had a TPQ of post-1890 based on the presence of concrete. This contrasts with the overlying strata, which had a TPQ of 1680. The presence of concrete in the trench fill supports the early 20th century date for the feature. The reverse stratigraphy supports the interpretation of the layers as fill. Rotting vertical boards found within the feature left a board mold. This mold had a TPQ of post-1890 based on the presence of concrete.

Archival research suggested that utility trenches commonly were shored using vertical wooden planks. A photograph of the 1933 emplacement of utilities along Main Street by the Baltimore Gas & Electric Company illustrates the use of this type of shoring. Wooden vertical board shoring is still used in modern construction projects in Annapolis. It is not clear why the shoring was left in place.

A remnant area of intact cultural deposits was located on the north side of Test Unit 1 beneath the curbstone builder's trench. This included three cultural horizons resting on sterile subsoil. The uppermost horizon had a TPQ of 1740 and a mean ceramic date (MCD) of 1745. The functional artifact mix suggested a domestic deposit, perhaps yard scatter related to the period of ownership by Benjamin Tasker. The archival research did not reveal with certainty who occupied the parcel before the 1750s. It is possible that this layer relates to the earliest period of occupancy by the Gaither and/or Elting families. The middle cultural horizon had a TPQ of 1720 and a MCD of 1726. Again, this perhaps represents yard scatter related to the period of Tasker's ownership, although a specific occupant could not be identified.

Two features were associated with this horizon. Feature 1-03 was a small pit or surface deposit of charcoal and a few artifacts. Feature 1-04 was a large posthole that was excavated into the middle horizon. The posthole fill had a MCD of 1759. However, it underlay a stratum with a TPQ of 1740 and MCD of 1745. The postmold contained concrete, giving a TPQ of post 1890 for the life of the post. The post probably was put into place between 1720 and 1745. It apparently had been pulled out or rotted away after 1890. The third horizon under the curbstone trench had a TPQ of 1690 and a MCD of 1720. Again, this layer may represent yard deposits related to the Tasker period of ownership of the parcel.

Artifacts recovered during the excavations at 18AP76 included 6 activity items, 291 architectural artifacts, 5 clothing items, 343 ceramic sherds (2 North Devon gravel-tempered, 1 North Devon thin, 2 Buckley, 1 agaware, 1 Jackfield, 2 Staffordshire manganese-mottled, 35 tin-enamelled earthenware, 1 other early refined earthenware, 116 creamware, 17 pearlware, 24 early porcelain, 1 ironstone, 10 whiteware, 39 slipware, 27 redware, 31 white salt-glazed stoneware, 8 British brown stoneware, 2 Nottingham stoneware, 1 other imported brown stoneware, 5 Westerwald stoneware, 2 other imported gray stoneware, 3 Ralph Shaw stoneware and 8 other stoneware sherds), 13 bone fragments, 4 oyster shell fragments, 510 other kitchen-related artifacts, 2 arms items, 19 personal items (5 ceramic wig curlers and 14 other items), 35 tobacco pipe fragments, and at least 111 miscellaneous objects.

It appears unlikely that this small remnant of intact cultural deposits extended any distance outside of Test Unit 1. In Test Unit 2, located directly adjacent to the west, no similar intact deposits were identified. On the street side of Test Unit 1 and downhill to the east, there has been extensive utility emplacement. Feature 1-01 clearly has disturbed these deposits toward the sidewalk. The site likely has little to no remaining research potential.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005064