



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9814

Longitude -76.4921

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation -6 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) Severn River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 457 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Y

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Y

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Y

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

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

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

N

Flotation samples taken

N

Other samples taken



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

Unknown

## 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"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	<b>Stoneware</b>			
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	28	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	23	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	44	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	3
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>	56				Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>	5
								Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	8

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

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 historic features containing diagnostic artifacts.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	850	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	970	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	630	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>	856
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	26	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	199	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	969
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	sheet m	
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" 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: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18AP82, or the Buchanan Rd. Site, consists of the archeological deposits associated with an 18th century domestic structure and a 19th century road gatehouse for the United States Naval Academy (USNA) on the modern campus for the Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The site is situated along Buchanan Road south of the Ellipse on the US Naval Academy campus in Annapolis. Most of the surrounding landscape is heavily developed either with extant Academy structures or managed landscaping. Soils at the site are Collington sandy loams and loamy sands.

The eastern section of what is now the Naval Academy yard (the location of 18AP82) was first developed in 1726, when two carpenters, Simon Duff and James Walker, bought ½ acre lots in the "New Town" section of Annapolis. Duff and Walker apparently retained these lots until the 1750s, when they were purchased by Walter Dulaney, who paid £250 for Duff's lot and £60 for Walker's lot. This difference in price suggests Duff's lot was much more developed, and that his house was larger, more comfortable, or well-built, than Walker's. The amount of the difference suggests the possibility that Walker's parcel was not developed as a residential lot, and may have been used for other purposes.

Also in the mid-1750s, Dulaney acquired other adjacent lots, principally the tract known as Ferry Point. Dulaney purchased this property, which was described as, "all that parcel of land known as Ferry Point in the City of Annapolis, together with the outhouses standing thereon", for £100 from Edmund Jenings in 1755. By approximately 1760, Walter Dulaney had acquired and had developed almost all of the parcel that later was purchased as Fort Severn.

By the early 19th century, the large tract pieced together by Dulaney included a residence, a storehouse, a stable, a coach house, and a windmill, from which the property derived the name Windmill Point. The 18th century Dulaney house served for almost a century as the residence of the commandant of the 19th century Fort Severn, and then later as the residence of the Superintendent of the Academy. Maryland's provincial government built defensive works around Windmill Point during the Revolution, to protect Annapolis from an anticipated British attack. The extent of both Dulaney's residential/commercial complex and the Revolutionary War defensive lines is not clear. A windmill and what appears to be fortifications are shown in this area on a 1781 map of Annapolis.

In 1808, Dulaney's property was acquired by the War Department for use as the site of Fort Severn. The fort complex, separated from the town of Annapolis by brick walls, included a 100 ft diameter circular stone fort enclosing a brick magazine and an open gun platform. The compound was entered through an arched masonry gatehouse location at the southern end of what is today Buchanan Road (i.e. in the vicinity of 18AP82). In addition to the Dulaney House and the fort itself, the 9¼ acre fort site incorporated four brick row house officers' quarters built in 1834, a quartermaster's office, an old barracks building, a hospital, a bakery, a sutler's shop, and a blacksmith's shop. When the Naval Academy assumed control of the property in 1845, all of these structures were converted into units for use by the institution.

General Order #30, dated August 15th, 1845, officially transferred Fort Severn to the Navy, effective the following month. The Fort's 37-man garrison was dispersed to stations in Florida, Texas, and Philadelphia, PA. According to an inventory of buildings made by the Army in 1844, the facility contained the following accommodations, in addition to the fort structure itself: 1) one large 5-room house with a kitchen, occupied by the Commanding Officer, and 4 other two-room buildings with basement kitchens and store rooms; 2) a barracks building for enlisted men containing a kitchen, a mess room, 2 dormitory-style sleeping rooms, a company clothes room and an office; 3) a frame hospital containing accommodations for an orderly and matron, a surgery, kitchens, two wards, and a store-room company clerk; 4) a 5-stall frame stable with room for storing fodder; 5) a 4-room building for housing laundresses; 6) a carpenter's shop; and 7) a blacksmith's shop.

During the ensuing half-century, many of these structures were modified, replaced or improved, and their uses changed frequently to adapt to the growing needs of the Naval Academy. Modifications included the replacement in 1854 of the Fort Severn gatehouse by a new "guard house and gateway", utilizing plans furnished by the Navy's Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography. Commodore Charles Morris' directive to then-Superintended Stribling specified that, "[T]he Gateway and Guard House are to be placed at the present entrance; the wall of the building which is next the street to be placed on our line as a part of the wall enclosure. Let there be an arch at the Gateway on the inner as well as an outer wall of the building". This new gatehouse was shown in a ca. 1861 photograph as a two-storey brick building.

The gatehouse does not appear on an 1879 map of Annapolis, which included a detailed map of the Naval Academy grounds. The gatehouse apparently was demolished sometime between 1861 and 1879. As the Academy expanded to the south with the acquisition of the former Governor's mansion in 1866, there was no need for a gatehouse at this location. Later maps of the Academy grounds show that the road leading to the gatehouse remained in essentially the same place, with walkways along either side. The two later maps consistently depicted the wider or more curved roads in a stippled pattern, or with dashed lines, while the narrower and straighter paths were portrayed with regular edges, indicating a difference in the type of surface between the two. Nineteenth century photographs of the Academy show the wider paths and roads were generally hard-packed dirt or paved with crushed shell, while the narrower paths running alongside and between them were often paved with brick. By 1896, there was an entrance gate a block to the south of the original gatehouse, at the intersection of Hanover Street and Governor Street.

Although numerous archeological investigations have been conducted within the main campus of the Naval Academy, Site 18AP82 was not identified until 1997. However, some work was conducted on the site prior to that time. In 1993, a survey was carried out across the Naval Academy campus to provide the Navy with information about what types of cultural resources exist on Department of Defense (DOD) property. The Department of Defense (obviously publically funded) stipulated that inventories of such resources be undertaken on all DOD properties.

Field investigations in 1993 entailed the excavation of shovel test pits (STPs), small "slot trenches", and 61 X 61 cm (2 X 2 ft) units, as well as trenches of varying size. In the vicinity of 18AP82, this work entailed only the excavation of STPs. One hundred and twenty-four STPs were excavated across the USNA campus, but only 2 STPs were sited within the confines of 18AP82. STPs were 30.5 X 30.5 cm (1 X 1 ft) in size and were dug stratigraphically and screened through hardware cloth.

Only one of these STPs produced artifacts. It yielded 53 architectural artifacts (16 pieces of brick, 5 mortar fragments, 6 pieces of window glass, a cut nail, and 25 unidentified nails), 84 kitchen-related objects (12 coarse earthenware sherds, 9 creamware sherds, 4 pearlware sherds, a refined earthenware sherd, 10 redware sherds, 4 unidentified sherds, 18 whiteware sherds, a dark olive green bottle glass fragment, 15 other bottle glass fragments, 8 animal bones, 2 oyster shells), a tobacco pipe stem, and 2 pieces of coal. A distinct site was not identified based on these findings, but additional work was recommended in



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

Unknown

the vicinity of the Ellipse if development of the area were to occur.

In 1997, a combined Phase I-III research project was undertaken at Site 18AP82. This work was related to the replacement of high temperature water (HTW) and potable water piping, and the construction of new chilled water lines in and around the Ellipse. These investigations were designed to comply with the Statement of Architectural-Engineering Services for the project, as well as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and with applicable Federal and US Navy regulations.

Phase I work entailed the excavation of 18 backhoe trenches and several hand-excavated units across the area that would be impacted by the proposed installations. The trenches averaged 1.22 m (4 ft) wide and between 4.6 and 7.62 m (15 and 25 ft) long. In the vicinity of 18AP82 this entailed the excavation of two backhoe trenches which led to the identification of the site. Documentation of the backhoe trench profiles included preparation of detailed scale drawings and black and white and color photographs of at least one wall. Diagnostic artifacts that were observed to be within a stratum during backhoe excavation, so that the context could be defined, were retained. Non-diagnostic material such as brick and other structural debris, coal, and shell, were noted but not collected. The soils in the trenches were not screened.

The two Phase I trenches were placed at the south end of the Buchanan Road spur of the combined water lines, adjacent to the southwest corner of Bancroft Hall. This area was believed to be the general location of structures associated with the 19th century Fort Severn and Naval Academy gatehouse, the former governor's mansion lot, or the occupation of the site by Walter Dulaney or his predecessors prior to 1808. Only one of the two Phase I trenches produced intact remains. The more southerly trench revealed a remnant brick wall and several soil features at shallow depths, well within the zone of impact. Based on these findings, the project proceeded to a Phase II level of research in this area.

Phase II archeological evaluation of the cultural resources at Site 18AP82 consisted of the hand excavation of two 1.22 X 1.22 m (4 X 4 ft) units within the Phase I backhoe trench. The test units were excavated by cultural strata and soils from the units were screened through hardware mesh. All diagnostic artifacts were retained, and a sample of non-diagnostic material was collected.

The excavation of two units in the Phase I trench revealed the presence under Buchanan Road of sealed cultural deposits and intact surfaces dating from the 18th century to the mid-19th century. These features had been impacted by later 19th century features, which in-turn had been impacted by utility trenches, roads, sidewalks, and other modern disturbances. However, the presence of sealed deposits suggested that, despite their patchwork nature, the site possessed the potential to address questions related to the historic occupation of the area during the 18th century, as well as subsequent activities related to Fort Severn and the early Naval Academy. Site 18AP82 was determined to exhibit sufficient integrity and research potential to be individually eligible for listing on the NRHP and as a contributing element to the National Historic Landmark District of the US Naval Academy campus.

The archeological resources were present at a depth of 61-91 cm below surface, directly within the impact zone for the pipe replacement and installation project. After consultation with MHT and the USNA, an agreement was made to mitigate the adverse effect through Phase III excavations and documentation. This mitigation entailed expansion of the original trench, and recordation of all features and deposits within the exposed area.

Phase III mitigation of the cultural resources identified in the trench at 18AP82 consisted of mechanical expansion of the trench and hand excavation of the features present in the exposed area. The trench was exposed to the north, south, and east, exposing a 3.05 X 15.24 m (10 X 50 ft) area, bounded to the west by a concrete steam conduit and to the east by a brick sidewalk. All 31 features identified within this "block" were recorded and 11 of them were fully excavated. An additional six features were sampled. The features encountered included a robbed builder's trench, remnant mortared brick walls and rubble, a paved brick surface, a stone wall, a number of historic fill deposits, several road surfaces, historic and modern utility trenches, and several post features. Most of the features had been impacted by the installation of utilities, which included construction of a large concrete casing at the junction of several pipelines in the north central portion of the block.

Analysis of the results of the mitigation efforts indicated that, although Site 18AP82 had been impacted repeatedly by construction activities, portions of the 18th and 19th century landscapes remained intact. Archival research revealed that the Dulaney family had owned and developed this area prior to the government's construction of Fort Severn in 1808, and that two smaller parcels within Walter Dulaney's holdings had been developed during the early to mid 18th century. Overlays of historic maps revealed that the Fort Severn and later Naval Academy gatehouses had been located in this vicinity in the 19th century.

The archeological features and deposits identified at Site 18AP82 represented overlapping activities and structures that related to these successive occupations of the area. These resources included an 18th century living surface marked by dismantled and in-filled structural remains and deposits of domestic debris, the structural remains of the 19th century Naval Academy gatehouse (not the Fort Severn Gatehouse), and road surfaces associated with the Naval Academy gatehouse as well as the earlier Fort Severn gatehouse.

The cultural remains could be divided roughly in half by an unmortared brick wall (Feature 1). South of the brick wall, the features consisted of 19th century road surfaces and underlying structural features and deposits related to the pre-1808 domestic occupation of the property. North of the brick wall, the features consisted of the remains of the Naval Academy gatehouse, and road surfaces related to the Fort Severn and Academy gatehouses. No evidence of the earlier domestic activities identified in the southern portion of the site were identified in the northern portion of the excavation block.

The majority of cultural materials recovered during mitigation were domestic. The artifact assemblage consisted primarily of 18th century ceramics, glass, and faunal remains, as well as architectural debris such as brick, window glass, and nails. The relatively high percentage of 18th century domestic debris appears to indicate that the activities represented by the majority of the material recovered were not related to the military occupation of the area, which did not begin until 1808.

Artifacts recovered during the 1997 project at 18AP82 included 1 Activity item (a brass knife or tool tang), 564 architectural artifacts, 196 clothing items (5 Army buttons, 4 brass buttons, a white metal button, a shell button, another button, 182 straight pins, and 2 buckles), 10 furniture items (2 brass tacks and 8 other tacks), 2,337 kitchen-related artifacts, 1 personal item (a rhinestone), 41 tobacco pipe fragments, 26 arms objects (10 French flint flakes, an English flint flake, 9 other flint flakes, 2 gun parts, a percussion cap, and 3 pieces of buck shot), and 967 miscellaneous objects (399 pieces of metal, 470 iron concretions, a melted lead lump, 55 unidentified glass fragments, 14 coal slag fragments, 10 pieces of coal, and 18 unidentified objects). The architectural assemblage consisted of 53 pieces of brick/mortar, 9 pieces of plaster, 193 window glass fragments, 3 lead window comes, 303 nails (73 wrought), a brass screw, and 2 copper wires. The kitchen-related assemblage consisted of 791 ceramic sherds (28 tin-enameled earthenware, 1 North Devon Sgraffito, 1 Buckley, 10



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

Unknown

Staffordshire, 5 slipware, 1 Agateware, 17 pre-1800 refined earthenware, 302 creamware, 52 pearlware, 42 early porcelain, 1 Chinese porcelain, 5 pre-1810 Coarse earthenware, 9 coarse earthenware, 5 whiteware, 141 redware, 20 pre-1800 imported stoneware, 12 Westerwald stoneware, 3 Nottingham stoneware, 5 Rhenish stoneware, 8 white salt-glazed stoneware, 47 other salt-glazed stoneware, 20 British Brown stoneware, 9 miscellaneous stoneware, and 47 unidentified sherds), 700 pieces of glass (58 table glass fragments, 3 hand-blown stemware fragments, 14 blown-in-mold glass fragments, and 625 other bottle glass fragments), 1 utensil handle, and 845 faunal remains (783 animal bone/tooth fragments, a fish scale, 42 oyster shell fragments, 1 clam shell, 17 unidentified shell fragments, and a crab claw).

The date and domestic nature of the artifacts recovered from the within a large depression south of the unmortared brick wall, as well as the presence of structural features, indicated that a dwelling had existed in the southern portion of 18AP82 during the 18th century. The presence within the fill deposits of later 18th century ceramics (creamware and pearlware) intermixed with earlier artifacts (imported stoneware and coarse earthenware) suggested the house was occupied until at least the late 18th century, and probably until Fort Severn was constructed in 1808.

The archival data and archeological evidence pointed to several possible interpretations for occupation of the house as represented by these structural remains. Perhaps the most plausible interpretation is that the structural remains represent Simon Duff's house. Simon Duff bought his 1/2 acre parcel during the 1720s and built a 21 X 65 ft house where he lived and worked, and deposited his household and work-related debris in a sheet midden in the yard. A quilt-maker lived on the premises in the 1740s, and Duff built coffins as well as houses in Annapolis until the 1750s, when he sold the property to Walter Dulaney. Dulaney, an upper-class businessman and politician with considerable landholdings, did not live in the Duff house. The Duff lot was part of the larger parcel of property on Windmill Point which Dulaney accumulated in the 1750s, and where he built a large house that later became the Superintendent's house.

Dulaney rented the Duff house to a tenant, and domestic activities, including deposition of domestic trash in a sheet midden around the house, occurred until at least later in the 18th century, and probably until the land was purchased by the government in 1808. The house (located just outside the grounds of Fort Severn) was demolished during construction of the fort to make way for the gatehouse and boundary wall. Soils from the yard, including the midden deposits, were used to fill in the foundation hole after the house was demolished. This resulted in the presence of domestic debris in the structural features along with architectural debris, and the presence of later artifacts mixed in with earlier artifacts, straight pins, and copper and lead fragments (Items that could be associated with a craftsman and coffin-maker such as Duff).

An 1834 map of Fort Severn included a scaled plan drawing and front elevational drawing of the "entrance gate". The gatehouse consisted of two separate structures roughly 10 X 20 ft in size, joined by an archway 10 ft wide, through which traffic passed. The gatehouse was built into the boundary wall, and was surrounded on the back and sides by a wide, curved path or roadway. No direct archeological evidence of the Fort Severn gatehouse was recovered during the mitigation of Site 18AP82. The only features that could be directly related to the Fort were compact road surfaces (several of which contained Army buttons) found in the southern portion of the block excavations. The larger gatehouse built in the same location by the Naval Academy in 1854 most likely obliterated all evidence of the Fort-era gatehouse.

The earliest map of the Naval Academy campus (from 1850) showed a gatehouse which had the same layout and orientation as the Fort Severn gatehouse. The boundary wall and road alignments also appeared the same, indicating that the Naval Academy initially used the Fort Severn gatehouse. Documentary records indicated that in 1854, the Fort gatehouse was replaced at the same entrance with a new arched gatehouse built into the wall enclosure. Archeological evidence of this later gatehouse identified at Site 18AP82 included the stone foundation wall, which was the inside wall of the eastern portion of the gatehouse, and the brick surface, which was the pavement under the arched entranceway and behind the gatehouse on Naval Academy property.

The 1853 improvements to the USNA included the construction of gas and steam heating plants near the site of Fort Severn. An early utility pipe trench found in the excavation block was one of the results of these improvements. The presence of this trench under the brick pavement suggested the utility lines were installed just before or during construction of the new gatehouse. By 1879, the gatehouse had been demolished, as the Academy grounds had expanded to the south beyond the original boundary wall with the acquisition of the Governor's Mansion lot in 1866. Maps of the Academy grounds after 1879 show only a road and parallel walkways in this area, and by 1912, the road was lined with trees. The investigations at Site 18AP82 yielded evidence of these later landscape features, in the form of a remnant brick stairway and a tree stain along the eastern edge of the road.

The remnant features and cultural deposits identified during the mitigation of Site 18AP82 in Buchanan Road were present between 30.5-91 cm (1-3 ft) below the modern ground surface. The 3.05 X 15.24 m block examined during the mitigation contained intact surfaces as well as structural and landscape features related to three successive occupations of the area, intersected by later utility trenches and other disturbance. There was no reason to believe the intact surfaces did not extend to the north and south along Buchanan Road. In fact, there was a high potential for the presence of additional, isolated pre-modern features or deposits at shallow depth within the zone of planned construction. For this reason, researcher recommended that an archeological monitor be present when the pipe trenches were excavated for the replacement of the HTW lines along Buchanan Road.

An archeological monitor was present during the excavation of the pipe trench in September and October of 1997. Features noted in the pipe trench profile could all be related to the features identified during the mitigation of Site 18AP82. More of the herringbone pavement that surrounded the gatehouse was encountered. A brick drain at the north end of the pavement, in a slight depression, funneled runoff from the pavement to the edges of the road. Compact pebbly surface encountered during monitoring were probably extensions of the Academy-related roads. A crushed brick deposit and course of flat bricks may have been part of an edging for the paved area around the back of the gatehouse. A deposit of structural debris above the uppermost road surface was probably a result of the demolition of the gatehouse in the 1860s-70s. A shell surface above this was the shell roadway visible on late 19th and early 20th century maps of the area.

Artifacts recovered during monitoring included bricks, roofing slate fragments, 13 nail fragments, 2 straight pins, 1 post-1850s military button, 1 porcelain sherd, 1 tobacco pipe fragment, and crushed shell.

The presence of intact surfaces and features dating to pre-Naval Academy domestic and Army-related activities, as well as to early Naval Academy activities, just under the existing road surface at 18AP82 suggested that other cultural resources may remain intact at this shallow depth. These resources had been impacted primarily by the installation of utility lines, which seem to follow the existing roads. The potential for the presence of archeological resources at shallow depths in this portion of the Naval Academy should be kept in mind when any further ground-disturbing work is done. Site 18AP82 should continue to be considered a significant archeological resource.

**External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):**

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP82

Site Name: USNA, Buchanan Rd

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief  
Description:

18th century domestic structure, 19th century road & Naval Academy gatehouse

Unknown

00000157, 00007025