



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18AP85

Site Name: Martin Street

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 18th-late 19th century garden terrace, late 19th century rowhouses

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9751

Longitude -76.4759

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

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 207 m

## 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

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

#### Townsite

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

#### Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

#### Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

landscaped garden

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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	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"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/> 6			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

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

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 33	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<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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Brief

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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at Historic Annapolis?

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Martin Street Site, or Brice House Property (18AP85) is the location of a late 18th-late 19th century garden terrace as well as some late 19th century rowhouses in the downtown area of Annapolis, Maryland. The site is situated on Martin Street adjacent to the Paca House and Gardens, a colonial-era home and National Historic Landmark, restored and managed by the Historic Annapolis Foundation. The House is open to the public and managed as an interpretive center of 18th century life. The rest of the surrounding landscape of the Martin Street Site is heavily developed as an urban area. Soils at the site are Collington and Wist sandy loams as well as some human transported soils.

The earliest records related to the site location date from around 1713-1718. They show that this area consisted of two lots, one (Lot #94) owned by Captain John Brice before 1713, and the other (Lot #103) changing hands several times before it too was acquired by the Brice family by 1755. In a 1713 deed, James Carroll sold Lot# 103 to a Captain John Reas for 20 Pounds Sterling. A 100 foot square section in the western part of the lot, upon which a frame house was situated, was not included in the sale and was retained by Carroll. In 1715, when Captain John Reas died he left his L-shaped portion of the lot to his brother, William Philip Reas. Along with a frame house in which a woman named "Katherine" had been living. In October of 1715 Katherine, having moved from the house, William sold the L-shaped section of Lot #103 with its frame house, outbuildings, and improvements to Amos Garrett for 16 Pounds Sterling.

In 1726, James Carroll sold his 100 foot square section of Lot #103 to Henry Donaldson. Shortly thereafter, Donaldson constructed a frame mansion house and kitchen on the property while making other improvements as well. However, in 1734, Donaldson sold the 100 foot square section of Lot #103 to James Russell of Prince George's County for 205 Pounds. In April of 1735, James Russell would acquire the L-shaped portion of Lot #103 for 45 Pounds from the heirs and administrators of Amos Garrett's estate, thus re-uniting the parcels.

Sometime after April, 1735, James Russell relinquished his rights of ownership over all of Lot #103 to Alexander Black, a London merchant, for Sixty Pounds. Included in the deed were the Mansion House, kitchen, and improvements that had been added to the 100 foot square section of the lot by Henry Donaldson between 1726 and 1734. In May of 1737, John Brice, Jr. (the son of the Late Captain John Brice) and Henry Donaldson entered in chancery court a charge of trespassing against Mr. Black, owner of Lot #103. A sheriff and his deputy indicated that the frame mansion house and kitchen owned by Black extended 19 feet into John Brice's adjoining lot. Alexander's Black's testimony in the case reveals that the dispute involved the buildings erected by Henry Donaldson himself (the former owner and now plaintiff against Black). Unfortunately for Black, the court ruled in favor of Brice and Donaldson.

In December of 1754, John Brice, Jr. purchased Lot #103 for the sum of 30 Pounds from Alexander Black. A 1753 advertisement suggests that a fire had occurred at the property in the intervening years. The advertisement reads: "Lot of Ground No. 103, situated on King George's Street, in Annapolis, belonging to Mr. Black, of London, Merchant, where Mr. Senhouse was lately burnt out, offered for sale." By 1755, John Brice Jr. owned both Lot #94 (inherited from his father) and Lot #103.

The standing structure known as the "Brice House" (AA-485) was constructed on the property between 1767 and 1770 by John Brice's son James. The construction of this large Georgian mansion was set back by a fire which consumed a stable containing most of the construction materials for the building in 1768. The first definite reference to the completion of the Brice House comes on the early part of 1773, when a news article in the Maryland Gazette dated March 4, 1773, mentions, "the newly completed Brice House on East Street" (i.e. on Lot #94).

This house remained the home of James F. Brice until his death in 1802, at which time his estate was left in the trust of his widow, Juliana J. Brice, as sole guardian of the Brice children: Thomas J., John, James F., and Ann C. However, Nicholas Brice, a nephew, assumed the task of administering the estate. A Federal Direct Tax shows that the Brice property consisted of the brick dwelling, 2 brick wings, a brick kitchen, a house and stable, another house, and 2 acres. Other documents attest to the interior layout of the Brice House as well as the items, goods, and chattels in each room of the house belonging to the estate.

Lots #94 and #103 (as well as other Brice properties) remained under the joint ownership of James Brice's children until June 7th, 1840, when 4 heirs agreed on how to partition the properties. The Brice House and Lots #94 and #103 went to Ann C. Brice and James F. Brice as "tenants in common". The other heirs received plots that are off-site. Sometime before November 27, 1852, James F. Brice died intestate. Following his death, the property would be inherited jointly by his widow and nephews. The records from November 27th indicate that the nephews (and their wives) were transferring their share of the property to Ann C. Brice, so that by the end of 1854 Lots #94 and #103 were owned by James' sister Ann and his widow, Mary A. Brice. Controlling interest in both lots would eventually pass solely to Thomas J. Brice.

In 1869, Thomas J. Brice died and in his will he left both properties to his two nephews, Nicholas Carroll Stephen and Charles H. Stephen. The Stephen brothers owned the land for a period of 5 years at the end of which it ceased to belong to Brice heirs.

On November 26, 1873, the Stephen brothers and their wives conveyed the lots and the "Brice House" to the trustees for one Thomas E. Martin, the son of deceased William Martin of Annapolis. In William Martin's will he gives full power to these trustees to, "to sell any and all of the stocks and securities...bequeathed to them in trust and to invest the proceeds of such sales...". The purchase of Lots #94 and #103 were seen as investments and in subsequent years, portions of the lots would be sold off to be used for various purposes. An early 10th century real estate case reveals that several townhome plots were laid out and houses were constructed on the new parcels, along with modern-day Martin Street, which was built in 1896. The court equity cases further sub-divided the property amongst the heirs of Thomas E. Martin.

The first documented archeological work conducted at the Martin Street Site (18AP85) occurred in 1969. In the preceding year, the Maryland Historical Trust had put forth plans to build a reception center for the nearby Paca House and Gardens on recently-acquired State-owned land (a portion of the former Brice House property). MHT was aware of the strong possibility that garden remains or outbuildings related to the nearby Brice House might be present in the vicinity of the planned center (and also would be similar to those associated with the Paca House). The Maryland Historical Trust was, thus, faced with both a need for a reception center for the Paca House and Garden and a responsibility to preserve and not destroy possible archeological remains of historical significance.

Before the actual excavations began, a macadam-surfaced parking lot had to be removed using a front-end loader. Following the removal of the parking lot



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Unknown

surface, excavations were carried out in this area by pick and shovel and later deepened by backhoe within three exploratory trenches of varying sizes. Excavations were also carried out in an area to the northeast of the macadam parking lot in four exploratory trenches. In this area, a large deposit of late 19th century rubble was discovered which was left from the destruction of several 19th century townhouses along Martin Street. This necessitated excavation with a backhoe to remove the rubble. One wall profile along the long axis of each of these 7 trenches was cleaned, recorded, and stratigraphically analyzed. Ultimately, no structures were uncovered, so photographs were not taken of the cleaned profile walls, but detailed drawings were made.

A strata bearing cultural remains of the 1775-1875 period was encountered, but revealed only a scattering of artifacts. The 1775-1875 strata was either severely disturbed/destroyed or non-existent in the vicinity of the macadam parking lot. The four trenches to the northeast revealed less disturbed deposits, preserved beneath the aforementioned late 19th century rubble.

Artifacts recovered from this strata included 14 architectural artifacts, 1 clothing item (an 18th – early 19th century brass pin), 44 kitchen-related artifacts, 2 tobacco-related artifacts (pipe stems dating from 1775-1800), and 2 miscellaneous objects (unidentified glass). The architectural artifacts were at least 2 pieces of mortar, 4 window glass fragments, 6 wood fragments, a handmade nail, and 1 unidentified nail. The kitchen-related artifacts were 33 ceramic sherds (1 creamware, 6 pearlware, 1 18th-19th century earthenware sherd, 5 miscellaneous earthenware, 1 delftware, 3 miscellaneous stoneware, 7 ironstone, 1 semi-porcelain, and 8 unidentified ceramics), and 11 pieces of glass (4 table glass, 3 blow bottle fragments, and 4 pieces of dark green bottle glass).

The Martin Street property excavations were completed without exposing or suggesting the location of the ruins of any 18th or early 19th century buildings. However, a dark green-brown, mottled clay loam lens containing a scattering of 18th century cultural material was encountered. Historical documents indicate the presence of several structures (pre-Brice family ownership) not detected during the 1969 excavations. Again, a woman named Katherine resided on the lot, as well as did James Carroll and a man named Henry Donaldson. The historical data suggests that several outbuildings were also present. Part of the 100 foot square section of Lot #103 is now situated under Martine Street and a standing structure, explaining some of the lack of features. But a more systematic survey of the property may identify such structures elsewhere on the Brice property. The presence of the intact 18th century strata suggests that the site does have the potential to yield intact remains.

The stratigraphic picture obtained in two of the northeastern trenches suggests the elevations, rises and dimensions of artificial terraces and falls similar to those at the nearby Paca Garden location. Erosion deposits uncovered at the base of one such artificial slope, suggest activities relating to a vegetable garden rather than a formal garden. A supporting theory against the existence of a formal, landscaped garden at the Brice property is based on the construction of the Brice House prior to the laying out and enclosing of the Paca Garden as well as its proximity to the Paca Garden. The Brice House faces due south above the Annapolis harbor, and its rear (north) exposure from a high knoll of land would have provided a magnificent view of the Paca Garden. Also, the possibility of James Brice having created a formal garden to rival or compete with the Paca formal garden would have been precluded by the location of the Brice House and the resulting relatively short distance between the rear of the house and the Paca Garden Wall. However, the possibility of Brice having a more modest formal garden to the rear of his house cannot be eliminated.

Only further archeological work in the area to the rear of the Brice House can conclusively test this possibility. In addition, such an effort would possibly detect the original porch dimensions and heights of the back entrance of the 1770s as well as the ground elevation to the rear of the house.

At the northwest end of one of the northeast trench units, a possible rill (water feature) was exposed, which is conjectured to have run to a pond or water inlet lying in the northeast corner of the Paca Garden to the west. The trenches in the area of the macadam parking lot exposed the remains of brick walls and solid brick rubble from the destruction of later 19th century additions and structures.

Based on these findings, it would appear that Site 18AP85 has the potential to yield intact archeological remains related to the 18th century and early 19th century history of Annapolis. The extent of work was limited and the level of control was poor (by modern standards). Additional research is warranted.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000103