



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA161

Site Name: DeVere

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Windsor Farm, Ball, the Tanyard

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: 18th through mid-20th century residence, farm

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.2674

Longitude -76.7679

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 107 m

Site slope 0

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) Springs

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 0 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

Y

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Y

ca. 1675 - 1720

P

ca. 1900 - 1930

Y

ca. 1720 - 1780

Y

Post 1930

Y

ca. 1780 - 1820

Y

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? Rural

#### Domestic

Homestead

Farmstead

Mansion

Plantation

Row/townhome

Cellar

Privy

#### Industrial

Mining-related

Quarry-related

Mill

Black/metalsmith

Furnace/forge

Other

#### Transportation

Canal-related

Road/railroad

Wharf/landing

Maritime-related

Bridge

Ford

#### Educational

#### Commercial

Trading post

Store

Tavern/inn

#### Military

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

#### Townsite

#### Religious

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

#### Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

#### Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

Post-in-ground

Frame-built

Masonry

Other structure

#### Slave related

Non-domestic agri

#### Recreational

Midden/dump

Artifact scatter

Spring or well

Unknown

#### Other context

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

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	5	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	473	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	238	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	100	Pearlware	82			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	3	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)	1	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)	1106	Activity item(s)	38
Glass (all)	1490	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	1019	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	2	Misc. kitchen	150
Arms	3	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	31	Misc.	172
Personal items	9	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>		

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 2:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 3:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 4:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 5:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 6:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 7:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 8:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 9:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at Catonsville Historical Society

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The DeVere/Windsor Farm Site (18BA161) represents an 18th through mid-20th century farmstead and residence. The site consists of the foundations of a dwelling, wells, trash pits, and landscaping/gardening features. It is located east of the Patapsco River in Catonsville, Baltimore County. Soils present in the site area are Lenore loam and Kelly silt loam, both of which are poorly drained soils.

The property the site sits on was patented to Nathaniel Stinchcomb in 1702 under the name "Tanyard" (there was some indication that the property was part of an earlier 1695 patented parcel). In 1720, Edward Teal (or Teale) acquired the property and it stayed in the Teal family until 1787. It is suggested that the dwelling once located at the site was built during the elder Teal's occupancy. A record from 1777 indicated that the last Teal manumitted several slaves. After that time, the property passed through 2 hands until 1796 when it was purchased by John Champayne who apparently renamed the property "Windsor". Champayne had recently dissolved a successful business in Baltimore. The land stayed in the Champayne family until 1851. In 1855, William DeVere purchased the property which he farmed until his death in 1891. An atlas from 1877 indicated that the property consisted of 185 acres and contained 4 structures. An 1894 plat shows two dwellings on the property (one of these located within the site area). DeVere died intestate and the property was divided among his 5 daughters. The site is located on the portion of the estate that went to Ms. A. DeVere Ball. In 1947 two Ball sisters resided on the property and at least one of the sisters lived there until 1963. The Baltimore County Board of Education purchased the lot on which the site sits, consisting of 5.2 acres and the dwelling, in 1959. They also owned about 35 acres of adjacent property that was originally part of the DeVere lands. In 1964 the abandoned building (the DeVere main house) was destroyed by way of a controlled fire. It is unclear if the large front addition added onto the original 18th century dwelling dates from the period of the Champayne ownership or the DeVere ownership. It may be that the first addition was added by Champayne and that DeVere was responsible for construction of the later upper story addition.

Between 1965 and 1981 at least five treasure hunters were granted permission to enter the property for the purposes of searching for the "DeVere (or Windsor) Treasure". The treasure was actually that of the Champayne family, not the DeVeres. One story claims that after having faced financial devastation when his fleet of merchant ships was lost during a hurricane in the Caribbean, John Champayne went mad and on a snowy night buried a chest containing \$50,000 in gold somewhere on his property. The slave that helped him was sworn to secrecy and both men died without revealing the location of the treasure. In a very different version of the story, Champayne buried his chest of gold as the British were advancing on Baltimore in 1812. Yet a third version of the tale claims that Champayne sold his ships in order to prevent them from being confiscated by the French during the Revolution. The sale netted him between \$50,000 and \$100,000. For no apparent reason, Champayne then buried his newly acquired treasure. The slave who helped him tried from his death bed at Mt. Gelbo to tell the widow Champayne where the money was buried but she arrived too late. The ghost of John Champayne, lantern in hand and wearing a green velvet cape, supposedly haunts the property each August (the month of his death) on a full moon, presumably in search of his treasure. Whether true or a figment of active imaginations, the search for the treasure on the Champayne property, which includes the site area, has almost certainly caused some disturbance to the site.

In the 1970s and 1980s a series of excavations were conducted at the site by a teacher and students from the Baltimore County School System. In 1972, a new archeology elective was introduced to the Junior and Senior high school student curriculum. Between 1972 and 1989 excavations were undertaken at the site by the students from one school. The excavations were concentrated in 4 main areas: 1) the main house; 2) the main dump site; 3) the barn; and 4) the stone well. Students also tested a mound and an area called the small dump; no records concerning those excavations were found. The remains of a garden wall located north of the main house were alluded to on a map from the early excavations. The wall had been demolished in the 1960s. During the investigations, a grid of 3.048 m (10 ft) squares was established over the main house structure. A 15.24 cm (6 in) balk was maintained between the 3.048 m squares. The squares were subdivided into quadrants although horizontal provenience was maintained only in the 3.048 m square units.

A preliminary analysis of the material that was collected during the Baltimore County school excavations was conducted as part of the 1996 Phase II site study (below). Only artifacts from the house area excavation units were re-catalogued in order to determine the nature of the deposits that had been excavated from the house site. Several bags of corroded nails, metal fragments, glass, ceramics, wood, and animal bone were noted but the artifacts were not included in the total count. A total of 3,234 historic (and later) artifacts were evaluated. A variety of activity items (n=38) were recorded including 1 metal toy train piece, 1 hoe, 1 hammer head, 25 flower pot sherds, 1 metal garden pot, 1 possible clay marble, 3 glass marbles, 1 chain link section, 1 ceramic doll fragment, 1 broken plastic doll, 1 vinyl record fragment, and 1 small ball. The 894 architectural materials consisted of 120 brick fragments, 295 fragments of window glass, 186 pieces of mortar/plaster, 208 unidentified nails, 2 spikes, 2 screws, 2 possible porcelain sink fragments, 37 pieces of wood (some burned), 2 metal hinges, 1 nut/bolt, 1 washer, 1 shutter hook and 2 other shutter parts, 2 hooks, 1 doorknob, 1 possible lock part, 5 insulators, 9 drain pipe fragments (at least 2 were identified as terra cotta), 8 pieces of linoleum, and 9 miscellaneous hardware fragments. Clothing items (n=30) recovered included 3 thimbles, 1 pair of scissors, 2 unidentified buttons, 5 metal buttons, 5 bone buttons, 4 plastic buttons, 1 belt buckle, 8 leather shoe fragments, and 1 rubber shoe heel. Only 2 furniture items were noted: 1 glass lamp shade fragment and 1 wall hanger. In all, 2,121 kitchen-related items were recorded including 907 bottle glass and 38 table glass fragments, and 5 pieces of milk glass. Several of the bottle fragments likely were deposited in the later 20th century as the house area was often utilized as a party spot for local teenagers. Other kitchen items found were 1,032 ceramic sherds (100 creamware, 45 porcelain, 190 Chinese export porcelain, 63 stoneware (some pieces brown salt-glazed), 101 earthenware (40 glazed redware), 5 ironstone, 78 pearlware, 2 yellowware, 71 transfer print whiteware, 377 other whiteware), 1 silver spoon, 1 broken spoon, 1 bowl fragment of a metal ladle, 1 salt shaker top, 1 glass jar lid, 5 bottle tops, 4 metal can pieces, 1 Pepsi can, 2 seeds/nuts/pits, 62 animal bones, 59 oyster shells, and 1 snail shell. Several of the animal bone fragments show clear evidence of butchering. There were 112 miscellaneous items which included 10 unidentifiable miscellaneous objects, 4 unidentified pieces of glass (some melted), 2 metal pipe sections, 31 unidentified metal objects, 1 small metal ball, 1 metal ring, 11 slate fragments, 1 concrete crown mold, 13 pieces of plastic, 3 wire segments, 17 pieces of coal, 1 metal strip, 10 burned wood fragments, 2 charcoal fragments, 1 piece of putty, 2 lengths of rubber hose, 1 unidentified carved object, possibly either plastic or bone, and 1 fossil leaf. The 8 personal items found were 1 skeleton key, 1 broken jewelry necklace, 1 eyeglass lens, four 1960s pennies, and 1 bisque figurine fragment. Only a handful of tobacco items were recorded, 27 white clay pipe fragments, the majority of which were stem pieces. Two arms-related objects were noted: 1 gun handle and 1 bullet. In addition to the historic artifacts, 3 possible prehistoric artifacts recovered: 1 possible quartz chopper (recorded as an 'other lithic' item in the table above) and 2 pieces of quartz. As noted above, only the materials related to the house site were evaluated as part of the artifact study. The assemblages from the main dump site, the barn, the stone well, and the small dump were not assessed and records of those excavations were not available at the Maryland Historical Trust. That material belongs to the Baltimore County School System and may be currently curated by the Catonsville Historical Society.

A Phase II investigation was conducted at 18BA161 in 1996. The purpose of the investigations was two-fold: to review the results of 17 years of avocational



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archeology at the site and to conduct new work to supplement that earlier work and to determine the full extent of disturbance of the site. The Baltimore County Public Schools, Division of Support Services, Department of Facilities Construction, was planning construction of the Westchester Elementary School. Previously recorded site 18BA161 was located in the 6.24 acre area slotted for construction of the soccer field, ball diamond, and stormwater management pond. As such, archeological testing was required in order to determine if the site was eligible for listing to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties register, and if it was, to make recommendations for site avoidance or mitigation. At the time of the Phase II study, a portion of the study area was covered in grass and the remainder had some large trees interspersed with second growth trees and other vines and plants.

Fieldwork conducted in the summer of 1996 involved dividing the project area into three sections: Areas A-C. Prior to subsurface testing, the entire area was walked following transects. The purpose of the pedestrian survey was to compare the features on the ground with those mapped during the earlier school system excavations. Shovel test pits (STPs) were then excavated in Areas A and C, and test units were excavated in Area B. All excavated soils were screened through 0.635 cm (1/4") mesh and all artifacts were retained. The main dump site, the barn, and the stone well identified in the 1970s and 80s were located outside the 1996 project area.

In Area A, the proposed holding pond location, 11 STPs were dug along transects at 20 m (65 ft) intervals. Previous landowners indicated that this area was often wet and not a well-utilized portion of the property. No features were found in Area A. A modest 11 artifacts were recovered from Area A: 1 brick fragment (recorded as an architectural item), 6 bottle glass fragments and 3 whiteware sherds (recorded as glass and ceramic items), and 1 piece of coal (recorded as a miscellaneous item).

In Area C, the proposed location of the ball field, 8 STPs were excavated. The area was possibly disturbed during construction in the 1970s of 3 ball fields associated with the Catonsville Middle School which was located just northeast of the project area. According to the previous excavators, this area was at one time a gently sloping lawn. No features were found in Area C. Only 1 artifact was recovered from Area C: a fragment of concrete (recorded as a miscellaneous item in the table above).

The major archeological features associated with the farmstead, such as the main house, the garden wall, the fish pond, the rose arbors, and the brick well/cistern, were located in Area B. Three 1.524x0.914 m (5x3 ft) test units were excavated within the house structure. Test Unit 1, located in the center of the main house structure, revealed the sequence of destruction of the house. The basement floor was covered by a burned layer which in turn was overlaid by a brick rubble layer. Test Unit 2 was placed in the rear of the structure which was believed to be the earliest built part of the house. Excavation of TU2 revealed a brick foundation 5 courses deep and resting on clay subsoil, a brick drain added at some unknown point, and a builder's trench. Unfortunately, no artifacts were recovered from the builder's trench fill to aid in dating construction. None of the artifacts found during the excavation of TU2 dated from the earliest period of occupation (the 18th century Teal residency). In order to try to better understand the dating of the site, a third unit (TU3) was placed south of TU2. However, no artifacts from the 18th century were found in the excavated features (the brick wall or the builder's trench).

The test units yielded a total of 427 historic period artifacts. In all, there were 124 architectural items in the assemblage: 3 brick fragments, 68 pieces of flat glass (probably window glass), 47 nails, 1 bolt, and 5 tile fragments. The only clothing item recovered was 1 plastic button. A total of 241 kitchen-related objects were recorded: 159 bottle glass fragments, 71 ceramic sherds (3 Chinese porcelain, 22 whiteware, 4 pearlware, 42 earthenware), 1 pull tab, 7 animal bone fragments, and 3 oyster shell fragments. A total of 41 or 17% of the bottle glass shards derived from the basement floor of the main house; the majority of the remainder of the shards were likely modern in origin. There were 58 miscellaneous items: 8 pieces of unidentifiable/burned glass, 31 unidentified metal objects, 10 pieces of plastic, 1 rubber hose section, and 8 pieces of coal. The only personal item recovered was a coin and 1 kaolin pipe fragment constituted the tobacco-related items. A .22 caliber shell was the only arms-related item found. The only potentially prehistoric artifact recovered was 1 quartz chunk. Artifacts recovered from the test units generally dated from ca. 1830-1960, with no artifacts dating earlier than ca. 1780. Therefore, the majority of the assemblage appeared to relate to the Champayne and DeVere occupations. The artifacts recovered during the 1996 investigations were consistent with the artifacts recorded during the earlier school excavations.

The DeVere/Windsor Farm Site (18BA161) represents an 18th through mid-20th century farm and residence. During testing in 1996, the site area was divided into Areas A-C. In Areas A and C no significant artifacts or features were encountered and no further archeological testing was recommended in those areas. Area B contained the core of Site 18BA161. Excavations there reflected the 19th and 20th century occupations of the house and its ultimate destruction. The brick foundation section uncovered in the rear of the dwelling may be related to the earlier 18th century occupation but no materials dating from that time were recovered. The nearby main dump site, which was only excavated in the 1970s and 1980s, yielded over 6,000 artifacts; analysis of those artifacts may yield evidence for the earliest occupation at the site. Although the site represented early farming and middle-class merchant society in 18th-20th century Baltimore County, results of the 1996 Phase II investigations within the house structure revealed that most of the features had been excavated during the 1970s and 1980s, and that there does not appear to be any vertical integrity left at the site. Only a few small areas of balks (remnants of the early excavations) may have survived undisturbed. What remains of the site is a large, unanalyzed and unpublished collection from the years of the Baltimore County School System excavations. Unfortunately, the head of those investigations, a local school teacher, is no longer available to make sense of the original excavation records. No further archeological work was recommended at the site. The proposed construction project was undertaken and the new school was built.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005532, Site Files