



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA36

Site Name: Little Neck

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Marye Map Site #3; T.D. Jones Field L, Little-neck

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle & Late Archaic and Early, Middle & Late Woodland and late 19th & 20th century site

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.4134

Longitude -76.3931

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 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) Gunpowder Falls

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

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

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

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

field scatter, flood deposition

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

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	1	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	2	Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	2	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	1	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Vinette	1	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	34	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	22	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	168	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	3	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	18	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	22	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	84	Activity item(s)	26
Glass (all)	454	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	154	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	8
Arms	7	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	9	Misc.	267
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 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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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Little Neck Site (18BA36) is a multicomponent site with occupation from the Middle Archaic through the Late Woodland periods possibly representing either a hamlet-type occupation or a short-term or seasonal encampment. There is also some evidence of activity in the area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The site is located in the Days Cove area of Gunpowder Falls State Park in Baltimore County, Maryland. It is situated on the floodplain of the Big Gunpowder Falls River. Route 40 cuts across the northwestern-most edge of the site and Big Gunpowder Falls River and an unnamed creek or stream border the site to the west and east respectively. Marshy areas lie to the north and south of the site. Prior to the construction of Route 40 (ca. 1930s), the Big Gunpowder Falls River was a non-tidal freshwater stream. Construction of Route 40 resulted in a change in the stream flow so that the stream now experiences tidal shifts. Elsinboro silt loam is the dominant soil type. Overall, the site measures approximately 564 m north-south by 245 m east-west.

There is ample archeological evidence to indicate prehistoric occupation in the area. Artifacts have been collected that suggested occupation associated with resource procurement or seasonal camps. However, throughout the historic period, no evidence exists for human occupation of the site area. It appears that the area had been used for agricultural purposes since the 17th century.

The Little Neck Site has been known by artifact collectors for over 100 years. As early as the 1890s, well-known local enthusiasts have collected from this site. The artifacts from the 1890s were collected by the then owner of the property on which the site sits. The collection was acquired by Johns Hopkins University who stored it as part of a larger collection known as the Evergreen collection. The Evergreen collection included materials that the individual had acquired from sites in several Maryland counties, including the Little Neck Site. In 1976, John's Hopkins made the material available to archeologists with the Maryland Geological Survey for study. At that time the site was designated 18BA36. Within the Evergreen collection, 120 artifacts were attributed to Site 18BA36. The collection contained 117 chipped stone objects, mostly projectile points, along with a muller/pestle, a gorget fragment and an adze. The projectile points indicated occupation at the site throughout most of prehistory. There were Middle Archaic Stanly/Neville-like points, several Late Archaic types such as Savannah River, Bare Island, Holmes, and Brewerton (recorded as a minimum estimate of '1' in the table above) points, and Late Archaic/Early Woodland types such as Orient Fishtails. The Middle Woodland was represented by Rossville points and triangular points that are generally considered to be indicative of the Late Woodland period were also identified. Notes from the collector indicated that prehistoric ceramics were also recovered from the site but none were found in the examined collection. The lithic artifacts were included in the totals in the table above.

In late 1991 a Phase II archeological investigation of two areas (Area 1 and Area 2) within 18BA36 was undertaken for the Department of Natural Resources. The archeological study was required by the Army Corps of Engineers as part of a wetland permit and ahead of proposed gravel quarrying in the area. The goals of the project were to determine the horizontal and vertical extents of the archeological deposits within the project areas and to determine if any intact archeological deposits eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places exist.

Areas 1 and 2 were both fields located on the southeast side of Route 40. They were separated from each other by approximately 182.88 m (600 ft) of wooded terrain. Area 1 was located in the west central portion of the site and measured about 2.69 ha (6.65 ac) in size. It was separated from the river (to the west) by a narrow band of trees that was to be left undisturbed by the wetland creation and quarrying operations, and it was bordered on the east by a gravel road. Prior to archeological investigations, 5 pits had been mechanically excavated in the center and each corner of the field in order to determine the potential gravel yield. Area 2 was located in the north-central portion of the site and encompassed approximately 1.315 ha (3.25 ac). This field was bordered by Route 40 to the northwest and by a gravel road to the southeast. It has been known for years to artifact collectors as yielding bannerstone fragments.

Field methods included surface collection and shovel testing. Shovel tests were placed at every 15 m along transects that were placed 30 m apart. Information from the shovel testing directed the placement of the 1x1 m test units. During the test unit excavations the plowzones were removed as units. Below the plowzones, the soil was removed by natural strata in 10 cm layers. A total of 57 shovel test pits (STPs) and 12 test units were dug in Area 1. Limited surface visibility resulted in a limited surface collection. A total of 29 STPs and 4 test units were dug in Area 2.

During the investigations in Area 1, the observed soil profile consisted of a series of plowzones on top of a clayey silt subsoil. The plowzones were superimposed on one another indicating overbank deposition from the river during historic times. Plow scars were visible within the various plowzone layers. A basal cobble layer was also noted in a few of the units. The surface collection and STP excavations revealed that historic period artifacts were scattered across the entire study area. Prehistoric artifacts were found in 2 concentrations; the larger concentration was located in the southwest corner of the field and the second, smaller concentration was identified in the northeast corner of the field. The smaller cluster was totally within the plowzone whereas the larger concentration yielded artifacts from below the plowzone. The test unit excavations focused on the locations of the 2 prehistoric artifact concentrations. There were up to 4 plowzone layers in some units and they reached a maximum depth of 67 cm. In the southwest concentration, 2 units (0E5E and 5N10W) produced artifacts below the plowzones that could be interpreted as intact cultural deposits. In general, animal and root disturbance was noted across the area. In test unit 10S10E, the association of a Bare Island point and a Wolfe Neck ceramic sherd in the same layer (4B) indicated that this was a mixed or disturbed context. As elsewhere in the area, extensive root disturbance was noted in the unit. No cultural features were identified during archeological testing.

A total of 647 prehistoric artifacts were reported in the artifact inventory as having derived from Area 1. Chunks and flakes accounted for 578 artifacts which were distributed across a variety of raw materials (431 quartz, 107 rhyolite, 17 quartzite, 10 chert, 9 jasper, 2 argillite, and 2 chalcedony). There were 13 cores in the assemblage including 10 from quartz, 2 from rhyolite, and 1 from quartzite. One of the quartz cores was described as a "turtleback" core. Tools recovered consisted of 10 biface fragments (8 quartz, 1 chert, 1 rhyolite), 2 quartz utilized flakes, 1 unidentified argillite point and 2 quartz Bare Island points. A total of 18 quartz and quartzite fire-cracked rock fragments were noted. In all, 22 ceramic sherds were found in the area. There were 2 Townsend ware sherds with fabric- and net-impressed designs, 2 Minguannan ware sherds with incised decoration, 1 Wolfe Neck sherd, 4 shell-tempered cord-marked sherds, 4 sand-tempered cord-marked sherds, 7 quartz-tempered sherds with cord-marked, net-impressed, incised, and smoothed exterior surfaces, 1 sand and quartz-tempered sherd with a smooth exterior, and 1 unidentifiable, possibly a Vinette ware, sherd. The single other lithic item recovered was a quartz hammerstone.

The distribution of the lithic and ceramic materials from Area 1 suggested some patterning. The percentage of rhyolite to quartz found in the excavation units showed variation across the site, possibly indicating discrete loci. The areas away from the ceramics had a higher percentage of quartz to rhyolite. For example, at the west central edge of the field, there was a higher percentage of quartz to rhyolite and no Woodland diagnostics were found suggesting this is an Archaic component. Conversely, the lack Woodland diagnostics may indicate that this area was used primarily for lithic reduction in the Woodland period.



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Unknown

A total of 742 historic artifacts were also reportedly collected from Area 1. There were 25 activity-related items consisting of 6 skeet fragments, 1 leather strap, 12 pieces of barbed wire, 5 automobile parts, and 1 ceramic flower pot fragment. The 74 architectural items recorded were 21 brick fragments, 18 unidentified iron nails, 1 unidentified nail with attached wood, 19 window glass shards, 2 lengths of copper pipe, 3 pieces of tar paper, and 10 miscellaneous hardware items. Four clothing-related artifacts were retained including 1 unidentified piece of textile, 1 piece of leather, 1 brass snap, and 1 leather shoe part. The majority of the assemblage was comprised of kitchen-related items (n=411). There were 373 pieces of vessel glass (bottle and table glass) and 1 whole bottle, 5 fragments of milk glass, 24 ceramic sherds (14 whiteware, 2 porcelain, 1 redware, 1 unidentified earthenware and 6 other unidentified ceramics), and 8 miscellaneous kitchen items (1 piece of aluminum foil, 1 pull tab, 2 aluminum can lid fragments, 1 snail shell, 2 animal bone fragments and 1 oyster shell fragment). A total of 222 artifacts fell into the miscellaneous-related group of artifacts. There were 16 pieces of unidentified clear glass, 11 unidentified metal objects, 4 pieces of metal with paint, 21 coal fragments, 1 piece of cinder and 3 pieces of charcoal, 125 pieces of slag, and 41 likely modern materials (7 pieces of paper, 33 pieces of plastic, and 1 piece of Styrofoam). Lastly, 6 arms-related items were retained (5 bullet casings and 1 shotgun shell).

Based on the investigations in Area 1, it was determined the area of intact deposits was less than 18.288 m (60 ft) wide. The lack of identified cultural features and the presence of extensive root and rodent disturbance in the area indicated that at least this portion of Site 18BA36 was not eligible for inclusion to the National Register. However, the observed increase of artifacts close to the south edge of the field, in conjunction with intact deposits, and the presence of deep floods in the area suggested the possibility that more substantial archeological deposits may be present in the woods south of Area 1.

The investigations in Area 2 revealed a soil sequence that consisted of a plowzone on top of a clayey silt. The clayey silt was underlain by a micaceous sandy silt which was found above and around the basal cobble layer. Along the northern edge of the field deep sand deposits were found and water was encountered before the cobbles. An old road comprised of white quartzite/sandstone chunks in a white sand matrix was uncovered just below the grass in the northeast portion of the field. The distribution of prehistoric and historic artifacts in Area 2 was similar. There was an observed concentration of materials in the southeast corner of the field. The oldest historic items dated to the late 19th and early 20th century.

The 4 test units in Area 2 were placed in the area of highest artifact density. These units produced more historic than prehistoric artifacts. The majority of the artifacts from this area were found within the upper plowzone layers but in all 4 test units, a few prehistoric and historic artifacts were found below the plowzone. However, it was evident in all of the units that roots had caused extensive disturbance. Thus, artifacts found below the plowzone were attributed to bioturbation and not treated as intact deposits. There was no apparent pattern to the distribution of artifacts. No cultural features were encountered in Area 2. There were 36 prehistoric chipped stone artifacts in the Area 2 assemblage including 29 flakes, 2 cores and 5 chunks. Material types were represented by 22 pieces of quartz, 9 pieces of rhyolite, 3 pieces of quartzite, 1 piece of ironstone, and 1 piece of chalcedony.

A total of 220 historic artifacts were collected from Area 2. However, the artifacts were not quantified within the text or in an artifact inventory. Therefore, with the exception of 1 clay marble, 1 aluminum can, and 1 piece of lead shot, the totals here are minimum estimates. The single activity item recovered was a clay marble. There were several architectural materials (n=80) including 20 brick fragments, 20 pieces of window glass, 20 nails, and 20 pieces of roofing slate. The only clothing items found were 5 pieces of a rubber shoe sole. Kitchen-related materials (n=81) included 20 bottle glass fragments, 1 aluminum can, 20 whiteware sherds, 20 stoneware sherds, and 20 porcelain sherds. Miscellany materials (n=45) consisted of 40 pieces of coal and slag and 5 pieces of plastic. The one arms-related item was a piece of lead shot.

The integrity of the archeological deposits in Area 2 could not be documented. No features were found in any of the excavations and the only artifacts found below the plowzone could be attributed to bioturbation. This portion of Site 18BA36 was determined not eligible for listing to the National Register. Temporally diagnostic prehistoric materials from Area 1 consisted of projectile points and several ceramic sherds. The Bare Island/Lackawaxen points are assigned to the Late Archaic/Early Woodland period. The ceramics represented Middle and Late Woodland types such as the Wolfe Neck ware, and the Vinette ware is an Early Woodland type. Evidence of a Middle Archaic occupation was not found during the Phase II study. However, artifacts collected prior to that included Middle Archaic types. No materials diagnostic to prehistoric time periods were recovered from Area 2. The lack of ceramic material was tentatively interpreted to indicate the presence of a pre-ceramic group; a Late Archaic occupation was inferred. Temporally diagnostic historic materials from Area 1 included transfer printed whiteware, which has a date range of ca. 1828 to present, amethyst glass which dates to the late 19th/early 20th century, and distinctly modern materials such as Styrofoam and plastic. Diagnostic materials from Area 2 also included amethyst glass and distinctly modern materials.

The Little Neck Site (18BA36) is a multicomponent site with prehistoric occupation from the Middle Archaic through the Late Woodland periods. Archeological testing has only been done on 2 small areas of the site (the northern and west-central portions) but this information has been supplemented with data gathered by avocational archeologists over several years. The small numbers of artifacts recovered during Phase II testing and their distribution into discrete areas indicated that the site was occupied many times through prehistory and that the groups who occupied the site were likely small, mobile groups. The types of artifacts present (ceramics, projectile points, utilized flakes) suggested that occupation was probably seasonal with a variety of activities taking place. The late 19th and early 20th centuries are also represented in the material assemblage but no discussion of the origin or significance of those materials was given in the original site report. Although a small area of possible integrity was identified in the west-central portion of the site, the lack of cultural features and limited material assemblage from the site resulted in the determination that Site 18BA36 was not eligible for listing to the National Register. No additional work was recommended in the tested portions of the site and the gravel quarrying and wetland projects were given the go-ahead. However, the observed increase of artifacts close to the south edge of the field in Area 1, in conjunction with intact deposits, and the presence of deep floods in the area, suggested that more substantial archeological deposits may be present in the woods south of Area 1. Prior to any proposed earth-moving activities in that area, a Phase I archeological study is recommended.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005490