



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA483

Site Name: Piney Grove

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle Woodland lithic reduction site/short-term camp, late 18th-19th century artifact scatter

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 15

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.4962

Longitude -76.7848

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 125 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) Unnamed tributary of Dela

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tidewater/marsh <input type="checkbox"/> | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other

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

lithic reduction

Historic

Urban/Rural? Rural

Domestic

- Homestead
- Farmstead
- Mansion
- Plantation
- Row/townhome
- Cellar
- Privy

Industrial

- Mining-related
- Quarry-related
- Mill
- Black/metalsmith
- Furnace/forge
- Other

Furnace/forge

Other

Transportation

- Canal-related
- Road/railroad
- Wharf/landing
- Maritime-related
- Bridge
- Ford

Educational

Commercial

- Trading post
- Store
- Tavern/inn

Military

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

Post-in-ground

Frame-built

Masonry

Other structure

Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump

Artifact scatter

Spring or well

Unknown

Other context

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"/> 1
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	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> 4317	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

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

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<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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Description:

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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at SHA?

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Piney Grove Site (18BA483) is a Middle Woodland lithic reduction and short-term campsite in rural Baltimore County, Maryland. The site is situated on the floodplain and adjacent slope of an unnamed tributary to Western Run. Small pockets of quartzite outcrop in the area. Vegetation in the area is an Oak-Chestnut forest regime. Mapped soil series in the site area include deep, recently deposited, and poorly drained Melvin silt loams. In addition to the prehistoric deposits encountered at 18BA483, late 18th-19th century artifacts were encountered in a general scatter across the site.

The site was first encountered during a combined Phase I/II study conducted in 2001 as part of a highway improvement project. The archeological work was conducted prior to intersection improvements at the crossroads of MD 128 and Piney Grove Road. The project involved relocating Piney Grove Road at its intersection with MD 128 to improve inadequate sight distance. The road was to be moved approximately 50 m west of its former location and a right turn lane would be added to the highway. In addition, parts of the unnamed stream that drains the site had to be relocated. Infiltration ditches were needed along the shoulders of the road to mitigate stormwater impacts. As the road project was being funded using public monies and the work involved alteration of wetlands, Section 106 compliance was mandated.

Archeological fieldwork for the highway improvement project began with the establishment of a site grid. The centerline of the proposed relocated road was used as the baseline and a 10 m grid was initially established due to the small size of the project area. Shovel testing was carried out at the gridline intersections. The 40 Phase I shovel test pits (STPs) were 40 cm in diameter and were excavated by natural or cultural strata to sterile subsoil. On the hillslope, the first few STPs were excavated to depth of about 100 cm below surface. Those on the floodplain were excavated to stream lag gravel, or to black muck soils in areas of deeper alluvium and surface fill close to MD 128. Excavated soils were screened through hardware cloth.

The shovel testing encountered significant quantities of flakes and two tools in scattered STP units. A very dense concentration of lithic debitage, thought to represent a largely intact chipping feature, was also encountered. Artifacts were found mostly on the stream floodplain. Only a single low-density area of debitage and a few scattered artifacts were found on the adjacent hillslopes. A single diagnostic artifact (a Jack's Reef corner-notched point) was recovered in one shovel test. Based on these findings, a Phase II study was recommended.

Artifacts recovered during the Phase I portion of the project are included below in the discussion of the combined Phase I/II assemblage.

The Phase II investigations involved expansion of the shovel test grid, a remote sensing survey, and excavation of twelve 1 m² test units. The Phase I shovel test results indicated a sporadic distribution of artifacts across the site. The site grid was enlarged and supplemental STPs were excavated at the edges of the site and at 5 m intervals in cardinal directions from certain positive Phase I STPs. A total of 12 supplemental Phase II STPs were excavated.

The initial five 1 X 1 m Phase II test units (two of the units were in a contiguous 1 X 2 block) were excavated over areas of low-density debitage scatter or over shovel tests that had contained tools. Simultaneously, a remote sensing survey was being carried out on the floodplain to identify any potential prehistoric features. The remote sensing survey measured magnetic susceptibility and soil (electrical) conductivity.

Extensive evidence of disturbance was noted in the areas adjacent to Piney Grove Road and MD 128. This was not surprising as the pattern had been previously observed in STPs excavated in these areas, and the construction of the road would obviously cause significant disturbance. The conductivity test also revealed a roughly 10 X 20 m anomalous area (with 3 separated conductivity peaks) along the floodplain/hillslope interface. The aforementioned chipping feature was within the center of this area, which was marked by increased soil conductivity, and it was suggested that this might represent a concentration of prehistoric activity or a buried landform that attracted prehistoric activity. The three remote sensing peaks were tested by individual 1 X 1 m units, one of which was expanded to a 1 X 2 m unit. Additional units were excavated individually across the site or in small blocks with a total of 12 m² excavated.

All excavation units were dug in arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural soil strata. Excavated soil was screened through hardware cloth, and bagged according to level. In the units containing the chipping feature, certain cultural layers were excavated in 5 cm levels and collected by quad. Concentrations of debitage in the chipping feature were pedestalled and collected by cluster. Plan maps, unit/feature profile drawings, and photographs documented the excavation, and notes were recorded on standardized forms.

The excavation and remote sensing work revealed that the site measured about 1.6 acres in total area. The only cultural feature identified was the chipping area previously identified during Phase I work. Artifacts were recovered from an intact layer about 30 cm below the plowzone, and the presence of one feature (the chipping feature) demonstrates that the site contains undisturbed, primary artifact deposits. Post-occupational disturbances seem to be confined to natural processes such as bioturbation. The site likely represents short-term lithic reduction activity. The primary lithic material exploited at the site appears to be a previously undescribed quartzitic to cryptocrystalline stone of local origin, designated as "St. John's quartzite". The investigations recovered only a small number of tools representing activities other than lithic reduction. Among these was the single diagnostic projectile point (Jack's Reef corner-notched) made from jasper dating at least one occupation of the site to the Middle Woodland period. There was little or no evidence of expedient use of tools made from St. John's quartzite. The investigations showed that site activities were almost exclusively confined to lithic reduction, with an extremely low-density background scatter representing other exploitation activities of unknown cultural affiliation.

Artifacts recovered from the site during both Phase I and II work include a jasper Jack's Reef notched point, a rhyolite biface fragment, a unifacial jasper scraper, 10 utilized/retouched flakes, 10 cores, 1,391 flakes, and 2,903 flake/shatter fragments. The Jack's Reef point appears to be made with Pennsylvania jasper. By far, the most common lithic raw material at the site was the St. John's quartzite (4,250 artifacts), followed by much smaller amounts of quartz (51), jasper (7), rhyolite (8), and chert (1). A light scatter of general historic refuse was also encountered. These artifacts are not included in the tables above.

Phase I/II investigations defined horizontal and vertical limits, evaluated site integrity, documented site function, and recovered important information about on-site activities (almost exclusively lithic reduction). Further investigations were determined unlikely to recover information important in prehistory, and approval was granted for the highway improvement project to proceed. This likely resulted in significant impacts to the site and any remaining integrity. Site 18BA483 should not be considered a significant archeological resource.

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number:

Site Name:

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief
Description:**

Unknown

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):