



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA531

Site Name: AVW/ Area 2/Site 8

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 18th or early 19th-20th century artifact concentration

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.3687

Longitude -76.4073

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-6%

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) Windlass Run

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 762 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

ca. 1900 - 1930

Y

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Y

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? 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		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	30	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	1	Pearlware	2			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	6

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	1	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"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	118	Activity item(s)	1
Glass (all)	115	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	150	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	2
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	14	Misc.	171
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"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input 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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Description:

Late 18th or early 19th-20th century artifact concentration

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18BA531, also known as AVW/ Area 2/Site 8, is mid 19th – early 20th century artifact concentration located near the Middle River area of Baltimore County. The site is situated on a low terrace just east of Windlass Run. At least two unnamed tributaries of Saltpeter Creek are to the east of the site. At the time of the site's discovery in 2005, it was composed of overgrown agricultural fields. The dominant vegetative setting of surrounding landscape contains several hardwood and coniferous species, including red oak and other oak varieties, yellow poplar, sycamore, red maple, sweetgum, black cherry, beech, sassafras, Virginia pine, loblolly, American holly, and cedar. Soils at the site are primarily Sassafras sandy loams and Galestown loamy sands.

Archival research into the ownership of Site 18BA531 failed to reveal any clear chain-of-title for the individuals connected to the site. The only historic document to provide any indication of the ownership of the area is an 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County. The map shows a house owned by John Ritter in the approximate location of the site.

The site was first identified in 2005 during the course of a Phase I archeological survey of the site and surrounding areas. The work was carried out on a 1,000 acre property (which included the site) slated for development of a new business campus. Construction of the business campus was contingent upon receipt of a wetlands permit through the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment. Thus, the survey was required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended).

The site was identified based on the presence of 32 historic artifacts found in 13 of 14 shovel test pits excavated during Phase I work. The STPs were placed at 15.24 X 15.24 m (50 X 50 ft) intervals and were excavated according to natural stratigraphy. All soils were screened through hardware cloth. Artifacts recovered from the site were located within Strata I and II. Several pieces of modern material (plastic and terra cotta) were also identified but were isolated to Stratum I (plowzone). Diagnostic artifacts included 1 undecorated pearlware sherd, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, 1 other salt-glazed stoneware sherd, 9 whiteware sherds (1 hand-painted, 1 sponged), and 2 olive bottle glass fragments.

No intact cultural features were found in the site area. After examining the data, the site was classified as a late 18th or early 19th-20th century artifact concentration. The site was recommended for Phase II testing, which was carried out immediately.

Phase II work in 2005 at 18BA531 made use of the grid system created during the prior Phase I survey. The system was further expanded to conduct more precise testing. The Phase II grid was composed of shovel tests spaced apart at 15.24 m, 7.62 m, and 3.81 m (50, 25, and 12.5 ft) intervals. All shovel test locations were excavated manually, using spade shovels and trowels. The STPs were also excavated stratigraphically in order to maintain vertical control over the artifacts recovered and soils were screened through hardware cloth. A soil profile was prepared for each shovel test location excavated. Soils were described by texture and color and data was recorded on standardized forms. A total of 95 shovel tests were excavated within the site area.

The material recovery resulting from the STP work was plotted on a field map in order to display the distribution of artifacts. The site was estimated to have a dimension of 61 m (200 ft) north-south and 84 m (275 ft) east-west. The west central portion of the site had the greatest concentration of artifacts. Based on the nature and density of artifacts recovered, three 91 X 91 cm (3 X 3 ft) test units were excavated. Two of these units were excavated in the west central part of the site, while the final test unit was placed in the center of the site where a secondary concentration of artifacts was encountered. Test units were excavated manually, using flat shovels and trowels. These units were also excavated stratigraphically in order to maintain control over the vertical provenience of artifacts recovered. Selected strata in excess of 7.62 cm (3 in) were further excavated by arbitrary levels. All excavated, non-feature soils were dry-screened in the field using hardware mesh. A standardized form was also used to record soil characteristics, stratum depths, and recovered materials. A scaled profile of one wall was drawn for each unit and the profile was also recorded using black and white photography.

Forty-one shovel tests and all three test units produced artifacts. A total of 466 artifacts were recovered. By quantity, the recovery consisted of the following: 1 prehistoric artifact (a fragment of quartz debitage), 413 historic artifacts, and 52 modern items. The 52 modern materials are included in the tally above as "Miscellaneous objects".

The historic collection was composed of several functional artifact groups. The assemblage consisted of 1 activity item (hardware), 150 architectural artifacts (81 window glass fragments, 38 pieces of brick and mortar, 1 machine cut nail, and 30 other nails), 14 clothing items (shoe parts), 140 kitchen-related artifacts (106 ceramic sherds, 32 pieces of container glass, and 2 pieces of calcined animal bone), and 101 miscellaneous objects (25 pieces of coal, 59 pieces of charcoal, slag, wood, and iron). The artifact recovery was confined to organic strata (plowzones) overlying subsoil. The ceramic sherd assemblage included 1 pearlware, 1 creamware, 21 whiteware, 26 redware, 4 yellowware, 1 Rockingham, 5 white salt-glazed stoneware, 7 miscellaneous stoneware, and 37 other ceramic sherds.

The Phase II data suggest a small, short-term domestic occupation at the site. The residence was likely present between 1820 and 1920. This view was supported by the recovery of American porcelain, yellowware, whiteware, Rockingham, opaque canning lid glass, manganese-tinted glass, and miscellaneous modern artifacts. Based on the quantity and nature of the earlier artifacts, the presumed residence was thought to have been occupied for only a short period. Presumably, the dwelling was of wood frame construction and supported a brick chimney. The lack of intact masonry features supported this view. The distribution of artifacts was unhelpful in pinpointing a potential residence location. Those occupying the site were likely farmers: members of the Ritter's family.

The research potential of this site, however, was dramatically reduced by the lack of soils with good stratigraphic integrity and displaced artifact recovery. Apparently, the extensive history of agriculture in this area dramatically impacted the yards connected with this early residence, leaving the soil completely disturbed. Thus, conducting future excavations at Site 18BA531 was thought to provide little additional research value beyond that already obtained through the evaluation process.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002573, Site Files