



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BA75

Site Name: Booby Bar

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Breezy Point, Area E3

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: Archaic & Late Woodland shell midden

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.2780

Longitude -76.3875

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 3 m

Site slope 0-5%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Ches

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 366 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

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

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

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 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
- 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

Historic

Urban/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

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types			
Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Sherd Types			
Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Stoneware	
		English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Nottingham	<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			
Flaked stone	65	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	5	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls		Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	5	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	3	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	500	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds		Uncommon Obj.	<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 checked="" 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"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)		Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	5	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	6	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture		Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms		Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing		Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items		Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Description:

Archaic & Late Woodland shell midden

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Booby Bar Site (18BA75) is an Archaic and Late Woodland period shell midden. It is located on Booby Point peninsula, east of the town of Cedar Beach, in Baltimore County, Maryland. It is situated west of the west bank of the Chesapeake Bay, south of Middle River, and at the southeast edge of a swamp/marsh area.

In 1943, a proceeding from the Natural History Society of Maryland was published for the express purpose of relating 25 years of (avocational) archeological research in Tidewater Maryland. During that time, but especially between 1928 and 1943, a large collection of Native American artifacts had been accumulated. The artifacts from each site (referred to as "village" sites) had been kept together for the purposes of inter-site comparison. The purpose of the long, systematic study was to produce data relating to the lifeways of the prehistoric peoples who once lived in the area. It is not stated when exactly the Booby Bar Site was visited, but prior to 1943 it consisted of several shell middens. The map indicates that there were 2 smaller middens flanking a much larger central midden. The middens extended westward from Booby Bar point for a distance of approximately 0.8 km (½ mile). The densest (and largest) shell midden was situated at the head of a small creek and extended for about 91.44 meters (100 yards) from the creek bank to the landowner's house.

Prior to excavations by the Natural History Society of Maryland the landowner had dug shell from the eastern side of the largest midden for use in road repair. He reportedly encountered several fireplaces and pits, one in particular that contained ashes and quantities of ceramic sherds and animal bones. Subsequently, the History Society excavated a trench 3.048 meters (10 ft) wide and roughly 45.5 meters long adjacent to the western side of the landowner's excavation. The depth of the midden deposit was between 0.609 and 0.762 meters (2-2.5 ft). From the trench westwards to the road the depth of deposit decreased to only a few centimeters (a few inches). Three small pits were encountered during the excavations. One pit contained nothing but shell and two of the pits contained some shell, ashes, bones, and ceramic sherds. These were interpreted to be fire pits. The central and western extents of the large midden were 'in grass' for several years and were not tested. The small western midden had been continuously under cultivation and was surface collected. It appears that the small easternmost midden was identified but not tested.

During the excavations of the site by the landowner and the Society, some 500 prehistoric ceramic sherds were collected representing about 30 vessels. The ceramic paste ranged in color from buff to dark reddish-brown. Rim sherds show an abrupt thinning from about 1.1 cm at the body to 0.6 cm or less at the rim. Tempering consisted mostly of oyster shell, but some samples were tempered with crushed quartz. Several of the vessels were fabric- or net-impressed and the remaining sherds were plain. Seven of the vessels were tempered with crushed quartz and sand and had cord-marked decoration. One additional sherd was tempered with shell and embellished with impressed and incised decoration. This particular sherd was surface collected from the western midden. Approximately 75 stone tools were found at the site, primarily all from surface collection. The majority of those were points made from chert, rhyolite, and quartz. One point was identified as triangular in shape and another was described as fish-tailed. Three hammerstones were retained along with 5 groundstone objects including 2 gorget fragments, 1 celt, and 1 gray slate bannerstone. The report also indicated that fire-cracked rocks were encountered in the excavated areas and on the surface (a minimum estimate of 5 was recorded in the table above).

In 1971, the site was visited by archeologists from the Maryland Geological Survey (now the Maryland Historical Trust) and was given its site number 18BA75. At that time the site was described as consisting of dense shell on a hill and scattered in adjacent fields. A local resident reported that ca. 1950 some complete pots were dug out of the walls of a gully eroded into the south side of the site. This may have been in the vicinity where a stream and the marsh area sit south of the large central midden. No further information was available. During the visit, a surface collection was inspected (it is unclear if the collector was the landowner or avocational archeologist). Unfortunately, the artifacts were not quantified or types and the file photos showed the artifacts from 18BA75 mixed with artifacts from other sites. All that can be said is that grit-tempered and/or shell-tempered sherds were identified along with several projectile points.

In 1980, the site was revisited by personnel from the Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning during a walk-over survey of the general area. The purpose of the survey was to re-identify previously known sites in Baltimore County. The site was described as a dense shell midden in the western part of a cultivated field. It was noted in the file that no artifacts were observed.

Archeological investigations were conducted in 2002 at the proposed Holly Neck Development site. The development area consisted of a discontinuous parcel of land, the majority of which was in active agricultural land with inclusions of wooded areas. The study was undertaken in order to document the presence and extent of cultural resources within the Study Area, provide an assessment of their significance and National Register of Historic Places eligibility, and develop appropriate recommendations for their management. The study also included an evaluation of standing structures, although this portion of the work was not relevant to Site 18BA75. The project area was divided in Areas A-I, which were in turn sub-divided into smaller numbered segments (i.e. A1, A2). Area E3 was the location of Site 18BA75. Five shovel test pits and one 1x1 meter test unit were excavated. All excavated soil was screened through 0.635 cm (¼") mesh. The plowzone averaged between 14 and 16 cm deep, and contained dense oyster shell. Plow scars were clearly visible at the base of the zone. This sat above yellowish brown silty sand subsoil. No features were found in the test unit. The extent of the site was determined to be 60.96 meters (200 ft) in diameter.

Historic artifacts recovered included 5 bottle glass fragments (recorded as glass in the table above) and 1 terra cotta sewer pipe (recorded as architectural material in the table above). Brick fragments were weighed (28 g brick) and not quantified so they were recorded as 5 architectural items in the table above. The only 3 prehistoric artifacts recovered were 1 quartz bifacial tool, 1 quartz core, and 1 quartz secondary flake.

The site area defined during the 2002 investigation encompassed a much smaller area than that previously identified in the 1940s. In 2000, three 'new' sites were located in areas that had been earlier reported as belonging to Site 18BA75. This may account for the paucity of material recovered in 2000 as compared with earlier investigations at the site. Those 'new' sites were: 18BA507 found in Area B2, 18BA511 found in Area E2, and 18BA512 found in Area E6. Site 18BA507 is in the location of the western midden described above. Site 18BA511 is in the location of the easternmost midden described above. Site 18BA512 is in the location of the previous landowner and Natural History Society of Maryland excavations.

The Booby Bar Site (18BA75) is an Archaic and Late Woodland period shell midden. The presence of a possible Orient Fish Tail and a triangular point suggest that the site was at least temporarily occupied in the Late Archaic and Late Woodland periods. Shell-tempered ceramics may be further indication of at least a Late Woodland use of the site. The bannerstone in the collection further supports an Archaic period occupation at the site. According to early reports regarding the site, there were at least 3 midden concentrations and associated field scatters that comprised the site. Later excavations offered a more



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Archaic & Late Woodland shell midden

Unknown

limited extent of the site but other identified nearby sites were in locations of previously identified concentrations. As a result of archeological investigations, the site was recommended potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places based on the potential for subsurface features and/or associated cultural remains. Archeological testing of the site area has been either poorly documented or of an extremely limited nature. Recent maps of the site area indicate that it has not been developed. It is suggested that if earth-moving activities are unavoidable in the future, then more intensive Phase I/II work should be considered.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002351, 00006841, Site Files