



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BC103

Site Name: CC-2

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 19th-early 20th century brick rowhouses/commercial buildings

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code Ub

Latitude 39.2910

Longitude -76.6161

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 3 m

Site slope 0-5%

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) Middle Branch of Patapsco

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 304 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site  ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675  ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720  ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780  Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric context

Unknown context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Other

Hispanic

other Euroamerican

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? Urban

#### 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

rowhouse, commercial building

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

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	<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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	21	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
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	37	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	6	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	2			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"/>	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"/>
		European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Late 19th-early 20th century brick feature

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	77	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	59	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	13
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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18BC103 (also known as CC-2 or Convention Center 2) appears to be the archeological remains of a late 19th to early 20th century rowhouse structure and commercial structure in downtown Baltimore. The site is situated on a terrace and interior flat above the tidal Patapsco River. Today, the site is situated on the edge of the Baltimore Convention Center. The surrounding landscape is heavily developed as an urban area. Soils at the site are mapped as 100% urban land.

By 1745, the two oldest portions of Baltimore City had been established. These incorporated a 60 acre portion of Thomas Cole's, "Cole's Harbour" patent and the settlement of Jonestown (commonly referred to today as "Old Town". Because Baltimore's growth during this period was fueled by international and domestic trade, merchants, sea captains, and shipbuilders bought lots and constructed homes and businesses near the city's waterfront. The American Revolution further stimulated Baltimore's economic growth, and affected the town in other ways. In 1782, French troops encamped in the Baltimore area. Maps made of this encampment suggest that its far northeastern perimeter may have abutted the extreme southwestern corner of the Convention Center block.

After the Revolution, mercantile activity continued to fuel Baltimore's economic prosperity. Development in the vicinity of 18BC103 during this post-Revolutionary period. In 1782, the surrounding area was subdivided as part of a speculative parcel known as "John Edgar Howard's Late Addition" to the City of Baltimore. Contemporary maps show that Howard, Camden, Sharp, and Conway Streets, and Brandy Alley already had been laid out. Walnut Street Alley cut diagonally across the extreme northeastern corner of the block. The block was subdivided into ten lots, but these apparently were not developed until after 1801.

Fry's 1810 Directory listed 45 residents on streets in the vicinity of the Convention Center block. Of these, most appear to be of English or German ancestry. However, five African-Americans lived in the immediate neighborhood, in dwellings scattered along Howard and Sharp Streets. At this time the block contained only one verifiable manufacturing/commercial enterprise: John Spies comb manufactory, which was located on Brandy Alley between Howard and Sharp Streets. Other small independent retail establishments, such as Leonard Foreman's feed store, Peter Bankard's butcher shop, Laurance Arbach's cordwainer (shoe) business, John Kall's bakery, and Joseph Richter's and Casper Weaver's groceries also may have been located in the first floor of their residences.

Between the War of 1812 and the end of the Civil War, as manufacturing and mercantile enterprises became increasingly important to Baltimore's economy, residential sections near the waterfront were transformed into warehouse and industrial areas. New rowhouses were built on the outskirts of the city to accommodate Baltimore's growing immigrant population.

Although the Convention Center block apparently remained primarily residential, some individual entrepreneurs probably conducted their businesses from their dwellings. Only one commercial enterprise could be verified within the block: Maria Leas' boarding house. It also is probable the tobacconist Samuel Martin's store occupied the ground floor of his residence. It is less clear whether Frederick Vogt's Patent Lock Factory (on Perry Street near Sharp), or David Ranasville's carpentry shop (on Howard Street near Conway), were located within, or on the perimeter of the Convention Center block.

The demographic composition of the Convention Center block during this period conformed to broader city-wide trends. A 20% sample of white residents listed in Matchett's 1842 Baltimore Directory identified at least 8 households within the block, and potentially another 5. Extrapolated, these figures suggest that the Convention Center block contained between 40 and 65 white households. This view is confirmed by an 1851 map, which shows that only the perimeters of the block had been developed, A sample of black residents suggests that most still lived within alleyways like Perry Street (formerly Brandy Alley).

After the Civil War, Baltimore became Maryland's undisputed industrial center. Much of the city's industrial growth centered in the neighborhoods around Camden Station, as the expansion of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad complemented Baltimore's industrial development. By 1900, the direct influence of the railroad was evident in many enterprises that were located within the Convention Center block.

Late 19th and early 20th century Sanborn Fire Insurance maps showed that progressive commercialization and industrialization had reduced residential housing space within the Convention Center block. Early in the period, small retail businesses and services dominated the economic enterprises within the neighborhood. Almost half of the multiple-storey buildings had some sort of retail establishment on their ground floors. The upper stories of these buildings undoubtedly housed the families of the proprietors, and possibly other families or boarders. Heavier industrial development in the block was sparse. An 1877 atlas identified only one large enterprise, the Firth Piano Factory, which occupied a lot on Perry Alley. By 1890, one large industrial structure, the Howell block, had been built on four lots in the extreme northeastern corner of the Convention Center block. Occupations identified in the 1880 Census for residents of neighborhoods in and around the block suggest that most residents of the neighborhood were small independent businessmen who were engaged in sales, light manufacturing, or retail. Only 9.1% of the area's residents were employed in large industrial enterprises.

As the 20th century progressed, land use in the block shifted from residential to commercial. The absolute number of commercial enterprises in the area declined. However, their size and the amount of space they occupied increased. Railroad expansion also influenced development in the area. Architectural plans for a new fruit and produce terminal and office complex already had been drawn by 1909. The 1914 Sanborn map shows that the western half of the block had been acquired by the railroad, and that the buildings within that area had been targeted for demolition. By 1918, all residential and commercial buildings in the block had been replaced by the B&O fruit terminal complex.

The demography of the neighborhood also shifted greatly during this period. Immediately after the Civil War, the composition of the area's population remained primarily Northern and Western European in origin. However, the African-American population increased substantially, fueled by an influx of freed slaves who came primarily from Virginia. A sample of 1880 Census information for residents of blocks in the vicinity of the site showed that a total of 87 African-Americans lived in the neighborhood, where they comprised 17.1% of the population sample (n=501). Eighty-three percent of these were crowded into the Perry Street corridor, where large extended family groups of up to 16 individuals occasionally occupied the same household.

A wave of "new" immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe also began to affect the neighborhood during the early 20th century. A sample of 217



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residents of streets within or contiguous to the block in 1910 revealed that, of the 64 non-native residents, 46.9% gave Russia as their point of origin. Lithuania was home to 19.7%. Italians and Germans combined comprised a much smaller proportion of the sample (7.9%), as did English, Irish, and Hungarians. The occupational profile of neighborhood residents remained similar to what it had been in 1880. However, in 1880, skilled craftspeople still generally owned their own businesses. By 1910, these craftsmen more often were employed within factory settings.

During the modern period (1930 to present), the economic base of Baltimore shifted once more. Raw materials for local manufacturers came from imported rather than domestic sources. During the 1960s, concerned Baltimore entrepreneurs began to revitalize the city's inner core, resulting in the development of projects such as Charles Center, the Convention Center, and the Inner Harbor.

The modern period saw the last phase in the conversion of the Convention Center block from residential to industrial uses. The B&O Railroad had been solidly entrenched in the neighborhood since before 1918. The fruit terminal complex that was constructed in 1918 continued to function until at least 1975. The property was sold to the Mayor and Council of the City of Baltimore in 1984, and the fruit terminal buildings subsequently were demolished.

Site 18BC103 was first examined archeologically in 1993 during the course of a combined Phase I/II investigation for (then) proposed expansion of the Baltimore Convention Center. These investigations were requested by the Maryland Historical Trust, pursuant to Article 83B, Sections 5-617 and 5-618 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The expansion of the Baltimore Convention Center by the Maryland Stadium Authority involved construction of expansion facilities immediately west of the existing Convention Center, on a roughly 3 acre parcel. MHT determined that, due to its location and relative lack of recent disturbance, the expansion project area retained a high potential for intact historic and prehistoric resources. Investigations focused on the southern portion of the 3 acre parcel, where the least amount of prior construction had occurred.

Archeological testing during the 1993 study was conducted using a combination of mechanical and manual excavation techniques. Mechanically excavated trenches were placed in consultation with MHT and the Maryland Stadium Authority to test selected resources within the block. These 11 trenches measured a minimum of 1.5 X 5 m, and were excavated in 30 cm arbitrary levels within natural soil strata. The actual dimensions of the trenches varied depending upon the size and location of resources present. Soils were piled separately by level or stratum, and trowel sorted for cultural remains. A sample of premodern materials was retained from fill levels. Soil characteristics were described and recorded using standardized soil color charts and standard soil nomenclature. Standardized forms were filled out for each trench. These included the location and actual dimensions of the trench, the depth of arbitrary and natural soil levels, the type of cultural materials observed or retained, and the presence or absence of cultural features. Mechanical excavations were halted when cultural features and significant living surfaces were identified. Manual excavation was employed to determine the nature and integrity of these features and adjacent stratigraphy or deposits.

The excavation of two of these trenches (Trenches 5 and 8) led to the identification of 18BC103. One 1 X 1 m unit was then placed in an area of the site in which further investigation was deemed necessary to further define the cultural and temporal associations, and degree of integrity of features. The test unit was excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels within natural soil strata. All soils were screened through hardware cloth. An excavation level form was completed for each level or stratum. These forms noted datum location, elevation of the stratum, excavation method, artifact content and density, the presence or absence of features, and soil types. Soil characteristics, including color and texture, were described using standardized color charts and standard soil nomenclature. The test unit was mapped and photographed. A sample of cultural materials was retained (architectural materials from fill episodes were noted and discarded). All materials present within features were retained. These and other artifacts were recorded, and placed in clean paper bags labeled with appropriate provenience data.

Trenches 5 and 8 (as well as the 1 X 1 m test unit) were placed to test the location of alley dwellings historically located on the lots fronting 202-205 Perry Street. These three dwellings are shown on historic maps from approximately 1877 to 1914, but they may have been present as early as 1855. A single-storey wooden structure, shown in the rear of the lots, was described as a confectionary in 1890, and a vacant dwelling in 1901. By 1914 this structure had been removed.

Trench 5 was located at the rear of the historic lot to test for this single-storey dwelling/confectionary. Trench 8 and the test unit were placed to test for construction or soil features associated with the three alley dwellings that fronted Perry Street.

Archeological investigations revealed that a remnant brick feature was present below more recent fill and construction episodes that had resulted from the use of the area for railroad sidings. The brick feature was associated with a deposit of late 19th and early 20th century bottle glass. Due to the nature of more recent disturbances, the relationship of the brick feature to the historic occupation of this site could not be established. Subsequent demolition, construction, and filling episodes have had a severe impact on the potential of this site to provide significant information concerning 19th century domestic or combined domestic and commercial occupation of the alley and dwellings along Perry Street.

The artifact sample collected from 18BC103 included 77 ceramic sherds (6 redware, 2 pearlware, 37 whiteware, 21 ironstone, 6 late porcelain, and 5 miscellaneous stoneware), 57 bottle glass fragments (8 mold blown, 3 machine-made, 14 non-machine made, 18 pharmaceutical, 2 milk, and 12 unidentified), 1 table glass fragment, 1 pressed glass fragment, and 13 animal bones.

The 1993 investigations at 18BC103 demonstrated that the site has been severely disturbed by various demolition, construction, and filling activities. The site does not contain intact archeological features or deposits likely to yield important information.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005668