



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BC174

Site Name: 912 Lemmon Street

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Mid 19th through 20th century rowhouse and yard

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code 31UB

Latitude 39.2856

Longitude -76.6362

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

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  urban

### Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Patapsco River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 1513 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

## 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  Y

Anglo-American

Other  Y

Hispanic

Irish American?

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? Urban

#### 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  N

Flotation samples taken  N

Other samples taken



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## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Clovis	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Palmer	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Le Croy	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Guilford	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Brewerton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Otter Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Perkiomen	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Susquehana	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Vernon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Piscataway	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Calvert	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Selby Bay	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Levanna	<input type="text" value="0"/>	

### Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shepard	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Keyser	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Townsend	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Watson	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Minguannan	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mockley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Page	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="text" value="0"/>		

### Historic Sherd Types

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
Astbury	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jackfield	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>	English Brown	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Borderware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text" value="98"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Buckley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	North Devon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="text" value="3"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Creamware	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Pearlware	<input type="text" value="5"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text" value="0"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Other fired clay	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text" value="0"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	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

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

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="text" value="159"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text" value="379"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="text" value="15"/>
Architectural	<input type="text" value="64"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="text" value="34"/>
Clothing	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="text" value="3"/>	Misc.	<input type="text" value="75"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BC174

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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Mid 19th through 20th century rowhouse and yard

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at University of Maryland

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18BC174, also known as 912 Lemmon Street, is a three-story rowhouse built in 1848 and its surrounding property. The brick rowhouse fronts Lemmon St. and shares party walls with the neighboring rowhouses. The backlot contains an elevated wooden deck against the house and a grass and garden area. The Irish Shrine to the Railroad Worker lies three houses over to the west and the backlot is open to the back lot of the Shrine. Soils on the site are Urban land and Sassafras complex.

Prior to the 1840s, rows of two story attic houses were built on Lemmon Street and within walking distance to the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) yards. The housing was meant for laborers and their families and consisted of Irish and German immigrants with railroad-related occupations such as watchman, two firemen, a blacksmith, and several "laborers". The houses on Lemmon Street, a secondary street, were small (11 ft 9 in wide) in comparison to those along main avenues such as Lombard and Pratt Street. The project area homes were inexpensive (\$700) in comparison to homes along the main avenues (\$1,600-2,000). From the 1880 census data of the 18th ward of Baltimore, on Lemmon St. there were twenty Irish and eight German immigrant households. The diversity of this street might be due to the constant shuffling of social classes. There was a diverse work force on Lemmon St. Around 18 people on Lemmon St. had factory jobs, which included working in a boiler factory, can factory, paper box factory, iron factory, machine factory, shoe factory, and making parts in general. The most popular factory job was the iron factory, followed closely by the boiler factory. The can, machine, and shoe factories employed one or two residents of Lemmon St. These jobs were almost all held by men, except for two women who were employed in the boiler factory and paper box factory. During this time period, the factory was becoming a major employer and targeted immigrant populations. No one ethnicity held more factory jobs than the others. In contrast to the large amount of factory jobs, only three or so men held jobs related to the railroad. This includes a railroad laborer, a laborer at B&O, and a man who worked on the tracks. Both Irish immigrants and a man born in Maryland held these jobs. A large amount of the jobs held by the people of Lemmon St. involved building supplies or mass-produced items, though there were a few jobs less to do with production and more about consumption. For example, there was a salesman, a shoe salesman, a man who drove an ice wagon, and a porter in a hotel. Other jobs included a coach painter, carpenter, policeman, picture frame maker, iron molder, brick layer, shoemaker, chair maker, blacksmith, oyster huckster, bar keeper, and scissor maker. It is uncertain in what setting these jobs were, but there are some, like the blacksmith, that had required skill. The policeman was an Ireland-born immigrant, which reflects the rising social class of the Irish in America. The other skilled jobs seemed to have been held by the German immigrants on Lemmon St., but the low number of German households cannot create a correlation. There was also unemployment on Lemmon St. where twenty-two men were listed as having been unemployed in the last year. During this time period, even though there was a great demand for immigrants, employment was not necessarily assured or well-paying.

Many of the women on Lemmon St. were employed with "keeping house" and many daughters were "at home." The daughters in the households were either at home, at school, or working, all at a variety of ages. Some of the youngest working daughters were a seamstress at age 15, a dress maker's apprentice at age 15, a worker in a tin store at age 16, a cigarette maker at age 18, and a tailor at age 18. Older unmarried daughters on Lemmon St. from ages 21 to 32 were either at home or had jobs, which include two tailoresses, a dress maker, and a paper box factory worker. Other women, like aunts and sisters of the head of the household were either at home or had similar jobs. In a household of Prussian immigrants and their Maryland-born children, there was an unmarried Caucasian 17 year old girl from Maryland that worked as a servant.

There were a few apprentices on Lemmon St. There were two girls, one of which was an apprentice dressmaker, and two boys, one of them being an apprentice to a machinist. Young boys tended to be in school, or hold jobs as they got into their upper teen and early twenties. Jobs held by young men in their teens include three 15-16 year olds in a can factory, an 18 year old oyster huckster, a 15 year old in a shop, and a 15 year old worker in a picture frame factory. One 8 year old worked as a marble polisher. All the residents of Lemmon St. were occupied with helping the family unit survive.

The Smucke family in 912 Lemmon consisted of St. John, 62, and his wife in 1880. They were both from Hesse Cassel, with John being a shoemaker and Sophia keeping house. Unfortunately, John was suffering from kidney disease.

In 2011, the University of Maryland held their field school to investigate both properties, 912 Lemmon Street (18BC174) and 914 Lemmon Street (18BC175). Field Investigations consisted of the excavation of four test units within the rear yard of these connected parcels. Four 1m by 1m units were excavated during the three-week field season and earlier one week excavation. Units were placed on the rear edges of each property boundary in an attempt to locate any privies on the back edge of the properties and to avoid disturbance to the landscaping features of the current residents.

Two test units (Unit 1 and 2) were excavated along northern boundary fence bordering the alley in the rear yard of 912 Lemmon Street. The site stratigraphy was impacted by the placement of railroad ties as a retaining wall for the garden along the fence against the alley. A modern layer of topsoil and mulch lay on the surface from the placement of a garden with early nineteenth to mid-nineteenth century artifacts such as pearlware and annular-decorated yellowware and modern plastic. Underlying this level was a brown silt loam. Below this layer, a PVC drain impacted the stratigraphy in Unit 1, and a modern planting hole and privy disturbed the stratigraphy in Unit 2.

Lying below the modern topsoil and mulch and below the layer of mottled brown silt loam in Unit 2 sat a barrel-lined privy filled with layers of yellowish brown sandy clay or sandy loam and pale brown sand. The barrel was open at the bottom and rested on five courses of unmortared brick. The privy contained a mix of artifacts from creamware, pearlware, and whiteware and cut nails to a toy plastic spider ring marked "Made in China" and appears to have been originally cleaned out. Below the bricks were several shallow layers of brown sand or sandy loam followed by a mottled white sandy clay subsoil. These layers also contained a mix of artifacts from a black plastic comb to flow blue sherds. The soil around the exterior of the barrel was white sand and was not excavated.

In the rear yard of 914 Lemmon Street, two test units (Unit 3 and 4) were excavated along northern boundary fence bordering alley. A modern layer of topsoil and mulch lay on the surface from the placement of a garden. Below this level was a mottled brown silt loam which transitioned into a mottled light yellowish brown and white sandy clay loam subsoil. The site stratigraphy was impacted by several disturbances including the placement of railroad ties as a retaining wall for the garden along the fence against the alley.

In Unit 4 beneath the brown silt loam, a posthole sat in the southeast corner and a dark brown circular stain rested along the west wall of the unit. The circular stain contained artifacts such as a pearlware sherd and a crown-cap and was surrounded by a mottled brown and yellowish brown sandy loam and sandy clay loam. In this stain, a large collared metal pipe extended down into a T-junction with another thinner metal pipe running from north to south along the unit's west wall. Below the pipe and mottled sandy loam and sandy clay loam sat a mottled stain and wood from the bottom of a barrel surrounded by subsoil. Below the barrel lay only a few inches of mottled soil and a brick before transitioning into sterile soil.

The ceramics in this site seem to date on a range from the early 19th century to the late 19th century, from maybe 1840-onwards. Some contexts have ceramics with similar dates, but on a whole, the different contexts do not correlate in a certain chronological direction. However, most of the ceramics have popularity in common. Many of the ceramics were cheap and popular pieces. Even the porcelain was a cheaper and common variety. These were products produced for mass-consumption.

The minimal vessel count for glass was created using the bases and amounts to 12 vessels. The small number is due to the large amount of body fragments. There are a few clearly distinctive body fragments, which include olive-colored glass, a thick olive-colored body, a clear paneled body, an amethyst fragment with an embossed "D", and a piece of yellow glass.

In the first context, EU1 Context 2, there were nails and iron found. These metal fragments are not identifiable. In EU2 Context 1, an oyster shell and plastic



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siding were found. The plastic siding is modern, as to be expected in the beginning of an assemblage. In EU2 Context 2 there is a small porcelain button is a Prosser type with a terminus post quem of the 1840. EU2/3 Context 3 consists of iron nails, unidentified iron fragments, and iron architecture cut nail fragment. EU2/3 Context 4 feature A, consists of wall plaster, a plastic spider ring with the words "China", and unidentifiable red object (possibly rock or plastic), thin copper wire, numerous iron pieces, and bone. The iron fragments include large iron pieces/possibly tools, unidentifiable iron pieces, possibly slag, nails, and a bolt. The bones include burned bone, the tooth of a large mammal, a small long bone, a socket end of a long bone, a shaft of a long bone, a cut/hacked proximal end of a long bone of a large mammal, and three small fragments. EU2/3 Context 6 feature A also has a porcelain Prosser button, as well as a porcelain toy tea cup and doll parts. The porcelain tea cup indicates the presence of a child, reinforcing the household aspect of the assemblage. Two modern plastic combs were also found in this context, one of them used for decoration, as shown by the molding detail and decoration. Bones, including burnt bone, teeth, and various non-cranial bones were found.

There was an interesting redware pipe bowl found. The design is identified as Turk's Head and is attributed to William Hensell of Norwich, England. His pipes specifically date from 1825-1853, but they have been copied extensively. The Henderson Company in Montreal manufactured a form of Turk's head between 1847 and 1876. Forms of this design are also found in Scotland. In the Morlaggan site, a pipe with a similar curved mustache and headgear was found. These pipes are found throughout Western Europe (Morlaggan: Clay Tobacco Pipes, Dennis Gallagher). This is a popular design found in Western Europe and over the United States. It is a popular design not unusual for a working class member from Europe to have.

In short, there is a mix of modern and nineteenth-century material. This indicates that the assemblage has been disturbed since the initial deposit. The analysis of the ceramics, glass, and miscellaneous artifacts and each context support this as they are cover a wide range of material. The diagnostic material relating to the historic period of the Irish Shrine rowhomes are typical of that owned by laboring classes throughout the nineteenth century. The ceramic vessels for example date from the mid-nineteenth century and are considered common and inexpensive.

The fieldwork undertaken demonstrates the limited archaeological potential and integrity of the rear lots of the Irish Shrine rowhomes, Based on the findings, it is with a degree of certainty that the remaining historic lots do contain a small amount of diagnostic and historically significant archaeological remains. Therefore, more excavations should be conducted.

The analysis of the artifacts is tentative at this time. Regardless, the objects recovered range from items of everyday life such as teacups, plates, and liquor bottles, to modern intrusions such as late 20th century car and stroller parts. The date range for the collection ranges in date from the early nineteenth-century to the present. Although not all objects recovered have the same historical importance, most artifacts do provide various glimpses into the lives of residents.

This report represents a work in progress and serves at this time to bring together the historical and in-field archaeological data to form the overall context with which to begin the construction of the life history of those living in the rowhomes and their role in the social and economic development of Baltimore.

This report describes a portion of the multi-year research program. The aim is to create a comprehensive database that will allow a glimpse into the daily lives of an Irish laboring community. The on-going investigation will continue to trace and interpret the changing relationships between Irish immigrants, subsequent generations of Irish-Americans, and mainstream American-born communities in Baltimore. What makes the Irish Shrine site somewhat rare in the study of Irish America is that the community remains predominantly Irish throughout the nineteenth century. There is a relatively low level of transiency in the community and the first and second generation American-born sons and daughters do not leave when they reach adulthood. This differs from industrial towns in New England for example where there is a high level of movement. That is not to say that people did not move off of Lemmon Street, but those that did were part of the minority of the population. In terms of archaeology, this offers a rather unique opportunity to trace each family's material life over successive generations.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95003503, 18BC174 SF