



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BC175

Site Name: 914 Lemmon Street

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Mid 19th-20th century rowhouse and yard

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code 31UB

Latitude 39.2893

Longitude -76.6266

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

Spring

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 1513 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

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

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

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

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	0	Popes Creek	0	Shepard	0	Keyser	0
Dames Qtr	0	Coulbourn	0	Townsend	0	Yeocomico	0
Selden Island	0	Watson	0	Minguannan	0	Monongahela	0
Accokeek	0	Mockley	0	Sullivan Cove	0	Susquehannock	0
Wolfe Neck	0	Clemson Island	0	Shenks Ferry	0		
Vinette	0	Page	0	Moyaone	0		
				Potomac Crk	0		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	0	Jackfield	1	Tin Glazed	0	English Brown	0
Borderware	0	Mn Mottled	0	Whiteware	160	Eng Dry-bodied	0
Buckley	0	North Devon	0	Porcelain	34	Nottingham	0
Creamware	0	Pearlware	31			Rhenish	0
						Wt Salt-glazed	0

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

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

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	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		Tobacco related		1	
Pottery (all)	262	Activity item(s)	31		
Glass (all)	1021	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Architectural	574	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Furniture	5	Misc. kitchen	23		
Arms	0	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Clothing	22	Misc.	66		
Personal items	0	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 checked="" 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 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: 0 +/- 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 University of Maryland

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18BC175, also known as 914 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.

In 1880, the house on 914 Lemmon St. was home to the Smith family from Maryland, consisting of Henry (41), Mary (32), and their children Henry (9), George (5), and Annie (2). Henry was a picture frame maker while Mary kept the house. Their son, Henry, was disabled or maimed in an unlisted way. In the 1900 census, the Smith family had moved to the East side of Monroe St. in the 20th ward. Henry was still a picture frame maker and George had become a painter. Annie and Henry were no longer living with their parents, but John and Sophia had another daughter named Nettie who was 17 years old at the time.

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 found 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



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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 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 unidentified 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, 18BC175