



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18BC30

Site Name: Gallagher Mansion

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

mid-19th century stone mansion with later 19th century rear addition, and wooden carriage house

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.3462

Longitude -76.6133

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 6 m

Site slope 0-8%

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) Chinquapin Run

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 305 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

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

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

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? 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

mansion

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	223	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	89	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	42	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	1			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

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	416	Activity item(s)	224
Glass (all)	3641	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	2577	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	1	Misc. kitchen	712
Arms	8	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	19	Misc.	436
Personal items	11	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 type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<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: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 8: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 9: +/- years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Gallagher Mansion site (18BC30) consists of the archeological deposits associated with a standing mid-19th century stone mansion with later 19th century rear addition and wooden carriage house located in the Govans area of Baltimore City. The site is situated near the intersection of Notre Dame Lane and York Road in the northern part of the city. Soils mapped for the area include Mattapex silt loams and "Urban Land", meaning that 80% of the urban land surface area is covered either by buildings or by impervious surfaces such as asphalt or concrete. This reflects the heavily urbanized nature of most of the surrounding landscape.

The existing mansion at 18BC30 is a large house which was originally built as an Italianate villa and was subsequently enlarged and embellished in the Second Empire style of the late 19th century. The property where the site is situated has been impacted to some extent by several post-1920 disturbances which have altered the landscape on the property. In particular, dumping and grading in the early 1970s and again in the mid-1980s has altered the landscape extensively.

The history of the Gallagher Mansion site (18BC30) begins with the initial settlement of the Govans area of Baltimore. The land on which the house now sits was part of the land holdings of the Principio Company, an English iron ore mining concern. Their holdings were forfeited in 1780 when the Maryland Commissioners for the Preservation and Sale of Confiscated British Property seized control of all such lands. The Commission deeded 89.5 acres to David Harris in 1785, including the land on which the mansion now sits. There is no evidence that any structures were built on or near the parcel during the tenure of David Harris.

In 1787, Harris sold the property to Robert Gilmor, David Stewart, and Archibald Moncrieff, listed as Baltimore merchants, who in turn sold the land in 1793 to James Bryan, listed in the deed as a county farmer. Although there is no mention of any structures, the 1798 Federal Assessment Records lists Bryan's assets in the General List of Dwellings, Etc. as being one dwelling house and three outhouses. However, it is not possible to speculate on whether or not any of these structures actually occupied the site area as the property conveyed consisted of the full 89.5 acre plot originally deeded to Harris.

In 1809 James Bryan conveyed (deed gift) the 89.5 acre parcel to his son Charles Bryan. The 1804 List of Real and Personal Property in Patapsco Lower Hundred listed Bryan as owning at least 8 parcels of land, one of which was called Bryan's Meadows consisting of 70 acres. It is likely that it was on this parcel that James Bryan lived, as upon his death in 1837, Charles willed a portion of his property (50 acres of land on Bryan's Meadows) to his wife Harriet Bryan "exclusive of her dower" being a part of the plantation upon which he then resided. To his daughter Mary, he gave a portion of the land out of the same piece of property (consisting of 50 acres) and to his daughter Jane he willed an additional 50 acres of land out of this same parcel. It was Mary who inherited the Gallagher Mansion parcel. She reportedly lived on the north side of Notre Dame Lane (opposite the site), which was at that time known as Church Lane.

Based on the above information, it is not possible to speculate on the possibility that a dwelling was built by this time on Mary's parcel. In 1848, Mary Linthicum rented the parcel to Dr. Benjamin Woods and according to historic accounts, the existing mansion was built during his tenure. The date of the construction of the house is surmised on the evidence of contemporary maps as well as some decorative wood trim inside the house. An 1854 map of Baltimore and the surrounding area shows no structure at the site. However, by 1857, another map depicts a house standing on the parcel and labeled as belonging to Dr. Woods.

Dr. Benjamin Woods was born in Howard County and received his medical training at the University of Maryland. He entered the Army in 1838 as an assistant surgeon and was attached to the command of Colonel (later General and President) Zachary Taylor. He left the Army in 1842 and settled permanently in the Govans area where he was only one of three physicians practicing in the area.

Woods eventually bought the property in May of 1866, but sold it several months later to Rachel Vaughn. It is not certain if Woods continued to live in the mansion, but he reportedly kept a small parcel of land on which two small houses stood at the corner of the estate along York Road. He most likely lived in one of these smaller houses.

In 1873 Rachel Vaughn sold her portion of the land to Patrick Gallagher. An 1877 Atlas of Baltimore City and County shows a smaller corner lot along York road as belonging to Dr. Woods. The remainder of the parcel, including the mansion, is listed as belonging to Patrick Gallagher. In any case, by 1873, Patrick Gallagher was living in the mansion. It is likely that he was responsible for enlarging the structure. Unlike Dr. Woods, who was a bachelor, Gallagher had a large family. Patrick Gallagher operated a grocery store in the Govans area before moving into the mansion, and, according to family papers and store receipts, he supplied great quantities of meat and liquor to the public. In the 1873 Baltimore Directory, he was listed as a salesman.

In the 1876 Tax Ledger, Patrick Gallagher was listed as owning a plot of ground adjoining Dr. B. Woods. Improvements consisted of a stone dwelling, a stone and frame stable, and a stone dairy. Buildings associated with the Gallagher Mansion in the early part of the 20th century are shown on the 1911 Sanborn Insurance Map. Two small additions, possible kitchens, are shown attached to the west side of the mansion. A 1915 Atlas of Baltimore County showed the mansion (with its addition) as well as the location of several buildings along the perimeter of the property. In the 1918 Tax Ledger, Patrick Gallagher was listed as owning a 3.5 acre lot on the southwest corner of Notre Dame Lane and York Road in Govans. On the lot was a 2 1/2 storey house, a stable, a stone house, a wash house, and a store house.

The house remained in the Gallagher family until Patrick Gallagher's granddaughters, Martha and Antonette Bokel, the last occupants, vacated the house and sold the property to an adjacent Ford auto dealership. The mansion still stands, but the outbuildings comprising the complex have been razed or deteriorated away. A carriage house stood until the early 1980s, when it too was razed.

Informant interviews have provided detailed and significant information relative to land use patterns and other disturbances within the parcel from the mid-20th century to modern times. George Klopfer, a tenant who occupied a cottage near the mansion on the property in the early 1970s, recalled that numerous physical changes took place at the site during the time that he lived on the property. He stated that the parcel and property surrounding the mansion contained, in addition to the small cottage he occupied, a tavern and carriage house. He recalled that when the aforementioned Ford dealership acquired the property and an adjacent lot, the owners graded the lot surrounding the mansion to clear the parcel for additional parking. He stated that he eventually moved into the mansion and afterwards, the cottage was razed. As the auto business grew, he remembers that dumping and grading took place on a regular basis around the mansion. In particular, the site was used for dumping because of its unobtrusive setting. Dumped materials included large piles of trash, building



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debris, automobile bodies, chunks of asphalt, concrete blocks, brick fragments, roofing shingles, air conditioner compressors, wood pieces, metal fragments, and plastic items and pieces. Local residents have also used the area as a convenient spot for dumping garbage.

The Gallagher Mansion site (18BC30) was recorded as an archeological site in 1980 when the Maryland Geological Survey – Division of Archeology, planned to conduct archeological testing in the rear of the mansion believed to be a kitchen and garden area which were reportedly used for dumping trash. The excavations were conducted in preparation for the Mansion's planned rehabilitation. News reports from the time indicate that there was no clear plan for the surrounding property, but proposals for development were being discussed ranging from parking lots to office spaces.

Using teenage Summer Corps employees and volunteers from the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM), test excavations were carried out in July and August of 1981. No final report of this fieldwork was ever completed. Five 1.524 X 1.524 m (5 X 5 ft) test units were excavated in the rear of the mansion, where the Sanborn maps had shown potential kitchen additions. Three of the test units were placed contiguously and two of the units were excavated 1.524 m to the west and south of the other units. In all cases, the test units (excavated in natural layers) revealed disturbed topsoil containing artifacts which were temporally mixed.

In one of the contiguous units, bricks were found lying in a pattern. These were tentatively interpreted as part of a brick walkway. However, according to the field notes, it was also postulated that the bricks may have been part of a fallen wall. No intact features that could be associated with the mansion or the remains of associated structures were positively identified during the 1981 project. Again, artifacts appeared to be chronologically mixed in all levels of the units. The disturbed nature of the deposits appears to have led to the early closure of most of the excavation units. The rear portion of the site where the test units were situated was determined to have little to no archeological potential, but researchers noted that intact soils could be preserved elsewhere at 18BC30.

The artifact assemblage from the 1981 excavations included 224 activity items, 2,565 architectural artifacts, 19 clothing items (13 buttons, 1 snap, a belt buckle, and 4 hat pins), 1 furniture object (a tack), 3,084 kitchen-related artifacts, 11 personal objects, 2 tobacco pipe fragments, 8 arms objects (6 cartridges, 1 metal ball, and a .32 caliber revolver), and 429 miscellaneous items. The activity items were a clay ball, 121 lamp glass fragments, a light bulb part, 10 non-electrical wire fragments, 8 metal springs, 3 metal rings, a metal chain link, a water hose fragment, a piece of metal tubing, 4 bolts, a whetstone, 3 tools, 2 miscellaneous hardware items, a horseshoe fragment, and 66 flowerpot fragments. The architectural artifacts were 176 bricks, 2 pieces of cement, 33 roofing shingles, 115 pieces of roofing slate, a piece of aluminum roofing, 13 plaster fragments, 1,659 window glass fragments, 4 drain tiles, a ceramic door knob, a water tap handle, 551 nails (267 cut, 89 wire, 195 unidentified), 6 screws, a wrought spike, a hinge, and an electrical wire. The kitchen assemblage consisted of 414 ceramic sherds (1 pearlware, 42 porcelain, 1 annularware, 222 ironstone, 89 whiteware, 25 yellowware, 8 redware, 1 coarse earthenware, and 25 miscellaneous stoneware), 1,944 container glass fragments, 19 table glass fragments, a sardine can lid, a foil milk bottle cap, 4 aluminum foil fragments, 700 faunal objects (535 animal bones, 163 oyster shell fragments, 2 clam shells), and a walnut shell. The miscellaneous objects were 95 unidentified metal objects, 4 unidentified pieces of glass, 5 car battery parts, 5 pieces of plastic, 24 rubber fragments, 174 pieces of coal, and 122 unidentified objects.

Additional archeology was conducted at the site in February of 1993 when a Phase I intensive survey was conducted on the .89 acre parcel of land adjacent to the Gallagher Mansion prior to construction and rehabilitation activities. The work was being conducted because of the proposed rehabilitation of the vacant mansion and construction of a new addition adjoining it. The new complex would supply one-bedroom housing units of supportive housing for the elderly. The proposed housing project was receiving federal assistance from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and was, thus, subject to Section 106 compliance.

The Phase I fieldwork commenced by first excavating a series of shovel test pits (STPs) placed on a 15 foot (4.57 m) grid pattern to determine the integrity of the proposed project area and to ascertain artifact distributions and densities. The STPs were excavated in the area where the proposed addition would be constructed (along the western elevation of the existing structure). Based on the size of the addition, 45 shovel tests were excavated within the site area. STPs measured 45.72 cm (18 in) in diameter and extended to at least 15 cm into the B horizon soils. All soil was sifted through hardware cloth. The shovel testing grid was terminated when no more artifacts were found in any of the STPs excavated around the perimeter of the proposed addition.

Of the 45 STPs excavated, 16 contained cultural material. None of the artifacts recovered from the site were difficult to temporally pinpoint and they consisted of clearly-defined modern remains. Virtually all of the artifacts found at the site consisted of late 19th century and early to mid 20th century ceramics, bottle glass, metal and nails, and brick fragments.

The full assemblage from 1993 consisted of 12 architectural artifacts (2 bricks, 2 roofing shingles, 4 window glass fragments, 2 drain tiles, 1 cut nail and 1 wire nail), 18 kitchen-related artifacts (1 ironstone, 1 redware, 11 container glass fragments, a Styrofoam cup fragment, a twist cap, a piece of aluminum foil, a plastic bread wrapper fragment, and a piece of oyster shell), and 7 miscellaneous objects (2 unidentified glass fragments, 3 pieces of coal, and 2 cinders).

Based on the findings of both the 1981 study and the 1993 Phase I, the western yard areas of the Gallagher Mansion do not appear to have any cultural significance. All soils appear to be disturbed and have been the site of significant dumping activities. No further work is recommended in these areas. However, other sections of the property at 18BC30 have not been systematically examined and may contain intact archeological deposits and should be avoided.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005666