



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CA233

Site Name: Bridgetown TRC-2

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early, Middle, & Late Archaic, Early Woodland, and Late Woodland camps; 19th century artifact scatter

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 4

SCS soil & sediment code SmB,SnB,SnB2

Latitude 39.0612

Longitude -75.8580

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 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) Mason Branch

- | Saltwater                                |  | Freshwater                                       |                                |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/>           | Estuary/tidal river <input type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tidewater/marsh <input type="checkbox"/> | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/>        | Spring <input type="checkbox"/>                  |                                |
| Minimum distance to water is 75 m        |  |  |                                |

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other

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? Rural
  - 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 N

Flotation samples taken N 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="checkbox"/> | Koens-Crispin    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hardaway-Dalton        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Perkiomen        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Palmer                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Susquehana       | 1                        |
| Kirk (notch)           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vernon           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kirk (stem)            | 2                        | Piscataway       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Le Croy                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Calvert          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Morrow Mntn            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Selby Bay        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guilford               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jacks Rf (notch) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Brewerton              | 1                        | Jacks Rf (pent)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Otter Creek            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Madison/Potomac  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                        |                          | Levanna          | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Prehistoric Sherd Types

|               |                          |                |                          |               |                          |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Marcey Creek  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Popes Creek    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Shepard       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Keyser        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dames Qtr     | 1                        | Coulbourn      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Townsend      | 4                        | 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    | 3                        | 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 |                          | Staffordshire |                          | Stoneware      |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Astbury     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jackfield   | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tin Glazed    | <input type="checkbox"/> | English Brown  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Borderware  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mn Mottled  | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Whiteware     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eng Dry-bodied | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Buckley     | <input type="checkbox"/> | North Devon | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Porcelain     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nottingham     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Creamware   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pearlware   | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rhenish        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|             |                          |             |                          |           |                          |               |                          | Wt Salt-glazed | <input type="checkbox"/> |

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

| Prehistoric Artifacts |                          |                  |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Flaked stone          | 903                      | Other fired clay | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ground stone          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human remain(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Stone bowls           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Modified faunal  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fire-cracked rock     | 25                       | Unmod faunal     | 1                        |
| Other lithics (all)   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Oyster shell     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ceramics (all)        | 119                      | Floral material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rimsherds             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Uncommon Obj.    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                       |                          | Other            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Prehistoric Features

|                   |                          |                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Mound(s)          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Storage/trash pit | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Midden            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Burial(s)         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shell midden      | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fer quartzite | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sil sandstone  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Chert     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Chalcedony    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | European flint | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rhyolite  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ironstone     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basalt         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quartz    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Argilite      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Unknown        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quartzite | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Steatite      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|           |                                     | Sandstone     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                |                          |

Dated features present at site

Buried Late Woodland A horizon

| Historic Artifacts |                          |                  |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Pottery (all)      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tobacco related  | 1                        |
| Glass (all)        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Activity item(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human remain(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Furniture          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Faunal material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arms               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc. kitchen    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clothing           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Floral material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal items     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc.            | 14                       |
|                    |                          | Other            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Historic Features

|                    |                          |                  |                          |                  |                          |         |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Const feature      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Privy/outhouse   | <input 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 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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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Early, Middle, & Late Archaic, Early Woodland, and Late Woodland camps; 19th century artifact scatter

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Bridgetown TRC-2 (18CA233) is a multicomponent short-term use camp and likely Early Woodland base camp (with a small early 19th century artifact scatter geographically associated) near Bridgetown in northwestern Caroline County. The site is situated on a series of knolls and benches overlooking the Mason Branch floodplain. The local topography is characterized by relatively level landforms with gentle changes in elevation on terraces and remnant dunes in swamps, marshes, and basin-like depressions. Local wildlife includes songbirds, red fox, white-tailed deer, woodchuck, raccoon, gray squirrel, eastern chipmunk, Virginia opossum, and black rat snake in the uplands. Wildlife in wetland habitats include great blue heron, mallard, wood duck, red-winged black bird, various migratory waterfowl, muskrat, bullfrog, common musk turtle, northern water snake, white and yellow perch, herring, alewife, largemouth bass, chain pickerel, and blue spotted sunfish. Soils at the site fall principally within the Sassafras and Pocomoke series.

The site was first identified in March of 2009, during the course of a Phase I survey. The survey was carried out within what was then a proposed 95.35 acre sand and gravel mine expansion parcel. The CRM work was requested as part of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) surface mining permit review process to ensure protection of significant cultural resources.

The Phase I survey consisted of the systematic excavation of shovel test pits (STPs) at 20 and 25 m intervals within the impact areas for the expanded sand and gravel operation. In total, 712 STPs were excavated in the project area, resulting in the identification of 4 archeological sites (18CA232-18CA235) and the recovery of a total of 327 artifacts.

Site 18CA233 was identified over a 240 X 200 m (9.5 acre) area where 59 positive shovel tests produced 149 prehistoric artifacts. A small number of historic artifacts were also recovered, including pearlware sherds, olive and brown bottle glass, brick fragments, and 1 kaolin pipe bowl fragment. All artifacts were recovered from the Ao organic horizon and Stratum II (subplowzone) to a maximum depth of 80 cm below ground surface. No subsurface features were observed.

Based on these findings, Phase II testing was recommended, which was carried out in May and June of 2009. Phase II work entailed the hand excavation of close interval shovel tests and 1 X 1 m test units in order to obtain sufficient samples of lithic debitage, tools, and ceramics for artifact pattern analysis, as well as to determine if artifact bearing soils were stratified and if features were potentially present.

Prior to the initiation of Phase II work, artifact distribution maps from the previous Phase I survey were generated and examined. Systematically placed STPs were then excavated in selected areas of the site to guide the placement of the 1 X 1 m test units. In total, 13 test units and 55 shovel tests were excavated at Site 18CA233.

Shovel tests measured 40 cm in diameter and were placed along the same 20 m grid used during the Phase I survey, but at closer intervals. Shovel tests were excavated by natural or cultural horizons until sterile soils were reached. Soils were screened through hardware cloth, and profiles were described and standardized forms using standard methods and nomenclature. Test units were hand-excavated in arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural stratigraphy until sterile subsoil was reached. All soils from the test units were screened through hardware cloth and all artifacts, including fire-cracked rock, were retained for analysis. A series of two-liter soil samples were also recovered from selected deposits for fine-screening and flotation. Upon completion of test unit excavation, two soil profiles from each test unit wall were drawn and photographed before backfilling.

Excavations at 18CA233 in 2009 revealed long-term and repeated use of the area by various human groups during the Early to Late Woodland periods. The presence of pottery and fire-cracked rock, in particular, is indicative of sedentary occupations. It is extremely likely that the occupations at Site 18CA233 are contemporaneous and closely related to those at nearby Site 18CA232 (see synopsis report). Indeed, both sites are only separated from one another by a small swale. The sites may also be related to a whole complex of sites reported by others of sites along and in the vicinity of Mason Branch.

Three distinct loci of higher artifact concentration were identified: one identified in the northwest corner of the site on a low-lying landform spur overlooking an ephemeral stream to the north that divides 18CA233 from 18CA232 (Locus 3), on a bench to the south (Locus 4), and on the high point of the site, a ridge on the southwest edge of the site (Locus 5).

Diagnostic material in Locus 3 suggests two distinct occupations. A Late Archaic to Early Woodland component is indicated by the presence of a stemmed fishtail projectile point, a stemmed Brewerton projectile point, a side-notched Susquehanna Broadspire, and 16 crushed rock-tempered ceramics. A Late Woodland component is indicated by the abundance of shell and leached shell ceramics, including Rappahannock and Townsend types recovered from the buried A horizon. High frequencies of artifacts suggest either intensive use of the site by singular groups, or repeated occupations.

Stratigraphic integrity of the deposit in Locus 4 appears intact. Of the 147 artifacts recovered there, 69 (74%) were recovered from the subplowzone horizon, although no diagnostic artifacts were recovered from this horizon in this sample.

Diagnostic material in Locus 5 suggests an intact Early Archaic component, as indicated from the recoveries of two Kirk-like projectile points from stratified deposits. Associated with these points, was a cache of one large heat-treated jasper biface and two large jasper flake blanks. Other point styles recovered from Locus 5 include a Teardrop (possible Adena), Poplar Island projectile point, a side-notched Meadowood-like point, and a stemmed Bare Island point fragment, all indicative of a Late Archaic to Early Woodland transitional stage. A high frequency of lithics at this locus is strongly indicative of a focused lithic reduction workshop.

Combined, the Phase I and II testing produced 1,063 artifacts at 18CA233. The prehistoric assemblage included 928 lithics, 119 ceramic sherds, and 1 bone fragment. Fifteen historic artifacts were also recovered (these are cataloged as miscellaneous objects with the exception a tobacco pipe fragment). The lithic assemblage consisted of 13 projectile points, 26 non-diagnostic tools (scrapers, utilized/retouched flakes, bifaces, and flake blanks), 2 cores, 844 pieces of debitage (flakes and shatter), 18 worked cobbles, and 25 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Diagnostic projectile points include a possible Adena point, 2 Kirk stemmed points, a Brewerton point, a stemmed fishtail, a Poplar Island/Rossville point, a side-notched Meadowood-like point, and a Susquehanna Broadspire. Lithic material is dominated by local jasper and quartz, although raw materials such as chert, rhyolite, ironstone, and greenstone, in addition to non-local jasper are also present in the assemblage. Such material may have been quarried elsewhere and transported directly to or traded into the area.



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Prehistoric 

Other name(s)

Historic **Brief  
Description:**

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Unknown 

Identifiable prehistoric ceramics included 1 possible Dames Quarter sherd, 3 Wolfe Neck sherds, 1 Townsend incised sherd, and 3 Rappahannock fabric impressed sherds

The Early Archaic component at 18CA233 is located on a prominent knoll overlooking Mason Branch, and the surrounding landscape, and is currently dated by the presence of projectile point styles from that period and the absence of Woodland ceramics in those deposits. Nearer to Mason Branch, a buried A horizon containing uniquely Late Woodland period ceramics was also identified in two test units.

The presence of different types of pottery from both the Early and Late Woodland periods and fire-cracked rock is indicative of sedentary occupations. Diagnostic ceramic types included Early Woodland Wolfe Neck and Dames Quarter wares, and Late Woodland Rappahannock and Townsend wares. The former include crushed rock and quartz temper, while the latter were manufactured using shell temper. Decorations are present on both the Early and late Woodland specimens and partial vessel forms from the Phase II sample can be reconstructed from mending sherds. The presence of fire-cracked rock in site deposits is indicative of fires made by site occupants for food preparation, warmth and/or other purposes. Although few faunal elements were recovered from site deposits during the Phase II investigation, the presence of faunal and floral remains may be present in yet undiscovered features.

Phase II investigations have shown that Site 18CA233 has yielded, and will undoubtedly continue to yield information important to our understanding of the prehistoric period of Maryland's Eastern Shore Coastal Plain and Chesapeake Bay region. Avoidance or mitigation of impacts to the site were recommended for the gravel mining expansion project. In November of 2009, revised site plans for the expanded mine were provided to MHT and illustrated the level and extent of impact to the archeological sites in the project vicinity. The revised site plans illustrated that the site would be protected by a 50-foot buffer and, consequently, would not be impacted by the expanded mine. Thus, the site should still retain significant research potential.

**External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):**

95001305