



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CA54

Site Name: Martinak Boat

Prehistoric

Other name(s) MIHP # CAR-254

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

shipwreck - wooden vessel

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 4

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.8587

Longitude -75.8419

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope

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
- Submerged

### Ownership

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

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Watts Creek

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 0 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

P

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

P

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820

P

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? 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

shipwreck

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

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
<b>Earthenware</b>		Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<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		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"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Dated features present at site

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

Historic Features		Privy/outhouse		Depression/mound		Unknown	
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>						

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 2:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 3:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 4:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 5:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 6:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 7:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 8:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 9:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at Martinak State Park

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Martinak Boat site (18CA54) consists of the remains of an 18th or 19th century vessel. The boat was discovered near the mouth of Watts Creek in Caroline County. The creek's marshy-sided channel feeds into the Choptank River. Today, the creek is silted in and no longer navigable for even small boats. According to local lore, the creek once provided refuge for Captain Kidd, whose buried treasure has been sought in its banks. The extant wreck remains measure 17 m 34 cm from stern post to stem post, an estimated maximum beam amidships of 6 m 62 cm, an estimated depth of hold amidships of 1 m 45 cm, and a length to beam ratio of 2.6:1.

The Martinak boat was encountered during activities related to the construction of a boat ramp and bulwark wall within the Martinak State Park property (designated a state park in 1964). The boat's stern was pulled out of the Watts Creek mud in 1964, and in January 1969 the longer forward portion of the wreck was recovered. When originally discovered, the wreck was heeled over to port as indicated by the amount of deterioration on the starboard frame ends relative to the port frame ends. The vessel was placed under a shelter for exhibition at the park for several years. The vessel site was visited in 1974. At that time it was determined that besides some minor wood warping, the vessel was in fairly good shape. Wood samples were collected for species determination and radiocarbon dating in 1988. The wood was found to be White Oak (*Quercus alba*); no record of the C14 dating has been found. In 1990, staff from the Maryland Maritime Archeology Program (MMAP) and volunteers from the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) completed 1:10 scale drawings of the keel and 1:1 scale drawings of the frames, keelson, and planks. A detailed report of the extant boat components can be found in the original report (2005). In 1991, staff from MMAP and volunteers from the CBMM reconstructed the boat. In 2001, the wreck remains were moved to a newly constructed dedicated pavilion at Martinak State Park.

Early interpretations of the wreck timbers claimed it was an example of a pungy, which was a type of boat generally accepted to have been built ca. 1840-1920, perhaps as early as 1820. However, the closer and more detailed evaluation of the boat conducted in the 1990s suggested that the boat was built earlier than 1820 and possibly represented a link between the late 18th century shipbuilding tradition and the 19th century pungy. Characteristics of the bow and stern do not accurately represent those of the pungy vessel (the remains display less acute angles). The profile amidships of the wreck and the long rake of the stem post, are more reminiscent of a late 18th century sloop or schooner. Mast locations analogous to the Martinak boat (one in the stern and probably one in the forward area) can be found in many archeological examples of both 18th and 19th century vessel remains. No circular saw tool marks were identifiable on the timbers of the Martinak boat. This indicated a possible pre-1813 construction date. Furthermore, copper alloy spikes were used to fasten the planking on the vessel. This is a technique that has been identified archeologically to span a period of about 55 years in the 18th and 19th centuries, with a median date range in the late 1780s. The first recorded use of copper alloy spikes was in 1798 during construction of the Constitution. Likewise, archeologically excavated examples of vessels with copper alloy fishplates like those identified on the Martinak vessel date from the ca. 1759 to 1814. The presence of "royal" iron scarfing (patch repair), which was produced in Britain ca. 1820, and the thickness of the outer planking (1.5") commonly used by English builders, both suggested the possibility that the ship was repaired in a British port and that the boat had a British affiliation rather than a vernacular one. However, the lack of associated artifacts makes it difficult to definitively assign a date of construction for the vessel.

The Martinak Boat site (18CA54) consists of the remains of late 18th or early 19th century vessel. Given the mean dates for form (1794), construction features (1813), tool marks (pre-1813), and fasteners (1800), it is possible that the Martinak boat's date range for use and/or construction was between 1794 and 1813. The latter date may be extended to 1814 or 1815 due to the span between the invention and local use of the circular saw. It is possible that major aspects of 18th century shipbuilding and the birth of the pungy are overlapped within the Martinak boat design. Therefore, the wreck provides an opportunity to study how and why craft evolved from the colonial antecedent to its 19th century counterpart. The vessel is currently on display at Martinak State Park, near the Nature Exhibit.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95000615