



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CE256

Site Name: Perry Point I-5

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland base camp, 18th century mill complex

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.5523 Longitude -76.0562
Elevation -6 m Site slope

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 6

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater 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 High terrace
Hilltop/bluff Rockshelter/cave
Interior flat Hillslope
Upland flat Unknown
Ridgetop Other
Terrace
Low terrace

Ownership

Private
Federal
State of MD
Regional/county/city
Unknown

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Mill Creek

Saltwater **Freshwater**
Ocean Stream/river
Estuary/tidal river Swamp
Tidewater/marsh Lake or pond
Spring
Minimum distance to water is 20 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
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? 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
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			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Levanna	5

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	37	Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	98	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	33	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	23		
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				Potomac Crk	10		

Historic Sherd Types

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	1150	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	1	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	2
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	2
Other lithics (all)	4	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	242	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	7	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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	31	Tobacco related	7
Glass (all)	3	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	18	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	6
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	6
		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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	mill pond	<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 checked="" 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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Brief

Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland base camp, 18th century mill complex

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Perry Point I-5 Site (18CE256) is comprised of Late Archaic to Late Woodland period base camps/resource procurement camps and an 18th century mill complex. The site is located in the northwestern portion of the Veterans Administration Medical Center at Perry Point in Cecil County. It is situated on the third terrace above Mill Creek. There are several small springs in a nearby drainage. The site's east, west and south sides are bounded by the terrace edge, but the northern boundary of the site remains undetermined (due to property access). A millrace 3-4 m wide x 1-1.5 m deep bisects the terrace and extends at least 200 m from the upstream mill site. A small holding pond for the mill race was excavated into the terrace surface near the end of the mill race. Soils in the area are predominately of Beltsville silt loam and the Lenape-Nanticoke complex. Soil profiles indicate that the site has never been plowed.

Phase I and Phase II archeological testing was conducted on the 478 acre property of the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC), which is located on the Perry Point Peninsula. The VAMC property includes developed and undeveloped areas, a historic district, and 104.5 wooded acres excessed to the General Services Administration (GSA). The project was undertaken to assist in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800. Specifically, the Act requires that each federal agency establish a program to locate, inventory, and nominate to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) all properties under its ownership or control. Additionally, Section 110 requires that the significant values of cultural resources be preserved or enhanced when they are transferred. This applies to the land excessed to the GSA who was going to deed the 104.5 acre parcel to the town of Perryville for recreational use. The goals identified for the Phase I/II project were to locate and identify all cultural resources within the project area and to determine their eligibility for the NRHP, to assess the probable effects of any future undertakings at the VAMC or the excessed property on those resources, and to prepare plans and their estimated cost to mitigate those effects likely to be adverse. Prehistoric research themes that guided the archeological investigations included settlement patterns, trade networks, and resource exploitation. Historic research focused on structure locations, the exploitation of bay versus interior resources, and yard activity areas.

In the spring of 1987, the Phase I archeological survey identified 17 sites, 10 isolated prehistoric artifact locations, 12 isolated historic artifact locations, and 2 isolated prehistoric/historic artifact locations within the project area. Field investigations included a pedestrian survey of exposed shoreline and banks and shovel test pit (STP) excavations. No testing was undertaken in areas too disturbed by development to contain intact sites or too swampy to contain evidence of previous occupation. Intensive survey units were defined as those with a high probability of containing archeological remains. Those areas were shovel tested at 30 m intervals along transects set 30 m apart. Light survey units, those with a moderate to low probability of containing archeological remains, were shovel tested at 60 m intervals. Shovel tests around the grounds of the manor house were placed at 15 m intervals along parallel transects placed 30 m apart. Radial STPs were excavated at 7.5, 15, or 30 m intervals depending on the intensity designated for a particular unit (eg. intensive survey or light survey area). Based on the Phase I fieldwork, 9 sites were recommended for further Phase II work.

In the summer and fall of 1987, Phase II archeological testing was undertaken. Phase II testing consisted of additional STPs excavated at 10 m intervals along transects placed 10 m apart, and the excavation of 1 m² test units, although larger test units were dug when conditions warranted. A grid was established over the sites that were identified for further investigation as a result of the Phase I testing. All excavated soils were screened through ¼" mesh and all pre-20th century materials were retained. Flotation samples (1 liter) were collected per level from one test unit at each site. In addition to fieldwork, archival research was also conducted as part of the Phase II investigations.

Site 18CE256 was investigated through the excavation of 9 STPs during Phase I and 60 STPs and 9 test units during Phase II. The area investigated during the Phase II testing measured about 100 m east-west by 60 m north-south. Soil profiles indicated that the cultural materials were recovered from undisturbed contexts. Artifacts were collected from all levels to a depth of 35-45 cm below ground surface. No features related to the prehistoric component at the site were identified. Examination of the distribution of prehistoric items suggested that the earlier occupations were concentrated on the southwestern edge of the terrace and that the later occupations were situated on the entire terrace south of the mill race and extending into the northeast corner of the site. The historic features identified during the testing included the mill race and mill pond.

In all, 1,687 prehistoric artifacts were reported in the artifact inventory in Appendix 2 in the site report. There were 1,401 pieces of debitage (1,210 quartz, 16 rhyolite, 44 Cecil County chert and 50 other chert, 63 quartzite, 4 sandstone, 2 chalcedony, 12 unidentified materials), and 5 cores (3 quartz, 2 quartzite). There were 31 chipped stone tools: 12 bifaces (11 quartz, 1 quartzite), 3 quartz preforms, 1 quartz utilized flake, 3 scrapers (1 chert, 1 quartz, 1 quartzite), 5 unidentified point fragments, 1 chert Late Archaic Orient Fishtail point, 1 chert Late Archaic Bare Island point, and 5 Late Woodland Levanna points (1 quartz, 1 quartzite, 2 chert). A Susquehanna Broadspear was mentioned in the body of the report but was not listed in the Artifact Inventory and is therefore not included in the total above. The single groundstone object was a ¾ grooved sandstone ax and there were 4 other lithic items (2 flaked cobbles and 1 grinding stone with peck marks). In addition, 2 unmodified animal bone fragments and 2 modified, burnt bones were collected. The four bone fragments were associated with units that contained only prehistoric artifacts. Lithic procurement and reduction strategies, particularly with reference to the use of quartz and quartzite, were a suggested activity at the site. In addition, tool production and maintenance was thought to be reflected in the debitage associated with non-locals materials such as rhyolite, chert, and chalcedony.

A total of 242 prehistoric ceramic sherds, including 7 rim sherds, were recovered including 33 Middle Woodland Mockley sherds and 8 other sherds identified as Middle Woodland cord-marked ceramics, and 23 Shenks Ferry, 98 Minguannan, 37 Townsend, and 10 Potomac Creek Late Woodland sherds, and 33 unidentified ceramic sherds some of which were thought to be unnamed Wolfe Neck-like types. The Mockley, cord-marked, and Wolfe Neck-like sherds were concentrated in the southern and western portions of the terrace. The Shenks Ferry and Potomac Creek sherds also appeared to have a limited distribution similar to the Middle Woodland types. The distribution of the Minguannan and Townsend indicated a relatively even scatter across the entire terrace.

A total of 70 historic artifacts dating to the mid-18th century were reported in the Artifact Inventory, Appendix 2 in the site report. Architectural items (n=18) included 4 brick fragments, 1 cut nail, 12 unidentified nails, and 1 piece of window glass. There were 39 kitchen-related items including 1 piece of bottle glass, 1 fragment of table glass, 31 ceramic sherds (2 Delftware, 3 Staffordshire slipware, 6 white salt-glazed stoneware, 17 glazed and unglazed redware, 1 porcelain, 2 unidentified), 5 animal bone fragments and 1 shell fragment. The 5 animal bones were included with the historic items because they were associated with STPs and units that contained historic artifacts and only a small numbers of prehistoric artifacts. There were 6 miscellaneous objects (5 unidentified metal objects and 1 piece of red ochre). The piece of red ochre was recovered from a test unit that contained only historic artifacts. Seven tobacco-related items were also retrieved (5 white clay pipe stem and 2 pipe bowl fragments). The historic artifact assemblage was interpreted to represent the presence of a residence associated with the mill, and not a secondary peripheral midden.



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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland base camp, 18th century mill complex

Unknown

The Perry Point I-5 Site (18CE256) is a multicomponent site with a Late Archaic occupation, possibly an Early Woodland occupation, and more intensive Middle and Late Woodland period occupations. The historic component is a mill complex with a tightly-dated period of use during the third to fourth quarter of the 18th century. The mill complex consists of a mill pond and mill race, and possibly an associated dwelling as suggested by the artifact assemblage. Both the prehistoric and the historic components of the site were considered to have the potential to address significant research questions about the past at Perry Point. Prehistoric research themes include settlement patterns, trade networks, and resource exploitation. Historic research themes include mid-18th century industry and architecture, economic history, and the exploitation of bay versus interior resources. The site was determined by personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005733