



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CE263

Site Name: Perry Point I-12

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland short-term camp, base camp., 18th-early 19th c. artifact concentration, possible structure

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 6

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.5419

Longitude -76.0768

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation -6 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

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Susquehanna River

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric 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
- 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

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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CE263

Site Name: Perry Point I-12

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland short-term camp, base camp., 18th-early 19th c. artifact concentration, possible structure

Diagnostic Artifact Data:

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

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"/>	3	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain		13	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>	4			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
	8						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	1003
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	3
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	charcoal	

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	61
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	67
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	98
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	3
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	3
Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>	11
Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	20
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: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 8: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 9: +/- years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CE263

Site Name: Perry Point I-12

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland short-term camp, base camp., 18th-early 19th c. artifact concentration, possible structure

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Perry Point I-12 Site (18CE263) is a multicomponent site comprised of Late Archaic-Late Woodland short-term camp occupations and an 18th to early 19th century artifact concentration and possible 19th century structure. The site is located at the southern edge of the Veterans Administration Medical Center Property on the Perry Point Peninsula in Cecil County. It is situated on a terrace with a good view of the confluence of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. The land on which the site sits was cultivated prior to the 1930s. The site's east and west sides are bounded by former stream courses that drained the adjacent upland. The site measures approximately 265 m along the shoreline and extends 50 m inland.

Phase I and Phase II archeological testing was conducted on the 478 acre property of the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC). 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.

Prehistoric occupation of Perry Point began at least as early as the Late Archaic period. Historic occupation on the peninsula began ca. 1659 when a merchant and member of the Maryland General Assembly named John Bateman became the first European owner of the tract of land. In ca. 1664, Captain Richard Perry "possessed" the land for Bateman's orphaned daughter at his death, and at some point Perry took ownership of the land. In 1672, Perry returned to England, leaving his land under the management of representatives. Also in 1672, Jacob Young bought a writ allowing him to establish a water mill on 10 acres of land at Perry Point. It is not clear if Young built his mill, which would have been the first settlement at the point. Philip Thomas purchased the 840 acre Perry lands in 1728. At his death, 570 acres were willed to his son Samuel. The Veterans Administration Medical Center is located on that acreage. Samuel Thomas may have been the first owner to live on the property (his father lived elsewhere). The brick manor house located on the property overlooks the Susquehanna River. It probably dates to the period of Samuel's ownership. Improvements to the land included 2 dwellings, a barn, outbuildings, 3 mills, a wharf, and an orchard. Only the locations of the extant manor house and one mill are known. At the time of his death in 1784, Samuel Thomas held 68 slaves. In 1798, Samuel's son Richard sold the plantation lands with the exception of 4 acres of Perry Point fronting the Susquehanna River and occupied by Mrs. Rogers. Richard Thomas apparently had an interest in a ferry service that ran from Perry Point to Havre de Grace across the Susquehanna.

In 1800, the land came under the ownership of John Stump. The Stump family retained the property for most of the 19th century, renting it to the United States Government from ca. 1861 until 1862 for use as a training station for horses and mules. The manor house served as headquarters for the officers and the government constructed several buildings on the property. In 1918, the government purchased the remnants of the 516 acre Perry Point plantation from the Stump heirs for the development of an ammonium nitrate plant. The company who constructed the facilities for the government management agency built railroads, streets, utilities, factory buildings, and more than 300 houses at the Perry Point site. The site area supported bunkhouses associated with the plant. In 1922, the Veterans Bureau acquired the facility for use as a hospital. The facility remains in use as a medical center but the extant manor house and mill create a link to the property's long history as a plantation and farm.

Site 18CE263 is composed of two separate localities. Locality 1 on the eastern side of the site was originally designated as 18CE263; Locality 2 on the western side of the site was originally designated 18CE268 but was later combined with 18CE263 to form one, larger site when it was realized that a light scatter of prehistoric and historic artifacts existed between the 2 localities. Site 18CE263 was identified through the excavation of 33 STPs during Phase I and 126 STPs (59 at Locality 1 and 67 at Locality 2) and 18 test units (8 at Locality 1 and 10 at Locality 2) during Phase II. Soil profiles indicated that a plowzone horizon exists across the entire site but the soils near the shoreline exhibited an over-thickened A horizon as a result of the accumulation of historic wash deposits. Undisturbed prehistoric cultural deposits were encountered at the shoreline while inland deposits infrequently contained undisturbed deposits below the plowzone. Prehistoric and historic artifacts were mixed in the plowzone contexts.

Locality 1 contained prehistoric material below the plowzone with diagnostics dated to the Late Woodland period. Three Late Woodland diagnostic points (Levanna and Madison) were recovered from undisturbed contexts. The lithic assemblage from Locality 1 was interpreted to represent intensive core reduction to produce usable flakes. A historic posthole feature thought to possibly be related to a 20th century bunkhouse was identified at this locality. An 1836 map revealed the presence of a structure in this general area. Late 18th and 19th century ceramics were identified in the assemblage from this locality.



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CE263

Site Name: Perry Point I-12

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic-Woodland short-term camp, base camp., 18th-early 19th c. artifact concentration, possible structure

Unknown

Locality 2 occupies higher ground than Locality 1 and has therefore been subjected to more erosion and sheet wash as a result of cultivation and landscaping than Locality 1. Locality 2 had a concentration of prehistoric material dated to the Late Archaic or Early Woodland period and a hearth feature. Two Late Archaic/Early Woodland Bare Island points were recovered from undisturbed contexts. The hearth feature consisted of a concentration of fire-cracked rock and charcoal. The lithic assemblage from Locality 1 was interpreted to represent intensive core reduction and biface tool production.

Soil samples collected from the same levels as the hearth feature (Levels 4 and 5) and samples from Level 6 produced microflakes (recorded as 2 flaked stone objects in the table above), charcoal, and charred and uncharred seeds. Soil samples collected from Levels 2 and 3 produced uncharred seeds, and glass, charcoal, coal, and metal (recorded as 8 miscellaneous objects in the table above). Late Woodland period Minguannan ceramics were found in the plowzone in Locality 2. It was suggested very tentatively that these ceramics may relate the Locality 2 occupation to Locality 1 during the Late Woodland period.

A historic posthole and postmold feature similar to that found in Locality 1 was encountered in Locality 2 and was also thought to relate to a 20th century bunkhouse based on the artifacts recovered from the feature fill. Similar ceramic types to those found in Locality 1 were also found in this location but with the addition of porcelain and a few earlier wares such as white salt-glazed stoneware. The vast majority of nails collected from the site also derived from Locality 2 contexts.

In all, 1,004 prehistoric artifacts were reported in the artifact inventory in Appendix 2 in the site report. There were 972 pieces of debitage (827 quartz, 1 rhyolite, 26 chert, 81 quartzite, 13 sandstone, 10 argillite, 14 unidentified materials), and 3 cores (1 quartz, 2 quartzite). There were 23 chipped stone tools: 5 quartz bifaces, 4 preforms (3 quartz, 1 quartzite), 1 quartz perforator, 1 quartz modified flake, 2 utilized flakes (1 quartz, 1 quartzite), 3 unidentified point fragments (1 quartz, 2 quartzite), 2 quartz Late Archaic Bare Island points, 2 Late Archaic Susquehanna Broadspire points (1 quartz, 1 quartzite), 1 quartz Late Woodland Madison point, and 2 Late Woodland Levanna points (1 quartz, 1 chert). Lithic material types and reduction strategies at 18CE263 appear to conform to data for sites of the same periods obtained elsewhere at Perry Point. The 3 other lithic items included 2 hammerstones and 1 tested sandstone cobble. A total of 3 prehistoric ceramic sherds, all Late Woodland Minguannan, were also retained.

A total of 242 historic artifacts were reported in the Artifact Inventory, Appendix 2 in the site report. There was 1 activity item, a pencil lead fragment. Architectural items (n=98) included 8 brick fragments, 10 wire nails, 62 unidentified nails, 14 pieces of window glass, 1 piece of other flat glass, 1 spike, and 2 broken porcelain insulators. The 3 clothing items included 1 metal button and 2 possible copper button fasteners. There were 124 kitchen-related items including 50 pieces of bottle glass, 1 fragment of table glass, 1 piece of milk glass, 61 ceramic sherds (1 buff-bodied earthenware, 8 creamware, 4 pearlware, 13 porcelain, 2 gray salt-glazed stoneware, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware, 1 unidentified stoneware, 16 glazed and unglazed redware, 1 yellowware, 14 whiteware), 6 animal bone fragments and 5 oyster shell fragments. The animal bones and oyster shells were included with the historic items because they appear to have been recovered from disturbed plowzone contexts and none were identified with intact prehistoric contexts. There were 12 miscellaneous objects (5 unidentified metal objects, 1 piece of slate, 6 unspecified terra cotta sherds-possibly activity- or kitchen-related). There were 3 personal items in the assemblage including 1 glass vase fragment, an 1838 nickel, and 1 galloping horse ornament. The 1 tobacco-related item was a white clay pipe stem fragment.

The Perry Point I-12 Site (18CE263) is a multicomponent site comprised of Late Archaic-Late Woodland short-term camp occupations and an 18th to early 19th century artifact concentration and the possible location of a 19th century structure. Because there are 2 spatially distinct prehistoric components at the site, further research could address diachronic studies of subsistence and settlement systems and lithic technology. The historic artifact scatter associated with a 19th century structure appears to have been considered a relatively insignificant component of the site. The site was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005733