



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CH161

Site Name: W-T, CH-K2

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic & Late Woodland short-term camp

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code Ek

Latitude 38.4060

Longitude -77.0987

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 3 m

Site slope 0

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) Potomac River

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 10 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

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

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?

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

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"/>
Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Sherd Types		Stoneware	
Earthenware	Ironstone	Staffordshire	English Brown
Astbury	Jackfield	Tin Glazed	Eng Dry-bodied
Borderware	Mn Mottled	Whiteware	Nottingham
Buckley	North Devon	Porcelain	Rhenish
Creamware	Pearlware		Wt Salt-glazed

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" 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	
Jasper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sil 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	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The W-T, CH-K2 Site (18CH161) represents what remains of a Late Archaic and a Late Woodland short-term camp. It is located on the Blossom Point Field Test Facility (BPFTF) in southern Charles County, Maryland. It is situated in the extreme southeastern portion of the Facility, along the Potomac River. The site area is wooded, with improvements consisting of several dirt roads crossing through it. A marsh is located to the west of the site. The area has been cleared and plowed in the past. Soils at the site are moderately eroded Mattapex fine sandy loams.

The site was originally recorded in the 1970s, as a prehistoric lithic scatter. Additional work was conducted at the site in 1980 and 1985, and noted the presence of quartz and quartzite flakes, chunks, and biface fragments, as well as a chipped axe. These artifacts are not included in the tally above as absolute quantities are unknown and it is not known whether they were collected or merely noted in the field. The studies in the 1980s reported that the site soils were plow disturbed and eroded. The first significant archeological work conducted at 18CH161 came in 1993 as part of a Phase I survey throughout the BPFTF. Limited subsurface testing (shovel test pit excavation) of the site was conducted, along with reconnaissance survey on an exposed beach. The site fell within survey area 1, just one of several survey areas examined throughout the BPFTF, where a total of 172 shovel test pits (STPs) were placed at 30 meter grid intervals. Twenty-eight of these STPs fell within the boundaries of 18CH161, and 13 of these contained 24 prehistoric artifacts. An additional 70 artifacts were recovered from the surface of the beach at the site, eroding into the Potomac. The assemblage from the 1993 Phase I survey included 2 quartz biface fragments, 50 quartz flakes (8 water worn), 2 quartzite flakes, 2 pieces of quartz shatter, 1 piece of quartzite shatter, 2 jasper chunks, 22 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 8 oyster shell fragments, and 5 pottery fragments. The site was recommended as potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP based on the site's potential to contain information related to prehistoric subsistence strategies, settlement patterns, demographics, and technology. This recommendation necessitated Phase II testing as part of the BPFTF cultural resource management plan.

Phase II work was undertaken at Site 18CH161 in December of 2000 as part of a multi-site Phase II effort. This investigation consisted of pedestrian survey, shovel testing, and unit excavations. Pedestrian survey was conducted along the coastline to confirm site location and look for indicators of prehistoric occupation in the eroding bluff. Following that, a grid was established across the site area from an arbitrary datum, using a compass and measuring tapes. The baseline of the grid is oriented roughly parallel to the bluff edge. Transects were established perpendicular to the baseline to the north and south at 15 meter intervals. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated along these transects at regular 15 meter intervals, except in areas that were obviously disturbed, fell on slopes, or in drainages. Testing continued along transects until STPs were void of cultural material. Radial STPs were excavated in cardinal directions from selected positive grid STPs to aid in determining unit placement. Of the 98 STPs excavated, 69 were on the regular 15 m interval grid, and 29 were excavated as 5 m interval radials. Of the grid STPs, 21 were positive, while 19 of the radial STPs were positive. Using information gained through STP excavation, a series of four larger units (1 X 2 meters) was excavated. Formal units were placed in areas defined through shovel testing; thought to be the most likely to produce diagnostic materials or contain features (i.e. areas of high artifact density and stratigraphic integrity). All excavations (STPs and formal units) were conducted using hand methods (shovel and trowels). Soils were removed stratigraphically from excavations, albeit with more control in the larger units than in the STPs. Arbitrary 10 cm levels were excavated within natural stratigraphy in the large excavation units. All matrix was dry screened through hardware cloth. Cultural materials (excepting shell, which was noted but not retained) recovered were collected and bagged according to provenience.

Phase II fieldwork at Site 18CH161 led to the recovery of 386 artifacts, all of which were prehistoric. Though concentrations of shell were noted, these occurred within the plowzone, and no subplowzone features of any kind were encountered at the site. Artifacts were largely concentrated in the plow zone of a 600 m² area in the northeastern portion of the site. The assemblage included 8 ceramic sherds, 3 projectile points or point fragments, a biface, 247 pieces of debitage (including 1 core/tested cobble), 123 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 3 possible burnt nutshell fragments. The ceramic objects consisted of 6 Potomac Creek sherds, 2 Townsend sherds, and an unidentified piece of pottery. One is a rimsherd and the rest are from the vessel bodies. The 3 points/point fragments are from Savannah River, Holmes variant points. The biface fragment recovered is not temporally diagnostic.

Based on the Phase II work conducted, Site 18CH161 appears to be a small, short-term Late Archaic Period campsite and lithic workshop. A Late Woodland presence is also suggested by the few potsherds recovered. However, the integrity of the site has been compromised by erosion and plowing. Most of the artifacts found during both the Phase I and Phase II studies were recovered either from the surface of the beach adjacent to the site or the plowzone. In addition, materials from both the Late Archaic and Late Woodland occupations are mixed and concentrated in a single soil horizon. Additional excavations are unlikely to lead to the isolation of artifacts from specific occupations. As such, the site possesses limited research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005793, 97002182