



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CH335

Site Name: G-17 Chas. Co. Landfill

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic lithic scatter/short-term resource procurement camp

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 10

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.5769

Longitude -76.8895

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 60 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) Unnamed tributary of Piney

- | 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 70 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
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1860 - 1900
- ca. 1900 - 1930
- Post 1930

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?
 - 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			
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	<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	<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"/>	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"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<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			
Flaked stone	158	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	1	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls		Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	12	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)		Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)		Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds		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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input checked="" 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 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

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



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Brief

Description:

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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The G-17 Site, or 18CH335, is a prehistoric lithic scatter or short-term resource procurement camp of probable Late Archaic age in Charles County, Maryland. The site is situated near the town of Waldorf on a terrace edge above an unnamed tributary draining into Zekiah Swamp. A large spring is located immediately south of the site area, along the drainage edge. The area surrounding the site was a recent, open deciduous forest (including beech, cherry, and holly) when examined by researchers in the late 1980s and early 1990s (see below). Soils at 18CH335 are primarily Beltsville silt loams.

The site was first encountered in 1988 during the course of a Phase I reconnaissance survey. The survey was undertaken in this area for the Charles County Sanitary Landfill No. 2. Plans for the landfill site involved the filling of a wetland area, therefore a permit was required from the US Army Corps of Engineers. As a prerequisite for the permitting, a Phase I survey was required to determine if any archeological resources would be impacted by the in-filling. The Phase I fieldwork began with an informal walkover survey of the entire study area to gain familiarity with the general field conditions, logistical access, project area boundaries, and extant survey control points. An extant land surveyor's baseline, running parallel to the southeast border of the landfill project area, was utilized to establish a shovel testing grid. Transects were then established at 22.86 meter (40 ft) intervals off of the baseline. Using a tape and compass, individual shovel test pits (STPs) were then placed at 22.86 meter intervals along each transect. Soils from each STP were excavated according to natural levels and screened through hardware cloth.

Site 18CH335 was initially identified by the recovery of a relatively large amount of quartz and quartzite flakes in three shovel tests. Following this recovery, additional STPs were placed at 6.1 meter (20 ft) intervals in a cruciform pattern around these positive STPs. Additional materials were recovered from these shovel tests, revealing a site roughly 45.72m X 45.72m (150ft X 150ft) in size. The soils included abundant gravel and some cobbles. Cultural materials were found in both the surface and subsoil horizons, but were most concentrated in the surface soil layer. The collection recovered in 1988 is comprised entirely of lithics, and no culturally diagnostic items were recovered. In addition to the 7 quartz and 16 quartzite flakes recovered, five quartz chunks and 1 quartzite chunk were encountered.

Based on the findings of the Phase I survey, Site 18CH335 was recommended for Phase II testing prior to the landfill construction project, to determine the character and integrity of the site. Researchers returned to the site in 1990 to undertake Phase II work. The initial field testing stage during the Phase II investigations was designed to better determine the horizontal distribution of cultural deposits in the site. This was accomplished through systematic shovel testing. Shovel testing within site 18CH334 was conducted at 6.1 meter (20 ft) intervals through the suggested perimeters of the area, as defined by the Phase I investigation. STPs were excavated to 39.6cm (1.3 ft) or 9.1cm (3.6 in) into sterile subsoil, whichever came first. Soils were removed by natural strata and screened through hardware cloth. A total of 39 shovel tests was excavated within the site boundaries (as defined during Phase I). Additional shovel tests were excavated around the perimeter of the grid when prehistoric artifacts were recovered and where slope allowed. The grid was oriented around two of the positive shovel tests from the Phase I survey, which produced 19 of the 23 flakes during the 1988 study. Sixteen pieces of quartz and quartzite debitage and utilized flakes were recovered from the Phase II STPs, especially along the eastern and western margins of the site. One quartz core, one projectile point, and one piece of fire-cracked rock also were recovered.

Five 91.44 X 91.44cm (3 X 3ft) excavation units were excavated in the areas of artifact concentration identified during the Phase I and Phase II shovel testing regimes. Excavations in the five units proceeded through the artifact-bearing horizon, a remnant Ap (plowzone), to 9.1cm into the sterile subsoil horizon. The transition between the two soil horizons was abrupt, indicating a plowzone. Auguring at the base of the excavation units revealed a humic Ap zone overlaying a clayey yellowish-brown B horizon, which overlay a gravelly clay B/C transition level. Four of the 5 units produced quartz and quartzite flakes and fire-cracked rock, but 1 unit was culturally sterile. A single feature, the remnant of a hearth, was identified. The feature was characterized by a scatter of fire-cracked rocks in the Ap and a 24.4 cm wide patch of reddened soil directly below the Ap. This feature clearly had been disturbed by plowing, leaving only the heat exposed soil. The cultural deposits associated with this feature also had been disturbed.

The entire Phase II site assemblage consisted of one projectile point, 2 cores, 30 utilized/retouched flakes, 96 unmodified flakes, 12 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 possible piece of groundstone. The projectile point, made from silicified sandstone, is most similar typologically to the Savannah River type diagnostic of the Late Archaic throughout the Appalachians, and the Eastern Coastal Plain and Piedmont, and has been dated from 3,000 to 1,000 BC.

The volume of data available from 18CH335 only permits limited behavioral inferences. The dominant raw material was silicified sandstone/quartzite. Over half of the utilized flakes as well as the projectile point were made from this raw material. Silicified sandstone/quartzite dominated the unmodified flakes as well, where 66.67% were non-cortical. This suggests considerable raw material reduction. The worked raw materials came from waterworn cobbles, based primarily upon the nature of the cortex left on the debitage. The adjacent drainage was a likely source for this raw material. The edge angles of the utilized flakes suggest that those tools served in general utility roles. The small size of the utilized flakes, on average, suggests that these objects may have been mounted in a flat, paddle-like implement to serve in a grater-like fashion. The projectile point appears to have served as a general utility knife. The distribution and nature of the material across the site suggests that 2 or 3 short-term camps are represented. A single diagnostic artifact, from the Late Archaic, was recovered; therefore, the temporal relationships between these occupations probably represent short-term resource procurement camps. The volume of debitage and number of utilized flakes indicates that a number of tasks took place within the site area. This site also is situated to exploit this interior drainage setting; the nearby spring, if it was present at the time, may have acted as an additional incentive, as a source of fresh water in times of drought, and as an attraction for game.

This site is characterized by two spatially separated diffuse scatters of chipped stone and fire-cracked rock. A distinct boundary between A horizon and B horizon soils was in evidence across the site area and is indicative of plow disturbance. However, this plowzone has been exposed to erosional processes which have left only a ca. 10 cm remnant in place. The hearth remnant was found within sterile subsoils and consisted of heat-stained soils and associated fire-cracked rocks in the plowzone. Sufficient testing has been completed to determine that no intact cultural deposits are present.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005350, 00005766