



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CH34

Site Name: Hunt

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Hunt

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early, Middle, & Late Archaic and Early, Middle, & Late Woodland short-term camps

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.6170

Longitude -77.0439

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 30 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 Matta

- | 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 20 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?

### 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"/> 1	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	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"/> 1	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"/> 9		

### Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware				Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<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	<input type="checkbox"/> 2152	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/> 317	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	burned tree root	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### Lithic Material

Jasper	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input checked="" 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)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 26
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18CH34, the Huntt Site, is a multi-component prehistoric site located near the town of Bennsville, in Charles County, Maryland. The site consists of a series of overlapping base camps with components dating to the Early, Middle, and Late Archaic, as well as the Early, Middle, and Late Woodland periods. The site appears to be situated on an old colluvial fan, which has been modified by more recent alluvial action. The fan represents a northwestward extension of a larger ridge, which lies to the southeast (the ridge which contains Site 18CH420 – see synopsis report). The fan has been modified by more recent alluvial action. The site is bounded by an intermittent stream on the east, the floodplain of Mattawoman Creek on the north and west, and the increased slope of the ridge on the south. The surrounding landscape consisted of gently rolling wooded hills and tobacco fields when the site was first documented in the 1960s. Soils at the site are classified as Othello fine sandy loams with a high percentage of rounded pebbles and cobbles of quartz and quartzite both on the surface and throughout the profile.

The site was originally encountered by avocational archeologists from the Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM). In 1962, during the course of survey work in Charles County, the site was identified and surface collected by ASM. No formal report is available for this work, but a copy of the ASM site survey form included in the MHT site file for 18CH34 reveals that "Archaic points, scrapers, axes, and 1 potsherd" were collected.

The first professional work conducted at the site was part of a Phase I survey in 1994 of some 427 acres, prior to the onset of site preparation and construction for the Kingsview Housing Development. Because the project would impact wetlands, the development firm was required to obtain a Section 404 permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. As such, the project was considered a federal undertaking, and the Corps was the lead federal agency. Projects that require federal permits, such as the 404 permit, necessarily trigger compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106 mandates that the Corps consider the effects of the undertaking on historic properties prior to issuance of a permit.

The Phase I survey resulted in the identification of 6 new sites and additional recording of the known site 18CH34. A total of 71 shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 15 m intervals along transects spaced 15 m apart in the immediate vicinity of 18CH34. The site was located by 31 STPs that yielded positive findings, and additional artifacts collected on the surface of a farm road surrounding the field in which the site is located. The site was determined to measure 120 m in length and 60 m in width. Artifacts recovered from the site during Phase I work included 51 flaked quartz pieces, 14 flaked quartzite pieces, and 4 flaked rhyolite pieces. No diagnostic artifacts were collected during this study, however, the quantity of artifacts recovered suggested that the site was utilized extensively as a large base camp.

In October of that same year (1994), a supplemental Phase I study was conducted for a sewer line extension bordering Site 18CH34 on its eastern extremity. This corridor measured 7.7 m in width and 168 m in length. Using the same methods for STP excavation as in the initial Phase I investigation, 12 STPs were placed along the sewer line right-of-way at 15 m intervals. Six STPs located in immediate proximity to the recorded location of Site 18CH34 were found to contain prehistoric cultural materials. These include 8 flaked quartz pieces, 7 flaked quartzite pieces, and 1 flaked rhyolite piece. Again, no diagnostic artifacts were recovered. It was recommended, based on both studies that the boundaries of 18CH34 be expanded to include the sewer right-of-way and that Phase II examination be conducted at the site prior to the onset of house construction.

Phase II testing was undertaken in June of 1995. Testing began with the clearing of vegetation by heavy machinery, followed by plowing and disking to enhance soil visibility. Nevertheless, a dense weed cover was present by the time fieldwork got underway and visibility was estimated to be only 25-50%. A grid was established across the known site area and STPs were excavated at 10 m intervals along parallel transects spaced 10 m apart. This initial effort allowed the archeological team to verify the vertical and horizontal extent of the site and to define areas of artifact concentrations. Each STP measured 50 cm in diameter and was excavated into sterile subsoil. All soil was screened through hardware cloth and all recovered artifacts over 50 years old were collected and labeled by provenience. Following completion of the STPs, the archeological crew performed a surface collection at the site to more accurately identify areas of high density and to assess horizontal integrity. The size of the Huntt site (18CH34) and the excessively dense scatter of artifacts necessitated a field strategy conducive to these variables. Diagnostic artifacts such as projectile points and prehistoric ceramic fragments, as well as other tools such as bifaces and scrapers, were mapped and collected from the ground surface. Each individual artifact was then plotted onto a base map of the site, using a transit to record the specimen's distance and compass bearing from the site datum. Due to the large amounts of fire-cracked rock (FCR) on the ground surface, and the inherent difficulty in standardized collection methods for this material, no FCR was recorded as part of the surface collection. However, all FCR was systematically collected from STPs and test units.

A total of 151 STPs were excavated at the Huntt site during Phase II. Based upon these results, initial 1 X 1 m test units were placed in locations that yielded high concentrations of subsurface prehistoric artifacts. Areas which produced concentrations of debitage, tools, and/or FCR were considered likely to contain features or evidence of activity areas. Analysis of surface collection results helped to further identify areas for additional test units to be located. In total, eighteen 1 X 1 m test units were excavated at the site. The plowzone (upper Ap horizon) or upper layer of soil was excavated as on stratigraphic unit, designated Stratum A. Underlying soils were removed in arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural strata. Thus, these soils were designated as Strata B-1, B-2, C-1, C-2, etc. All test units were excavated into culturally sterile subsoil. A representative stratigraphic profile was drawn and photographed for each test unit. Plan views were drawn and photographed, as necessary. All soil was screened through hardware cloth to ensure uniform recovery of cultural materials, and again, all artifacts over 50 years old were retained.

One possible feature was identified during the Phase II investigations, observed at the interface between the A and B levels. The feature consisted of a roughly circular stain of charcoal and charcoal enriched soil. The feature matrix was screened separately from the remainder of the test unit. As the feature was excavated, sharp discernible side walls were hard to delineate as the feature took on more amorphous shape with various pockets extending in all directions. Complete excavation of this soil anomaly indicated that the feature probably represents a burnt tree root. Artifacts recovered from the feature matrix are caused by tree root disturbance and therefore are considered to be intrusive.

The Phase II investigations resulted in the collection of 2,425 artifacts. These include 2,390 prehistoric artifacts, 32 historic artifacts, and 3 carbon samples. The prehistoric artifacts consist of 2,063 pieces of flaked debitage and tools, 317 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 10 ceramic sherds. Test unit excavation accounted for 75.5% (1,832) of the total artifactual material, shovel testing for 18.7% (453), and surface collection for 5.8% (140). Of the 151 STPs excavated, 119 (79%) contained prehistoric artifacts. All 18 of the 1 X 1 m test units contained prehistoric artifacts, with the counts ranging from 38 artifacts to 229



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artifacts. The mean number of prehistoric artifacts per test unit was just over 100. Historic artifacts account for 1.3% (32) of the artifacts collected. Although several of these artifacts appear to date to the 18th or early 19th century (1 tin-glazed earthenware spall, 3 pearlware spalls and 2 wrought nails), they are scattered over a wide area and are extremely fragmented. All historic period artifacts were confined to the plowzone and are considered diffuse field scatter.

The Phase II prehistoric assemblage consisted of 64 projectile points (39 diagnostic & 25 untyped or unidentifiable), 11 early stage bifaces, 34 middle stage bifaces, 48 late stage bifaces, 2 drills, 24 cores, 6 unifaces, 1,692 flakes, 182 pieces of shatter, 317 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 10 ceramic sherds. The lithic assemblage was 70% (1,444 objects) composed of quartz, 26% composed of quartzite (535), 3% rhyolite (59), 1% chert (18), and very small quantities of jasper (5) and argillite (2). The diagnostic projectile points include 1 quartz Palmer point, 1 quartz Kirk corner-notched point, a rhyolite St. Albans point, 1 quartz LeCroy point, a pink quartzite Guilford point, a quartz Morrow Mountain II point, 12 quartz Halifax or Brewerton points, 3 quartzite Normanskill points, 5 quartzite Holmes points, 1 quartz Holmes point, 2 quartzite Clagett points, 4 quartz Piscataway points, 2 quartz Rossville points, 1 rhyolite Rossville point, and 3 possible quartz Potts or Vernon points. All of the ceramic sherds were classified as Late Woodland Potomac Creek ware, with the exception of a single Early Woodland Accokeek sherd. No ceramics were found beneath the plowzone.

Artifact and tool analysis indicate that the site represents multiple short-term base camps, with evidence of deposits from the Early Archaic through the Late Woodland periods (7500 BC - AD 1600). Activities conducted at the site are inferred from the tools recovered during the Phase II testing. The artifacts provide indirect evidence of various activities including hunting and butchering (points and knives); woodworking, plant processing, and hide preparation (drills, unifaces, and utilized flakes); bipolar quartz tool manufacture; bifacial quartzite tool manufacture (various stages of biface reduction); and general camp maintenance and food processing. Unfortunately, congruent occupations preclude further delineation of site (or component) functions. Early and Late Woodland occupations do appear to be concentrated in the northern end of the site, while the toe of the colluvial fan contains primarily the Early Archaic occupation and 2 Middle Archaic occupations. Middle and Late Archaic occupations are especially well-represented in the central and southern half of the site.

Though occupations appear to be mixed throughout much of the site, the original researchers felt confident that buried strata B (the E horizon) was relatively undisturbed. The original researchers felt strongly that this buried E horizon was intact with in-situ artifacts (19% of all artifacts encountered at the site). Diagnostic artifacts from this stratum dated to the Middle Archaic in one test unit (a Halifax or Brewerton point), and the Late Archaic (Normanskill point) in another unit 80 meters to the southeast. Though no cultural features were encountered, a significant quantity of fire-cracked rock was encountered in the E horizon, suggesting that in-tact hearths or other features might be encountered with additional testing. However, MHT staff disagreed at the time, contending that site preparation and vegetation removal (which entailed bulldozing of trees) prior to excavation work impacted any intact deposits and compromised site integrity. It is assumed that MHT staff at the time must have visited the site and concluded that substantial treefalls occurred when heavy equipment moved in, but the original site report states that most of the vegetation consisted of shrubs and only small trees which would normally not have well-developed root systems.

Despite the original investigator's contention that Horizon E was intact and likely to produce useful data on (at least) the Middle Archaic and Late Archaic periods, MHT staff determined that the site was not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP and no adverse effects would be posed by construction of the aforementioned homes. Unfortunately little documentation (correspondence, staff field reports, photodocumentation) has been retained at MHT and staff members who handled this case are no longer employed by MHT or available to provide background on the decision. While a housing development was constructed at the site, portions of the purported intact E horizon may be preserved in areas where alterations consisted solely of landscaping or other changes that would not significantly impact deposit integrity. Thus, future development of the area should trigger, at the very least, an attempt to examine the issues regarding the previous determination of non-eligibility and move on from there regarding the warrant for additional research.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005799, Site Files