



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CH731

Site Name: P-CHK-22

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Prehistoric lithic scatter; modern refuse disposal area

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code B1B2

Latitude 38.6355

Longitude -76.9940

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-5%

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 8 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? 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 N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

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"/>	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		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	34	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	2	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input 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"/>	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

Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	123	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<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 18CH731 (P-CHK-22) is a lithic scatter of unknown prehistoric age located in northern Charles County, Maryland. The site occupies a floodplain between two unnamed tributary streams of Mattawoman Creek. A steep upslope borders the site on the southeast. Soils at the site are of the Grosstown-Marr-Hoghole complex.

The site was first identified during Phase I survey in 2004 as part of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) pipeline project in Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's Counties. The proposed construction work involved the installation of a 36-inch pipeline over 48 miles of right-of-way, as well as construction of ancillary facilities (e.g. pipeyards and access roads). As such, Phase I and, in some cases, Phase II work was conducted throughout the pipeline right-of-way and in other areas that might be impacted by the construction. In the vicinity of Site 18CH731, this work entailed the excavation of 7 shovel test pits (STPs) across the floodplain landform occupied by the site. Typically throughout the LNG pipeline right-of-way (ROW), two transects of STPs were deployed along either side of the ROW centerline, with STPs excavated every 15 meters. Positive STPs were investigated with 4 radial shovel tests surrounding them. STPs measured approximately 50 cm in diameter, and were excavated in natural soil horizons 15 cm into sterile subsoil. Excavated soils were screened through hardware mesh. Of the seven Phase I STPs, only 1 yielded 4 wasteflakes, while the remainder were negative for cultural materials. Eight radial STPs were excavated at 5 m intervals around the positive STP, with 3 of those yielding a total of 5 additional pieces of debitage. In sum, four Phase I STPs (of 15 total) yielded 9 quartz and quartzite flakes within the site boundaries of 18 m north-south and 7.5 m east-west.

Based on initial Phase I shovel testing, soils at 18CH731 included a standard A-B horizon sequence, including a silt loam A horizon overlying clay loam subsoil. Lithic artifacts were contained entirely within the A horizon, which was approximately 10-24 cm deep. The site was interpreted to be a simple lithic scatter or Native American encampment. Since the site could not be avoided during pipeline construction, Phase II testing was recommended.

Phase II work was conducted in April of 2005 and included additional shovel testing as well as the excavation of 1 X 1 m test units. A grid was established using a total station and the centerline of the ROW as an arbitrary east-west axis. Grid North was oriented approximately 10° west of True North. Phase II fieldwork included 17 additional STPs at 5 m intervals to better define the site margins. The same excavation methods were employed, but only 4 shovel tests in the center of the defined site yielded additional artifacts. Seven more lithics were uncovered. No changes were made to the site boundaries.

Subsequent to the Phase II shovel testing, two 1 X 1 m test units were placed judgmentally to sample the entire site within the floodplain landform. Test units were hand-excavated by arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural strata to a minimum depth of 10 cm into the B horizon and 10 cm below the last recovered artifact. Excavation of the two test units revealed an additional 20 lithic artifacts. In addition, a total of 123 modern/historic clear glass canning jar fragments and modern soda bottle fragments were recovered in the test units and on the surface. These were interpreted as evidence of a fairly recent littering episode. These test unit excavations support the Phase I artifact distribution data which indicated a fairly low-density lithic scatter across the floodplain landform south of the stream confluence.

Each of the Phase II test units contained an A-Bt1-Bt2-2BC horizon sequence. Lithics were recovered entirely within the near-surface A horizon within both test units. Site 18CH731 contains a well-developed soil profile formed in loess over Coastal-Plain derived sediments. A total of 36 lithic artifacts were recovered during both Phase I and II excavations at 18CH731, including 34 flakes and 2 fire-cracked rock fragments. Quartz (72.2%) and quartzite (13.9%) artifacts dominate the lithic assemblage, while tan chert (8.3%) and Onondaga-like chert (5.6%) are also present at the site. Most artifacts from the site have cobble cortex, suggesting procurement of quartz, quartzite, and chert as cobbles from nearby streams. The lack of tools is notable at the site, indicating that occupation may have been extremely brief, perhaps just long enough to conduct initial reduction of cobbles collected from the nearby streams. All typed flakes are derivative of early-stage biface/core reduction.

These flake and cortex data, along with the lack of tools, indicate that the site served as a very short-term lithic cobble procurement and initial reduction station. One individual passing through the site for an hour or so could have easily produced the lithic assemblage at Site 18CH731. The site's undated status, its low artifact density, and the apparent lack of features indicate that its information potential is poor. The soils data suggest that the site does retain integrity, but the low recovery potential suggests that further excavation at 18CH731 would be fruitless.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002596