



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR18

Site Name: Bevard Farm Soapstone Quarry

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Middle Archaic-Woodland steatite quarry and steatite processing station

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code CeB2

Latitude 39.4163

Longitude -76.9495

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 183 m

Site slope 6-10%

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

- | 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

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 <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> |
| African American <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Anglo-American <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

- | | |
|---|---|
| Multi-component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Misc. ceremonial <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Village <input type="checkbox"/> | Rock art <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hamlet <input type="checkbox"/> | Shell midden <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Base camp <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | STU/lithic scatter <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rockshelter/cave <input type="checkbox"/> | Quarry/extraction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Earthen mound <input type="checkbox"/> | Fish weir <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cairn <input type="checkbox"/> | Production area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Burial area <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other context <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	8
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	1	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	3	Calvert	2
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	11
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	2	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Levanna	5

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		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	6	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>		<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	195	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	2	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	11	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	292	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	11	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	7	Activity item(s)	1
Architectural	21	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	1	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	4
		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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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC, Carroll County Historical Society

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Bevard Farm Soapstone Quarry (18CR18) is located near the town of Eldersburg in southern Carroll County, Maryland. The site is a Middle Archaic-Woodland steatite quarry and processing station. The site is situated on level to moderately sloping terrain characterized by rolling fallow agricultural fields along an intermittent stream. Several springs are also located nearby, which drain into a small lake. Soils at the site are primarily of the Glenelg series.

The site first came to the attention of professional archeologists in 1977 during survey work associated with the expansion of MD Route 32. The quarry was located on private property adjacent to the road with the assistance of the landowner who maintained a personal collection of artifacts from the site. The landowner, Mr. Bevard, allowed researchers access to his collection of approximately 150 projectile points. The presence of diagnostic forms dating from the Early Archaic through Late Woodland periods was noted, along with a drill fragment, two pestles, at least 8 soapstone bowl fragments, and 2 quarry picks. The presence of steatite in the agricultural fields was noted, but could not be systematically surveyed due to the presence of crops in the field. The landowner also relayed that a swampy area had existed in the floodplain area of the drainages that flowed through the farm. This area had been silted up as a result of cultivation of the surrounding portions of the farm. Researchers concluded that the site was likely a steatite quarry and may have also served as a temporary campsite while resources were extracted. Later in 1977, archeologists were able to return to the site to examine the harvested agricultural fields. The site was characterized as disturbed and the spur on which the main quarry area appeared to have once been located, was highly eroded due to plowing activity.

In 1991, Phase II testing and analyses were conducted for a proposed business park and industrial plant; the London Square Business Park. The Maryland Historical Trust requested that archeological investigations be undertaken in the approximately 35 acre portion of the development that included a majority of the site. Those portions of Site 18CR18 located outside of this 35 acre area were subjected solely to cursory visual examination during the investigations.

Field methods during the 1991 testing consisted of surface reconnaissance, systematic shovel testing, and excavation of test units. A baseline was established along the eastern boundary of the 35 acre project area. Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at alternating 10 and 15 meter intervals on transects spaced 15 meters apart. In general, testing on these transects continued until at least 3 negative tests were encountered, or until a prolonged steep slope was reached. Positive shovel tests were determined to be those that contained demonstrable artifacts or that contained worked or unworked soapstone/steatite fragments. In several cases, transects with more than three negative shovel tests were continued in order to test specific topographic features. A total of 176 shovel tests were excavated along 23 transects extending from the eastern boundary/baseline. STPs measured 35 cm in diameter and were excavated to 40 cm, or 10 cm into sterile subsoil. Soils were removed by natural strata and sifted through hardware cloth.

An alternative method was employed in a high probability area in the northwest corner of the 35 acre project area. Ultimately, 43 additional shovel tests would be excavated in this area, which would define the presence of a second site; 18CR196. The details regarding these alternate excavation methods and the results of investigation in that area are detailed in the 18CR196 synopsis report. This report will only deal with the excavation and findings from 18CR18.

Of the 176 total shovel tests, 13 contained demonstrable prehistoric artifacts, 10 contained historic artifacts, and 36 contained unworked pieces of steatite greater than 2 cm in size. All of the definite artifacts, as opposed to the unworked steatite, were recovered from the first level of each shovel test. Unworked steatite was recovered from several tests below the plowzone. The shovel test survey identified a concentration of positive STPs in the northeast corner of the project area that aided in better defining the site boundaries.

Six 50 X 50 cm test units were established and excavated to examine soil stratigraphy and to collect a larger sample of representative artifacts. Test units were excavated by natural levels to at least 10 cm into sterile soil strata. Soil was screened and representative profiles were drawn and photographed. No prehistoric cultural features were present in any of the units. The effects of sheet erosion were evident in some units. Historic features were present and between trenches and drainage features, it appears that site 18CR18 was highly disturbed by historic agricultural activities.

Prehistoric artifacts encountered at the site include a chert biface, a quartzite biface, 2 quartzite cores, 2 utilized chert flakes, 5 utilized quartzite flakes, 2 utilized rhyolite flakes, 15 quartzite flakes, 2 quartz flakes, a rhyolite flake, 11 silicified sandstone tools (including a spokeshave and a chopper), 3 steatite vessel fragments, a scored/notched steatite fragments, and 2 flat steatite pebbles (probably used in burnishing). In addition, 289 steatite fragments were collected on site. Historic artifacts were also encountered in highly disturbed contexts. These include 1 activity item (a pencil fragment), 21 architectural objects (a slate roofing tile, 5 window glass shards, 4 pieces of plaster, 10 nails, and a doorknob), 13 kitchen-related artifacts (6 whiteware, 3 redware, a domestic brown stoneware sherd, a creamware sherd, and 2 bottle fragments), a single arms-related item (shotgun shell), and 4 miscellaneous objects (a piece of melted glass, 2 pieces of slate, and a fragments of unidentified metal). No diagnostic materials were identified during the Phase II excavations.

In addition to the archeological work, informant interviews were conducted with the previous landowners who had helped to first identify the site; the Bevard's. Over the years, many artifacts had been collected on the family farm by the late Wakeman Bevard and other family members. Wakeman Bevard's collection of over 150 projectile points (which had been examined in 1977) was, unfortunately, divided up by his family after his death and the disposition of most of it was uncertain. Wakeman's father, G. Harry Bevard also had an extensive collection at one time and the family believed much of it had been donated to the Carroll County Historical Society. This could not be verified in 1991. The family was able to locate about 50 specimens from the broken up Wakeman Bevard collection, which they allowed researchers to examine. The projectile points included one possible Kirk, 3 LeCrois, 2 Brewerton, 2 Halifax/Calvert points, 2 Rossville points, 8 Susquehanna Broadspears, 10 Bare Islands, 1 Orient Fishtail, 1 Meadowood, 11 Selby Bay or similar laceolate bifaces, and 5 Late Woodland triangles. Interestingly, the collection illustrates a transformation in raw material preference over time. A majority of the projectile points that date before the Transitional period are made of quartz or quartzite; however, the later points are overwhelmingly made from rhyolite. Only chert is present in the Late Woodland. This collection also contained a quartzite sidescraper, a rhyolite drill, and 2 steatite bowl fragments. Two notable specimens, a large cylindrical sandstone pestle and a large sandstone pick, illustrate the classes of tools that must have been required to mine and process steatite at the site. Although only two steatite vessel fragments were included in these collections, the informants insisted that steatite bowl was once extremely common on their property. They stated that the roughed out or completed bowls were piled up over time and eventually were tossed in drainage ditches dug in the aforementioned swampy area.

The variety of materials recovered from the site, and observed in the family collection, indicate that the site was used for several purposes. First, it is clear that quarrying of steatite, and probably the finishing of vessels, took place here. The latter is supported by the extensive wear on a number of the utilized flakes. The variety of projectile points recovered, as well as the probable utilization of hafted flakes for scraping tasks, suggests the site was visited by groups of men



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Brief
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Unknown

and women for more purposes than simply quarrying.

Unfortunately, Site 18CR18 has been subjected to historic plowing and to recent development improvements that have destroyed its integrity and research potential. The London Square Business Park parcel was plowed and eroded during the Bevard ownership of the property. In places, this plowing continued down to underlying bedrock. After the Bevards sold the property, the project area was impacted by grading and by the rerouting of a drainage associated with construction of the adjacent factory. These impacts have totally compromised the integrity of the prehistoric site and it is not possible to differentiate occupations either chronologically or functionally. Thus, Site 18CR18 has no remaining research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005381