



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR238

Site Name: The Poulson-Englar House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) MIHP # CARR-1391

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: late 18th - 20th century standing house, farmstead

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.5404

Longitude -77.0655

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Tributary of Turkeyfoot Run

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 8 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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
- Stream swale

Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown prehistoric context

Contact period site ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675 ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720 ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780 Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic 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? 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

Post-in-ground

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

religious meeting

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		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		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Earthenware			3			English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	42	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	5	Pearlware	20			Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 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"/>
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		Fer quartzite		Sil sandstone	
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	633	Activity item(s)	15
Glass (all)	49	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	1184	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	551
Arms	5	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	269
Personal items	4	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

The Poulson-Englar House Site (18CR238) is located near New Windsor, Carroll County, Maryland. The site includes a standing residence, the Poulson-Englar House, which is a Maryland registered Historic Standing Structure. The house has a number of intact outbuildings, and the partial above ground remains of two other structures. Deed research also indicates that an unmarked burial ground may be situated in or near the site. An unnamed tributary of Turkeyfoot Run flows just to the east of the site and a small terrace is located just to the west. Soils at the site include Glenelg, Glenville, and Hagerstown soils. Glenelg soils predominate, with smaller areas of Glenville soils surrounding the streambeds.

In 1996, a Phase I survey was conducted, which led to the identification and preliminary investigation of Site 18CR238. Plans to quarry limestone in the general area of the site, would have resulted in significant subsurface impacts. Development plans also called for the relocation of the bed of the unnamed tributary of Turkeyfoot Run, requiring a wetlands permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. The nature of these development plans required archeological investigation to assess any potential adverse effects to any cultural resources present under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and certain portions of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Poulson-Englar House was already registered as a Historic Standing Structure dating from the early 19th century and a significant amount of architectural and historic work had already been done concerning the building. The property and house were considered historically significant due to their association with Andrew Poulson, an early supporter of Methodism and Robert Strawbridge, a famous founder of the Methodist Church in Maryland and America. Historic deeds research also had indicated that an unmarked burial ground might be located in the project area.

Phase I investigation involved surface collection of plowed transects placed in the agricultural fields in areas identified as "high potential" (areas where there was little addition of fill, slopes less than 10%, and dry) and extended into areas of low probability (slopes greater than 10% or wetlands). All plow strips were collected in 3.05 X 3.05 meter (10 X 10 ft) provenience units measured from the southern end of each plow strip and proceeding northward. A total of 30 plow strips ranged in length from 33.528 meters (110 ft) to 150.2664 meters (493 ft). Plowed collection transects were not possible in the wooded areas around the stream, and in the lawns around the standing structure. In these areas, shovel test pits (STPs) were used for investigation. Around the house, STPs were placed in a grid based on magnetic north. A total of 32 STPs were set at 19.8 meter (65 ft) intervals in all cardinal directions around the house. Where necessary, radial STPs were excavated around positive STPs in order to establish the boundaries of house deposits, up to slope breaks and collection transect locations. Ultimately, collection of artifacts from both shovel tests and surface collection units revealed that the majority of the project area exhibited an extremely low density historic surface scatter. The only exception to this was a few pockets of recent fill (archeologically unimportant) and dense continuous deposits surrounding the house (primarily on its eastern side). In addition to the standing structural features and foundation noted above, the substantial above ground remains of a small structure were noted during the Phase I survey, just east of the house. This structure was recorded in MHT files as a possible springhouse. The presence of these resources led to the designation of the house yard deposits as Site 18CR238.

The Phase I assemblage from 18CR238 consists of 466 artifacts collected from the STPs. A total of 253 Architectural objects were encountered including at least 63 brick fragments, 67 iron nails (1 wrought, 34 cut, 20 wire, and 22 unidentifiable), 31 pieces of window glass, a piece of aluminum doorway trim, 8 mortar fragments, and two fragments of slate roofing tile. Analysis of the nail collection would suggest a chronological peak period in the mid-19th century. Six activity items were encountered, all of them related to agriculture. Kitchen-related artifacts included 65 ceramic sherds (42 redware, 16 whiteware, 1 pearlware, 1 creamware, 1 ironstone, 2 buff-bodied stoneware, and 2 unidentified), 18 fragments of bottle glass (all modern), 2 cast iron pan handle fragments, and 20 faunal remains. The bulk of the recovered ceramic sherds are largely chronologically undiagnostic. Other artifacts include 1 personal item, an arms-related object, 60 pieces of coal or charcoal, 1 modern artifact, and 39 unknown objects.

While the bulk of the Poulson-Englar House Site would remain undisturbed by the limestone mining activities, the eastern site boundary fell within the impact area of grading activities planned as part of the relocation of the stream which passes just east of the site boundary. The portion of the Poulson-Englar House Site (18CR238) that would be impacted by the original proposed grading activities included approximately 0.3 acres along the eastern and southeastern site boundary. This potential impact area includes the structural remains of the "springhouse" identified during Phase I. Phase II investigations were carried out in 1997 to assess whether stream management activities would threaten intact deposits in this area.

Archival research also played an important role at the Phase II level. Sometime in the early or mid 18th century, Cornelius Poulson (senior) patented or acquired the tract of land containing Site 18CR238, at the time part of Frederick County. Tax records indicate that Cornelius lived in a portion of the tract with "bad" structures, while his son lived on another portion of the tract in his own residence by 1793. Other members of the family lived nearby. Andrew's 107 1/4 acre improved portion of "Polson's Reserve" was assessed at £346, 10 shillings and was described as having a good "log dwelling house". Andrew Poulson is the first figure of historical significance associated with the site. Andrew married Prudence, the sister of John Evans, and apparently through this relationship came into contact with Robert Strawbridge. Strawbridge was an early Methodist preacher and founded one of the first (if not THE first) Methodist churches in America. He was born in Ireland, emigrated to Maryland in the 1760s, and began preaching shortly thereafter. He is a somewhat controversial figure. He apparently was working quite independently of John Wesley's Methodist revival movement in the Anglican Church, ordaining himself and working with no oversight by the Methodist clergy. He founded his "first class" in 1763 or 1764, and preached at his own home, at the home of John Evans (see above), at the home of a John Maynard, and at the first log meetinghouse built for the "Sam's Creek class of 1764". Sometime after the establishment of the first Methodist class, the second class was formed and met at the home of Andrew Poulson (presumed to be the aforementioned log house). Other missionaries working in Philadelphia, Delaware, and New York, were in closer contact with John Wesley through Francis Asbury, whom Wesley had sent to oversee the preaching in the Americas. Around or shortly before Asbury's arrival, the preachers in the north discovered the work Strawbridge was undertaking and brought him into the fold. But Strawbridge was criticized for offering the sacraments, which were normally received from Anglican ministers whom the un-ordained missionaries viewed as being the valid avenue for these rites. However, at the 1773 American Methodist preacher's conference, where un-ordained preachers were formally barred from administering such sacraments, an exception was made for Strawbridge (who was the "lead" missionary in the south) provided he was under the direction of Wesley's representative Francis Asbury. Asbury was formally ordained as bishop to the Americas in 1784, after Strawbridge's death (1781). Strawbridge appears to have paid no notice to the decision and continued to administer sacramental rites without Asbury's approval. By the early 1780s, the second class had outgrown the home of Andrew Poulson at 18CR238, as witnessed by the apparently common practice of holding services outdoors on the property. The Strawbridge Oak, located along the stream on the Poulson farm, was one location of these outdoor meetings. The stream itself was apparently used for baptizing, against the dictates of the Methodist hierarchy. By 1783, Andrew Poulson had donated a portion of his land for the site of a meeting house, called "Poulson's Chapel", the site of which is located just to the southeast of 18CR238.

In 1807 Andrew Poulson died and his son, John, inherited one third of his father's property, including the house (Site 18CR238), with a life-time half interest



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late 18th - 20th century standing house, farmstead

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retained by his mother Prudence. The house that was transferred at that time was likely the old log structure where the early Methodist meetings took place. Tax records from 1793 indicate that Andrew Poulson had a log dwelling and no major changes are noted in later assessments. John Poulson sold the property to Andrew Nicodemus in 1831. It is believed that all or part of the existing brick structure was built during John Poulson's occupation of the site. He relocated to Ohio in 1820, so the house dates between 1807 and 1820. The 1831 deed contains the first mention of a quarter-acre burial ground in the vicinity of the site. The Nicodemus family held total or part interest in the property (as well as several surrounding tracts) for just over two decades. In 1853 Henry Nicodemus, apparently acting as the estate trustee, sold the property on which the Poulson-Englar House is located, now 100 acres, to Elhanon Roop. Roop retained the property for two years and then sold it to John Englar in 1855. This 1855 deed again reserves the quarter-acre burial ground established during the Poulson occupancy. Members of the Englar family occupied the property until 1941, nearly 100 years. Historic maps and informant interviews indicate that other members of the Englar family owned properties in the immediate vicinity and some cooperative farming may have taken place. The last land record reference to the burial ground is found in the 1877 deed from Elizabeth Englar (trustee) to William M. Englar from a Carroll County equity case.

Phase II fieldwork began with the excavation of 18 STPs. These can be subdivided into four groups based on topographic and cultural characteristics of their locations. Seven of the STPs were placed in the east yard artifact concentration identified during the Phase I survey. These STPs were placed at 5 meter intervals. One STP was placed in the eastern "springhouse" area between the structure and the stream run. Four STPs were excavated at 10 meter intervals on a terrace south of the house, where Phase I investigations had indicated low density deposits restricted to a suspected plowzone. A fifth STP was planned in this area, but could not be excavated as it fell within the current driveway of the house. Finally, six additional STPs were excavated at 5 meter intervals, near a collapsed fieldstone structure where Phase I work had also detected a low density deposit.

A total of 541 historic artifacts were encountered during the Phase II STP excavations. The assemblage included 3 activity items related to agriculture, 264 architectural objects, 174 ceramic and container glass fragments, 51 other kitchen-related items (43 faunal and 8 botanical specimens), 4 arms-related objects, and 45 miscellaneous objects (15 modern materials, 16 coal/charcoal fragments, and 14 unidentifiable).

Based on the analysis of Phase I and Phase II STPs, two 1 X 1 meter test units were also excavated within the area of anticipated impact. Test Unit 1 was placed against the southwest wall of the "springhouse" structure, at the west corner. It was hoped that this placement might locate an exterior builder's trench and allow some dating of the structure. It was also felt that examination of the yard deposits associated with the structure might give some further information concerning its basic function. Two features were identified in Test Unit 1; Feature 1 paralleled the structure wall and was interpreted as a tap root intrusion. Feature 2 was the edge of a possible broken rock walkway or yard surface. Test Unit 2 was located southwest of the structure to further investigate a possible brick feature encountered in a STP. Two features were identified in Test Unit 2; Feature 3 was a small soil pocket in the southeast corner of the unit, and Feature 4 was a dry laid brick floor or walkway. Artifacts recovered from the two Phase II test units include 6 activity items (5 agricultural and 1 home industry related), 667 architectural objects, 872 kitchen-related artifacts (568 ceramic sherds, 271 container glass fragments and kitchen tools, 33 faunal remains), 3 personal items, and 124 miscellaneous objects (22 coal/charcoal fragments, 14 modern items, and 88 unidentifiable). Sherds in the ceramic assemblage included 4 creamware, 19 pearlware, 26 whiteware, 4 unidentified refined earthenware, 2 ironstone, 2 yellowware, 497 redware, 11 black-bodied stoneware, and 5 other stoneware pieces.

Phase II field investigations (both STPs and square test units) confirmed the presence of archeological deposits associated with the 19th century use of the property. Investigations of these deposits indicate that they possess some vertical integrity, and that major subsurface features are present within the impact area investigated. Investigations also identified one area of substantial subsurface disturbance associated with the driveway, and plowzone stratigraphy associated with previous agricultural field use. Phase II investigations identified 3 types of intact cultural deposits within the area of potential impact for the stream alteration project.

One resource is the artifact concentration located east of the Poulson-Englar House. This resource is interpreted as sheet refuse associated with the use of up to three adjacent structures in the 19th century (the house, the "springhouse", and the unidentified fieldstone structure just north of the house). Datable ceramics suggest that deposition started in the early 19th century (creamware), and continued throughout the 19th and 20th century. This time period spans the Poulson, Nicodemus, and Englar occupations and cannot be attributed to any specific household. The second type of resource consisted of a series of intact strata interpreted as successive yard surfaces associated with the use of the "springhouse". Only a few datable ceramics were recovered from these strata, suggesting use throughout the 19th century. A high concentration of utilitarian ceramics relative to tablewares suggests that these deposits were associated with food storage or preparation activities taking place within and around the structure. The third resource consists of the "springhouse" itself. The structure is clearly an important feature located within the area which would be impacted by stream alteration activities for the limestone quarry. The analysis of artifacts associated with this structure suggests that it functioned as a location for at least some types of food preparation and food storage, possibly as a detached kitchen. It should be noted, however, that springhouses were sometimes utilized for food refrigeration and storage during the 19th century (see synopsis report for 18FR321).

Though several attempts were made during the Phase II study to locate the purported burial ground near 18CR238 using archival resources, it was not found. An analysis is provided in the full site report of the research into locating this resource as well as comparison to similar burial grounds to anticipate the potential impacts should quarrying activities disturb the site.

The resources identified during Phase II investigations suggest that 18CR238 has the potential to provide information on a number of local and regional research questions. The property is associated with the early development of Methodism in both Maryland and America. Early 19th century deposits relating to the Poulson and possibly the Nicodemus occupations could yield information to the degree to which the religious tenants of Methodism affected the daily habits of these households. For instance, not a single pipe fragment or identifiable wine bottle shard was recovered by either Phase I or Phase II investigations. Does this reflect religious concepts of appropriate behavior among early Methodists? On a wider scale, 18CR238 possesses the potential to address questions concerning 19th century agriculture in the Piedmont area of Maryland, and changing organization of landscape architecture of 19th century Piedmont farms. The features and deposits identified within the anticipated impact area specifically address questions concerning the organization of farm activities between major farm structures (work yards or activity areas), and changes in the use of outbuildings as reflected in the adaptation of the proposed summer kitchen throughout the 19th and 20th century.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005257, 00005392