



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR244

Site Name: Geiman House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

19th-20th century farmstead

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.6217

Longitude -76.9931

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 230 m

Site slope

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) Bear Branch

- | 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 600 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Unknown prehistoric context
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860 Y
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820 Y
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context
- ca. 1860 - 1900 Y
- ca. 1900 - 1930 Y
- Post 1930 Y

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American P
- Anglo-American Y
- 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
 - 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 N
 Flotation samples taken N Other samples taken



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR244

Site Name: Geiman House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

19th-20th century farmstead

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		Staffordshire		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	904	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	4	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	12	Pearlware	387			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	<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"/>	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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Stone "structural feature" with a datable anthrosol beneath.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	2527	Activity item(s)	11
Glass (all)	731	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	1051	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	120
Arms	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	17	Misc.	157
Personal items	9	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	floor ?	
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" 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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR244

Site Name: Geiman House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

19th-20th century farmstead

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Geiman House Site (18CR244) is a 19th and 20th century farmstead and house located north of Westminster in Carroll County, Maryland. The site area includes the 19th century residence, the generally level north yard, and the undulating south yard which included a paved driveway, parking area, and a wildflower garden. The area is characterized by gently rolling topography. No high-order drainages are in the immediate vicinity of the site and the location may be described as an inter-fluvial upland; the project area sits almost directly on the drainage divide between headwaters leading to the Patapsco to the east and the Monocacy to the west.

The first (and only) archeological work to be conducted at the site took place in 1998 and was related to highway alterations. Proposed widening of MD Route 97 involved two alternatives, either of which would have impacted 19th century houses. As a result, Phase IB intensive survey work was carried out. The fieldwork included a surface reconnaissance and shovel testing of the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE). As two standing structures (including the Geiman House) which were potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places were known to be within the APE and archeological features were likely to be associated with these structures, the Phase I field investigations were extended beyond the APE as much as 18 to 24 meters (beyond the backyards of the houses). Before the initiation of Phase I fieldwork, all maps and records obtained during the background and archival work were examined and a walkover of the entire APE was conducted and landowners were contacted. Following this, a series of shovel test pits (STPs) was excavated at intervals of 15 meters except in those areas which had been previously disturbed by modern activities such as driveways or septic fields or areas which were requested by the owner to avoid. Each STP measured approximately 50 centimeters square and was excavated by natural soil horizons or by arbitrary subdivisions. All soil was screened through hardware cloth.

A considerable number of artifacts were recovered from the 44 STPs that were excavated around the Geiman House, leading to the designation of it as archeological site 18CR244. While artifacts were recovered from all STPs excavated within the site's boundaries, one shovel test in the south yard yielded not only the greatest number of artifacts (270), but also revealed evidence of what appeared to be a structural feature; perhaps a stone foundation or floor. The Phase I artifact assemblage (excluding post-1900 and prehistoric materials which are not counted in the full site report) included 501 architectural objects (132 pieces of window glass, 186 cut nails, 42 wire nails, 11 unidentifiable nails, and 130 pieces of brick or other objects), and at least 829 kitchen-related artifacts (328 refined ceramic sherds, 354 utilitarian sherds, 94 container glass fragments and other kitchen tools, 53 animal bones, and a significant amount of oyster shell). Among the datable ceramic sherds were 2 creamware, 82 pearlware, 167 whiteware, 7 ironstone, 5 Rockingham, 1 Fiestaware, 14 yellowware, and 2 miscellaneous stoneware pieces.

Following consultation between the Phase I excavators and the Maryland State Highway Administration, during which SHA was notified of the presence of a sub-surface feature (Feature 1) in 18CR244, a Phase II project was discussed and a proposal developed. The Phase II field study was undertaken immediately after the completion of the Phase I test excavations. Field investigations were to focus on the south yard as the Phase I had demonstrated that this was the only area where undisturbed features were located. Phase II work began with intensive archival research. This research revealed that the property was settled in 1837 by John A and Ellen Byers. They established a new farmstead on the property, which was originally a portion of the landholdings of John's father Gabriel. The property remained in the hands of the Byer family until it was purchased in 1857 by David Geiman. In the 1860 census, he is listed as a farmer with an estate value of \$15,000 and living with his wife Katherine, three children Abraham, Lucinda, and William and one servant, Mary Myers. The property was owned by various members of the Geiman family until well into the 20th Century. A discussion of all of the archival research results is available in the full site report. In general, the site can be characterized as a typical 19th century farmstead of the Maryland Piedmont.

The area in which the Phase II excavations were to be carried out in the south yard was defined by the Phase I STPs and measured 16.76 meters (55 ft) south-north by 19.81 meters (65 ft) east-west. The initial goal was to define the limits of Feature 1. To this end, 34 additional STPs were excavated every 3 meters apart on the north-south, east-west grid established during Phase I. The earlier STPs had been excavated every 10 meters. Three 1 X 1 meter square test units were also excavated directly atop Feature 1 in order to expose it better. These three units were then expanded as necessary. The units were mapped and profiles were made of the soil horizons.

The feature consisted of a layer of stones 2.7 meters long by 1.2 meters wide resting on a dark soil matrix, probably an anthrosol. This anthrosol extended into other units and defined an area roughly 3 meters square. Beyond the vague definition as a "structural remnant", the function of the feature is not clear. It does not seem to be connected with a wall and would make a very rough and awkward floor. It is possible the feature is a remnant of some kind of walkway or patio. A number of historic artifacts came from the excavation of the dark soil beneath the rocks, indicating that the stone feature post-dates the cultural enrichment of these soils. Regardless of what interpretation is placed on the feature, the artifacts suggest the presence of a structure at which domestic activities occurred in the immediate vicinity. While kitchen-related artifacts predominate, the total assemblage, which includes mirror glass, tobacco pipe fragments, lamp chimney glass, a jaw harp, etc., however suggests that someone was living here. The most likely occupant would be a house servant or house slave. It is perhaps pertinent to note that single cell slave dwellings are often roughly 3 meters square (10 ft square or the size of the anthrosol). The Byers family is documented to have owned slaves. The Geiman family did not own slaves, but did have a "servant" listed in the household for the 1860 census. The mean ceramic date of the artifacts from Feature 1 was calculated at 1841.86. While much of the window glass is pre 1864, a considerable portion is of the post-1864 type. A change in function is also indicated by abrupt shifts in the percentage of coarsewares above and below the feature – that is, there is a significant drop in the frequency of coarsewares and a concomitant rise in refined wares. The feature's function and use remains rather enigmatic and would be a good avenue for further research. It was tentatively identified by excavators as a slave dwelling or a detached kitchen in which a slave lived.

No overview of Phase II shovel test artifact assemblages is provided in the full site report. Rather, the artifact counts from the single Phase I STP that identified the feature were combined with counts from all of the Phase II test units. Only these artifacts are included in the overall counts provided in the table above. Artifacts pot-dating the 1880s were not retained. A total of 11 activity items were encountered, including 1 toy, 3 pieces of hardware, a fragment of lamp chimney glass, and 6 stable/barn items. Architectural artifacts include 673 pieces of window glass, 344 nails, 4 other items and large quantities of brick and mortar. At least 2,675 kitchen-related artifacts were encountered, including 2,527 ceramic sherds (10 creamware, 305 pearlware, 20 refined earthenware, 737 whiteware, 4 porcelain, 737 whiteware, 1,409 redware, 32 yellowware, 9 stoneware, and 1 ironstone), 33 bottle glass shards, 6 liquor bottles, 19 table glass fragments, 4 kitchen tools or similar objects, and 86 pieces of bone. A considerable quantity of oyster shell was also recovered but raw counts are not available. One arms-related object, 4 tobacco pipe pieces, and 17 clothing objects (15 buttons and 2 thimbles) were recovered. Personal items include the jaw harp, 7 pieces of mirror glass, and one other item. Miscellaneous objects include 80 unidentified metal objects, 10 other metal items, 8 pieces of coal, and 59 miscellaneous pieces of glass.

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CR244

Site Name: Geiman House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief

Description:

19th-20th century farmstead

While 18CR244 may be a potentially significant resource, no determination of eligibility has been rendered by the Maryland Historical Trust. The Trust position is currently that more intensive Phase II work is warranted to determine the nature of the feature in the south yard at 18CR244. It may indeed be a significant slave-related structure capable of answering major research questions related to Maryland history, but additional work must be done simply to demonstrate that the site has such potential. Avoidance of the site was determined to be feasible and a road alignment was ultimately chosen that would not impact the site.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00007055