



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CV356

Site Name: B-1

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Woodland artifact scatter, 19th century midden

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 9

SCS soil & sediment code WpD,DeA

Latitude 38.3351

Longitude -76.4813

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-15%

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) Patuxent River

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input 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 0 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? 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

refuse disposal

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	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"/>	5	
				Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	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"/>	68	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>		Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>	20				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"/>	125	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"/>	2	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>		Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	conch shell fragments, possible dipper

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 type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts				
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	124	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	114	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	150	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>		Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
			110	3
			Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<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 checked="" 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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Brief Description:

Late Woodland artifact scatter, 19th century midden

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18CV356, also known as Site B-1, is a Late Woodland artifact scatter and 19th century midden located at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Naval Recreation Center Solomons in Calvert County, Maryland. The site wraps around a level hilltop; the central area is completely disturbed. The side slopes, partially disturbed are grown up in tall grass and small trees. The majority of the soil types at the site consists of Mattapex, Matapeake, and Othello silt loams. All three soils consist of a fine sand and silty material over coarser, older sandy sediments.

The site lies near the southwestern tip of a 360-acre parcel called Point Patience. It was originally patented by John Ashcom in 1651. John Ashcom came to Maryland with his family in 1651. By 1661 Ashcom had built a house on Point Patience, which was thought to be located near the Quarters A structure. Ashcom died before July 16, 1684, the date on which his will was probated. The will stipulated that the property containing Point Patience be allotted to his second oldest son, Nathaniel, and that other adjoining properties be given to his other sons, Charles and Samuel. The tenure of his ownership was fairly short as Nathaniel died only three years after his father, in 1687.

Nathaniel's widow, Mary, took ownership after her husband's death. Mary held the property until 1701, when ownership of the 360-acre tract was given to Nathaniel's nephew, Charles Ashcom. During Charles's tenure at Point Patience, the property was occupied by Nathaniel Ashcom's daughter, Mary Ashcom Parran, and her husband, Alexander Parran. In 1726 Charles Ashcom died, and his will, probated March 4, 1726, left Point Patience to his son, Samuel. Like his father before him, Samuel Ashcom allowed Alexander Parran and his family to remain at Point Patience. The rest of the Parran family left Point Patience for a time after the death of Alexander Parran in 1729. A resident of St. Mary's County, Samuel Ashcom likely leased Point Patience to tenants after the Parrans vacated the property.

John Parran owned Point Patience for nearly 20 years after his grandfather's death. It is unclear whether he leased the property to tenants during any point of his tenure; however, by the Revolutionary War John Parran was clearly a resident of Point Patience. On November 5, 1780, three British schooners arrived on the Patuxent to raid plantations along the river. After the burning of Point Patience, John Parran likely relocated to a house on one of the other properties he inherited from his grandfather. The house at Point Patience was eventually rebuilt but it is unclear whether John Parran was responsible for its construction. By 1783 John Parran had died without heirs, and Point Patience and the other lands formerly owned by Alexander Parran became the property of Mary Ashcom Parran. The chain of ownership after Mary Ashcom Parran and John Chesley acquired the property is difficult to ascertain as no land records or tax assessments survive for that period. The confusion is further complicated by the fact that the Parran and Somerville (Somervell) families were closely related by marriage and both families apparently occupied the land at different times during this period.

A map, published in 1837, shows a "Dr. Somerville" located in the vicinity of Point Patience in 1814. This "Dr. Somerville" was Dr. William Somervell. William Somervell was also the most likely person responsible for the construction of the current house that stands on the property. The house (Quarters A) that Somervell likely built was extensively remodeled by the property owners in the early twentieth century and likely bears little resemblance to its original early nineteenth-century appearance.

Dr. William Somervell died in 1816, at which time the estate was transferred to his wife, Elizabeth. Elizabeth Somervell does not appear in the 1820 census, but in 1830 she is listed as a resident of Calvert County. In addition to herself, her household included 28 other individuals of whom 19 were enslaved. After Elizabeth's death in 1835, ownership of the 360-acre Point Patience property was transferred to her son, Alexander Somervell.

Alexander Somervell had more substantial holdings besides the 360-acre Point Patience. He cultivated a diversified crop on his farm, including wheat, tobacco, corn, oats, and potatoes. The farm also produced wool from 35 sheep and butter from seven cows. Alexander Somervell's workforce included 57 enslaved men and women. Thirty-two of these individuals were men and 25 were women. More than half of Somervell's enslaved population was either below the age of 15 or over the age of 50; however, he did have 20 men and women between the ages of 15 and 35 enslaved on his plantation. With such a great number of enslaved laborers, Alexander Somervell was one of the largest slave owners in Calvert County during the nineteenth century. The composition of Somervell's Point Patience plantation remained relatively unchanged during the Agricultural Census of 1860 with one great exception: by 1860 Somervell began dividing his enslaved population among his two sons. Alexander retained 32 members of his enslaved workforce in 1860. His son, Alexander Somervell, Jr., received 22 and his other son, Charles, was listed as owning 16 enslaved men and women.

After Alexander Somervell's death in 1865, management of Point Patience was left to his wife, Cornelia Olivia Sewall Somervell. By the early 1870s Cornelia Olivia had begun to divide the property among her children, likely as a result of increased economic strain from maintaining such a large plantation. In 1873 she gave the western half of Point Patience, totaling 116 acres, to her son, Alexander Somervell, Jr. This site is located on the southern end of this 116-acre property. At the time of his death in 1891, Alexander was indebted to the Southern Maryland Commission Agency as well as to several other private parties. His debts were finally settled in 1892 with the public auction of his 116-acre Point Patience property.

The Marburger family inhabited the property from 1893 until 1916. During that time they operated a hotel out of the former Somervell house and made several improvements to the house and constructed numerous outbuildings around the structure. In 1899 John Marburger was killed in a hurricane that also destroyed a steamship wharf located near the tip of Point Patience. The family continued to operate the hotel at Point Patience for 17 more years after the death of Mr. Marburger.

In 1916 the family sold the hotel and surrounding property to Thomas Parran. Thomas and his son, Benjamin, were proprietors of Point Patience, Inc., a land holding and development company, under which title they acquired several adjacent parcels of the original 360-acre Point Patience patent. A 52.5-acre portion of the property that contains the three investigated sites was sold by Parran's Point Patience, Inc., to Frederick and Beulah Tomlinson in September 1941.

The couple held the property, which included the former Somervell house (Quarters A), until it was acquired by the Navy in 1943.

Soon after the property was acquired by the Navy in 1943, the entire Point Patience parcel was designated the Naval Mine Warfare Test Station. Following the acquisition an intensive program of construction was initiated on the property, which included substantial landform modification in the area immediately northeast of Third Cove. Additional cutting and filling was also undertaken between Second and Third Coves. Following the extensive program of land modification on the property, numerous buildings were constructed in those areas to house the facilities associated with building, storing, and testing the Navy's mines.

During World War II the facilities at Point Patience were involved in development of more efficient mines as well as other naval weaponry, including torpedoes. After the end of World War II, the Naval Mine Warfare Test Station was decommissioned and the facility at Point Patience became the Naval Ordnance Laboratory Test Facility (NOLTF). The Point Patience parcel remained part of NOLTF until 1968, when it became the Naval Recreation Center.

The site was first identified in 1995 during a Phase I archaeological survey of the Solomons Annex carried out by Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Site 18CV356 was located in Survey Area B, which was east of Quarters A, on the west side of Third Cove. The location of Site 18CV356 was shovel tested at 25-foot intervals. The tested area wrapped around a large area of disturbance associated with the demolition of a World War II-era building. The former building was constructed on what would have been the center of the site. Most of the shovel tests were dug on slopes south and east of the disturbed, level area. Intact soils were limited to a band between the interior disturbed area and other disturbed areas along the shore, where fill had been deposited behind and over riprap. Within this limited area, however, numerous artifacts were recovered. Prehistoric material was concentrated in the northern part of the site; this consisted of 33 quartz, quartzite, and chert flakes and a sherd of shell-tempered ceramic. Historical material included a variety of domestic and architectural



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Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief

Description:

Late Woodland artifact scatter, 19th century midden

artifacts dating to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In the southeastern part of the site, a well-developed midden was identified, with oyster shell, ceramic, and bone.

In 2014, Phase II testing began with shovel testing, to re-identify and locate precisely the deposits from the Phase I survey. Forty-one shovel tests were excavated. The initial grid was established with 15-meter (49-foot) intervals, mainly to identify disturbed vs. intact areas. In intact areas the interval was then reduced to 7.5 meters (25 feet).

The Phase II findings were very similar to those from the Phase I. In the southern half of the site, the level, high ground had been disturbed. Historic artifacts were concentrated in a dense midden deposit located on sloping ground around the south and southeast edges of the site. Architectural and domestic material was found. In the northern half of the site, the pattern of disturbed and more intact soils was complex. The main area of level high ground showed evidence of extensive disturbance. East of that, toward the cove, some areas were disturbed by concrete pads, gravel roads or pads, utility trenches, and grading of slopes, but in between were some small areas where disturbance was less severe. A larger area with little apparent disturbance, about 15 meters (49 feet) across, was located in the northeast corner of the site. Here the soil had been plowed but otherwise seemed relatively undisturbed. Quartz flakes were recovered from four shovel tests in this area.

Thirteen 1x1-meter test units were dug, placed according to the findings of the Phase I and II shovel testing. TU 1 was placed near Shovel Test 1 to investigate the historical midden deposit. The midden contained numerous oyster shells and brick fragments, all smaller than half a brick. Nearly 100 cut nails were found, along with five wire nails and a piece of what appears to be sheet metal roofing. No window glass was found. The domestic artifacts, more than 200 in TU 1, include pearlware (1775-1840); shell-edged, sponged, and transfer-printed whiteware; yellowware; gray stoneware; and a few small pieces of glazed coarse earthenware. Bottle glass was less common, consisting mainly of clear to aqua pieces from small bottles, with a few olive pieces from larger bottles. Two apparent earlier artifacts, a possible piece of British brown stoneware and a tobacco pipe fragment resembling eighteenth-century types were found; these must derive from the earlier, Ashcom occupation, and how they ended up in a nineteenth-century midden deposit is unknown.

TU 4, located 3 meters (9.8 feet) east of TU 1, encountered very similar stratigraphy and artifacts. TU 5 was 22 meters (72 feet) northeast of TU 1, in the level part of the site but close to the midden deposit. The findings here were strikingly different. The stratigraphy consisted of a shallow dark yellowish brown loam topsoil, only 11 centimeters deep, over yellowish brown silty clay loam subsoil. There were very few artifacts of any kind, no brick, no oyster shell, not even any small flecks of coal, charcoal, or brick such one sees in the soil around any historic period farm site.

TU 13 was located 15 meters (49 feet) west of TU 1, at a position on the slope intermediate between TUs 1 and 5. This unit encountered no midden deposit. No artifacts were found except for pieces of plastic and modern bottle glass and a few small fragments of oyster shell.

TUs 2, 3, and 6-12 were placed in the north part of the site to investigate the prehistoric component. The plowed soils in this area were generally divided in the field into two strata. Stratum A was a humic horizon about 10 centimeters (3.9 inches) deep. Stratum B was the deeper part of the plowzone, lighter in color, also about 10 centimeters deep. Beneath Stratum B was Stratum C, dark yellowish brown silty clay loam subsoil.

The highest count of prehistoric material was found in TU 2, mostly lithic artifacts. TU 2 produced 35 pieces of quartz debitage, two small prehistoric potsherds, and several fragments of a conch shell that appeared to have been intentionally modified, perhaps into a dipper. These are the only prehistoric ceramics found on the site; both are shell-tempered, and one has incised lines on the exterior.

TU 3, just 5 meters (16.4 feet) away from TU 2, encountered a very shallow, deflated plowzone and produced only 10 pieces of quartz debitage. TU 6 was also deflated and produced no artifacts at all. So the area of relatively intact soil around TU 2 was very small.

TU 7 was placed about 20 meters (65.6 feet) east of TUs 2 and 9, at the edge of a grove of young trees. The upper soil was about 5 centimeters (2 inches) of reddish sand fill, mixed with pea gravel. Beneath the fill was a thick plowzone, about 18 centimeters (7 inches) of brown loam. This stratum produced both historic and prehistoric artifacts. The prehistoric material consists of one black chert flake, eight pieces of quartz debitage, and a rather crude triangular projectile point also made of quartz. The historic material consists of six machine-cut nails, six unidentified nails, two pieces of unidentified iron, and 11 domestic artifacts (Pearlware, whiteware, coarse red earthenware, and glass from a cobalt blue jar).

TU 8, placed about halfway between TU 2 and 7, was disturbed and culturally sterile.

The second highest count of prehistoric artifacts was 14, in TU 9. The surface stratum in this unit was 7 to 10 centimeters (2.8 to 3.9 inches) of modern fill. Beneath that the stratigraphy resembled that in TU 2, largely intact other than the plowing. TU 9 produced 12 pieces of quartz debitage and two of quartzite.

TU 10 was placed about 8 meters (26 feet) east of TU 2. The soil consisted of a plowzone, apparently intact, over subsoil; however, the only artifacts recovered were some modern glass and six small pieces of broken quartz cobbles that might have been fire-cracked. TU 11, located 8 meters (26 feet) north of TU 10, also encountered a largely intact plowzone. The unit produced nine pieces of debitage (four black chert, three quartz, and two quartzite) and a small quartzite hammerstone, as well as an unidentified nail fragment. TU 12 was placed just 2 meters (6.6 feet) south of TU 2, in an attempt to further investigate the comparatively rich deposits that it encountered. It produced only two pieces of black chert debitage and two of quartz. The stratigraphy was identical to that in TU 2, and there was no sign of any disturbance other than plowing. The concentration of material encountered by TU 2 seems to be very small.

The historic component of 18CV356 presents several puzzles. The only known historical use of the property was agricultural—the barn built around 1899. The Phase I study concluded that the recovered material was associated with this barn. But why would there be so much domestic material around a barn hundreds of feet from any house? The domestic material is also too early to fit this explanation. The ceramics suggest a date in the mid-1800s, as does the small amount of bottle glass. This material must derive from a residence of the 1820 to 1880 period; however, the location of that residence remains unclear.

What is most notable about the southern part of the site is the dramatic difference between the shovel tests and test units on the slope and those on the level upland. The contrast between the nearly black, rich soil of the midden, loaded with oyster shell, brick, and artifacts, and the nearly sterile yellowish brown soil in the nearby level area requires explanation. If the domestic trash in the midden had derived from a nearby house, some evidence of that house ought to be present on the higher ground. One possible explanation would be that the upland area was graded at some point in the past, perhaps when the Navy developed the property, and the remains of both a mid nineteenth-century residence and the 1899 barn were pushed off the edge and down the slope. Against this one might argue that the midden is highly intact, not mixed with other kinds of soil as one might expect if it had been pushed by heavy machinery.

Perhaps, then, the midden is older, dating largely to when the barn was built in 1899 and the remains of an old tenant house and associated artifacts were dumped over the edge with wheelbarrows. Either way, the actual location of the house and the barn was graded after the Navy acquired the property. Or, perhaps the domestic material was brought here from farther away, although it is difficult to see why anyone would have done this. In any event it seems clear that a complete domestic archaeological site is not present, only an isolated midden deposit of uncertain origin. The historic component therefore lacks the integrity to be eligible for listing in the NRHP.

The prehistoric component consists mainly of quartz debitage in the plowzone. Even these deposits are confined to a small area surrounded by foundations, utility lines, and other disturbances. The only part of the site with even limited integrity was TU 2, where a potsherd and the fragments of a possible conch-shell dipper survived in what appeared to be plowed soils. Given the limited material present and the low integrity, the prehistoric component is recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Site 18CV356 consists of a scatter of prehistoric artifacts and a nineteenth-century midden deposit containing both architectural and domestic artifacts. The site is largely disturbed, with a few small, comparatively intact areas surrounded by graded areas, concrete pads, and utility trenches. The midden is in a sloping part of the site and its origin is obscure; it may have come from a completely different site or been bulldozed down the slope when the center of the site was cleared for Navy construction. The prehistoric component represents occasional camping during the Late Woodland period (AD 900 to 1600); the few artifacts recovered all came from plowed soils. It is recommended that neither component has the integrity or information potential to be eligible for listing in

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL



TRUST

Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number:

Site Name:

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief
Description:**

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Unknown

the NRHP.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95002434, Site Files