



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CV361

Site Name: MM Site

Prehistoric

Other name(s) E-2

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 18th-early 19th century rural domestic site

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 38.3268 Longitude -76.4775  
Elevation m Site slope 0-5%

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 9

SCS soil & sediment code MfA,PcB

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site  Underwater site

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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hilltop/bluff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior flat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Upland flat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ridgetop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terrace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Low terrace	<input type="checkbox"/>
High terrace	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rockshelter/cave	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hillslope	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ownership	
Private	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State of MD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional/county/city	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>

Nearest Surface Water	
Name (if any)	Patuxent River
<b>Saltwater</b>	
Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estuary/tidal river	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tidewater/marsh	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Freshwater</b>	
Stream/river	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swamp	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake or pond	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spring	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum distance to water is	57 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Archaic site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early archaic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle archaic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Late archaic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown prehistoric context	<input type="checkbox"/>
Woodland site	<input type="checkbox"/>
MD Adena	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mid. woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Late woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown historic context	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown context	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact period site	<input type="checkbox"/>	ca. 1820 - 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	ca. 1860 - 1900	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	ca. 1900 - 1930	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post 1930	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ca. 1780 - 1820	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown historic context	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown context	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ethnic Associations (historic only)	
Native American	<input type="checkbox"/>
African American	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anglo-American	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian American	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

## Site Function Contextual Data:

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

Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urban/Rural?	Rural <input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Homestead	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmstead	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mansion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plantation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Row/townhome	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Privy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mining-related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quarry-related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mill	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black/metalsmith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furnace/forge	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canal-related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road/railroad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wharf/landing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maritime-related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridge	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ford	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trading post	<input type="checkbox"/>
Store	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tavern/inn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Military	<input type="checkbox"/>
Battlefield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fortification	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Townsite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religious	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church/mtg house	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ch support bldg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sepulchre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Isolated burial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bldg or foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Possible Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post-in-ground	<input type="checkbox"/>
Frame-built	<input type="checkbox"/>
Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slave related	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non-domestic agri	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>
Artifact scatter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spring or well	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other context	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples	Soil samples taken	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flotation samples taken	Other samples taken	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic context samples	Soil samples taken	N <input type="checkbox"/>
Flotation samples taken	Other samples taken	<input type="checkbox"/>



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## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

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

### Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### Historic Sherd Types

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
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	15	Eng Dry-bodied	4
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	6	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	19			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	2	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

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

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	301	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	161	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	453	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	18
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	63
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 2:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 3:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 4:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 5:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 6:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Sample 7:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 8:  +/-  years BP Reliability  Sample 9:  +/-  years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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Historic

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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18CV361 (also known as the E-2 or MM Site) is a late 18th-early 19th century rural domestic site on property managed by the Naval Air Station (NAS) - Patuxent near the confluence of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay in southern Calvert County, Maryland. When first discovered, it was located in a picnic area at the base of a point/peninsula jutting out into the Patuxent River. Soils at the site and in the surrounding environs are Matapeake, Mattapex, and Othello silty loams.

The area of the site has been intensively occupied since the 17th century and alterations to the landscape have been extensive. Clearing of native vegetation, repeated plowing, and erosion associated with over 3 centuries of agriculture have mixed the upper soil layers in many areas and truncated them in others. Further disturbances resulted from a "summer" subdivision developed by local realtors in the 1920s and the subsequent acquisition and development as a training facility by the US Navy in 1942 have also contributed to mixed soil profiles. The property has been used in modern times as a recreation center (known as the Naval Recreation Center - Solomons) and contains housing facilities, camping sites, parking lots, a pavilion, clubhouse, swimming pool complex, a fishing pier, rest rooms, laundry rooms, maintenance buildings, and both paved and gravel roads.

The site was first identified in 1995 during the course of a Phase I survey of the Naval Recreation Center - Solomons (NRC Solomons) property which was an annex to the NAS - Patuxent River. Previous historical work had suggested that the annex property had a high potential for containing cultural resources eligible for listing on the National Register. The survey of the annex property was executed because of the Navy's cultural resource responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA. The site was identified in the yard space and a wooded area near a former officers' barracks building.

The site was identified through shovel test pitting (STPs). Shovel tests were placed in a grid pattern across the area at a 15.24 m (50 ft) interval initially, which was later reduced to a 7.62 m (25 ft) interval. The site was defined by a cluster of 58 of the STPs, with only 13 of these failing to yield cultural material. Each STP measured approximately 30.5 cm (1 ft) in diameter and was excavated into culturally-sterile subsoil or until 91.4 cm (36 in) deep. Selected pits were deepened with a split spoon probe and/or bucket auger to assess stratigraphy and search for buried A soil horizons beyond the reach of hand excavation. All soils were screened through hardware cloth.

A total of 73 historic period artifacts and a substantial quantity of brick were recovered during the Phase I project. Artifact density was low to moderate, with artifacts that appear to date primarily to the first half of the 19th century. The full assemblage consisted of 2 prehistoric items (quartz flakes), 13 nails (2 wrought, 11 cut), 124 pieces of building material (brick, mortar, etc.), 8 ceramic sherds (2 unidentified earthenware, 1 pearlware, 1 porcelain, 1 whiteware), 2 pieces of bottle glass, and shell. Based on these findings, researchers recommended that the site be avoided when considering future improvement and construction projects at NRC Solomons.

Phase II testing was carried out at 18CV361 in 1997. The work was conducted because the US Navy was proposing to construct various new facilities within NRC Solomons. The construction would impact both 18CV361 and 18CV362 (see associated synopsis report). In order to ensure that the proposed construction activities did not adversely affect any cultural resources eligible for listing in the NRHP, the Maryland Historical Trust requested a Phase II study be performed on each site.

As part of the Phase II testing, extensive archival research was conducted on the property. The details provided here deal only with the period from around 1790 to 1850, the period during which the occupation at 18CV361 appears to have taken place. During all of that period, the property appears to have been owned by members of the Parran and Somervell families. These were planter families closely related by marriage. A Nannie Parran is married to an Alexander Somervell at least as early as 1800, and in 1825 a Susan Somervell is married to a Charles Parran.

Different members of both families appear to have owned the property at different points throughout the 18th and early 19th century. The details of ownership are not well known, due to the destruction of many early county records at the hands of the British in 1814. The Parrans certainly own the property during the 18th century, but by the 19th century it is owned by the Somervells. The transfer was likely the result of marriage and inheritance though, not sale. A map of the Patuxent made in 1814 by a British Officer in the War of 1812 shows the names Dr. Somerville (sic), Hungerford, Tucker, and Rawlins in the general vicinity (the latter being property owners on adjoining parcels or more probably tenants). However, an account of the 1814 destruction of the main plantation house on the property (again by the British) indicates that the house was owned by a Mr. Parran. The 1850 Agricultural Census indicates that an Alexander Somervell was the owner of the property, suggesting that it never fell out of the hands of the Somervell/Parran family. In fact, Somervells would continue to live in the vicinity until the early 20th century, many on parcels of land that had been split off from the original family plantation.

Late 18th and early 19th century maps of the area consistently depict three buildings and an orchard on the narrow point of land on which Site 18CV361 is located. An 1859 map also shows field boundaries and crop patterns. Crops grown on the property were typical for the surrounding area. Early on, tobacco was the primary crop, but as with much of the county (and Maryland in general) crops became more and more diversified over the course of the 19th century. This was the result of soil depletion and degradation and by the late 1700s, the problem was becoming acute in Calvert County. By 1850 Alexander Somervell is recorded as farming 500 acres of improved lands and 600 acres of unimproved land (with a total cash value of the farm at \$20,000). He was growing wheat, tobacco, corn, and limited amounts of oats and potatoes (probably for home consumption). The farm also produced 80 pounds of wool from 35 sheep, and 200 pounds of butter from 7 milk cows. The wool and butter were most likely consumed at home or traded within the local community, although occasionally such produce was sold to Baltimore merchants.

With 10 horses, 2 mules, 44 cattle, and 80 swine, the Somervell plantation contained the necessary resources to grow diversified crops and feed the family and slaves. According to the Calvert County Slave Census taken in 1850, Alexander Somervell owned 57 slaves, a large number for plantation owners in southern Maryland in the 19th Century. Thirty-two of these slaves were males, 25 were females. With 24 slaves below the age of 15, and 7 above the age of 50, more than half of Somervell's slave force in 1850 were not considered full hands. However, he did have a vigorous working force of 20 males and females between the ages of 15 and 35, making Somervell one of the larger owners of slave property in 19th Century Calvert County.

Phase II fieldwork at 18CV361 consisted of the hand-excavation of ten 1.5 X 1.5 m test units. Test units were placed to provide the greatest within-site coverage as well as sample both high and low probability site areas. The placement of individual test units was selective, and guided by in-field assessments of topographic setting, Phase I artifact distributions and shovel test location, and site stratigraphic character. Unit excavations proceeded in arbitrary 10 cm



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Unknown

levels in areas lacking natural stratigraphic development. In areas possessing definable strata, natural levels or a combination of natural and arbitrary excavation levels were used. Subsoil was sampled via the excavation of a 75 X 75 cm quadrant of each test unit. All excavated soils were screened through hardware cloth, and all recovered artifacts were retained for analysis. Unit and level descriptive notes, profile and planview illustrations, and photographs were produced to document natural and cultural traits of the excavated locations.

The site presented a simple plowzone over subsoil stratigraphy. No features were encountered during the Phase II excavations. Artifacts encountered during the course of Phase II work included 316 architectural artifacts (197 pieces of brick, 3 mortar fragments, 45 window glass fragments, 34 nail fragments, and 37 miscellaneous hardware fragments), 423 kitchen-related artifacts (2 miscellaneous earthenware sherds, 18 pearlware sherds, 5 porcelain sherds, 14 whiteware sherds, 245 redware sherds, 4 basalt stoneware sherds, 5 miscellaneous stoneware sherds, 114 bottle/jar fragments, and at least 16 pieces of oyster shell), 2 tobacco-related items (kaolin pipe fragments), and 63 miscellaneous objects (coal, unidentified metal, modern trash, etc.).

Site 18CV361 was largely a plowzone contained site. Ascertaining a date for the oldest archeological deposits was difficult due to their mixing with more recent artifacts over the years. Modern materials aside, rough date estimates based on the few chronologically sensitive artifacts present (pearlware, nails, etc.) placed the site between 1790 and 1850. There was older architectural material present along with domestic/food preparation materials. The site likely consisted of a structure in which day to day domestic activities took place. When the structure was demolished or abandoned the architectural debris became mixed with the domestic materials.

The presence of kaolin pipestem fragments and pearlware suggest this site possesses some potential to produce additional information regarding the early settlement and habitation of Calvert County, Maryland, as well as the early colonial settlement of the eastern coast of North America. However, because nearly all of the site area has been well-churned into plowsoil, the research potential of these historic cultural remains has been reduced. Given this condition, only those deposits in the east-central portion of the site (where disturbance was less severe) have any remaining potential. Mitigation is recommended should this area become threatened by future development at NRC Solomons.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005808, 00005130