



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CV363

Site Name: TS Site

Prehistoric

Other name(s) F-2

Historic

Brief Description:

Late 18th to early 19th century rural domestic site; prehistoric lithic scatter

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 9

SCS soil & sediment code MfA

Latitude 38.3435

Longitude -76.4777

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-2%

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

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 191 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675 ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720 ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780 Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric context

Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

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

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		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	10	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	100			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	16	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	1	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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	139	Activity item(s)	5
Glass (all)	66	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	325	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	30
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	391
Personal items	1	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

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

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

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

Additional radiocarbon results available



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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18CV363 (also known as the F-2 or TS Site) is a late 18th-early 19th century rural domestic site and prehistoric lithic scatter 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 (vacation cabins) 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 a yard to the south of a recreational cottage.

The site was identified through shovel test pitting (STPs). Shovel tests were placed in a grid pattern across the area at a 30.5 m (100 ft) interval initially, which was later reduced to a 7.62 m (25 ft) interval when artifacts were encountered. A total of 18 STPs were excavated in the area, defining a site area approximately 39.6 X 45.7 M (130 X 150 ft) in size. These site boundaries more-or-less conformed to an area defined by a series of roads. A small area in the southwest corner of the site had been disturbed by installation of a concrete pad. The STPs yielded a profile consisting of a mixed A/B horizon (a remnant plowzone) to a depth of about 25 – 40 cm, overlying subsoil.

Artifacts encountered during the Phase I survey at 18CV363 included several late 18th and 19th century artifacts indicative of a domestic function. The full assemblage consisted of 1 prehistoric item (a fire-cracked rock fragment), 141 building material fragments (41 asbestos tile fragments, brick, concrete, etc.), 12 nails (10 wire, 2 cut), 21 ceramic sherds (4 pearlware, 1 19th/20th C. Stoneware, 8 miscellaneous earthenware, 8 whiteware), shell, and 333 miscellaneous items (some modern).

Based on Phase I work, Site 18CV363 appeared to be a heavily impacted late 18th to mid-19th century domestic site. The combination of artifacts found at this site indicates an early-to-late 19th century occupation. The majority of the building materials and domestic artifacts were concentrated in the center of the site, indicating the possibility of a small dwelling, possibly a tenant house or other domestic occupation. Given its proximity to Point Patience plantation (just to the south), this site may be the location of a tenant or slave quarter associated with the Parran/Somervell occupation. The integrity of the deposits, the spatial patterning of the artifacts, and the domestic nature of the material suggested that this site might be eligible for the National Register. Based on these findings, Phase II testing was recommended if the site could not be avoided during any future modifications to the NRC Solomons.

Phase II testing was ultimately conducted in late 2006, when the US Navy was planning to stabilize the Patuxent River bank in the vicinity of 18CV363. The Phase II testing entailed the excavation of ten 1 X 1 m units as well as archival research. Archival research reveals that around the year 1651, John Ashcom, an English immigrant, received the 360 acre "Point Patience" property, which appears to include Site 18CV363. There he constructed a residence and cleared lands for cultivation. Upon his death in 1684, Ashcom passed the tract to his son Nathaniel who continued the operation. The property remained in the possession of his descendants, although the record of ownership is cloudy until the 1750s when Alexander Parran, Jr. (related by marriage) acquired title to the property.

The region's many rivers and Chesapeake Bay connected planters such as Ashcom with distant markets. As early as 1694, a ferry was in operation between the Calvert County side of the Patuxent and the St. Mary's County side to the south. This region quickly became the preeminent tobacco-growing section of the colony but at the price of soil exhaustion (the result of poor cultivation practices). The market value of tobacco slowly declined in the early 18th century and some planters moved to the frontier areas of Kentucky and elsewhere in search of arable land. Yet those who remained began to see increased demand for tobacco in Europe between 1750 and the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. Tobacco was part of the growing prosperity of the American colonial economy, a factor that contributed to their separation from the mother country.

Both during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, the British used the harbor along Solomons Island to block the Chesapeake Bay and the mouth of the Patuxent River. The plantations of the Chesapeake, including those in southern Maryland, were subject to raids by the British military during the War of 1812. Manor houses and outbuildings were destroyed and fields were set ablaze. The British also encouraged slaves to abandon their masters, promising the refugees freedom in return. Among the ransacked plantations was that of the Parrans on Point Patience, which was reportedly destroyed in 1814. As a countermeasure to British aggressions, the American army planned numerous forts along the Patuxent River. Point Patience was among the proposed sites, though the fort never materialized.

After the conclusion of the war, the plantation system in southern Maryland recovered. Calvert County and nearby St. Mary's County were notable in that they experienced relatively little urbanization or industrialization in the early 19th century. The exact ownership of 18CV363 is unclear, but the Somervell family (again, related to the Parrans through marriage) appears to have been the prominent landowner in the vicinity in the mid 19th century. In 1850, planter Alexander Somervell possessed approximately 1,000 acres on which tobacco was cultivated along with food crops including corn, oats, potatoes, and wheat. Livestock included cattle, sheep, and pigs which were exported to urban markets. In this same year, 57 slaves lived on the Somervell plantation. Ten years later, the plantation was in much the same state. Map data from this period does not provide specific information as to the location of buildings or other developments associated with the Somervell plantation. The Point Patience acreage appears on one map from 1859 as occupied by "Tucker", who may have been a tenant of the Somervells.

In the years following the Civil War, the local economy showed signs of diversification. An Isaac Solomon, a war veteran from Philadelphia, settled on an



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island just to the southeast of the site in 1867 with the intention of starting an oystering operation. In 1867 the Maryland General Assembly awarded him permission to harvest the oyster beds of the area and shortly thereafter Solomon established an oyster steaming and canning plant on the island that became his namesake (Solomons Island). Despite the appearance of new industries, tobacco cultivation was still the economic mainstay of Calvert County. The Somervell plantation remained in operation after the war although, like many other operations in former slaveholding areas, its owners faced new challenges in controlling the supply of labor.

Point Patience and the surrounding acreage was divided among the children of Alexander and Cornelia Somervell in the decades following the Civil War. Alexander Somervell, Jr. owned Point Patience in the late 19th century. An 1892 USGS map of the region shows the small community of "Summerville" on Point Patience and a road leading to it. There are 9 structures depicted as Summerville, 6 of which are in a uniform configuration that may represent tenant houses. By 1893, the family had sold the property the Marburger family.

By the early 20th century, Point Patience had become a fairly well-known tourist destination. The Marburgers were the first to develop the area for this purpose. Sometime after their purchase of the property in 1893, they built a hotel and related outbuildings in the vicinity of Point Patience. Visitors docked at a steamship wharf on the point or arrived at the site via the Calvert County roads. The Marburgers also kept a residence near the development. In 1916 they sold the development to Dr. Thomas Parran, who was descended from the Somervell and Parran families of the locale's earlier history. Parran was the proprietor of Point Patience, Inc., a land development company based in Washington DC.

Point Patience, Inc. continued to develop the area as a tourist destination in the mid-1920s. By 1925 the company was taking out advertisements in the Washington Post that announced the opening of a "refined, restricted summer colony" at Point Patience. The company emphasized the location's unsurpassed views of Drum Point Harbor and the Patuxent River. Within a year, several cottages/cabins had been constructed and were owned by residents of Washington DC and Maryland. One of these, known as "Cabin 14", is located at the north end of the site. The development included a water tower that provided running water to each cottage. A 200 foot fishing pier (possible the old steamboat wharf) was also an attraction. A hotel, most likely the one the Marburgers operated years earlier, was opened in the summer of 1927 and operated into the 1930s.

In 1941, the US Navy became interested in the property, finally acquiring it in 1943. A naval mine warfare proving ground was established, initially planned as a temporary establishment. Approximately 350 civilian employees from southern Maryland and the surrounding region were employed in the construction of the base. By the close of World War II, an estimated 1,300 soldiers occupied the base. As a result of dredging and bombing during the operation of the mine warfare training center, the oyster beds in the Patuxent River underwent irreparable damage. The mine center was decommissioned in 1947, but the Navy retained the property. In 1968, the Navy determined to make use of the site as a recreational facility for personnel. Many of the older structures related to the mine testing era were destroyed around this date in order to make way for playgrounds, swimming pools, and other leisure facilities.

Phase II fieldwork entailed the excavation of ten 1 X 1 m test units. The 1995 Phase I STP map and field notes were used to identify potential areas of interest for the placement of the test units. An attempt was also made to cover the full site area evenly. Because project datums from the 1995 study could not be located in the field, researchers relied on the alignment of several small depressions (the locations of old Phase I STPs) to orient the Phase II grid.

Excavation of the test units proceeded using flat-bladed shovels and trowels. Stratum I (the plowzone and disturbed sediments) was excavated as a single stratigraphic unit with 25% (every 4th shovel full) screened through hardware cloth. Stratum II and Stratum III sediments were excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels and 100% of the excavated sediments were sifted. Excavation continued into the culturally sterile clay subsoil for at least one 10 cm level before termination. No unit extended farther than 50 cm below unit datum. A photographic record of the test excavations was maintained and profile maps of two exposed walls of each excavation unit were drawn. Notes on soil strata, subsurface conditions, and modern disturbances were recorded in field notebooks.

Phase II work revealed that 18CV363 contains artifacts representing domestic occupation during the late 18th and early 19th centuries and again during the late 19th through 20th centuries. The earlier component may be related to tenant occupations during the Alexander Parran or Alexander Somervell ownerships of the property. The later component is probably related to the use of a recreational cabin during the 20th century. Evidence of an ephemeral prehistoric occupation also was recovered. Three strata were identified. Stratum I consisted of disturbed layers, fill episodes, and intrusions such as pipe trenches. Artifacts contained within this stratum represent all periods of occupation in a mixed context. Stratum II also contains evidence of all periods of occupation but is dominated by artifacts assignable to the time frame of 1779-1825. However, portions of this stratum are still clearly disturbed as evidenced by the presence of 20th century artifacts in association with earlier materials. This disturbance is probably due to several factors including plowing, clearing of earlier structures by later occupants, and recent improvements by the Navy. Stratum III is the clay subsoil. It contained a mix of early and late historic artifacts and has therefore experienced at least localized disturbance.

No features of structural remains were encountered during the test excavations. The highly fragmented condition of the 18th-19th century artifacts suggests that they represent the remains of a domestic structure that was demolished and removed prior to the construction of the aforementioned recreational cabin (Cabin 14). Exactly when this occurred is not known and the land may have been used for agriculture both during and after the 18th-19th century occupation. Most of the 20th century artifacts are probably related to the use of Cabin 14, which was constructed as part of an early 20th-century subdivision. Modern artifacts are related to the property's present use as a recreation facility.

Historic artifacts encountered during the Phase II work include 5 activity items (a glass marble, a plastic toy marble, a plastic toy Dachshund, a plastic clothespin, a zip tie), 172 architectural artifacts (approximately 10 brick fragments, an estimated 10 pieces of mortar, 51 pieces of asbestos siding, a piece of roofing slate, 44 window glass fragments, a wrought nail, 35 wire nails, 17 unidentified nails, and 3 miscellaneous hardware fragments), 168 kitchen-related artifacts (118 ceramic sherds, 22 pieces of kitchen glass, a piece of metal foil, 2 plastic bottle cap seals, and an estimated 5 pieces of cow bone and 20 oyster shell fragments), 1 personal item (a 1977 dime), 1 tobacco-related item (a kaolin pipe stem) and 58 miscellaneous objects (45 unidentified metal items, 4 pieces of plastic, a styrofoam object, at least 2 wood fragments, an estimated 2 stone fragments, approximately 2 pieces of coal, and possibly 2 unidentified items). Among the ceramic sherds encountered were 96 pieces of pearlware, 2 whiteware sherds, 5 refined earthenware sherds, a piece of coarse earthenware, 6 miscellaneous stoneware sherds, and 8 redware sherds. The kitchen glass included 9 tableware fragments, 5 dark olive bottle fragments, and 8 pieces of miscellaneous bottle glass.

The prehistoric component consisted of only a few waste flakes from the manufacture or repair of stone tools and one crude biface preform fragment. No temporally diagnostic artifacts (pottery, projectile points) were recovered that could date this component and no associated features were identified. Prehistoric artifacts consisted of 13 flakes and flake fragments, 2 possible cores, and one crude biface fragment. Chert and quartz are the primary lithic raw materials.



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Based on the results of this Phase II investigation, it did not appear that 18CV363 meets the eligibility criteria for inclusion on the NRHP. The principal historic component dating to the late 18th and early 19th centuries consists of a small assemblage of highly fragmented ceramics, primarily pearlware, small bits of construction debris (i.e. brick fragments), and a small amount of oyster shell. These occur in a sedimentary context of dubious integrity. The presence of later, 19th and 20th century artifacts in stratigraphic association with these earlier materials indicates localized disturbance at a minimum and it is possible that the entire Stratum II has been mixed as a result of plowing. A major goal of the Phase II researchers was to determine if intact colonial features exist at the site and none were encountered. The prehistoric occupation is sparse and unexceptional with no temporally or functionally diagnostic artifacts present. The site appears to have no research potential and should not be considered a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005808, 97003070