



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CV492

Site Name: Dunkirk P&R2

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early Archaic to Late Woodland base camp

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.7303

Longitude -76.6507

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 12-20%

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Hall

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 30 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Topography

Floodplain

Hilltop/bluff

Interior flat

Upland flat

Ridgetop

Terrace

Low terrace

High terrace

Rockshelter/cave

Hillslope

Unknown

Other

Ownership

Private

Federal

State of MD

Regional/county/city

Unknown

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic Y

Early woodland Y

Middle archaic Y

Mid. woodland Y

Late archaic Y

Late woodland Y

Unknown prehistoric context

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic context

Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Other

Hispanic

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

Multi-component

Misc. ceremonial

Village

Rock art

Hamlet

Shell midden

Base camp

STU/lithic scatter

Rockshelter/cave

Quarry/extraction

Earthen mound

Fish weir

Cairn

Production area

Burial area

Unknown

Other context

Historic

Urban/Rural?

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 Y

Flotation samples taken Y

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Clovis	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Palmer	<input type="text" value="1"/>	
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Le Croy	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Guilford	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Brewerton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Otter Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Perkiomen	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Susquehana	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Vernon	<input type="text" value="2"/>	
Piscataway	<input type="text" value="1"/>	
Calvert	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Selby Bay	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Levanna	<input type="text" value="0"/>	

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shepard	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Keyser	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Townsend	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Watson	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Minguannan	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text" value="552"/>	Mockley	<input type="text" value="25"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Page	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="text" value="2"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jackfield	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>	English Brown	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Borderware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Buckley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	North Devon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Creamware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Pearlware	<input type="text" value="0"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text" value="0"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	<input type="text" value="1040"/>	Other fired clay	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text" value="174"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="text" value="55"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text" value="32"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text" value="580"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text" value="0"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	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 checked="" 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="text" value="0"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Architectural	<input type="text" value="2"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Clothing	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Misc.	<input type="text" value="2"/>
		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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Description:

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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18CV492 (Dunkirk P&R 2 Site) is the intact remains of a multicomponent short-term base camp that encompasses an approximate 460 square meter area (~0.11 acres, ~0.05 hectares) on the landward side of a stream terrace along the west side of an unnamed tributary to Halls Creek. The landward side (north/northwest side) of the terrace lies at the toe of slope of a severely-eroded hill and the center of the stream bed is located about 25 meters southeast of 18CV492. The site is located in the southeast quadrant of the Dunkirk Park and Ride project site, approximately 370 meters east of MD 4 and 250 meters northeast of Town Center Boulevard.

Site 18CV492 contains a series of small Early Archaic-Late Woodland occupations with a primary Early Woodland Period occupation. This occupation is associated with over 500 Accokeek ceramic sherds, which suggests that the most intensive episode of site habitation occurred sometime between ca. 900 B.C. to 300 B.C. Other occupations are represented at the site to a lesser degree by datable ceramic wares and projectile points.

Overall, post-Contact Period human activities at 18CV492 have been low. Historic mapping and land use records do not provide any cartographic information to suggest that either site coincides with the locations of any former buildings or other forms of historic construction. Although the land was cleared and repeated historic plowing did occur, agricultural production appears to have been both limited and relatively short-lived. As evident on historic aerial imagery, by the late 1930s, the land was already fallow pasture.

Discernable nascent natural succession vegetation that is visible on 1957 aerial photography implies that routine pasture maintenance probably ceased sometime during the 1940s and early 1950s. The existing mature forest overstory dates to the 1970s. Although some occasional random dumping has occurred within the woodlot during the twentieth century, these episodes have been infrequent, relatively minimal, and generally confined to small areas.

In 2008, this site was identified in a Phase I/II survey by the recovery of 39 prehistoric artifacts from three STPs and one test unit excavated on a small rise situated on a stream terrace. The site, which encompassed an approximate 30m by 15m area, contained well-preserved, intact archaeological materials with good subsurface integrity. The site is capped with approximately 40 centimeters of modern alluvium and slopewash. The archeological materials are contained in buried A and B horizons that lie beneath the alluvium/slopewash. The absence of any evidence of past plowing and lack of any historic artifacts in the buried A and B horizons (Ab and Bb horizons) indicate that the site is intact and has experienced little, if any, post occupational subsurface disturbance.

The recovered artifact assemblage from the Dunkirk P&R 2 Site contained fourteen flakes (4 quartzite, 10 quartz), three Mockley ceramic sherds, seventeen Accokeek ceramic sherds, and five fragments of fire-cracked rock. One small calcined bone fragment was also recovered. All of the artifacts recovered from the site were collected from either the buried A or B horizons. Fourteen of the artifacts were recovered from the three STPs excavated at the site. The majority of the STP artifact assemblage, ten sherds of Accokeek ceramic, were recovered from a single STP, STP N10E80. Twenty-five of the artifacts were recovered from TU Unit 1, which was excavated roughly three meters south of STP N10E80. The stratigraphic positions from which the sherds from Unit 1 were recovered is noteworthy. In the buried A horizon, two Mockley sherds were recovered with one Accokeek sherd, whereas in the first 10 centimeters of the B1 horizon, one Mockley sherd was recovered with five Accokeek sherds. In the second level of the B1 horizon, one Accokeek sherd was collected. While the wares were found in association with one another in both the A and B horizons of TU Unit 1, their vertical distribution in an intact soil profile implies that the site may be stratified. Given the similarity of physical characteristics and several mends amongst the from TU Unit 1 and STP N10E80, it is believed that the sherds represent the fractured remains of one Mockley vessel and one or two Accokeek vessels. The projected date ranges of Accokeek ware (900 B.C. – 300 B.C.) and Mockley ware (ca. A.D. 200 – A.D. 900), imply that the site contains an Early Woodland and a Middle Woodland occupation.

Based on the recovery of Accokeek and Mockley ceramic sherds and fire-cracked rock, the site had been concluded to be an Early Woodland-Middle Woodland Period, multi-component, base camp. The concentration of ceramic around TU Unit 1 and STP N10E80, may be remains of an activity area/feature therein. The recovery of the Accokeek and Mockley sherds from undisturbed, intact buried A and B horizons, clearly indicate that the site possesses archaeological materials in well-preserved, intact, datable subsurface stratigraphic contexts.

The equivalent of a total of 28.5 1m x 1m test units (TU) was excavated by the Phase III excavations at 18CV492. These excavations yielded a total of 1,846 prehistoric artifacts, which constitute approximately 97.93% of the combined Phase I, II, and III 18CV492 assemblage (n = 1885). From this point forth, all artifact discussions will pertain to the combined Phase I/II/III prehistoric artifact assemblage.

The core area of the site was excavated via one 21.5-unit block excavation loosely centered around Phase I/II STP N10E80 and Phase I/II TU 1. The 21.5-unit block was designated Block 1. A total of 1,668 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Block 1. The Block 1 assemblage constitutes 88.49 percent of the total 18CV491 artifact assemblage. Only one of the diagnostic artifacts from 18CV492, a single sherd of Mockley ceramic, was not collected from Block 1.

The Block 1 core area of 18CV492 is capped with slopewash and was found to contain well preserved, intact archeological deposits in sub-plow zone stratigraphic contexts; however, no discrete subsurface pit or structural features were encountered in Block 1. The sub-plow zone cultural deposits do not contain stratified datable contexts, but the artifacts do exhibit horizontal and spatial vertical patterning.

As noted earlier, a total of 1,668 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Block 1. Artifacts were recovered from all 21.5 test units within the block. The recovered assemblage contains 580 flakes, 144 utilized flakes, twenty-six (26) flake tools, thirteen (13) miscellaneous chipped stone tools, eight (8) projectile points, twelve (12) point fragments, two (2) early-mid stage bifaces/biface rejects (ESBR), seventeen (17) biface fragments, three (3) worked/test cobbles, six (6) core fragments, sixty-one (61) pieces of shatter, twenty-four (24) hammerstones, 134 pieces of fire-cracked rock, five (5) gorget fragments, 579 ceramic sherds, fifty-three (53) small bone fragments, and one (1) small shell fragment.

The individual 1- by 1-m unit assemblages (TU 1 – TU 18) range from eleven (11) artifacts to 171 artifacts in size. The individual "half unit" assemblages (TU 19 – TU 25) range from thirty-two artifacts to 113 artifacts in size (Table 44). Seven artifacts were recovered from random floor and wall scraping locations. The test units that yielded the five largest artifact assemblages are TU 14 (n=171), TU 4 (n=121), TU 23 (n=113), and TU 1 (n=112), and TU 16 (n=95), respectively. TU 14 also yielded the largest subsoil assemblage (i.e. Zone 2 – Zone 4) with a total of 125 artifacts.

Seven individual TUs, averaging one TU per 10-meter grid block, were excavated to acquire representative samples of the site non-critical areas. A total of



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217 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the peripheral sample units. The peripheral unit assemblage is equivalent to 11.51 percent of the total 18CV492 assemblage.

The Phase III peripheral sample units were excavated in various positions on the landscape to acquire data for use in discerning temporal or functional differences in landscape use (i.e. siting and site layout). While several of the sample units did yield prehistoric artifacts from plow- and sub-plow zone contexts, these assemblages are not nearly as diverse as the Block 1 assemblage. The most notable peripheral units are TU N0E75 and TU S1E75, which collectively yielded thirty-six (36) pieces of fire-cracked rock as well as a small collection of non-diagnostic tools. The TU S1E75 assemblage also contains a Mockley ceramic sherd, which is the only diagnostic artifact that was recovered from a location outside of Block 1.

Aside from the small artifact concentration at TU N0E75/TU S1E75, no substantial artifact concentrations or discrete subsurface features were encountered in sub-plow zone stratigraphic contexts of the sample units. Although the small artifact scatters encountered in the sample units are not significant on their own, they do, nonetheless, provide supplemental information about site usage beyond the Block 1 area. The small tool assemblages recovered from the units suggest that some of these artifact scatters may represent remains of small work areas. TU N0E75/TU S1E75 is believed to represent the remains of a small hearth.

The non-diagnostic chipped stone tool assemblage from 18CV492 contains a diversity of utilized flakes, flake tools, biface/biface fragments, and core fragments, most of which are clearly exhausted discards. Most of the lithic artifacts are also results of cobble reduction and made of the local cobble quartz and quartzite that is readily-available on site and in the adjacent stream bed. The recovery of hammerstones and cobble tools of varying sizes indicates that tool production and resource processing were clearly two of the main activities that occurred on site. Most of the 18CV492 ceramic assemblage is composed of aforementioned 500+ Accokeek sherds; however, the assemblage also contains a small number of Marcey Creek, Mockley, and Potomac Creek sherds. The diagnostic point collection contains one Palmer/Amos point, one Savannah River broadspear, two Vernon/Halifax points, a basal notched point, one Piscataway point, and two triangle points. Fragments of two gorgets were also recovered. The recovered assemblage also includes general debris associated with small base camp sites such as debitage and fire-cracked rock. The site does not contain any discrete subsurface pit features; however, activity areas are discernable as subsurface artifact concentrations.

The Late Archaic component of 18CV492 is best defined by two Vernon/Halifax points (ca. 3,550 B.C. – 2,050 B.C.); however, the point assemblage also contains several other point types with date ranges that include portions of the Late Archaic period (e.g., Savannah River broadspear, Piscataway). While it is possible that use of 18CV492 as a small seasonal base camp began during Late Archaic Period, the few artifacts that can be directly attributed to the Late Archaic Period suggests that it is more likely that 18CV492 functioned as a temporary procurement/processing station prior to the Woodland Period. Little is known about Early Archaic site use since this component is represented by a single Palmer/Amos-variant point (ca. 8,000 B.C. – 7,000 B.C.) that was recovered from a mixed temporal context. Nonetheless, the addition of this point to regional site databases does represent another location that can be used to map the movement of Early Archaic groups through southern Calvert County.

The Phase III field investigations of 18CV492 (and nearby Site 18CV491) has recovered and recorded field data that can be used to accurately and comprehensively describe and interpret the site and its NRHP-defining characteristics.

At 18CV491, it was discovered that these earlier occupations, notably Late Archaic and earlier, seemed to have favored a different part of the site than the Woodland Period inhabitants. At 18CV492, it was revealed that the general plot of land was repeatedly and intermittently re-occupied. These findings are of interest as they may be related to adaptations in environmental conditions and/or seasonal use. Given their close proximity to one another, it is quite possible that site 18CV491 and 18CV492 represent different activity areas of a much larger site. This latter supposition was viewed with much interest over the course of the project, but no data could be used to directly link the sites to one another.

If the sites are viewed in this manner, the studies have revealed that use of this stretch of the unnamed tributary to Halls Creek began during the Early Archaic period and continued for several millennia. The longevity of the sites repeated, and intermittent use, reveals that 18CV491/18CV492 was clearly regarded as a favorable resource locale for the acquisition of resources. Given the diversity of the floral and faunal species that would have been supported by the environment, as well as the abundance of readily-available cobbles for expedient tool manufacturing, this is quite understandable.

The collective chronological sequence of 18CV491/18CV492 is of regional interest since it provides meaningful temporal and spatial data that assists with tracking the movement of prehistoric populations through interior settings of Maryland's Western Shore.

The onset of the Early Woodland Period marks a shift in the use of both sites. The archeological data indicates that around the Late Archaic/Early Woodland transitional period, precontact groups began to use the site for more general purposes and for longer periods of stay. The distribution of artifacts across the site indicates that, for the most part, these later occupations tended to establish themselves in the same general location. At 18CV491, this location is a nearly level piece of terrain located in the center of the terrace on which the site is situated. At 18CV492, the preferred location for settlement was the same as that of earlier occupations.

Temporal correlations between projectile point styles and ceramic artifacts indicate that collectively, 18CV491/18CV492 was visited throughout the Woodland period, but it is interesting that certain time frames are present at one site but not the other. While the Middle Woodland is well-represented at 18CV492, it is not at 18CV491. The evidence of an Accokeek Phase occupation is extremely apparent at 18CV492, but although present, it is less readily-apparent at 18CV491. Although the Early Woodland and Late Woodland residents of 18CV491 never developed the site beyond a small seasonal encampment, it does appear that their lengths of stay were long enough to warrant house construction. The archeological investigations were able to identify at least one house, which was represented in the archeological record as a circular series of regularly-spaced stains, or postmold features, formed by the decayed support posts of the structure.

While archeological studies did not encounter a house pattern feature at 18CV492, researchers were able to differentiate activity areas that include a large hearth feature, a chipping/work station, and a work area associated with the processing of faunal resources. These activity areas were identified through spatial analysis of artifact distributions. The data recovery investigations were conducted with the intent to ascertain the types of lithic reduction activities conducted at the site. Studies of the lithic assemblages from 18CV491 and 18CV492 were performed in order to examine the stone toolmaking technologies that were practiced by the sites' past occupants. To explore the lithic technologies represented at the site, the investigations strived to deduce the methods of, and the reasons that prompted, the manufacturing of tools.



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The lithic artifacts indicate that the occupations of 18CV491/18CV492 practiced a combination of biface and core reduction technologies. This is evidenced in the lithic assemblages, which, though small, do contain a variety of early-mid and late stage bifaces, biface fragments, cores/core fragments, worked/tested cobbles, and projectile points.

Although the lithic assemblages do contain some carefully curated tools that are apparently a lost or forgotten item, as well as a small number of artifacts made from non-local material such as rhyolite, these types are artifacts are minor. Most of the lithic assemblages are composed of artifacts that are results of expedient cobble reduction performed for the purpose of manufacturing tools for immediate and/or general use. It is also quite apparent that most of the debitage was not the result of standard projectile point manufacturing or biface curation, but instead materials discarded during the creation and selection of flakes for use as tools.

Proportionally, the exhausted tool kits of 18CV491/18CV492 contain an overwhelming number of utilized flakes, which were found ubiquitously in association with all of the temporal occupations and across the site. These expedient tools outnumber the more prepared chipped stone implements by approximately 1.5 to one. General scraper-type and cutting implements are the most common forms of tools amongst the utilized flakes, flake tools, and even the more diligently prepared miscellaneous tools. The tool kits also include several "multi-purpose" tools, or in other words, tools with more than one functional use.

Several of the tools exhibit use wear on opposing faces, often along different edges, which suggests that the tools were rotated and flipped to maximize edge use. Throughout Maryland's Western Shore, small sites such as 18CV491 and 18CV492 have been noted with considerable frequency. Such sites, which can range from small lithic scatters to small base camp locales, can be found in a variety of small upland settings.

The excavations of the sites performed for this project have provided a new opportunity to examine the role of these small habitation locales in regional settlement patterns. The project has been able to acquire sufficient information to surmise the functional usage, shifts in use, and continuity of use at the two sites through time. Both sites are best classified as small, seasonal habitation locales or camps that served as a temporary "hub" for longer hunting/gathering forays. Although by no means extensive, both sites were found to possess the same range of features and artifacts associated with everyday subsistence as those of larger more "village"-type sites.

Site 18CV491 has been found to contain a "household cluster", a combination of features consisting of a house and associated storage/processing features. The site fits regional models in that its main area of use is small, less than 0.5 hectares, and situated in an environmental setting of limited carrying capacity. The discovered household cluster at 18CV491 joins a growing number of such features that have been discovered in upland settings. Like the house patterns at other sites (e.g. 36Ch674; 7NC-A-17), the house pattern at 18CV491 is small, faint, and could have been easily overlooked. The recovery of the household cluster at 18CV491 has provided information that can be used to examine the spatial layout of small, seasonal encampments in Calvert County.

Site 18CV492 was found to contain a small collection of features, in the form of artifact concentrations that reflect the performance of general activities. The features, which are clustered around hearth, include a series of closely-knit work areas. Variations in the siting of the various occupations at and across the site suggest that the sites may have been utilized during different seasons. The data recovery has acquired significant new information about prehistoric habitation and utilization of interior, low order wetland settings of Maryland's Western Shore. It has long been recognized that small, short-term, limited-use habitation sites like 18CV491 and 18CV492 were integral parts of regional settlement patterns.

While many prehistoric sites like 18CV491 and 18CV492 have been recorded along first- and second-order waterways throughout the state, to date, few such sites in southern Maryland have been subjected to intensive-level investigations. Limited artifact assemblages, absences of datable deposits, lack of discrete spatial patterning, and/or poor physical integrity are only some of the many reasons why these smaller, temporary habitation sites are often dismissed from studies beyond the basic identification/evaluation level. The primary occupations of 18CV491 and 18CV492 date to the Early Woodland Period, a time period that is marked by increases in gradual trends toward sedentism. Most of the changes consisted of subtle shifts in subsistence-settlement strategies associated with increased usage of stable estuarine and riverine settings, a trend which began during the later portion of the Late Archaic Period (Dent 1995; Custer 1994; Steponaitis 1983). As is apparent by the intact house pattern feature at 18CV491 and large ceramic assemblage from 18CV492, both sites are clearly testaments to the rise of more sedentary lifestyles, especially in interior settings, that characterize much of the Early Woodland Period. The pre-Late Woodland house pattern feature at 18CV491 is a new addition to Maryland's known assemblage of prehistoric house pattern features. The 18CV491 house feature and feature cluster identified at 18CV492 are new additions for site types that are not well-represented in the existing databases of Maryland archeological data.

In sum, the discoveries of sites 18CV491 and 18CV492, and the analysis of the data contained at them, contributes significant new information about the activities performed, technologies practiced, and subsistence strategies employed at small interior-area prehistoric encampments in Calvert County, southern Maryland, and the Western Shore.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

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