



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18DO43

Site Name: Lankford

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Woodland/Contact hamlet with burials

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code MfB2

Latitude 38.4604

Longitude -75.9054

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 0-20 m

Site slope 0-5%

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 High terrace
- Hilltop/bluff Rockshelter/cave
- Interior flat Hillslope
- Upland flat Unknown
- Ridgetop Other
- Terrace
- Low terrace

Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Chicamacomico River

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

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 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

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? 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 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"/>	Susquehanna	<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	2176	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/>			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	163	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	2	Modified faunal	76
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	7932
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	283	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	4350	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	328	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Charcoal samples from Pit #3 Midden feature assoc. w/ Townsend ceramics

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	8	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	50	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	1
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gravestones

Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	brick pier	<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: 905 +/- 60 years BP	Reliability	Sample 2: 715 +/- 60 years BP	Reliability	Sample 3: 950 +/- 60 years BP	Reliability
SI-2684: From Pit #3 from about 20" below ground level into the pit and near its center, assoc. w/ Townsend, shell, bone tools, animal bone, charcoal	High	SI-2685: From Pit #3 from about 18" below ground level from the northeastern edge, assoc. w/ ceramics, shell, bone tools, animal bone, charcoal	High	SI-2686: From Pit #3, "was a mixture of all the others namely 1 and 2", assoc. w/ ceramics, shell, bone tools, animal bone, charcoal	60

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, Vienna Historical Society?

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Lankford Site (18DO43) represents a Late Woodland period hamlet or village site. It consists of a series of prehistoric shell midden features excavated over a number of years. The site is located in a plowed field on private property near the community of Salem in Dorchester County. It is situated along the bank of the Chicamacomico River, with a tributary stream to the north and a bog 'ditch' (possibly at one time a small stream) to the south. Soils at the site are primarily Mattapex and Nassawango silt loams.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Mr. W. Yates of Cambridge, Maryland probed the site area and located several middens, or refuse pits, which he excavated along with members from the Maryland Archeological Society (MAS). In a letter dated October 1957, Mr. Yates writes to the landowner, Mr. Lankford, that his excavations have gone well and that he "continues to find and preserve" artifacts from the Lankford site. Enclosed with the letter was a sketch map of the 'findings to date' which included 2 shell middens located next to each other, a fire pit next to one of the shell middens, 3 isolated human skulls missing the lower jaw, an isolated human upper leg bone, "Skeleton #1", an oyster shell pendant, 2 bone awls, 1 complete celt, 1 "knife", and 1,263 pottery sherds. It appears that Yates laid out 9 'markers' that amounted to his grid across the midden feature. According to Flegel, Yates opened a pit in the vicinity of what would later be excavated by Flegel as Pit #1. In the later Pit #1, two further human skeletons were uncovered. In the early to mid-1960's, T. Crannel and T. Latimer Ford also collected artifacts from the site. The results of the findings from the 'excavations' in the 1950's and 1960's are currently unknown. Attempts made by Flegel to get a report from the MAS were unsuccessful. According to T. Bastian's files (previously an archeologist with the Maryland Geological Survey), T. Latimer Ford has the records from the early investigations.

In 1971, Mr. W. Yates reported the site to the Maryland Geological Survey (MGS). In 1974, members of the Dorchester County Heritage Society of Cambridge, Maryland became interested in re-examining this site and set about excavating several additional pits. Work was conducted between 1974 and 1976 under the direction of M. Jull, then President of the Dorchester Heritage Museum, Perry Flegel, then Technical Archaeological Supervisor for the Dorchester Heritage Museum, with students from North Dorchester High School and other interested people. Tyler Bastian, an archeologist with the Maryland Geological Survey, made a visit to the site in 1975. At that time he collected some artifacts from the surface of the site that are housed at the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory. Those artifacts are not included in the totals in the table above.

At the start of excavations in 1974, a base line was laid out running north-south across the site. The line was started at a stone marker located near the southern boundary of the property that says "The Beginning of Ravenwood A. H. B. 1847". A probe was then used in order to locate possible shell middens hidden beneath the plowzone. When a midden had been identified and its size determined through probing, the long axis was laid out and a trench was dug across the end of the pit (along the short axis) as a starting point. Then, a 30.48 cm (1') interval grid was established across the feature. Excavation then proceeded in the 30.48 cm (1') squares working in lines perpendicular to the long axis. The soil from the squares was collected in trays, the shell was removed, and the soil from below the plow zone was sieved through 1/2" screen. The number of bushels of oyster shell was approximated for each square. Perry Flegel produced 3 reports for the 3 pits excavated between 1974 and 1976. It is from these reports, with some additional information from the site files, which the artifact counts and feature descriptions below derive.

Pit #1 was first opened in October 1974. On the second day of excavations one of the students came across a human skull, accidentally putting a large hole in it with his trowel. Excavations proceeded cautiously around the skull until the whole of it was uncovered. The skull was removed and taken to the Dorchester County Heritage Museum. Since there was no one on site who was familiar with the removal of a burial feature, it was decided that Pit #1 would be closed and the remains covered up. Digging continued elsewhere at the site and Pit #2 and Pit #3 were opened up at this time. It was not until the spring of 1976 that work at Pit #1 was completed.

Pit #1 measured 4.57 m (15') long x 3.04 m (10') wide. The long axis runs in a generally easterly direction (ENE). It was located about (90') from the river just south of the aforementioned tributary stream. This feature contained 2 human skeletons with wrought nails around them, some of which still had bits of wood attached. The burial pits were identified along the southern edge of the pit. The burials were aligned in an east-west direction with the head to the west. The skeletons were extended and, for the most part, articulated. The skull of Skeleton 1 was disturbed in that it was oriented upside-down and backwards in relation to the rest of the skeleton. In addition, portions of the face and jaw were missing. A construction feature had intruded into Pit #1, probably represented the footing to a house on the site. The feature consisted of a column of 4 bricks with lime mortar. The top brick had adhering mortar on its upper face indicating that the column had been taller. The bricks were all roughly the same size and the overall depth of the column was 29 cm (11.5"). This skull from Skeleton 1 was 15.24 cm (6") to the east of the brick footing. Flegel suggested that in digging the hole for the footing, the skull was broken and partially shoveled away, was discovered, and replaced (backwards and upside-down). Skeleton 2 was parallel to, but slightly below and west of, Skeleton 1 (the head from Skeleton 1 was at about the knees of Skeleton 2). Flegel had suggested that based on the measurements and shape of the Skeleton 1 skull, the skeletons were probably Native Americans buried during the 17th or early 18th century. However, without further osteological analysis this can only be a presumption. Also, during even the early Contact Period, Native American burials were rarely to never in coffins. Flegel commented in his report on Pit #1 that there had at one time been a cemetery in the general area of the site. Furthermore, a deed search revealed that the site area had been occupied by Europeans by at least the early to mid-18th century. The artifact assemblage from the fill around the skeletons did not vary from the rest of the Pit #1 matrix with the two exceptions of wood fragments and nails found in the areas immediately to the west (around the heads) and south of the remains.

There were also 2 dog burials in Pit #1. One dog was positioned above the other and the top dog was situated slightly farther east. The top of the burials was approximately 38 cm (15") below the top of the pit or (36") below ground surface. Both of the dogs were lying on their left side with their heads facing north. Metric analysis of the bones indicated that the dog on the bottom was larger than the dog on the top at 66-68.5 cm (26-27") from shoulder to tail head compared to 58-61 cm (23-24"). Only shell was found below the skeletons. The artifacts from the fill around the skeletons did not vary from the rest of the pit assemblage. It was noted that there was "at least 20 bushels of oyster shell" in Pit #1.

There were 4 fire pit/hearth features identified within Pit #1. Two of the hearths were located in the north central portion of the pit and 2 were located in the northeastern portion of the pit. The soils in these areas were blackened and contained considerable charcoal. Most, but not all, of the artifacts recovered from the fire pit/hearth contexts exhibited evidence of having been burned. Other than the presence of charcoal, the artifact assemblages from the pits varies little from the surrounding pit fill.

A total of 6,445 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Pit #1. Chipped stone items included 4 triangular projectile points (1 quartz, 3 jasper) that most likely



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Description:

Late Woodland/Contact hamlet with burials

date to the Late Woodland period, 1 quartz stemmed point, 1 'point reject'/biface fragment, 86 pieces of debitage including jasper, quartz, and quartzite flakes, shatter and cores, and argillite and rhyolite chips and shatter. Groundstone items included 1 banner stone or atlatl weight and 1 broken celt. Other lithics consisted of a possible anvil, 1 hammerstone, 56 sandstone fragments, 68 river pebbles, 2 pieces of slate, 16 quartzite, sandstone, and granite field stones of various sizes, 6 pieces of granite, 2 pieces of soapstone, 1 piece of hematite, 10 ochre pieces (minimum estimate), and 5 unidentified stones. The excavator made a point of separating sandstone fragments from whole sandstone fieldstones so that distinction was maintained here. There was a total of 2,278 ceramic sherds. Of these 196 were rim sherds, 967 had shell temper and correspond to the Townsend series, 21 had grit temper, 13 had sand temper, 10 were shell and quartz tempered, 1 had shell and grit temper, and 1,070 were unspecified. Decoration consisted of fabric-impressed, cord-marked, incised, and plain. There were 2,673 animal bones belonging to a variety of species including predominately deer, with squirrel, fox, raccoon, snake, turtle, large and small birds, rabbit, otter, and muskrat. Twelve scallop shells were also recorded. A minimum estimate for the number of oyster shell collected is a conservative 600 fragments. There were 29 modified faunal tools from the site including 26 bone awl fragments (24 splinter, 1 from a flat rib, and 1 made from the fibula of a small animal), 1 piece of worked bone with drill holes, and a possible drilled oyster shell pendant. The presence of over 200 unburned land snails in the pit suggests that the pit was open during the spring or summer, especially during a warm, humid period. There is no evidence that these small snails were eaten and they are not included in the total faunal count. Floral remains consist of a minimum estimate of 185 charcoal fragments and 120 carbonized hickory nut shells, and 2 indeterminate seeds.

There were 59 historic period artifacts collected from Pit #1. There were 8 brick fragments (architectural items) and 1 miscellaneous piece of unidentified metal. Coffin-related items consisted of a minimum estimate of 10 pieces of wood, some with attached nails, and a minimum estimate of 40 cut nails. These are cataloged as furniture in the table above (these items are considered 'coffin furniture').

Pit #2 was excavated over 2 seasons in 1974 and in 1975. It was situated 191.4 m (628') from the boundary stone on the west side of the boundary line just south and west of Pit #1. The pit measures about 3.04 m (10') long x 2.13 m (7') wide. Two fire pit/hearth features were identified within Pit #2. They were both located in the southern portion of the pit. An interesting 10 cm (4") thick layer of oyster shell the length and width of the pit was encountered beneath the pit. The appearance of the shell indicates that the meat was removed but the shells were not burnt. It possibly represents an early shell dump episode but the formation processes that resulted in this layer are unclear. It was postulated by the excavators that Pit #2 was filled in during the fall time of year because of the number of burned and charred hickory nuts, antlers attached to the skulls of deer, and the relatively few bones of migratory birds found in the pit. It was noted that there was "about four bushels of oyster shells" in Pit #2.

A total of 3,811 prehistoric artifacts are cataloged as deriving from Pit #2. Chipped stone items included 4 projectile points (2 probable Late Woodland quartz triangular points, 1 stemmed point, and 1 jasper point blank), 1 'point reject'/biface fragment, 42 pieces of debitage including jasper, quartz, and quartzite flakes, shatter and cores. Other lithics consisted of an anvil, 3 hammerstones, 29 sandstone fragments, 2 river pebbles, 2 granite pieces, 20 quartzite, sandstone, and granite field stones of various sizes, 1 piece of hematite, and 5 unidentified stones. The excavator made a point of separating sandstone fragments from whole sandstone fieldstones so that distinction was maintained here. There were a total of 1,368 ceramic sherds taken from the pit. Of these, 75 were rim sherds (with a variety of temper), 986 were shell tempered and correspond to the Townsend series, 31 had grit temper, 3 had sand temper, 33 had shell and grit temper, and 240 were unidentified. Decoration consisted of fabric-impressed, cord-marked, incised, and plain. One other clay object was a red clay pipe bowl fragment. There were 2,073 animal bones belonging to a variety of species including predominately deer, with squirrel, fox, raccoon, snake, turtle, large and small birds, rabbit, otter, and muskrat. A minimum estimate for the number of oyster shell collected is 140 fragments. One clam shell was identified. There were 23 modified faunal tools from the site including 22 bone awl fragments and 1 antler awl fragment. The presence of over 200 unburned land snails in the pit suggests that the pit was open during the spring or summer, especially during a warm, humid period. There is no evidence that these small snails were eaten and they are not included in the total faunal count. Floral remains consist of a minimum estimate of 20 charcoal and charred wood fragments, and there were 8 carbonized hickory nut shells.

Pit #3 was excavated during 2 field seasons in 1974 and 1975. It was located about 73.15 m (240') from the boundary stone marker on the east side of the baseline, on a downward, moderate slope towards the river. As of 1974, the pit was only 25.6 m (84') from the bank of the river at mean tide. River tides have repeatedly inundated the pit over time. It measured approximately 3.35 m (11') long X 2.13 m (7') wide, with its longest axis running in a generally east-west direction. Its greatest depth was slightly more than 86.36 cm (34") from the ground surface. The upper stratum of the pit (down to 30.48-40.64 cm (12-16") below the base of plowzone) contained soil blackened from soot and charcoal. Three fire pit/hearth features were identified in the pit. They were located in the west, central, and eastern portions of the midden. It was estimated that 12-15 bushels of oyster shell were in this pit.

A total of 3,385 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Pit #3. Chipped stone items included only 1 projectile point tip, and 23 pieces of debitage including jasper, chert, quartz, and quartzite flakes, shatter and cores. Other lithics consisted of 4 anvil fragments, 19 sandstone fragments, 25 quartzite, sandstone, and granite field stones of various sizes, 2 pieces of hematite, and 2 unidentified stones. The excavator made a point of separating sandstone fragments from whole sandstone fieldstones so that distinction was maintained here. There were 704 ceramic sherds. Of these 57 were rim sherds, 223 had shell temper and correspond to the Townsend series, 61 had grit temper, 42 had sand temper, 1 had shell and grit temper, 1 had shell and sand temper, and 319 were unidentified. Decoration consisted of fabric-impressed, cord-marked, incised, and plain. There was one other clay object, a fragment of a red clay pipe bowl. There were 2,023 animal bones belonging to a variety of species including deer, squirrel, fox, raccoon, snake, turtle, large and small birds, rabbit, otter, and muskrat. There were an unusually high number of antler fragments and whole antlers in Pit #3 compared to the other pits. There was 1 crab claw and there were 4 scallop shell fragments in the faunal assemblage. A minimum estimate for the number of oyster shell collected is a conservative 400 fragments. There were 24 modified faunal tools from the site including 22 bone awl fragments (21 splinter, and 1 from a flat rib), and two bone tools of uncertain function. Floral remains consist of 96 charcoal and charred wood fragments, and 56 carbonized hickory nut shells (the number for charcoal combines both minimum estimates and real totals because not in all cases was the total collected from the field stated in the text).

Three C-14 samples were collected in 1975 from Pit #3 for dating. Sample 1 was retrieved from about 20" below ground level into the pit and near its center. Sample 2 was taken from the northeastern edge of the pit from a level of about 18" below ground surface. Sample 3 "was a mixture of all the others namely 1 and 2". Radiocarbon assays produced dates of 905 +/- 60 BP (cal AD 1021- 1228), 715 +/- 60 BP (cal AD 1210- 1333), and 950 +/- 60 BP (cal AD 991- 1213). These dates fall comfortably in the Late Woodland period and correlate with the large Townsend component of the ceramic assemblage from the site.

The Lankford Site (18DO43) represents a Late Woodland hamlet or village site. To date, the archeology from Lankford provides significant data on the structure and content of eastern shore shell middens and refuse pits, which in turn provides a glimpse into the inhabitants life ways. It was estimated by the excavators that there are some 15-20 pits located at the site. Having material collected only from 3 pit features reveals but a small portion of the activities that might have occurred at the site. That is, additional fieldwork to determine if associated structures or other feature types exist at the site would contribute to our understanding of the site's overall function. The site was last revisited by T. Bastian and C. Barse in 1987 at which time they suggested that the potential



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eligibility of the site for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places should be addressed. There is some risk of losing valuable archeological information to shoreline erosion and agricultural activities.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000172, 00000389, 00000391, Site Files