



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18DO80

Site Name: Wilke I

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 19th century chimney base

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code Et

Latitude 38.1997

Longitude -76.0498

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 0-5 m

Site slope 0

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
- Elevated marshland

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Fin Creek

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 119 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

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

Flotation samples taken

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	25	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	1			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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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

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 type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

19th century house, brick walks, and refuse dump

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	54	Activity item(s)	5
Glass (all)	336	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	381	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	2
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	6	Misc.	730
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 checked="" 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:

The Wilke I Site (18DO80) is the archeological remains associated with a late 19th to early 20th century domestic occupation on Bloodsworth Island, Dorchester County. The site is associated with William Bloodsworth, the patriarch of an oystering and farming family living on a marshy island in the Chesapeake. The site is situated on the northern part of Bloodsworth Island on a ridge adjacent to Fin Creek. While the specific location of the site is a relatively high area, the surrounding landscape is low-lying terrain. The site is vegetated with grasses and marshy plants and the surrounding landscape is extremely marshy. Soils at the site are Honga peat and mucky, occasionally inundated, silt loams.

The first record of ownership of Bloodsworth Island dates to 1672, when George Thompson of St. Mary's County patented the entire island. Like many of the early land holders in Maryland and Virginia, Thompson was a colonial land speculator, buying and reselling property. The only evidence of occupation on the island is found in a mortgage Thompson placed on part of the property in 1706 to James Bowles, a St. Mary's County merchant. In the mortgage, Thompson makes reference to Hans Lawson, a tenant, whose rents Thompson reserved for himself. No additional information concerning Lawson, his shelter, or undertakings on the island has been found.

George Thompson died in 1712 without satisfying the mortgage to Bowles. Thompson's heir and grandson, William Cavanaugh, sold his interest in the island to James Smith of St. Mary's. There is no mention of the island in Smith's will and it is unclear how he relieved himself of his interest in the property. Sometime prior to 1730, James Bowles, having assumed ownership of part of the island through Thompson's mortgage default, sold his interest to Roger Woolford of Dorchester County. In his will of 1730, Woolford conveyed the land in joint tenancy to his sons, Thomas and John, and their male heirs. This was eventually conveyed to Thomas and John's heirs, Roger and Levin Woolford. There is no indication that the Woolfords made any improvements to the island during this time.

It seems the Thompsons and Woolfords were not strident in their stewardship of the land, since in 1739, Comfort Hopkins attempted to patent part of the island as a vacancy. A survey for "Hopkin's Adventure" describes a dwelling house, an "old" log house, fencing and fruit trees. The land would not be formally patented until 1755. In 1758 and 1759, Charles Goldsborough of Dorchester County, purchased all of the Bloodsworth island tracts and their improvements. Charles Goldsborough held this land until his death in 1767. After Charles' death, Goldsborough's son, Robert, was assessed for owning the property. Robert Goldsborough died in 1788, leaving his lands to be divided among his ten children. Howes Goldsborough, the youngest of the heirs, bought out the interests of the other heirs by the 1790s.

In 1799, Robert Bloodsworth, Sr., a resident and landowner in Dorchester County, purchased Howes Goldsborough's interest in the island, then referred to as "Thompson's Island". Bloodsworth previously had patented vacancies on the island and with his purchase from Goldsborough became the sole owner of the island. Bloodsworth married Margaret "Peggy" Wingate in 1807 and their children were Robert, Jr., Risdon, Nancy (later Price), and John. During the first decades of the 19th century, Robert Sr. continued to live on Ballard's Island while several of his children took up residence on Bloodsworth Island.

Prior to his death in 1839, Bloodsworth conveyed to his son, Risdon, a tract of the land on Thompson's Island containing 500 acres. In 1845, Risdon Bloodsworth's property was sold by the Dorchester County Collector, John H. Hodson, for payment of taxes not paid in 1840, 1841, and 1843. At auction, the highest bidder on the property was William Andrews of Dorchester County, who paid \$23 for the whole parcel of 500 acres. Less than a year later, Andrews sold the property to William and John Bloodsworth, adding to other purchases they made on the rest of the island. Various members of the Bloodsworth family would own the various parcels of the island until the 20th century.

In the 1850 census, William Bloodsworth (who is buried at nearby 18DO79 – see synopsis report) was listed as a 47 year old oysterman living with his wife, Elizabeth, who was 41 years old, and five children. The eldest son, John, was listed as a sailor. In the 1860 census, William was listed as a 57 year old "farmer/laborer", living with his wife Elizabeth, and five children, three of whom were listed as "farmer/laborer". Fluctuations in occupation for area residents are probably an indication of the time of year the census was taken. If the census taker arrived during the winter months, the occupants of Bloodsworth Island would have been involved in oystering and fishing. If, however, the census taker arrived during the summer months, the same family members would more likely be involved with raising livestock, growing tomatoes, or tending to their fruit trees. This supposition is supported by the fact that in later censuses, the occupations return to "oysterman" or "sailor".

The Bloodsworths appear to have lived in larger extended-family households. They owned no slaves. This data suggests the closeness of the island community and the relative size of the households, as well as being an indication of the families' economic status. Family members owned canoes, bugeyes and other small vessels which they used in the oystering business and raised livestock such as cattle, hogs, and sheep on the island.

After William's death, his heirs included 2 sons and a daughter and their families. Land records for the 1870s and 1880s reveal that William J. and Andrew Bloodsworth (William Senior's male heirs) owned parcels near Crocheron on the mainland. It is thought that they may have moved their families to the mainland around this time. By the 1890s, Sarah Jane Murphy (William Senior's daughter) and her husband owned property on the mainland near Crocheron as well.

In 1901, William Bloodsworth's heirs sold to Harvey Jones of Crapo 500 acres on Bloodsworth Island. This deed mentions the Bloodsworth family's cemetery as a reserve, or exception, from the conveyance. In 1912, Jones and his wife, Ethel M., conveyed to John W.P. Insley this 500 acre tract, again, with the agreement that the cemetery by excepted.

Between 1919 and 1921, the 500 acre tract that includes Site 18DO80 was transferred several times, eventually being acquired by Colonel Albanus Phillips of Cambridge. Colonel Phillips was a well-known community member, holding numerous public offices, and was the president of the Phillips Packing Company. The company canned harvested and canned oysters and also preserved and canned vegetables. Phillips ultimately acquired the entire island with the intention to manage it as a game preserve. He was an avid hunter and his purchase of the island for a game preserve and gun club was noted in local newspapers. An article in The Daily Banner (1921) mentions that the island was uninhabited and had "been so for many years" and that at the time many businessmen looked to Dorchester County as "a favorite place for the purchase of lands for game preserves". During the 1920s, the Phillips Packing Company would acquire additional lands on the mainland for the "Bloodsworth Island Game Preserve".



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Description:

late 19th century chimney base

Unknown

In 1942, during World War II and under authority granted by the US Congress in the Second War Powers Act, a petition was filed by the US Government on July 17, which condemned certain lands for temporary use in connection with the prosecution of war and more specifically, "for the practice target firing and for amphibious training operations" by the US Navy. The six parcels of land on Bloodsworth Island owned by the Phillips Packing Company were involved in this condemnation. The owners of the various properties were compensated for the "lease" of their land during this period.

In 1949, the Phillips Packing Company conveyed its Bloodsworth Island property to the US Government. The Phillips Company was compensated \$94,641 for its property. The US Government, still in need of a facility for amphibious training after the war, was willing to fully compensate Phillips for his property due to the very real prospect that unexploded ordinance were embedded in and about the island. Since 1949, the US Government has been the sole owner of Bloodsworth Island.

Site 18DO80 was first provided an archeological site number in 1980, when the site was part of a Phase I archeological survey of the island. In order to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and similar Maryland State laws, federal agencies are required in part to survey cultural resources on their land holdings and to nominate qualified resources to the NRHP. The survey was undertaken in order to assist the US Navy in complying with these pieces of legislation.

The 1980 Phase I survey entailed a combination of pedestrian survey, motorboat survey, and systematic raking and surface examination. Site 18DO80 was found during a systematic raking of Fin Creek Ridge. The process consisted of clearing 50 X 50 cm to 1 X 1 m squares of litter and vegetation sufficient to determine if cultural resources were present. A testing interval of approximately 15.24 m (50 ft) was used for the raked areas. A total of 132 test areas were examined across the island.

At 18DO80, a single raked area revealed a scatter of brick fragments on the surface. Two adjacent areas were raked, and after revealed a line of in-situ bricks. Two formal 2 X 2 m test units were excavated in the vicinity of this brick scatter in order to determine if any subsurface features or structural elements remained. The excavations revealed an approximately square brick foundation which appeared to have served as the support for a hearth, fireplace, and chimney. The foundation measured 153 X 106 cm and was four courses of brick high with each course separated by up to 3 cm of mortar. Inside this encirclement of brick was found a surface layer of evenly laid brick rubble flush with the top row of bricks. This was underlain by a 10 cm layer of whole oyster shell in a light grey sandy matrix in turn underlain by around 15 cm of darker grey sandy clay loam and brick rubble over fire stained yellow clay. A structure was noted in this approximate location on 1901 and 1903 USGS maps.

Time did not permit complete excavation of the brick feature or a search for additional features. However, nearly 600 artifacts (counted in the table above as miscellaneous objects) were recovered during the Phase I excavations, mostly of a domestic nature, with diagnostic pointing towards a mid-late 19th century date for the site.

Phase II work was carried out at 18DO80 in the fall of 1997. No specific undertakings that would impact cultural resources in the area were planned for the island. Rather, the cultural resources investigations were completed for the purpose of assisting the Navy Federal Preservation Officer in making decisions with regard to historic preservation aboard the Naval Reserve.

The Phase II field investigations at 18DO80 were designed to delineate the site's boundaries, verify its function, and examine its integrity. These investigations entailed a program of shovel test pit (STP) and 1 X 1 m test unit excavations. In addition, the fieldwork included hand-stripping of topsoil from large features as well as a limited number of less formal test units in selected locations. A total of 75 STPs were excavated at the site. In addition, three 1 X 1 m test units, and two informal units were excavated and two areas were cleared to expose features.

All STPs were excavated by natural stratigraphy, and all excavated soils were screened through hardware cloth. Soils and artifact data were recorded on standardized forms using standard nomenclature and each STP was placed on a plan map of the site. STPs were excavated at 5 m intervals in a grid pattern across the site.

Test unit locations were based in part on the results of surface reconnaissance and shovel testing, but placement was also judgmental in some instances and was intended to obtain a cross section of data from the site. Test units were excavated by arbitrary 10 cm levels within natural strata. All excavated soils were screened through hardware cloth and, again, test unit data were recorded on standardized forms using standard data. Following the completion of a unit, a minimum of one wall was documented with black and white and color photographs, and a measured drawing of the same wall was prepared.

Based on archival evidence, field, and artifact data recovered in 1997, Site 18DO80 represents a domestic occupation that probably dates to the second half of the 19th century through the early 20th century. This is almost certainly the homestead of William Bloodsworth and his extended family of oystermen.

The fieldwork indicated that the site encompasses a series of features related to the domestic occupation. Features encountered during the Phase II include remains of a brick chimney (the same identified in 1980) and two brick walkways that appear to have been situated on either side of the house. No evidence of a house foundation or piers was found, and consequently, the site did not yield direct evidence of a house plan. In addition to these features, the Phase II fieldwork identified a possible trash dump composed of domestic refuse at the edge of Fin Creek.

Artifacts recovered during the Phase II are generally consistent with a domestic occupation. The assemblage consists mainly of architectural debris, although lower numbers of other artifact types were also recovered. Chronologically diagnostic artifacts suggest that the initial occupation of the site occurred during the 2nd half of the 19th century and continued through the early part of the 20th, during which the island was abandoned.

The artifact assemblage recovered in 1997 from 18DO80 included 5 activity items (a screw and 4 pieces of lamp glass), 381 architectural artifacts (33 brick fragments, 249 pieces of window glass, and 99 nails), 6 clothing items (5 buttons and 1 buckle), 66 kitchen-related items (54 ceramic sherds, 10 pieces of container glass, and 2 coconut hull fragments), 4 tobacco pipe fragments, and 130 miscellaneous objects (including 77 unidentified pieces of glass). Ceramics included 26 ironstone, 25 whiteware, 1 pearlware, 1 yellowware, and 1 redware sherd.

The assemblage does not point to any unique functions or activities related to Chesapeake fishing industries, but the ceramic assemblage suggests that the occupants of the site did not participate in 19th century ideals of domesticity and refinement to the same degree as middle class families might have. This last point is suggested by very low numbers of artifacts and should be viewed as a possible direction for future research. In sum, the site contains archeological features and deposits that offer the potential to better understand 19th century Chesapeake oystering communities.



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Unknown

Site 18DO80 is a late 19th to early 20th century domestic occupation associated with William Bloodsworth during this period. Occupants of the site were involved in oyster tonging during the intensive exploitation of this resource after the Civil War. The site contains archeological deposits and cultural features that represent a dwelling, possible outbuildings and livestock areas, refuse disposal, and possibly other elements of the past cultural landscape. The site appears to possess the potential for further research into the domestic aspects of people involved in the oyster fishery. In particular, appropriate data is present for understanding site content and structure and for reconstructing the past landscape at the site. This data would be important for understanding the adjustments made to conditions imposed by the oyster trade as well as living in a marginal location like Bloodsworth Island. Further, archeological deposits at the site appear suitable for understanding consumer practices and the degree of interaction with local and regional economic networks. The historical research conducted for the 1997 project established a historic and cultural context for these materials as well. Finally, the combination of features at the site, with the support of archival data, convey a sense of the site's function as the domestic occupation of a family engaged in the 19th century oyster fishery. These are qualities of significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places.

The domestic site 18DO80 conveys a sense of its function and contains appropriate archeological deposits and cultural features for reconstructing and understanding past landscapes and the oystering way of life in the 19th century. It is a significant archeological resource. The most pressing threat to the site is not development, but sea level rise. Hopefully further documentation can take place before inundation destroys the site.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000186, 00006861