



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18FR336

Site Name: Stone House

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

19th-20th century religious house site

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code PeB2

Latitude 39.6994

Longitude -77.3298

Physiographic province Lancaster/Frederick Lowl

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 420 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
- 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) Toms Creek

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 200 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Y

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Y

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Y

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Y

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Y

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

site,religious building,convent

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken Y

Flotation samples taken U

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	61	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	96	Pearlware	108			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

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	323	Activity item(s)	3
Glass (all)	117	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	217	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	1	Misc. kitchen	30
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	1	Misc.	2
Personal items	2	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious

Historic Features

Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" 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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Brief

Description:

19th-20th century religious house site

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Stone House site (18FR336) was once the site of the first convent of Saint Elizabeth Seton, foundress of the Sisters of Charity. It is located just south of Emmitsburg in Frederick County, Maryland. The convent structure was to be relocated in 1979 on property adjacent to the Sisters' Provincial House, less than one mile to the north of its original site. Preceding this move, a CRM firm was contracted to undertake pre-relocation excavations to assess the nature and extent of cultural remains in the area of the house. A number of test pits were excavated around the structure and additional testing was undertaken beneath the structure into a filled root cellar and within the confines of the original kitchen. Despite these precautionary steps, potentially valuable archeological remains were uncovered or destroyed in the process of preparing the house for its move. Fortunately, an extremely interested and conscientious contractor on the project did his best to retrieve the material and record the context of its recovery. After the move, the Sisters of Charity contacted the Maryland Historical Trust, who contracted Silas D. Hurry to conduct a post-impact archeological study on the site.

The post-impact study involved recordation of features exposed during the movement of the house, study of the artifacts uncovered, and historical research. Hurry's conclusion was that monitoring of the move preparations would have been better than simple testing prior to those preparations. The disturbances had uncovered two previously unrecorded subsurface features and numerous artifacts. To the west of the house a large (4.27 m X 6.71 m) brick lined feature which appeared to be a cistern for water storage was exposed. The interior had been pargeted with very hard, cement-like mortar and was filled with a sterile mixture of red shale and shale clays. The beginning of an arch of brick was preserved in the top courses of the cistern wall as was an apparent inlet pipe. As no further impact was foreseen, it was suggested that the feature be left alone. Historical research indicates that the Stone House was used as the laundry for St. Joseph's College in the 1880s. The great size of the cistern, which precludes normal domestic use, suggests that the cistern dates to this period. The second feature observed appeared to be another, much smaller cistern located partially under the north wall of the structure. The feature had been cut into the underlying shale and clay. When originally found, the cistern was covered by a brick arch which was destroyed before the post-impact study was undertaken. The contractor also relayed that he had recovered portions of an apparent pump system from the fill (which were subsequently presented for examination). The feature appears to have supplied water to the structure after the construction of an 1840-55 addition to the Stone House which partially overlays the cistern.

Artifacts described by the post-impact researcher include 3 activity items; a truncated iron ring (possibly a reinforcing band for some kind of wooden container), a link of iron chain, and a small fragment of alabaster that likely came from a statue of a Roman Catholic saint. There were also 97 architectural objects in the assemblage. The architectural items included 65 fragments of patinated window glass, 1 piece of clear window glass, a wrought iron spike, 2 cut iron spikes, 7 whole handmade bricks, 3 handmade brick bats, 15 brick fragments, an iron hinge, and 2 components of a pump system for the smaller of the two cisterns. Only one furniture item was recovered; a cast iron oven door which had broken into three pieces. The kitchen-related assemblage is quite large and includes 94 creamware sherds, 108 pearlware sherds, 61 whiteware sherds, 12 semi-porcelain sherds, 23 redware sherds, 1 buff-paste and unglazed earthenware sherd, 11 yellowware sherds, 1 Bristol-type stoneware sherd, 19 hand-blown bottle glass shards, 19 molded glass shards, a piece of milk glass, 3 triangular iron fragments that likely came from a cooking pot, and 19 animal bones. Of the animal bones, 8 were unidentifiable mammals, 8 were cattle, 1 was sheep, 1 was rabbit, and 1 was turkey. Two personal items were found at the site, both are fragments of creamware chamber pots.

In 1994, a sewer line project was planned (part of the FEMA Emergency Training Center construction), which would cut across two spoil heaps generated by the Stone House relocation some 15 years earlier. Phase I survey was undertaken throughout the sewer line corridor and within known archeological sites impacted by the corridor. Artifacts associated with the Stone House site were recovered from eleven shovel test pits. As discussed previously, 18FR336 has been the location of considerable stratigraphic disturbance. The recovered assemblage has been treated as one analytical unit, deposits assumed to have been produced by the 1979 grading and building removal activities. Many shovel tests were shallow as the rubble was too dense to dig deeply into.

Artifacts recovered in 1994 included 120 architectural items. Among these were 42 pieces of brick, 7 fragments of a heavily ridged coarse earthenware floor tile, 5 pieces of window glass, 26 pieces of iron architectural hardware, 3 pieces of architectural stone, 28 fragments of mortar, 6 fragments of plaster, and 3 pieces of roofing slate. The only clothing item encountered was a brass shank button. Thirty kitchen-related objects were uncovered. Thirteen of these are unidentified ceramic sherds, 6 are pieces of bottle glass, 1 is a piece of clear flat glass embossed with a pattern, and 10 are unidentifiable mammal bones. Two unidentified miscellaneous items are the only other objects recovered.

Due to the highly disturbed nature of the site, 18FR336 has little else to offer archeologically. Ultimately, the work that was performed there was primarily a salvage operation, attempting to glean what little information could be determined after significant destruction had already occurred at the site. The artifacts recovered, generally support the use of the site as a Roman Catholic convent and spiritual center for the Sisters of Charity, and as a laundry facility supporting the nearby St. Joseph's College which were historically documented uses for the Stone House.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005988, 00006060