



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18FR38

Site Name: Devilbiss Bridge

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early, Middle, & Late Archaic & Early Woodland short-term camp, poss. Middle W. base camp, Late Woodland village

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code HeC2

Latitude 39.5044

Longitude -77.3691

Physiographic province Lancaster/Frederick Lowl

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 98 m

Site slope 11-20%

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) Monocacy River

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 50 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

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 N

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		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"/>	80	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>	2
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	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	763	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	84	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Feature 1 - an oval refuse pit

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 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: 845 +/- 85 years BP Reliability High Sample 2: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 3: +/- years BP Reliability

SI-2898: charcoal taken from a refuse pit (Feature 1) filled w/ 25 Shepard Cord-Marked sherds (1 vessel), a Selby Bay point, flakes, and deer bone

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-Spencer Geasey Collection and Others

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Devilbiss Bridge site (18FR38) is primarily a Late Woodland Montgomery focus village with a series of intermittent Archaic (Early, Middle, & Late) and Middle Woodland occupations. It is situated on a high limestone bluff overlooking the Monocacy River. Several small tributaries and springs enter the river nearby. The soil at the site, which has been under cultivation for many years, is eroded Hagerstown Silt Loam residually developed on Limestone. The site has been known to local collectors for generations, and was first reported to the MHT by Spencer Geasey, who collected there.

In June of 1976, 4 one-meter test squares were excavated by the Maryland Geological Survey (now the MHT), aligned in a row perpendicular to the Monocacy River. The plow-disturbed soil was removed with shovels and screened, and the subsoil was subsequently skimmed with shovels and then hand-excavated with trowels. No artifacts were found in the undisturbed subsoil. The only sub-plowzone disturbance of aboriginal origin that was identified was a pit (Feature 1) partially exposed in test square 2. Half of the pit fill was retained for flotation. Charcoal from the pit was also retained and subsequently radiocarbon dated to 845 ± 85 years before present.

Artifacts recovered from the four test units dug in 1976 included pottery, formal stone tools, lithic production by-products, informal/incomplete stone tools, and bone fragments. The ceramic assemblage included 54 Shepard ware body sherds (22 from the pit feature), 4 Shepard ware rim sherds (3 from the pit feature), and 1 Stony Creek body sherd. Also recovered were 2 Selby Bay/Fox Creek point fragments (1 from the bottom of the pit), a quartzite chopper, 4 biface fragments, 7 retouched/utilized flakes (4 from the pit), and 506 rhyolite or quartz flakes/debitage (172 from the pit). Ninety-three deer bone fragments and splinters were recovered (many through flotation), all from the pit feature. Finally, two historic artifacts were also recovered from the plowzone; 1 wire nail and a modern lead bullet.

During Peck's Monocacy Valley survey in the late 1970s, he was unable to relocate the site. However, site collections by local avocational archeologists were examined. The collections documented during the Monocacy Valley survey included 22 Shepard ware sherds (originally reported as Rosenstock variants), 1 Page sherd (originally reported as Nolands Ferry Cordmarked), and 2 Keyser sherds (originally reported as Biggs Ford variants). There were also 4 Kirk corner-notched points, 1 Kirk stemmed point, a MacCorkle stemmed, 3 St. Albans side-notched points, 2 LeCroys, a Kanawha stemmed point, 3 Stanly stemmed, 3 Neville points, a Gilford lanceolate, a Mountindale, 2 Otter Creek points, a Brewerton eared-notched point, 3 Lackawaxens, 2 Bare Island points, 4 Savannah River stemmed points, a Vernon, a Susquehanna Broadspear, 3 Orient Fishtails, 2 Rossville points, 2 Hellgrammite points, 4 Accokeek points, 1 Wormans Mill point, 20 Selby Bay points, 2 Jacks Reef Pentagonal points, 27 elongate triangular points, 46 Levannas, and 9 Madison points. Collections known to come from the site also include a clay pipestem fragment, 2 broken sandstone discoidals, a polished celt, and a few additional deer bones.

Most of the artifacts recovered to date are from the Late Woodland Montgomery Focus. The overall size of the site (around 91 meters in diameter) and the dense concentration of artifacts noted by collectors and professional archeologists, suggest the presence of a compact, possibly palisaded Late Woodland village. The recovery of earlier artifacts indicates at least short-term camps dating to the Early Archaic through Middle Woodland, and the number of Selby Bay points might indicate a possible Middle Woodland base camp. Admittedly, however, recovery has been predominantly uncontrolled and recovery is likely uneven.

Little work has been reported/published regarding site 18FR38. The one report that does exist describes a plow disturbed site, but one with intact features that extend into the subsoil. Diagnostic artifacts were also recovered from the surface and plow-disturbed soils. It appears that the site is a likely candidate for at least some further research. However, since the site could not be located during the Monocacy Valley Survey, the current status of the archeological deposits is in question.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005981, 00006808, MDARC13-2