



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18FR628

Site Name: Burall

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Early & Late Archaic and Middle Woodland base camp, 18th century refuse pit

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.3393

Longitude -77.2749

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 160 m

Site slope

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) Fahrney Branch

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 30 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

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
- 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? Urban

#### Domestic

- Homestead
- Farmstead
- Mansion
- Plantation
- Row/townhome
- Cellar
- Privy

#### Industrial

- Mining-related
- Quarry-related
- Mill
- Black/metalsmith
- Furnace/forge
- Other

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

refuse/trash dump

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

N

Flotation samples taken Y

Other samples taken

### Historic context samples

Soil samples taken N

N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken



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## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<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"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<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"/>	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			
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## Dated features present at site

Feat. 10 & 15 - pit stains yielding C-14 dates & Selby Bay like pts, Feat. 18 & 19 - hearths yielding C-14 dates & no artifacts

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

## Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	refuse pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>				

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1: 470 +/- 65 years BP	Reliability	Sample 2: 600 +/- 50 years BP	Reliability	Sample 3: 2160 +/- 80 years BP	Reliability
ETH-5695: charcoal from a probable storage pit (Feature 10), associated w/ rhyolite Selby Bay like point preforms	Low	B-32907: charcoal from a probable storage pit (Feature 15), associated w/ rhyolite Selby Bay like point preforms	Low	B-32908: charcoal from a hearth (Feature 18), containing no artifacts	80
Sample 4: 940 +/- 65 years BP	Reliability	Sample 5: +/- years BP	Reliability	Sample 6: +/- years BP	Reliability
ETH-5696: charcoal from a hearth (Feature 19), containing no artifacts	High				
Sample 7: +/- years BP	Reliability	Sample 8: +/- years BP	Reliability	Sample 9: +/- years BP	Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MHT

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Burall Site (18FR628) is located on a level, elongated bench overlooking the Fahrney Branch in Frederick County, MD. It is an apparent Early/Late Archaic and Middle Woodland base camp. There is also a very small 18th century refuse pit present. Soils at the site are dominated by the Manor series, which are shallow and somewhat excessively drained. More specifically, most of the area contains the Manor channery and gravelly loams which are moderately eroded and not favorable for agriculture.

The site was first identified during a Phase I survey in 1988. This study was undertaken in advance of the construction of a 22.5 km long, 15.2 m wide section of the BG&E natural gas pipeline right-of-way. On completion of the survey, 14 new prehistoric aboriginal archeological sites and 2 previously recorded sites were identified within the project right-of-way. The methods employed included background library research, surface collection, and shovel testing. Most of the sites represented small temporary encampments exemplified by scatters of lithic debitage. At the time of the Phase I survey, the Burall site locus was plowed and planted in some areas, but the bench edge was in pasturage. The planted fields were conducive to surface collection. The bench, although somewhat obscured by grassy patches, provided sufficient ground exposure for collection. The owner of the property revealed, at the time, that when the fields were plowed one could frequently find projectile points and "tomahawks" lying about the surface. Also of significance, the site may actually extend to the east and onto another hilltop, ca. 150 meters away. The Phase I surface collection activities yielded numerous artifacts such as a quartz LeCroy point, a rhyolite Brewerton eared-notched point, a rhyolite Kirk stemmed-like point, (originally reported as a Savannah River), a rhyolite fishtail point, and a rhyolite Brewerton corner-notched point (originally described simply as stemmed). All of the Phase I artifacts are included in the count below.

After a review of the sites identified during the Phase I Survey, Phase II archeological testing was recommended to ascertain National Register eligibility on the three sites which demonstrated a frequency of diagnostic artifacts with potential to contribute to culturally significant data (18FR628 among them). The site was again plowed and finely disked. Each artifact was piece plotted to its exact location and transferred to a map to examine artifact distributions and concentrations. A total of 616 artifacts were recovered during the piece plotting stage of investigations. Much of the material consisted of rhyolite projectile point performs and bifaces which were in various stages of production. During Phase II and subsequent Phase III investigations at the site, a persistent drought created a significant problem in that the soils on the bench became extremely dry and powdery. Even though the site was washed down by the local fire department, the unusually high temperatures immediately dried the soils. Based on the locations and/or concentrations of artifacts found during piece plotting, mechanical removal of topsoil in the form of trenches was conducted. Nine 1.8 X 60 meter trenches and two 1.8 X 30 meter trenches were then excavated within the pipeline right of way and within an electric transmission line right of way at the site (the gas line right-of-way happened to be within the much larger electric line right of way also owned by BG&E). This amounted to stripping 1,080 square meters or 18.1% of the site within the entire right of way. Numerous artifacts were recovered during these Phase II excavations and are included in the count below.

Cultural features were identified in six of the 11 trenches. Eight of the 14 features contained cultural material including primary and secondary rhyolite and quartz flakes. These are included in the discussion of features below. However, it is important to note that one feature, number 14, turned out to be an 18th century historic trash pit associated with a nearby standing farmhouse. The feature contained several fragments of dumped charcoal and charred wood, a partial deer jawbone, a pig tooth, a thin hand-wrought nail fragment, a delftware sherd, a white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, a redware sherd, a likely English brown stoneware tankard sherd, and a white clay pipestem. Because of its potential to yield important information regarding the Archaic and possibly the Middle Woodland periods in the region, site 18FR628 was recommended for archeological data recovery.

To ensure the retrieval of as much data during Phase III data recovery as possible, a series of scattered 1 X 1 meter units were excavated across the site. To facilitate this part of the excavation, the portion of the site within the gas line right-of-way was gridded into 1 X 1 meter units, and each unit was assigned a consecutive number. A table of random numbers was used to choose which units were to be excavated. At 18FR628, the sample was divided between the gas pipeline right-of-way and the electric transmission line right-of-way. Within the pipeline right-of-way, 34 units were excavated, constituting a 2% sample of that area. Additionally, within the electric transmission line right-of-way, 52 units were excavated constituting a 1% sample of the site within this right-of-way. This additional 1% sample was conducted by permission of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company to obtain a larger sample of artifacts from the entire site for better intra-site analysis. The plowzone soils were hand excavated and screened. After each unit was excavated, the underlying subsoil was examined for cultural features. If features were identified within these units, they were completely excavated and mapped as to their locations within the excavated area. Soil samples were retained for flotation. Following the excavation of these units, the plow disturbed topsoil was removed from 40% (in addition to the portion removed during Phase II testing) of the site to locate features. Seven additional trenches were excavated. Typically these were of the same size as the Phase II trenches (1.8 X 30 meters), although two were shorter in length. Trench 13 was much larger than the others and included stripping the entire 3 meter wide area proposed as the pipeline trench. Phase III stripping (40%), test unit sampling in the gas line right-of-way (2%), plus the Phase II sample at the site (18%), constituted excavating a 60% sample of the site within the proposed pipeline right-of-way. In addition, a 1% test unit sample and surface collection in the electric line right-of-way added more intra-site data to the final site assemblage.

The subsoil in each stripped area was carefully exposed using flat-bladed shovels and sharpened garden hoes. Due to the previously mentioned dryness of the soils, the machine excavated trenches were difficult to hoe and therefore soil profiles were hard to discern; to prepare the trenches sufficiently for examining the subsoil for features, they had to be hoed simultaneously as the units were stripped. Eight additional features were identified during Phase III. Of all the features encountered during both Phase II and Phase III, eleven were small to medium sized ovoid pits, ten are small circular basin-shaped pits, and 1 is an 18th century trash pit. Three of the ovoid pits contain charcoal and fire-reddened clay indicating that they may have served as hearths, and over half of all pits contained prehistoric artifacts. One circular pit may represent a fourth burning incident, but probably is not a hearth. All of the features exposed at the site were drawn in plan view and then hand excavated. A vertical profile was prepared for the features to aid in determining their functions. The soil from the first excavated half of each feature was dry screened. Then the remaining feature matrix, constituting 50% of the feature matrix, was removed by cultural levels for flotation. An attempt was also made to retain charcoal from several of the features for radiocarbon dating, however sufficient samples were only attained from four of the features. The results of radiocarbon dating are provided above. Two of the samples (those from Features 10 and 19) were obtained through the AMS dating technique which utilizes smaller samples. These dates vary quite broadly. The two features (10 and 15) which contained Selby Bay-like projectile point performs yielded dates which were not within the acceptable realm of the Middle Woodland Period. The two hearths (Feature 18 & 19) yielded dates which were separated chronologically by almost 1,200 years. Assuming that the AMS dates portray the most accurate time period of occupation of the site, the date for Feature 19 would seem to be the most acceptable and matches up with the latter end of the Middle Woodland Selby Bay Phase.

Lithic materials constituted the vast majority of the prehistoric assemblage recovered during all three phases of research at the site. The lithic assemblage



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Unknown

includes 56 whole projectile points, 50 projectile point fragments, 25 whole bifaces, 103 biface fragments, 4 scrapers, 9 utilized/retouched flakes, 3 drills, 1 uniface, 704 primary flakes, 651 secondary flakes, 106 tertiary flakes, 58 cores, 373 chunks/blocks, 109 pieces of unidentified shatter, 2 choppers, and 4 sandstone hammerstones. Most of the assemblage is rhyolite (1309 objects), followed by quartz (938), quartzite and chert (3 each), and jasper (2). The formal stone tools encountered at the site include 1 quartz LeCroy point, a rhyolite Brewerton eared-notched, a rhyolite Kirk stemmed-like point, 1 rhyolite fishtail point, 5 rhyolite Brewerton corner-notched points, 2 rhyolite stemmed point fragments, 4 rhyolite eared point fragments, 1 jasper serrated-edge Early Archaic point, 3 rhyolite Halifax side-notched-like points, and 1 quartz Brewerton-like point. In addition to the lithics, 5 Mockley net impressed pottery sherds from a single vessel were encountered in Feature 2 (an ovoid pit).

Details concerning the plant remains recovered from the features at the site can be found in the ethnobotanical profile. A total of 1064 seeds and 9 nutshell fragments were recovered from all of the features. Of these, 102 specimens were charred. Although botanical remains were found in all of the features, only ten contained charred native botanicals.

Excavations at the Burall site revealed that its primary function was likely that of a rhyolite processing station where relatively long, slender projectile points were being manufactured from small bifacial cores which were brought to the site. Evidence suggests that the rhyolite was brought to the site within a relatively narrow timeframe and that the projectile points were being manufactured in a similar fashion (i.e. using a similar knapping technique). It is postulated (based on visual inspection) that the rhyolite utilized by the site's occupants originated at an extensive boulder field at Miller Hill in the Catoctin Mountains some 37 km to the northwest. The site also functioned to a lesser degree as a quarry site for the acquisition of quartz. Many of the artifacts attest to Early and Late Archaic occupations, while the presence of what appear to be Selby Bay performs coupled with Mockley pottery and one of the C-14 dates suggest a Middle Woodland presence at the site as well.

The site appears to be a significant resource with future research potential based on the fact that it has yielded 1) diagnostic artifacts, 2) intact features with datable charcoal, and 3) ethnobotanical remains. In addition, only a very small portion of the site was the subject of testing and data recovery.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006015