



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18FR632

Site Name: Dearbought

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

18th-20th century farmstead

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.4451

Longitude -77.3838

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 89 m

Site slope

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

### 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 200 m

### 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

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown prehistoric context

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 context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American

Unknown

Anglo-American

Other

Hispanic

German-American

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

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

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"/>	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	8	Staffordshire	Stoneware
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	English Brown <input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	153 Eng Dry-bodied <input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	29 Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	76 <input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	40 <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	1 <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

1775 House builders trench - artifacts above trench date to late 18th century and later.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	676 <input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	27 <input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	147 <input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	1143 <input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	13 <input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	998 <input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	215 <input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input checked="" 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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Unknown

Brief Description:

18th-20th century farmstead

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Dearbought (18FR632) is located east of Frederick, Maryland on Route 26 in rural Frederick County. The site is located on a terrace on the south side of existing Maryland Route 26, approximately 152.4 meters (500 ft) west of the Monocacy River. Soils in the area are composed primarily of Hagerstown silt loams and gravelly loams, with a small amount of Huntington silt loam and local alluvium and have been described as "prime farm land".

Dearbought was established as a farmstead in 1755 by a German immigrant, Sebastian Derr, supposedly for the household of his son. The property includes a structure known locally as the "1775 House", one of the oldest homes in the county. Oral history indicates that this stone house incorporates "Smith's tavern" which is located in this general vicinity on historic maps. It is surrounded by the remnants of a formal terraced garden. A decorative iron fence dating from the 19th century encloses two sides of the front garden. The house is flanked on the south by two abandoned outbuildings (an oven and a smokehouse, one of which is in ruins), two barns used for hay and equipment storage, a machine shed, and garage. Adjacent to the easternmost barn is a large concrete silo. An early 20th century dwelling house is adjacent to the 1775 House, across a yard and driveway. This house, dating to about 1920, is in excellent condition. The surrounding landscape consists mostly of soybean and other agricultural fields.

The first professional archeological work conducted at Dearbought was a Phase I survey conducted by the Maryland Geological Survey in 1988, within the proposed right-of-way for the dualization of Maryland Route 26 and Route 194. This survey included both walkover examinations of the impacted parcels and shovel test pits (STPs). In the vicinity of Dearbought (Parcel A), nine STPs were placed running east-west along the project right-of-way. Three of the STPs were located in the front yard just north of the 1775 structure. The excavations yielded two positive shovel tests containing 12 architectural objects (8 fragments of brick, 4 machine cut nails), 6 kitchen-related items (2 brown glazed redware sherds, 4 bottle glass fragments), 40 miscellaneous objects (39 chunks of coal, 1 clinker), and 1 possible prehistoric artifact (a quartz cobble). Artifacts collected from the yard surface included 12 activity items (fragments of a flower pot), 8 architectural objects (window glass fragments), 153 kitchen-related artifacts (1 creamware sherd, 19 porcelain sherds, 5 ironstone sherds, 12 whiteware sherds, 2 buff-bodied stoneware sherds, 4 redware sherds, 1 bottle glass fragment, 2 glass lid liners, 6 milk glass container fragments, 100 glass bottle/container fragments, and 1 piece of oyster shell), 1 tobacco-related item (a terra cotta pipe fragment), and 4 miscellaneous artifacts (a rusted metal object and 3 chunks of coal).

During the winter of 1988-1989, another Phase I survey was undertaken in the area in association with a nearby housing development (the dualization of the road likely was related to the increased traffic expected due to development). The area was shovel tested in a grid pattern at 10 meter intervals near the 1775 house and its outbuildings. Two small localized archeological deposits were identified. The first was located east of the house around the smokehouse and oven. Two shovel tests there contained a high density of artifacts. Ceramic sherds from these shovel tests indicate occupation primarily in the mid 19th century. Additional artifacts include brick and glass. Nearby shovel tests contained significantly fewer artifacts, suggesting a localized trash deposit in this area. Interviews with local informants suggest that the smokehouse may have been used as the residence of an African-American woman who was born a slave on the property. The second localized deposit was located near one of the sheds/barns. The concentration was detected in a single STP yielding 19 artifacts, primarily from the 20th century, including a 1930s dime, a pull tab, and machine made bottles. In general, artifact density in the area around the 1775 stone house and adjacent outbuildings was low. Ninety-six artifacts were recovered from 39 shovel tests; 67 percent of these were found in the three shovel tests already discussed. Artifacts recovered during the 1988-89 housing development survey include 4 activity items (2 flower pot fragments, a piece of lighting glass, and a rivet), 22 architectural objects (3 pieces of window glass, brick and stone fragment, nails), 69 kitchen-related artifacts (including 31 ceramic sherds, 7 fragments of bone, 9 pieces of shell, and 22 bottle/container glass fragments), and 1 personal object (a coin). Although the low frequency of temporally sensitive artifacts precludes calculation of a mean ceramic date, the 1820-1845 date range of most artifacts established a tentative chronology for the deposits. The functional patterning is indicative of typical household refuse.

As a result of these studies, and in lieu of the fact that widening and dualization of Routes 26 and 194 would significantly impact site 18FR632, Phase II testing was undertaken in 1990. Extensive archival research was a component of this research. A complete description of archival research results is available in the full site report. An abbreviated discussion of what historical documentation reveals is presented here, followed by the results of archeological research.

Dearbought Farm is one of the oldest, continuously owned intact farms in Frederick County. Purchased in 1755 by Sebastian Derr, it is still owned by the Derr Family. The farmstead lies on land that was originally given to Benjamin Tasker, a prominent citizen and early mayor of Annapolis. "Tasker's Chance", as the plot was known, was surveyed on April 15th, 1725, and included some 7,000 acres, including land along Carroll Creek that later became the City of Frederick. Twelve years later, on June 11th, 1737, six Germans took out an option to buy a portion of this tract, which included Dearbought, with a payment of 200 pounds, on condition that they would raise the full purchase price of 2000 pounds. In 1744, Daniel Dulaney bought Tasker's Chance from Benjamin Tasker. The "six Germans" had been unable to raise the purchase price for Tasker. Dulaney eventually sold off Tasker's Chance to 27 Germans, 465 acres of which included Dearbought and went to a Stephen Ramsberger in 1753. Ramsberger sold most of it (307 1/4 acres) to Sebastian Derr, the ancestor of the current landowners, in 1755 for a sum of 170 pounds. The additional quarter acre is a curious citation, and may connote a dwelling or in-holding, as surveys of large rural tracts in 18th century America were rarely so accurate as to specify fractions of an acre.

Sebastian Derr was a German refugee of French Huguenot descent from the Palatine who came to America via the Port of Philadelphia in 1728. After living for a time in Alexandria, he moved to Frederick and purchased Dearbought. In 1755 he built the house in which he is thought to have primarily resided; the "1755 House" (Site 18FR638), one of the oldest standing structures in the county. The main farmhouse at 18FR632 was reportedly built in 1775, supposedly for Sebastian's son John; although this tradition is in some doubt as John Derr was born in 1774. Sebastian Derr died in 1802, and is buried in Frederick in the cemetery of the old Reformed Church. Derr's son, John, inherited Dearbought from his father and the tract has remained in the Derr family's hands until the modern era.

Phase II testing commenced with the establishment of a 1 meter grid using the orientation of the 1775 House for the north axis of the grid system. All subsurface tests and soil samples were taken within this grid which was established using a tripod-mounted surveyor's transit and survey chain. Systematic shovel testing was used to identify possible features for direct excavation and high density areas for more effective sampling, and to determine site boundaries within the proposed area of effect. Shovel test pits were 50 cm in diameter and up to 40 cm deep. These STPs were placed at five meter intervals. This resulted in the excavation of 72 shovel tests in the front yard areas that would be affected by the highway project. Soils were screened through hardware cloth. Soil samples were also taken for phosphate analysis to help identify past land use practices. Areas inhabited by livestock or areas of household waste



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Unknown

disposal exhibit high phosphate loads as compared to areas used for gardens and crop fields.

Areas of high artifact density, surface anomalies, structural features, or soil profile anomalies detected by the shovel test pits and high phosphorous concentrations were tested for cultural features by excavating 1 X 1 meter test units. Twenty-five 1 X 1 meter test units were excavated. Of these, the location of ten were distributed based on findings made by shovel tests and soil tests, ten were located in the garden area, and another five were placed near the standing house structure. This area represents 1.25% of the entire area affected by the highway dualization work. Units were excavated in natural levels, or cultural levels where anthrosols were distinct from the natural soil matrix. Where soil horizons were greater than 10 cm in depth, they were excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels, except for plowzones which were excavated in one level. All soils were screened through hardware cloth.

Phase II testing within the highway project area of potential affect did not produce evidence of features associated with previously undetected outbuildings, wells, or privies. No evidence was found to indicate that Smith's Tavern was located within the project area. Excavations outside the highway project area, adjacent to the north wing of the 1775 House did identify features related to the house's construction and use. These were a builder's trench, a possible cistern, a pit feature that may be related to either the cistern or the builder's trench, and a posthole that may have been created when scaffolding was erected to make repairs to the house. Architectural investigation provides some evidence that the central portion of the house, post-medieval in design, may have been built earlier than the supposed 1775 date of the structure. The Phase II investigation, seems to support the contention that the north wing was built in the late 18th century based on the datable artifacts found above the builders trench and in association with the relevant features. Perhaps it was the north wing that was constructed in 1775, added onto an older post-medieval structure.

The artifact assemblage distribution and composition can be categorized as a variation of South's Brunswick Pattern; a pattern prevalent in British colonial sites where secondary refuse is disposed of adjacent to dwellings. Based on artifact distributions from both STP and 1 X 1 meter unit excavations, the majority of artifacts are concentrated in areas adjacent to the 1775 House. Units closest to the house exhibited frequencies of subsistence and architecture related artifacts several times that of areas only a few meters distant.

Artifacts recovered during the Phase II testing include 11 activity items, 1,101 architectural objects, 13 furniture items, 1,581 kitchen-related (subsistence) artifacts, 17 personal objects, 2 tobacco pipe parts, and 171 miscellaneous items. Detailed descriptions are not provided in the main body of the report for artifact frequencies within each class, so they are not discussed here. However, the report does provide sherd counts for datable ceramics which are used to generate the tallies here and in the tables above. Among the ceramic sherds, 600 are datable sherds and included in this assemblage are 75 creamware, 9 glazed porcelain, 3 ironstone, 1 slipware, 40 pearlware, 311 redware, 141 whiteware, 1 porcelain, 1 spongeware, and 18 stoneware sherds. Based on the surface decoration of these sherds, a mean ceramic date of 1832 is attained.

Three elements of the data collected during Phase II work bear on the relation of the composition and patterning of material culture to the German-American ethnicity of the inhabitants of the 1775 House at Dearbought. The first element is the development of the main structure itself, which starts with an early original structure with a central chimney floor plan (associated with German folk housing), and later modified with the addition of the hall-and parlor north wing and an additional half-story. Archeological work suggests this north wing may be the structure built around 1775, while the main house was an older structure. Secondly, the composition of the ceramic assemblage includes coarse earthenware and stoneware types that, while probably domestically produced, seem to have developed from Germanic ceramic traditions. Third, artifact disposal patterns in the project area tested by excavation are similar to those of Anglo-American (Brunswick Pattern), rather than German-American sites. Deviation from patterns expected for this site, inhabited by German-Americans, may be correlated with the modification of the structure to a Georgian design. Site 18FR632 seems to represent a period of transition from the sturdy, plain, and practical structure of the German pioneer's culture into the self-conscious, formal symmetry of a structure in the increasingly affluent, and Anglicized culture of late Colonial and Federal America.

Significant archeological deposits that maintain integrity may be located outside the area where disturbance due to the Route 26/194 dualization would have impacted site integrity. Future research at 18FR632 should focus on deposits adjacent to the extant structure (particularly the "central" or main house) and in the back and side yard deposits. Additional questions remain regarding the dating of the main house, which may be earlier than 1775, and the structure's possible use as Smith's Tavern.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006006, 00006024, 97002011