



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18FR830

Site Name: Clay and Bank Street Mill

Prehistoric

Other name(s): POMARC 4

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: Early 20th century mill site

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 17

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.2733

Longitude -77.5298

Physiographic province Blue Ridge

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-1%

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Poto

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 3 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

High terrace

Hilltop/bluff

Rockshelter/cave

Interior flat

Hillslope

Upland flat

Unknown

Ridgetop

Other

Terrace

Low terrace

### 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

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  sawmill

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

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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
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"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<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"/> 1	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

Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	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"/> 8
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> auto

### 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 type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<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 checked="" 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:  +/-  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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Historic

Brief Description: Early 20th century mill site

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18FR830 (PORMARC 4) is the archeological remains of the early 20th century Harne Sawmill in the village of Point of Rocks, Frederick County. At the time of the site's first investigation, it was covered in grass and trees with a north-south trending stream traversing the eastern portion of the site. This stream drains to the nearby Potomac River. Soils at the site are primarily Combs silt loams.

The village of Point of Rocks is believed to have been established beginning in the 1820s. Its establishment followed shortly after a major fire in the nearby historic settlement of Trammelsburg (about 1 mile northeast of Point of Rocks). The Trammelsburg community relocated their settlement closer to the Potomac River, on land owned by iron-master Roger Johnson. Around this time, planners of both the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal were eyeing the narrow strip of land that ran between the Potomac River and the Catoctin Mountain at Point of Rocks for the new routes that would connect Baltimore and Georgetown to the developing west. Because the canal and the railroad were in competition for freight, they became embroiled in a legal battle for the narrow strip of land at Point of Rocks. Although the canal and the railroad ultimately agreed to share the narrow passage, the costly litigation lasted from 1828 until 1832 and stalled construction of both. Despite the controversy, on July 4th, 1828, Georgetown and Baltimore both hosted grand celebrations marking the simultaneous groundbreaking ceremonies for the competing projects.

By 1833, a significant settlement had sprung up around Point of Rocks. According to an account by Benjamin Latrobe, who was visiting the area, the rough settlement included housing for railroad and canal construction workers as well as boarding houses, taverns, and freight depots. In 1835, during the execution of Roger Johnson's will, a survey of the Point of Rocks area was drawn up. This plat showed a linear village laid out along two principal streets parallel to the Potomac River, the railroad, and the canal. Lots were being sold out of Johnson's Mine Bank Property by the trustees for his estate, initially clustered at the west end of the modern town, near the base of the Catoctin Mountain and the road to Frederick. The buildings on these lots were probably built quickly and cheaply, and few, if any, remain. The community would continue to grow throughout the 19th century.

Site 18FR830 encompasses portions of Lot numbers 11 and 12. These lots were part of Roger Johnson's "Mine Bank Farm" and were split off from that property in two sections. The southern part was sold to Benjamin McMurtrie by Roger Johnson's heirs in 1849. The northern part was sold by Roger Johnson's estate to Daniel Duvall as part of 203 acres north of the town of Point of Rocks. These two tracts were joined together under the ownership of John H. Smoot in 1871 and 1901. As part of the settlement of the John H. Smoot estate, the part of this tract adjoining Point of Rocks was laid out in small lots, including Lots 11 and 12.

Trustees for the Smoot estate sold Lot 11 to John Shry and Lot 12 to Charles M. Elliott in 1903. The low purchase prices for each lot indicate they were unimproved at the time they were sold. Lot 11 (approximately 1/3 acre) had numerous owners in the 20th century, but subsequent deeds do not mention the purchase price of the property or if any improvements were present. The approximately 1/4 acre Lot 12 was sold to Gideon O. Harne for \$175 in 1913.

In the 1910 Census, Gideon Harne is listed as a 37-year-old living in Point of Rocks, and working as a proprietor at a lumber camp. This association with the lumber industry could explain Harne's construction of a sawmill on Lot 12 after he purchased the property in 1913. However, by the 1920 Census, Gideon Harne was living in Loudoun County, Virginia and working as a farmer on his own farm. Gideon Harne died sometime between 1924 and 1930, as the 1930 Census lists his wife, Alta L. Harne, as a widow living in Frederick City. Gideon Harne defaulted on his mortgage in 1924 and, on October 24th, Frederick County Sheriff Ingomar Albaugh sold Lot 12. Richard Hawes was the highest bidder, paying \$600. At that time improvements on the property included a "two story frame saw mill, 39 ft. by 40 ft., and a stable, containing 11 stalls 14 ft. by 67 ft., all in good condition". According to property tax records, a house was built on the property in 1920. This house stood until 2005, nonetheless, when Richard Hawes' widow, Ida, sold Lot 12 to Horace Mohler in 1951, there were no improvements mentioned in the deed and the purchase price was not indicated. Lot 12 had four owners after that, before being sold to the Maryland Transit Administration.

It should be noted that, in addition to the house constructed on Lot 12 in 1920, a structure (likely the sawmill) is depicted straddling the stream on the eastern margin of the site on the 1955 USGS Point of Rocks 7.5 minute quadrangle map. This particular location, however, places the sawmill largely outside of Lot 12. It is possible that the mill was further downstream than shown on the USGS map, placing it in Lot 12. In any case, if the two storey mill was water-powered, there might be some trace of the mill and the water-power system that ran it. There could also be a trace of the stable present. It is somewhat unusual that a water-powered sawmill was built in the early 20th century. In other states, steam-engine powered sawmills were 20 times more common by 1890 than water-powered sawmills.

Site 18FR830 was initially identified in March of 2005 during Phase I testing of the two lots in association with the expansion of a parking lot. Both Lots 11 and 12 had been acquired by the Maryland Transit Administration for the expansion of the Point of Rocks, Maryland Area Regional Commuter train (MARC train) station parking lot. The 276-space parking lot that had served the station previously had become inadequate to handle the volume of rail commuters using the station, leading to frequent illegal parking by commuters. The southern portions of Lots 11 and 12 were to be used for a stormwater management facility for the new lot. Since public monies would be spent on the MARC Station improvements, investigation was warranted under federal mandates including Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and regulations contained in 36 CFR 800 that protect cultural properties.

Phase I work in 2005 entailed the excavation of two 91 cm (3 ft) wide backhoe trenches and 16 shovel test pits (STPs). The two backhoe trenches were located on the designated 100 year floodplain, about 4 m above the Potomac River. The excavation of Trench 1 (in Lot 12) was to a length of 6 meters while Trench 2 (in Lot 11) was to a length of 14 m. These two trenches had depths of excavation ranging from 67 cm in the southern half of Trench 2 to 2.7 m below ground surface in Trench 1.

Following trench excavation to gain some basic geomorphological information, a 7.62 m (25 ft) grid of 16 STPs was laid out across the two lots. The shovel test pits measured approximately 50 cm in diameter and were excavated in natural layers or soil horizons. The shovel tests typically extended 10 cm into Pleistocene-age subsoil (as determined by the trench excavations) or to the practical depth of excavation (75-80 cm), whichever was shallower. All excavated material was screened through hardware cloth mesh, and recovered artifacts, including a sample of modern items, were placed in plastic bags labeled with the appropriate provenience information. The stratigraphic profile of every STP was recorded on standardized forms, minimally including the depth, color, and texture of each layer/horizon as well as the types of recovered artifacts. Photographs also were taken of field conditions and excavations in progress with both black-and-white print and color-slide film.



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Prehistoric

Other name(s) PORMARC 4

Historic

Brief Description:

Early 20th century mill site

Unknown

Phase I work revealed a complex depositional history for the site. The overall landscape is the result of a combination of mechanical fill and flood deposits. In Trench 1, alternating flood and fill deposits overlay and bracket two soot and stone/slag-lined channel or drainage features (Features 2 and 3) that have a north-south orientation. It is not clear if fill layers over these drainage features were deposited at one time (possibly as flood deposits from the aforementioned tributary stream), or if two cobble and earth fills and the underlying reddish brown silt loam could have been deposited as one fill event. In Trench 2, the southern half of a septic leach field was encountered, covered by two fill episodes, one of which consisted of angular gravel. The construction of the septic field appears to have truncated three mechanical fill deposits. These fill deposits overlaid Feature 1, a stone foundation /pier that may or may not be related to what appears to be another foundation /pier (Feature 4) found about 15 m to the north in a shovel test. The foundation/pier in Trench 2 rests on natural deposits. The date of the septic field is unknown.

Very few artifacts were recovered during Phase I work. However, based on the possibility that all four of the identified features at 18FR830 could be related to the Harne Sawmill, Phase II testing was carried out immediately.

The Phase II investigation of 18FR830 involved the excavation of three trenches to further investigate Features 2 and 3 discovered during the Phase I survey: the apparent slag/stone-lined drainage channels. The three Phase II trenches were oriented to test the extent of these features at the northern, southern, and middle portions of the site. None were excavated as deep as Phase I Trench 1, due to the height of the water table. Trench 3 was excavated east to west across the southern end of the site and Trench 4 was excavated east to west across the northern end of the site. Trench 5 was excavated just to the north of Trench 1, actually cutting along the northern edge of Trench 1. All of the trenches filled rapidly with groundwater and collapsed in places as a result.

The profiles of Trenches 3, 4, and 5 depict a series of fill episodes that are interspersed with possible alluvial deposition events. There was no indication of Features 2 and 3 in Trench 3. Trenches 4 and 5 exhibited the black soot and slag deposits that appear to be related to Feature 2. Large stones and cobbles were observable in the feature areas of Trenches 4 and 5, but only one large stone was found in-situ in the lower soot and slag deposits of Trench 5. The only artifacts observed during this investigation were modern glass fragments.

The evidence from Trench 4 suggests that the original stratigraphy, at least in the northern and eastern portions of the site was gray clay that possibly was cut (possibly by a natural event) and then filled with alternating layers of cobble-laden soil and alluvial sediment. In general, it appears as if the drainage channels (Feature 2 specifically) were cut into the uppermost portion of the first fill layers and then later were covered by alternating fills of cobbles and non-cobble fill. However, the stratigraphic evidence is conflicting because Trench 1 and 5 have the Feature 2 material under the earliest cobble layer, while Trench 4 has one cutting through the lowest cobble layer.

The full assemblage from 18FR830 (both Phase I and II) consisted of 1 activity item (a spark plug), 6 architectural items (3 window glass fragment, a board fragment, 1 common wire nail, a brick fragment), 16 kitchen-related items (13 machine-made bottle glass fragments and 3 other bottle glass fragments), 1 personal item (a metal key), 8 miscellaneous objects (a lump of tar, 5 plastic items, and 2 pieces of coal), and one prehistoric item (a lithic flake).

The results of the Phase II showed that 18FR830 has a depositional history that is extremely complicated and cannot easily be encompassed in a simple narrative of events. There are several alternative scenarios that could be used to interpret the sequence but none is strongly supported over the others by the evidence. If the drainage channels were related to the early 20th century mill, most of the fill events under the bottommost cobble stratum date to that general period and those above it date to after the mill was closed. In any case, it is clear that little evidence of the channels remains and what was found is not significant. Based on these findings, no further work was recommended for 18FR830.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002408, Site Files