



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA19

Site Name: Leges Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Lego's Point, Shell Heap #6 (Marye), Logo Point, E Field

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle Woodland shell midden, 17th century house site; Late 19th century possible structure

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 6

SCS soil & sediment code WdA

Latitude 39.3442 Longitude -76.2605

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 0

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 High terrace
- Hilltop/bluff Rockshelter/cave
- Interior flat Hillslope
- Upland flat Unknown
- Ridgetop Other
- Terrace Beach
- Low terrace

Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Chesapeake Bay

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 2 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site Woodland site

Archaic site MD Adena

Early archaic Early woodland

Middle archaic Mid. woodland

Late archaic Late woodland

Contact period site ca. 1820 - 1860 P

ca. 1630 - 1675 P ca. 1860 - 1900 Y

ca. 1675 - 1720 Y ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780 P Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820 P

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

Post-in-ground

Battlefield Frame-built

Fortification Masonry

Encampment Other structure

Townsite Slave related

Religious Non-domestic agri

Church/mtg house Recreational

Ch support bldg Midden/dump

Burial area Artifact scatter

Cemetery Spring or well

Sepulchre Unknown

Isolated burial

Bldg or foundation Other context

Possible Structure

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken Shell Analysis

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA19

Site Name: Leges Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Lego's Point, Shell Heap #6 (Marye), Logo Point, E Field

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle Woodland shell midden, 17th century house site; Late 19th century possible structure

Unknown

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"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Earthenware		Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<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	32	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	9
Fire-cracked rock	19	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	1	Floral material	<input checked="" 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"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Dated features present at site

Fire-pit/hearth feature (Feature 5-1), assoc. w/ burnt and whole oyster shell, carbon, and burned earth

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	2	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	1	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	102	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	14
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> coal, cinder

Historic Features		Privy/outhouse		Depression/mound		Unknown	
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input 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 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: 1850 +/- 130 years BP Reliability High Sample 2: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 3: +/- years BP Reliability

B-84399: Charred wood sample from possible fire-pit (Feature 5-1), assoc. w/ burnt and whole oyster shell, carbon, and burned earth

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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA19

Site Name: Leges Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Lego's Point, Shell Heap #6 (Marye), Logo Point, E Field

Historic

Brief

Description:

Middle Woodland shell midden, 17th century house site; Late 19th century possible structure

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab , Aberdeen Proving Ground

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Leges Point Site (18HA19) consists of an Early-Middle Woodland shell midden and the possible remains of a 19th century structure. The site is located on the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) property in Harford County, on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Aberdeen Proving Ground is a U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) installation in the U.S. Army Material Command. Site 18HA19 is situated on a low bluff on the western shore of Bush River. It extends for about 50 m along the shoreline and inland for about 15 m. The site has suffered from several disturbances: natural erosion processes which have removed an unknown portion of the site, plowing activities that have disturbed the upper portions of the midden, and disturbance due to bombardment by munitions testing. A typical profile for the site consists of a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sandy loam or very dark gray (10YR3/1) loamy silt plowzone over a layer of very dark grey brown (10YR3/2) sandy loam or a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) loamy silt containing shell that encompasses the midden. These layers lay above sterile subsoil.

Several early prehistoric sites, including two Paleo-Indian sites are present within APG, all of which are located along shorelines. Native American occupation continues into the Late Woodland and Contact periods until the first European settlement at Spesutie Island in 1652 where Nathaniel Utie established a trading post. A 1652 treaty with the Susquehannocks encouraged the expansion of settlement in the area and the first land grants were patented in 1658. By the early 1700s, the Susquehannocks had left the region. From the mid-1700s to the early 1900s, large portions of the property within APG were in cultivation and other areas were used for recreational activities such as hunting and fishing.

The military acquired the land in 1917 establishing APG and the Edgewood Arsenal (a chemical production facility). Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Edgewood Arsenal were joined administratively in 1971 forming the modern APG, a major Army installation. By 1992, about 2,000 buildings covering over 321 acres of floor space and over 16,000 personnel were located at the installation. The installation continues to grow under the Base Closure and Realignment Act as other activities are relocated to APG. Not surprisingly, over the last 90 years environmental impacts have greatly affected the archeological potential of the installation's land holding. Extant structures remain at APG, dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, World Wars I and II, and up to 1950 (the historical building cut-off date).

Site 18HA19 was first identified during a survey of the area in the 1930s. At that time it was described as an extensive shell heap. The site was then brought to the attention of the state archeologists at the Maryland Geological Survey (MGS) in 1970 by an avocational archeologist who was a member of the Archeological Society of Maryland. The collector, who referred to the site as E Field, reportedly had historic artifacts and a few prehistoric points from the site but no detailed information was made available. No artifacts were seen on the surface during a trip to the site by MGS personnel.

In the early 1990s, Federal cultural resources mandates led the installation commander at APG to assign the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment (DSHE) the task of preparing a cultural resources management plan (CRMP) to define the process for managing cultural resources located on the property. The goals of the installation preservation program were to 1) identify, evaluate, manage, and update the inventory of historic properties, 2) comply with NHPA, NEPA, all Federal laws, and Army regulations in managing those historic properties, 3) integrate cultural resources management with other installation environment, property, and natural resource planning, and 4) preserve and protect cultural resources within the APG's mission.

In order to facilitate the CRMP, archeological testing was conducted in two stages at the installation between 1992 and 1993. One of the main objectives of the archeological investigations initiated in 1992 was to develop an archeological sensitivity model for APG that would be designed to 1) identify and document areas that possess a high probability for containing prehistoric and historic sites, and 2) identify areas that have a low probability for containing cultural resources and areas that have been previously disturbed. This first stage of field testing of the model involved the Phase I survey of 8 testing areas: Sites 1-4 were located in the Edgewood Area and Sites 5-8 were located in the Aberdeen Area. Stage two archeological and architectural evaluations were conducted at several terrestrial sites at APG, and an underwater survey was done in a high probability area of the Bush River. As a result of the two stages of fieldwork, approximately 295 terrestrial acres were tested, 240 underwater acres were subjected to a remote sensing survey, and 1,069 buildings constructed prior to 1951 were identified and all but 393 were evaluated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (175 possessed significance for listing and 501 did not possess significance). The results of the archeological survey and field investigations are contained in Volume II of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Cultural Resource Management Plan series (Volumes I-IV) and the results of the architectural evaluations are contained in Volume III.

In July 1995, Phase II archeological testing was undertaken at Site 18HA19. According to the Aberdeen Proving Ground Cultural Resource Management Plan discussed above, Sites 18HA1, 18HA19, 18HA77, and 18HA246 underwent Phase II evaluations. Following those evaluations, only Site 18HA19 was submitted for National Register eligibility review. The results from the archeological testing on the 4 sites were presented in a separate volume from the APG Cultural Resource Management Plan called 'Phase I of the Prehistoric Lifeways Project'. Although the report title states that Phase I investigations were done, the original report refers to the 'Phase II investigation' at the sites and the later APG Cultural Resource Management Plan indicated that these were considered Phase II evaluations. Given this, these 4 sites are treated here as having been subjected to Phase II testing. The archeological evaluations of the sites were part of the APG's ongoing process of identification and evaluation of cultural resources under its jurisdiction. The CRMP provided the framework for the ongoing assessments and as part of the process the army installation sponsored the Prehistoric Lifeways Project. The Lifeways Project was focused on gathering data regarding Native American subsistence and settlement patterns in the area of the installation before and during the time of European contact and settlement. The research design for the Prehistoric Lifeways Project hypothesized that shell midden sites would be found in association with non-midden occupational sites. The abovementioned 4 sites were chosen for the Lifeways Project because they were known to be shell midden sites, which have the potential to provide data on prehistoric subsistence strategies and settlement patterns.

During the Phase II study, field methods included an unsystematic surface reconnaissance of a portion of the beach below the scarp, the excavation of 36 shovel test pits (STPs), and the excavation of two 1x1 m test units (TU 1 the northern most unit and TU 12 approximately 5 m south of TU 1) and seven adjoining 0.5x1 m test units (TUs 2-8) composing Trench A located about 6 m south of TU 12. More than 60% of the estimated site could not be tested due to the presence of unexploded ordnance. Samples of charred wood and shell were collected for radiocarbon analysis, shell was collected for faunal analysis (a 100% sample was collected from TUs 1, 2, and 12), and soil samples were collected for paleobotanical analysis.

Six prehistoric cultural features were identified at the site. Pit features 1-1 and 1-2 were encountered in TU 1. Feature 1-1 measured 55x85 cm across and extended to 43 cm db. The fill contained a concentration of shell, suggesting that this feature may have been an undisturbed portion of the midden. Historic artifacts and a few prehistoric lithics were recovered from the fill. Three soil samples were collected from the feature for paleobotanical analysis. Feature 1-2



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA19

Site Name: Leges Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Lego's Point, Shell Heap #6 (Marye), Logo Point, E Field

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle Woodland shell midden, 17th century house site; Late 19th century possible structure

Unknown

was a shell concentration below and slightly to the north of Feature 1-1. It was interpreted to be an excavated pit that was subsequently filled with shell; no shell was found in the surrounding matrix. The pit fill contained charcoal as well as 3 small bricks fragments. One soil sample was taken from Feature 1-2 for botanical analysis.

Feature 5-1 was a shallow, 5 cm deep pit resting on subsoil. The finds of burnt and whole oyster shell, carbon, and burned earth led to the interpretation of this feature as the remains of a fire pit/hearth extending below the midden. The feature was presumably in use while the midden was accumulating. One soil sample was taken from the feature for botanical and radiocarbon analyses.

Feature 6-1 was identified as a semi-circular stain at the bottom of the second stratum in TU 6. The feature was excavated in 3 levels. Levels 1 and 2 contained charcoal and small numbers of burnt and unburnt shell. Level 3 contained charcoal flecks and some larger pieces of charcoal and a few shells along the south balk. Feature 6-1A was identified as a brown silt inclusion within level 3 of Feature 6-1. Carbon and burned shell was found in the fill of Feature 6-1A suggesting it functioned as a fire pit. The fill of Feature 6-1 contained 23 brick fragments and a single lithic object. A small circular discoloration (6x8 cm) was identified in the center of Feature 6-1 at the base of level 3. The feature ended in the same subsoil as Level 4.

Two features were encountered in Test Unit 12. Feature 12-1 consisted of a dense concentration of shell and cut into the underlying feature, Feature 12-2. The top of Feature 12-1 appeared to have been truncated by plowing. The bottom of the feature was about 12 cm wide and extended across the unit from east-west. Only 5 small brick fragments, a slate flake, a fire-cracked rock fragment, and a bird bone were collected from the feature fill. Feature 12-2 appeared to be a shell concentration lining a pit dug into the subsoil. The shell was removed in 2 layers. Layer 1 was collected from a depth of 62-72 cmbd and Layer 2 was collected from a depth of 72-87 cmbd. Two brick fragments and 2 bird bones were recovered from Level 1 and 2 bird bones were recovered from Level 2. The extent of Feature 12-2 could not be determined due to the presence of a stray unexploded ordnance round.

Results of the excavation indicated that Features 5-1 and 12-2 were the earliest features at the site. Feature 5-1 appeared to have been functional during the earliest use of the midden and Feature 12-2 possibly represented one of the first major shell deposits at the site. It was also suggested that Feature 12-1 was deposited almost immediately after the filling of Feature 12-2. Fire pit Feature 6-1 was used during the active depositional phase of the midden.

Oyster morphometric analysis was conducted on 2,411 valves recovered from 16 soil samples. The analyzed oyster valves from the site fell into 3 categories: sand oysters, channel oysters and bed oysters. Approximately 88% of the samples represented bed oysters. The low occurrence of boreholes in the valves indicated that the oysters grew in waters with a salinity of less than 10 ppt for at least 6 months per year. Less than 1% of the sample showed a predominance of small boreholes, thus indicating that they grew in waters with salinity below 15 ppt and above 20 ppt for 3 months of the year. Three species of barnacles were identified on 2% of the sample, each of which was suited to a different environment. Unfortunately, the fragmentary nature of the collection prevented a specific identification of the population. Damage caused by the worm *Polydora*, which are most common in subtidal areas with low salinity and muddy bottoms, was evident on 1% of the of the site sample. Of all of the valves analyzed from the site, 31% of the valves had their ventral edge broken providing evidence of opening by cracking and 69% of the sample had no evidence of mechanical opening (i.e. breaking, cutting, and prying).

Several soil samples were collected from the site for paleobotanical analysis. A total of 24 heavy fraction and 2 light fraction samples from Site 18HA19 were analyzed. Feature 1-1 produced 88 wood fragments weighing 1.91 g including 3 beech, 1 hickory, 1 pine, and 3 unidentified hardwood types, and 1 fragment identified as ring porous. In addition, there were 66 fragments of hickory nutshells, 10 acorn fragments and 2 Juglandaceae (walnut family) nutshell fragments. The 9 remaining samples could not be identified. The sample from Feature 1-2 produced 67 wood fragments, none that were large enough to identify. There were 6 fragments of hickory nutshells, 1 acorn fragment, and 2 Juglandaceae nutshell fragments. The remaining 12 samples were classified as resinous unknown. Feature 5-1 produced 53 wood fragments, of which only 1 birch fragment was identified. There were also 1 hickory nutshell fragment, 1 unidentified seed fragment, and 2 unknown plant remains. The sample from Feature 6-1 produced remains from 3 excavated levels. The upper level contained the most remains with 334 wood fragments including 5 walnut, 5 oak, 1 hardwood and 2 ring porous hardwood samples. There were also 2 Juglandaceae nutshell fragments, 28 specimens identified as resinous unknowns, 3 starchy unknowns (likely the remains of tubers), and 3 completely unidentifiable fragments. The second level contained 53 unidentifiable wood fragments, 1 Juglandaceae nutshell fragment, and 16 resinous unknown remains. The lowest level contained only 13 unidentified wood fragments and 1 starchy unknown. A total of 62 wood samples were collected from Feature 12-1. These included 3 oak, 2 diffuse porous hardwoods, and 1 ring porous hardwood. There was also a hickory nutshell fragment.

In all, 43 wood fragments (out of 755) were selected for identification and the assemblage was dominated by hardwoods. Included were 10 unidentified hardwoods, 3 Beech family, 14 Birch family, 5 walnut family, 1 Elm, 1 Hickory, 8 Oak, and 1 Pine. The patterns of wood use at the site suggested that firewoods were chosen for their ability to produce long, hot fires. The 3 identified nutshell types recovered from the site, Juglandaceae (n=9), hickory (n=89), and acorn (n=15) are all edible varieties. However, the low numbers recovered from the site and the presence of the parent material might indicate that these nuts were brought onto the site accidentally. In addition to the wood and nutshell, 3 unidentified seed fragments and 84 unknown plant remains were also recovered from heavy residue.

A total of 61 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the Phase II evaluation as recorded in the artifact inventory. There were 26 pieces of debitage (11 quartz, 5 quartzite, 2 chert, 6 rhyolite, 1 ironstone, 1 slate) and 2 cores (quartzite). Tools included 2 utilized quartz flakes and 1 quartz rejuvenation flake with secondary bifacial retouch. The chipped stone assemblage was predominately comprised of non-cortical flakes which suggested that the emphasis at the site was on tool maintenance rather than on tool production. The only other lithic item identified was a small quartzite pebble possibly used as a burnishing stone. A total of 19 fire-cracked rock (FCR) fragments were collected (mainly sandstone and quartzite). The presence of FCR suggested that cooking methods employed for the shellfish may have included boiling, as well as steaming and smoking. Unmodified faunal material included 3 oyster shells and 6 bone fragments. One charcoal fragment was also collected.

No prehistoric diagnostics were found at the site; however, based on radiocarbon analyses, a date to the early Middle Woodland period was postulated for the site. Three oyster shell samples and 1 charred wood sample were subjected to C14 dating. When the original analysis was done on the 3 shell samples in 1995, the available calibration program indicated a date range from 165 BC-AD 280, which led the excavator's to interpret the site as an early Middle Woodland occupation. However, with modern (2010) calibration programs, the 3 shell samples produced a date range from 749-101 BC (2 sigma, using the INTCAL09 program), which falls in the middle of the Early Woodland period. Radiocarbon dating on oyster shell is notoriously problematic and not generally considered an accurate means of dating a site. However, the charred wood sample collected from 18HA19 produced a calibrated (2 sigma, using INTCAL09) date range from 168 BC-AD 435, which falls into the transitional Early to Middle Woodland period.

A total of 122 historic artifacts were recovered during the Phase II evaluation as recorded in the artifact inventory. There were 102 architectural items (96 brick



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA19

Site Name: Leges Point

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Lego's Point, Shell Heap #6 (Marye), Logo Point, E Field

Historic

Brief Description:

Middle Woodland shell midden, 17th century house site; Late 19th century possible structure

Unknown

fragments, 1 window glass shard, 3 cut nails, 1 unidentified nail, 1 bolt or bracket) and 2 kitchen-related items (1 whiteware sherd and 1 slipware sherd). There were 14 miscellaneous items (1 unidentified metal object and 13 coal/cinder fragments) and 1 tobacco-related item (a white clay tobacco pipe stem fragment). The 2 arms-related items included 1 lead slug and 1 piece of lead shot. All of the non-brick artifacts were recovered from the plowzone (0-25 cmbs) and were interpreted to reflect 19th century activity along the water. Based on the high number and brick fragments and the presence of coal, Test Unit 1 was thought to be near the possible location of a dwelling, the remains of which could have been dispersed by plowing. At the northern end of the site, the shore profile showed evidence of road fill in the plowzone, which was probably put down in the 1950s.

The Leges Point Site (18HA19) consists of an Early-Middle Woodland shell midden and the possible remains of a 19th century structure. Utilization of the site appears to have been primarily for the acquisition, processing, and consumption of oyster. Nutshells recovered during the botanical analysis further suggested the (minimal) exploitation of floral resources in addition to the shellfish. Although some sub-plowzone pit features remained intact, historic plowing appeared to have truncated the midden in places and it reduced the evidence for determining stratigraphic relationship between the prehistoric cultural features identified at the site. Other post-depositional formation processes have also disturbed large portions of the site such as natural erosion and bombardment by munitions. Although the site contains an extensive shell midden and associated sub-plowzone features, due to the compromised physical integrity of the site, 18HA19 does not satisfy the criteria for National Register eligibility.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000796, 00005354, Site File