



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA246

Site Name: Pooles Island Midden #1

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic and Early-Middle Woodland shell midden

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.2852 Longitude -76.2701
Elevation m Site slope

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 6

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater 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
- Island

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Chesapeake Bay

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tidewater/marsh <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Minimum distance to water is 1 m | | | |

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1860 - 1900
- ca. 1900 - 1930
- Post 1930

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other

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?
 - Domestic
 - Homestead
 - Farmstead
 - Mansion
 - Plantation
 - Row/townhome
 - Cellar
 - Privy
 - Industrial
 - Mining-related
 - Quarry-related
 - Mill
 - Black/metalsmith
 - Furnace/forge
 - Other
 - Transportation
 - Canal-related
 - Road/railroad
 - Wharf/landing
 - Maritime-related
 - Bridge
 - Ford
 - Educational
 - Commercial
 - Trading post
 - Store
 - Tavern/inn
 - Military
 - Battlefield
 - Fortification
 - Encampment
 - Townsite
 - Religious
 - Church/mtg house
 - Ch support bldg
 - Burial area
 - Cemetery
 - Sepulchre
 - Isolated burial
 - Bldg or foundation
 - Possible Structure
 - Post-in-ground
 - Frame-built
 - Masonry
 - Other structure
 - Slave related
 - Non-domestic agri
 - Recreational
 - Midden/dump
 - Artifact scatter
 - Spring or well
 - Unknown
 - Other context

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples
Soil samples taken N
Flotation samples taken Y
Other samples taken Oyster shell analysis

Historic context samples
Soil samples taken
Flotation samples taken
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	15	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	5	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"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<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	12	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	3	Unmod faunal	2
Other lithics (all)	2	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	20	Floral material	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	shale	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	3	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input 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

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1: +/- 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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Brief

Description:

Late Archaic and Early-Middle Woodland shell midden

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab, Aberdeen Proving Ground

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Poole's Island Midden #1 (18HA246) is a Woodland period shell midden site. The site is located on Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) in Harford County, Maryland on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. In Harford County, APG is comprised of two areas: the 6879.6 ha (17,000 ac) Aberdeen Area that comprises the northern portion of the property including Spesutie Island, and the 5260.9 ha (13,000 ac) Edgewood Area that comprises the southern portion of the property. Poole's Island sits in the Chesapeake Bay approximately 1.6 km southeast of the Edgewood Area and is part of the southern portion of APG. Site 18HA246 is situated on the southwestern shore of Poole's Island. Marshland borders the site on the north, a stand of hardwoods sheltering a heron rookery borders the site to the south, and the Chesapeake Bay bounds the site to the west. The eastern site boundary was determined by the negative presence of artifacts. A typical profile for the site consists of a 0-20 cmbs very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) loamy sand Ap horizon with about 20% oyster shell above a ca. 5 cm very dark gray (10YR 3/1) loamy sand feature fill with about 60% oyster shell. This sat above a ca. 10 cm layer of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sand containing about 5% shell above 2 layers of clayey sand 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 130 ha (321 ac) 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).

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, nominate, 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 1993, a survey team visited Poole's Island and conducted a pedestrian survey of the shoreline. During the survey, a midden was observed on the western shore of the island. An apparently intact layer of shell was noted along a 0.914 m (3 ft) high beach cut beneath a light tower. The tower sat on top of the midden. The midden was designated as 18HA246.

In April 1995, Phase II archeological testing was undertaken at Site 18HA246. According to the Aberdeen Proving Ground Cultural Resource Management Plan discussed above, Sites 18HA1, 18HA19, 18HA77, and 18HA246 underwent Phase II evaluations. 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 testing, an area measuring approximately 35-40 m inland and 55-60 m parallel to the shoreline was investigated. A pedestrian survey was conducted along the shoreline and surrounding areas. In order to identify the extent of the midden, a total of 20 auger tests were placed at 5 m intervals perpendicular to the beach where the shell midden was exposed. Then, 21 shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 5 or 10 m intervals to the north and south of the auger tests in order to determine the presence of cultural deposits. All of the STPs were negative for both shell midden deposits and prehistoric cultural material. Four 1x1 m test units (TUs 1-4) were then excavated within the shell midden. Adjoining TUs 2, 3, and 4 formed a 1x3 m trench that was perpendicular to the shoreline. The trench was placed in the area of the highest shell concentration observed along the beach and to avoid ground disturbance caused by the prior construction of the light tower. TU 1 was placed in a smaller shell concentration located farther north (approximately 15 m) along the shore. A soil sample from the southwest 50 cm quadrant of each TU was retained from each level of the midden for flotation and shell analysis. All excavated soils were screened through 1/4" mesh.



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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Late Archaic and Early-Middle Woodland shell midden

Unknown

The field testing encountered a dense shell midden layer that measured approximately 8 m long and a more diffuse scatter of shell that continued north for an additional 13 m. The large midden was visible in the beach cut from 7-16 cmbs. The shell layer was concentrated in the A horizon with only a few shells penetrating the B horizon. The midden had varying thickness (from 3 to 20 cm) and extended 18 m inland from the shoreline. In TU 4, the deposit lessened considerably from west-east and was concentrated in the southeast quadrant. In TU 2, a shell-less patch of soil appeared on the same level as the midden layer. Most likely, this represented a natural post-depositional disturbance as it corresponded to a natural dip in the ground surface.

The main midden terminated at its northern extreme in a second smaller (2 m wide) shell concentration at a depth of 24-34 cmbs in the B horizon. A difference in age or depositional event could not be determined between the larger and smaller middens. The remnant midden was concentrated along the shoreline extending inland for only about 1.5 m from the shoreline. The stratigraphic link to the main midden has eroded away, if it ever existed.

Four surface concentrations were observed extending beyond the boundaries of the midden. It was determined that the surface scatter was the result of the construction of the light tower and/or rodent burrowing and did not represent the subsurface extent of the midden.

Oyster morphometric analysis was conducted on 2,443 whole valves weighing 22,948 g recovered from 23 soil samples. A collection of shell fragments were disregarded for the purposes of the analysis. The goal of the analysis was to obtain information on the specific types of oysters harvested, the season the oysters were harvested, the method of procurement, and the preparation or butchering techniques employed. The analyzed oyster valves from the site fell into 3 categories: sand oysters, channel oysters and bed oysters, with the majority of the samples representing bed oysters. The occurrence of boreholes on only 52% of the valves indicated that the oysters grew in waters with a salinity of less than 10 ppt for at least 6 months per year. About 41% of the sample showed a predominance of small boreholes, thus indicating that they grew in waters with salinity below 15 ppt, above 20 ppt for 3 months of the year, and occasionally rises above 20 ppt. A prevalence of large boreholes in 7% of the sample indicated an environment where salinity rarely fell below 15 ppt and stayed above 20 ppt for most of the year. Damage caused by the worm *Polydora*, which are most common in subtidal areas with low salinity and muddy bottoms, was evident on 9% of the of the site sample. Barnacles were absent from all valves examined from the site sample. One valve showed evidence of damage by boring bivalves. Of all of the valves analyzed from the site, 9% of the valves had their ventral edge broken providing evidence of opening by cracking and 91% of the sample had no evidence of mechanical opening (i.e. breaking, cutting, and prying).

Paleobotanical analyses were conducted on 14 soil samples taken from the 4 test units: 11 light fractions, 2 heavy fractions, and 1 water-screened sample. The light fraction materials were weighed then sifted through a series of geological sieves. The heavy fraction materials were previously sorted. All non-botanical materials were removed from the heavy fraction and the <2 mm specimens were discarded; therefore, only the >2 mm botanicals were analyzed. If present, acorn nutshells and cultigens remains were removed from all fractions down to 0.71 mm portion of the light fractions. Seeds and seed fragments were collected from all fractions and identification was attempted. Wood identification was attempted on all charred wood that had a transverse section >4 mm.

Wood was the most common plant remain recovered from the site (n=114) and was present in 100% of the samples. Only a single wood fragment tentatively identified as maple was large enough for identification. Seeds and seed fragments were observed in 33% of the samples. One whole and 1 fragmentary Poaceae (grass family) seeds were identified. Five other seed fragments were noted but were too distorted to allow reliable identification to the family level. A total of 24 unidentifiable plant remains, referred to as 'unknowns' in the report, were present in 50% of the botanical samples from the site. Many of the samples were unidentifiable because the sandy and dusty nature of the materials obscured characteristic surface features. There were 4 starchy unknowns in the botanical assemblage, likely the remains from tubers or some other carbohydrate-laden foodstuff. There were also 17 fragments of general unknowns. A single peduncle was identified and thought to be a small fruiting stem from a grape. In addition, one fragment of charred fungus was recovered. The fungal body is relatively common in paleobotanical samples and may represent shelf fungus attached to firewood.

Phase II testing at Site 18HA246 yielded a total of 39 prehistoric artifacts. There were 7 pieces of debitage (4 quartz, 1 quartzite, 2 chert) and 2 quartzite cores. The midsection of a broken quartz projectile point was recovered from just beneath the midden in TU 1. A note on the Site Survey form suggested that the point was possibly a Piscataway type or other Late Archaic point but with the fragment this could not be confirmed. The findspot below the midden also suggested the possibility of pre-midden activity at the site, but this could not be confirmed due to the lack of diagnostics in the assemblage. An early stage rhyolite biface was recovered from a flotation sample taken from TU 4. The excavators suggested that because the biface was very thick, it was not completed, and that it may have been used as an expedient tool after which it was discarded. Two other lithic items (hammerstones) and 3 fire-cracked rock (FCR) fragments were also collected. The hammerstones and the FCR probably represented the remains of shellfish processing. The FCR may have been the remnants of hearth features that were redeposited with the shell after processing or fires may have been directly on the midden, the remains of which have been removed during post-depositional processes. Two shell fragments (unmodified faunal) and 1 charcoal sample were also retained.

A total of 20 prehistoric ceramic sherds were collected from the midden layer in TU 2. In the site report, 5 limestone tempered sherds were identified as possible Accokeek Ware. The remaining 15 fragments contained limestone and gneiss-like metamorphic rock temper and were identified as possible Dames Quarter Ware. If these types were rightly identified, then an Early Woodland date of occupation is suggested. Dames Quarter is more commonly found in the southern Delmarva and its presence at Poole's Island would be unusual. Accokeek, on the other hand, is found throughout the Coastal Plain of Maryland. In addition, limestone tempered Accokeek and Dames Quarter sherds would be atypical. The excavators proposed a date of occupation from the late Early Woodland period to the early Middle Woodland period based on the artifacts; however, a date in the first part of the Early Woodland is the generally accepted date for the given ceramic types. On the Site Survey Form located in the Site File, the sherds were described as gray and shell, rather than limestone, temper. If this is the case, then the sherds may be dated to the Middle or Late Woodland periods when shell-tempered ceramics were common. Only a re-evaluation of the sherds would clarify this matter. Therefore, a general date in the Woodland period has been applied to the site.

Three historic artifacts (1 wire nail and 2 mortar fragments, recorded as architectural items in the table above) were also collected from the site. The nail fragment was recovered from the upper layer in TU 2 and was probably associated with the construction of the light tower. The 2 mortar fragments were recovered from a flotation sample taken from the midden concentration in TU 4. They probably represent remnants of mortared cement blocks which were used for erosion control on the island. The fragments were very small and could have easily reached the top of the midden through bioturbation.

Poole's Island Midden #1 (18HA246) is an Early Woodland period shell midden site, a date based on tentatively identified ceramic types. The research design for the Prehistoric Lifeways Project hypothesized that the shell midden would be found in association with a non-midden occupational site. Although limited artifactual material was collected from the immediate surroundings of the midden, it was suggested that an associated site did once exist and has since eroded into the Chesapeake Bay. However, the midden may represent a single depositional event. Based on the dearth of artifacts, it is unlikely that the midden was much larger. The site has been severely impacted by the construction of a light tower and no discernable subsurface features were encountered.



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Description:**

Late Archaic and Early-Middle Woodland shell midden

Unknown

The minimal artifact assemblage and the disturbed nature of the site lack the quality of significance to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. No further work is recommended at the site.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000796, 00005354, Site File