



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA286

Site Name: Prospect Farm

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Hays-Heighe House; MIHP # HA-152

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early 19th through early 20th century domestic site, farmstead

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 16

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.5665

Longitude -76.2877

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-2%

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Topography

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

Ownership

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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Thomas Run

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 122 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site ca. 1820 - 1860 Y

ca. 1630 - 1675 ca. 1860 - 1900 Y

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720 ca. 1900 - 1930 Y

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780 Post 1930 Y

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820 Y

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric context

Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American

Asian American

African American P

Unknown

Anglo-American Y

Other

Hispanic

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

- Multi-component
- Village
- Hamlet
- Base camp
- Rockshelter/cave
- Earthen mound
- Cairn
- Burial area
- Misc. ceremonial
- Rock art
- Shell midden
- STU/lithic scatter
- Quarry/extraction
- Fish weir
- Production area
- Unknown
- Other context

Historic

Urban/Rural? 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 N

Flotation samples taken N

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stoneware	
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"/>	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	<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

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"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<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 checked="" 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: +/- 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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Early 19th through early 20th century domestic site, farmstead

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Prospect Farm Site (18HA286) is the location of an early 19th to early 20th century dwelling and farmstead. The site is situated on the grounds of Harford Community College in Bel Air, Harford County. The site lies within the drainage divide between Thomas Run and Tobacco Run, both of which are tributaries of Deer Creek. The extant dwelling at the site, called the Hays-Heighe House (MIHP # HA-152), is a stone farmhouse built in 1808, once the core of Prospect Farm and now at the center of the College. Prior to the county's acquisition of the property in 1962, the Hays-Heighe House was a 19th century farmstead owned by the Hays family and was known as Prospect Hill Farm. From the mid-19th to the mid-20th century, members of the Heighe family operated race horse stables at the site. During construction of the Community College, all of the farm buildings except for the Hays-Heighe House were razed. The dwelling served as College offices for a time but was then left standing vacant and in need of restoration. Campus construction has encroached on the north, west and east sides of the building. Only the south/front yard, which extends southeastward down to Tobacco Run and a springhouse/pumphouse complex, remained relatively undisturbed. Currently, all of the yards are manicured. The Hays-Heighe House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 (NR-73).

The Hays-Heighe House had been experiencing drainage problems and the College was considering measures to alleviate the situation. As the College is a state funded institution, any construction-related activities conducted on the grounds are compliance driven. An excavation permit was applied for under the provisions of Maryland's Historic Properties Act and approved verbally prior to initiation of fieldwork. Information on the permit indicated that in the spring of 2005, the excavation of 4 shovel test pits placed near the building failed to reveal any archeological deposits except those that were the product of grading. In November 2005, students in the College's Archaeology of Maryland course, under supervision of a professional archeologist, conducted a 2-day excavation of a single 1.524x1.524 m (5x5 ft) test unit placed at the northeast corner of the building's east wing. An addition had at one time been located off the east wing, creating an L-shaped structure. The single unit was placed where it was thought likely that a portion of the ell's foundation and interior would be exposed, as well as a portion of the extant wall. The goals of the excavation were to: 1) determine if remains of an ell extension, demolished in the 1960s, survive; 2) assess the potential for preserved occupational deposits within the foundation without actually excavating those deposits; and 3) examine the condition of the masonry joints below grade.

The unit, excavated to an average depth of 45.72 cm (1.5 ft) below grade through mixed deposits of sand and sandy clay, yielded 1960s material including plastic lids, rusted iron, and synthetic cloth, and other late 20th century materials. No artifacts were noted as having been collected from the site in the original site report; any retained materials were to be stored at the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory but none are currently noted on the accessions list. Excavation revealed the east foundation of the non-extant ell, and a concentration of fieldstone irregularly distributed to the west of the foundation that appeared to be from demolition of the building. Excavation in the test unit ceased at the top of the rubble layer. Probing of the lawn north of the excavation suggested that the foundation is largely intact, although approximately 60.96 cm (2 ft) of the west and east walls, and the entirety of the north wall extend into an area now covered with a paved access road and path. The field crew did not attempt to determine whether the foundations survive beneath the asphalt pavement. The condition of the joints of the extant building were not extensively exposed, hence a thorough examination was not possible.

The Prospect Farm Site (18HA286) is the location of an early 19th to 20th century dwelling called the Hays-Heighe House and associated farmstead. Excavation demonstrated that the remains of an ell, demolished in the 1960s, survive 45.72 cm below the current grade. The presence of demolition rubble suggested that deposits within the building may have survived intact despite subsequent land modifications. The fill appeared to rise above the floor joists in the extant building, thereby contributing to the drainage problem that was only partly rectified with the replacement of downspouts and linking drainpipe. Fill deposits along the north wall of the east wing, dating to the late 1960s, are not historically significant and might be removed without disturbing historically significant archaeological deposits. It was recommended that at least portions of the drainpipe installation area should be archeologically examined and that test excavations on the north lawn should be conducted in order to further assess the extent and condition of the site. The Hays-Heighe House was being restored for use as a museum for African American history and for the local thoroughbred race horse industry history in Harford County.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97003168