



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA77

Site Name: Pooles Island

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Shell Heap #9 (Marye)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: prehistoric shell midden

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.2920 Longitude -76.2468
Elevation -6 m Site slope 0

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 7

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site Underwater site

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) Bush River

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 type="checkbox"/>		Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/>	Spring <input type="checkbox"/>

Minimum distance to water is 0 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
 - Cemetery
 - Sepulchre
 - Isolated burial
 - Bldg or foundation**
 - 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 N 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			
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"/>
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		Stoneware	
Earthenware	Ironstone <input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire <input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown <input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury <input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield <input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed <input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied <input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware <input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled <input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware <input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley <input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon <input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain <input type="checkbox"/>	Rhenish <input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware <input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware <input type="checkbox"/>		Wt Salt-glazed <input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	6	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	1	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	3	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		amphibolite	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<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: prehistoric shell midden

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at Aberdeen Proving Ground

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Poole's Island (18HA77) is a temporally undiagnostic shell midden site. The site is located on the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) property in Harford County on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Poole's Island sits in the Chesapeake Bay off of Robins Point. Site 18HA77 is situated on the shoreline in the northern part of Poole's Island. The site has suffered from natural erosion processes which have likely removed most of the site and disturbance due to bombardment by munitions testing. A typical profile for the site consists of a 0-13 cmbs dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty loam Ap horizon above a ca. 10 cm brown (10YR 4/3) silty loam B horizon containing about 5% shell, which sits above a ca. 10 cm layer of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay containing about 1% shell. 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 18HA77 was first identified during a survey of the coastal Chesapeake in 1937. At that time, 3 areas of shell concentration were encountered on the east coast of the island along a ca. 1.9 km stretch of shoreline. The middens were described as being more than 30 cm thick in some places, but only extended inland for a short distance. It was suggested that a large portion of the shell middens had already been lost to the Bay.

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 to evaluate a standing 19th century lighthouse located on the west side of the island. The survey team also conducted a pedestrian survey of the shoreline during which time a midden on the northeast corner of the island was observed to be eroding into the Chesapeake Bay. The area was identified as site 18HA77 and was in the general area of the northernmost of the 3 middens identified in 1937.

In April 1995, Phase II archeological testing was undertaken at Site 18HA77. 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 study, approximately 200-240 m along the shoreline of 18HA77 was investigated. A portion of land between the northern and southern sections of the site was a marshy area and was not tested. Field methods included a pedestrian survey, the excavation of 29 shovel test pits (STPs) and of a single 0.5x1 m test unit which was excavated in the southern site locus where the highest concentration of shell was noted. A soil sample was taken from the southwest corner of the unit for flotation and shell analysis; however, no data from those studies was available in the original report.

During the pedestrian survey, a light scatter of oyster shell fragments were observed extending south along the beach for approximately 200 m. Five STPs were dug in the northern site locus and 24 STPs were dug in the southern locus. Four of the excavated STPs, all in the southern area, yielded 1 artifact each. Test Unit 1 yielded another 6 artifacts, 5 of which derived from a pocket of shell within the unit. The assemblage from the site consisted of 4 pieces of debitage (2 jasper, 1 quartzite, 1 sandstone), 2 utilized flakes (1 sandstone, 1 amphibolite), 1 fragment of a fire-cracked rock, and 3 other lithic items



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Prehistoric

Other name(s) Shell Heap #9 (Marye)

Historic

Brief
Description:

prehistoric shell midden

Unknown

(hammerstones). All of the raw materials represented in the assemblage were locally available. It was suggested that the hammerstones, and possibly the utilized flakes, were used for battering oysters to get them open.

Poole's Island (18HA77) is a temporally undiagnostic shell midden site. The proposed midden deposit was revealed to be a very light scatter of shell. Natural erosion processes and bombardment by munitions have likely resulted in the destruction or removal of the site. The best possible interpretations of the character of the site are that either the midden deposit was not associated with a habitation site or that the site has nearly completely eroded into the Bay. Given the dearth of artifacts at the site, Poole's Island offers little research potential and as such, the site was recommended ineligible 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