



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HA99

Site Name: Swan Creek III

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Aberdeen # 6, W-T, H-C # 12

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic--Late Woodland short-term or base camps, 19th century artifact scatter & 17th-18th century wharf

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.4776 Longitude -76.1261
Elevation m Site slope 2-60%

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 6

SCS soil & sediment code HbE,MpaB,MpC

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 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

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Swan Creek
Saltwater Ocean
Freshwater Stream/river
Estuary/tidal river Swamp
Tidewater/marsh Lake or pond
Spring
Minimum distance to water is 0 m

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 Unknown 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

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

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

structure locations

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples Soil samples taken N
Flotation samples taken N 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)	1
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	1

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	6
Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Potomac Crk	1

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Earthenware		1				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	6	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	1	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		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	1156	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	63	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	10	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	12	Uncommon Obj.	1
Rimsherds	1	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features	
Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input checked="" 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"/>	Greenstone	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	33	Activity item(s)	10
Glass (all)	66	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	44	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	10
Arms	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	1	Misc.	27
Personal items	5	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 checked="" 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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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab, Aberdeen Proving Ground

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Swan Creek III (18HA99) is a multicomponent site with prehistoric base camp occupations dating from the Late Archaic through the Late Woodland periods, a 19th century artifact scatter, and a 17th century road leading to a non-extant wharf. The site is located on Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) in Harford County, Maryland on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Site 18HA99 is located on a bluff above Swan Creek. Site disturbance has resulted from historic plowing and 20th century building activities associated with development at APG. A large portion of the main site area is wooded. Soils in the area are primarily Mattapex silt loam, Zekiah loam, and Hambrook sandy loam.

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 by the early 1700s the Susquehannocks had left the region. The first land grants were patented in 1658. A road or trail running from Havre de Grace to the Patapsco River had been built as early as 1666 and had a connection to a wharf and a landing at Swan Creek on the eastern fringe of the site. Part of the road has recently been used as a route to a boat launching area where the old wharf was once located. The entire wharf area has been heavily modified in the 20th century. Research has failed to locate any 17th century evidence of the landing and there is no evidence of buildings in the site area that predate the late 1790s.

Old Baltimore, on the Bush River, was established as the County Seat in 1669. From the late 1660s to the early 1900s, with the exception of the road leading to the landing and the landing itself, the area around the Swan Creek site was primarily agricultural. A 1799 map indicated that the area was glebe lands (lands donated to and farmed for the church), and a part was orchard at least until 1878 when one or more structures had been erected in the area. The remains of 2 post-1850s structures and associated artifacts have been identified in the general site area. Due to the loss of integrity and late date of construction, the structural remains were not deemed significant. Photographs from the early 20th century show a series of cabins and cottages on the edge of the terrace facing Swan Creek.

The military acquired the land in 1917 establishing APG and the Edgewood Arsenal (later called the Edgewood Area). 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).

In December 1975, an avocational archeologist with the Harford County Chapter of the Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) was contacted by personnel from APG after a Master Sergeant stationed at APG discovered the site in an area that was scheduled for construction of a Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Open Club. During a site visit by base personnel, 8 pieces of pottery were observed. Permission was granted to the ASM Harford Chapter to make an exploratory dig at the Swan Creek site subject to a permit from the National Park Service (NPS). Staff at NPS agreed to issue the permit under the stipulation that digging was conducted under the guidance of archeologists with the Maryland Geological Survey (MGS), who accepted this condition. It is not completely clear if the fieldwork was ever undertaken as no report was written regarding the investigation, although many sites excavated at that time did not receive formal write-ups.

According to the permit application, several 2x2 m test units were to be excavated over a large site area (according to later reports, somewhere on the order of 15 acres). The project area was divided into 4 sections (Areas A-D). Area A comprised the most northwesterly portion of the project area and was determined to be the main area or core of Site 18HA99. Three test units were to be excavated in Area A. A total of 78 prehistoric artifacts were reportedly collected from the site in 1975/6. It is unclear if the materials were collected from Area A during test excavations or if the materials were from a private collection but they definitely derived from the site. The assemblage included 2 Late Archaic stemmed quartz points, 1 base of a broad lanceolate point dating to the Middle Woodland, 1 thick quartz triangular point, possibly Late Woodland, 1 chert biface, ca. 60 flakes (quartz, black and gray chert, jasper, sandstone), 1 Potomac Creek cord-marked rim sherd, 5 sand-tempered plain bodied sherds, and 6 Townsend sherds. A single historic item was also collected (an olive green bottle glass fragment dated to ca. 1730). Unfortunately, there is no information available regarding artifacts collected from Areas B-D at the site. Field notes stored with the ASM Harford Chapter may provide additional information on the 1975/6 investigations.

Site 18HA99 was re-investigated in 1977. Test excavations were again conducted on a 15 acre tract, a portion of which was the proposed location of the NCO Open Mess. The purpose of the project was to determine the nature and significance of the prehistoric and historic remains reported for the location. The project area corresponds to the 4 areas proposed in 1975 and reference to a main site area, that which was designated as Area A in 1975, was also maintained. Methods employed included background and archival research, semi-controlled surface collection of the entire tract (grid boundaries were arbitrary and varied in size), examination of all shoreline bank cuts and tree falls, augering, and excavation of 60.96 cm (2 ft) square test pits (TPs). Excavated soils were screened through 0.95 cm (3/8") hardware cloth.

A total of 21 surface grid units (Areas 1-21) and 5 shoreline grid units (Areas 1A- 1C, 5A, 7A) were collected. Visibility was low in Areas 8-12 and high in Areas 1-7 and 17-21. The main component of Site 18HA99 was located within Areas 4-7, 5A and 7A. Although variables in surface visibility had some effect on the collection, a few generalizations regarding artifact density were possible. The majority of the surface collected artifacts (n=284 or 63.4%) were recovered from grid units 4-7, 5A, and 7A. A smaller cluster comprising 16.5% (n=74) of the surface collected materials was identified in Areas 1 and 1A-C at the northwestern edge of the site. A third, small cluster was also identified in the extreme eastern part of the study area, across a large swale and near the bank of Swan Creek in Area 20. It contained 5.5% (n=25) of the surface collected material. In all, 19 test pits were excavated. TPs 1-8 were dug in the main site area (Areas 4-7) and contained 62.5% (or 413) of all the excavated materials recovered from the site. No test pits were dug in Areas 1 or 20.

The only cultural feature encountered during the testing was found in TP 18, Area 10. It consisted of a 7.62 cm (3") deep, irregular depression that measured roughly 45.72 cm (18") in diameter. The feature contained 21 sherds of Wolfe Neck ware, probably all from the same pot. Although the excavators suggested a Middle Woodland date for the pottery, this ceramic type is dated by stratigraphic sequencing and radiometric dating to the Early Woodland period (ca. 700-400 BC). With the exception of the pit feature, all excavated historic and prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the plowzone. A large portion of the project area, especially in the southern portions where Areas 10-12 were located, revealed disturbance where grading, pipe line trenching and other earth moving



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activities had disturbed the soil to considerable depths. This disturbance likely contributed to the failure of finding other features, particularly in the area of the pit feature (if they existed at all).

A total of 1,055 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the archeological testing at the Swan Creek III site. There were 904 pieces of debitage (772 quartz, 53 quartzite, 15 rhyolite, 2 greenstone, 1 sandstone, 1 jasper, 6 unidentified) and 8 cores/flaked chunks (all quartz). In all, 26 tools were identified: 2 scrapers (1 chert, 1 quartz), 1 chert knife, 15 bifaces (9 quartz, 1 quartzite, 1 chert, 3 rhyolite, 1 sandstone), 3 straight stemmed point fragments (2 quartz, 1 chert), 3 contracting stemmed point fragments (2 quartz, 1 rhyolite), and 2 unidentifiable point fragments (quartz). The straight stemmed and contracting stemmed points suggest occupation during the Late Archaic and Early Woodland periods. Nine other lithic items included 2 hammerstones and 7 tested pebbles (6 chert, 1 rhyolite). There were 60 fire-cracked rock fragments.

In addition to the prehistoric artifacts, a total of 82 historic artifacts were retained. There were 4 activity items (2 horseshoe fragments, 1 bottle opener, and 1 part of a glue bottle). There were 10 architectural items (2 brick fragments, 3 cut nails, 2 wire nails, 1 hinge, 1 woodscrew, and 1 doorbolt). The 50 kitchen-related items included (21 glass fragments, most likely from bottles or containers, 24 unidentified ceramics (1 was salt-glazed, 1 was stoneware, and 1 was red-glazed), 1 piece of table glass (crystal), and 4 animal bone fragments. There were 17 miscellaneous items (2 pieces of melted glass, 13 unidentified metal objects, and 2 pieces of slag/clinker). The only arms-related item recovered was a shotgun shell. The majority of the materials (73% or 60) were recovered from Areas 10-12 and 14 including TPs 13, 18, and 19 in the south-central portion of the project area. They primarily represent 19th century use of the site.

The excavators postulated 2 scenarios for the occupation of the site during prehistoric times. The materials collected may represent the fringe area of a larger site. The artifact density increased towards the bluff of Swan Creek suggesting that a major portion of the site may have long ago eroded into the creek (erosion seems to have most affected Areas 4, 6, and 7). However, pedestrian reconnaissance of the beach below the bluffs failed to uncover any artifacts. Conversely, if the materials represent a significant portion of the remains of prehistoric occupation, then sporadic exploitation of limited local resources by small groups is suggested. The identification of several Late Archaic and Early to Middle Woodland points in the assemblage may reflect terrestrial hunting and/or fishing. A sufficient quantity of flakes in the lithic debitage indicated that some level of tool production and/or maintenance was occurring at the site. Final recommendations of the excavators were that the historic component of the site is of a relatively recent era (since the 17th century wharf is no longer present) and that the prehistoric presence at the site was sparse and heavily disturbed. It was determined that further work would not contribute to what is already known about the site represented in the 6 ha. tract. No further work was recommended at that time.

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, Site 18HA99 was identified in Site 6 through the excavation of approximately 27 positive STPs and a single 1x1 m test unit. Site 6 occupies a small wooded ridge overlooking Swan Creek. A portion of the ridge has been disturbed by a historic period borrow pit, utilized probably during the late 19th or 20th century. Pipes have been placed through the pit, which drain into a culvert. Prehistoric artifacts were concentrated in the northern ¼ of the site area along the top of the ridge. It was determined that the artifacts found in Area 6 represented an outlying locus of site 18HA99. This location corresponded generally with Area C from the 1975/6 study and Area 14 from the 1977 study.

The excavation of Test Unit 1n in the northern part of Site 6 revealed a modern historic trash pit to a depth of 72 cmbs containing metal, bone, and window glass. In addition to the trash pit, it appeared that ca. 20 cm of fill had been placed on top of natural soils in the area, possibly while grading to create the adjacent picnic area. Although soil profiles were varied as a result of disturbance, a typical soil profile consisted of a 15-20 cm brown to dark brown (10YR4/3 to 10YR3/3) silt loam over a 20 cm yellowish-brown (10YR5/6) clayey silt. Modern disturbances limited the integrity of the testing area; however, isolated undisturbed cultural features may exist below the fill layer.

A total of 108 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Site 6 and listed in the artifact inventory in the original report. There were 75 pieces of debitage (40 quartz, 21 chert, 6 rhyolite, 2 quartzite, 3 jasper, 3 sandstone) and 11 cores (8 quartz, 3 chert). Tools included 11 utilized flakes (7 quartz, 4 chert), 1 scraper (quartz), 2 bifaces (1 quartz, 1 quartzite), 1 unidentifiable point fragment (quartz), 1 Late Archaic Patuxent point (quartz), 1 possible Middle Woodland Jack's Reef point (quartz), and 1 Late Woodland Levanna point (quartz). There were 3 fire-cracked rock fragments. The single other lithic item was a quartz crystal fragment (also recorded as an uncommon object in the table above). The Jack's Reef point was not identified as notched or pentagonal so it was listed as notched in the table above. A single, possible Middle Woodland ceramic sherd was reported from Site 6 in the text of the original report but was not listed in the artifact inventory. As such, it is mentioned here but not included in the table above. The prehistoric artifacts were scattered across the ridge above Swan Creek and were concentrated in the northern three quarters of the tested area.

Several historic artifacts (n= 100) were also collected from the site which dated from the early 19th and 20th centuries. As noted above, several historic artifacts were also recovered from this area (Area 14) during the 1977 testing. There were 6 activity items (all lamp glass fragments) and 34 architectural items (2 brick fragments, 13 window glass, 4 cut nails, 3 wire nails, 10 unidentified nails, 1 miscellaneous brass hardware, 1 ceramic drain pipe fragments). There was only 1 clothing item (a Bakelite button). There were 43 kitchen-related items (27 bottle/container glass fragments, 1 piece of table glass, 6 whiteware sherds, 1 ironstone sherd, 1 late porcelain sherd, 1 domestic gray stoneware sherd, 2 crown caps, 3 oyster shell fragments, 1 animal bone fragment). Ten miscellaneous objects included 3 unidentified metal objects and 7 pieces of coal (discarded). There were 5 personal items (4 modern coins, 1



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ceramic figurine fragment), and 1 tobacco item (a ball clay pipe stem fragment with 5/64 bore). Previous research indicated that 19th century historic structures may have at one time been located in the area. The collection of historic artifacts supports at least proximity to a structure of that period.

Swan Creek III (18HA99) is a multicomponent site with prehistoric base camp occupations dating from the Late Archaic through the Late Woodland periods, a 19th century artifact scatter, and a 17th century road leading to a non-extant wharf. The prehistoric artifact assemblage indicates that occupation may have been more intensive in the Late Archaic/Early Woodland period and in the Late Woodland period. There is a more limited presence of typically Middle Woodland artifacts. The site boundaries as defined by the Maryland Historical Trust reflect the area of greatest disturbance and greatest impact from proposed construction at the site. The core of the site as defined by the various excavations is located just north and west from the area of impact, along the shoreline. Although what is considered to be the core or main area of the site has been subjected to fairly extensive testing (survey, augering, and subsurface examination equivalent to Phase II testing), the actual boundaries of the site are fairly vaguely defined, particularly to the east and west. The full extent of the occupational scatter has yet to be determined. Based on testing conducted in 1993, it was recommended that any future ground disturbing activities in the immediate vicinity of 18HA99 are preceded by more intensive archeological testing.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000396, 00000796, Site Files