



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HO128

Site Name: Barse VI

Prehistoric

Other name(s): Alpha Ridge Park

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic lithic scatter

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude: 39.3185 Longitude: -76.9157

Elevation: 170 m Site slope: 0

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 13

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province: Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Ethnobotany profile available  Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any): Little Patuxent River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 92 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

### 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

## 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

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

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?

#### 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 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		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	
<b>Earthenware</b>		Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<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	53	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"/>
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 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	diorite	<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	1	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		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:  +/-  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

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Barse VI Site (18HO128) is located west of Columbia in northern Howard County, Maryland. It is situated on a ridge overlooking the Little Patuxent River. The surrounding topography is characterized by low north to south running ridges that are divided by shallow swales. The swales, which present evidence of carrying seasonal runoff, descend towards the river situated just to the south of the site. Soils at the site consist primarily of Chester silt loams covering most of the site, followed by severely eroded Elioak silty clay loams.

The archeological site was first identified in 1985 during a Phase I archeological survey prior to the creation of the Alpha Ridge Park; a project of the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks. The site is situated in the extreme western portion of the park project area. The parkland improvements included construction of roads and a parking area, grading for playing fields, construction of storm-water catchment ponds, and creation of wetlands mitigation facilities in adjacent areas. The survey of the entire park project area included surface reconnaissance and limited subsurface testing, and archival research. Although artifacts were recovered from the surface of this site during the Phase I survey, no subsurface testing was undertaken. Based on surface indications, the Phase I investigators suspected that the site was deflated. The Phase II examination of the site was intended specifically to determine the integrity of the site.

Phase II testing was conducted in 1992 and included the excavation of 116 shovel test pits (STPs) at 10 meter intervals in an area across the site. Two 1 X 1 m units were then placed on the ridge top; the locations based on the results of the shovel test regime. No features were encountered and no discrete artifact clusters or activity areas were identified.

A total of 23 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during shovel testing; these included 16 quartz flakes, 5 rhyolite flakes, 1 quartz biface, 1 quartz core, and 1 rhyolite projectile point. All artifacts from the shovel tests came from the plowzone. The projectile point, which was the only diagnostic artifact from the site, had a triangular blade and a shallowly side-notched base. It has been identified tentatively as a Late Archaic or Early Woodland period type, similar to a Brewerton side-notched point. This would put the age of the site at approximately 5,000 years BP. The two 1 X 1 meter units placed on the site were placed in areas where shovel tests revealed concentrations of artifacts. One unit yielded only a quartz flake and a possible biface from the plowzone. The other unit yielded 9 rhyolite flakes, 7 quartz flakes, and 1 quartz point base. The point fragment was not identifiable and all artifacts were recovered from the plowzone. Only one historic artifact, a common wire nail fragment, was identified in the artifact assemblage from Site 18HO128.

The entire prehistoric assemblage (Phase I and all of Phase II) included 47 unmodified flakes. The dominant raw material was quartzite (18), followed by rhyolite (17), silicified sandstone (6), diorite (3), quartz (2), and chert (1). Four of the flakes recovered were primary flakes and one was a secondary flake. Two cores were excavated; one of quartzite and one of chert. Four biface fragments were identified in the lithic assemblage; one was made from schist, one from rhyolite, and two from quartz. The rhyolite biface is the aforementioned Brewerton. The quartz specimen is quite small, with a straight and slightly concave stem and apparent serrations. This point may be comparable to a Late Archaic period Halifax point. The two remaining bifaces display edge angles that commonly are associated with heavy duty processing and scraping.

The occupation of Site 18HO128 reflects a probable Late Archaic hunting or processing station. Given the site's location overlooking the confluence of two streams, it is likely that it was subject to regular visits for mast procurement as well. Unfortunately, deflation and plowing of the site have destroyed the vertical and horizontal integrity of artifact patterning in the site. Thus, the site has no remaining prehistoric research potential.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005865