



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HO143

Site Name: Patasco Female Institute

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Patasco Heights Hotel, Burg Alnwick Hotel

Historic

Brief Description:

Mid-Late 19th century female school, Late 19th-Early 20th century hotel, theatre, stabilized ruin

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 14

SCS soil & sediment code BrC2

Latitude 39.2683 Longitude -76.8048

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site Underwater site

Elevation 112 m Site slope 8-15%

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) Patasco River

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input checked="" 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 200 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| Paleoindian site <input type="checkbox"/> | Woodland site <input type="checkbox"/> | Contact period site <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1820 - 1860 <input type="checkbox"/> | Y |
| Archaic site <input type="checkbox"/> | MD Adena <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1630 - 1675 <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1860 - 1900 <input type="checkbox"/> | Y |
| Early archaic <input type="checkbox"/> | Early woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1675 - 1720 <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1900 - 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> | Y |
| Middle archaic <input type="checkbox"/> | Mid. woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1720 - 1780 <input type="checkbox"/> | Post 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> | Y |
| Late archaic <input type="checkbox"/> | Late woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1780 - 1820 <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Unknown prehistoric context <input type="checkbox"/> | | Unknown historic context <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | | Unknown context <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- | | |
|--|---|
| Native American <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> |
| African American <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Anglo-American <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples Soil samples taken
 Flotation samples taken Other samples taken

Historic context samples Soil samples taken U
 Flotation samples taken U Other samples taken



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Unknown

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"/>		<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"/>

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" 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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Historic

Brief

Description: Mid-Late 19th century female school, Late 19th-Early 20th century hotel, theatre, stabilized

Unknown

ruin

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at N/A

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Patapsco Female Institute (18HO143) is located on a prominent hilltop overlooking Ellicott City in Howard County, Maryland. The site consists primarily of the ruins of a 19th century Greek Revival structure that served as an academy for young women, which would train them in domestic arts, music, history, language, science, and other topics. The Patapsco Female Institute was open from 1836-1890 and included the main stone structure, building additions, stables, cisterns, walkways, etc., and went through numerous changes after the school was officially closed.

In 1985, the Howard County Recreation and Parks Department began developing plans to reconstruct the gardens surrounding the Institute and to stabilize the ruins that remained of the main structure. An archeological reconnaissance and testing regime was requested to determine the impact on any sub-surface features and to identify features associated with the sites' 150 year history. This work was carried out by volunteers from local schools, residents, and members of the Upper Patuxent Archeology Group. Archival research was also conducted to supplement the Phase I and Phase II work.

Archival results reveal several details regarding the founding and operation of the Institute. The founders of Ellicott City were Quakers from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In 1771 Joseph, Andrew, and John Ellicott traveled from Pennsylvania to the Patapsco River valley and purchased land on both sides of the river. By 1774 they had formed Ellicott and Company and constructed mills and roads to Baltimore and Frederick for their wheat and corn operations. The Ellicotts, as did many Quakers, placed great emphasis on education and built a school for the education of the children of their village. As early as August 1st, 1833, a group of gentlemen including George Ellicott, Judge Thomas Dorsey, Colonel Charles Dorsey, Edward Gray, and Dr. Allen Thomas met at the Patapsco Hotel to discuss the feasibility of erecting a female academy in the village of Ellicott's Mills. An Act of the Maryland General Assembly, Chapter 86, of 1833 made it official, and by October 27th, 1834, two parcels of land had been purchased by a newly formed corporation – the Patapsco Female Institute (the PFI). The first parcel of land was donated by the Ellicott family for \$1.00.

The architect chosen to design and supervise the construction of the Greek Revival structure was Robert Carey Long. In February of 1834 he communicated to Judge Thomas Dorsey, the President of the Board of Trustees, a cost estimate of \$11,000 and his expectations regarding placement of the building and other aspects of the construction about to commence. Money to fund the construction and initial operation of the school was raised by selling over 200 shares of stock at \$50.00 a share, public contributions, a \$12,000 loan using the property as collateral, and annual grants from the state of Maryland. The school officially opened its doors in 1837 under the leadership of Reverend Tyng. But the school's reputation and productivity really didn't begin to surge until the appointment of Almira Hart Lincoln Phelps in 1841. Under her leadership attendance rose steadily and the curriculum expanded. Courses included English and foreign languages, the Classics, modern history, chemistry, botany, art classes, various musical courses, and the natural and abstract sciences. There were two 5-month terms offered per year. Tuition was \$100 per term, plus books, fees for electives, and other costs.

Almira Hart Lincoln Phelps was one of the most influential women in mid-nineteenth century America. The PFI, under her leadership, had a diverse curriculum and was as prestigious as any number of female schools. She attracted over one hundred young women in at least six of the 14 years she was Principal. She was also successful in drawing an increasing number of girls from the South, noteworthy in a period of escalating tension and fear. Mrs. Phelps was also a woman of many paradoxes. She frequently referred to men as the "stronger sex", but had a marriage contract with her husband and argued assertively for money from the PFI Board of Trustees. She believed young ladies should be trained in the natural sciences and take physical exercise, but believed women should remain in "their sphere". Although she was a strong woman with a national reputation as an educator, she strongly resisted the feminist movement and was an anti-suffragist. The 1850 slave census enumerated two slaves owned by Mrs. Lincoln Phelps. Perhaps this is why southerners trusted her educating their children. After the death of her daughter, Mrs. Phelps left the PFI in 1856, just one year before the completion of a new Chapel wing.

Under new management, the PFI remained successful until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1860. Southern girls no longer felt safe in the north and attendance dropped sharply. The school was closed in 1861 and does not appear to have re-opened until 1865. Shortly thereafter, the new Principal, Robert Archer, was given permission by the Board of Trustees to build a cottage on the premises. Archival evidence suggests that throughout the school's history, the Trustees expected the various Principals to pay for renovations/additions and the furnishings they deemed important for the running of the school. This expectation was acceptable if the Principal was wealthy and/or making money from a large number of students. This was not the case by the 1870s as student numbers began to decrease again, leading to the school's closure a second time in 1878. Miss Sarah Randolph, the great-great granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson accepted the position of Principal in 1879, only after the Trustees agreed to make some major renovations. According to court testimony in 1890, these actions erased the Trustees reserve fund. Although the PFI had a brief resurgence under Miss Randolph she declined to re-new her six year lease in 1885. By 1890, enrollment was so bad that the Trustees requested that the State dissolve the corporation. This was granted on January 22nd, 1891.

After its life as the PFI, the property was privately owned by the Tyson-Elliott family and was operated as a hotel, and later as a home for World War I convalescents. The estate was purchased in 1934 by a group of four men and rented to a Don Swann Jr. He converted the estate property into the "Hilltop Theater" where his acting company produced plays in the Chapel wing. They had erected a stage and a circular staircase connecting the first and second floors. His acting troupe lived at the PFI and approximately 200 people would be in attendance for performances and to walk the grounds. World War II and gas rationing brought the demise of the theater and the splitting up of the property. After a second stint as a convalescent home, the building itself was purchased by the President of the University of Cincinnati in 1958. He did not live in Maryland and, consequently, the vacant house fell subject to vandalism. It was eventually gutted and began deteriorating rapidly during the 1960s. By the time it was purchased by the Howard County Recreation and Parks Department (at the urging of several community groups) the structure was essentially a series of stone ruins.

Archeological investigations were not undertaken at the site until the summer of 1987. In order to mitigate the impact of planned efforts to develop Site 18HO143 as a recreational park, the Howard County Recreation and Parks Department agreed to fund a small field crew to began reconnaissance work and public archeology days to attract interest from local residents. These efforts were expanded and continued for several field seasons. Unfortunately, no final report has ever been prepared detailing the work conducted at the PFI. An interim report does exist, however this does not provide total quantities of artifacts either by individual types, raw material, or aggregate categories. It does provide charts of artifact quantities, but they are in percentage units and aggregate categories (architectural, personal, etc.) are compared by raw materials and not to one another. Thus, despite the fact that a total of over 30,000 artifacts were excavated at the site, tallies cannot be calculated for various artifacts types. The table above merely uses very minimal estimates of 10 objects per artifact category if that category appears to be represented at the site (based on the charts and text of the report). An estimate of 2 objects was used for individual ceramic sherd types described.



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Unknown

Archeological investigations included the excavation of 40 X 40 cm shovel test pits (STPs) at 5 meter intervals around the main structure to determine the location of undisturbed and disturbed areas. The STP interval was reduced to a 2.5 meter interval when it was necessary to make interpretations with more confidence (i.e. when anomalies were encountered). In addition, 1 X 1 meter test units were excavated on the south side of the PFI complex where features had been encountered. A few 1 X 1 meter units were also opened up on the north side of the building to locate walking paths and building foundations associated with the chapel wing and main building. Sanborn maps from 1887-1919 indicate that two building additions, a separate heating building, a stable, and two cisterns were located on the north side of the building. A series of contiguous units were established in the area of these features in an attempt to locate them. Throughout the excavations, all large features were excavated in 10 cm levels to maintain stratigraphic control; in addition, the floor plan was drawn every 10 cms and the wall profile recorded. Any large trash pits were divided into 2 X 2 meter blocks and then into quarters with excavation conducted in a clockwise rotation, 10 cm at a time.

While testing for the building foundations on the north side, a large trash midden was discovered. It is at least 3 X 4 meters in size and yielded more than 20,000 artifacts (approximately 2/3 of the entire site assemblage). It contains mixed 19th and 20th century artifacts. A number of brick and stone paths were identified around the building along with several drains associated with the 19th and 20th century. A pump house was also identified on the south slope below the building, along with a well on the east side of the building.

There are numerous artifacts associated with architectural functions such as plaster (often attached to stone), nails, tile, window glass, wood, roofing slate. A large number of kitchen-related items have also been collected, including ceramics made of whiteware, pearlware, porcelain, yellowware, and stoneware. Bottles and other glasswares associated with the kitchen and other functions have been uncovered. A number of faunal remains have been recovered in the trash midden, which is located near the school's kitchen. So far, two types of mammal bones, pig and cow, have been identified; some of which have cut marks associated with butchering. In addition to the bone, egg and oyster shell have been identified. A number of buttons made from oyster shell, metal, and ceramic material were recovered. Personal items were glass beads and gold jewelry. Activity items include ceramic and glass marbles, fragments of glass inkwells, slate pencils, and other objects. Clay tobacco pipe stems were also encountered.

While a lot of excavation effort has been put into Site18HO143, less energy has been put into interpretation of the artifact assemblage and publication of the results. The artifacts recovered from the excavations at the site could be used to focus attention on a number of research themes/questions concerning the school and changes in the site's function through time. This would aid tremendously in interpretive efforts. As it now stands, researchers are simply unaware of what the assemblage consists of and therefore have not developed said research questions. It is only after thorough interpretation of the existing assemblage that any assessment can be made of the research potential of the site if extensive data recovery were to ever be carried out there.

The second round of archaeological investigations occurred during the 1993 summer season, prior to the construction associated with the stabilization of the ruins. Dr. James A. Gibb, PhD, was hired as project director, with Tara Petit serving as crew chief to oversee a crew of five additional individuals during the field season. Throughout the summer, the crew excavated a total of 52 2x2 meter test units around the perimeter of the building, in order to identify subsurface features and stratified layers in the areas adjacent to where construction and stabilization would occur. The investigation recovered 29,360 artifacts (not including such building materials as brick, slate, and mortar) and uncovered several features, including the foundation of three framed additions: the school room (1879), the Dining Hall (1880), and a hotel addition (c. 1893), all demolished between 1910 and 1919. Artifact patterning around the complex has been very difficult to identify and interpret due to the large quantity of demolition debris (late 1930s, 1960s) and trash left by vandals (1960s-1990s): the bulk of the artifacts recovered from the site to date, have little bearing on the school or hotel uses of the site. Based on these results, further work is recommended in order to locate intact cultural features associated with the school era, to enhance the interpretation of this historic site.

When stabilization of the ruins was complete in 1995, Lee Preston returned to the site developed a Public Archaeology program, in partnership with UPAG and Howard County Department Recreation and Parks. During the years 1994 and 2010, campers, students and volunteers continued to excavate the kitchen midden, located to the north of the ruins in hopes of identifying the vertical and horizontal (southern) boundaries. Unfortunately, no field notes exist for the public archaeology seasons between 1995-2010. What is known is that six additional 2x2 meter squares were excavated over the which unearthed an additional 7,333 artifacts. The 12x10-meter kitchen midden contained numerous artifacts, among them slate pencils, buttons, bone toothbrushes, porcelain doll fragments, and a bone gaming die. At some point, within those 15 years, one of the units yielded portions of a stone foundation, most likely associated with the stable and engineering building as depicted on the 1887 Sanborne Insurance Maps. This feature was, unfortunately, removed and then put back in situ for public education purposes and was not properly documented.

Lastly, in 2019, Kelly Palich, MA, archaeologist with Howard County Recreation and Parks, monitored the removal of an Ash tree, located to the south of the ruins, adjacent to the back entrance gate. Tree removal and stump grinding exposed another possible structural feature made from stone (granite), which was subsequently documented and photographed. Artifacts include architectural remains (x=64), ceramic (x=21), glass (x=41), and fuel (x=37). Without further investigation, this feature appeared to be the northwest corner of a building; the feature continued to the south of the trench and possibly to the east but was likely disturbed by tree roots. The 1837 lithograph illustration by E. Sachse depicts two structures located to the north of the main school building. This is one of the earliest renderings of the school building and its outbuildings; the feature identified in this trench could be remnants from one of the two outbuildings depicted. Further archaeological investigation is recommended in order to identify the true meaning of this feature as well as determine its significance to the early school era of the Patapsco Female Institute.

Interpretation of previous archaeological investigations is limited, as initial site documentation was not completed to standards. Documentation of cultural features are mostly limited to plan view drawings; photographs were taken, however, not properly labeled, and therefore, without provenience information. Based on poor documentation of known cultural features, and the potential for additional cultural features associated with the School era, the Public Archaeology Program, with Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks hopes to return to the site to gather data that can be used to help further interpret the Patapsco Female Institute

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005869, 950088743