



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18HO277

Site Name: LPR #3

Prehistoric

Other name(s) GE Health Care

Historic

Brief Description:

Early, Middle, & Late Archaic and Early, Middle, & Late Woodland short-term camps

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 13

SCS soil & sediment code Ha

Latitude 39.1291

Longitude -76.8119

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-3%

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) Little Patuxent River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 15 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown historic context

Unknown prehistoric 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
- 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

#### 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 pollen

### 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"/> 1
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/> 1

## 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"/> 11	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		Staffordshire		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"/> 278	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	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"/> 2453	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/> 385	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 48	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	FCR cluster, no charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

## Dated features present at site

Feature 4 - prehistoric pit feature containing debitage, an overlying stratum contained triangular points and quartz-tempered cordmarked sherds

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 298	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 70
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 960	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 564	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/> 16
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 1315
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	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"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1: 1290 +/- 40 years BP Reliability Sample 2: 2230 +/- 40 years BP Reliability Sample 3: +/- years BP Reliability

B-237299: carbon from a thin stratum directly above two prehistoric pit features (feat 3 & 4), assoc. w/ Accokeek-like sherds and triangular points

Mod

B-237300: charcoal from a prehistoric pit feature (feat 4) associated with quartz debitage

Mod

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 Howard Co. Dept. of Parks & Rec.

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18HO277 (also known as the GE Health Care Site) is a multi-component prehistoric short-term use camp near Savage in Howard County. The site is situated on an alluvial terrace of the Little Patuxent River. Only about 1 meter of alluvium is present in the area as outcropping bluestone is evident underlying the alluvium in the cutbanks of the stream. A well-developed flood chute separates the terrace surface from a channel island/medial bar of the same approximate height above the river. The surrounding environment consists of moderately dense new and old growth forest, with dense, thorny underbrush. Soils at the site are poorly drained Hatboro-Codorus silt loams.

The site was first identified in October of 2006 during a Phase I survey within the area of potential effect (APE) for the (then) proposed Little Patuxent Parallel Sewer Interceptor. This 45 foot wide APE extended over 10.4 miles between the Little Patuxent Water Reclamation Plant in Savage, MD and I-95 near Columbia. The sewer interceptor was subject to the regulations contained in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Sections 5-A325 and 5-A326 of the Annotated Code of Maryland because of the issuance of wetland permits by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the MD Department of the Environment.

Phase I work at 18HO277 in 2006 entailed the excavation of 36 systematic shovel test pits (STPs) at 15 m intervals along a central baseline through the sewer interceptor APE. STPs measured 50 X 50 cm and extended to a depth of 80 cm. All soils were screened through hardware cloth. Out of the 36 STPs excavated, 25 were positive, yielding a total of 233 artifacts, both historic and prehistoric. Based on artifacts distributions, three 1 X 1 m test units were placed accordingly to identify potential cultural features.

The Phase I assemblage consisted of a rhyolite Stanly point, a quartz stemmed point, a quartz corner-notched point, a quartz Madison point, 2 other projectile point fragments, 4 cores, 2 tested/flaked cobbles, 8 primary flakes, 82 secondary flakes, 52 tertiary flakes, 203 other flakes, 30 pieces of shatter, 1 groundstone tool, 2 other lithics, 46 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 1 prehistoric manuport, and 776 miscellaneous artifacts (counted as historic). No prehistoric ceramics were recovered during Phase I testing. A fire-cracked rock cluster (Feature 1) was identified near the center of the site area. In addition, based on the vertical distribution of artifacts within individual test units, two prehistoric occupations appeared, supporting the idea of stratified contexts across the site. Based on these findings, Phase II testing was recommended.

Phase II work was carried out at the site in 2007, again, as part of the larger sewer interceptor installation project. Testing included both close-interval radial shovel testing, as well as the placement of 20 additional test units, in order to further determine the horizontal and vertical significance of Site 18HO277. Shovel tests were also extended to the west, in order to determine the westernmost extent of the site, for engineering purposes. A total of 49 additional shovel tests were excavated during Phase II investigation, 40 of which were positive, yielding over 1,100 artifacts, both historic and prehistoric. All excavated soils were screened.

The Phase II historic assemblage from the STPs consisted of 17 activity items (7 pieces of lamp glass, 5 terra cotta sherds, and 5 pieces of hardware), 358 architectural artifacts (1 door hinge, 98 window glass fragments, 34 brick pieces, 223 nails, 1 piece of plaster, and a piece of slate), 1 clothing item (a straight pin), 257 kitchen-related artifacts (6 whiteware sherds, 1 Rockingham sherd, 2 table glass fragments, 245 container glass fragments, and 3 animal bones), an arms object (1 shotgun shell), and 238 miscellaneous objects (119 coal fragments, 59 piece of slag, 3 clinkers, and 57 iron fragments). The prehistoric artifacts were 1 triangular point, 1 drill, 1 biface, 2 other flaked tools, 19 primary flakes, 126 secondary flakes, 68 tertiary flakes, 42 pieces of shatter, 2 worked/flaked cobbles, 3 piece of fire-cracked rock, 11 Accokeek sherds, and 33 fragments of charcoal (not included in the table above). The horizontal distribution of artifacts, as interpreted from the STP data, revealed three distinct clusters of artifacts

Based on the Phase II shovel testing data, the manual excavation of twenty 1 X 1 m test units was carried out in 3 areas (A, B, and C). Locus A was located in the easternmost portion of the site and was investigated with 3 test units. Locus B was located in the east central portion of the site and was investigated with 9 additional test units. And Locus C encompassed the western half of the overall site. It was investigated with the excavation of 8 additional test units.

Test unit placement was, in part, dictated by the results of the Phase I and II shovel testing. The units were generally placed in areas surrounding positive STPs. Test units were excavated in 10 cm increments within natural stratigraphy. At a minimum, test units were excavated to a depth of 10 cm into sterile subsoil. All soil was screened through hardware mesh. Upon completion, observations were made on standardized forms regarding soil color, soil texture, soil context, artifacts recovered, and the presence or absence, and nature, of any features. Measurements were recorded in metric units and soil data was recorded using standard methods and nomenclature. Test units were then backfilled after photographing and mapping.

Features were excavated by hand, also in 10 cm increments by natural stratigraphy. Features were entered in separate feature logs, with detailed information regarding elevation, feature type, shape and dimension, contents/inclusions, soil texture and color, artifacts, samples, and interpretation. In addition, photograph and map documentation were made in both plan and profile views to further record the removal of the feature. Both soil and charcoal samples were recovered for future research.

Phase II test unit excavations revealed that Locus A contained the fewest prehistoric artifacts of the three aforementioned loci. It also contained a single unidentified feature containing historic artifacts. The feature (Feature 2) is likely a small trash dump of unknown origin. While prehistoric artifacts were recovered across all three loci (A, B, and C), it was determined that intact deposits that were undisturbed by flooding were primarily located within Locus B. In this area, two prehistoric pit features (Features 3 and 4) were identified as well as possible postmolds.

Charcoal from Feature 4 (which contained no diagnostic materials) and from and overlying stratum (which did) was retained for radiocarbon analysis. The sample from Feature 4 produced an uncalibrated date of 2230 ± 40 radiocarbon years before present. When calibrated, this corresponds to a calendrical date range of 387 - 202 BC. The stratum above the feature produced several quartz-tempered cordmarked ceramic sherds as well as triangular points. The carbon sample from this stratum produced an uncalibrated date of 1290 ± 40 radiocarbon years before present. When calibrated, this corresponds to a calendrical date range of roughly AD 653-860. The absolute dates of the feature and the overlying layer suggest some degree of vertical integrity in this portion of the site.

Large quantities of historic materials were recovered from Locus C. However, the pedaeological and contextual data suggests that these artifacts were



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dumped there as part of routine trash disposal by residents of nearby Savage.

The Phase II test unit and feature assemblage consisted of 2,201 prehistoric and 1,436 historic artifacts. The prehistoric assemblage consisted of 1 quartz Levanna point, 2 other quartz triangles, a quartz fishtail point, a serrated quartz point, a Rhyolite side-notched point, 6 quartz point fragments, 2 quartzite point fragments, 13 quartz bifaces, 1 rhyolite biface, a quartz drill, 1 other quartz tool fragment, 2 rhyolite tool fragments, 23 cores, 11 utilized/retouched flakes, 113 primary flakes, 389 secondary flakes, 1,035 tertiary flakes, 3 chunks, 198 pieces of shatter, a grooved handaxe, 3 other groundstone fragments, 2 possible boiling stones, a hammerstone, 17 other lithics, 336 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 37 ceramic sherds. The overwhelming majority of the lithic raw material is quartz, with much lesser amounts of quartzite, rhyolite, chert, and other materials.

The historic assemblage included 53 activity items (an aluminum strap, a gardening tool, a washer, 48 pieces of lamp glass, a lightbulb fragment, and a sherd from a terra cotta flowerpot), 206 architectural items (20 brick fragments, a plaster fragment, 4 wire nails, 113 unidentified nails, 65 window glass fragments, an iron latch, an electric fuse, and 1 other electrical part), 22 clothing items (a glass button, 18 pieces of shoe leather, and 3 other leather fragments), 852 kitchen-related artifacts (291 ceramic sherds, 6 pieces of table glass, 500 bottle glass fragments, 39 other pieces of container glass, 3 mason jar lid liners, 12 animal bones, and 1 crab claw), 2 personal items (a porcelain figurine fragment and a pocket knife), and 301 miscellaneous objects (117 iron objects, 2 pieces of melted glass, 10 pieces of charcoal, 93 pieces of coal, 12 clinkers, 35 pieces of slag, 1 unidentified lead item, and 31 other objects). Ceramics included 1 unidentified earthenware, 1 porcelain, 2 ironstone, 272 whiteware, 1 redware, 11 Rockingham, and 3 miscellaneous stoneware sherds.

The intact portions of 18HO277 (essentially Locus B) has been interpreted as a prehistoric base camp dating from the Woodland Period. The site contains two intact pit features that contained only lithic debitage. Features 3 and 4 were overlain, however, by a thin level that contained Woodland pottery (somewhat similar to Accokeek) and triangular points. These artifacts were found in association with fire-cracked rock that would suggest some type of cooking activities were occurring on the site. The presence of pit features and fire-cracked rock may indicate that the site was occupied for extended periods of time.

Site 18HO277 contains intact, buried archeological contexts containing cultural features and diagnostic artifacts that would indicate that the site has the potential to continue to yield archeological information through excavation, research, and analysis. Phase II researchers suggested that the sewer line project be modified to avoid the site. MHT determined that the site was likely eligible for listing on the NRHP and entered into consultation with Howard County and the US Army Corp of Engineers on a potential modification to the site plans. It should still be considered a significant archeological resource.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95000495, Site Files