



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18KE53

Site Name: KCARP AN-50

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic and Early Woodland short-term resource procurement camp and shell midden

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 5

SCS soil & sediment code SaA

Latitude 39.3186

Longitude -76.1622

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 20 m

Site slope 0-5%

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) Unnamed trib. of Chesapeake

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 61 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

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

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 U

Flotation samples taken Y

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"/>
		Levana	<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		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>		<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			
Flaked stone	151	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	1	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls		Modified faunal	4
Fire-cracked rock		Unmod faunal	146
Other lithics (all)	3	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)		Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds		Uncommon Obj.	
		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"/>	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Oyster shell midden

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

## Historic Features

Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<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: 3010 +/- 75 years BP

Reliability

Sample 2: 2280 +/- 90 years BP

Reliability

Sample 3: +/- years BP

Reliability

SI-2800: Oyster shell sample from an unknown area of the midden; possible assoc. artifacts are debitage.

Low

SI-2801: Oyster shell sample from an unknown area of the midden; possible assoc. artifacts are debitage.

Low

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 KCARP AN-50 Site (18KE53) is a short-term resource procurement camp and shell midden. It is tentatively dated to the Late Archaic or first part of the Woodland period based on a single diagnostic point type. The site is located near Worton Point in Kent County. It is situated on the bank of a marshy tributary stream which empties into the Chesapeake Bay. Soils at the site are Sassafras loam, 0-5% slope. The overall site measures approximately 122 x 107 meters.

The site was first recorded during the Kent County Archaeological Research Project (KCARP) which involved a systematic regional surface survey, artifact collection, and analysis along the western shore of Kent County. The overall aim of the study was to assess the development of the interrelated changes in the prehistoric environment and resource utilization during the past 7,000-8,000 years along portions of the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Of particular interest was the nature and processes involved in the development of the oyster base subsistence system. Specific goals of the survey were to identify previously unidentified cultural resources within the study area and ultimately to determine if any of those resources were eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Funding was in part provided by the Maryland Historical Trust and three seasons of work were conducted in 1972/73, 1974, and 1976. The study area consisted of 191 km<sup>2</sup> of western Kent County, including 93 km of shoreline. It was bounded on the north by the Sassafras River, on the east by the Morgan and Woodland Creeks, on the south by a divide separating the Chesapeake Bay and the Chester River, and on the west by the Chesapeake Bay. The study period ranged from the establishment of the Bay (and the drowning of the ancestral Susquehanna River) to the contact period (ca. AD 1600).

The project began in 1972 with archival and environmental research. Fieldwork was conducted in late 1972 and 1973. The archeological investigations included pedestrian survey of several land tracts and controlled surface collection. Artifact clusters were collected in units of 30 m square grid systems. Approximately 7 m distance was maintained between fieldwalkers. A site or artifact cluster was defined as any 30 m<sup>2</sup> collection unit or group of contiguous units in which each contained a minimum of 40 artifacts. All artifacts were retained during the surface collection except for fire-cracked rock, oyster shells, and unmodified raw material (rocks and pebbles). Limited excavation of shovel tests pits was also done. Additionally, shell samples were collected from cliff exposures of 23 coastal archeological sites and 5 marshes for radiocarbon dating, and from a former sub-estuary for dating and pollen analysis. Archeological investigations were renewed in 1974 and again in 1976. The field seasons consisted of a continuation of the systematic surface survey, and artifact collection and analysis, with the addition of test unit excavations at a few sites. During the test unit excavations, column soil samples were acquired for future microanalysis. Test units were excavated in arbitrary 20 cm levels. An additional 61 radiocarbon samples were collected from 29 different shell sites during the 1974 and 1976 investigations. Results of the C14 dating led the excavators to conclude that oyster resources (*ostrea virginica*) were being exploited as early as 5,700 years ago in the Chesapeake region (roughly the Middle Archaic period).

A total of 87 land tracts were investigated during the three years of survey. The entire shoreline of Kent County was examined on foot and the shorelines of local rivers were examined from a shallow draft boat. The results of the 1970s surveys were provided in several volumes that consisted of computer printouts of individual clusters of artifacts/sites. Only two categories of stone artifacts were recognized, "worns" (tools) and "unworns" (debitage). Standard tool categories and cultural-historical types were not used. No catalogue forms that summarized the available data were provided.

A re-analysis of the prehistoric artifacts recovered during the 1970s surveys and excavations was carried out in 1983 by archeologists from the University of Delaware and funded by a National Park Service Survey and Planning grant from the Maryland Historical Trust. The aim of that re-analysis was to increase the research utility of the collection, which was then on deposit with the Division of Archeology, Maryland Geological Survey. The re-analysis provided more comprehensive descriptions of excavated materials, catalogues of surface collected materials, and in a few cases, listings of types of special interest. Artifacts were recorded as flakes, flake tools, staged bifaces, Late Archaic/Woodland I points (from after ca. 5000 BC-AD 1000), Woodland II points (ca. AD 1000-1600), other points, cores, indeterminate objects, groundstone artifacts and ceramics. Points were not designated to any particular cultural type but to one of the time periods or 'other points' categories as noted above. The re-analysis provided the most updated and more comprehensive data of the entire survey assemblage. It is that data that is given in the table above. No total counts for any of the faunal or floral material or for the ceramic sherds that were recovered from the test unit excavations were provided except in a few rare cases. Therefore, the totals for those objects in the table above should be considered minimum estimates.

During the 1974 survey the site was designated KCARP AN-50. No artifacts were surface collected from site 18KE53 but 5 test units (Pits 1-5) were excavated at that time. Although the size of the units was not stated, most of the units excavated during the survey were either 1 m<sup>2</sup> or 1x2 m; therefore, the units from 18KE53 most likely fall into that size range. There was mention in a report that charcoal samples, possibly from an ash tree, were recovered from Feature 1 in Pit 4. Unfortunately, no other information was provided. For this site, a series of small vials containing floral material, snail shells, shell fragments, and bone fragments were discovered during the 1983 analysis. They were thought to possibly be light fractions of flotation samples. They were numbered 1-25 (#22 was missing) and all the labels had the letter "M" in the lower right corner, possibly indicating the samples were recovered from a midden context. As no counts were provided in the report, a minimum estimate of 2 items per vial was recorded in the site totals in the table above. The vials containing floral material indicated the types of material present but not the total amounts; the count below assumes 1 each of each type listed.

A total of 392 artifacts were collected from the site. There were 146 pieces ofdebitage (53 quartz, 1 quartzite, 73 chert, 6 jasper, 1 rhyolite, 4 argillite, 2 sidarite, 1 chalcedony, 5 other) and 2 chert cores. There were 2 chert flake tools and a single Late Archaic/Woodland I point was found. There was 1 groundstone objects (an axe with bifacially retouched edges) and 3 other lithics (hammerstones). Unmodified faunal material (n=146) consisted of 46 animal bone fragments (raccoon, deer, and box turtle), 40 unidentified shell fragments, and 60 snail shells. Modified faunal material included 4 burnt deer bone fragments. Floral material (n=87) included 32 unidentified charcoal pieces (primarily from Pit 3), 8 modern grass seeds, and 12 oak, 14 hickory, 6 black walnut, 1 chestnut, 2 black locust, 2 elm, 1 ash, 1 cherry, 3 sweet gum, 3 persimmon, and 2 sassafras charcoal fragments.

A horseshoe fragment with attached nails was also recovered during the excavations. This was recorded as a historic period activity object in the table above. No other historic material was noted.

Two shell samples were collected from 18KE53 for radiocarbon dating. The location of the samples and any associated artifacts was not made explicit in the original reports. The first sample (SI-2800; 3010±75) produced a date range of 1426-1038 BC calibrated to 2-sigma using the Intcal09 program. The second sample (SI-2801; 2280±90) produced a date range of 553-90 BC using the same program. These dates fall within the Late Archaic and Early Woodland periods respectively. However, the general validity of the samples was questioned during the 1983 re-analysis. When diagnostics were identified with a shell



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midden, they appeared to be in the surface collection from around the midden and not in the midden itself. When diagnostic artifacts were present within the middens, the diagnostics did not fit with the radiocarbon date. With the find of only a single diagnostic (an unidentified stemmed projectile point), it would be speculative to suggest that the radiocarbon dates are confirmed by the artifact assemblage. The reliability of radiocarbon dates derived from oyster shell samples from the Upper Chesapeake are thought to generally be faulty by some researchers. Therefore, the dates derived for 18KE53 are in question.

The KCARP AN-50 Site (18KE53) is a short-term resource procurement camp and shell midden. It is tentatively dated to the Late Archaic or first part of the Woodland period based on a single diagnostic (but unidentified) point type. All of the information regarding the site was provided in tabular data form. No interpretation, discussion, or conclusions were available in any of the associated reports.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005907, 00005909, 00005910, 00005911, 00005936, 00006808, Site Files