



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO153

Site Name: Glen Echo Chatauqua

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Glen Echo Amusement Park; C&O Canal 4-3

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

19th century summer resort and early 20th century amusement park

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9660

Longitude -77.1511

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 0

Ethnobotany profile available  Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Minnehaha Branch

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 17 m

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

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1860 - 1900
- ca. 1900 - 1930
- Post 1930
- Y
- Y
- Y

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other
- Y

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? Rural

#### Domestic

- Homestead
- Farmstead
- Mansion
- Plantation
- Row/townhome
- Cellar
- Privy

#### Industrial

- Mining-related
- Quarry-related
- Mill
- Black/metalsmith
- Furnace/forge
- Other

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

Chautauqua, amusement park, planned community

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken

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			
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"/>
		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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
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"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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			
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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 type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input 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

1891-1914 Chatauqua assembly building

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

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19th century summer resort and early 20th century amusement park

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at NPS

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18MO153 is the archeological remains of a 19th and early 20th century Chautauqua meeting house in the town of Glen Echo in Montgomery County. The site is situated within Glen Echo Park along the Gorge of the Potomac River on a secondary terrace of the palisades above the river. Glen Echo Park is a former amusement park and modern visual and performing arts center managed by a formal partnership (the Glen Echo Partnership for Arts and Culture) between Maryland, Montgomery County and the National Park Service (NPS). Little is left of the original natural setting at Glen Echo Park as development of the Chautauqua and amusement park has greatly altered the land form. Besides the numerous structures at Glen Echo, the central portions of the park are occupied by paved walkways, parking lots, and road surfaces. Undeveloped areas are characterized by turf grass cover or by occasional stands of deciduous trees predominated by oaks, poplar, maples, and sweet gum and by the revegetated areas of the restored Minniehaha Creek stream valley. Soils at the site are primarily Glenelg silt loams.

The creation and early development of Glen Echo Park dates to the late 19th century. The growth of the Washington, DC region during and following the Civil War promoted the expansion of suburbs around the nation's capital. Two entrepreneurs who sought to capitalize on development potential were brothers Edward and Edwin Baltzey. In 1888, they began their real estate venture by purchasing 516 acres from William Reading, including the site location, renaming their tract "Glen Echo on the Potomac" and planning to create a resort and residential subdivision. Shortly after their purchase, the Baltzey brothers began subdividing and selling lots and even founded the Glen Echo Railroad Company to provide trolley service to and from Washington, DC. In 1890, they opened a restaurant known as Pa-Tow-A-Meck Café and in 1891 published an illustrative promotional brochure for their development entitled Glen-Echo-On-The-Potomac: The Washington Rhine.

By this time, the Baltzeys had incorporated a National Chautauqua assembly site into their town plans and had begun construction of the grounds and facilities for a Glen Echo Chautauqua that would be characterized by rustic stone and wood buildings. The Chautauqua assembly was an educational movement that spread throughout rural America during the late 19th and early 20th century. The movement was named after Chautauqua Lake in western New York state, where the first assemblies were held. Chautauqua assemblies featured lectures, political discussions, art, and entertainment and often traveled a rural circuit like a religious tent revival.

Around the time that they established the Glen Echo Chautauqua, the Baltzey brothers enticed Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, to join their real estate venture and provided her building lots for the construction of a headquarters building, which later became her residence. A number of other residential lots were sold and development got underway, and the Chautauqua program enjoyed a first successful season in 1891. However, the following year a malaria scare forced cancellation of the Chautauqua's second season and the effort could not be revived. Sales of subdivision lots also slowed after this and the Baltzeys, facing financial difficulties, rented the Chautauqua facilities for various uses, including as an amusement park, through the turn of the century. The Baltzeys were eventually forced to sell the interests to creditors in 1903.

The residential portion of Glen Echo continued its growth following the Baltzeys' demise and was chartered as a town in 1904. Out of the failure of the Chautauqua assembly at Glen Echo arose a new use of the property, as in 1903 the Washington Railway and Electric Company bought the lands and formalized the usage of the site as an amusement park, which had been operated there in various forms since 1899. Over the next 65 years, new attractions and rides were constructed and the operation, which came to be known as Glen Echo Park, enjoyed great success under a series of ownership until its closure in 1968.

The following year the federal government acquired the 16.8 acre site through the auspices of the General Services Administration and the National Park Service began administration of the property. Out of the 16.8 acres, 7.5 acres were set aside for the Clara Barton National Historic Site in 1974 and the remainder 9.3 acres became part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Today, both properties remain under the authority of the NPS and the Clara Barton National Historic Site operates as a historic house museum and the former Glen Echo Park functions as a cultural arts center managed under a cooperative partnership between the NPS, Montgomery County, the State of Maryland, and the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, Inc.

As a result of Glen Echo Park Partnership efforts, by 2005 funds were obtained for the rehabilitation of several of the remaining structures at the park, some of which are on the NRHP. Rehabilitation efforts were managed through the partnership under federal agency historic preservation guidelines of the NPS and Department of the Interior and guidelines developed through NHPA Section 106 consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

In December of 2005, work began to raze and replace the "Yellow Barn", a former amusement park maintenance shop and superintendent dwelling that was a contributing element to the Glen Echo Park Historic District nomination. Plans called for replacement in-kind for the structure, which was in a dilapidated condition, suffering from rot, termite infestation, and structural problems. During excavations for a new basement level for the replacement building, a discovery was made by contractors of a building foundation stone wall beneath the first floor of the Yellow Barn. This foundation wall ran parallel to the western exterior wall of the Yellow Barn. Work ceased in December 22, 2005 and NPS personnel in charge of the project were notified.

Due to federal holiday schedules, NPS archeological personnel were not aware of the development until returning to work December 28. NPS personnel scheduled a site visit for later that day and began preliminary research into the NPS' files for information regarding the Yellow Barn site's history. According to the Glen Echo Park's Historic Structure Report, the Yellow Barn (built in 1914), was constructed on the site of a former "store" building constructed for the 1891 Glen Echo Chautauqua. This earlier stone and wood Chautauqua structure had burned in 1914 but its surviving ground floor, east façade stone wall had been incorporated into the construction of the Yellow Barn.

Based upon observations made during the NPS site visit on December 28th, 2005, discussions amongst NPS staff, and subsequent consultations with MHT, a strategy was developed for investigating and documenting this unanticipated discovery during a temporary work stoppage in order that the Yellow Barn rehabilitation project could continue. This effort included archeological investigations, architectural examination, and photographic recordation of the foundation remains. The goal of the project was to identify the foundation ruins, collect associated contextual data and information that might inform the site history, document the findings, and devise plans to preserve the foundation remains or mitigate their demolition.

Fieldwork was undertaken in early 2006 and entailed a surface walkover and inspection of the construction site, uncovering additional portions of the partially exposed foundation, and hand digging three 61 X 61 cm (2 X 2 ft) test excavation units. Soil from the units were excavated by natural and cultural stratigraphic



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levels and screened through hardware cloth as appropriate to the context.

The 2006 archeological investigations at 18MO153 uncovered nearly 30.5 m (100 ft) of a linear mortared stone foundation wall, most of which constituted what was the west outer or façade wall of the Chautauqua building. An unexpected and interesting foundation footprint for the west wall was exposed by the excavations that included a bay window type projection and an incremental narrowing of the building's depth from south to north. This segmentation of the width of the structure consisted of two jogs to the foundation that stepped inward at right angles into the building which foreshortened its east-west breadth, and an approximately 45 degree angled foundation jog inward that again would have narrowed the building's width. Additionally, an architectural ghosting pattern of the south end wall of the former building was preserved in the north wall of the extant adjacent Chautauqua Tower, against which the former Chautauqua building and the later Yellow Barn had been built.

The nature of the Chautauqua building ruins uncovered by the archeological excavations corresponds to the period illustrative and photographic evidence of the character of the former Chautauqua building. The structure is depicted in architectural drawings and photographs as essentially a 1½ story stone and wood structure with multiple dormer windows on the east and west elevations located on a wood shake shingled roofline of varying heights and dimension, apparently denoting internal rooms or functional divisions of the building.

Ashy soils containing charred material were excavated from around the foundation ruins. These finds support that the remains are indeed those of the Chautauqua building as it was documented to have been destroyed by fire in 1914. It was unfortunate that due to the extensively disturbed nature of the site by the ongoing rehabilitation efforts, no more broadly informative additional archeological data could be gleaned from the controlled excavations. The archeological proveniences were compromised by heavy equipment operations and demolition and construction activities. No artifacts were, therefore, recovered and curated for permanent collections.

Background research supported the identification of the foundation remains as belonging to what was known as the "store" or "arcade" building of the Glen Echo Chautauqua. Sources indicate that this structure housed merchants who offered goods and services to the attendees of the Chautauqua as well as to the general populace of the town of Glen Echo, and also featured a post office.

An 1891 Washington Post article about the Chautauqua speaks of "The Arcade" as being located, "near the main entrance to the grounds" and housing numerous shops so that "it will be possible to find in the Arcade anything that may be needed by residents on the ground". Edwin and Edward Baltzey, founders of the Glen Echo Chautauqua, were quoted in period literature advertising the Chautauqua and describing the buildings as saying there exist the "Post Office and Store Buildings", which they describe as "adjoining the western tower" and "arranged to serve the public outside the grounds and the public inside".

The rehabilitation project for the Yellow Barn included provisions for the preservation of the east façade stone wall of the former 1891 Chautauqua building. However, the project called for the excavation of a full basement, which would completely destroy the newly discovered Chautauqua building remains. Based upon recommendations resultant from the 2006 investigations, design plans for the Yellow Barn rehabilitation were altered to preserve a small portion of the foundation wall and make it available for interpretation. A trap door in the first floor was installed to allow for the viewing of the foundation. In addition, the architectural ghosting of the former building on the extant Chautauqua Tower was left exposed within the rehabilitated Yellow Barn and the footprint of the Chautauqua arcade building's west façade was depicted using contrasting flooring materials on the first floor in the rehabbed building.

During the 2006 excavations at 18MO153, the remains of the 1891 Chautauqua arcade building were documented to the extent possible given the conditions of their discovery and the ongoing rehabilitation of the Yellow Barn. Following documentation, the remains were largely destroyed by the excavation of a basement for the rehabbed Yellow Barn. However, complete archeological investigations of the Chautauqua remains, as well as the neighboring Clara Barton House, have not been carried out, and the extent of existing subsurface remains at Glen Echo Park is not known.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95001245