



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO380 Site Name: Chiswell Fm TenantHseRefuseDep

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description: early 20th century standing tenant house

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12 SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.1893 Longitude -77.4458

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont Terrestrial site Underwater site

Elevation 102 m Site slope 0

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 tributary of Poto

- | 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 46 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"/> |
| Archaic site <input type="checkbox"/> | MD Adena <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1630 - 1675 <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1860 - 1900 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Early archaic <input type="checkbox"/> | Early woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1675 - 1720 <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1900 - 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Middle archaic <input type="checkbox"/> | Mid. woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | ca. 1720 - 1780 <input type="checkbox"/> | Post 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 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? Rural <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> | Battlefield <input type="checkbox"/> | Frame-built <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Domestic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | Fortification <input type="checkbox"/> | Masonry <input 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 |
| Mansion <input type="checkbox"/> | Wharf/landing <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious | Non-domestic agri |
| Plantation <input type="checkbox"/> | Maritime-related <input type="checkbox"/> | Church/mtg house <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreational |
| Row/townhome <input type="checkbox"/> | Bridge <input type="checkbox"/> | Ch support bldg <input type="checkbox"/> | Midden/dump |
| Cellar <input type="checkbox"/> | Ford <input type="checkbox"/> | Burial area | Artifact scatter |
| Privy <input type="checkbox"/> | Educational | Cemetery <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring or well |
| Industrial | Commercial | Sepulchre <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown |
| 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"/> | tenant house, well |
| Mill <input type="checkbox"/> | Tavern/inn <input type="checkbox"/> | Possible Structure <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 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

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"/>	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"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	161	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	19	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	1	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	5

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	3	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"/>
		European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Stone foundation dated to the early 20th century.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	213	Activity item(s)	5
Glass (all)	873	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	617	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	13
Arms	9	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	4	Misc.	78
Personal items	1	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" 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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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18MO380 is a historic refuse scatter associated with the Chiswell Farm Tenant House near Poolesville, Maryland. The site is situated at the northwestern corner of the Edward J. Chiswell Farm Complex property (Site 18MO379). It consists of refuse material and other artifacts distributed in dense concentrations near a standing tenant house and in a more diffuse scatter extending away from the house down the slope of the terrain towards a stream valley to the north. The artifact concentration around the house extends over an area measuring 15 meters by 15 meters. The house itself is a 2 storey frame structure built on a native sandstone stone foundation with asbestos shingle siding. The frame building appears to be of early 20th Century vintage. Whether it was the first building at this site or was built atop an earlier stone foundation is not clear. The house is currently abandoned and in a state of disrepair. There is a well with a concrete cap to the rear of the house on the south side. Soils at the site are grouped under the Penn-Lewisberry soil association.

The site was first identified during a Phase I survey for the planned Montgomery County Site 2 Landfill. This study was conducted in 1991 as part of the county's transition from a traditional landfill-centered waste disposal system to a waste-to-energy based program. Currently, Montgomery County disposes of their waste by burning it at extremely high temperatures, and then using the heat to generate energy as either electricity or steam. This reduces the volume of the trash by nearly 90% leaving only ash and metals. The metals are then removed via a magnet and recycled reducing waste further. Currently the ash waste is shipped by rail out-of-county for disposal in landfills. However, in 1991, as the county's extant Oaks landfill built in 1982 was nearing the end of its use-life, plans for the disposal of the ash that would be generated in the new plant led to the purchase of a large tract (including Site 18MO380) for the construction of a new landfill. While this landfill has still not been constructed, the Montgomery County governments purchased the needed property for the landfill's eventual construction and currently lease it for tenant farming. All archeological research was conducted in anticipation of state permitting and possible Army Corps of Engineers wetlands permitting that will eventually be required whenever the construction project is realized.

Following its initial discovery, the site was investigated by non-systematic surface search and collection of a sample of artifacts encountered. The artifacts observed were of types that may date from the late 19th century to the middle 20th century. However, the diagnostic types present are all consistent with a 20th century dating so this refuse deposit may not predate 1900. The sample of artifacts collected during the Phase I survey included 2 architectural objects (brick fragments), 39 kitchen-related artifacts (7 porcelain sherds, 5 stoneware sherds, 10 whiteware sherds, 7 bottle glass fragments, 10 other container glass fragments), and a personal object (a "Revlon" nail polish bottle). However, since the possibility of buried 19th century deposits still remained, Phase II testing was recommended.

Researchers returned to the site in 1993 to conduct the Phase II testing. As part of that research project, extensive archival study was conducted to place the site in its proper historical context. For an overview of the archival research findings, see the synopsis report for 18MO379 which discusses the Chiswell Farm history in general. Tax assessments, land records, and census records from the latter part of the 19th century do indicate that several adult African-Americans (and their children) lived on the farm property and were employed by the Chiswell family as household servants and farm workers. Perhaps the tenant house at 18MO380 was eventually constructed to house one of these families. However, the more likely alternative is that it was initially built as a home for Thomas F. Chiswell, the son of Edward J. Chiswell. According to the archival records, he lived on his parents' farm from the time he was born (1871) until he sold the farm in 1932. The house may have been constructed when Thomas married Eloise Wooten sometime between 1900 and 1904.

During the Phase II study, Site 18MO380 was examined through a surface survey and collection. Visibility was limited because much of the terrain adjacent to the dilapidated dwelling had weedy vegetation cover. The surface survey was followed by the excavation of 10 shovel test pits (STPs) spaced systematically to the north, east, south, and west of the house at a 15 meter sampling interval. STPs were no less than 30 cm in diameter and were excavated to the depth of natural subsoil by natural/cultural levels. A single 2 X 2 m excavation unit was subsequently excavated adjacent to the house's foundation. The excavation unit was dug by natural/cultural levels. All soils (both STPs and the excavation unit) were screened through hardware cloth.

The vast majority of the materials encountered at the site dated from the 20th century. Artifacts dating to circa 1890-1900 were present, but in much smaller amounts. Cultural material predating circa 1890 was very rare, encountered in widely scattered locations, and consisted of isolated finds. In the 2 X 2 m excavation unit, circa 1900 to recent vintage materials were encountered throughout its vertical stratigraphy. Excavation against the foundation also revealed that the cut rock and rock fragments were mortared together with cement. That technique indicated a construction date sometime in the early 20th century.

Historic Artifacts encountered during the Phase II testing consisted of 5 activity items (2 toys, 1 canvas fragment, and 2 sherds of terra cotta flower pot), 615 architectural artifacts (28 pieces of brick, 50 pieces of mortar, 10 slate fragments, 439 pieces of window glass, 1 window seal, 10 tar paper fragments, 14 cut nails, 63 wire nails, 7 other fasteners, 2 pieces of architectural hardware, 1 tile), 4 clothing items (1 buckle, 1 shoe sole, and 2 rubber snaps), 621 kitchen-related artifacts (1 creamware sherd, 151 whiteware sherd, 3 Rockingham ware sherds, 16 redware sherds, 12 porcelain sherds, 5 white salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 1 gray stoneware sherd, 1 brown stoneware sherd, and 1 black stoneware sherd), 29 pre-1870 bottle glass fragments, 338 post-1870 bottle glass fragments, 50 table glass fragments, and 13 bone and shell fragments), 1 tobacco-related artifact (kaolin clay pipe fragment), 9 arms items (8 ammunition casings, 1 bullet), and 78 miscellaneous objects (13 ferrous metal fragments, 3 non-ferrous metal fragments, 47 coal and burnt fragments, and 15 unidentified items). One prehistoric quartz debitage fragment and 2 fragments of shattered quartz were also recovered during the testing at 18MO380. This material does not indicate the presence of a prehistoric cultural deposit. It is interpreted as consisting of artifacts peripheral to the prehistoric cultural deposit at Site 18MO370, which is nearby.

The Tenant House at 18MO380 has been identified as a contributing resource to the E. J. Chiswell Farm Complex. Its date of construction is associated with the final years of Edward J. Chiswell's residence on the farm. However, the period the house was occupied and the artifactual deposit associated with the site are predominantly of later 20th century vintage. While the house is part of the architectural character of E. J. Chiswell's ownership of the farm, its archeological content contains a mixture of materials dominated by later 20th century objects. The archeological deposits should not be considered historically significant.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006233, 00006290