



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO448

Site Name: Wintergate Road Prehistoric

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic short-term camp

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code 2B (GIB)

Latitude 39.1111

Longitude -77.0563

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 3-8%

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 Bel P

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 30 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

Unknown prehistoric context

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

ca. 1780 - 1820

Unknown historic 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 N

N

Flotation samples taken N

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"/>
		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	105	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"/>

### 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	1	Activity item(s)	2
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.	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 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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Description:

Late Archaic short-term camp

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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Wintergate Road (18MO448) is a possible Late Archaic short-term use camp in the Norbeck area of Montgomery County. The site is situated on a hillslope north of a drainage that originally flowed into an unnamed tributary of the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River (now captured) amidst an area that has experienced recent residential growth. Aerial photographs indicate that the construction of numerous townhomes and condominiums began in the area around 1988. The native landscape is thought to have been gently-rolling uplands. The terrain at the site itself was a relatively undisturbed woodland when first examined archeologically. This wood was comprised of several large diameter, old growth trees, which were scattered among smaller diameter secondary growth. Several quartz outcrops are evident throughout the site area. Very little scrub and shrub vegetation was noted on the site, though poison ivy, catbriers, and wild rose were noted at the edge s of the woodland.

The site was first examined archeologically in 1996 during a Phase I survey of the project corridor for the (then) proposed Intercounty Connector (ICC), an east-west trending highway between US Route 1 in Prince Georges County and I-270 in Montgomery County. The Phase I work was carried out in accordance with federal and state laws that protect cultural resources when tax-payer funded projects are undertaken.

Phase I work in 1996 entailed the excavations of shovel test pits (STPs) at 20 m intervals along three transects placed 20 m apart within high probability areas of the ICC corridor. One hundred and eight STPs were excavated in the Wintergate Road area of the project area, identifying two prehistoric sites. One of these was 18MO448, which was identified based on the presence of four positive shovel tests. The four STPs defined an area roughly 60 X 60 m in extent and produced a rhyolite contracting stem projectile point, a quartz biface, and 7 quartz flakes. Bases on the recovered projectile point, the site was thought to be ascribable to the Late Archaic period. Phase II testing was recommended if the site could not be avoided during construction of the ICC.

Phase II testing at 18MO448 would not take place until February of 2008, again, as part of the ICC project. At that time plans for the ICC featured 3 lanes in each direction between I-270 and I-95 and two lanes from I-95 to US Route 1. Construction of the 3 lane highway would directly impact 18MO448. Phase II work was carried out in accordance with the various mandates of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 49 USC § 470f: Protection of Historic and Cultural Resources 36 CFR 800, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, and the Maryland Historical Trust Act of 1985.

Despite extensive Phase I survey information, attempts to re-locate the survey grid used in 1996 were unsuccessful. Surrounding landforms had changed significantly in the intervening decade and a second survey effort had to be carried out to relocate the site. A new grid was placed in the general vicinity of the site to locate its boundaries and supplement the work that was done in 1996. Thirty-one STPs were excavated at a 20 m interval across the landform, revealing that the site was slightly larger in size (65 X 75 m) than the original estimate. STPs were 50 cm in diameter and were excavated according to identifiable soil horizons at least 10 cm into culturally sterile soils. When positive STPs were encountered, radials were excavated at 10 m in each cardinal direction. All excavated soils were screened. Of the 31 STPs, 12 produced artifacts. Ten STPs yielded prehistoric lithic objects, 1 STP produced a historic artifact, and 1 STP produced both prehistoric and historic objects.

Based on the re-identified site boundaries and distribution of positive STPs, four 1 X 1 m test units were excavated across the site. Test units were excavated in 10 cm levels within each respective soil horizon as measured from a datum placed 10 cm above ground surface. Test units were excavated at least 10 cm into sterile Pleistocene soils and all excavated soils were screened through hardware cloth to ensure uniform recovery of artifacts. Each soil stratum was excavated and screened separately and artifacts were collected and provenienced by stratigraphic layer.

Soil profile information, including measurements, soil texture, and color, was recorded on standardized forms. The location of all test excavations were recorded on scaled base maps. All excavations were backfilled upon completion. Cultural features and land modifications were also plotted on base maps, as were potential culturally influenced vegetation (trees, shrubs, ornamentals, and ground cover). Photographs in both digital format and black-and-white print film were taken of each area, as needed. At the completion of the Phase II excavations, archeological base maps were created illustrating the locations of Phase I and II test excavations, standing structures, proposed construction impact limits, and ground disturbances within the ICC project area.

Despite the fact that 18MO448 is situated on a hillslope, it appears that the site possesses intact soils that have suffered little disturbance due to erosion. O and A-horizons were not substantially thickened on the downslope portion of the site. Additionally, the site contains a mixture of several larger red oaks, approximately 90 years of age, interspersed with smaller volunteers of oak, hickory, and sassafras trees of a much younger age (approximately 20 to 25 years). The tree cover suggests that the landform has been somewhat undisturbed over the past century of land use. Geomorphologic assessment of the soils revealed that the surface was at one time plowed (though not mechanically) for a short time, but was predominantly used as pasture land.

The Phase II excavations (both STPs and test units) recovered a total of 99 artifacts, 96 of which were prehistoric. The 3 non-prehistoric items were a fragment of milk glass, a corroded metal handle, and a metal gas cap. The Phase II prehistoric assemblage consisted of a possible quartz tool (a broken, unfinished biface) and 95 quartz debitage pieces. No other lithic raw material types were identified. The debitage consisted of 4 secondary flakes, 80 tertiary flakes, and 11 piece of shatter. Overall, the highest density of lithics occurred in the northwest portion of the site.

In general, the low density of artifacts indicates that 18MO448 was likely a short-term lithic reduction site where tool resharpening and toolkit replenishment may have been the primary activities. Tertiary quartz flakes were the predominant artifact type recovered during the Phase II excavation. No features, stains, or diagnostic prehistoric artifacts were noted. Additionally, no evidence of rhyolite debitage was found indicating that the projectile point found in 1996 was likely an isolated find and does not conclusively date the site to the Late Archaic period.

Phase II excavations in 2008 revealed that the Wintergate Road Site (18MO448) does not have the potential to yield new information important to prehistory or history. No additional investigations were recommended for Site 18MO448 prior to construction of the ICC.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95000707, Site Files