



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO468

Site Name: Site 1

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 19th-early 20th century mercantile/post office and early-late 20th century house site

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 39.1051

Longitude -77.2250

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 131 m

Site slope 0

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Mudd

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 244 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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

High terrace

Hilltop/bluff

Rockshelter/cave

Interior flat

Hillslope

Upland flat

Unknown

Ridgetop

Other

Terrace

Low terrace

### Ownership

Private

Federal

State of MD

Regional/county/city

Unknown

## 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

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? 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

store, post office, mercantile, house site, residence

## 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		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"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<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"/>

Tin Glazed  106  
Whiteware  106  
Porcelain  3  
Pearlware  5

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	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

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

Dated features present at site

20th century midden

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	431	Activity item(s)	31
Glass (all)	588	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	2364	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	8	Misc. kitchen	272
Arms	2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	14	Misc.	522
Personal items	7	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Features

Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Paling ditch/fence	<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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Brief

Description:

late 19th-early 20th century mercantile/post office and early-late 20th century house site

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18MO468, the Hunting Hill Store and Post Office (also known as Site 1), represents what remains of a late 19th century general store and town post office built in the early 1870s. It was owned and operated by Ignatius Beall Ward from 1873 until 1909. The structure that once stood at the site also served as a residence from 1929 to 1992. The site lies along MD Route 28 in central Montgomery County, Maryland. There are no drainages crossing through the site and the topography can best be described as flat or gently sloping upland. Soils at the site are of the Glenelg-Gaila-Occoquan soil association which are characterized as deep, well drained loamy soils that are located on broad ridgetops and side slopes in the central portion of Montgomery County.

The site was first identified and examined during a Phase IB survey in 1997, which immediately led to Phase II test excavations. This combined Phase IB/Phase II project was undertaken as part of road widening work. The purpose of the proposed widening of MD 28 was to expand the roadway to six lanes with curb, gutter, and acceleration and deceleration lanes. A wide landscaped median was also to be constructed, with hiking and bike paths planned on both sides of the enlarged roadway. The site was brought to the attention of researchers by a local informant, Miss Elizabeth Beall Banks, a descendant of Ignatius Beall Ward. Miss Banks is a former history teacher at a local school, owns the larger Belward Farm property (the larger tract owned by Ignatius Beall Ward), and has scrupulously maintained the former location of the Hunting Hill Store and Post Office as a memorial to her family. She has even erected a bronze memorial plaque which reads, "Belward Farm - Site of Hunting Hill Country Store and Post Office, Owned and Operated From 1873 to 1909 by Ignatius Beall Ward (1841-1909). The Store was Converted to a House and Occupied by the Banks Family From 1929-1992. Erected by Elizabeth Beall Banks, 1995." As part of the Phase IB/Phase II background work, extensive archival research and informant interviews were conducted relating to 18MO468.

The background research reveals that there were three distinct occupational periods on the 2.5 acre parcel that comprises the store property. Prior to 1872, the property belonged to the Van Swearingen family. There evidently was a frame or log structure on the parcel at that time that likely was a domestic structure. When Ignatius Ward obtained the property in 1871/72, it is probable that he tore down the previous structure and built his store. Miss Banks has a photograph of the Hunting Hill Store taken in the 19th century. The photograph shows a two storey log or frame structure with a long front porch. A one storey wing extended from the west end of the structure; a two-storey wing was on the east. During the period from 1872 to 1929, the structure was used variously as a combined residential/commercial structure, a commercial structure only, and a rental residential property. In 1929, the store was converted to a house for the Banks family. The west wing was removed and additional modifications were made to the main part of the structure. The Banks family occupied the modified structure until 1992. After 1992, the building was removed from the parcel and the property was graded extensively. The area containing the memorial commemorating the site of the original Hunting Hill Store and Post Office was demarcated on the west, north, and east by a white wood and barbed wire fence erected by Miss Banks in 1995.

Intensive shovel testing was conducted throughout the fenced memorial lawn and extending outside the fence to follow positive shovel tests. A baseline was established along MD 28, starting at the westernmost point of the fence enclosing the memorialized lawn area (approximately 5 m north of MD 28). Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 10 m intervals along the transects and transects ended after two successive negative shovel tests had been recorded outside the fenced area. A total of 108 shovel tests were excavated, 50 of which contained historic period artifacts. These were clustered primarily near the former house location, although additional clustering was apparent north of the fence on the west side of the site and within the fenced area along the western fence. Thirty-one of the 50 positive STPs contained 20th century artifacts and the STPs revealed extensive areas of cut and fill across the property.

A total of 425 artifacts were recovered from the shovel tests. These fell into the following functional groups: 3 activity items, 142 architectural objects (54 of which were fragments of window glass and much of the remainder were nails), 3 clothing items, 238 kitchen-related artifacts (82 ceramic sherds, 140 pieces of kitchen glass, and other items), 2 personal items, 1 arms object, and 36 miscellaneous finds (1 piece of melted glass among them). This patterning is fairly typical for a domestic assemblage, with a somewhat higher percentage of architectural material undoubtedly due to the destruction of the house. There was no clear clustering of functional groups across the site. One apparent feature was identified. It was characterized as a probable trash midden deposit based on the presence of a 20 cm thick, very dark soil matrix containing 75 artifacts. The artifacts suggested a 20th century date for deposit.

In addition to the shovel testing, eight 1 X 1 m excavation units were placed across the site to further explore the potential for sub-surface features and integrity. One unit was placed in the area of the presumed midden feature. The remaining units were placed in relation to former architectural features identified through maps or through informant interview. Two test units were placed behind and in front of the former house location and one was placed just west of the former structure in the area that was projected to be a wing of the 19th century store. Two test units were placed west of the location thought to be the wing of the former store. One unit was placed in an area indicated by Miss Banks as the location of a blacksmith shop and the final unit was placed on the edge of a large depression in the western part of the site. Artifacts encountered during the Phase II test unit excavations consisted of 28 activity items (including a carbon rod, a drill bit fragment, 2 horseshoe nails, and a horseshoe fragment), 2,222 architectural artifacts (including 80 asphalt shingle pieces, 325 fragments of brick, 5 pieces of concrete, 515 fragments of fiberboard, 706 lumber pieces, 50 fiberglass pieces, 97 fragments of window glass, 28 cut nails, 33 wire nails, 66 unidentified nails, and 31 miscellaneous hardware pieces), 11 clothing objects, 8 furniture items, 901 kitchen-related artifacts (including 5 pearlware sherds, two 19th century ironstone sherds, 3 late porcelain sherds, 106 whiteware/ironstone sherds, 19 domestic gray stoneware sherds, 2 industrial stoneware sherds, 212 unidentified ceramics, 13 glass jar lid liners, 216 machine-made bottle glass fragments, and 67 other bottle fragments), 5 personal items, 1 unidentified arms object, and 486 miscellaneous items (including 6 pieces of metal and 425 fragments of coal). The 106 whiteware/ironstone sherds described above are included in the document count tables herein simply as "whiteware", but their identification is uncertain. The full site report does not consistently describe the artifacts from each test unit in detail. Some units provide tallies of kitchen glass by type, while other just list the total number of kitchen items for example. Thus, the tables above are likely to be skewed toward a high number of miscellaneous items, miscellaneous kitchen items, and low numbers of glass and ceramics which would normally be segregated out.

In addition to the historic artifacts, two prehistoric ceramic sherds were recovered which may be of Late Woodland vintage. These sherds were recovered above historic deposits which illustrates the major problem encountered throughout the entire site. The excavations demonstrated that historic grading and filling, related both to the remodeling of the store in 1929 and to the demolition of the structure in 1994, has disturbed the portion of the site in the vicinity of the former store severely. The only intact cultural feature identified at the site was an early to mid twentieth century trash midden. This isolated feature is unlikely to reveal significant information about the 20th century domestic period of site occupation, and it has no association with the period of commercial use of the store. These investigations have indicated that Hunting Hill Store and Post Office (18MO468) no longer has the archeological integrity necessary to provide either temporal or spatial context for site interpretation.

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

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Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief  
Description:**

late 19th-early 20th century mercantile/post office and early-late 20th century house site

Unknown

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**External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):**