



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO469

Site Name: Vaccine Lab at NIH

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Early Woodland short-term resource procurement

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.9982

Longitude -77.0982

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 116 m

Site slope

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 Bulls

- | 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 310 m

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

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

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

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? <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> | Battlefield <input type="checkbox"/> | Frame-built <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Domestic | 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 |
| Quarry-related <input type="checkbox"/> | Store <input type="checkbox"/> | Bldg or foundation | |
| 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 N

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	1
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

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	10	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<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	5845	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	19	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	111	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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	22	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	282	Activity item(s)	12
Architectural	515	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	3
Clothing	2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	4	Misc.	218
		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:

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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Museum of Medical Research at NI

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Vaccine Center Site (18MO469) sits near the apex of a hilltop within the grounds of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Bethesda Campus in Maryland. The surrounding area consists of residential complexes, government office buildings, retail establishments, restaurants, and a notable number of well-known public and private research and development organizations. The site is about 4.83 km (3 miles) from the Potomac River at its closest point. Intermittent streams, although now contained by culverts in most places, run through the campus. These streams may well have provided more water in the past than they do at present. The northern portion of the study area is a relatively undisturbed wooded area whereas the southern portion has been largely cleared of trees. Soil profiles at the site reflect deposition related to the downslope movement of soil through time. The soil type is predominately Gleneg Silt Loam.

Phase I and Phase II survey work was carried out ahead of a new research facility being built at the NIH Bethesda Campus in 1997. Besides the Vaccine Center Site, additional archeological sites were identified on the campus including 18MO462, 18MO463 and 18MO464. The Vaccine Center Site is located just due south of the Spate/ Convent Site (18MO464) on the NIH Campus. The Phase I survey consisted of an extensive documentary and literature search, other background work, and fieldwork. Phase I fieldwork in the project area included the excavation of 151 shovel test pits (STPs) on a 6.1 meter (20 ft) grid and a single 1.524 meter x 1.524 meter (5ft X 5ft) excavation unit where STPs revealed the highest artifact densities and the least amount of modern disturbance. During the Phase II investigations six 1 meter X 1 meter units were excavated. The total artifact counts from the 1997 survey Phase I and Phase II are included in the table above. Modern objects were also recovered and recorded from the site but are not included in the total here. A small flotation sample was collected for ethnobotanical analysis the results of which yielded only two Eastern red cedar fragments. The sample size is too small to allow for any interpretation regarding the quantity or quality of plant remains at the site.

Numerous prehistoric artifacts were recovered from Phase I and Phase II excavations. Stone objects (107) listed in the "other lithics (all)" field include unidentified black lithic material and unidentified green/grey lithic material. It is uncertain as to the nature of the black lithic but the green/ grey lithics are probably road gravel. They are cataloged under the prehistoric heading in keeping with the category assignments designated by the lead archaeologist. A total of 451 prehistoric quartz and rhyolite tools including 75 bifaces, 188 preforms, 28 scrapers, 2 perforators, 2 polishing/ grinding stones, and 119 modified and 29 utilized flakes were identified at the site. There were 4,450 total pieces of associated debitage including cores, 19 fire cracked rocks, and the abovementioned 'other lithics' (107). With the exception of one possible stemmed point fragment possibly dating to the Archaic period, no diagnostic tools were found during Phase I investigations. The only diagnostic tool recovered during the Phase II excavation is the tip of a possible Calvert projectile point.

A proportionally small number of historic artifacts were identified during the Phase I and Phase II investigations compared to the prehistoric material. These most probably are associated with the Spate Farmhouse/ Convent Site (18MO464) that is located directly to the north of, and adjacent to, the Vaccine Center Site. Architecture-related finds include mortar fragments (20), road gravel (37), ceramic or industrial tile (27), and brick fragments (87), 9 of which have been clearly identified as machine made. Wire nails were also in relative abundance (22) but there were few other nails (13). There were also few (9) window glass fragments along with a few assorted hardware items. Kitchen-related items were comprised of 140 bottle glass fragments, 4 pieces of milk glass and 14 pieces of table glass (with one hand blown example). 16 ceramic sherds were identified as 5 whiteware, 2 yellowware, 4 stoneware, 2 earthenware, and 2 unidentified. One unidentified animal bone was also recorded. Miscellaneous objects make up a large percentage of the historic assemblage and primarily consist of coal and slag, water worn pebbles and cobbles, and unidentified lithic objects (most are probably gravels).

In 2001, an evaluation of the land adjacent to (primarily west and south) the Vaccine Center Site (18MO469) was carried out ahead of the construction of a new Neurology Center at the NIH campus. Phase I and Phase II investigations revealed that the Vaccine Center Site continued into and throughout the Neurology Center construction area thus expanding the original 1997 boundaries of the Vaccine Center Site. Approximately 482 STPs were excavated within the Neurology Center project area during the Phase I investigation using the same methods as employed during the 1997 excavations. From these, 3 loci of high artifact density and low modern disturbance were identified. Within each locus, one 0.914 meter X 0.914 meter (3ft X 3ft) unit was excavated as part of the Phase II investigations. The artifact counts from the Neurology Center investigations were added to those from the earlier 1997 Vaccine Center study and are combined as total counts for 18MO469 in the table above.

1,075 prehistoric objects made from quartz and rhyolite were recovered from the site. There were whole and broken 50 biface and 80 preform tools, 1 scraper, 2 hammerstones, and 1 non-diagnostic broken projectile point. The remaining 941 items are associated debitage.

Within the historic assemblage a variety of activity-related items were identified such as the metal handle of a dental pick, a bucket handle, light bulb fragments, a plow part, a 4 automobile headlight fragments that are most likely modern. Architecture-related items make up the majority of the collection with brick fragments (129), various nails (68), mortar (30) and concrete (33) fragments, and pieces of ceramic tile (10). Two shoe fragments, one leather and one plastic, were also recovered. Kitchen items consisted primarily of bottle glass (106). There were also 2 table glass shards, 1 earthenware and 5 whiteware ceramic sherds and 2 oyster shell fragments. 4 metal objects, a melon baller, 2 aluminum can pieces, and a metal bottle cap, were also identified. Miscellaneous objects numbered 18 and included coal, slate, unidentified metal and unidentified plastic. The only personal items found were 4 coins dating to 1968 and later.

The prehistoric component of 18MO469 represents a short-term procurement camp (the quarrying of local quartz veins) and subsequent tool production dating, possibly, to the Late Archaic/ Early Woodland periods. The historic artifacts identified at the Vaccine Center Site and the Neurology Center Site primarily reflect activities dating to the 20th century. The absence of datable artifacts and archaeological features makes it unlikely that further research at the site would provide any more information than currently exists about historic activities at the site or the organization of prehistoric quarrying and tool production.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006863, 97000791