



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO779

Site Name: Greenbury Howard House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) M: 23-8B

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 13

SCS soil & sediment code 2B

Latitude 39.2542

Longitude -77.0786

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 Patux

- | 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 122 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
- Y
- Y
- Y

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

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Urban/Rural? Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> | Battlefield <input type="checkbox"/> | Frame-built <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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</td> | Unknown | Other context <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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO779

Site Name: Greenbury Howard House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) M: 23-8B

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead

Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Clovis	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Palmer	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Le Croy	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Guilford	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Brewerton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Otter Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Perkiomen	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Susquehana	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Vernon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Piscataway	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Calvert	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Selby Bay	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Levanna	<input type="text" value="0"/>	

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shepard	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Keyser	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Townsend	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Watson	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Minguannan	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mockley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Page	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text" value="0"/>		
				Potomac Crk	<input type="text" value="0"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jackfield	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>	English Brown	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Borderware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Buckley	<input type="text" value="0"/>	North Devon	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Creamware	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Pearlware	<input type="text" value="0"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text" value="0"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text" value="0"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Other fired clay	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text" value="0"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	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

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="text" value="153"/>	Tobacco related	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text" value="1397"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="text" value="11"/>
Architectural	<input type="text" value="768"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="text" value="72"/>	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="text" value="30"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="text" value="19"/>
Clothing	<input type="text" value="14"/>	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="text" value="23"/>	Misc.	<input type="text" value="173"/>
		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 type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input checked="" 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: 0 +/- years BP Reliability Sample 8: +/- years BP Reliability Sample 9: +/- years BP Reliability

Additional radiocarbon results available



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO779

Site Name: Greenbury Howard House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) M: 23-8B

Historic

Brief Description:

Late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18MO779, also known as the Greenbury Howard House site, is a late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead in Patuxent River State Park in Montgomery County, Maryland. The Howard Family Cemetery (M:23-8) is located about 300 feet south of the Gaither Howard House. The Gaither Howard House (M:23-8A/18MO778) also sits north of the site. The Patuxent River is located approximately 1,600 feet northeast of the Gaither Howard House. Soils are Glenelg silt loam 3-8%, and the site is in a wooded setting surrounded by agricultural fields.

The land on which the Howard houses stands is part of several original land tracts, including Gaither's Forest, Mount Calvary, Hard to Get and Dear Paid For, and Green Spring Resurveyed.

Beale Gaither, the son of Henry and Martha Gaither, farmed this property and it remained under Gaither family ownership until 1862. The land had been owned and farmed by the Gaither family prior to this point, it is unclear where they lived, though there are several other Gaither family houses recorded in the area. Henry Gaither, Beal's father, paid taxes to the Proprietor for several tracts, including Gaither's Forrest and Green Spring, showing that the family was present in the area from the middle of the eighteenth century (1753 to 1773). Little is known of the occupation of the Gaither Howard House by the Gaithers; Federal Census records for 1790 through 1820 show that Beal Gaither was a slave owner, and that he was the sole white person living on the farm between 1790 and 1810. Over time, until the 1820 census, Beal steadily increased the number of people he held enslaved; from 5 in 1790 to 12 in 1810. In 1820, the first year that reporting included a breakdown of the ages of those counted, the household of Beal Gaither also changed dramatically. In addition to Beal, there was a free white woman (aged 45+ years), two free-black girls (aged under 14 years), five enslaved black children (aged under 14 years), and one enslaved black woman (aged 26-44 years). Beale Gaither died in 1839; leaving his "dwelling plantation" to his brother, Frederick, and his nephew (not Frederick's son), Samuel R. Gaither. Frederick's daughter Maria was married to Samuel R. (m. 1823). It is likely that Samuel and Maria began living at the Gaither Howard House starting around 1839 or 1840. However, their occupation was short because Maria passed away in 1851 while Samuel R. Gaither died in 1860. The property then reverted to Frederick Gaither's granddaughters.

Enoch George Howard (1814-1895, referred to as George Howard going forward) was born with a slave status in 1814 likely to enslaved parents Jack and Polly on the Griffith farm near Unity, Maryland. Basil (1759-1841) and Ruth Gartrell Griffith (1763-1850) owned the farm Fairview (MIHP No. M:23-71) east of Sunshine where George was born and first enslaved. In 1841, when Basil Griffith died, George was valued in the estate inventory at \$600, the second highest valued enslaved person; only the enslaved blacksmith was valued at more: \$750. Sometimes an owner's death would result in the enslaved being sold or sent to new owners within a family. That did not occur at Fairview. John Griffith, Basil's son, reported in the final accounting of the Basil Griffith Estate that he had sold various items "being all except the negroes."

Even before Basil Griffith died, George Howard's life had begun to change. George married Harriet Ann Lee Howard (1818-1882) around 1838, while both were enslaved by different people, Harriet was enslaved by Samuel R. Gaither (the nephew of Beale Gaither). Their first son, John Henry Howard (1839-1923), was born August 25, 1839, followed by Mary Alice (1842-1886), and Martha Elizabeth (1846-1915), all born while Harriet was enslaved by the Gaither family; as such, the children were all born with slave status. On March 31, 1851, George filed his Manumission Deed with the Clerk of the Montgomery County Court wherein Sarah Griffith, Mistress of Montgomery County, released Howard from his servitude, and established his name as George Howard. He was not charged to purchase his freedom, but it was given for "diverse good causes and considerations". Likewise, on September 5, 1853, Harriet Howard's Manumission Deed, released her from Samuel R. Gaither's ownership on account of "diverse good causes and considerations".

In 1855, George Howard began to rent about 200 acres of land from Jeffrey F.D. Magruder; the land was located near Beale Gaither's farm, now owned by Samuel R. Gaither. By 1860, the Howards had saved enough money to purchase the freedom of their four children from Samuel R. Gaither. It is unclear where the family is living after George and Harriet gain their freedom, but it is likely not far from where their children are still living enslaved by Samuel at the Gaither Howard House. The 1850 Federal Census Slave Schedule, lists that Samuel owns eight people, including four children with ages that correspond to the ages of the Howard children at that time. Harriet is also listed on the schedule, as she didn't gain her freedom until three years later. The 1860 Federal Census shows the entire Howard family, living together in Olney, Montgomery County. The Howard's welcomed another child, this one born free, Maria Gaither Howard (1857-1910) in 1857. On April 4, 1862, George Howard purchased 289.5 acres from Frederick Gaither's granddaughters for a sum of \$3,000. The land included that which Beal Gaither had bequeathed to Frederick Gaither: his stone house and farmlands. George Howard had purchased the farm and house where his wife and children had recently been enslaved. In 1869, George purchased the Magruder land that he had been renting since 1855. On the 1865 Martenet and Bond Map of Montgomery County the Gaither Howard House falls within the crease, but a label is just visible, with the beginning of an initial letter and ending in "ither," and possibly reads "B. Gaither" or "F. Gaither." By 1865, the house belonged to George Howard, the map was likely surveyed before the transaction had been completed or was based on older maps or information.

George Howard's farm produced mainly rye and oats, along with lesser quantities of corn, rice, and barley. Howard's livestock included eight milk cows, 14 pigs, four cattle, a pair of mules, a pair of horses, and two pairs of oxen. More common on Midwestern farms than in Maryland, the four oxen provided a powerful resource in plowing the farm's large acreage. In 1870, the agricultural census listed nearly 70 percent of Howard's land as improved, at a value of \$10 per acre. Howard continued buying and selling land in Montgomery and Howard counties through the 1880s; land records showed him purchasing at least 650 acres and selling over 420 acres during his lifetime. Howard invested portions of his wealth in stocks, owning \$200 in private securities in 1867, and increasing his securities to \$797 by 1869. He also invested in gold or silver plate and watches, valuable assets. George used his funds to assist other African Americans in purchasing land. In 1870, for instance, he lent Wilson Lincoln and Thomas R. Bond the funds to buy 125 acres of land near Unity. Howard also left solid evidence of his involvement with the local African American community that surrounded his property near the Patuxent River. In 1878, George (himself illiterate) sold a tenth of an acre of land for a school for African American students. The schoolhouse appears as "Schl. Ho. No. 2" on Hopkins 1879 map of Montgomery County.

In 1862, John Henry Howard married Harriet A. Gaither, remaining in Montgomery County as a farmer. In 1864, Mary Alice Howard married Benjamin F. Harding, a non-slaveholding white farmer in Barnesville, and was listed as white in the 1870 census. Martha Elizabeth Howard married the Civil War veteran John H. Murphy in 1868, later providing \$200 to help her husband found Baltimore's historic Afro American newspaper. Greenbury W. Howard and Rebecca Nettles married in 1876, and lived on the Howard family farm for the rest of their lives.

In 1885, Maria Gaither Howard graduated from Howard University with a teaching degree, married an African American physician, Jacob B. Oliver, and they



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO779

Site Name: Greenbury Howard House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) M: 23-8B

Historic

Brief

Description:

Late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead

Unknown

moved to Indiana by 1900. In 1885, George sold 100 acres each to his two sons, Greenbury and John. It is likely that the Greenbury Howard House is built around this time. Even as their children grew up and left home, Enoch George and Harriet Howard's house remained full, with various relatives and friends living with them throughout the years. As early as 1860, two adolescents named Flodorado and Gilbert Howard were living in the Howards' household. James Howard, a 45-year-old African American farm laborer from Virginia, resided with the family in 1870, along with two children named Gustavus and Elijah Dorsey. Harriet Coxon, Frances Murphy, James Blair, and William Holland were among the other names listed in the Howard residence in 1880.

Several sources even attribute Howard with providing lodging for the slave Dred Scott during the controversial Scott vs. Sanford case. Scott had sued for freedom after his owner, John Emerson, had taken Scott into the free state of Illinois and the free territory of Wisconsin. In 1857, the Supreme Court ruled that African Americans—whether slave or free—were ineligible for citizenship and therefore unable to legally petition their freedom in court. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, a pro-slavery Maryland native, also held that slaves who were taken into free territory remained enslaved. Unfortunately, no known documentation exists in support of Scott's reputed sojourn at Howard's home. However, according to local legends and Howard family history, Howard assisted runaway slaves as well, with the family's history also recounting two of Howard's sons escaping to Canada through the Underground Railroad before George Howard's purchase of his family's freedom.

George Howard passed away on January 14, 1895. On January 25th, the Montgomery County Sentinel reported that "George Howard, an old and highly respected colored man of this community, died at his home on Tuesday last." In his will, Howard distributed his entire estate equally among his five children, giving each of his sons and daughters one-fifth of his property. He was buried at Howard Family Cemetery, adjacent to the Gaither Howard House, along with his wife Harriet, who had died on December 22, 1882.

It is unclear when the Greenbury Howard House was built; it is not shown on the 1879 Hopkins Map of Montgomery County, Maryland, but the 1880 Federal Census indicates that Greenbury was living next to his father and working in farming. The Greenbury Howard House is a two-story stone dwelling with single-story ell; it faces southeast. The main block featured a two-story wood frame addition to the east. Additionally, a basement access opens into the porch/well area. The ell is known to be original to the house, and the frame addition dated to the second quarter of the twentieth century. Greenbury bought out his sister Martha's share of 88.5 acres in 1898. The Federal Census from 1910 and 1920 indicate that Greenbury was still living in the house and likely stayed there until his death in November 1926.

In each of the Federal Census rolls, it is noted that Greenbury is a farmer and owns his farm outright. The 1910 and 1920 Federal Census also indicates that Greenbury's son, George S., has moved into the Gaither Howard House. George Samuel Howard (1876-1961) likely lived there until at least 1940. Rebecca Nettles Howard (1856-1935), Greenbury's widow, is still living in the Greenbury Howard House in 1930. No other Howards appear to be living near George Samuel in the 1940 Federal Census. The houses were reportedly used as summer residences after they ceased to be used for permanent homes. In 1960, the Howard family sold 299.5 acres to Thomas Blair and Mary Virginia Middleton, who then sold 200 acres, including the houses and family cemetery, to DNR. Neither house was ever connected to water, electric, or gas service. The houses have fallen to ruin over the last 50 years.

In Spring 2021, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highways Administration (MDOT SHA) suggested archaeological investigations of each resource prior to stabilization of the houses by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Gaither Howard House (M:23-8A) and the Greenbury Howard House (M:23-8B) are both proposed stops along a planned Patuxent River State Park interpretive trail that was funded in part by MDOT SHA. Investigation was recommended because the sites contain a high potential for archaeological deposits related to the lives and activities of the past occupants. For example, historic surface features such as stone foundations, wells, and sheet middens, along with artifacts exposed on the ground surface, were observed at each site. This study proposed to recover archaeological information that will be used to assist in the structural and landscape stabilization, and public interpretation of both historic resources as part of trail construction by DNR. Archaeological investigations performed by MDOT SHA would also inform DNR's methods to avoid or minimize impacts to each of the sites.

Subsurface investigations included the excavation of 49 STPs within the study area: front yard (6), back yard (19), west yard (10), and east yard (14). A total of 497 historic artifacts and two faunal remains were recovered from STPs, including one reptile shell fragment with butcher marks and one avian bone. Overall, the majority of artifacts recovered were architectural (58 percent) in nature, followed by indeterminate (18 percent) and kitchen/domestic (15 percent) types. The remaining 9 percent of artifacts recovered are broken down as follows: arms (3 percent), furniture (2 percent), personal (2 percent), clothing (1 percent), household activities (0.6 percent), and industrial (0.4 percent). Out of the total architectural artifacts recovered (n=287), the most prevalent artifact was window glass (n=224). Sixty-eight percent of the indeterminate artifacts were glass (n=60), followed by metal (n=25, or 29 percent), ceramic (n=2, or 2 percent), and lithic (n=1, or 1 percent). Kitchen/domestic artifacts are divided nearly evenly between ceramics (n=37, or 50 percent), and glass (n=36, or 49 percent), with one metal artifact (1 percent). Arms artifacts include 17 bullet casings collected throughout the site, representing several calibers likely deposited through vandalism and hunting activities. Furniture artifacts include lamp glass (n=8), and metal stove and furniture parts (n=3). Fragments of medicinal bottles (n=5), an aluminum hair curler (n=2), and a comb fragment make up the personal item artifacts. Six buttons make up the clothing/adornment artifacts within the assemblage. Three household activities artifacts were recovered, including a modern plastic Ouija board planchette, a wire bucket handle, and a child's porcelain play tea cup. Lastly, a fragment of barbed wire and a hafted tool make up the industrial artifacts recovered.

The artifacts illustrate the life cycle of the structure from its function as a residence, and use as a headquarters of operation for agriculture and heavy traffic over much of the back and west yards, and its abandonment, followed by vandalism and partial demolition. The majority of artifacts recovered from the front yard area are related to the structure itself, and likely are a result of repairs, additions, and demolition. The lack of domestic artifacts in the area is not unexpected, since the activity areas appear to be located to the west of the structure and in the backyard based on the location of former outbuildings to the west and the well. West yard artifacts were concentrated at the north end of the yard, adjacent to the agricultural fields. Much of the west yard was likely kept clear of debris and refuse to allow for easy movement between the farm outbuildings and house. Artifacts may have accumulated at the edges of the yard area by sweeping or general use of the area. Backyard STPs excavated near the structure indicate a great deal of disturbance and very little accumulation of occupation refuse; the preponderance of broken window glass and ammunition speaks to the period after occupation. Further away from the house, an increased presence of domestic artifacts suggest that refuse was brought away from the house for dumping into a sheet midden, or to collect to take off-site, since the highest concentration appears near the road. Additionally, artifacts collected in this area have been crushed to the point that most are unidentifiable, indicating that at some point this area was subject to heavy traffic, probably mechanical. Artifacts recovered from the east yard do not show the same concentration as the west or backyard areas, likely because although the STPs fall between the road and the residence, the area may not have been as heavily trafficked as other parts of the parcel, or it was used in a different way.

The scattered, low density, mixed context artifacts recovered from STPs at the Greenbury Howard House confirmed that the area surrounding the structure had been markedly disturbed since the house had been last used as a residence. Three TUs were placed within the backyard, including two adjacent 5-foot-



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18MO779

Site Name: Greenbury Howard House

Prehistoric

Other name(s) M: 23-8B

Historic

Brief Description:

Late 19th century African American stone and frame house ruin and farmstead

Unknown

by-5-foot TUs (TUs 1 and 2) outside of the kitchen door and one 5-foot square TU 3 at STP T 4-1. A total of 1,115 historic artifacts and 19 faunal remains were recovered from the excavation of the TUs. Upon the excavation of a heavily disturbed Stratum I and no significant historic artifact deposits in Stratum II, excavation of TU 1 was abandoned, and TU 2 was not started. TU 3 was excavated to subsoil and bedrock.

Artifacts recovered from TU 1 largely represent the post-occupation period of the residence, including high concentrations of broken window glass and nails. Indeterminate group artifacts were so fragmented that identification was impossible. Small numbers of domestic type artifacts represent a mixing from items that had fallen through the floor boards of the porch, possibly swept from the interior, or had been discarded or swept into the yard. Bullet casings collected from Stratum I in TU 1 and the discarded shotgun shells indicate recreational shooting (vandalism) rather than hunting, particularly the smaller caliber casings. Artifacts found in TU 1 include kitchen/domestic (n=15), architectural (n=413), clothing (n=4), household (n=4), personal objects (n=7), arms (n=13), furniture (n=15), transportation (n=1), indeterminate (n=58), and faunal (n=5).

TU 3 artifacts were recovered from three strata. The most common artifact group for each stratum was indeterminate group artifacts (i.e., those for which a function could not be identified). The artifacts that were able to be identified were a mixture of domestic/occupation artifacts, including a variety of ceramic and glass table and serving wares, as well as some more personal items, such as a fragment of a porcelain toy tea set and medicinal bottle fragments. Utilitarian items such as a metal button and two snaps, a fragment of a cast iron stove, and lamp glass may indicate that the deposit is part of a general cleanup of the site. Artifacts found in TU 1 include kitchen/domestic (n=141), architectural (n=68), clothing (n=4), household (n=1), personal objects (n=8), furniture (n=46), indeterminate (n=317), and faunal (n=14).

In summary, excavations at the Gaither Howard House Site (18MO0778) and Greenbury Howard House Site (18MO0779) demonstrated distinctive contexts that relate to the specific use and occupation history of each dwelling. The Gaither Howard House Site was occupied for a much longer period, and from its construction was the basis of a large farming operation. Beale Gaither held enslaved people who presumably provided labor to his large farm. The Greenbury Howard House, constructed in the late nineteenth century, included other domestic and agricultural-related outbuildings. It seems likely that the Howard family continued to work their fields in the same way before and after George sold portions of the land to his sons, particularly any land that was contiguous and surrounding the Gaither Howard House. Since some of the structures for farming were located at Gaither Howard, the areas immediately surrounding the Greenbury Howard House Site were, for the most part, reserved for domestic activities, at least for the first 50 years or so of occupation. No farming-related artifacts, including horse or ox shoes, were recovered from the Greenbury Howard House Site excavations whereas, horse and ox shoes, plowblade fragments, stirrups, buckles and sleigh bells were recovered from Gaither Howard excavations. The presence of some agricultural outbuildings, discussed in the MIHP form for Greenbury Howard, do suggest that farm activities took place in the vicinity, though the activity areas were much more dispersed than those at Gaither Howard. The presence of more horse and farming-related equipment at the Gaither Howard House Site and not at the Greenbury Howard House Site confirm that the latter was largely a domestic center, while the former was a mixed domestic and industrial/farming area.

Both sites have been highly impacted by mid- to late-twentieth-century occupation, demolition, and agricultural practices, which have disturbed and obscured intact cultural contexts, leaving mixed artifact assemblages with hints of eighteenth-century occupation (in the case of the Gaither Howard House), or an artifact assemblage so crushed that most of it is unidentifiable (in the case of the Greenbury Howard House).

The investigation at the Gaither Howard House revealed nineteenth- and twentieth-century work yards to the west of the house, which contained several postholes and a large stone foundation. Later clearing and dismantling of farm outbuildings in the mid- to late-twentieth-century somewhat disturbed these contexts. Other areas surrounding the Gaither Howard House were either lightly used, frequently cleared of refuse, or disturbed at later times, as lower concentrations of artifacts and no features were found outside of the west yard. Subsurface excavations and historic research revealed that construction and clearing activities in the vicinity of the Greenbury Howard House during the twentieth century have heavily disturbed any intact cultural contexts that may have existed. The Patuxent Quarry Site #1 (18MO0780), located east of the Howard houses, is a possible source for building material throughout the complex. Overgrown vegetation at the quarry site obscured any possible features or cultural material on the surface during a visit. Additional investigations at the Gaither Howard House targeted to specific areas, such as the walled enclosure to the northeast and the outbuilding complex to the west, may provide additional information. Additional data may help to more fully answer some of the research questions posed at the start of the SHA funded project.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95009404, 18MO779 SF