



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR15

Site Name: Cow Pasture

Prehistoric

Other name(s): Hilltop

Historic

Brief Description:

Archaic short-term resource procurement and 19th century unknown

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code BeB2

Latitude 38.9983

Longitude -76.9385

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 40 m

Site slope 0-5%

Ethnobotany profile available  Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Paint

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 76 m

### 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

## 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

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

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

|                    |                          |             |                          |                  |                          |                  |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| <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"/> |                  | 1                        | Rhenish          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                    |                          |             |                          |                  |                          | Wt Salt-glazed   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

| Prehistoric Artifacts |                          | Other fired clay |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Flaked stone          | 592                      | Human remain(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ground stone          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Modified faunal  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Stone bowls           | 3                        | Unmod faunal     | 1                        |
| Fire-cracked rock     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Oyster shell     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other lithics (all)   | 4                        | 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)          | 1                                   | 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | European flint | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Rhyolite      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ironstone      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Quartz        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basalt         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Quartzite     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Argilite       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|               |                                     | Unknown        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|               |                                     | Steatite       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|               |                                     | Other          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|               |                                     | Sandstone      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

Dated features present at site

| Historic Artifacts |                          | Tobacco related  |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Pottery (all)      | 1                        | Activity item(s) | 2                        |
| Glass (all)        | 5                        | Human remain(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural      | 2                        | Faunal material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Furniture          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc. kitchen    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arms               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Floral material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clothing           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc.            | 5                        |
| Personal items     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### Historic Features

|                    |                          |                  |                          |              |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Privy/outhouse     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Depression/mound | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unknown      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Const feature      | <input 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 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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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC (1969.027.001)

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18PR15 (also known as the Cow Pasture or Hilltop site) is an Archaic short-term resource procurement site with evidence of an undetermined 19th century deposit as well. The site is located on the University of Maryland College Park Campus in Prince George's County, Maryland. It is situated on a broad terrace about halfway up a large hill overlooking an unnamed tributary of Paint Branch. Two springheads appear to have been located to the south of the site. Soils in the area of 18PR15 are mapped as Beltsville fine sandy loams.

The site was first examined archeologically in 1935 by local avocational archeologist Walter F. Jeffers. Jeffers described the site as a lithic scatter accompanied by a raised mound-like area that contained prehistoric artifacts. The "mound" was approximately 7.62 meters (25 ft) in diameter with undefined edges, and was about 30.5 cm (1 ft) higher than the surrounding landscape. After conducting some "test digging", Jeffers excavated a roughly 61 cm (2 ft) wide test trench across the raised area to a depth of approximately 1.22 meters. The soil of the raised area was described as "loose" and "sandy" with prehistoric flakes distributed throughout to a depth of 30.5 cm, where the cultural materials terminated.

A large charcoal feature located in the center of the site measured approximately 30.05 meters (10 ft) in diameter and extended below the surface. This charcoal lens was lined with pieces of flat ironstone, and probably was a large hearth. A piece of bone (possibly a vertebrae) was identified below the hearth. Artifacts recovered from the 1935 excavation included a bushel of quartzite debitage fragments (estimated at 500 in the table above), 35 whole and several (estimated at 10) broken projectile points, three "steatite pottery" fragments, 2 hammerstones, 1 anvil stone, and the aforementioned bone. One of the hammers and the anvil stone appeared to be in situ; one atop the other. It is impossible to tell from the photograph provided in the full site report if the objects described as "steatite pottery" are actually steatite vessel fragments or early steatite-tempered pottery sherds. The projectile points suggest an Archaic date for the use of the site, and thus the "steatite pottery" has been counted in the table above as steatite bowl/vessel fragments. However, very early Marcey Creek pottery can be quite difficult to discern from steatite vessels because of the excessive amount of tempering agent and Marcey Creek could be considered consonant with a Terminal Archaic date. Very small amounts of historic artifacts were encountered at the site (primarily outside the raised area and at shallow depth).

In 1971, Site 18PR15 received a surface inspection by personnel from the Anthropology Department at the University of Maryland, College Park. Information about this survey is quite limited. At that time, the property was planted in evergreen trees and was being utilized by the University for long-term experiments in tree growth. The site was reportedly being disturbed by the excavation of holes for new plantings and gravel quarrying. A substantial amount of prehistoric debitage was noted in the field, but only 2 flakes were collected along with a quartz corner-notched projectile point. No mention of a mound was made during this survey and the site was interpreted as a prehistoric camp dating to the Archaic period. Some 19th century historic materials were also encountered, but no additional information about the historic occupation is known.

In 1983, a small portion of Site 18PR15 was tested prior to the construction of the Environmental Services Building on the College Park campus. A brief summary letter of the findings indicates that a series of 71 shovel test pits (STPs) at 3.05 meter (10 ft) intervals were dug along with three 91.44 cm X 91.44 cm (3 X 3 ft) test units. In addition, a surface collection was conducted on land west of the area that would be impacted by construction of the building.

Each STP was dug to subsoil and the soil was examined for cultural remains. Fifteen of the STPs yielded prehistoric lithic material including 8 quartz/quartzite flakes, 1 unidentifiable rhyolite point tip, 4 quartz bifaces and 2 unifacially worked quartz chunks. The test units were placed in suspected areas and to note soil stratigraphy. Two small quartz bifacially worked chunks and one hammerstone were found in one test unit, but no artifacts were recovered from the other two. Soil profiles show a truncated plowzone of around 1 cm. No evidence of subterranean features or buried cultural horizons were detected in either STPs or test units. During shovel testing the University Physical Plant Department began clearing trees just west of the project impact zone. A large area became ideal for a surface reconnaissance. During this procedure, 11 flakes and 1 quartzite blade were found. Based on the nature of the findings, approval was granted for the construction of the Environmental Services Building.

Archeological work was conducted at 18PR15 once again in 1985 prior to the construction of a new pesticide/herbicide storage facility. A Phase I survey, consisting of the excavation of 20 STPs in the impact area for the new building. The shovel tests were laid out in a systematic manner, using a grid spacing of 15.24 meters (50 ft). A total of 41 artifacts was recovered (15 prehistoric, and 28 historic/modern). The prehistoric materials were pretty evenly distributed across the survey area. No chronologically diagnostic prehistoric artifacts and no features were encountered.

The prehistoric artifacts from the 1985 Phase I survey included 7 quartz flakes, 1 chert shatter fragment, 4 rhyolite shatter fragments and 3 quartz shatter fragments. The historic remains were 5 pieces of unidentified glass, 2 steel hex nuts, a plastic-coated wire fragment, a small brick fragment, and 1 porcelain sherd. Due to changes in construction planning, the planned storage facility was built elsewhere on the campus.

The final archeological project to examine 18PR15 was in 2000, when the University of Maryland began making plans for the construction of their new Comcast Center indoor stadium/arena facility. Because Phase I work had already been conducted, a Phase II-level testing was planned from the outset. However, the initial stages of the Phase II work clearly documented that the area was void of prehistoric artifacts (see below). As a result, the Phase II fieldwork conducted at 18PR15 is more akin to what would normally be considered a Phase I survey. As much of the landscape at and around the site has been extensively altered by construction activities over the years and the aforementioned tree planting, only a grassy area between the Environmental services (landscaping maintenance) buildings and a nearby flat hilltop northeast of one of the structures were deemed likely to remain intact. These appeared to be the only two remnants of original ground surface left in the recorded area of 18PR15.

Thirty shovel test pits were excavated across the possible remnant areas of 18PR15. Shovel tests were excavated at 10 m intervals and measured approximately 30 cm in diameter. All soils were excavated in natural (or cultural) stratigraphic levels and were screened through hardware mesh. No cultural materials were recovered and historic disturbances in the area were documented. Disturbance in this site area has included the excavation of a large borrow pit to the east, cutting down of the hillside to the south, and construction of buildings and paved parking areas throughout the center and north of the site. Since no evidence of the site was found in the relatively undisturbed tested areas, there appears to be little likelihood that the site remains. Obviously, 18PR15 has no remaining potential as an archeological resource.

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number:

Site Name:

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief  
Description:

Unknown

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## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):