



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR172

Site Name: Accokeek Contract WSSC

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic, Late Woodland short-term resource procurement

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code BIB2

Latitude 38.6790

Longitude -76.9831

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 52 m

Site slope 0-5%

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) Tributary of Piscataway Cre

- | 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 259 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
- Urban/Rural?
  - Domestic
  - Homestead
  - Farmstead
  - Mansion
  - Plantation
  - Row/townhome
  - Cellar
  - Privy
  - Industrial
  - Mining-related
  - Quarry-related
  - Mill
  - Black/metalsmith
  - Furnace/forge
  - Other
  - Transportation
  - Canal-related
  - Road/railroad
  - Wharf/landing
  - Maritime-related
  - Bridge
  - Ford
  - Educational
  - Commercial
  - Trading post
  - Store
  - Tavern/inn
  - Military
  - Battlefield
  - Fortification
  - Encampment
  - Townsite
  - Religious
  - Church/mtg house
  - Ch support bldg
  - Burial area
  - Cemetery
  - Sepulchre
  - Isolated burial
  - Bldg or foundation
  - Possible Structure
  - Post-in-ground
  - Frame-built
  - Masonry
  - Other structure
  - Slave related
  - Non-domestic agri
  - Recreational
  - Midden/dump
  - Artifact scatter
  - Spring or well
  - Unknown
  - Other context

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples  
Soil samples taken N  
Flotation samples taken N  
Other samples taken

Historic context samples  
Soil samples taken  
Flotation samples taken  
Other samples taken



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## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		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"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>	332	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	43	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)	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	336	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	38	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features	
Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lithic Material		Fer quartzite		Sil sandstone	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features		Privy/outhouse		Depression/mound		Unknown	
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<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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## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18PR172 is a Late Archaic and Middle-Late Woodland short-term resource procurement locale in southern Prince George's County not far from Fort Washington. The site is situated in an upland setting within the deeply incised stream valley of an unnamed first order stream that flows to Piscataway Creek. The topography of the surrounding area consists of moderately broad to narrow stream valleys with adjacent broad to flat upland areas. The region is located in the transition zone between the oak-hickory and the mixed southern pine forest biomes. Soils at the site are primarily of the Croom-Marr complex.

The site was first examined archeologically in 1977 during the course of a reconnaissance survey for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The work was related to sewer line installation and associated construction in both Prince George's and Montgomery counties. The examination covered the sewer-line right-of-ways (ROW) for 5 Maryland subdivisions. The sewage related construction might adversely affect prehistoric and historic archeological resources in the proposed subdivisions, necessitating Phase I survey.

Fieldwork during the 1977 Phase I survey began with a walkover survey of the entire area examining all exposed surfaces, stream banks, erosion cuts, tree falls, etc. within the proposed ROW for the sewer line. This was done to help familiarize the researchers with the entire survey area and also to focus formal subsurface investigations in the areas most likely to yield evidence of historic or prehistoric occupation. Subsurface investigations consisted of augering with screw and buckets augers and excavation of 61 cm<sup>2</sup> test pits along the ROW. These test pits were excavated by natural soil horizons to sterile soils or gravels using shovels and trowels, and soils were screened through 3/8 in hardware cloth. These test pits were placed randomly throughout the ROW, except in zones of high site probability (based on the walkover and predictive modeling) where a more regular testing interval was used. The site area was identified as a high-probability area and a roughly 30.5 m (100 ft) test pit interval was used at 18PR172.

A total of 10 test pits were excavated at 18PR172, seven of which were positive for prehistoric artifacts. Much of the material was recovered from the humus, but buried cultural soil horizons were also detected. Some materials were also observed on the surface. Artifacts recovered during the 1977 Phase I survey include 1 quartz biface fragment, 1 utilized/retouched flake, 16 quartz flakes, 2 quartzite flakes, 1 flaked quartz cobble, 2 flaked quartzite cobbles, 1 quartz chunk, 1 hammerstone, and 4 "Claggett Ware" sherds. The recovery of pottery in such an upland setting was considered unusual and worthy of further investigation. Based on these findings, Phase II testing was recommended.

The site was tested the following year by archeologists with the Catholic University of America. A master grid system was established for the entire area using a transit, stadia rod, and metal tapes and was tied into appropriate map reference points. The site was examined with a series of eight 1.524 X 1.524 m (5 X 5 ft) excavation units. All excavations proceeded by exact artifact provenience techniques except for the humic level of each unit which was removed by shovel. Soils were removed in arbitrary 9 cm levels. Any natural soil change encountered within the arbitrary level would result in the termination of that level at the base of the soil change. A new level would then be excavated following the same procedure. Profiling of stream bank cuts and limited systematic soil augering was carried out both within and outside of specified project limits in order to aid stratigraphic interpretations.

No artifact catalog is provided with the report of the 1978 Phase II investigations. However, photographs in the report appendices, general assemblage discussion in the report, and a table of ceramic sherds do provide at least minimal counts for some classes of artifacts. These include 15 projectile points (including at least 2 Brewerton-like forms), 1 drill, at least 2 cores, a small snub-nosed scraper, 217 thick Potomac Creek body sherds, 77 thin Potomac Creek body sherds, and 38 Potomac Creek rim sherds.

Scattered Late Archaic and Middle Woodland habitation was noted along approximately 274.32 meters (900 ft) parallel to an upland stream in this deeply dissected stream-valley head area. These are all indicative of transient hunting camps. A more compact single component Late Woodland encampment was noted in the western portion of the site. This component, the only portion of the site of any significance, is believed to have been entirely excavated in 1978. Similar upland locales occupied during Late Woodland times are rare, but not unknown. Nearby Site 18PR143 (see associated synopsis report) is one example of a similarly situated site. Further examination of 18PR172 is unlikely to yield significant new information. The site should no longer be considered a significant archeological resource.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006121, 00006122