



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR4

Site Name: Farmington Landing

Prehistoric

Other name(s): Potter's Site E, Gardner's Site # 40

Historic

Brief Description:

Early and Middle Woodland short-term camps, Late Woodland village/hamlet

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code Fs

Latitude 38.6882

Longitude -77.0212

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 1 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) Piscataway Creek

- | Saltwater | | Freshwater | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> | Estuary/tidal river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input 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 0 m

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland Y
- Mid. woodland Y
- Late woodland Y
- 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

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 U

Flotation samples taken U 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	<input type="text"/>	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	7
<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text"/>	1	Popes Creek	<input type="text"/>	351	Shepard	<input type="text"/>	Keyser	<input type="text"/>	
Dames Qtr	<input type="text"/>		Coulbourn	<input type="text"/>		Townsend	<input type="text"/>	1029	Yeocomico	<input type="text"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text"/>		Watson	<input type="text"/>		Minguannan	<input type="text"/>		Monongahela	<input type="text"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text"/>	805	Mockley	<input type="text"/>	461	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text"/>		Susquehannock	<input type="text"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text"/>		Clemson Island	<input type="text"/>		Shenks Ferry	<input type="text"/>			
Vinette	<input type="text"/>		Page	<input type="text"/>		Moyaone	<input type="text"/>			
			Potomac Crk	<input type="text"/>	2946					

Historic Sherd Types

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts				
	Other fired clay	<input type="text"/>		
<input type="text"/>	Flaked stone	453	Human remain(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="text"/>	Ground stone	10	Modified faunal	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Stone bowls	1	Unmod faunal	1198
<input type="text"/>	Fire-cracked rock		Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	Other lithics (all)	7	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	Ceramics (all)	6288	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Rimsherds	158	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input checked="" 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

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

Dated features present at site

Multiple features containing diagnostic prehistoric artifacts

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

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<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 MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Farmington Landing Site (18PR4) is a prehistoric site in south-western Prince George's County, Maryland with evidence of a series of Early, Middle, and (predominantly) Late Woodland occupations. A number of subsurface pits and other archeological features indicate a probable village at this locale, but professional work to date and reporting have been scanty. The site is located at Piscataway Park owned by the National Park Service and managed by the Accokeek Foundation. The site is situated on the shore of Piscataway Bay near the end of a local road. The land around the site is very flat, forming only a small 30.5 cm (1 ft) high bench or bluff at the water's edge. At the time that controlled archeological excavation was first conducted at the site, portions of the site were uncultivated and overgrown, while most of the eastern portion was planted in tobacco. Soils at the site are Fallsington fine sandy loams.

The Piscataway Creek region has long been known to local collectors and residents as an excellent spot to search for American Indian artifacts. The first documented archeological find occurred in 1859 when a local farmer found a small burial site on his property. Over the latter part of the 19th century and into the early 20th century, artifact collection occurred at 18PR4 and surrounding sites in a disorganized, and largely destructive manner until the purchase of what was then known as the "Hard Bargain" farm in 1923 by Henry and Alice Ferguson. The actions of several local collectors on Mrs. Ferguson's property (sometimes without her permission) prompted her to contact members of the professional archeological community in an effort to protect what she was certain was a significant archeological site. Alice Ferguson's efforts met with little success, so she took it upon herself to undertake controlled excavation of the archeological deposits at "Hard Bargain" to the best of her ability. Details relating to the excavations by Mrs. Ferguson can be found in other synopsis reports (18PR8, 18PR240, 18PR241, 18PR40, and 18PR42).

It is not known whether 18PR4 ever attracted the Fergusons' attention, however, the site was apparently well-known to local collectors by the 1960s when the first controlled excavations were conducted. This was likely due to tidal action, which frequently inundated much of the landscape, but most importantly eroded significant portions of the aforementioned 30.5 cm bench at the water's edge. The water exposed apparent dark midden soils along the low bluff and redeposited artifacts from the bench into the agricultural fields.

A major George Leach made an extensive collection of the site in 1962 and then later donated portions of the collection to the NPS. However, the first serious archeological work to be conducted at 18PR4 was a field session conducted by the Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) in 1967. Additional research by ASM was conducted in 1968. The data from these excavations was ultimately the subject of a Master's thesis by Betty Veatch at the American University. Her thesis not only examined the data collected by ASM, but analyzed all of the non-lithic artifacts from the Leach collection made in 1962. There is also a report by one of the ASM members detailing the 1967 season at 18PR4.

Archeological testing in 1967 began with the excavation of several shovel test pits (STPs) scattered near the presumed edges of the site (evidenced by the midden soils), which helped to better identify the boundaries of 18PR4. A total of 12 STPs was excavated and indicated that an approximately 25.4 cm (10 in) thick midden area extended over much of the site. Most of this midden was plow disturbed, but some areas where the midden was thicker were preserved. Promising areas of the site were investigated further with the excavation of 16 large trenches. Most of these trenches were 91.44 cm X 3.05 m (3 ft X 10 ft) in size. The only exceptions were one trench in the southwestern portion of the site which was only 91.44 cm X 1.524 m (3 ft X 5 ft) in size and two trenches which were expanded from their original size to be 1.83 m X 3.05 m (6 ft X 10 ft) in size. These last two were expanded to follow large pit features that had been exposed. Most of the trenches were excavated deep into sterile subsoil. The only real exception was a test trench that had to be abandoned due to inclement weather.

Three large pit features (Pits "C", "K" and "L") were identified during excavation in addition to the general midden deposits throughout the site. Additional pits were noted nearby, but were not excavated in 1967 due to time constraints. The most striking feature of the individual pits was the marked contrast in ceramic materials found in each pit. Pits C and K appear to be Late Woodland in age, with 71% of the sherds in Pit C and nearly 100% of the sherds in Pit K being Rappahannock ware (the only exception in Pit K was a single Potomac Creek sherd). Pit L, on the other hand, is probably Early Woodland in age, with 52% of the sherds being Pope's Creek and 36% being Accokeek ware. Charcoal and faunal remains were quite common in all three trash pits.

The complete assemblage of artifacts recovered from Pit C included 18 Potomac Creek sherds, 120 Rappahannock sherds, 9 Mockley sherds, 9 Pope's Creek sherds, 14 Accokeek sherds, 10 projectile points (types unspecified), part of a stone pipe, 1 bone awl, 1 large section of deer antler, and a considerable amount of bone, clam shell, and turtle carapace. The older pottery forms were noted to be in the bottom portions of the pit.

The full assemblage from Pit K consisted of 63 Rappahannock sherds (including 4 rims), 1 Potomac Creek sherd, 1 large triangular point, large quantities of deer bone, turtle carapace, shell, and a beaver jaw. This pit was only partially excavated (the top few centimeters) before inclement weather halted work.

Pit L extended to a depth below the water table and was found to contain 23 Mockley sherds, 103 Pope's Creek sherds, 72 Accokeek sherds, 15 unidentified projectile points, and large quantities of bone (deer, bird, fish, turtle, and small mammal) and clam shell. Two human phalanges were also encountered in this pit.

The assemblage from the remainder of the site consisted of 1 Marcey Creek sherd, 73 Accokeek sherds, 47 Pope's Creek sherds, 103 Mockley sherds, 94 Rappahannock sherds, 57 Potomac Creek pottery sherds, 12 unidentified ceramic fragments, 38 lithic projectile points, 14 blades, 1 fragment from a greenstone celt or axe, and 15 bone points or projectile tips. Some of the sherds identified throughout the site as Potomac Creek, may be identifiable as Moyaone ware. A groundstone platform pipe was also recovered by one of the ASM excavators on the surface prior to 1967.

The 1968 field session by ASM entailed the excavation of twenty-seven 1.524 X 1.524 m (5 X 5 ft) test units to the north of the area excavated in 1967. Most of these squares were situated contiguous to one another to form large excavation blocks. The first 25.4 cm (10 in) of soil (essentially the plowzone) was removed as a single stratum, and the underlying soils were excavated in 7.62 cm (3 in) arbitrary levels. Excavation seldom extended below about 71.12 cm (28 in) in depth. At least three features were encountered during the 1968 fieldwork; a possible human burial, a hearth containing charred fragments of unidentified mammal bone, and a dog burial. A 1972 note in the MHT Site File mentions the partial exposure of the burial in 1968 and removal of the skull to



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the Smithsonian collections. The note requests permission to arrange for excavation of the post-crania (left intact) by a qualified professional archeologist as a "demonstration" for members of the ASM, but it is not known whether this excavation was ever actually undertaken.

Descriptions of the full assemblage of materials collected from 18PR4 over the years (both ASM studies and the collection by Leach) and available to MHT (in the Veatch thesis) do not provide provenience information for artifacts other than those excavated in 1967. In addition, the lithics in Major George Leach's collection have not been catalogued. These exceptions withstanding, the remainder of the assemblage from 18PR4 consisted of an additional 375 flaked lithic objects, 8 groundstone artifacts (including a steatite bowl fragment), 7 use-modified stone artifacts, 5,481 pottery sherds, and 1,198 unmodified faunal remains. Identifiable flaked stone objects within the full site assemblage include 1 Koens- Crispin point, 1 Susquehanna Broadspear, 7 Piscataway points, 5 Calvert points, 1 Rossville, 1 Potts point, 6 Vernon points, 5 Levannas, 12 Madison points, 4 blades/knives, 2 drills, at least 2 other bifaces, 3 cores, 26 scrapers, 2 gravers, 10 utilized flakes, 149 quartz debitage fragments, 20 rhyolite debitage fragments, 72 pieces of quartzite debitage, 17 miscellaneous debitage pieces, and 29 worked cobbles. The groundstone objects were 7 pieces of a possible slate pendant and a steatite stone bowl fragment. Use-modified objects were a grinding stone and 6 hammerstones. Minimal counts of identifiable ceramic sherds in the site assemblage include 646 Accokeek sherds (including 29 rims), 192 Pope's creek sherds (including 1 rim), 326 Mockley sherds (including 6 rimsherds), 752 Rappahannock sherds (including 34 rims), 2,870 Potomac Creek sherds (58 rims), and 695 other pottery sherds (including 26 rims). Within the faunal assemblage were 81 white-tailed deer bones, 1 elk bone, 16 dog bones, 3 squirrel bones, 1 beaver bone, 712 unidentified mammal bones, 3 red-bellied turtle bones, 1 soft-shelled turtle bone, 176 unidentified turtle bones, 14 turkey bones, 52 unidentified bird bones, 5 sturgeon bones, 2 catfish bones, 1 unidentified fish bones, 50 oyster shell fragments, 35 freshwater mussel shell pieces, 14 quahog shell pieces, 2 freshwater snail pieces, 7 land snail pieces, and 22 unidentified mollusk remains.

Several compliance mandated surveys of the Piscataway Park property led to site visits to 18PR4 in the early 1980s. Researchers collected similar diagnostic artifacts during their site visits and remark about the potential significance and research value of the site. No quantities are provided for the artifacts collected during these visits, so they have not been included in the tables above.

The extant evidence points to the presence of probable Early-Middle Woodland hamlets at 18PR4, and possibly a Late Woodland village. Based on the work conducted at 18PR4 in 1967, the site would appear to be quite significant. Intact features were encountered and researchers noted features in the field that went unexcavated. In addition, individual features appear to be datable to specific (and discrete) prehistoric periods based on the presence of diagnostic artifacts. Farmington Landing should be considered a significant site with ongoing research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

ASM_PAPER7,00006605, 00006607