



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR425

Site Name: Area E (Site 2)

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Prator Farmstead

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: Late 19th to early 20th century farmstead

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code DoB

Latitude 39.0108 Longitude -76.9190

Physiographic province Eastern Piedmont

Terrestrial site  Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 2-5%

Ethnobotany profile available  Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Indi

<b>Saltwater</b>	<b>Freshwater</b>
Ocean <input type="checkbox"/>	Stream/river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estuary/tidal 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 488 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	High terrace <input type="checkbox"/>
Hilltop/bluff <input type="checkbox"/>	Rockshelter/cave <input type="checkbox"/>
Interior flat <input type="checkbox"/>	Hillslope <input type="checkbox"/>
Upland flat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
Ridgetop <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Terrace <input type="checkbox"/>	
Low terrace <input type="checkbox"/>	

### Ownership

Private <input type="checkbox"/>
Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State of MD <input type="checkbox"/>
Regional/county/city <input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site <input type="checkbox"/>	Woodland site <input type="checkbox"/>
Archaic site <input type="checkbox"/>	MD Adena <input type="checkbox"/>
Early archaic <input type="checkbox"/>	Early woodland <input type="checkbox"/>
Middle archaic <input type="checkbox"/>	Mid. woodland <input type="checkbox"/>
Late archaic <input type="checkbox"/>	Late woodland <input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown prehistoric context <input type="checkbox"/>	

Contact period site <input type="checkbox"/>	ca. 1820 - 1860 <input type="checkbox"/>	Y
	ca. 1630 - 1675 <input type="checkbox"/>	Y
	ca. 1675 - 1720 <input type="checkbox"/>	Y
	ca. 1720 - 1780 <input type="checkbox"/>	
	ca. 1780 - 1820 <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Unknown historic context <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Unknown context <input type="checkbox"/>	

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American <input type="checkbox"/>	Asian American <input type="checkbox"/>
African American <input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
Anglo-American <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/>	

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

## Site Function Contextual Data:

<b>Prehistoric</b>	
Multi-component <input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. ceremonial <input type="checkbox"/>
Village <input type="checkbox"/>	Rock art <input type="checkbox"/>
Hamlet <input type="checkbox"/>	Shell midden <input type="checkbox"/>
Base camp <input type="checkbox"/>	STU/lithic scatter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rockshelter/cave <input type="checkbox"/>	Quarry/extraction <input type="checkbox"/>
Earthen mound <input type="checkbox"/>	Fish weir <input type="checkbox"/>
Cairn <input type="checkbox"/>	Production area <input type="checkbox"/>
Burial area <input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
Other context <input type="checkbox"/>	

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

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

<b>Prehistoric context samples</b>	Soil samples taken N
Flotation samples taken N	Other samples taken

<b>Historic context samples</b>	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"/>
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"/>	Keyser	<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"/>
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"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2		1			Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	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)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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)	<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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	35	Activity item(s)	10
Glass (all)	128	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	114	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	1	Misc. kitchen	5
Arms	4	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	2	Misc.	67
Personal items	1	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> coal

Historic Features		Privy/outhouse		Depression/mound		Unknown	
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	concrete pads	
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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Brief Description:

Late 19th to early 20th century farmstead

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

Site 18PR425, also known as Area E (Site 2), is the remains of a 19th to early 20th century farmstead on property that is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Research Complex in Beltsville, Maryland. The site consists of agricultural fields (both crops and pasture) that have been used primarily for research purposes in modern times. The site is situated on a relatively level landform that is best described as portions of an ancestral terrace oriented towards a creek to the east. The surrounding landscape is gently rolling in character, composed of small ridges and knolls with gentle slopes surrounded by major highways and transportation infrastructure. Site 18PR425 is located on Galestown Series loamy sands.

The site was first encountered during a Phase I survey conducted in March and April of 1992. The survey was conducted because the site and surrounding area was being considered for the development of an office/research facility that would include at least 2 large buildings, extensive parking lots, and the associated infrastructure to support them. Such development would have extensive impacts on any archeological resources in the area and survey was required under Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966.

Methods employed in the course of Phase I work consisted of vehicular and pedestrian surface surveys, controlled surface collection procedures, and the excavation of shovel test pits in those areas where surface visibility was poor. Site 18PR425, however, was actually identified during the course of background research. An early to mid-19th century farmstead is depicted on an 1861 map as belonging to a Mrs. Prator. Historic documentation indicates that the house would most likely have been erected sometime before 1861 and sometime after 1835, when, what had up to that time been a large plantation, was subdivided and sold off as smaller farms. Visible remains of the farmstead include the concrete foundations of three structures, which according to an informant, included a small house and 2 barns which were used by the government for the stabling of horses and mules which were used to work the farm. The presence of concrete foundations also indicates that the original farmstead structures were replaced sometime after ca. 1880. This site also had a dug well which was capped by the USDA for safety reasons.

Site 18PR425 was examined during Phase I as part of the 45 acre Survey Area E. A three acre patch of Survey Area E had recently been plowed for planting potatoes. Except in this recently plowed portion where surface visibility was 100%, the overall visibility was poor. Thus, both surface collection and subsurface methods were utilized. A systematic surface collection was conducted along transects spaced at 5 meter intervals and at 1 meter intervals in the recently plowed area. Subsurface testing included the excavation of 289 shovel test pits (STPs) placed at 20 meter intervals in those portions of Survey Area E having at least moderate potential for containing archeological resources, and at 40 meter intervals in a wood lot which was considered to have low potential. A 1 X 1 meter test unit was also excavated, but was in a portion of Area E ultimately determined to be part of a different site (see synopsis report for 18PR424).

A total of 49 artifacts were encountered during Phase I work, the majority of which are related to the historic occupation of the site. The Phase I assemblage included 1 activity item (a chisel fragment), 21 architectural artifacts (12 fragments of window glass, 4 wire nails, 4 unidentified nails, and a roofing tack), 26 kitchen-related artifacts (1 pearlware sherd, 1 buff-bodied earthenware sherd, 2 whiteware sherds, 1 piece of demi-porcelain, 4 redware fragments, 1 blue/gray stoneware sherd, 1 glass jar lid fragment, 14 bottle glass fragments, and an animal bone), and 1 miscellaneous object (an unidentified piece of glass).

The artifacts evidenced occupation of the site during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The only artifact pre-dating the Civil War was the transfer-printed pearlware sherd. It was thought that Site 18PR145 might represent the primary residence of a member of the Prator family, or a tenant-occupied farmstead owned by the Prator's who might have lived elsewhere. Because the foundations on-site were concrete, it is likely that 18PR425 underwent some modifications which may have compromised the integrity of earlier deposits, however, it was not possible to determine just how severe the disturbance was utilizing Phase I methods. Thus, Phase II testing was recommended for 18PR425.

Researchers returned to the site in October of 1992 to begin carrying out Phase II testing operations. Field testing included the excavation of STPs systematically placed at 7.62 meter (25 ft) intervals across the site area. Density maps were then generated and used to identify the locations of in-ground foundations and other types of features which once supported the above-ground components of the site. Backhoe trenches were then excavated in order to: 1) expose portions of features, 2) get accurate dimensions for foundations, as well as to get 3) accurate assessments of the materials used in their construction, 4) their depth, and 5) the likely function(s) of the structures which they supported. Machine stripping was then followed by the excavation of formal test units to determine the depth of building foundations and to see if any primary deposits useful for functional interpretation could be located. All hand excavated soil matrices (STPs and test units within trenches) were screened through hardware cloth to insure standardized artifact recovery and comparable data sets. All excavated blocks, shovel test pits, and units were backfilled after recordation, which included field notes, mapping of features and site stratigraphy, and photodocumentation.

A total of 55 STPs were excavated across the site during Phase II work., and 39 of these tests yielded artifacts. A total of 85.34 linear meters (280 ft) of 1.22 meter (4 ft) wide trenches and several small excavation units in blocks totaling 157.94 square meters (1,700 sq ft) of horizontal exposure, were excavated with a backhoe and cleaned off with shovels and trowels. This amounted to a 7% sample of the total site area. A total of 227 artifacts were recovered from the site during Phase II work and the aforementioned foundation features were relocated and examined further.

The artifacts from the Phase II work at 18PR425 include 9 activity items, 93 architectural artifacts, 2 clothing items (a brass grommet and a 4-hole shell button), 1 furniture object (a stove fitting), 49 kitchen-related artifacts, 1 personal artifacts (a pen knife), 4 arms artifacts (3 brass .22 shell casings and a 12 gauge shotgun shell), and 66 miscellaneous objects. The activity items were a reflector from a candlestick, 2 possible barrel hoops, and iron coal chisel, an iron railroad spike, a small horseshoe, and 3 redware flower pot fragments. The architectural remains included 26 window glass fragments, 2 cut nails, 18 wire nails, 43 unidentified nails, a wire brad, 1 nut/bolt conglomerate, 1 bolt/washer conglomerate, and a ceramic sewer pipe fragment. Kitchen-related artifacts were 25 ceramic sherds (2 creamware, 13 white earthenware, 1 buff-bodied stoneware, 5 gray salt-glazed stoneware, 2 vitreous china, & 2 redware), 20 glass fragments (5 lids/lid liners, 1 glass jar fragment, & 14 bottle fragments), 1 sawed beef bone, 1 piece of shell, 1 spoon part, and 1 food mill part. The miscellaneous objects were 1 unidentified metal objects, 54 pieces of unidentified glass, and a piece of shaped ironstone rock. In addition to the above historic artifacts, 2 prehistoric artifacts (a quartz biface base, and a quartz flake) were also encountered.

Phase II work largely supports the characterization of 18PR425 as a 19th and 20th century farmstead. The evidence suggests that the site was established sometime around 1880. This suggests that the concrete foundations may be original. The excavations also suggest a total absence of primary deposits and evidence of extensive disturbance of the site during the demolition of the former structures. Additionally, the shallowness of the foundations associated with



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structures suggests that most features (which would not have extended as deeply into the soil as a foundation) can be expected to have been destroyed. The site does not appear to possess any physical integrity. It should not be considered likely to have any research potential or to yield any significant data regarding Maryland history. Much of the site today has been further impacted by the construction project that led to Phase I and Phase II work in the 1990s.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006705, 00006712