



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR45

Site Name: Briggs Chaney

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

prehistoric lithic scatter

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 12

SCS soil & sediment code loA

Latitude 39.0673

Longitude -76.9303

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 64 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) Intermittent stream

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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?

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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR45

Site Name: Briggs Chaney

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

prehistoric lithic scatter

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

Earthenware		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stoneware	
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"/>	Porcelain	<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	10	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	1	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"/>	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

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input 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	<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"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input 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: +/- 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: 18PR45

Site Name: Briggs Chaney

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

prehistoric lithic scatter

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Briggs Chaney (18PR45) is a prehistoric lithic scatter north of Beltsville in Prince George's County. The site is situated on a small terrace adjacent to a tributary of Little Paint Branch (a tributary of the Anacostia River). At the time of the site's discovery in 1970, it was situated in an agricultural field. By the time of the first professional examination of the site in 1996, that agricultural field was fallow and overgrown with ragweed, briars, and other scrub plants. Soils at the site are luka silt loams.

The site was recorded by MHT in 1970 based on the report of a local collector and Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) member. The site form records finds including quartz flakes, a broken gray chert point, and a rhyolite biface recovered from the surface shortly after the plowing of the field. A very general description and map of the site location is also recorded.

The site was first examined by a professional archeologist in 1996 as part of a combined Phase I/II testing program. Excavation was carried out due to the (then) impending development of the "Cross Creek" tract: farmland which was to be developed into a golf course, country club, and community of single-family homes. During the process of developing the property, a Federal Wetland permit was requested. This initiated a cultural resources review by MHT, who requested investigation of 18PR45 in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

This project was approached as a Phase II on a known archeological site. Initially, the plan called for a series of relatively close-interval shovel test pits (STPs) to determine the horizontal and vertical extent of the site. Excavation units would then be placed in areas most likely to contain in situ deposits. It became apparent immediately upon initiation of fieldwork that the size of the site shown on the archeological site form from 1970 was a gross overstatement. In order to locate the site, it became necessary to shift from a Phase II strategy to a Phase I approach.

Shovel test intervals were expanded from the planned 7.62 m (25 ft) to 15.24 m (50 ft) and placed on a north/south alignment. The point of origin for laying out this grid was a single STP dug judgmentally in what appeared to be a likely location for the site. A single projectile point fragment was recovered from this STP. The 15.24 m STPs were then excavated across the entire landform. Shovel tests were laid out with a tape and compass. Pin flags were used to mark shovel test locations. Excavation proceeded in natural stratigraphic levels. All soil was screened through hardware cloth and all artifacts found were bagged in Ziploc bags marked with appropriate provenience information.

With only one additional artifact (debitage) identified in an STP adjacent to the origin point STP, it was determined that these finds must represent the site. Shovel tests were then dug around these two STPs at the originally-planned 7.62 m intervals. With a total of 59 shovel test pits excavated during the 1996 study, no additional materials were found. Based on these findings, 18PR45 was estimated to be roughly 22.86 X 15.24 m (75 X 50 ft) in size. Within this area, two 61 X 91 cm (2 X 3 ft) excavation units were dug. Excavation units were dug in stratigraphic levels. All soil was screened through hardware cloth and all artifacts were saved for study.

The southernmost of the excavation units produced only two additional artifacts: a rhyolite flake and a quartz core. The northernmost unit produced three artifacts: 2 quartz flakes and a small fragment of fire-cracked rock. All artifacts in both units were found in the plowzone. Plow scars were clearly visible in both units and the interface between the plowzone and subsoil was distinct. No cultural features (other than the plowscars) were found.

Site 18PR45 is a small prehistoric site. No temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered. The total number of artifacts was small and all artifacts were found exclusively in the plowzone. Coupled with the small size of the site, it is interpreted that this is a procurement site unlikely to contain subsurface features. The site has little potential to address research questions related to Maryland prehistory and is not a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006778, Site Files