



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR466 Site Name: Shadrack Beall Farmstead

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description: late 18th-early 20th century farmstead ruin

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 39.0386 Longitude -76.9478
Elevation 86 m Site slope

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8 SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal Terrestrial site Underwater site

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) Paint Branch

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 400 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 Y
- ca. 1630 - 1675 Y
- ca. 1675 - 1720 Y
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820 Y
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American Y
- 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	Furnace/forge <input type="checkbox"/>	Military	Post-in-ground <input type="checkbox"/>																																												
Urban/Rural? Rural <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Battlefield <input type="checkbox"/>	Frame-built <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																																												
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Interpretive Sampling Data:

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

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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR466

Site Name: Shadrack Beall Farmstead

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 18th-early 20th century farmstead ruin

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	2	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	16	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	181	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	5	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	99	Pearlware	180			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	2	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"/>	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 type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Numerous features containing diagnostic historic artifacts

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	621	Activity item(s)	30
Glass (all)	571	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	723	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	4	Misc. kitchen	59
Arms	13	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	4	Misc.	91
Personal items	3	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" 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: 18PR466

Site Name: Shadrack Beall Farmstead

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

late 18th-early 20th century farmstead ruin

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Shadrack Beall Farmstead, 18PR466, is the ruins of a late 18th through early 20th century farmstead in the White Oak area of northern Prince George's county. The site is located on the property of the US Army Research Lab's Adelphi Laboratory Center near the Prince George's/Montgomery County line. The surrounding landscape is an upland setting characterized by knoll tops and finger ridges dissected by small drainages. The site itself is situated on the eastern aspect of a ridge overlooking an unnamed northern Tributary of Paint Branch. It is immediately adjacent to and east of one of the large flat ridge tops in the area and thus would have been on a slope next to an agricultural field. Soils at the site are primarily Beltsville silty loams.

The site was examined in the spring of 1995 during the course of a Phase I project on the Army's Adelphi Laboratory Center; recently acquired from the Naval Surface Warfare Center. The parcel on which the survey work was carried out was to be used for a wastewater containment pond, an administrative building, and a parking lot. These improvements would almost certainly impact archeological resources in the construction area and, hence, a Phase I survey and subsequent Phase II testing were carried out.

The Phase I survey entailed the excavation of shovel test pits (STPs) across the parcel at 30 meter intervals. Transects were laid out perpendicular to a road that crosses the property from north to south. Once the presence of 18PR466 was detected, shovel tests were excavated at a closer 10 meter interval on the same survey grid. Additional judgmental shovel tests were placed at lesser distances based on surface concentrations of artifacts and other factors. This strategy resulted in the excavation of 35 shovel tests within the boundaries of 18PR466. Twenty of these shovel tests were positive for cultural remains. The greatest frequencies of artifacts occur around a soil depression and chimney ruin. Other cultural remains evident on the surface included remnants of brick and stone wall foundations, cement stairs, pavement, a metal buggy frame with a large tree growing through it, and several small soil depressions that may represent outbuildings. Many of the cultural materials recovered date to the 18th and 19th centuries.

The phase I assemblage from 18PR466 included 78 architectural artifacts, 81 kitchen-related artifacts, 1 tobacco-related artifact (a pipe bowl), and 9 miscellaneous objects. The architectural objects were 21 cut nails, 27 unidentified nails, 22 window glass fragments, and 8 pieces of brick. Kitchen-related artifacts included 40 ceramic sherds (6 creamware, 16 pearlware, 4 whiteware, 8 redware, 1 porcelain, and 5 miscellaneous stoneware), 14 pieces of bottle glass, 1 canning jar lid liner, and 26 faunal remains. The 9 miscellaneous items were a lump of coal, 3 unidentified glass fragments, and 5 pieces of metal. Based on these findings, the site was included when the project moved to a Phase II level of inquiry.

Researchers returned to the site later in the year to conduct Phase II testing, involving extensive archival research and the excavation of fifteen 1 X 1 m test units. Archival work revealed that the architectural features are likely what remains of the Shadrack Beall and Edward Marlow farmstead. Site 18PR466 is located on land patented in 1732 to John Beall, son of Robert Beall of Scotland, known as "Chance" (part of the original Calvert land grant). It is suspected that John Beall did not take up the land, since in 1768, Beall's son Shadrack petitioned to have "Chance" resurveyed to include additional land to the southeast that remained vacant. The tract, known as "Chance Enlarged", included a total of 256.75 acres.

It is not known when Shadrack Beall took up residence on the tract of land known as "Chance Enlarged", but he was certainly there by 1798, when his farm was recorded for a federal tax assessment. At that time, Beall owned 98 acres of "Chance" (all of the original patent), 78 acres of "Chance Enlarged", and all 54 acres of a tract known as "Graney's Champion". The tax assessment reports his dwelling as a log structure 4.88 X 4.88 m (16 X 16 feet). Outbuildings included two log structures 3.05 X 4.27 m (10 X 14 ft) and 3.05 X 3.66 m (10 X 12 ft), and another structure measuring 9.75 X 6.71 m (32 X 22 feet). It is not known for certain if this dwelling is the same one that is located at Site 18PR466. However, based on subsequent deeds, tax assessments, and other records, there is no evidence that there was another dwelling on the property. The assessment also notes that Beall owned one slave.

The 1810 census reports that Shadrack Beall's household included two women 16-25 years old, one woman between 26 and 45 years old, and one woman 45 years of age or older. He also owned one slave. Beall made his will in 1820, leaving his estate to his wife, Agnes, during her lifetime, after which it was to be divided equally among 7 of his children. Agnes lived in the house until her death prior to 1833. In that year, Edward Marlow, who married Shadrack's daughter Tabitha, began to purchase the interest of the other 6 heirs of Shadrack Beall. Marlow resided on the property until his death in 1843. In his will, he left the property to his wife for her natural life, after which it was to be divided among his brother and two sisters or, if they did not survive him, their daughters. His will also provided that after his wife's death his slaves were to be manumitted, if allowed by Maryland state law, and if not, they were to be, "sold to persons of their choosing and at a reasonable valuation." Two of Marlow's siblings did not outlive him and left several children who were minors or could not be located at the time of his death. As a result, his estate was tied up in legal proceedings for several years until it was sold to William B. Davis in 1871.

Davis apparently never took up the land or paid taxes on it, and in 1877 the property reverted to Equity Court, where it was again advertised for sale at auction. A newspaper clipping advertises the property to include "a small dwelling house, stable, meat house, &c". It notes that the land was, "well adapted to the growth of corn, wheat, grass, and other crops usually raised in that section of the county". During the late 19th and early 20th century, the property was owned by a number of individuals described in the full site report, until it was sold to the US Government in 1946.

Phase II fieldwork entailed the investigation of a 70 X 50 meter area utilizing fifteen 1 X 1m test units. All soils from the excavated test units were screened through hardware cloth. There is no evidence of general disruption of the deposits at the site such as would occur with plowing. The structures that were present at the site, appear to have been dismantled in an attempt to salvage materials prior to the property's acquisition by the government. The sediments around the site are unusually deep for a historic site, probably because of its construction on a slight slope to the east. This resulted in a colluvial situation in the yard, with mounding of sediments on the uphill (west) side of the house.

Hundreds of artifacts were collected during test excavations. They consisted of metal (mostly cut nails), ceramics of 18th to 20th century vintage, glass (including 18th century wine bottle fragments), and coins. Four previously unidentified features were encountered during Phase II work. These included wall foundations, the bottom of a cellar or cistern, and the bottom of a presumed smokehouse. A collection of 19th century bottles was found under and within a Portland cement step. This and other evidence suggest that the house was remodeled or rebuilt between 1890 and 1920. Some machine-made bricks appear to have been used in piers for an east-side porch during remodeling as the aforementioned chimney was composed of handmade brick.

The complete Phase II artifact assemblage consisted of 30 activity items, 645 architectural artifacts, 4 clothing objects (3 buttons, and 1 buckle), 4 furniture objects (trunk hardware and 2 possible clock gear fragments), 900 kitchen related artifacts, 3 personal artifacts (a decorative comb, and 2 coins), 5 tobacco-



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR466

Site Name: Shadrack Beall Farmstead

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

late 18th-early 20th century farmstead ruin

Unknown

related artifacts (2 pipe bowls, 3 pipe stems), 13 arms artifacts, and 82 miscellaneous objects. In addition to the historic remains, a prehistoric scraper and a flake were also recovered. The historic activity items include 19 fragments of lamp chimney glass, 1 kaolin marble, 4 slate fragments (possible chalk board pieces), a shovel part, a large nut, and 4 horse and wagon hardware parts. Architectural artifacts were 204 cut nails, 25 wire nails, 10 wrought nails, 93 unidentified nails, 3 corroded iron spikes, 242 pieces of window glass, 42 fragments of brick, 5 pieces of mortar, 10 plaster fragments, 10 asphalt shingles, and an iron pipe. The kitchen-related assemblage contained 581 ceramic sherds (93 creamware, 164 pearlware, 177 whiteware, 2 ironstone, 16 Jackfield, 75 redware, 3 Rockingham, 4 porcelain, 12 unidentified earthenware, and 35 miscellaneous stoneware), 282 pieces of bottle glass, 4 canning jar lid liners, 26 faunal remains, and 7 peach pits. The arms objects were twelve .22 caliber shell casings and a single .32 caliber casing. The miscellaneous objects were 42 pieces of coal, 2 charcoal samples, 3 unidentified glass fragments, and 35 pieces of metal.

The age of the artifacts assemblage from 18PR466 and condition of the site suggest that it was intensively occupied during the Antebellum period and less so during and after the Civil War. This conforms to the period during which the middling planters Shadrack Beall and Edward Marlow maintained households on the property, beginning (at the latest) by 1798 and ending in 1843. There was an apparent resurgence of interest in the property around 1900 that resulted in the remodeling of the buildings. Placing this in its historical context, this may have been based on a resurgence of agriculture spurred by the availability of horse manure from Washington DC.

A relatively uniform distribution of artifacts was noted across the site, conforming to the Brunswick (Germanic/British) model of discarding refuse. Examination of the chimney ruin reveals that the house was constructed with a large central chimney, suggesting an architectural heritage from the English north midlands or Scotland, but not the Wessex area of England, where the end-chimney structures typical of Tidewater Virginia originate. Thus, the archeology supports the historical background research which indicates that the Bealls were ethnically of Scots origin.

The kitchen and related food preparation and storage facilities, including a smoke house, were located on the north side of the house. There appear to be large lintels in the chimney facing north. A cellar south of the house may have been used to store fruits, including peaches. Indications that the Bealls processed their own food rather than purchased it imply that they participated in the subsistence-based economy rather than the tobacco economy. This would be anticipated since they did not possess quantities of land suitable for tobacco nor soils of siliceous parentage, from which the preferred qualities of tobacco were grown.

Again, no evidence of significant subsurface disturbance was identified, although some units showed evidence of disturbance from remodeling and demolition. The site was occupied as early as the late 18th century and contains a high density of artifacts, midden deposits, and intact structural features. The site is associated with a well-documented Colonial period family whose economic status, middling planter, is a major focus of research in the Chesapeake Bay area. Based on these factors, the site has significant research potential and warrants further work, should future construction threaten the site. It appears that plans were altered regarding the construction of the office building, parking lot, and waste water facility and currently steps have been taken to preserve the site in place.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006755