



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR478

Site Name: Area D-1, Site E

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Mid 18th-Early 19th plantation house site, 19th century farmstead, Late Archaic-Middle & Late Woodland camps

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code BaB,CrD

Latitude 38.7044

Longitude -76.9707

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 2-15%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Pisca

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 14 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Archaic site

MD Adena

Early archaic

Early woodland

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

Late archaic

Late woodland

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 prehistoric 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? 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 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"/>	1	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		Staffordshire		Stoneware		
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	24	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"/>	285			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	<input type="checkbox"/>	234	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	44	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>		Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	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

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

Dated features present at site

Numerous features containing diagnostic historic artifacts

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related		
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	3619	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	2551	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	4286	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	24	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

Const feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input checked="" 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



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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18PR478 (also called Area D-1, Site E) is a multi-component site evidencing occupation during both the prehistoric and historic periods. The site is located near the village of Piscataway in southern Prince George's County, Maryland. It is situated in an agricultural field along a dirt farm lane on the edge of an upland plateau. The main portion of the site lies on a terrace that extends in an easterly direction towards 18PR476 (see synopsis report). This terrace is located above a low-order stream that feeds into Piscataway Creek. The northern edge of the site is within a grassy, overgrown area surrounding the ruins of a two-storey frame tenant house constructed during the late-19th or early 20th centuries.

Archeological attention was first paid to the site in 1993, when a Phase I archeological survey was conducted at the site and in the surrounding area. The survey was part of a long-term residential housing development project on a large tract known as the "Bailey Property". The 878 acre development site is adjacent to the historic village of Piscataway. An archeological survey of the development area was required prior to obtaining a grading permit for a new access road, as required by the Prince George's County's Planning Board. An archeological survey, as well as evaluation of standing structures on the property was requested by the Maryland Historical Trust as a condition of approval for a wetlands permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The Phase I survey identified 18PR478 as a multi-component site with both prehistoric and historic occupations. The site boundaries enclosed an area of approximately 10,000 square meters or 2.5 acres. Phase I investigations within and in the vicinity of 18PR478 included transect surface collection and shovel test pit (STP) excavation. The transect surface collection was laid out in 20 meter intervals between north-south transects, with collections made from 3 meter diameter areas spaced at 10 meter intervals along these transects. Artifacts were also collected when noticed between the circular collection units. In addition, 23 shovel test pits were placed to examine the stratigraphy within the site as defined by the surface collection and 6 STPs were placed at 20 meter intervals around the tenant house at the north end of the site.

The prehistoric component consisted of a moderate lithic scatter clustered in the southern portion of 18PR478. The lithic scatter included 1 quartzite biface, 6 cores, 13 flakes, 9 pieces of shatter, and 21 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The recovery of fire-cracked rock in these quantities suggested that the site was used as a campsite during an undetermined prehistoric period.

The historic assemblage consisted of 130 historic artifacts collected from the field, and many additional bricks and brick fragments observed on the surface which were not retained. Kitchen artifacts make up the majority of the historic assemblage (87 objects) and include 14 whiteware sherds, 7 redware sherds, 6 Westerwald sherds, 4 Buckley sherds, 4 sherds of tin-enamelled earthenware, 4 imported grey stoneware sherds, 3 white salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 3 domestic brown stoneware sherds, 2 pearlware sherds, 2 domestic grey stoneware sherds, and one sherd each of white slip-dipped stoneware, British Brown, Whieldon vegetable ware, Staffordshire manganese mottled, Rhenish brown, Jackfield, creamware, unidentified early refined earthenware, slipware, industrial stoneware, and late porcelain. The 27 other kitchen items are not enumerated in the report. One transportation-related activity item was encountered. Thirty-nine architectural artifacts were recovered, including 6 hand-wrought rose head nails. Two furniture items and 1 arms object complete the Phase I historic assemblage. The combination of domestic and architectural material suggested to researchers that the site was the location of a homestead and/or outbuildings.

The Phase I researchers recommended that further investigations be conducted to evaluate the significance of 18PR478, based on the ability of the site to contribute substantive information on the development of Prince George's County. Researchers returned to the site in 1997 to conduct Phase II testing as part of the same housing development project. Methods for the Phase II investigation of 18PR478 included archival research, controlled surface collection, and the excavation of stratigraphic 1 X 1 meter test units. The extent and placement of Phase II investigations was based on a review of the results of the Phase I survey.

Archival research conducted during the Phase II research project revealed that the site is situated along the boundary between two 17th century land patents: "Partnership", a ca. 110 acre tract patented by William Hutchinson and Moses Jones in 1695, and "Thomas His Chance", the western half of which was purchased by Moses Jones in 1699. Most of the site lies within the Thomas His Chance tract. That the land was occupied by Jones is indicated by his will of 1704, which left his son Thomas "the Plantation I now dwell upon called "Thomas Chance". The will and an inventory of his personal property following his death in 1705 indicate that in 1704-1705 Moses' household included himself, his wife Elizabeth, three underage sons (John, Thomas, and Notley), three daughters (Jane, Elizabeth, and Anne), and at least two enslaved individuals. The will also indicated that there were two plantations within his landholdings. Again, "Thomas Chance" was left to his son Thomas, while the other plantation was left to his wife Elizabeth. The will stipulated that his wife Elizabeth had, "the use of the Plantation where William Halting did live as long as she keeps herself a widow...". It is not clear whether Halting was a tenant on part of the Jones' land or the former landholder of a recently-purchased tract.

Moses' wife stayed a widow only two years. She married Edward Edelen around 1707. The estate of Moses Jones was not settled for 26 years after his death. Administrative accounts on his estate were filed in 1708, 1715, 1725, 1726, 1727, and 1731. These may provide interesting information, but were not examined during the Phase II archival review. The main plantation dwelling on Thomas His Chance passed through ownership by Moses' sons Thomas and then Notley. Both brothers died sometime before 1727 without fathering children and the land passed to their married sisters. In 1727, the sisters sold the tract to Edward Edelen, their widowed mother's husband. Edelen had purchased the eastern half of Thomas His Chance in 1713, when he likely moved his residence to the area. Between 1727 and 1886 the land was part of a large plantation called Edelen's Mount or Mount Air that was owned by various members of four successive generations of the Edelen family. They worked this land with the labor of the family and enslaved African-Americans. Existing records list between 14 and 41 enslaved people living on the plantation during the Edelens' occupancy. The documents do not shed light on exactly where within the plantation the Edelens lived prior to 1830 nor whether the slaves lived in a structural complex in close proximity to the Edelen family or in a geographically-distinct residential quarter. After about 1830, the main Edelen dwelling was adjacent to the village (the extant Edelen House - MIHP # PG:84-6). See the synopsis report for 18PR521 for more information on other members of the Edelen family; possible relatives.

Mid-nineteenth century historic maps do not indicate a structure in the location of 18PR478, although they do show Horace Edelen's residence (the extant Edelen House) on the southeast edge of Piscataway village. Later 19th century maps and early 20th century maps also do not show structures in the location of the site. However, aerial photographs and maps from the 1930s on show the extant structure in the northern portion of 18PR478.

The metric grid established at the start of the Phase I investigations could not be recreated at the start of the Phase II investigations because the datum had



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been placed within a plowed area. The approximate boundaries of the site could be identified from the maps produced during Phase I work using the extant tenant house and treelines as reference points. A new grid oriented to true north was established for provenience control during the Phase II investigations.

The Phase II field evaluation of 18PR478 started in May 1997 with a controlled surface collection in order to define the site boundaries and the site's internal structure. The field had been plowed, disked, and planted with squash in early May. Following sufficient rainfall, all artifacts visible on the disked surface were collected in contiguous 3 meter square provenience units. Observed brick concentrations were noted, but only samples of brick fragments were collected from these concentrations.

Stratigraphic test units were then excavated to evaluate the stratigraphic integrity of the site, to obtain a sample of artifacts and features from the activity or activities represented at the site, and to test the internal variability of the site. Test units were 1 meter square and were excavated by recognizable soil layers in 10 cm horizontal levels, when layers were thicker than 10 centimeters. The exception to this practice was excavation of any plowzone, which was removed as a single layer that was not subdivided into 10 cm arbitrary horizontal levels. Excavation of test units generally continued to 10 cm below the lowest level where cultural remains were expected. After completion of each stratigraphic excavation unit, at least one wall of the unit was trowelled, cleaned, photographed, and had a measured drawing made. All excavated soil was screened through hardware cloth. When soil anomalies with any possibility of being cultural features were encountered, they were photographed, then drawn and mapped in plan view before being sectioned. Generally, half of the anomaly was removed, which enabled any internal stratification to be observed.

Test unit placement focused on those areas within the site in which a high density of artifacts had been identified in preliminary analysis of the information from Phase I and in the Phase II controlled surface collection. In total, 8 stratigraphic test units were placed within 18PR478. The majority were placed in areas of historic artifact concentration. Local sources had indicated that a well was once located at the crest of the topographic rise near a concentration of brick. This feature was reportedly filled in sometime during the last 20 years. Two units were placed in areas of high historic artifact density near the possible location of this well (TU 3 and TU 5). Two series of hand auger holes were also drilled in separate efforts to find the well. The results of one of these augerings indicated a deep fill layer. A third and fourth test unit (TU 6 and TU 7) were placed adjacent to this auger hole. It was determined upon completion of those units that the augering had by chance been drilled directly into a ca. 1990s geophysical test bore. One test unit (TU 1) was placed in an area of moderate-to-heavy 18th century artifact recovery downslope (north) of the rise. Another unit (TU 4) was excavated in a low density area on the rise.

Two test units were placed specifically to test the prehistoric component of the site. One unit (TU 8) was placed in an area containing a concentration of fire-cracked rock, in order to investigate the possible presence of a hearth feature. Another unit (TU 2) was placed in the far southeast corner of the site near a scatter of lithic material recovered during the Phase I transect surface collection and STPs, and the Phase II controlled surface collection.

In total, 135 prehistoric artifacts were collected during the Phase II investigations. These were predominantly waste materials from stone tool production and/or maintenance. The Phase II prehistoric assemblage consisted of 3 projectile points, 8 bifaces, 5 cores, 46 flakes, 48 pieces of shatter, 9 pieces of "blocky" shatter, and 16 fragments of fire-cracked rock. Three temporal diagnostics were found: a Late Woodland Madison point and two side-notched points, one of which is similar to the Halifax type while the other is similar to the Brewerton type. Both the Brewerton and the Halifax types date to the Late Archaic.

All three lithic raw materials represented in the collection could have been obtained from local gravels. Among the debitage, 35% (38 objects) of the pieces have retained cortex. This percentage of cortex implies that tool re-sharpening and re-hafting was a more prevalent activity on this site than initial tool production. The distribution of prehistoric artifacts indicated that the prehistoric component extended east along the southern end of the terrace. A concentration of fire-cracked sandstone and quartz was observed in this area, but not collected, and the test unit placed to investigate the concentration did not encounter subsurface features. However, the concentration may be indicative of a shallow hearth. In summary, a light scatter of prehistoric artifacts was found across the entire site, while a concentration of prehistoric artifacts is evident in the southeastern portion of the site. It appears that this landform was used intermittently by prehistoric peoples, with occupation at least during the Late Archaic and Late Woodland periods.

One historic feature, a pit measuring 1.52 meters in depth, was encountered as a result of the excavation of TU 5. The feature was determined not to be the well the researchers were hoping to locate here, because of its size. Instead, the excavation appears to have intersected a cellar hole associated with an earlier structure. A series of auger holes were drilled around the unit in a cross pattern. The auger testing revealed that the axis of the feature extended in an east/west direction, but definite boundaries were not established. The difficulty in establishing the boundaries of the feature lay in the similarity of the feature fill color to that of the upper subsoil in certain locations. Although the artifact content of the feature fill was not high, every excavated level contained fragments of brick, some almost whole. Artifacts in the fill included window glass, one large piece of Westerwald stoneware, oyster shell, quartz shatter, and a chunk of slag. A pipe stem was found at the base of the feature suggesting that it lay on the cellar hole floor prior to its in-filling.

In total, 1,659 historic artifacts were recovered from 18PR478 during Phase II excavations. This collection included the diversity expected on a domestic site: ceramics, glass, nails, hardware, animal bones, and personal items. The assemblage includes 17 activity items (2 glass marbles and 15 pieces of iron hardware), 481 architectural artifacts (199 fragments of brick, 2 pieces of mortar, a piece of roofing slate, 5 fragments of plaster, 166 window glass shards, 15 cut nails, and 93 unidentified nails), 1,066 kitchen-related artifacts (24 tin-glazed earthenware sherds, 3 combed slipware sherds, 2 Jackfield, 29 Buckley, 42 creamware, 56 pearlware, 216 whiteware, 56 white salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 1 scratch blue stoneware, 16 Rhenish, 245 other ceramic sherds, 7 glass lid liner fragments, 3 pieces of jar glass, 313 pieces of bottle glass, and 53 animal bones), 1 personal item (a porcelain figurine), 17 tobacco-related objects (clay pipe stems), 1 arms object (a gunflint), and 76 miscellaneous objects (39 unidentified iron fragments, 12 unidentified glass pieces, 2 chunks of slag, and 23 examples of recent material).

The historic artifacts possess manufacturing date ranges from the 17th century to the present. The quantities of temporally diagnostic types indicate that activity at the site has spanned three full centuries (the 18th – 20th). The surface collection revealed that historic artifacts are most dense on the west side of the site, contrary to the concentration of prehistoric artifacts which falls on the east side. The highest artifact density collection units were in the areas approaching the farm road and tenant house. Architecturally related artifacts are spread evenly across the site. This could be interpreted as debris from several structural locations. The cellar hole feature is located at the southern end of the historic concentration on the highest part of the topographic rise. The area around the partially-exposed feature has a high potential for the continued exposure of intact architectural features below ground surface. Four hand-wrought nails were collected during the Phase I surface collection in the northern portion of this concentration. This is suggestive of an additional structure location slightly downslope from the cellar hole.

Preserved horizontal patterning is evident in the distribution of domestic artifacts. There appear to be two distinct clusters of 18th century ceramics, one slightly north (downslope) of the other. Within the category of 18th century ceramics, the white salt-glazed stoneware and pearlware are fairly evenly spread



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across the two areas. The creamware, however, appears to be concentrated in the northern cluster. The Buckley, tin-glazed earthenware, and Rhenish stoneware distributions form small clusters within the two large 18th century clusters. Nineteenth century artifacts such as whiteware, yellowware, porcelain, and ironstone, are distributed evenly across the site.

The Phase II researchers determined that 18PR478 was eligible to the National Register of Historic Places based on its potential to yield important information on both prehistory and history. The site displayed both identifiable sub-plowzone cultural features and an integrity of horizontal patterning with the potential to allow detailed activity area and landscape reconstruction. Such reconstruction should shed new light on the lives of people inhabiting this area throughout the 18th and 19th centuries of the historic period and during the Late Archaic and Late Woodland periods of prehistory.

Archeological attention was again paid to the site in 2003, when a Phase III data recovery project was conducted as part of the same housing development work. Phase III investigations of the site included additional archival investigation, and the excavation of 10 STPs at 15 meter intervals (and excavated in 10 cm increments within natural strata), 9 mechanically excavated trenches, and additional wide-scale mechanical stripping to further define the historic site.

The additional archival research conducted as part of the Phase III work, for the most part, bolsters the interpretations made during the Phase II study. For a more detailed examination of the archival evidence, see the full site report. Primarily, however, the archival work suggests that 18PR478 was the old Edelen family dwelling. During most of the 18th century, this dwelling would have been occupied by James and Salome Edelen and their family. This plantation house was likely built on a promontory (hence the name "Edelen's Mount") in the early to mid 1700s (about the time James and Salome were married), and 18PR478 seems to fit the bill. The plantation was also called "Constitution Hill" for a few years around the time of the American Revolution. The oldest son of James and Salome, Edward, continued to reside there in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. When his youngest brother Joseph got married in 1788 he built a separate dwelling closer to Piscataway Village called Mount Airy. This house may have been in the same spot as the present Edelen House (MIHP # PG:84-6), which he transformed into a prominent manor house between 1824 and 1833 as his wealth and inheritance grew. Joseph may have lived elsewhere and moved to the Edelen House once construction was complete. In that case, the name Mount Airy seems to have carried over with him from one house to the next.

The remaining property history is relatively straightforward, and does not relate to substantial archeological remains found on the property. When Joseph died in 1833 there were disputes over his will. The estate eventually went up for sale, but Dr. Horace Edelen, Joseph's 5th son, purchased the property in 1835, which included the Edelen House and an adjacent 400 acres. The family still resided there. Horace's sister Mary Elizabeth was married in the house that same year, described as "Mount Air, Prince George's County". Dr. Horace Edelen continued to live in the house until his death in 1882, raising his family there. Horace Edelen was a physician, but continued to farm the land (the 400 acres) that included site 18PR478. Scattered 19th century artifacts from the site reflect this usage of the property. In 1850 the estate was worth \$15,000 and included 14 slaves. By the 1870s, the Civil War and the emancipation of slaves had reduced the value of Horace Edelen's estate considerably. He died in 1882 and his children sold the property. The property remained farmland throughout the 20th century until modern times and the beginning of the housing development project.

Fieldwork began with the establishment of the grid, followed by removal of topsoil. Soil was mechanically removed with a backhoe and gradall with an attached smooth-edged bucket. Once the soil was removed to just above subsoil, it was shovel-scraped in order to better expose and define cultural features. The locations of features and related observations were recorded on a map of the project area. A total of 2,145 square meters of plowzone was stripped to reveal cultural features. Documentation of features included mapping and photographing in both plan and profile views, and narrative notes on feature forms describing the features' shapes and dimensions, contents/inclusions, soil textures and colors, elevations, artifacts, samples, and interpretation/feature types. Large features (e.g. cellars) were sampled, with a minimum of 25% of the feature fill taken. Well-defined features were bisected unless very large, and then they were quartered or otherwise sub-sampled for better data control. All excavated feature soils were screened through hardware cloth, but no flotation analysis of feature matrix was conducted. A total of 157 features was identified, and these include historic cultural features (e.g., cellars and postholes), natural features (e.g., rodent burrows and decayed tree roots), and modern features (e.g., Phase II STPs and test units). No prehistoric cultural features were identified. A total of 12,793 artifacts was recovered during the Phase III investigations, including 98 prehistoric and 12,695 historic artifacts.

The prehistoric artifact assemblage from Phase III work at 18PR478 includes 1 projectile point, 5 bifaces, 9 cores, 43 flakes, 28 pieces of shatter, a groundstone object (possibly a pestle or celt), 7 fragments of fire-cracked rock, and 4 ceramic vessel sherds. The projectile point is an unfinished side-notched variety. The point cannot be assigned to a specific culture period due to its fragmentary nature; however, the side-notching suggest that it dates to the Late Archaic Period. Among the ceramic sherds, one is a possible Popes Creek rimsherd. The others are quartz tempered with eroded surfaces, but are otherwise untypeable. Again, the prehistoric inhabitants of the site show a preference for locally available stone (quartz and quartzite) for the manufacture of their tools.

Mechanical stripping of the plowzone during the Phase III investigation was conducted in areas of prehistoric artifact concentrations identified during the Phase II study. While over 2,145 square meters of plowzone were removed, no prehistoric features were identified. It is clear that the historic occupation at site 18PR478 disturbed the prehistoric occupations, as all of the prehistoric remains were recovered from plowzone and historic feature contexts. Horizontal integrity and artifact patterning identified during Phase II could not be substantiated or refuted because of the method of excavation. Since the focus of the Phase III investigations was on exposing cultural features (none that were prehistoric were identified), very little of the plowzone was sampled for artifacts. Interpretation of the prehistoric component and assessing the site's ability to address research questions on prehistory was therefore limited by the dataset.

It can be stated that 18PR478 contains 3 prehistoric components. A Late Archaic component is attested to by the recovery of two projectile points prior to data recovery (a Brewerton-like point and a Halifax-like point). In addition, one untypeable projectile point was recovered that likely dates to the Late Archaic Period. The second prehistoric component is an Early Woodland – early Middle Woodland occupation based on a single Popes Creek-like ceramic sherd. The sherd was recovered from an historic feature encountered during Phase III. The third prehistoric component is based on the recovery of one Madison projectile point during the Phase II study. This point dates to the Late Woodland period.

The majority of the prehistoric artifacts represent waste debris from manufacturing stone tools. It is not possible to associate the debitage with any one of the 3 components due to the mixed context. The majority of the prehistoric artifacts were quartz and quartzite with low percentages of chalcedony, chert, and rhyolite. While the prehistoric inhabitants were making and using tools from a variety of material types, there was an overwhelming preference for locally available materials such as quartz and quartzite. The chert was probably obtained locally in pebble form, while the chalcedony and rhyolite likely were obtained from sources to the north and west. The site was likely revisited repeatedly throughout the Late Archaic, Early Woodland, and Late Woodland Periods. The site possibly served as a resource procurement site for lithic, plant, and/or animal materials. The paucity of lithic debitage (compared to other sites) at 18PR478 suggests its primary function was not as a lithic reduction station.



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR478

Site Name: Area D-1, Site E

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

Mid 18th-Early 19th plantation house site, 19th century farmstead, Late Archaic-Middle & Late Woodland camps

Unknown

Based on the lack of features, as well as the removal of the plowzone in the areas of greatest prehistoric artifact concentration, the site likely has very limited future potential for answering question related to Maryland prehistory. The prehistoric components should not be considered significant archeological resources.

Two distinct historic occupations were recognized at 18PR478: an 18th to early 19th century occupation in the southeastern portion of the site and a late 19th century occupation associated with a standing structure and well in the northern portion of the site. The former is likely the remains of the dwelling house eventually known as Edelen's Mount and is represented by several historic features. As noted previously, 157 features were encountered during the Phase III investigation, the majority of which were postholes and/or postmolds. Approximately 22% (or 35 features) were non-cultural and included evidence of bioturbation (rodent burrows and decayed tree roots) as well as modern disturbances related to plowing of the site (e.g., plow scars). The remainder were historic or modern cultural features. These include a midden, 2 cellar remnants, 1 disturbed brick floor, a partial domestic structure, 2 historic fill episodes, 12 pits (including trash pits and brick-filled pits), 1 well, 3 trenches, 88 postmolds and postholes, 4 severely truncated features of unknown function, and 2 modern features (units from Phase II work). No prehistoric features were encountered.

A total of 12,695 historic artifacts was recovered from the site during Phase III investigations. The assemblage includes 106 activity items (18 pieces of lighting glass, a flower pot fragment, and 87 miscellaneous activity objects), 3,766 architectural objects (921 pieces of brick, 1 fragments of daub, 189 pieces of plaster, 213 fragments of mortar, 761 pieces of window glass, 574 wrought nails, 75 cut nails, 2 wire nails, 1,007 unidentified nails, fragments of slate, and 10 miscellaneous architectural items), 24 clothing-related artifacts (10 buttons, 1 buckle, 6 beads, 1 pair of scissors, and 6 straight pins), 6 furniture items (hardware), 8,420 kitchen-related artifacts (440 tin-glazed earthenware sherds, 83 Staffordshire slipware sherds, 120 slipware sherds, 23 Staffordshire manganese-mottled sherds, 19 Nottingham sherds, 317 Buckley sherds, 2 "Ralph Shaw" wares, 20 Whieldonware sherds, 19 Agateware sherds, 22 Jackfield sherds, 117 creamware sherds, 227 pearlware sherds, 10 ironstone sherds, 138 whiteware sherds, 2 yellowware sherds, 66 Rhenish gray stoneware sherds, 2 Rhenish brown stoneware sherds, 29 English Brown stoneware sherds, 404 white salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 23 American blue/gray stoneware sherds, 786 other ceramic sherds, 1,289 pieces of kitchen glass, 6 utensil parts, 3,507 animal bones, 730 pieces of shell, 18 miscellaneous faunal remains, and 1 nutshell), 10 personal items, 71 tobacco-related artifacts (59 pipe stems, 12 pipe bowls), 8 arms objects (6 gun flints, a .36 caliber Minié ball, and an R-P carbine shell casing), and 284 miscellaneous objects (83 charcoal fragments, 6 pieces of wood, and 195 miscellaneous items).

Again, two historic occupations are evident at 18PR478: an 18th to early 19th century occupation in the southeastern portion of the site (likely the planter's dwelling associated with the Edelen family) and a late 19th century occupation associated with the standing structure and well in the northern section. Since the northern structures are not deemed historically significant, the description below focuses on the planter's complex associated with the Edelens.

While no 18th century foundations or structures were identified, it appears the property contained an agricultural complex, including a planter's dwelling just off the top of the knoll and numerous outbuildings (perhaps five). The features primarily cluster in the southeastern portion of the site in the area of greatest artifact concentration. The dwelling is primarily represented by the two cellars. It is possible that the smallest cellar relates to the earliest occupations at the site and the larger cellar was added, perhaps when James Edelen's family grew to include 10 children and numerous servants and slaves. Conversely, it is possible that the cellars were constructed at the same time and split for functional reasons (e.g., food vs. supplies). The combined size of the cellars, including fill and midden areas, indicate the presence of a structure closely matching the historic references to Edward Edelen's house inherited from his father James. The many post features and large quantity of brick suggest the dwelling was a post-in-ground structure, possibly with brick piers and one or more brick chimneys. The recovery of daub may indicate the structure was finished with wattle and daub. This is consistent with the historic documents that indicate the house was wooden. A series of post features was identified on an east/west axis to the north of the cellars. It is assumed that some of these relate to the dwelling structure, although the axis is slightly off from that of the cellars. Evidence of repeated repair/replacement and a possible structure corner were also recognized.

A disturbed brick floor just north of the cellars is interpreted as an attached kitchen (but also may be a brick porch/patio). A break in the line of posts in this area could represent a doorway that lead from the main house into the kitchen. The presence of large bones in the disturbed brick floor feature suggests that initial meat processing was also occurring within this area, but there is no evidence that it served as a smokehouse. Artifact concentrations in this area fit well into the Brunswick pattern typical on British-American sites.

The front of the house likely faced south since very few features were found in this area. Conversely, the north and eastern sides of the house contained large quantities of features, suggesting that most domestic activities occurred in these areas. This pattern of plantation orientation has been observed on numerous notable plantations of the period throughout the Chesapeake region. The quantity of post features east of the house indicates that at least one and possibly two outbuildings were present in this area. Some of these may have been associated with food preparation as well. With the exception of one trash pi

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006780, 00005274, 97002239