



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR485

Site Name: Area F-1, Site A

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Prehistoric short-term camp

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 11

SCS soil & sediment code CwG, GgC, BaB

Latitude 38.6902

Longitude -76.9391

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 2-60%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Pisca

Saltwater

Freshwater

Ocean

Stream/river

Estuary/tidal river

Swamp

Tidewater/marsh

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 18 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
- 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

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
- Village
- Hamlet
- Base camp
- Rockshelter/cave
- Earthen mound
- Cairn
- Burial area
- Misc. ceremonial
- Rock art
- Shell midden
- STU/lithic scatter
- Quarry/extraction
- Fish weir
- Production area
- Unknown
- Other context

Historic

Urban/Rural?

Domestic

- Homestead
- Farmstead
- Mansion
- Plantation
- Row/townhome
- Cellar
- Privy

Industrial

- Mining-related
- Quarry-related
- Mill
- Black/metalsmith
- Furnace/forge
- Other

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

Flotation samples taken

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"/>	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"/>	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	69	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	5	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	1	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

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input checked="" 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

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



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Prehistoric

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Historic

Brief

Description: Prehistoric short-term camp

Unknown

Description:

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site 18PR485 (also called Area F-1, Site A), is a prehistoric lithic scatter of undetermined age. The site is located near the village of Piscataway in southern Prince George's County, Maryland. It is situated in a mature forest on a flat bluff top above and west of an intermittent stream. Soils at the site are primarily Beltsville silt loams.

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.

Survey work within and in the vicinity of 18PR485 was accomplished with shovel test pits (STPs). A grid of STPs was excavated at a 20 meter interval and then additional STPs were excavated at a 10 meter interval around positive STPs to examine the stratigraphy within the site and refine the site boundaries. A total of 20 prehistoric artifacts were recovered from 7 STPs, including 1 hammerstone, 9 flakes, 7 pieces of block/shatter, and 3 fire-cracked rock fragments. The majority of these artifacts were recovered from below the A horizon, suggesting the possibility of subsurface integrity. No historic artifacts were recovered during the Phase I survey. The survey results were interpreted to define 18PR485 as a camp or workstation that may be related to nearby Site 18PR487 (see synopsis report).

The researchers that conducted the Phase I work recommended that further investigations be conducted to evaluate the significance of 18PR485, based on the site's potential to contribute substantive information on prehistoric activity in southern Prince George's County. Researchers returned to the site in 1997 to conduct Phase II testing as part of the same housing development project.

The provenience-control grid used during the Phase I investigation was also used during the Phase II testing. Re-establishing the Phase I grid was facilitated by the clearly marked Phase I datum stake and the frequent discovery of Phase I flagging tape marked with grid coordinates at obvious surface depressions from the Phase I STPs. Phase II researchers (a different CRM firm than those that conducted Phase I work) discovered a grid mistake in the Phase I fieldwork which resulted in the mapped location of the site being 40 meters too far south. It was possible to determine that all positive STPs within the site were on the flat bluff top. Since the pattern of Phase I STPs was sufficient to define both site boundaries and the internal structure of the site, no further STPs were excavated during the Phase II testing.

Phase II work entailed the excavation of stratigraphic test units to evaluate the subsurface 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. Stratigraphic test units were 1 X 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. No soil anomalies were encountered, however, which were determined to be cultural in origin at 18PR485.

In total, two stratigraphic test units were placed within 18PR485. Test unit placement focused on an area within the site in which a high density of artifacts had been identified in a preliminary analysis of the information from the Phase I STPs. A Low density area was also sampled. Both test units were examined by a soil scientist. The soil profiles were determined to represent typical natural profiles for Beltsville soil: An A horizon overlying an E, BE, and Bt horizon.

The Phase II findings were not substantially different from what was recognized during Phase I work. In total, 55 prehistoric artifacts were collected during the Phase II investigations at 18PR485. The Phase II assemblage included 1 core, 29 flakes, 18 pieces of lithic shatter, 5 pieces of "blocky lithic shatter", and 2 fire-cracked rocks. The flaked lithics were quartzite (21 objects), chert (18), and quartz (16). None of the artifacts encountered (in either phase of research) is diagnostic of a particular period of prehistory. Based on the percentage of cortex present on lithic debris, primary lithic reduction and tool resharpening/hafting were the main activities at 18PR485. A light scatter of prehistoric artifacts was found across the entire site with no particular horizontal variation. The vertical distribution fits a pattern of downward movement within a natural soil profile.

The site appears to be approximately 2,700 m2 in extent. Archeological resources were limited to the upper horizons and no cultural features were encountered intruding into the older subsoil. Phase II work established that the second stratum (where the majority of Phase I artifacts were recovered) is an E horizon. The artifacts have moved down through the soil profile into this natural subsurface horizon over hundreds or thousands of years since the artifacts were deposited on the surface of this landform. The general horizontal patterning within the site has not been seriously impacted by this downward movement of artifacts. However, since no temporally diagnostic artifacts have been recovered from 18PR485, and cultural features have not been identified, additional work is unlikely to provide significant advances to our understanding of regional research issues. Thus, the site should not be considered a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006780, 00005274