



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18PR79

Site Name: South Church Road

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Late Archaic, Early Woodland, and Late Woodland short-term resource procurement camp

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 8

SCS soil & sediment code Mw

Latitude 38.8887

Longitude -76.7735

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 24 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) Black Branch

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Late archaic

Late woodland

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?

#### 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

Flotation samples taken

Other samples taken



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## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>	2
Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Prehistoric Sherd Types			
Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Popes Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Page	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	
Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>		1
Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historic Sherd Types			
<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Stoneware</b>			
English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Nottingham	<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		
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	25
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	4
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Prehistoric Features	
Mound(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lithic Material		
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Argilite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Steatite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sil 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

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

Historic Features		
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<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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Description:

Late Archaic, Early Woodland, and Late Woodland short-term resource procurement camp

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The South Church Road Site (18PR79) is a short-term resource procurement camp north of Upper Marlboro in Prince George's County. The site bears evidence of prehistoric occupation dating to the Late Archaic/Early Woodland, and Late Woodland time periods. The site is situated on the wooded floodplain of Black Branch, adjacent to the stream's confluence with one of its tributaries. The floral character of this setting consists of juvenile, deciduous trees and a dense ground cover of thick, vine and other low-growth plants. Soils at the site are primarily Collington and Wist sandy loams.

The site was first identified by local collector Dennis Webb in the early 1970s. According to MHT site files, the site measured 76 X 68 meters and was situated on the west bank of Black Branch. Dennis Webb's collection from the site included at least 1 Albemarle sherd, 1 Potomac Creek sherd, a likely Marcey Creek sherd, a possible Townsend sherd, a perforated steatite vessel fragment, an Orient Fishtail point, at least 2 Piscataway points, and debitage. The lithic artifacts were made from chert, rhyolite, quartz, and quartzite. The site was classified as a short-term resource procurement camp with Late Archaic/Early Woodland and Late Woodland components.

No known additional documentation took place at the site until it became clear that the site was going to be impacted by the construction of a new residential and golf course community. Survey of the 900+ acre Oak Creek Club property began in 1999, due to the developers' application for a wetland permit through the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment, which triggered Section 106 review of the country club plans. As a potentially significant site, 18PR79 was recommended for Phase II testing, which was carried out in November of 2004.

During archeological survey of the Oak Creek Club property between 1999 and 2004, two sites were identified in close proximity to the recorded location of 18PR79. To the east of this recorded location, on the other side of Black Branch, was Site 18PR674. Although the artifact recoveries of Site 18PR79 and 18PR674 were similar, their locations were obviously incompatible. On the same side of Black Branch as 18PR79 was recorded, 18PR667 was encountered, but in an upland location, rather than the purported floodplain environment of 18PR79. Very few lithics were recovered from 18PR667, indicating that they are probably not the same resource.

None of the surveys of the Oak Creek property were successful at relocating 18PR79. Thus, when Phase II testing was initiated in November of 2004, work began with a detailed examination of the west side of Black Branch where 18PR79 was supposed to be located. The plan for Phase II testing called for combined surface collection and shovel testing to relocate the site, followed by the excavation of formal test units.

No artifacts were recovered from the surface of the presumed site area.

An 18.3 m (60 ft) grid of 49 shovel test pit (STP) locations was then placed over the proposed site area. Three of these locations were left unexcavated because of poor drainage. STPs were excavated manually, using spade shovels and trowels. The STPs were also excavated stratigraphically in order to maintain vertical control over the artifacts recovered. The soils removed were dry-screened in the field using hardware cloth. Cultural materials recovered during the screening process were retained for analysis and bagged according to provenience (i.e. by site number, STP coordinate, and stratigraphic or feature designation). The resulting material recovery was plotted on a field map in order to display the distribution of artifacts. A soil profile was also prepared on a standardized form for each STP to document soil characteristics, strata depths, and artifacts recovered per stratum. Soils were described by texture and color using standard methods and nomenclature.

Of the 46 excavated locations, 9 of the STPs produced positive artifact recoveries. The collection included a total of 21 artifacts. Twenty of those retained for examination were classified as quartz, quartzite, rhyolite, and jasper primary and secondary waste. No time-sensitive artifacts were recovered. Only one of the shovel tests containing prehistoric materials was situated in the floodplain where Site 18PR79 was supposed to lie. The remaining 7 artifact-positive STPs were located in an upland area adjacent to the floodplain. With the possible exception of the lone floodplain find, the artifacts recovered during the Phase II appeared to be confined to the upper two strata classified as plowzone soils.

Because Site 18PR79 was unable to be relocated, no test units were excavated.

After reviewing site records relating to Webb's collecting activity and the earlier surveys of the Oak Creek property, it was determined that 18PR79 simply could not be relocated. Artifacts recovered during the Phase II project seemed more likely related to nearby Site 18PR667 (but are counted here due to uncertainty). Because 18PR79 was defined exclusively by surface collection in the 1970s, it is possible that the resource was either eroded and exposed or the result of alluvial processes depositing artifacts from elsewhere. Perhaps following its discovery, the site was destroyed by the flooding of Black Branch, essentially scouring the area of prehistoric materials. Alternatively, the precise location of 18PR79 may have been incorrectly reported to MHT.

In conclusion, although an attempt was made to evaluate Site 18PR79, the prehistoric resource could not be relocated. A determination of significance was, thus, not possible for the resource.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002244