



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18QU1038

Site Name: Wheatlands

Prehistoric

Other name(s) MIHP # QA-117

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late 17th-mid 20th century plantation; Middle Woodland short-term camp

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 5

SCS soil & sediment code MqA,MqB,UsB,

Latitude 38.9750

Longitude -76.1475

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-15%

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) Wye River

Saltwater	Freshwater
Ocean <input type="checkbox"/>	Stream/river <input type="checkbox"/>
Estuary/tidal river <input type="checkbox"/>	Swamp <input type="checkbox"/>
Tidewater/marsh <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/>
	Spring <input type="checkbox"/>

Minimum distance to water is 0 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 ca. 1860 - 1900 Y
- ca. 1675 - 1720 Y ca. 1900 - 1930 Y
- ca. 1720 - 1780 Y Post 1930 Y
- 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Battlefield <input type="checkbox"/>	Frame-built <input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fortification <input type="checkbox"/>	Masonry <input type="checkbox"/>
Homestead <input type="checkbox"/>	Canal-related <input type="checkbox"/>	Encampment <input type="checkbox"/>	Other structure <input type="checkbox"/>
Farmstead <input type="checkbox"/>	Road/railroad <input type="checkbox"/>	Townsite	Slave related
Mansion <input type="checkbox"/>	Wharf/landing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Religious	Non-domestic agri
Plantation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maritime-related <input type="checkbox"/>	Church/mtg house <input type="checkbox"/>	Recreational
Row/townhome <input type="checkbox"/>	Bridge <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ch support bldg <input type="checkbox"/>	Midden/dump
Cellar <input type="checkbox"/>	Ford <input type="checkbox"/>	Burial area	Artifact scatter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Privy <input type="checkbox"/>	Educational	Cemetery <input type="checkbox"/>	Spring or well
Industrial	Commercial	Sepulchre <input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown
Mining-related <input type="checkbox"/>	Trading post <input type="checkbox"/>	Isolated burial <input type="checkbox"/>	Other context <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quarry-related <input type="checkbox"/>	Store <input type="checkbox"/>	Bldg or foundation	Other context <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mill <input type="checkbox"/>	Tavern/inn <input type="checkbox"/>	Possible Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	refuse disposal <input type="checkbox"/>
Black/metalsmith <input type="checkbox"/>			

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples	Soil samples taken <input type="text"/> N	Historic context samples	Soil samples taken <input type="text"/> N
Flotation samples taken <input type="text"/> N	Other samples taken <input type="text"/>	Flotation samples taken <input type="text"/> N	Other samples taken <input type="text"/>



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Clovis	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Perkiomen <input type="text" value="0"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehana <input type="text" value="0"/>
Palmer	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Vernon <input type="text" value="0"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Piscataway <input type="text" value="0"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Calvert <input type="text" value="0"/>
Le Croy	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Selby Bay <input type="text" value="0"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jacks Rf (notch) <input type="text" value="2"/>
Guilford	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Jacks Rf (pent) <input type="text" value="0"/>
Brewerton	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Madison/Potomac <input type="text" value="0"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Levanna <input type="text" value="0"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek <input type="text" value="0"/>	Popes Creek <input type="text" value="0"/>	Shepard <input type="text" value="0"/>	Keyser <input type="text" value="0"/>
Dames Qtr <input type="text" value="0"/>	Coulbourn <input type="text" value="0"/>	Townsend <input type="text" value="0"/>	Yeocomico <input type="text" value="0"/>
Selden Island <input type="text" value="0"/>	Watson <input type="text" value="0"/>	Minguannan <input type="text" value="0"/>	Monongahela <input type="text" value="0"/>
Accokeek <input type="text" value="0"/>	Mockley <input type="text" value="0"/>	Sullivan Cove <input type="text" value="0"/>	Susquehannock <input type="text" value="0"/>
Wolfe Neck <input type="text" value="0"/>	Clemson Island <input type="text" value="0"/>	Shenks Ferry <input type="text" value="0"/>	
Vinette <input type="text" value="0"/>	Page <input type="text" value="0"/>	Moyaone <input type="text" value="0"/>	
		Potomac Crk <input type="text" value="0"/>	

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware	Ironstone <input type="text" value="0"/>	Staffordshire <input type="text" value="0"/>	Stoneware
Astbury <input type="text" value="0"/>	Jackfield <input type="text" value="0"/>	Tin Glazed <input type="text" value="0"/>	English Brown <input type="text" value="0"/>
Borderware <input type="text" value="0"/>	Mn Mottled <input type="text" value="0"/>	Whiteware <input type="text" value="0"/>	Eng Dry-bodied <input type="text" value="0"/>
Buckley <input type="text" value="0"/>	North Devon <input type="text" value="0"/>	Porcelain <input type="text" value="2"/>	Nottingham <input type="text" value="0"/>
Creamware <input type="text" value="0"/>	Pearlware <input type="text" value="0"/>		Rhenish <input type="text" value="0"/>
			Wt Salt-glazed <input type="text" value="1"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		
Other fired clay	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Flaked stone	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Human remain(s) <input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Modified faunal <input type="text" value="0"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Unmod faunal <input type="text" value="0"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text" value="21"/>	Oyster shell <input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material <input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Uncommon Obj. <input type="text" value="0"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s) <input type="text" value="0"/>	Storage/trash pit <input type="checkbox"/>
Midden <input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s) <input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden <input type="checkbox"/>	Ossuary <input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds <input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s) <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Hearth(s) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Lithic reduc area <input type="checkbox"/>	

Lithic Material

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

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		
Tobacco related	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text" value="6"/>	Activity item(s) <input type="text" value="1"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text" value="20"/>	Human remain(s) <input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="text" value="210"/>	Faunal material <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Misc. kitchen <input type="text" value="3"/>
Arms	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Floral material <input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Misc. <input type="text" value="0"/>
Personal items	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

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

brick clamp,
possible brick
rubble dump
locations



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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

18QU1038, also known as the Wheatland site, is located on the south side of US Route 50, 0.6 miles south of the town center of Queenstown, Maryland within the Maryland Archaeological Research Unit 5. The area incorporates two large agricultural fields bisected by a historical road lined with a row of trees on either side. Historically, this road is known to have provided access to the Wheatlands Plantation House (QA-117), which is no longer extant. The site is part of the Atlantic Coastal Plain with low relief topography, 2 to 7 meters AMSL, dissected by broad shallow valleys. The general topography of the area is flat with low relief, any surface drainage during rain events pools in shallow swells and surface water movement is generally sheet wash draining southward into the Wye River. The surface soils within the area are a mix of well-drained to poorly-drained soils. The early soil map for the area indicates that the property is dominated by silt loam, but a more recent soil survey of the entire Waterman property, on which Site 18QU1038 sits, indicates that the area encompasses a mixture of Matapeake-Butlertown silt loam, Othello silt loam, Unicorn-Sassafras loam, and Whitemarsh silt loam. In reference to the prehistory of the Delmarva region and the macro-Chesapeake Bay, the prehistory is broken-up into three major periods: the Paleo-Indian Period (circa 11,500 – 10,000 radiocarbon years B.P.), the Archaic Period (circa 10,000 – 3,000 radiocarbon years B.P.), and the Woodland Period (circa 3,000 – 400 radiocarbon years B.P.). Each one of these periods is marked by changes in human subsistence, technology, and social organization. The Kent Island and the Chester River watershed were occupied by Native American cultures at the time Europeans first explored the region. Some evidence suggests that the Spanish and other European explorers may have ventured up the Chesapeake Bay during the 16th century. However, at the time the English first explored the Chesapeake, the native groups had ephemeral occupations and settlements adjacent to the Wye River watershed. Through a deed search conducted by Applied Archaeology and History Associates for the Wheatland Manor property, on which 18QU1038 sits, the Wheatland Manor property can potentially be linked as far back as the 17th century to a land patent called "Neglect", secured by Henry Coursey Jr. It included 400 acres, and later was known as "Neglect Resurveyed" at 540 acres. Part of the land likely includes property owned by the Browne family, related to the Earl of Dundonald in Scotland. The Brownes had a mercantile business and likely had their warehouse on the property associated with the Wheatland Manor. The Browne family was extremely wealthy; according to the 1820 census, the Brownes had 42 people listed in the household: 12 free whites and 30 slaves. Charles Cochrane Browne, Jr. (C.C. Browne) was the first to use the "Wheatland" moniker. In 1839, the portion of Wheatlands plantation that included the area surveyed for the Phase I and II surveys that identified 18QU1038 was sold in Chancery Court. Thus, while the background research did not reveal any deed transfers among the Browne family as the property was passed from generation to generation, it is still possible to identify their ownership during the mid-19th century. In 1866, the Strong Map of Queen Anne's County Maryland shows a B. Sherwood living in the approximate location of the site. In 1877, the names C.I.B. Mitchell, Mrs. Wilson, and C.C. Brown; Mitchell was recorded as a neighbor on a previous map and Mrs. Wilson is likely to be Ellen E.M. Wilson, the sister of C.C. Browne Jr who had married Dr. T.S. Wilson. The parcel known as Wheatlands passed into the hands of Dr. Thomas S. Wilson and then in 1885, as the result of a Chancery Court Case, into the hands of his widow Ellen E. M. Wilson. In 1892, 105 acres of the Wheatlands tract was acquired by Thomas and Anne Embert. Aside from the manor house, no additional structures were noted on the property in the mid-19th century.

The 1904 USGS quadrangle for St. Michaels reveals some interesting information regarding the area at that time. First, the access road is roughly in the same place as it is today, but as US Route 50 had not been built, the access road splits into two, with one branch connecting the farm to the north/south road running from Queenstown and the other connecting the farm to the Queenstown and Wye Mill road that leads southeast from Queenstown. The eastern access track appears to parallel the current border between the eastern agricultural field and the woodland. Another track leads past the Wheatlands Farmhouse and across the Back Wye to Sportsman's Neck, where the rest of the Browne's holdings had previously been located. Perhaps more noteworthy is the illustration of a second structure associated with the northwest of the main farmhouse. This structure does not appear on any other maps or aerial photographs, so it is not possible to estimate its age or its function. In 1920, Thomas Howard Embert acquired all of the late Anne Embert's land not already bequeathed to him, including 109 acres of the Wheatlands and Gallows Field Farm. He promptly sold the two farms to William and Anna Lane. The Lane's transferred the farm to Leslie Bradford Cooper of New York City in 1935; it changed hands several times throughout the 20th century. That the property continued to change hands among distant owners would seem to indicate that by the mid-1930s the property was a tenant farm. It does appear that when Marjorie M. Hardy of Connecticut retained ownership in 1953, they retained the 14.5 acres surrounding the old Wheatlands Plantation House, together with a fifty-foot-wide right-of-way extending from the State Highway to the now separate house tract. The remainder of the farm was reunited when Hardy bought the rest of the parcel in 1956. Along with Frank Hardy, William A. Hardy, and Anne Hardy, Marjorie Hardy consolidated many tracts in the area and then sold their interest to Wye River Farms, Inc/Wye River Associates. The property remained in the possession of the Wye River Associates until the sale in 1994 to Mareen and Marian Waterman.

When recorded for the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places in 1981 using notes from a 1936 survey, it was noted that the Wheatland Manor house was likely demolished in the mid-20th century and correlated to the Hardy's ownership of the property. It was also noted that the house's features compared to those more often seen during the earlier Georgian Period than that of the Federal Period to which Wheatland's construction was attributed. This would place a construction date of around 1785 or earlier, which would seem to correspond with the Browne family's consolidation of their holdings in the latter half of the 18th century.

In Summer 2014, Applied Archaeology and History Associates conducted a Phase I archaeological survey of the Waterman Property for the Waterman Realty Company. The Phase I was restricted to the area of potential effect for a joint wetland permit from the Army Corps of Engineers; the study area included the majority of two large agricultural fields, a small area of mature woodland, and another small parcel that is believed to have been the location of a mid-20th century commercial structure that has since been demolished. The methods for the Phase I included a shovel test pit survey at 20-meter intervals for the woodland area and a systematic surface survey over the agricultural fields, every 20-meters. The survey resulted in the identification of the Wheatlands Site (18QU1038), approximately 54.5 acres. The site was split into Areas 1-7 for research purposes. Areas 1, 3, 4, and 5 are within the area of potential effect for the wetland permit, Area 6 and 7 were recorded outside of the area of potential effect, and Area 2 is along the southern boundary of the area of potential effect. All Areas were indicative of historic archaeological resources, and Area 2 includes a prehistoric component, however, not all Areas were not studied further for the Phase II work.

Phase II work was conducted by Dr. Darrin Lowery, Dr. Michael A. O'Neal, and Daniel Wagner. Phase II field methods included redoing a portion of the Phase I survey and employing: 1) moldboard plowing focused on previously identified artifact concentrations from the Phase I, 2) pedestrian surveys of the plowed fields for identifying/re-identifying zones of artifact concentration, 3) detailed surveying of the location and distribution of artifacts found at the surface, and 4) removal of the plow zone at each artifact concentration zone.

Historically, the site had been subjected to moldboard plowing, which digs a deep furrow to the base of the plowzone (Ap-horizon) and into the surface of the



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underlying sub-soil. Because the mold-board plowing process trims the surface of the underlying intact sub-soil and brings it to the surface, it was used in the Phase II to upheave artifacts that have settled towards the base of the plowzone over time. Thus, the upper portion of any sub-surface archaeological feature and any archaeological remains that have settled towards the base of the plowzone were brought to the surface.

On November 11th and 20th 2015, two pedestrian surveys of the plowed fields were completed. Two researchers walking in parallel, observed the plowed surface of every furrow after two separate heavy rainfall events. The furrows on the property were spaced twelve inches apart and the visibility during each survey was under clear skies with a dry landsurface. The plowed surface had ~100% visibility. Artifacts were flagged during these field examinations, but were not collected.

To document the spatial distribution of all surface artifacts, surveyors used 6-inch diameter cardboard plates and pinned at each artifact location (red surveyor flags were used to pin the paper plates to the surface of the tilled field). An aerial drone with a camera mounted at its base was used to collect 300 images of the study area with 100% coverage of the proposed construction area and assuring 90% overlap in the pairwise accumulated imagery. To establish an accurate scale in the imagery, a right-angle grid system was established on the surface of the field at each site area. Laboratory analysis of imagery collected included pairwise mosaicking, orthorectification, and geo-referencing yielding a single large image out. Using the output imagery, the artifact locations (white cardboard disks) were identified in the imagery and digitized into a point layer in a GIS framework. These point data are used to evaluate the spatial distribution of artifacts for comparison with those noted during the earlier Phase I investigation.

In November 2015, Dr. Dan Wagner of Geo-Sci Consultants Inc. conducted an investigation of the soils associated with each artifact cluster area. The goals of Dr. Wagner's research were to determine the degree of site/feature integrity, the potential for buried archaeological deposits within the artifact clusters, and the depositional/degradational history of the property area over the entire period of human occupation. Dr. Wagner's results would provide a basis to determine which areas of the property should have the plowzone stripped or removed.

In December 2015, a twin track excavator was used to strip and remove the plowzone from the six designated sectors defined on the property. The stripped sectors were subsequently flat shoveled to expose any sub-surface features. Limited testing and excavation were conducted within Area 1, the only recognized sub-surface feature, to determine its origin and significance. Testing confirmed that the feature represents nothing more than a brick rubble filled depression within a former plowed field. The age of this rubble filled depression could not be confirmed.

Three sectors within the property produced multiple artifact scatters. Brick fragments were the dominate artifact type found within the entire study area. Most of the brick seems to have been dispersed throughout the property as a byproduct of agricultural tilling. The spatial patterning of the artifacts on the surface demonstrates the dispersal effects associated with long-term farming activities.

Area 1 produced 86 artifacts, 82 of which were brick fragments. A dense accumulation of brick dust and particles were also noted on the surface of the field within the same area as the larger brick fragments. The single historic ceramic fragment and the three fragments of green glass were on the peripheral margins of the brick cluster and not directly associated. Area 2 produced 53 artifacts, including 21 fragments of fire-cracked rock, 19 small fragments of brick, 6 quartz flakes, 2 quartzite flakes, 2 chert Middle Woodland Jack's Reef corner-notched projectile points, 1 fragment of grit tempered Hell Island type prehistoric ceramics, and two fragments of clear glass. The small assemblage would suggest that Area 2 encompasses a legitimate late prehistoric archaeological site that has been contaminated by historic debris introduced to the site via agricultural tilling. In an attempt to determine if any intact prehistoric archaeological features were associated with Area 2, approximately 900 square-meters of the ground surface were stripped of the plowzone or Ap-soil horizon. Given the associated age of this regionally-recognized loess deposit, all archaeological remains younger than 11,600 years old would be confined to the plowzone. As such, the prehistoric artifacts found on the surface within Area 2 represent nothing more than shallow agriculturally disturbed surface deposits. In summation, Area 2 is a recognizable and legitimate late prehistoric archaeological site but it offers no promise for intact or significant archaeological features.

Area 3A produced only 17 artifacts. The assemblage included 10 small fragments of brick, 3 fragments of clear glass, 1 fragment of white glass, 2 fragments of porcelain, and 1 damaged chert triangular projectile point. Area 3B produced only 8 artifacts. A substantial number of unaltered rounded rocks and cobbles were noted on the surface of the plowed field. The assemblage found at the site included only 8 fragments of brick. A deeply buried brick feature was reported by the previous researchers along the southern margins of the tilled field immediately south of Area 3B. The documented feature was currently outside of the portion of the property slated for development, and therefore was not studied.

Area 4A produced only 33 artifacts, 29 of which consisted of small fragments of brick. The remaining assemblage included 3 fragments of oyster shell and 1 broken iron plow blade fragment. Area 4B produced only 32 artifacts; 24 small fragments of brick, 6 fragments of clear bottle glass and 2 small fragments of 19th century bluegray stoneware. The artifacts were evenly scattered across field area and did not cluster, which would have suggested evidence of a sub-surface archaeological feature.

Area 5A produced only 25 artifacts; 22 brick fragments, 2 fragments of green wine bottle glass and one fragment of English white salt-glazed stoneware. Area 5B produced only 10 artifacts, all of which consisted of brick fragments. Area 5C produced only 8 artifacts, all of which consisted of brick fragments. Area 5D produced only 9 artifacts; 6 small fragments of brick, 2 fragments of clear bottle glass and 1 fragment of clear window glass. None of the artifacts in Area 5 were clustered, alluding to field scatter from agricultural practices.

The Phase I survey denoted a large archaeological site on the property, which encompassed an area of 220,000 m² (54.5 acres) and designated the Wheatlands Site (18QU1038). Arguably, the dimensions of this recorded site encompass large open areas with little or no primary in situ archaeological remains. The dense brick concentration in Area 1 represents a brick rubble dump within a former plowed field. The Phase II investigation within Area 2 confirmed the earlier documented presence of a prehistoric occupation within this portion of the property. The current investigation expanded upon the earlier research and gave this locality a chronological affiliation; late Middle Woodland circa 500 calAD to 800 calAD. However, the removal of the plowzone in the artifact cluster within Area 2 did not reveal sub-surface archaeological features. Like many historically plowed prehistoric archaeological sites on the Delmarva Peninsula, the 1,200 to 1,500 year-old occupation debris in Area 2 lies unconformably on top of a circa 11,600 year-old loess deposit. As such, the late Middle Woodland prehistoric occupation noted in Area 2 lacks stratigraphic contexts and would not be considered significant or worthy of National Register nomination. However, it is indeed an archaeological site.



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Phase II investigation within Area 3, Area 4, and Area 5 documented that these portions of the property consist largely of scattered small brick fragments, which reinforced the results of the previous research. However, the scattering of small brick fragments augmented by a few pieces of ceramics, nails, glass, iron-objects, and oyster shells are not indicative of any archaeological sites or the presence of any sub-surface features. Arguably, these mixed assemblages represent a combination of long-term processes resulting from scattered domestic refuse, as well as the dispersal effects of agricultural activities.

Aside from the prehistoric site located in Area 2, sections outside of the proposed development zone planned for the Waterman property would be considered archaeological sites. Area 7 represents the site of the old Wheatlands Plantation farmhouse, which includes the dilapidated remains of the main structure; all associated sub-surface features and any adjacent outbuildings. Area 7 would be considered an archaeological site. Area 6 is located in a small elevated agricultural field on the peninsula that extends out into the Back Wye River. Numerous prehistoric and historic artifacts were found on the surface of Area 6 during the earlier Phase I survey. Even with dense field stubble, a casual walkover of the same area in November 2015 revealed both prehistoric and historic artifacts within the stubble. Area 3 represents a small locality which encompasses a deeply-buried brick feature. The brick feature may represent an architectural feature or it may simply represent another brick dump like the example found in Area 1. An elevated late 19th century and early 20th century-era road-bridge feature is also located on the property. The road-bridge feature was originally plotted on the 1900 U.S. Coastal survey chart T-2524. Elevated man-made ridges situated on both the north and south margins of Wye River can be seen on current aerial photographs of the property.

The Phase II work resulted in a recommendation that the boundary of 18QU1038 be redrawn. The Phase II investigation effectively eliminated Area 1, virtually all of Area 3, Area 4, and Area 5 as being archaeological sites. The boundary could be redefined as encompassing about 9.5 acres of land associated with the five areas discussed above (Areas 2, part of 3, 6, 7, and the bridge feature). 18QU1038, while not as big as originally believed after the initial Phase I survey, still has research potential.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

95003025, 95002430, 18QU1038 SF