



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18QU256

Site Name: Mattapeake

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Chamberlin Shell Midden, Lowery area 45 site

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

shell midden

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 5

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.8434

Longitude -76.3693

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 1 m

Site slope 2-5%

Ethnobotany profile available Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) eroded headwaters of small

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 2 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

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?

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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18QU256

Site Name: Mattapeake

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Chamberlin Shell Midden, Lowery area 45 site

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

shell midden

Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types		
Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
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"/>	1
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	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		
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	13
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
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"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Lithic Material

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

Dated features present at site

Mockley ceramics eroding from shell midden and from shell-filled pit feature

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"/>	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



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18QU256

Site Name: Mattapeake

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Chamberlin Shell Midden, Lowery area 45 site

Historic

Brief Description:

shell midden

Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Mattapeake (18QU256), also called the Chamberlain Shell Midden, is a multicomponent shell midden site. Artifacts recovered from the site date from the Middle Archaic to the Late Woodland periods. The site is situated on Kent Island, Queen Anne's County, overlooking a broad shallow basin at the mouth of a small drainage. The shoreline side of the site consists of a long, narrow tidal marsh which terminates at a low terrace. Erosion along the tidal marsh portion of the site has exposed the partially submerged shell midden. Soils on the inland portion of the site are well-drained Mattapex loam.

The site was originally discovered during a 1992 shoreline survey of Kent Island. During the survey, a cluster of Mockley ceramic sherds were observed eroding from the midden at low tide. The cluster of ceramics was excavated and produced 214 Mockley sherds, a single projectile point, and 2 pieces of debitage. The point was triangular in shape with side notches.

Further archeological investigation was conducted at the site later in 1992. The midden was exposed in three areas of the bank along the shoreline. The most southerly of these measured about 5 m in length. The central midden was approximately 27 m long and the northern section was about 3 m long. Two units were excavated at the site. Unit #1 was placed inland from the shoreline in a wooded area that had been disturbed by the landowner and where shell was visible in the backfill. A possible living surface was encountered at between 25 and 30 cm. Within this level, a scatter of fire-cracked rock and shell was found with a single rhyolite flake and a Mockley sherd. A second feature, a possible pit, was located in the southeast corner of the unit. The pit was filled with shell. Unit #2 was located within the tidal marsh adjacent to the eroding shoreline. The shell layer was encountered between 16-20 cm and 38 cm below ground level (Stratum C). The shell in the upper half of Stratum C was fragmentary but the shell in the lower portion of the stratum was largely intact and unweathered. Faunal remains identified within the midden included oyster, clam, periwinkle, deer and turtle. Other artifacts recovered from the lower half of Stratum C included "several" fragments of Mockley (n=10), 3 flakes and a broken quartz stemmed point. At the interface between Strata C and D a layer of fire-cracked rock was encountered. It is unclear from the report if any faunal remains or fire-cracked rock were retained. Therefore, totals for those object types are not included in the table above.

In addition to the artifacts recovered from the unit excavations, several projectile points were also collected from the shoreline area of site 18QU256. These included 1 bifurcated projectile point, 1 LeCroy, 1 Guilford, 1 Koens-Crispin Broadspear, 1 Susquehanna Broadspear, Fox Creek (n=2, minimum estimate), and 1 untyped Late Woodland triangular point. Other artifact types noted on the site's Basic Data Form included ground stone and other lithics which are not described or mentioned in the original report(s), as well as "several stemmed points, several Broadspears, several Fox Creek points, triangular projectile points, Townsend ceramics, 1 fragmentary celt, and debitage". A single Fox Creek point and a single triangular point were mentioned in the original report. It is unclear if the remaining items were recovered from the site during the 1992 investigations or if they represent material observed in a known collector's assemblage. Therefore, these items are not included in the table above.

Mattapeake (18QU256), also called the Chamberlain Shell Midden, represents a multicomponent resource procurement site primarily comprised of a large shell midden feature. Artifacts recovered from the site range from the Middle Archaic to the Late Woodland periods. It was suggested that, given the morphology of the site and the rise of sea level in the last several thousand years, intact living surfaces may still be present at the site but are currently submerged. It was further postulated that the main area of habitation at the site was located on a well-drained terrace adjacent to a slightly lower terrace of well-drained soils that were occasionally affected by run-off. The final recommendation regarding disturbance of the site was that any shoreline erosion repair activities be allowed to proceed as long as subsurface disturbance was minimized.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000827, 00000828, Site Files