



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST254

Site Name: Norris I

Prehistoric

Other name(s) St. Mary's River Lake

Historic

Brief Description:

Early Archaic -Early Woodland short-term camps, late 18th-mid-19th century house site, possibly post-in-ground

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 10

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.2750

Longitude -76.5206

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 18 m

Site slope 0

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) St. Marys River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 300 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site  ca. 1820 - 1860

ca. 1630 - 1675  ca. 1860 - 1900

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1675 - 1720  ca. 1900 - 1930

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780  Post 1930

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Late archaic

Late woodland

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
- 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? 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			
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Koens-Crispin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	2
Le Croy	1	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	1	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<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"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Potomac Crk	<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	2	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	6	Pearlware	21
		Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Whiteware	23
		<b>Porcelain</b>	5
		<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	15

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	222	Other fired clay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	2	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		silicified slate	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tobacco related	2
Glass (all)	41	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	14	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	1
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	30
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features			
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<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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**Brief**

**Description:**

Early Archaic -Early Woodland short-term camps, late 18th-mid-19th century house site, possibly post-in-ground

Unknown

**External Samples/Data:**

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

**Summary Description:**

The Norris I site (18ST254) consists of Archaic period short-term camps, and a late 18th to mid-19th century tenant occupied proprietary leasehold site. This site is located on a sloped terrace overlooking the St. Mary's River within St. Mary's State Park. It is situated in a previously plowed, now fallow, field but may extend into the woods, which may be undisturbed by plowing. The soils in the site area are Chillum soils which are well-drained and characteristic of ridge tops. The site measures approximately 55 m long by 43 m wide.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (Program Open Space) and the US Department of Agriculture (Soil Conservation Service) had proposed construction of a 307-acre reservoir on the upper St. Mary's River in St. Mary's County. As construction of the reservoir required a federal permit and federal funding, archeological reconnaissance was required in accordance with the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act. A total of 12 archeological sites were identified during survey of the area to be impacted. During the investigation, the archeologists surveyed a 4-acre corn field delineated as site 18ST254.

Archeological investigations at the site were conducted in late 1980 and early 1981 by T. Epperson from the Division of Archeology, Maryland Geological Survey. No archeological sites had previously been located and/or recorded in the project area. Therefore, it was necessary to conduct a survey to locate possible National Register-eligible sites that might be adversely impacted by the proposed construction. Prior to the field work, an archival search was conducted. The research indicated that the site may have had an important historic archeological component. The area immediately east of St. Mary's River was part of the proprietary Woolsey Manor and the field designated as site 254 was within the leasehold granted to J. Adams in 1743. There were at least 5 buildings that stood on the property. However, the shifting courses of the streams made exact placement of the leasehold on a modern map impossible. After the Revolution, the proprietary manors were confiscated and sold at public auction. The Adams tract was combined with other leaseholds and vacancies to form the "Long Fields" which was patented in 1790 by Col. Uriah Forrest. Further research would be required to determine if any of the Adams buildings were still standing at that time.

During the Phase I survey, a surface scatter of lithic debitage was observed. The site was divided into 30.48 m<sup>2</sup> lots for collection. 9 surface lots were collected. During the Phase II testing, 73 shovel tests were dug at 30 m intervals. Shovel tests were concentrated in the area of greatest ceramic concentration. Then, 14 test units measuring 0.76 m X 0.76 m were excavated. The placement of the test units was based on the surface distribution of artifacts and information gained from the shovel tests.

A total of 401 objects were collected by Epperson during the Phase I/II investigations. The artifact catalog is reproduced in full in Appendix I of the 1997 Otter report (below). Fire-cracked rock, shell, and brick were weighed in grams. Only the weights, not counts were provided; therefore, tallies for these items were not provided in the table above. In addition to the artifacts that were collected, several fragments of white-bodied ware, several widely scattered glazed and unglazed brick fragments, a fragment of banded ware, and a Buckley Ware sherd were noted, but not collected.

There were 177 historic artifacts collected from the site during the 1980/1981 Phase I and II study. There were 14 architecture items (1 metal nut, 4 fragments of window glass, 5 cut nails, 3 unidentified nails, and 1 white salt-glazed stoneware finial (KNOB)). There were 143 kitchen-related items (13 fragments of 19th and 20th century bottle glass, 1 unidentified ceramic, 6 creamware, 1 redware, 46 lead-glazed earthenware, 21 pearlware, 23 whiteware, 15 white salt-glazed stoneware, 5 porcelain, 1 lead-glazed stoneware, 4 brown salt-glazed stoneware, 2 blue on gray slat-glazed stoneware, 2 Buckley sherds, 2 Rockingham sherds, and 1 animal bone fragment). There were 31 miscellaneous items (28 fragments of unidentified glass, 1 slate fragment, 1 charcoal sample from unit N1060 E1203, and 1 "chair link" – this may be a mistype of 'chain link' but cannot be determined definitively from the text). The 2 tobacco items were 1 pipe bowl fragment and 1 pipe stem fragment.

There were 224 prehistoric artifacts collected from the site during the 1980/1981 Phase I and II study. There were 122 quartz flakes, cores, and shatter, and 1 modified quartz flake. There were 73 quartzite flakes, cores, and shatter. There were 10 chert flakes and shatter. There was 1 jasper chunk and 4 rhyolite flakes. There were 5 projectile points: 1 chert Morrow Mountain, 2 quartz Piscataway, 1 rhyolite Lecroy, and 1 unidentified point. There were 4 quartz biface tools. Two quartzite tools are possible spoke shaves. Other lithics include 1 grooved sandstone cobble that may be natural, and 1 sandstone cobble fragment.

In 1997 a second Phase II was conducted at the site by E. Otter. The study was required because Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative planned to install a new line along an existing right-of-way passing through St. Mary's State Park. During this Phase II, a datum point was established on the east side of the utility pole (H21). From the datum, a total of 26 shovel tests were excavated on a 7.62 m (25') grid pattern paralleling the existing power line. All soils were screened through ¼" mesh hardware cloth. Only 2 artifacts were collected from the shovel tests, a slate flake and a bottle glass shard. As suggested by the lack of, and distribution of, finds the major portion of 18ST254 lies outside of the right-of-way for the power line.

The Norris I site (18ST254) has both historic and prehistoric components represented. Types and quantities of artifacts imply the site was occupied by a person of middling or lower status. The dates of the ceramics indicate that the main period of historic occupation at the site was from the late 18th to the mid-19th centuries. This is consistent with documentary evidence that the site was tenant occupied. With the exception of a possible posthole, there is a lack of features at the site. The nature of the prehistoric material suggests repeated occupation by small groups during the Archaic period (although some researchers consider the Piscataway point to date to the Early Woodland). The wooded portion of the site was not fully tested. There is a greater potential for intact features within the woods since that area may not have been plowed. It was assessed that the proposed construction would not impact the site.

**External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):**

00006385, 00006546