



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST255

Site Name: Norris II

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Archaic short-term camp, 18th and 19th century possible house site

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 10

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.2796

Longitude -76.5053

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 30 m

Site slope 0

Ethnobotany profile available  Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) St. Marys River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 305 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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  High terrace

Hilltop/bluff  Rockshelter/cave

Interior flat  Hillslope

Upland flat  Unknown

Ridgetop  Other

Terrace

Low terrace

### 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

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? 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

N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

### Historic context samples

Soil samples taken N

N

Flotation samples taken N

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"/>	1
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"/>	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

<b>Earthenware</b>		Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Stoneware</b>	
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"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1		2			Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	8
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"/>	
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 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"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	shale	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	12
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	2
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Faunal material	<input checked="" 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



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Description:

Late Archaic short-term camp, 18th and 19th century possible house site

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Norris II site (18ST255) consists of Late Archaic and Early Woodland period short-term camps, and an 18th to 19th century possible house site. This site is located on a terrace overlooking the St. Mary's River within St. Mary's State Park. The site lies in a plowed field immediately upslope from, and northeast of, Site 18ST254 (see synopsis report). The terrace area is fairly level with slightly sandy soil and moderate erosion, and at the time of the Phase I survey in 1980 the area was a tilled corn field with good wash and good ground visibility conditions. The northern and southwestern boundaries of the site are relatively steep wooded slopes, which were not tested during the Phase I survey. Soils on this terrace are composed of a sandy loam with pebbles on top of clayey silt loam subsoil. The upper level has been plow disturbed (plowzone). Site dimensions are undetermined.

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.

Phase I and Phase II investigations were conducted at sites within the study area 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. Epperson conducted only a Phase I study at 18ST255.

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 255 was possibly 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 prehistoric and historic material was observed. The site was divided into 30.48 m<sup>2</sup> lots for collection. 15 surface lots were collected. A total of 24 objects were collected by Epperson during the Phase I investigations. The artifact catalog is reproduced in full in Appendix I of the 1997 Otter report.

There were 16 historic artifacts collected from the site during the 1980/1981 Phase I study. There was 1 architectural item (a brick fragment). There were 14 kitchen-related items (2 bottle glass fragments, 2 blue hand-decorated pearlware, 1 brown lead-glazed earthenware, 1 blue transfer-print semi-porcelain, 1 blue painted Chinese porcelain, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware, 1 creamware, 1 gray salt-glazed stoneware, 1 black salt-glazed earthenware, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware, and 1 blue annular whiteware). The only miscellaneous item was 1 piece of shale. The only tobacco item was 1 white clay pipe stem (5/64"; 2.0 mm).

There were 8 prehistoric artifacts collected from the site during the 1980/1981 Phase I study. There were 3 pieces of debitage (2 quartzite, 1 rhyolite). There were 5 projectile point fragments (2 quartz biface fragments (possibly Piscataway), 1 rhyolite expanding-stemmed Lamoka, 1 quartz point base (Vernon), and 1 rhyolite point with a missing base).

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 north side of the utility pole (H20). From the datum, a total of 11 shovel tests were excavated on a 7.62 m (25') grid pattern to include the portion of the ridge within the power line right-of-way (west of the site). All soils were screened through ¼" mesh hardware cloth. Although according to state nomenclature this level of investigation would not be called a Phase II, the archeologist notes that the project was initiated as a Phase II level study. Therefore, it is included here as a Phase II level study.

No artifacts were recovered from any of the Phase II shovel tests. Pedestrian survey to the east of the power line right-of-way resulted in the noting of brick, oyster shell, and historic ceramics. Sherds of Delftware and pearlware were observed but not collected.

The Norris II site (18ST255) represents an 18th to 19th century possible house site and Late Archaic and Early Woodland short-term base camps. The site was in no danger of destruction by any of the proposed projects. The small and scattered nature of the assemblage makes it unlikely that the site would provide significant information on the prehistoric and 18th and 19th century periods in St. Mary's County. No further archeological investigation is recommended at the site.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006385, 00006546