



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST273

Site Name: M-17 (22) Area 5

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

prehistoric lithic scatter, historic filled pit, 18th & 19th century artifact scatter

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 10

SCS soil & sediment code MtA, MuC2, SaC

Latitude 38.2710

Longitude -76.6821

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 0-10%

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) Unnamed tributary of Cherr

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

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
- 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

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

filled pit feature

## 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		Koens-Crispin	
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<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"/>
Yeocomico	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minguannan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monongahela	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susquehannock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Moyaone	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Potomac Crk	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Sherd Types		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
<b>Earthenware</b>		Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	3	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	1	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>					Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	9	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	9	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<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		Fer quartzite		Sil sandstone	
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	13	Activity item(s)	1
Glass (all)	4	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	296	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	11
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> charcoal

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

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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at St. Mary's City Commission

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The M-17 (22) Area 5 Site (18ST273) is a multicomponent site with a small prehistoric and a small historic component. This site is located on a slight rise of land cut on two sides by drainage systems leading into a tributary of Breton Bay in St. Mary's County. Several springs located to the south would have made an ideal location for prehistoric and historic period activities. The soils are of the Mattapex and Sassafras Associations. They are a slight silt clay loam in low areas and a sandy clay loam in higher areas. The site is in a sewage plant spray area, and has been disturbed by this and by plowing. The site measures approximately 200 m long by 75 m wide.

Phase I archeological reconnaissance was conducted at the site in the spring of 1980 ahead of proposed construction activities at the St. Clement Shores Wastewater Treatment Facility. The goals of the work were to identify cultural resources, to assess the nature of those resources, and to determine the horizontal boundaries of those resources. The project area consisted of a large agricultural field with small wooded areas around the periphery of the field. The project area was divided into fields Area A through Area J that were established using natural or cultural (such as roads) boundaries. Fieldwalking transects were approximately 6.096 m (20') apart. While walking transects, observations were noted and numbered wooden stakes were placed in the center of areas where artifact concentrations were observed. One or more stake clusters formed a "Debris Area" where future investigation was deemed necessary. Ten "Investigative Units" were defined within the project area and designated "I" through "X". Each investigative unit contained anywhere from 1-10 'possible sites' as identified by "Debris Areas". Shovel test pits and cuts were excavated in areas with low ground visibility and along stream banks.

Artifacts were referenced to a nearby stake before being collected. All historic period artifacts from the surface collection were retained with the exception of brick, which was sampled. Only a sample of prehistoric artifacts was retained from the surface collection in order to identify the variety of raw materials used and object types. No more than several specimens from a staked concentration of material were collected and not all staked areas were sampled if similarities of type were encountered. One complete surface collection (all artifacts seen were collected) was made within a 4.57 m (15') radius of stake 24 in order to determine the ratio of historic:prehistoric objects as well as to test the accuracy of field methods. Isolated samples, defined as artifacts either 30.48 m (100') from the nearest staked concentration or in no significant context (such as an artifact concentration), were collected.

Archival research and information from local informants indicated that the area of potential effect was located on a land tract known as Belview, part of Society Hill, as early as the start of the 20th century. Although records are scarce, a local informant indicated that her father and grandfather had worked the land since at least the latter half of the 19th century. Her family's dwelling had been built to the northeast of the site area in the later part of the 19th century and had burnt down. A new, extant, structure was built in its place. A wooden shack had been built on the tract in the 1940's and torn down in the 1960's. A tobacco barn may have once been located in the eastern portion of the study area and a cattle barn was once located in the southeastern portion of the study area. Both structures were apparently razed sometime in the 1950's. Extant barns were built in the 20th century.

Site 18ST273 was identified in Investigation Unit VII, at stakes 55, 57, and 58, in the southwestern section of the study area. Each stake was recorded as a "cobble working station" or lithic reduction site. The cores and split cobbles were associated with a small amount of oyster shell and other lithic debris.

Only 4 prehistoric artifacts were collected from the site during the Phase I investigation: 1 quartzite flake, 1 quartzite core, 1 quartzite biface, and 1 split cobble (other lithic).

Phase II investigation at the site was conducted in the fall of 1980. The same identification scheme employed during the Phase I survey was used in order to prevent any unnecessary confusion. During the pedestrian survey portion of the study, a transit point location method of recordation was utilized. The technique involved walking an area and placing all artifacts in bags. Artifacts were grouped in a single bag when 2 or more were found within a 1.524 m (5') area. Each bag was then numbered and located by transit from a previously established datum point. Site datums were tied into engineering base line stations. Subsurface testing consisted of shovel pit excavation and/or trench test excavation. When features were encountered during subsurface testing they were excavated. All excavated soil was screened through ¼" hardware cloth.

No additional work was done at stake 55 in Phase II, but the area between and around stakes 57 and 58 was subjected to surface and subsurface testing. A heavy concentration of brick fragments was located in the southeast corner of the site. A grid of 3.048 m that measured 12.19 m long by 6.096 m wide was established over the concentration. Two 1.524 m<sup>2</sup> test units were excavated in the areas of highest brick densities located in the southeast corner of the grid. The brick concentration was found throughout the plowzone of both units. When a compacted area of brick and charcoal was identified within Test Unit 1 (TU1), the unit was extended with Test Unit 3 (TU3). TU3 was subsequently extended 0.914 m to the south in order to expose more of the brick concentration, which was labeled as Feature 1. The feature was an irregularly-shaped pit that extended 21.33 cm (0.7') below the plowzone. The feature fill consisted of small brick fragments, flecks of charcoal, and some rock. The excavation of TU1 and TU3 revealed a roughly rectangular area that measured 2.74 m long by 0.914 m wide (9'X3'). A total of 15 shovel tests were dug around this second feature at 3.048 m intervals to search for possible associations. No artifacts or other cultural associations were located by the shovel testing. The feature was determined to be an isolated pit of unknown origin.

Only 16 prehistoric objects were collected including 5 pieces of debitage, 1 scraper tool, 1 other lithic (a cobble fragment), and 9 fire-cracked rocks.

There was a more substantial historic assemblage collected from the site comprised of 324 items. There was 1 activity items (an iron machine part). There were 296 architectural items (294 brick fragments, 1 piece of window glass, and 1 rosehead nail). There were 16 kitchen-related items (3 bottle glass fragments, 6 redware, 1 buff-bodied earthenware, 3 whiteware, 1 porcelain, and 2 stoneware sherds). The 11 miscellaneous items included 4 pieces of slate and 7 oyster shell fragments (the shell was cataloged as "misc." in the original report and is maintained here).

At the M-17 (22) Area 5 Site (18ST273) the prehistoric component is very small and no specific area of activity or period could be identified. The major artifact of the historic component was brick fragments. There was an overall lack of associated artifacts and it was determined that the function and cultural affiliation could not be definitively determined. The conclusion was that 18ST273 does not represent a significant cultural resource. The proposed construction would not result in the loss of significant archeological data.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL



TRUST

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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief  
Description:**

Unknown

00006394, 00006396