



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST642

Site Name: NAVAIR

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

Mid-late 18th century slave quarter; Early & Middle Archaic and Early Woodland lithic scatter

Unknown

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 9

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.2802

Longitude -76.4395

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 134 m

Site slope

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) Pond #1

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 205 m

Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

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

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

slave quarter

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken Y

Flotation samples taken Y

Other samples taken

Faunal: John E. Byrd, East Carolina U. 5/9/1996.



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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"/> 1	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/> 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"/>	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"/> 1	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/> 43	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 31	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/> 170	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/> 107	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/> 2			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 72

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts			
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 226	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"/> 2	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts			
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1006	Tobacco related	<input type="checkbox"/> 43
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 149	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 3246	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/> 3066
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 295
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input checked="" 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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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The NAVAIR Site (18ST642) is a mid-late 18th century house site, possibly the remains of slave or tenant quarters associated with the Mattapany-Sewall plantation complex. There is also a small, multicomponent prehistoric presence at the site. The site is located aboard the Patuxent Naval Air Station (NAS) in St. Mary's County. The Patuxent NAS was established on the peninsula in 1942. Prior to 1942 the land was mainly used for cultivation. Since that time, development of the NAS facilities resulted in alteration of the existing topography and physical environment. The NAVAIR Headquarters Facility is now situated at the site. The site lies on a flat ridgetop surrounded on three sides by intermittent streams which drain into a pond. The western stream bed is shallow and empties into the main drainage on the eastern side of the pond. This larger drainage has moderately sloping sides and forms the northern and eastern boundaries of the ridge. Cultural material was distributed over an area approximately 76.2 m (250') long and 60.96 m (200') wide. Prior to construction of the NAVAIR facility, the area was covered by hardwoods and moderate understory plants. Oaks, black walnut, poplar, and maples represented the dominant vegetation. Soils at the site consist of well-drained Chillum loam.

Investigation of the prehistoric archeological record in the general site area generated sufficient data to confirm the presence of settlement along the Maryland coast from the Archaic period through the Contact period. Historic settlement of the area goes back to 1637 when a Jesuit mission was established at Mattapanient Hundred, which included the NAS area. The Jesuits were given the land for their use by the local Patuxent tribe. The missionary land was called 'Conception Hundred'. Maryland records document 21 men living in the Mattapany area. The Mission of Mattapany was finally closed in 1647 when the Jesuits were forced to turn the land over to Governor Leonard Calvert, brother and deputy of the second Lord Baltimore, Cecelius Calvert. Ten plantations were patented in the NAS are between 1648 and 1665. The NAVAIR Headquarters is located within the historic boundaries of Mattapany-Sewall. That land was ceded to the third Lord Baltimore, Charles Calvert in 1662 from the then current owner Mary Utie, and repatented to Henry Sewall in 1663 and the tract became known as Mattapany-Sewall. Later, Calvert married Sewall's widow and moved to Mattapany-Sewall. A 1673 map shows houses along the shoreline of the Patuxent and possibly within the site area. The main arsenal of the colony was at Mattapany, which was fortified and sometimes used as a prison. In 1690, Mattapany was captured during the Protestant revolt. When the government moved to Annapolis in the 1690's, governmental functions at Mattapany ceased.

Throughout the 1700's to the early 20th century, the lands of Mattapany were farmed. Construction of the current dwelling on the property was believed to have been ca. 1722 when the manor was re-patented to Nicholas Sewall, son of Henry, by the fifth Lord Baltimore, Charles Calvert. During the Civil War, the house was briefly used as a barracks by the St. Mary's militia, a group of confederate sympathizers. Mattapany continued as a farm after the Civil War. By the time of Sewall's death in 1800, Mattapany-Sewall was consisted of 830 acres and his slave holdings included about 36 persons. His manor was described as being in bad repair. In 1840, one of Sewall's descendants sold the property to George Forbes. Forbes resold the manor to Richard Thomas and the Thomas family owned the land until they sold it the Weschler family in 1931. The lands of Mattapany-Sewall were the part of a 100-acre tract called the Weschler Farm. The Navy purchased the land from the Weschlers in 1942.

As a result of the US military's 1993 Base Realignment and Closure decisions, the Patuxent River Naval Air Station was selected for expansion to accommodate the realignment of facilities and personnel from the NAVAIR Headquarters in Virginia and activities from the Naval Air Warfare Center in New Jersey. The Phase I background and archeological research was designed to assess potential impacts of the proposed project on cultural resources in the vicinity of the proposed NAVAIR Headquarters Facility, as well as a new Propulsion Systems Evaluation Facility, fuel and fiber optic line corridors, Buse Road widening and Child Development Center Expansion. Archival research focused on the identification of archeological sites in danger of being impacted by the construction, upgrading, or replacing of existing facilities. Fieldwork was carried out in June 1994. Thirteen transects were laid out 15.24 m (50') apart from one another with shovel test pits (STPs) set at 15.24 m intervals along those transects. Radials were dug at 3.048 m (10') intervals around positive STPs. A total of 265 STPs were excavated in the NAVAIR Headquarters Facility area. Of those, cultural material was found in 6 STPs and 29 radials. All excavated soils were screened through ¼" mesh hardware cloth and all materials were retained excepted for brick and oyster, which were counted, then discarded. Soil profiles were uniform across the site.

STP 26 revealed a small concentration of brick within a very low mound approximately 3.048 m in diameter. The STP was expanded to a 50 cm² test unit to better expose the feature. This revealed disarticulated brick and rocks within a matrix of mottled dark yellowish brown clayey loam. Probing of the mound identified further brick, mostly concentrated to the south and southeast of the test unit. It was postulated that the scatter may be associated with a foundation. In addition, a 4.572 m x 2.438 m (15'x8') bed of possible ornamental plants was located approximately 6.096 m (20') east of the brick feature.

A small number of historic artifacts (n=71) were recovered during the Phase I survey. There were 15 architectural items including 1 window glass shard, 10 brick fragments, 1 piece of mortar, 1 square nail, and 2 unidentified nails. There were 16 kitchen-related items including 2 bottle glass fragments and 14 ceramic sherds (9 lead-glazed earthenware, 1 slipware, 2 Staffordshire, 1 creamware, 1 unidentified refined earthenware, and 37 oyster shell fragments). There were 2 miscellaneous items, unidentified iron fragments. Only 1 tobacco item was found, a white clay tobacco pipe bowl fragment. The diagnostic material indicated a late 17th-late 18th century occupation of the site.

Only a single prehistoric item was recovered, a quartz flake.

It was suggested that the mound in which the brick feature was found could be the location of a possible structure. A fragment of glazed brick suggested that the structure may have had a fireplace and the mound could represent a partially robbed chimney fall. Due to the association with the Sewall manor lands, and because proposed construction would directly impact the site area, Phase II investigation was recommended if site avoidance was not possible.

Phase II work commenced in the fall of 1994. The research was designed to locate any significant features that could provide insight into the occupational history of the site and to provide sufficient information to make a determination of the site's eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. The goals were to define the extents of the site and recover information concerning landscape patterns of tenant structures on the periphery of a plantation complex. Fieldwork began with establishing a baseline (0N 0W) on the western edge of the brick feature identified during the Phase I study. The edge of a small intermittent stream bed defined the western limits of the site. Eight radials were dug at positive shovel test locations to better define the horizontal exposure of the site. Six 1.524 m² (5x5') test units were excavated where intact subsurface features were encountered during Phase I, in association with artifact concentrations, and at possible features suggested by ground surface anomalies.



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Unknown

Excavation of the test units revealed several features. The first feature (Feature A) was found in Unit #3 and consisted of a course of brick and a section of a builder's trench. It represented the possible remains of a fireplace and/or an associated footing. This unit appeared to be related to the interior of a structure. STP C26 W40, which intersected the eastern wall of the unit, was excavated as Feature B and consisted of brick rubble that may have been associated with demolition of the structure. Feature D, located in Unit #4, was a compacted trench-like feature that possibly represented a filled in well or refuse dump. A large concentration of artifacts, including a large amount of oyster shell, was recovered from this unit. It was further suggested that the concentration of oyster shell and ceramic material found in Unit #2, which was located along the eastern edge of a small intermittent stream bed, indicated that a kitchen could have possibly been located in that area of the site. Additional testing of the site through STPs produced a collection of diagnostic artifacts that indicated a mid-late 18th century date for the main period of occupation at 18ST642. Ceramics dating from the 17th to the 20th centuries were also recovered.

A total of 561 historic artifacts were collected during the Phase II study. Additional fragments of brick and oyster were noted in some of the additional STPs but were not collected. There were 2 activity items (possible horseshoe fragments). There were 243 architectural items (188 pieces of brick, 6 pieces of flat glass, 3 wrought nails, 43 unidentified nails, 2 pieces of mortar, 1 ceramic tile). There were 267 kitchen-related items (24 fragments of bottle glass, 128 oyster shell fragments, and 115 ceramic sherds including 3 English brown, 1 possible domestic brown stoneware, 2 porcelain, 3 Delftware (tin-enamel), 6 Slipware, 8 creamware, 12 white salt-glazed stoneware, 7 Astbury, 1 Jackfield, 1 Buckley or Agate (listed as Buckley in the table above), 7 Staffordshire slipware, 53 lead-glazed coarse earthenware (3 possibly Astbury), 9 unglazed coarse earthenware, 2 buff-bodied earthenware). There were 21 miscellaneous items (15 unidentified iron objects, 6 rocks). There were 4 personal items (1 small snuff can, 1 Indian head nickel, 1 "1934" penny, and 1 wheat penny). A total of 5 tobacco items were collected (4 white clay pipe bowl fragments and 1 stem fragment). There was 1 possible arms item, a piece of flint.

In addition to the historic material, 6 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the Phase II study. These were 5 piece of quartz debitage and 1 piece of chert debitage. The scant concentration of material suggested that the site was not intensively used prior to the 17th century.

An analysis of the artifact distribution indicated that domestic artifacts seemed to be concentrated near the area of the possible structure. The density of material decreased with distance from the structure. The high density of shell and low density of domestic artifacts in Units #1 and #2 on the western periphery of the site indicated that the area was a food processing area and that a kitchen stood nearby. Due to the NAVAIR site's association with the Mattapany-Sewall plantation complex, and the archeological data it preserves concerning secondary plantation structures and manorial lifeways of the 18th century, the site was considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed construction of the NAVAIR Headquarters building was to directly impact the site. Therefore, Phase III data recovery was recommended.

Prior to Phase III data recovery, monitoring was conducted during the construction of a sediment pond in April of 1995. The results of that project were reported with the Phase III results (below) in that original report. The pond bordered the northern boundary of the NAVAIR site. The archeological monitoring was authorized to ensure that no previously unidentified features or artifacts associated with 18ST642 were impacted during construction activities. During the monitoring, all features, artifacts, and pieces of rock were plotted. Possible features identified immediately adjacent to the fence surrounding the site resulted in the site boundaries of 18ST642 being expanded to ensure that they were preserved for the pending Phase III investigations. It was decided that all artifacts recovered during the monitoring were to be analyzed as part of the data recovery project at the NAVAIR site. Although it became obvious that the boundary of the site extended to the northern perimeter of the sediment pond, the artifact density was very low in that area. No intact subsurface cultural deposits or artifact concentrations were identified within the limits of the proposed sediment pond.

During the monitoring, a total of 190 historic artifacts were retained. There were 28 architectural items (brick fragments). There were 177 kitchen-related items including 6 ceramic sherds (1 Buckley, 2 white salt-glazed stoneware, 1 unglazed coarse earthenware, 1 Ironstone, 1 Jackfield), and 171 oyster shell and shell fragments. There were 5 miscellaneous items (charcoal fragments). The original report indicated that 214 historic artifacts were recovered; however, the Appendix/artifact inventory only lists those stated above. There is not enough information to extrapolate or make minimum estimates for any further items.

In addition to the historic items, 74 prehistoric artifacts were also retrieved during the monitoring. There were 56 pieces of quartz and quartzite debitage and 4 cores. There were 2 bifaces and 1 bifacial retouched flake. There was also 1 Calvert quartz projectile point. Other lithics included 1 grinding slab/anvil, 7 hammerstones and 2 tested cobbles. All of the totals for objects other than the debitage were given in the text of the original report. Therefore, the amount of debitage was determined by subtracted the other items from the stated total of 74 prehistoric artifacts.

Phase III archeological investigation was conducted in September and October 1995. The work was conducted in 4 stages. Stage 1 consisted of a detailed topographic survey of the site area. Stage 2 consisted of 92 STP excavations to further delineate the extent of the site. Stage 3 involved the excavation of 43 test units to sample the plowzone and to inform further excavation and feature documentation, which constituted Stage 4. The survey was tied to the grid system established during the Phase II investigations which was based on 2 survey markers located along the northeast edge of the site. Those survey markers had been tied into USGS markers on the base. A baseline was re-established along the original baseline from the Phase II testing, and STP transects were set perpendicular to the baseline. The test units measured 1.524 m² and were placed at a distance of 9.144 m (30'), center to center, covering the entire site area. A one liter soil sample was taken from each test unit for chemical analysis. All excavated soils were screened through ¼" hardware cloth and all materials were retained. After removal of the plowzone all subsurface features were troweled, mapped and documented.

Following the test unit excavations, 4 larger areas were subjected to mechanical stripping and investigation. The areas were chosen based upon artifact distributions and features found during the unit excavations. A 16.76 m x 18.288 m (55x60') block was excavated around the brick fireplace located during the Phase II study. A 9.144 m long trench that varied from between 1.524 m and 3.352 m (5' and 11') wide was excavated off the northern edge of the block in order to expose a trash pit located in the plowzone of test unit 22, and to more fully expose a feature identified in Unit #4 during the Phase II testing (Feature D, the possible filled well or refuse dump). A trench that measured 27.43 m long by 3.048 m wide (90'x10') extended to the west of the house block exposing an area of highly concentrated domestic and architectural debris. The fourth trench was a 6.096 m x 9.144 m (20x30') block stripped to assess a possible shell midden on the northwest perimeter of the site. Once all of the trenches were cleaned and the features were exposed, selected features were excavated. Soil samples of at least 1 liter were collected from each feature for floral and faunal analysis (flotation).

Of the identified 18 features, a total of 7 features were excavated during the Phase III investigations. The remaining 11 features were determined to be rodent burrows, tree root molds, or ephemeral stains. Three features were located in the house block and were associated with the house structure. Feature 1 was identified by a concentration of brick and brick rubble and was associated with the remains of the chimney base located during the Phase II testing. The crudely made chimney base was composed of 2 courses of brick. It was indicated that the bricks were of different color and manufacture and there was no evidence that mortar was used during construction. What was originally thought to be the builder's trench was instead plowzone or top soil which had been deposited on and around the chimney after it was abandoned. The first course of bricks appeared to have been laid directly on the ground surface. Artifacts



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associated with the chimney base were brick fragments, nails, oyster shell and ceramics. Feature 15 was a circular refuse pit, roughly 1.219 m (4') in diameter at the surface, and contained building material, animal bones associated with food preparation, and a variety of kitchen and tableware ceramics. It was located immediately south-southwest of the chimney base. Feature 16, identified as a possible root cellar, was located immediately north of the chimney base. It was a rectangular pit measuring 2.133 m x 1.219 m (7'x4'). The pit fill contained building material, animal bones, and a variety of domestic artifacts including ceramics, kitchen ware, buttons, gunflints, and harness hardware.

Three features were found during the excavation of the east trench. Feature 5, first noted in Unit 22, was an irregularly shaped pit located in the eastern end of the trench. Excavation of the feature revealed it to be a tree fall mold utilized as a trash pit. The pit contained an assortment of refuse material including building material, animal bones, kitchen items and tableware, and a large deposit of oyster shell. Feature 6 was located approximately 6.096 m west of the tree fall/pit and was initially thought to be a post hole. Excavation of the feature revealed it to be a shallow bowl shaped pit, approximately 20.32 cm (8") in diameter and 7.62 cm (3") deep, containing only 6 small fragments of oyster shell. Feature 18, initially identified during the Phase II investigations, was a circular pit measuring about 2.133 m (7') in diameter at ground surface that became more irregular in shape with depth. The feature fill included building material, ceramic, glass, and oyster shell.

Feature 17 was located on the northwest edge of the site. During the unit testing, it was identified as a large oyster shell midden. Mechanical stripping revealed that the midden was totally confined to the plowzone and no further excavation was conducted.

A total of 7,001 historic artifacts were recovered during the Phase III investigations. There were 6 activity items (4 horse furniture items including a horseshoe fragment, half a watering bit, a boss, and a harness ornament), and 2 lamp glass pieces. There were 2,960 architectural items including 2,472 brick fragments, 27 pieces of plaster, 1 ceramic tile, 14 window glass fragments, 3 Rosehead nails, 11 wrought nails, 372 unidentified nails, 9 spikes, 3 iron nuts (probably modern), and 48 fieldstones presumed to be used for construction. There were 18 clothing items including 2 belt buckles, 3 shoe buckles, and 1 unidentified buckle, all brass, and 12 buttons (2 French military, 3 bone, 7 metal). There was 1 furniture item (a brass tack). There were 3,703 kitchen related items including 102 fragments of bottle glass, 74 animal bones, 7 snail shells, 2,642 oyster shells and fragments, 1 bone handled fork, 1 bone handle, 1 knife blade, 1 iron stove lid fragment, 2 fragments of iron cooking pot, 1 modern plastic container base, and 871 ceramic sherds (31 tin-glazed, 17 unidentified earthenware, 98 creamware, 2 pearlware, 1 whiteware, 1 porcelain, 1 yellowware, 4 Whieldon ware, 34 Staffordshire, 50 white salt-glazed stoneware, 8 Scratch blue white salt-glazed stoneware, 1 Brown stoneware, 3 English brown, 1 Westerwald, 4 gray salt-glazed stoneware, 5 Astbury, 2 Jackfield, 5 annular redware, 10 Buckley/Agate ware (listed as Buckley in the table above), 42 redware Slipware, 147 lead-glazed redware, 170 Manganese Mottled, 103 oxide glazed redware, 126 unglazed redware, 5 North Devon gravel tempered). There were 269 miscellaneous items including 12 fragments of unidentified glass, 246 unidentified iron objects, and 11 unidentified other metal objects. There were 2 personal items including 1 much corroded pocket knife and 1 brass pin. There were 37 tobacco items including 15 kaolin pipe bowl fragments, 21 stem fragments, and 1 bowl/stem fragment; 5 of the bowls have molded decoration of a royal crest. There were 5 arms-related items including 2 lead bullets, 1 bullet casing, and 2 French gunflints.

In addition to the historic material, 167 prehistoric artifacts were also recovered from the site. A total of 145 pieces of debitage and 6 cores were identified. Four projectile points were found. One was a possible Morrow Mountain II, another was a possible Palmer, and two were undiagnostic fragments. Quartz was by far the main material used for lithic production but quartzite and several chert samples were also recovered. There were 7 'other lithic' items including 2 hammerstones, 1 grinding stones, and 2 polished stones, possibly grinding slabs, and 2 unidentified flint pieces. There were 2 fire-cracked rocks. Two small and badly weathered ceramic sherds were found. It was suggested that they could represent samples of Accokeek ware but positive identification was not possible.

An analysis of the distribution of plowzone artifacts showed that the main density of material occurred in the central and southern portions of the site. The distribution of domestic artifacts supported the notion that the area south and southwest of the house was the main yard area for the site. The presence of this group of artifacts decreases on the east side of the house, where a higher density of brick likely resulted from the collapse of the fireplace. Three additional concentrations in the eastern, western, and northwestern parts of the site represented larger deposits of shell and did not necessarily reflect the general trends of artifact distribution across the site.

The results from the soil chemical analyses also exhibit some patterning. The distribution of calcium on the site closely corresponds to the frequency of oyster shell. High levels of calcium, potassium, and magnesium were observed near Units 21 and 22, and trailed off in a northeasterly direction. High chemical values and low artifact density in that area of the site suggested that the area was separated from the main focus of activity on the site. It may have been the location of an animal pen or possibly served as a garden. High levels of phosphate were noted in the area around the house structure which indicated the possible spread of food refuse around the area of most intense activity and/or the presence of privies or trash pits that were close enough to the house for convenience but far enough away to prevent sanitation and health problems. The chemical values confirmed that the eastern and southeastern part of the site was used sparingly by the site's inhabitants.

All of the analyzed botanical materials collected from the flotation process proved to be noncarbonized and were considered to be modern intrusions.

The faunal analysis of bone and shell fragments collected from the NAVAIR site provided some insight into the dietary habits of the site's occupants. In the assemblage there were 6 cow bones, 15 pig bones, 1 gray squirrel bone, and 35 unidentified other mammalian bones, 1 chicken bone and 1 other unidentified bird bone, 1 fish bone and 12 other unidentified fish bones, and 7 gastropods. Cut marks, saw marks and percussion scars were evidence of human processing of the bones. The large mammal bone fragments were mainly skeletal elements considered to be of low utility, where the quantities of meat and marrow are low relative to the bone mass. Those elements are suitable for cooking in stews as there are no appreciable amounts of meat. Thus, a diet low in meat was indicated. It has been suggested that stews provided an important means of dietary nutrition to enslaved Africans in North America because the meals could feed large quantities of people at little cost. The high percentage of low utility elements and the intentional modification of bones also suggested that when meat was available, it was utilized in stew. Additionally, the data from the oyster shell assemblage did not support long term site occupation and associated shellfish harvesting.

The NAVAIR Site (18ST642) is a mid-late 18th century house site and associated yard, possibly the remains of slave or tenant quarters associated with the Mattapany-Sewall plantation complex. Since the site contained information concerning secondary plantation structures and manorial lifeways of the 18th century, archeological investigations were designed to explore themes of agriculture, structural and landscape architecture, and material culture affiliation. The relatively short occupation of the site may be explained by the economic, social, and political change occurring at the time. Soil exhaustion as a result of tobacco farming may have also been a reason for abandonment of the site. There is also a small, multicomponent prehistoric presence at the site. Diagnostic artifacts indicate short-term use of the site during the Early and Middle Archaic periods and the Early Woodland period. The site has been impacted by the

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Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST642

Site Name: NAVAIR

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

**Brief
Description:**

Mid-late 18th century slave quarter; Early & Middle Archaic and Early Woodland lithic scatter

Unknown

construction of the NAVAIR Headquarters Facility. As additional work is conducted on sections of the NAS encompassing the old Mattapany-Sewall manor lands, new information may become available to support additional interpretations of the site.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006508, 00006514, 00007666