



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18ST792

Site Name: GMI-PL-1

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Point Lookout Navy Land Exchange Historic Scatter

Historic

Brief Description:

Mid 19th-Early 20th century artifact scatter, possibly associated with Civil War prison camp/hospital

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 10

SCS soil & sediment code WsB

Latitude 38.0460 Longitude -76.3192

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site  Underwater site

Elevation m Site slope 0-2%

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) Chesapeake Bay

- | Saltwater                                |   | Freshwater                            |                                 |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ocean <input type="checkbox"/>           | Estuary/tidal river <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Stream/river <input type="checkbox"/> | Swamp <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Tidewater/marsh <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Lake or pond <input type="checkbox"/> | Spring <input type="checkbox"/> |
- Minimum distance to water is 85 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

- Paleoindian site
- Archaic site
- Early archaic
- Middle archaic
- Late archaic
- Woodland site
- MD Adena
- Early woodland
- Mid. woodland
- Late woodland
- Unknown prehistoric context

- Contact period site
- ca. 1820 - 1860
- ca. 1860 - 1900
- ca. 1900 - 1930
- Post 1930
- ca. 1630 - 1675
- ca. 1675 - 1720
- ca. 1720 - 1780
- ca. 1780 - 1820
- Unknown historic context
- Unknown context

### Ethnic Associations (historic only)

- Native American
- African American
- Anglo-American
- Hispanic
- Asian American
- Unknown
- Other

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

Flotation samples taken  Other samples taken

Historic context samples Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken  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       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Le Croy                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Calvert          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Morrow Mntn            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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"/> |
| Minguannan              | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sullivan Cove  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shenks Ferry            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Moyaone        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Potomac Crk             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Keyser         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yeocomico               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Monongahela    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Susquehannock           | <input type="checkbox"/> |                |                          |

| Historic Sherd Types                |                                      | Stoneware                                 |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Earthenware</b>                  | Ironstone <input type="checkbox"/>   | Staffordshire <input type="checkbox"/>    | English Brown <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Astbury <input type="checkbox"/>    | Jackfield <input type="checkbox"/>   | Tin Glazed <input type="checkbox"/>       | Eng Dry-bodied <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Borderware <input type="checkbox"/> | Mn Mottled <input type="checkbox"/>  | Whiteware <input type="checkbox"/>        | Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>     |
| Buckley <input type="checkbox"/>    | North Devon <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Porcelain</b> <input type="checkbox"/> | Rhenish <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Creamware <input type="checkbox"/>  | Pearlware <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"/> | 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)   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 type="checkbox"/> | Fer quartzite | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Chert           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sil sandstone | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rhyolite        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chalcedony    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quartz          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ironstone     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quartzite       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Basalt        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                 |                          | Argilite      | <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"/> | Tobacco related  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Glass (all)        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Activity item(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human remain(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Furniture          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Faunal material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arms               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc. kitchen    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clothing           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Floral material  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal items     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Misc.            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                    |                          | 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 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:**

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Unknown

**External Samples/Data:**

Collection curated at MAC Lab/Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

Additional raw data may be available online

**Summary Description:**

Site GMI-PL-1 (18ST792) is a mid-19th to early 20th century artifact scatter, possibly associated with a Civil War hospital and prison camp complex. The site is located on the eastern side of Point Lookout State Park near the southern tip of a narrow peninsula. The terrain is flat and subject to storm surge from the adjacent Chesapeake Bay. Soils are primarily poorly to moderately drained Othello silt loam.

Documentary research revealed a history going back to the 17th century in the site area. In 1608 when Captain John Smith was exploring the Chesapeake Bay, he passed the confluence of the Potomac and the Chesapeake and called the peninsula "Sparkes Point" and in 1634 the arriving Maryland colonists named it "St. Michael's Point". The 3000 acre tract of St. Michael's was patented to Leonard Calvert in 1634 and again in 1641. The property was part of the political subdivision known as St. Michael's Hundred, which extended from Point Lookout north to St. Inigoes. Calvert divided his tract into 3 manors including St. Michael's, Trinity, and St. Gabriel's. By 1648 the named had changed to "Point Look out" and on Alsop's map of 1666 it is named "Poynt Look out [sic]". By 1738, the 3 Point Lookout manors were owned by James Smith of St. Mary's City. James' daughter inherited the property in 1753 and later willed it her husband Robert Armstrong. In addition to the activity of the American Revolution, the Point suffered heavily during the War of 1812. In 1813, Armstrong's property was damaged by the British and he was taken hostage. When Armstrong died in 1814, the land was sold to James Crane. In 1820, Crane granted the land called Point Lookout to Thomas, John, and Sisters of Ignatius, and heirs of Richard Clarke. In 1826, John Clark, Jr. sold his 250 acre tract at Point Lookout, which included the peninsula, to Jenifer Taylor.

Congress authorized construction of a lighthouse at Point Lookout in 1825. In 1826, Jenifer Taylor ceded the Point Lookout peninsula (in total, 3 acres and 46 square perches) and construction began on the lighthouse in 1830. In the late 19th century, general improvements were made to the lighthouse, including the addition of a buoy house, a coal shed, and additions to the dwelling.

In the mid-19th century a 400 acre area just north of the lighthouse was developed into a fashionable resort by William Cost Johnson. A hotel, large wharf, and cottages were erected on the peninsula. However, the onset of the Civil War resulted in reduced use of the land and it was leased to the Federal government in 1862 for the establishment of a Union military hospital. After the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, Point Lookout was chosen as a prisoner-of-war camp/stockade for Confederate soldiers. The hospital served both Union and Confederate soldiers. Stables and a carpenter shop stood to the southwest of the POW camp, generally corresponding to the location of site 18ST792. In addition, the Civil War era "Rebel Officer Camp" was postulated as being located in the northern portion of the site (although this was not borne out by the archeology). In 1865, the hospital closed and by 1866/7, the buildings had been sold or were torn down for scrap. The building materials (mainly brick and lumber) were taken to Washington and Baltimore, or were sold at public auction at Point Lookout.

By the end of the 1880's Point Lookout contained only the lighthouse, a few cottages, a hotel, a post office and store, and farmland. By the 20th century, the point once again functioned as a resort and recreation community. Another hotel was established in the 1920's. Several renovations were undertaken at the lighthouse in the early 20th century and a 1933 plat of the area shows a stable, chicken coop, and corncrib north of the lighthouse. The Coast Guard took control of the lighthouse in 1939, and in 1966 the lighthouse facility was officially closed and the property was transferred to the Navy the following year. In 1968 the lighthouse went out of service and was replaced by an automatic light in the Potomac River. In 1964, Maryland purchased 495 acres of land to create a park at Point Lookout (north of the Navy's lighthouse parcel).

Site 18ST792 was initially identified during a 2003 Phase I survey of a 3-acre land parcel that was conducted on behalf of the U.S. Navy. The Navy had proposed to relocate its existing Naval Radar Facilities from its location south at the Point Lookout Lighthouse to a parcel just north in Point Lookout State Park. The primary goal of the archeological survey was to identify the presence or absence of archeological resources within the 3-acre parcel, and to derive preliminary indications of age, horizontal and vertical extent, and level of integrity of any resources identified.

Prior to conducting fieldwork, background research was undertaken to determine any previous cultural resources work or previously recorded sites in the project area. Research on previous archeological investigations conducted in the vicinity of 18ST792 revealed a number of sites/artifact scatters related to the operation of the Civil War-era hospital and POW camp, and scatters dated to the 19th and 20th centuries situated in close proximity to the site. A survey of the area in the early 1970's located two artifact clusters (locations "28" and "29") in the site area which yielded Civil War-era artifacts from metal detector surveys including tent pegs, a bayonet tip, a metal button, and a minnie ball. At that time, however, no site number was assigned to the loci. Phase II field investigations at the site consisted of surface survey and the excavation of 75 shovel test pits (STPs) at 15 m intervals. STPs were excavated at 5 m intervals in the cardinal directions around a positive STP. A metal detector survey was conducted within the 15 m transect blocks in order to identify metallic objects that could be associated with historic use of the area. Positive metal detector readings were subjected to shovel testing.

Site 18ST792 was recorded in the northwestern portion of the land parcel and was identified based on a cluster of positive metal detector readings. It consisted of a low-density scatter of 19th century artifacts that were suggested to be related to Civil War-era occupation of the peninsula. Groundwater was encountered in numerous STPs near the ground surface in the site area. Metallic materials, such as small bits of corroded iron, too small to be collected by the ¼" mesh hardware cloth were noted. Modern material was introduced to the area from recent and past storm surges and from use of the picnic area near the south end of the land parcel. Items such as aluminum cans, bottle caps, and soda cans were not collected. In addition to the brick fragments that were collected, a small secondary deposit of brick fragments was recorded at the location of STP MD-19. The scatter measured approximately 1m in diameter and contained fragments of brick to a depth of 15 cm below ground level. Probing of the area revealed no in situ structural remains.

A small collection of 18 historic artifacts were collected during the Phase I study. There were 6 activity items (1 possible blade, 1 axe head, 1 angle iron, 3 axe/hammer fragments). There were 9 architectural items (5 brick fragments and 4 square/cut nails). There was 1 kitchen-related item (a stoneware sherd). The single miscellaneous item was an unidentified metal fragment. The single arms-related item was 1 possible minnie ball/ bullet. Only a single piece of prehistoric debitage was recovered from the site during the survey.

Although the site appeared to retain little integrity, it and its material remains are associated with the pivotal Civil War period in United States history. It was therefore determined that further investigations should be conducted at the site in order to evaluate its eligibility for listing on the National Register. The Phase II archeological evaluation of site 18ST792 was conducted in early 2005 in advanced of a proposed land exchange between the United States Navy and the State of Maryland. The land exchange would allow the Navy to move its Emitter Communications Tower from its then existing location at the southern point of



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the Point Lookout peninsula to a 3-acre parcel located several hundred meters to the north. In exchange for the parcel, the Navy agreed to transfer the historic Point Lookout Lighthouse and two outbuildings to the State of Maryland. The overall Phase II objectives were to evaluate the site deposits in terms of their possible association with Civil War activities on the peninsula and how they related to the overall war effort, and to provide a definitive statement on National Register eligibility.

Prior to subsurface testing, a metal detector sweep was conducted over the site in order to guide the placement of STPs and test units. The site was subdivided into a series of 10 m grid blocks to establish horizontal control for the sweep. A sampling scheme of all metal detector hits was implemented in which 39% or 51 of the 130 hits were investigated. In total, 9 STPs and nine 1 m<sup>2</sup> test units were excavated at each selected sample location to determine whether historic cultural deposits were present. All soils were screened through ¼" mesh hardware cloth and all materials were retained except for obviously modern materials, which were noted and discarded.

A single cultural feature was encountered during the Phase II investigations. In Test Unit 3, which was located generally at the center of the site within a cluster of metal detector hits identified as Cluster 2, a possible post mold (Feature 1) was identified at the base of Stratum II, Level 3, about 23 cm below surface (cmbs). The feature was excavated to a depth of 46 cmbs; no artifacts were recovered from the fill. It was suggested as a possibility that the post mold might have been related to one of the temporary buildings erected during the Civil War use of the area.

A total of 169 historic period artifacts were retained. There were 59 activity items (1 horse bridle bit fragment, 13 light bulb base fragments, 42 fragments of light bulb glass, 1 square post base, 1 bolt, 1 sample of modern braided wire). There were 56 architectural items (6 brick fragments, 3 window glass shards, 43 nails (2 square, 25 wire, 16 unidentified), 2 spikes, 1 screw, 1 piece of ceramic drainage pipe, 1 metal elbow pipe fragment). There were 17 kitchen-related items (6 vessel glass fragments, 2 bottle glass fragment, 6 ceramic sherds (4 whiteware, 2 creamware), 2 metal can lid fragments, 1 plastic lid). There were 36 miscellaneous items (32 unidentified metal objects, 1 piece of plastic, 2 pieces of slag, and 1 piece of wood). There was 1 personal item (a Lincoln-head penny).

At site GMI-PL-1 (18ST792), the material remains of the short-lived Civil War-era operation have been dispersed from post-occupational demolition, past agricultural activities, and modern-era grading for drainage improvement and reforestation. The site was found to have poor integrity and low research value, and was thus recommended as not eligible for listing on the National Register. Further archeological evaluation of the site was determined to have little potential for yielding information that would contribute to our understanding of the historical use of the area. No further archeological investigation was recommended. In February 2006 the land parcel officially exchanged hands.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97002008, 97002422