



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18TA204

Site Name: Brick Row

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 19th century brick rowhouses

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 4

SCS soil & sediment code MpA

Latitude 38.7680

Longitude -76.0678

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation -20 m

Site slope 0-5%

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Intermittent Tributary

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 300 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

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

## 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? Urban

#### 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

11 brick rowhouses

## 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



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18TA204

Site Name: Brick Row

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

late 19th century brick rowhouses

## 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"/>	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	10	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	119	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	39	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	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"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	193	Activity item(s)	23
Glass (all)	427	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	244	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	8	Misc. kitchen	91
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	10	Misc.	58
Personal items	2	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	terra cotta drain pipe	
Hearth/chimney	<input 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 checked="" 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



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18TA204

Site Name: Brick Row

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief

Description:

late 19th century brick rowhouses

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC Lab/JPPM

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Brick Row Site (18TA204) consists of the remains of 11 brick row houses that were constructed during the late 19th century. Brick Row is located on the west side of the town of Easton in Talbot County. It does not lie within the original town limits although it is included within the limits of the Easton Historic District. The site is on a flat, broad terrace of the Tred Avon River and sits at the foot of a ridge upon which the original town of Easton was developed. The soils in the site area are poorly drained Mattapex silt loam 0-2% slope. The front of the non-extant row houses faced south onto Port Street at the intersection with Pleasant Alley, which borders the site on the west.

As part of the Phase I study of the site, historical document/archival research was conducted. The first European settlements were established in Maryland in the early 17th century. Talbot County was formed in ca. 1660-61 and encompassed a large part of what is now Queen Anne's County. In 1710, the Hundred Courts acquired property located in the vicinity of Pitte's Bridge for the construction of a County Court House. Pitte's Bridge was located to the north of Easton on the Centerville road sometimes called the Tan-Yard Bridge. The land surveyed for the Court House was part of the original patent of London Derry. In the same year, the office of the Surveyor General of the Eastern Shore laid out the road to the landing at Easton Point, which is now known as Port Road. The Brick Row study area was first occupied after a survey in 1667 of London Derry, a 500 acre tract. A map of Talbot County dated 1858 delimits the Brick Row parcel, which appeared to have been unimproved. A later map, dated 1877, clearly shows the presence of structures at Brick Row. A search of Tax Assessments and land records revealed nothing to pinpoint the date of construction. A tentative date of 1870 for the construction of the row houses was determined based on an architectural style assessment. Brick Row, prior to the 20th century, was only generally referred to as being the parcel on the north side of Port Street. The designation Brick Row seems to have its origins in early 20th century cursory folk usage as opposed to legal citation. A detailed 1919 map of each of the 11 row house properties shows the residences with sheds attached and, in one case, a separate backyard structure. A later 1927 map indicates that several of the attached sheds no longer existed. The latest available plot plan of the Brick Row properties dates from 1981 and shows that the houses were then owned by 5 individuals, two of whom owned houses not contiguous. The map shows a slightly different size of the 2 most easterly lots and no other structures are recorded.

The funding of a Housing Authority of the Town of Easton project by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development necessitated a cultural resources investigation of the proposed project site. The project consisted of the construction of 15 turnkey public housing units within the limits of the Easton Historic District of the National Register of Historic Places. Ten of those units were to be constructed within the site area. A Phase I/II evaluation of the site was undertaken in late 1982. Although in the original report the authors state that Phase I work was conducted (the excavation of several shovel test pits), the investigations also included the excavation of 3 test units and a mechanically excavated trench. For the purposes of the synthesis project, and Maryland State guidelines for archeological research, that constitutes Phase II work. At the time of the archeological investigations, the site was a vacant lot. The lot was acquired by the Town of Easton in 1981 and the structures located thereon (the eleven 19th century row houses) were demolished.

Prior to subsurface testing, informant interviews were conducted. These indicated that a large portion of the Brick Row project area has been heavily disturbed and was therefore unlikely to contain any intact cultural resources. The structures were built without basements and on shallow foundations. The foundations were demolished by heavy machinery and stripped to 30.48 cm (1') below the bottoms of the footers. All debris was removed and clean fill was then placed over the stripped area. The sidewalk along Port Street and a narrow portion of the fronts of the structures remained undisturbed. The portion of the western end of the backyard where utility construction had occurred was also stripped to remove all existing pipes. Only the northeastern section of the Brick Row property remained relatively undisturbed. In addition, a pedestrian survey of the project area proceeded by a careful search of the areas of bare soil. All artifacts encountered were retained.

Subsurface examination was conducted once a grid system was in place with a datum point located at the curb of Port Street adjacent to a power line pole. A total of 22 shovel test pits (STPs) were placed at 3.048 m or 4.572 m (10' or 15') intervals depending upon the extent of disturbance in an area. All soils were troweled and any artifacts encountered were retained. Three test units (TU 1-3) were then placed where surface examination and/or shovel testing indicated the presence of buried features. TU 1 measured approximately 43.18 x 63.5 cm, TU 2 measured approximately 66.04 x 96.52 cm, and TU 3 measured approximately 48.26 x 35.56 cm. Measurements are approximations based on plan view drawings in the original report. A narrow test trench was placed in an area of the Brick Row property which included both disturbed and undisturbed deposits. It was excavated for drainage needs as well as to determine the depth of the sterile subsoil in that area of the site. No features were encountered and verification of the limits of the disturbed area was made. All excavated soils were screened and a representative number of 19th and 20th century artifacts were retained. No systematic attempt was made to sample the deposits.

While in most of the project area heavily disturbed soils were encountered, in the northeast section of the property relatively undisturbed profiles were noted. A top layer of dark gray organic soil contained large numbers of artifacts. Below that, a diffuse level of dark gray material rested on top of the yellow, sandy clay subsoil. In STP N60/E75, three artifact bearing levels were encountered. Each of the STPs in the northeast section of the site appeared to contain in situ culturally-developed deposits. Some had large concentrations of coal and ash while others contained heavy artifact concentrations.

Four features were identified during the investigations. At about 25.4 cm (10") below ground level, STP N15/W75 came down on top of a brick walkway feature (Feature 1). Feature 1 was more fully exposed when TU 1 was opened. The walk consisted of randomly placed brick in a single course, was laid dry, and was made up of whole and broken bricks. Probing revealed that the feature was about 1.828 m (6') in length and ran perpendicular to the Port Street sidewalk. Two features were encountered in TU 2 which was placed in a relatively undisturbed area in the northeast portion of the site. Feature 2 consisted of a terra cotta drain pipe that appeared to have served as a rain water runoff from the structures towards the lower part of the property at Pleasant Alley. Feature 3 was interpreted to be a deposit of coal ash and soil which may have been intentionally buried in a low depression; however, the exact nature of the feature is unknown. Test unit 3 was placed in an area where two 18th century glass bottles bases were located during the pedestrian survey. The only feature (Feature 4) encountered in the unit was determined to be an animal burrow but TU 3 did confirm the presence of an undisturbed midden deposit in the northeastern portion of the property. The midden appeared to have been the result of almost entirely 20th century activity within the houses at Brick Row.

The overwhelming evidence of the artifact content pointed to deposits dating from the later, 20th century, Brick Row occupation rather than an earlier and perhaps historically significant occupation at the site. However, the presence of ceramics that date to a period prior to occupation at the site is unexplained. It is possible that another, earlier, structure had at one time been located on the property. A total of 966 artifacts were collected. There were 23 activity items (1 scythe blade, 1 wrench fragment, 1 machinery tooth, 2 ceramic insulators, 8 chimney glass fragments, 1 glass marble, 1 milk glass lamp base fragment, 5 terra cotta flower pot pieces, 1 pencil part-a ferrule, 1 auto headlight fragment, 1 battery, 9 volt). There were 244 architectural items (2 brick fragments, 96



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number:

Site Name:

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief  
Description:

late 19th century brick rowhouses

Unknown

window glass shards, 9 cut nails, 91 wire nails, 1 roofing nail, 26 unidentified nails, 2 pieces of mortar, 6 gutter strap fragments, 1 piece of galvanized roofing, 1 hinge fragment, 1 screw and nut, 7 asbestos siding fragments, 1 piece of electrical wire). The 8 furniture items consisted of 1 copper tack, 1 metal hook, 1 copper furniture fixture, 2 metal handles, and 3 cast iron stove parts. There were 10 clothing items (1 belt buckle, 1 bone button, 1 porcelain button, 5 milk glass buttons, 1 small red glass bead, 1 shoe heel). There were 614 kitchen related items (311 bottle glass fragments, 8 table glass fragments, 1 panel bottle, 11 milk glass fragments, 2 stoneware sherds, 119 whiteware, 39 porcelain, 4 yellow ware, 10 ironstone, 5 redware, 3 American Blue&Gray, 3 stoneware, 2 Bennington-type, 5 earthenware, 1 unidentified sherd, 1 milk glass lid liner, 1 metal bottle top, 1 enameled tin cup, 1 snail shell, 15 oyster shell fragments, 71 animal tooth and bone fragments). There were 58 miscellaneous items (20 unidentified metal objects, 10 plastic fragments, 19 coal/ash, 3 unidentified synthetic objects-1 possibly a strap, 5 tar pieces, 1 celluloid disk). There were 2 personal items (1 Buffalo nickel, possibly 1917, 1 hair comb fragment). A total of 7 tobacco related items were recovered including a Pamplin-style reed pipe (ca. 1820-1900), and 6 terra cotta pipe fragments.

The Brick Row Site (18TA204) consists of 11 non-extant brick row houses that were constructed during the late 19th century. Based upon the available documentary evidence, the earliest recorded occupation at Brick Row dates to ca. 1870, which is the approximate date of construction of the row houses. It was the opinion that the remaining cultural resources at the site did not constitute a significant research data base. Therefore, the proposed public housing project at Brick Row would not have an adverse effect on the cultural resources. The Housing Authority of the Town of Easton project was completed.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005231