



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18WC103

Site Name: Whitehaven Hotel

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief Description:

18th-19th-20th century frame structure/ hotel/residence/store, townsite

Unknown

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.2762

Longitude -75.7797

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 0-6 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) Wicomico River

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 3 m

## Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site

Woodland site

Contact period site

ca. 1820 - 1860

Y

Archaic site

MD Adena

ca. 1630 - 1675

ca. 1860 - 1900

Y

Early archaic

Early woodland

ca. 1675 - 1720

ca. 1900 - 1930

Y

Middle archaic

Mid. woodland

ca. 1720 - 1780

Post 1930

Y

Late archaic

Late woodland

ca. 1780 - 1820

Y

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? 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

hotel, store

## Interpretive Sampling Data:

### Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

### Historic context samples

Soil samples taken 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"/>	Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	18	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	56	Staffordshire	2	<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	623	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	44	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	168	Pearlware	358			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	2

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	26	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	1	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	18	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input 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		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	1560	Activity item(s)	210
Glass (all)	2989	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	7210	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	14	Misc. kitchen	3472
Arms	7	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	37	Misc.	3056
Personal items	12	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	sheet mid,	
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" 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



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Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Whitehaven Hotel Site (18WC103) is a historic building used previously as a residence and as a hotel. It is a three-storey frame structure situated on about 3 acres of land along the Wicomico River in Whitehaven, Wicomico County. At the time of its first archeological study the building was vacant. Plans to recondition the building for use as a bed and breakfast prompted archeological work. The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) holds a perpetual historic preservation easement on the property and through this easement requested that excavation take place. The easement includes the entire grounds and any archeological resources included there.

Phase I and Phase II research was carried out between April and June of 1997. The main goals of the study were: to define the nature of the archeological deposits at the site, to determine if archeological remains are NRHP eligible, to mitigate the impacts of methods employed in raising the building off its foundations as part of the construction of footer trenches and new pier supports for the hotel, and to augment the interpretation of the property's history. Extensive archival research included a chain of title search, probate inventories, tax records, and other documents. The history of the Whitehaven Hotel property indicates that the land had several uses through time; there have been residences, stores, a stable, and a hotel at the site. Structures were present on the property at least by the late 1700s. Today, above ground remains include the hotel itself, which consists of 3 different sections built at different time periods (1810-1815, 1887, and 1900). There are also the visible remains of at least 4 outbuildings, including the current 20th century tin clad frame garage, brick paving or a foundation of an unknown purpose, a 20th century structure (possibly a garage), and a set of pier supports that are not regularly spaced or sized. At the time of this study, no other survey had been conducted within 8 km of the site.

Fieldwork involved the excavation of 112 shovel test pits (STPs) placed on a 6.09 m (20 ft) grid, except on the north side of the hotel where STPs were set at 1.52 m (5 ft) intervals to better understand the deposits found in the yard. Twenty 0.762 X 0.762 m (2.5 ft X 2.5 ft) and two 1.52 X 1.52 m (5 ft X 5 ft) test units (TUs) were dug. A number of features were identified in the test units.

Feature 1 (F1) was first encountered while excavating TU S110 E1080. The unit was placed to examine an area that shovel testing indicated was a deep disturbance, possibly a feature. Layers within the unit were determined by the amount and types of artifacts as no soil change was occurring. The feature has been interpreted as a well and the layers represent infill of the well over time. Excavation of the unit was halted on top of a nearly continuous layer of oyster shell at about 42 cm (1.38 ft) below the ground surface. The unit landed completely inside the large cultural feature, which was designated F1. No edge of F1 was encountered. Seven layers were excavated in feature (the 7th layer being the shell layer). The artifacts within the feature fill represent over 300 years of time but primarily date to the late 19th century. Layer 6 also revealed a sherd of prehistoric pottery (Townsend) and a.jasper flake.

TU S1105 E1085 was opened up adjacent to TU S110 E1080 in order to define the edge of F1. Excavation indicated that the feature measured over 3.05 m (10 ft) wide, which is typical of a well. It had sloping sides, the result of caving in of loose soil around the well shaft. Features 13, 14, 15, and 16 were also encountered in this unit. F13 was a shovel test. F14 was the edge of a brick walkway that led away from the hotel and ended where a Victorian porch once stood. F13 and F14 were found at the base of level 1 and suggest a date into the mid-20th century. F15 and F16 are both post hole/ post mold combinations along the edge of the brick walkway. These features were found at the base of layer 5 and are likely 19th century in age and possibly related to the well.

Feature 2 (F2) was located in TU S110 E1020 beneath layer 3, through layer 4 and was dug into the subsoil. F2 was a nearly circular stain about 36.57 cm (1.2 ft) in diameter and was interpreted as a post hole with no post mold. The stratigraphic position of the feature suggests it is to be dated no earlier than the mid-19th century. Fifty-six artifacts were collected from F2 (23 oyster shell, 3 bone fragments, 13 brick fragments, 2 creamware and 2 pearlware sherds, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, a kaolin pipe fragment, and glass).

Feature 3 (F3) was found in layer 4 of TUs S1115 E1045 SW ¼ and NW ¼. F3 was partially uncovered and appeared as a square-cornered stain. The soil matrix of the feature was clayey with wood fragments. Three artifacts were found (1 piece of iron, 1 oyster shell fragment, and 1 whiteware sherd). It likely dates to the demolition of the 20th century addition.

Feature 4 (F4) was also encountered within S1115 E1045 SW ¼ and NW ¼. Only a small portion of the feature was uncovered and based on the profile was interpreted as a post hole/ post mold combination. The age of F4 is unknown.

Feature 5 (F5) was located within TU S1115 E1025 NE ¼ at the rear of the building that was once occupied by the 20th century addition. F5 was a small, square feature dug into the subsoil, its size and shape suggesting it is the mold of a 1.22 X 1.22 m (4X4 ft) post. No artifacts were found within the feature.

Feature 6 (F6) was also located within TU S1115 E1025 NE ¼. F6 was interpreted as a root stain rather than cultural after it was excavated.

Feature 7 (F7) was identified within unit S1110 E1055 NW ¼ that was dug towards the rear of the hotel in an area where excavation would occur during building lifting. F7 was a linear stain found below layer 2. The feature contained an iron pipe, confirming its interpretation as a utility trench. F7 crossed the entire unit and measured about 30.48 cm (1 ft) wide. Trenching disturbed the surrounding soils and the cultural material therein. Artifacts dating from prehistoric times (Townsend-type pottery) and later were encountered and the presence of an asphalt shingle suggested that the trench dates to after the mid-20th century.

Feature 8 (F8) was also encountered within TU S1110 E1055 NW ¼. The outline of the partially excavated feature was rounded and appeared to encircle a pier support for the Victorian wing of the hotel. Within F8 was a mixed fill and it dates stratigraphically earlier than F7. Artifacts included oyster shell, brick, window glass, a nail, and 3 sherds, dating the feature to after the mid-19th century.

Feature 9 (F9) was located within TU S1105 E1065 SE ¼, which was placed in the rear of the hotel in an area where excavation would occur during building lifting. F9 extended across the floor of the unit and exposed a plastic water line clearly indicating that this feature is dated to the late 20th century.

Feature 11 (F11) was located in TU S1090 E1010 SE1/4. The unit was excavated to mitigate impacts that were to be caused by excavation necessary to elevate the hotel building. F11 was found within the subsoil. The feature, which has been interpreted as a posthole, was partially excavated. It was roughly circular with steeply sloping sides and a flat bottom and measured about 51.8 cm (1.7 ft) in diameter. Mortar, glass, brick, and nails were found within F11.



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Unknown

Feature 17 (F17) and Feature 18 (F18) were located in TU S1060 E1070 NW ¼ and S1060 E1070 SW ¼. These units were placed in order to investigate a portion of the yard that shovel testing indicated might contain stratified and early deposits. Both features were identified below layer 2 (a coal layer with other artifacts). F17 turned out to part of layer 3 rather than a true feature and F18 was a "pocket" of nails with no discernable soil matrix.

Feature 19 (F19) was a large irregular stain identified within units S1070 E1080 SW ¼ and S1070 E1080 NW ¼ during investigation of the yard. There were 55 artifacts within F19 (brick, mortar, nails, window glass, a piece of whiteware, and a piece of porcelain). The irregular shape of the feature suggested to the archeologists that this was a root stain, not a cultural feature.

Thousands of artifacts were recovered from the STPs and the test units. Bulk items of coal, oyster shell, brick, and mortar were sorted from other material, counted, and discarded. There were 210 activity-related items (1 ceramic skeet, 1 harmonica fragment, 2 ceramic doll arms, 1 jack, 1 ceramic marble, 7 pieces of slate pencil, 187 shards of chimney lamp glass, 1 car head light shard, 1 shard of auto window glass, 1 car battery part, 1 iron file, 1 piece of chicken wire, 1 horseshoe, 1 iron hoe, and 1 staple). There were 7,210 architectural items (1,439 brick fragments, 9 pieces of plaster, 9 concrete/cement fragments, 2 wrought nails, 332 cut nails, 187 wire nails, 2,419 unidentified nails, 1 metal knob, 2 brass hinge parts, 1 iron hinge, 1,524 window glass shards, 661 pieces of mortar, 7 pieces of gypsum/ window putty, 4 spikes, 6 screws, 1 piece of wood moulding, 6 plumbing pipe fragments, 3 pieces of electrical wire, 2 porcelain bathroom fixture pieces, 1 washer, 70 pieces of tar paper, 2 metal latch parts, 12 miscellaneous architectural, and 17 miscellaneous hardware). Thirty-seven clothing items included 18 glass buttons, 5 bone buttons, 1 shell button, 7 brass buttons, 1 silver button, 2 metal buckles, 1 metal closure, 1 cuff-link, and 1 iron pin. The 14 furniture items were 11 brass tacks and 3 metal curtain rods. There were 6,302 kitchen-related items (1 Delft ware sherd, 2 Staffordshire slipware, 220 red-bodied earthenware sherds, 168 creamware and 358 pearlware sherds, 2 semiporcelain and 42 porcelain sherds, 56 ironstone fragments, 2 white salt-glazed stoneware, 623 whiteware, 38 yellow ware sherds, 17 Rockingham sherds, 97 bottle glass shards, 1,213 shards of table glass, 4 pieces of milk glass, 8 glass lid liner fragments, 2 bone knife handle pieces, 2 metal knife blade fragments, 1 can key, 11 metal jar lid pieces, 13 bottle caps and pull tabs, 2 aluminum can fragments, 3 pieces of aluminum foil, 1,034 animal bones including fish, reptile, pig, cow, muskrat, squirrel, snapping turtle, diamond back terrapin, rabbit, chicken, and duck, 2,321 oyster shell fragments, 52 clam shell fragments, and 16 floral items including 6 walnut shells). There were 3,056 miscellaneous items (46 shards of unidentified glass, 1 piece of string, 22 pieces of unidentified metal and 158 unidentified iron fragments, 13 wood fragments, 37 pieces of plastic, 18 pieces of slate (possibly architectural), 3 pieces of styrofoam, 1,566 coal pieces, 375 cinder pieces, and 817 unidentified miscellaneous). The 12 personal items include 4 mirror fragments, 4 pieces of plastic comb, 1 item of brass jewelry, two 20th century copper pennies and one 1895 Indian Head penny. Nine arms-related items were found including 1 French gunflint, 1 shotgun shell casing, and 7 bullet casings. A total of 45 prehistoric artifacts were also recovered from the site (26 pieces of debitage, mostly jasper flakes, 1 fire-cracked rock, and 18 Late Woodland period, Townsend ceramics sherds). The artifacts tallied above do not match the tallies of artifacts listed in the text, which states that 17,026 artifacts were collected during the Phase I and Phase II investigations. The totals above are taken primarily from the data tables in the appendix as many items were not clearly tallied in the text. The counts taken from the text were for brick fragments, coal and cinder, faunal remains except clam, floral remains, clay pipe fragments, arms-related items, mortar, asphalt, shingle, nails, unidentified miscellaneous objects, and all ceramics except for porcelain. The new total artifact count is 17,015.

Material collections assessed from the STPs revealed a non-uniform distribution of artifacts across the Whitehaven Hotel property. The south side of the building closest to the river contained few artifacts. The rear and east yard contained large amounts of artifacts and cultural features. The area to the east of the hotel contained 18th and 19th century items. Eighteenth century material, such as creamware and pearlware, were found in the greatest quantities from TUs around the Victorian wing of the building. This suggests that the original late 18th century building was likely in the same location as the Victorian wing. Material remains dated to the late 19th and early 20th centuries related to the hotel period of the property were scattered across the yard. The distribution of the prehistoric artifacts found at the site was not clearly expressed in the report. Although the objects do come from disturbed/ mixed contexts on the property, areas with low historic artifacts densities were not excavated and may provide a venue for further research that investigates the prehistoric component at the site.

The Whitehaven Hotel Site (18WC103) is rich in material culture and represents a significant archeological resource. It is recommended that any future earth moving activity at the site should be evaluated for impacts on archeological resources. In particular, the area to the north and east of the hotel building, including the area under the Victorian wing, are the most critical for containing archeological deposits. The site is eligible for the NRHP under criterion D.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006872