



# Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18WC164

Site Name: Quantico Creek Shipyard

Prehistoric

Other name(s) Quantico Creek #4, QC 4

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description: Early to Mid 19th century shipyard

## Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.3551

Longitude -75.7807

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 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  High terrace
- Hilltop/bluff  Rockshelter/cave
- Interior flat  Hillslope
- Upland flat  Unknown
- Ridgetop  Other
- Terrace  shoreline
- Low terrace

### Ownership

- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Regional/county/city
- Unknown

### Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Quantico Creek

#### Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

#### Freshwater

Stream/river

Swamp

Lake or pond

Spring

## 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? Rural

#### Domestic

Homestead

Farmstead

Mansion

Plantation

Row/townhome

Cellar

Privy

#### Industrial

Mining-related

Quarry-related

Mill

Black/metalsmith

Furnace/forge

Other  shipyard

#### 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		Koens-Crispin	
Clovis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perkiomen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susquehana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piscataway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calvert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Le Croy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Selby Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guilford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brewerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison/Potomac	<input type="checkbox"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Levanna	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types			
Marcey Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selden Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accokeek	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mockley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shepard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/>
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		Ironstone		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
<b>Earthenware</b>		Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Porcelain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/>			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/>					Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

## Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<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"/>
Midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lithic reduc area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage/trash pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Lithic Material		Fer quartzite		Sil sandstone	
Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input 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)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faunal material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Early to Mid 19th century shipyard

Unknown

## External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

## Summary Description:

The Quantico Creek #4 Site (18WC164) is a multicomponent industrial shipyard site located on the south side of Quantico Creek and along both sides of an unnamed creek in Wicomico County. The exact age of the site is unknown but the shipyard is noted on an 1865 map of (old) Somerset County. The majority of the site is located on the western side of the unnamed creek. Currently, the site is located at the edge of an active agricultural field and is accessible only from the water. Interviews with the landowners revealed that a farmhouse was at one time located on the property about 100 m south of the site. The house was torn down within the last 50 years but two members of that household are buried in a small family cemetery that is situated approximately ¼ mile from the extant house.

The site was located during The Lower Eastern Shore Shipyard Survey, which was part of a dissertation study through the Department of Anthropology at Florida State University. The project was designed to study the material culture and technology associated with wooden shipbuilding in the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. The project was sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum and funded through a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust. Three phases of archeological research were conducted between December 2005 and October 2006 to identify shipyard sites and document other historical maritime archeological resources within selected waterways of Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties, Maryland.

Phase I involved exhaustive historical research using primary and secondary sources to identify shipwrights and merchant operating shipyards in the area of old Somerset County, Maryland between 1660 and 1820. This data was compared with a database of 17th and 18th century patent and tract boundaries that may have been involved with shipbuilding. In combination with data on soil types capable of supporting shoreline structures, a predictive model was established with locations of high probability areas for containing shipyard sites. Phase II consisted of a shoreline archeological survey of those areas predicted to have high potential for containing shipyards. The survey relied on visual inspection of the shoreline from a boat at low tide. When historic sites or shipwrecks were identified along the shoreline, their position was mapped using a handheld GPS unit, photographs and/or videos were taken, and brief notes were completed. In some cases, more intensive investigation included a preliminary pedestrian survey of the shoreline. Phase III of the project involved collecting additional data about some of the sites identified during the initial survey. Site 18WC164 is one such site. During this phase of the project exposed timbers and other structural remains were measured and mapped.

Site 18WC164 has many components, including elements of at least two, and possibly three, wharves. Wharf 1 is made up of at least 5 large timbers (T11-T15) that extend perpendicular from the shoreline towards the channel. At the shore line these rounded timbers are buried in marsh and gravel and possibly represent a repair episode to a large timber wharf. T14 is approximately 12.7 m long and extends into the shoreline about 3.7 meters. The 5 timbers have relatively little slope and extend straight into the water. A pile of modern brick and cinderblock covers the shoreline edge of this wharf and was likely added to create a boat launch area.

A large timber bulkhead is situated roughly parallel to the shoreline and perpendicular to the timbers of Wharf 1 just beyond the end of the 5 timbers of Wharf 1. The bulkhead is about 13.3 m in length and is at least 3 courses high at its west end. Side Scar Sonar images indicate that several courses of timber from the bulkhead may have detached and now lay on the bottom of the creek near the wharf. A single large piling at the northeast corner of the bulkhead marks the outermost edge of Wharf 1.

Wharf 2, a large crib wharf measuring 23 X 11 m in size, is located just east of Wharf 1. It is composed of a cribwork, or bulkhead, of logs and is filled with large gravel. The wharf fronts both the Quantico Creek and an unnamed creek to the east. Wharf 2 is not completely square and its structure gives shape to the shoreline. In all likelihood part of the wharf may have collapsed.

A set of parallel timbers extending from the tidal marsh towards the channel are located east of Wharf 1. This feature was tentatively identified as a slipway (Slipway 1). The slipway is composed of parallel launching rails that are spaced about 2.6 m apart. The squared timbers are placed end-to-end and aligned to form a rail. A portion of both rails extend into the tidal marsh behind the shoreline. An excavation unit 0.75 X 0.75 m in the tidal marsh revealed the better preserved end of the railway. The slipway rails are approximately 31 X 31 cm square and 26.4 m in length and the timber is perfectly flat suggesting that it was cut with a straight saw. There is a large debris field at the end of Slipway 1.

The remains of a small mill dam and several pilings were located just east of Wharf 2 on the unnamed creek. The dam was built across the main channel of the creek which is heavily silted and consists of 1 or more large timbers that expand the creek. A row of vertically driven sharpened oak planks are located on the south side of these timbers. Two fragments of these planks were measured and were 3.3 cm thick and 19 and 26.5 cm wide respectively. Evidence suggests that the planks were made using a circular saw. On the east bank of the creek there is a large debris field of whole bricks and brickbats which may represent the remains of another wharf, a portion of the tide mill, or another portion of the shipyard.

In 2006, dendochronological testing of the site was conducted. Numerous samples were collected from multiple timbers from the site. Test results failed to yield a match with any historically dated timber from the region. A single artifact, a bronze spike, was recovered from the site. A local informant did report that he has collected a number of bronze spikes from this area of the site. The spikes are used to fasten timber and plank features below the waterline.

Based on cartographic data and the presence of a slipway, the Quantico Creek #4 Site (18WC164) is interpreted as a probable mid-19th century shipyard site. Further investigations at the site would help to definitely determine the function of various portions of the site and its overall precise nature. Additional work may also help to more precisely pinpoint the dates of use.

## External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

97003145