



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18WC29

Site Name: Pemberton Hall

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

mid 18th century plantation and Woodland ceramic scatter

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code NoA

Latitude 38.3497

Longitude -75.6354

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation 5 m

Site slope 0-5%

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) Bell Creek

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Minimum distance to water is 200 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

ceramic scatter

Historic

Urban/Rural? Rural

Domestic

Homestead

Farmstead

Mansion

Plantation

Row/townhome

Cellar

Privy

Industrial

Mining-related

Quarry-related

Mill cider press

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 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	<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		Staffordshire		Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jackfield	19	Tin Glazed	1	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	594	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	60	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creamware	41	Pearlware	169			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	3

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	2	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	1	Modified faunal	1
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	5	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	21	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input 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

Numerous historic features containing diagnostic historic artifacts.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	1045	Activity item(s)	28
Glass (all)	12411	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	14034	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	17	Misc. kitchen	6415
Arms	1	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	36	Misc.	3815
Personal items	94	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"/>	piers	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Pemberton Hall Site (18WC29) consists of the archeological deposits associated with a standing mid 18th century manor house and the core outbuildings associated with the Pemberton Hall plantation. In addition to the historic deposits, a Woodland period ceramic scatter has also been identified on the site. The site is part of the Pemberton Historical Park, established by the Wicomico County Recreation and Parks as a public recreational facility. The site is situated approximately 1 mile southeast of Salisbury, MD, adjacent to the Wicomico River. The property is kept mostly in lawn, with some areas dedicated to reconstructed orchards and gardens. Soils at the site include Evesboro sands, loamy sands, and clayey sands.

Pemberton Hall (MIHP# WI-1) is a three-bay, 1½ storey brick house laid in Flemish bond with a gambrel roof. The date "1741" is scratched in a brick above the side door of the house. The interior of the dwelling survives with a large percentage of mid-18th century woodwork original to the house. The first floor was built on a three-room plan, while the second floor is divided into four chambers the open off a narrow passage that runs along the north side. A ca. 1786 kitchen wing was reconstructed on the east end of the house during the 1970s. The house, originally constructed for Colonel Isaac Handy and his wife, Ann Dashiell, represents one of the oldest dated brick gambrel roofed dwellings in Maryland. The manor house at Pemberton Hall was entered into the National Register of Historic Places in 1971.

The story of Pemberton Hall's significance includes two charter members of the Society of the Cincinnati, a Governor of Maryland, a Colonel in the Maryland Militia, and an ardent Confederate sympathizer. The association of these men to the house is coupled with Pemberton Hall's 18th century Maryland architectural design and construction features and details.

The Pemberton Hall tract, first patented in 1679 to William Stevens, was conveyed to Thomas Pemberton four years later. In 1726, Joseph Pemberton sold the land to Isaac Handy. The Handy and Pemberton families played significant roles in the affairs of the County. Isaac Handy, builder of Pemberton Hall in 1741, was a Justice of the Peace, a planter, and a Colonel in the Maryland Militia. He founded a shipping business as a result of servicing local planters through "Handy's Landing", a wharf he built on the property.

One of Isaac Handy's five sons, George Handy (1756-1820), was a charter member of the Society of the Cincinnati (a patriotic organization founded by officers in the Continental Army). Though he never owned Pemberton Hall, George Handy served in the Maryland Line in the Fifth Regiment as well as Lee's Dragoons in the American Revolution. After Isaac Handy's death in late 1762 or early 1763, the house became the property of George Handy's brother, Henry Handy. Isaac was reportedly buried on the property, but his grave has never been located.

Over the years that followed Isaac's death, Henry and George Handy disputed the common boundary of Pemberton Plantation (owned by Henry) and George's tracts, which were to the east. This dispute was not resolved until 1782, when an arbitration commission rendered a judgment that established the boundary lines between their properties and adjusted the acreage of their plots.

Henry Handy died in 1787, having expanded considerably the size of Pemberton plantation from its original configuration under his father's ownership. According to Henry's estate inventory, the Pemberton plantation operation required the services of 20 slaves. In addition to farming tobacco and other crops, Henry owned a scow and continued to develop the family's wharf business, and also owned a cotton gin (suggesting that he was experimenting with cotton production). His property was bequeathed to his son, also named Henry.

The Federal Census of 1798 shows that the Pemberton property was fully developed by the late 18th century. According to that document, the Pemberton tract contained a brick dwelling house, a single storey brick kitchen (22 X 18 ft), a dairy, a frame barn, a brick stable, a corn house, a slave quarter (14 X 16 ft), a two-storey tannery, and an associated frame bark house for storing the bark used in the tanning process. The entire estate was valued at \$2,586.23.

Henry Handy II died in 1803 and the property was divided among his heirs. A court case in 1805 determined the boundaries of Nancy Handy's claim to her dower. Handy's widow was to enjoy the use of two rooms in the house, all of the cook house, the smoke house, the slave quarter standing east of the house, the milkhouse, the orchards, and unrestricted use of the well for as long as she lived. The acreage amounted to 111.25 acres, including 48.75 acres of cultivated land.

In order to divide the shares of the estate equally among Handy's heirs, a public sale of the remaining property was held in 1806. Sale notices emphasized the fine location of the land, an estate "considered to be one of the handsomest situations on Wicomico River, high and easy to cultivate". The advertisements further described a brick dwelling house, outhouses apple orchards, and a tanyard with suitable buildings. Thomas Winder Handy, Henry's brother, offered the highest price for the property.

Thomas Handy and his wife, by then living in Newcastle, Delaware, sold the property to Jehu Parsons for \$2,500 in 1835. In 1859, Jehu's son Alison inherited the tract. Under the Parsons family ownership, the commercial and maritime aspects of the Pemberton tract appear to have developed, and the type of farming practiced on the property changed significantly. Both tobacco and cotton were abandoned as cash crops. Instead, the agricultural census returns for 1850 and 1860 indicate that the Parsons had adopted a diversified farming mode. The farm at Pemberton during the mid 19th century produced such diverse items as small grains (corn, oats, barley), livestock, potatoes (sweet and Irish), beans, dairy products, wool, and honey. The farm also apparently was heavily engaged in the production and sale of distilled spirits based on an inventory that included ale and brandy casks, cider presses, stills, and a whiskey pump and syphon. Newspapers of the late 19th century ran advertisements for A.F. Parsons & Company liquor store and Jehu T. Parsons' Orient Saloon.

Throughout the Civil War era, Alison Parsons was a Southern sympathizer. Despite the Federal troops encamped in nearby Salisbury, Parsons insisted on firing a cannon upon the receipt of news of each Confederate victory. After issuing several ultimatums to Parsons, US Army soldiers raided Pemberton Hall in order to silence the cannon. However, Parsons had buried it before their arrival. In addition to the cannon firing which provoked the raid, Parsons used Pemberton Hall as a rendezvous for Eastern Shore Confederate sympathizers.

After the death of Alison Parsons in 1868, Elihu Jackson (who would serve as the Governor of Maryland from 1888 to 1892) and James Cannon purchased the property at a public sale. Tenants apparently occupied the property and cultivated the land during this period. Jackson sold his share of the land to Cannon in 1873. Cannon sold his interest in Pemberton Hall to Cadmus J. Taylor in 1884, who willed the property to his son, James Ichabod Taylor. James



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Taylor's son, Rex A. Taylor, a Judge of the Wicomico County Circuit Court, and his brother, Seth Taylor, owned Pemberton Hall from 1931-1963, at which time the Pemberton Hall Foundation took it over.

Since the late 20th century, the Pemberton Hall foundation, in concert with the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Wicomico County Department of Recreation and Parks, has endeavored to restore Pemberton Hall and its various outbuildings to their appearance in the late 18th century.

Archeological investigations of various types have taken place at 18WC29 since at least the 1960s, unfortunately published or privately prepared reports of these excavations do not currently exist. It is known that in 1968, several amateur archeologists (including K-12 students) conducted survey and test trenching at the site. They dug at least ten test pits and one trench. They located a 25.4 X 25.4 cm (10 X 10 in) postmold as well as the remains of a fireplace. However, the location of these finds is lost.

In 1972, members of the Lower Shore Chapter of the Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) excavated portions of a brick foundation east of the main house. According to MHT correspondence files, the foundation had been located several years prior to 1972, and the ASM volunteers were re-excavating the find to gather more detailed information. The 1972 excavation also examined the area on the east end of the main house had stood. This is believed to be the kitchen identified in a late 18th century tax assessment. The foundations and other features were recovered and examined. Information from this excavation aided in the building of a reconstructed kitchen wing on this spot in the late 1970s. There are some maps from these 1972 digs, but no report is known to exist.

In 1983, archeological testing was conducted by the Maryland Historical Trust Regional Center prior to construction of a septic system for Pemberton Hall. This work identified a well and postmold feature associated with the well. A series of maps exist from this work and the artifacts are in storage at Pemberton Historical Park, but no formal report exists.

In 1986, the Archeological Society of Maryland conducted their annual Field Session in Archeology at Pemberton Hall. The area east of the house, including the location of the previously identified foundation, was excavated. The brick foundation was uncovered and mapped. Since more ground around the foundation was exposed at this time than previously, it was learned that at least two, and possibly three, foundations were actually present. Small pockets of refuse were identified as trash pits or middens and some post holes were found to the north of the foundation. Excavation of the area around the foundation, however, was not wholly complete, with builder's trench, robber's trench, and other features left in situ. Field notes from this work were turned over to the Pemberton Foundation, but no report of the work was prepared.

The first fully documented archeological project conducted at 18WC29 occurred in 1989. In that year, Salisbury State University surveyed areas surrounding Pemberton Hall. Excavations centered on the south side of the house to locate details of the stoop and stair configuration and any associated walkways in this area, and in yard areas where outbuildings were purported to have been located. In addition, test units were opened up in the basement to examine architectural and construction details.

Shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated at 3.05 m (10 ft) intervals in the area north of the front drive at Pemberton Hall during the 1989 project. STPs were 61 X 61 cm (2 X 2 ft) in size and normally extended to a depth of about 61 cm. Standardized STP forms were used to record data. A total of 78 STPs were opened at the site. Most of the artifacts found in these STPs came from areas in close proximity to the main house, suggesting that this area was the locus of most human activity.

A total of seventy-four 1.524 X 1.524 m (5 X 5 ft) test units were excavated in areas of interest. Twenty of these test units were opened in the back of the house to search for evidence of the stoop configuration. Twelve test units were excavated in the front of the house to search for evidence of walkways and outbuildings. And 42 test units were excavated to the east of the house to search for the location of purported slave quarters in the area. Excavations were also undertaken in the basement of Pemberton Hall. A 2.29 X 2.29 m (7.5 X 7.5 ft) unit was excavated in the northwest corner of the west room of the basement. A 3.05 X 3.05 m (10 X 10 ft) unit was excavated directly in front of the stairs leading to the outside door, and the entire east room of the basement was excavated.

Excavation methods for the formal test units varied, with some units been excavated with a trowel and screened through hardware cloth, and other units being excavated with a shovel and without screening. In units that were not screened, only diagnostic artifacts were grab sampled. Other materials were ignored. In the screened units, all artifacts were retained except brick, mortar, and slag, which were weighed, sampled, and then discarded. Excavations were conducted in natural levels and pertinent data were recorded on standardized forms. Most test units were excavated to sterile soil and a stratigraphic profile was drawn. All features excavated were cross-sectioned and feature profiles were drawn.

The test units in the back of the house uncovered brick piers associated with the 18th century stoop. Additionally, postmolds associated with the 19th century were found and several other features were uncovered. In the area in front of the house, where 12 test units were situated, a large section of an 18th century brick walkway was discovered and mapped. In the area east of the house, several features were discovered, including the cinder block foundation of a 19th/20th century barn. However, little evidence suggesting that a slave quarter stood in this area was uncovered. Diagnostic materials in the basement were primarily from the 19th century. While more material was uncovered in the west room and in the area by the stairs, it was primarily miscellaneous building debris. In the east room of the basement, however, a floor of square fireplace bricks was discovered at a depth of about 6.1 cm. The basement floor throughout appeared to be hard-packed earth.

Scattered deposits of prehistoric artifacts were also encountered during the 1989 excavations at 18WC29. These were not considered to be significant resources.

Historic artifacts recovered during the 1989 excavations at 18WC29 included 20 activity items, 13,911 architectural artifacts, 36 clothing items (20 shell buttons, 5 metal buttons, 8 wood buttons, and 3 pieces of leather), 8 furniture objects (1 glass drawer pull, 1 stove door, and 6 brass furniture parts), 11,477 kitchen-related artifacts, 69 personal items, 14 tobacco pipe fragments (10 stems and 4 bowls), and 3,775 miscellaneous objects (at least 3,677 pieces of metal, 23 unidentified glass fragments, 67 pieces of plastic, 4 pieces of rubber, and 4 pieces of slag). The activity items were 6 glass marbles, 1 bisque doll part, 1 pair of pruning shears, 1 metal horse brush, 2 horseshoes, 1 harness part, 4 tools, 2 pencil leads, 1 piece of chalk, and a handwrought chain fragment. The architectural assemblage included at least 19 pieces of brick, 21 paint chips, 7,319 window glass fragments, 2,938 square nails, 3,607 wire nails, 3 unidentified nails, and 4 hinges. The kitchen assemblage consisted of 938 ceramic sherds (19 Jackfield, 5 slipware, 4 Mochaware, 1 Delftware, 44 miscellaneous earthenware, 40 creamware, 142 pearlware, 60 porcelain, 569 whiteware, and 54 miscellaneous stoneware), at least 5,069 container glass fragments, 1 metal spoon handle, and at least 5,469 faunal remains (450 mammal bones, 5 bird bones, 6 fish bones, 110 clam shells, and 4,898 oyster shells). Personal items were a bone toothbrush, 51 glass beads, 2 wood beads, 1 cuff link, 1 metal figurine, 1 Chinese coin, 6 other coins, 5 pieces of jewelry,



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and a metal comb. Native American artifacts recovered in 1989 included 8 ceramic sherds, 2 flaked lithics, part of a gorget, and a 17th century shell trade bead (included in the prehistoric assemblage in the table above).

The next archeological fieldwork project at 18WC29 occurred in 1992. A Phase I survey was carried out across a large portion of the Pemberton Historical Park property on behalf of the Wicomico County Department of Recreation and Parks. The county's long-term development plans at the time includes reconstruction of the historic homelot, as well as the establishment of public interpretation programs for other sites and activity areas within the park. The archeological work was publically funded by both county funds and by a Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Non-Capital State Historic Preservation Grant.

The research design for this project specified examination of selected areas of the park for evidence of historic buildings and activity areas. These areas, selected on the basis of documentary evidence, included the probable sites of the wharf, a tannery, an icehouse, and a causeway. In addition, surface collection was undertaken in two agricultural fields. Phase I survey was also conducted on the 37 acre "Mulberry Island" in the Wicomico River, and the location of orchard and garden plantings were sought in agricultural fields adjacent to Pemberton Hall. Systematic shovel testing, surface collection, and mechanized stripping were all used to locate features and archeological deposits.

Only portions of this large survey area fall within the boundaries of 18WC29. Portions of site 18WC29 fell within the Field 1 survey area (an agricultural field adjacent to and north of Pemberton Hall), the tannery survey area to the east of the house, and the causeway to the southeast. Field 2, the wharf area, Mulberry Island, and other surveyed areas fell outside the bounds of 18WC29 and are not discussed further here.

Controlled surface collection was carried out Field 1. After a permanent datum was placed for the field, a baseline was set up running east-west and marked at 12.19 m (40 ft) intervals. North-south datum lines were then set in at the 91.4 m (300 ft), 183 m (600 ft), and 292.6 m (960 ft) marks and these too were marked at 12.19 m intervals. This created a control grid across the entire field. The field was then walked in transects spaced 3.05 m (10 ft) apart, and all cultural materials were flagged. Using a tape and compass, each artifact was given a degree and distance provenience from a known control point. Modern materials were not provenienced, while brick and oyster shell were provenienced, but not retained. All other prehistoric and historic materials were placed in paper bags and labeled with provenience data. A grid of provenience was calculated from the degree and distance data, placing each artifact within 7.62 cm (.25 ft) of its actual location.

Due to the large quantity and distribution of cultural material in Field 1, mechanized stripping was utilized to test artifact concentrations. Mechanized testing entailed the removal of the plowzone to expose subsoil in several areas that had been selected based on the data generated by the surface collection. Mechanized stripping was done using a backhoe with a flat cleanup blade attached to the bucket. The plowzone was removed from five "test squares" in one level, and the soils were examined for artifacts. Materials in the plowzone were noted, but not retained. After the plowzone was removed, the subsoil was scraped down using sharpened garden hoes and trowels. The stripped areas were referenced to the surface collection grid and a plan map was drawn showing test square locations and any features that were exposed. Selected features were bisected, and half of the feature was excavated. Scaled plans and profiles of these tested features were drawn. The stripped areas and features were also photographed using 35 mm color slide and black and white print film.

A total of 132 shovel test pits (STPs) and 15 auxiliary STPs were excavated on a 12.2 m (25 ft) grid and an expanded 15.24 m (50 ft) grid across the area designated as the potential location of a tannery that had been documented in historical records. In an effort to ensure that evidence of the tannery or associated activity areas were not missed, the testing grid was extended at 15.24 m intervals to a recreational pond. Fifty-nine planned shovel tests were not excavated due to their location in a wetland swamp area. A baseline oriented north-south was established at the southwestern corner of the adjacent existing gravel parking lot. Shovel tests measuring 30 cm in diameter were excavated to a minimum depth of 40 cm or 10 cm into sterile subsoil. Soils were removed by natural strata and screened through hardware cloth. Each shovel test was recorded in the field, noting its position within the sampling pattern, the depth of soil horizons within the STP, and the presence or absence of cultural materials.

A single 1.524 X 1.524 m (5 X 5 ft) test unit was excavated approximately 16.8 m (55 ft) north and 7.62 m (25 ft) east of the end of the extant causeway remnants. The unit was excavated following natural stratigraphy and all soils were screened through hardware cloth. An excavation level form was completed for each stratum. Datum location and depth of the stratum, excavation methods, artifact content and density, the presence or absence of features, and soil description were recorded. Soil characteristics, including color, and texture, were described using soil charts and standard soil nomenclature.

Artifacts collected from each test unit were placed in clear paper bags, which were labeled with horizontal and vertical provenience data. General artifact categories were noted in the field. Representative plans and profiles were drawn where appropriate. All soil profiles were photographed to professional standards using both 35 mm color slide and black and white print film. All pre-modern artifacts were retained. Modern plastic and recent beverage containers were noted, but not retained. A representative sample of window glass, machine-made glass, and brick was retained. In addition to this test unit, plan drawings and photographs were prepared of the in situ structure of the causeway.

Controlled surface collections in Field 1, adjacent to Pemberton Hall, resulted in a plot map depicting the location of 3,315 artifacts. Of this total, 958 items were retained and cataloged. The remainder were brick, oyster shell, or modern materials that were provenienced but not retained. The mechanically stripped "test square" location failed to reveal any architectural or structural feature, but they did expose several features related to 18th and 19th century agricultural, gardening, and domestic activities. These included discolorations from tree and garden plantings, pole and post holes (possible fences?) and machinery tread marks.

A total of 958 artifacts were recovered during the 1993 Phase I survey in Field 1. The assemblage included 8 activity items, 123 architectural artifacts, 9 furniture items, 736 kitchen-related artifacts, 25 personal items, 1 arms object, 38 miscellaneous historic objects, 13 prehistoric sherds, and 5 prehistoric lithic objects.

Testing in the probable location of the tannery failed to identify any artifactual or structural evidence of the industry. However, a diffuse sheet scatter of historic domestic materials was noted in the plowzone. The majority of these materials dated from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, and would have been associated with the era when Henry Handy and his son, Henry II, operated the plantation on a relatively large and successful scale. This scatter of materials has been interpreted as a peripheral area related to domestic activities centered around Pemberton Hall.

No table of artifacts for the assemblage recovered in 1993 from the tannery area is provided in the body of the site report.

The testing in the causeway area resulted in the identification of two broad, shallow soil stains and 2 postholes associated with 19th century activities at the



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18WC29

Site Name: Pemberton Hall

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

mid 18th century plantation and Woodland ceramic scatter

Unknown

causeway. Small brick fragments were present in the shallow soil stains, but their exact nature could not be determined. The two postholes appeared to be early 20th century replacement for earlier posts (dating to the 19th century), remnants of which were observed. Whether or not the posts were structural supports for an outbuilding or were related to landscape or agricultural activities was not determined.

No table of artifacts for the assemblage recovered in 1993 from the causeway area is provided in the body of the site report.

In 1998, a testing project was carried out at 18WC29. The Wicomico County Department of Recreation and Parks and the Pemberton Hall Foundation were, at the time, preparing to reconstruct outbuildings which were once part of the Pemberton plantation. Up to that date, only one area beyond the standing house footprint had been found to contain a building foundation dating to the 18th century. This area, just east of the kitchen wing (thought to be the location of a smokehouse or dairy), was the location of the 1998 work. Funds for the excavation were provided through a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust.

The 1998 project was laid out according to the grid used during the 1986 ASM excavations. Using maps and metal detectors, the iron rod used for a datum was sought, but could not be relocated. However, two nails with string attached were found in situ, and the grid was reconstructed from these. Since the area had been previously excavated, backfill was removed by shovel without being screened. Plastic was found over the foundation. Across the floor of the previous excavations, a thin layer of sand had blown in before backfilling. This lens was sufficient to define the extent of previous excavation.

Once overburden had been removed from the foundation, units were systematically cleaned and mapped. Excavation then proceeded with hand tools: primarily trowels. All features were excavated, except for the foundations. These were left in place. The units covering the foundation had been nearly completed when a posthole was discovered. This prompted an expansion of the excavations. The location of the posthole raised the possibility of a post-supported overhanging roof. Expansion of the excavation was done to search for evidence of other posts in support of this idea. Expansion of the excavation was begun with a backhoe rather than with shovels. The majority of backfill was removed mechanically and units were then fully excavated and cleaned with shovels and trowels. Once the extent of previous excavation had been reached, the procedure used in the earlier units was used. A total of 25 1.524 X 1.524 m units were excavated.

In general, the area was heavily disturbed from previous excavations. Stratigraphy was disturbed by previous excavations and soil profiles of units were not recorded. The backfill also contained numerous artifacts. These materials, however, could not be considered to be in proper context. All backfill was removed without screening. There were few artifacts which could be considered in context. Detailed interpretations of artifacts were rendered impossible by the small number of artifacts found in situ.

In the main excavation area, at least three foundations, all partly overlapping, were found. Also identified were 12 post holes, nine of which relate to a fence that crossed the project area prior to the construction of the first building in this area. Just to the east of the main block, 4 units uncovered the remains of the well first identified in 1983.

The most substantial foundation uncovered was constructed of brick, one brick wide and 3.66 m (12 feet) square. This was referred to as the inner foundation. The outer foundation was 3.96 X 4.27 m (13 X 14 feet) and was outside of the inner foundation. This outer foundation was one half brick wide, that is a single line of bricks laid header to header. The third foundation consisted of a series of brick piers. The outer foundation was likely not capable of bearing great weight due to its 1/2 width brick size and the structure likely did not last long. All of the bricks were handmade, with at least some bearing a resemblance to those used to construct Pemberton Hall. Based on stratigraphic evidence of postholes, this foundation, and builder's trenches, this is interpreted as the earliest of the foundations. Artifacts recovered from postholes under this foundation indicate the building could not have been constructed earlier than circa 1780.

The inner foundation was the most substantial. Some sections of this foundation had been destroyed either through robbing for materials, earlier excavations, or roots. Again, the bricks from this foundation are all handmade, some being glazed. The irregular placement of glazed bricks and the presence of some partial bricks suggest that this building was constructed from salvaged materials. Inside the foundation was a square brick feature interpreted as a fire box. It is nearly centered within the inner foundation, but not the outer foundation, suggesting it is contemporaneous with the former. Earlier excavations had largely destroyed stratigraphic evidence of construction. Stratigraphic evidence suggests that the inner foundation post-dates the outer foundation. It was interpreted to be the remains of a smokehouse based on its size and presence of the potential firebox feature. The size of the building, however, matches the exact description of a 12 X 12 ft dairy mentioned in the 1798 tax record. It was posited that the original dairy function was abandoned and the building was converted to use as a smokehouse by sealing any window or vents and adding a firebox.

The pier foundation was the most recent and supported a building dating to the mid-20th century. The two piers were sitting atop the earlier foundations. Its extent was not determined.

Other features exposed included 12 postholes (mostly early fencelines), planting holes, and the well.

A total of 1,067 artifacts were recovered during this excavation including 107 ceramic sherds and 211 animal bone fragments. The ceramic assemblage included 27 pearlware sherds, 1 creamware sherd, 25 whiteware sherds, 1 Rockingham sherd, 1 yellowware sherd, 1 Mochaware sherd, 1 scratch blue sherd, and 2 white salt-glazed pottery sherds. The faunal assemblage included 46 fish bones, 3 bird bones, 2 turtle bones, 156 mammal bones (2 rat bones counted as miscellaneous), and 4 indeterminable animal bones. The rest of the assemblage is cataloged in the table above simple as "miscellaneous items".

Based on the findings to date at 18WC29, the site is clearly a significant resource. Intact features are very likely present at the site. Unfortunately, much of the archeology that has been conducted on the site to-date has been poorly reported. In some cases, more recent work has revealed that earlier work has severely disturbed artifacts and features, resulting in a significant data loss. The site should be carefully managed and any future work should not be permitted unless a clear threat of data loss is present and adequate reporting is considered a prerequisite to any approval to dig.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005118, 00005121, 00007026