



Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18WO183

Site Name: MD 5

Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Unknown

Brief Description:

Late Woodland short-term camp, late 17th-18th century possible house site, poss. late 18th-early 20th c. dump

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 2

SCS soil & sediment code

Latitude 38.1513

Longitude -75.4177

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site

Underwater site

Elevation m

Site slope 5-15%

Ethnobotany profile available

Maritime site

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of POCO

Saltwater

Ocean

Estuary/tidal river

Tidewater/marsh

Spring

Minimum distance to water is 168 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 High terrace

Hilltop/bluff Rockshelter/cave

Interior flat Hillslope

Upland flat Unknown

Ridgetop Other

Terrace Low terrace

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? Rural

Domestic

Homestead

Farmstead

Mansion

Plantation

Row/townhome

Cellar

Privy

Industrial

Mining-related

Quarry-related

Mill

Black/metalsmith

Furnace/forge

Other

Transportation

Canal-related

Road/railroad

Wharf/landing

Maritime-related

Bridge

Ford

Educational

Commercial

Trading post

Store

Tavern/inn

Military

Battlefield

Fortification

Encampment

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house

Ch support bldg

Burial area

Cemetery

Sepulchre

Isolated burial

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure

Post-in-ground

Frame-built

Masonry

Other structure

Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump

Artifact scatter

Spring or well

Unknown

Other context

refuse dump

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken N

N

Flotation samples taken N

Other samples taken

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken N

N

Flotation samples taken Y

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"/> 1

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	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Staffordshire	<input type="checkbox"/> 40	Stoneware	
Astbury	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Jackfield	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Tin Glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 69	English Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borderware	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Whiteware	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Eng Dry-bodied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/> 36	North Devon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porcelain	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Creamware	<input type="checkbox"/> 280	Pearlware	<input type="checkbox"/> 152			Rhenish	<input type="checkbox"/>
						Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="checkbox"/> 30

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts		Other fired clay	
Flaked stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground stone	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Modified faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmod faunal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Oyster shell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Floral material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Uncommon Obj.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	hornblende	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dated features present at site

Late 18th-19th century house, privy, and well.

Historic Artifacts		Tobacco related	
Pottery (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1797	Activity item(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 32
Glass (all)	<input type="checkbox"/> 518	Human remain(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/> 18743	Faunal material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Misc. kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/> 6178
Arms	<input type="checkbox"/> 38	Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Misc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 283
Personal items	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Well/cistern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	unclassified pit features	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Hearth/chimney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<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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Unknown

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

Site MD 5 (18WO183) is an 18th-19th century historic period artifact concentration with a small Late Woodland short-term camp component. The site is situated on a partially cultivated ridge along the Snow Hill Bypass in Worcester County. The soil in the uppermost stratum of the site is a Lakeland loamy sand plow zone. This is underlain by Leon soils that form along the ridge top and Fort Mott soils that occur on the slopes of the ridge. Site MD 5 is most likely associated with another 19th century artifact concentration (18WO181) and a cemetery (18WO216) nearby.

Based on documentary and comparative data, the site was probably inhabited by several members or small branches of the Nelson and Stevenson families (who are represented in the nearby cemetery), some possibly as the landowner, and some probably as tenants. Documentary evidence about the house and property is limited, but census data suggests that the families were typical middling planters and included some skilled craftsmen.

Site 18WO183 and the aforementioned cemetery are situated on a tract known originally as "Castle Hill Farm". The first reference to the property in historic documents is a patent assigned to William Stevens on March 1680 for a 250 acre tract called "Castle Hill". The same tract was assigned to Joshua Light shortly afterwards. On 28 July, 1680, William Nelson, Sr. purchased 125 acres of this tract and purchased an additional 50 acres of "Convenience" from the Lights eight years later. The property was transferred sometime between 1720 and 1728 to William Nelson II, the son of William Nelson, Sr., who deeded 125 acres of the tract in 1728 to his son William Nelson III. William Nelson III sold 33 acres on the south side of Hardship Branch to William Johnson in 1745. The ownership of the property for the next few decades is confusing but it was owned at least part of the time by Samuel Nelson, the brother of William Nelson III.

A John Stevenson and a Joseph Stevenson are listed on the 1766 Tax Levy for Worcester County, each with a levy of £72. The Maryland Tax Assessment of 1783 lists Hugh Stevenson as the owner of a 92 acre tract called Castle Hill, which is likely the original 125 acre tract minus the 33 acres sold in 1745. Hugh Stevenson may have acquired the property through his mother, Mary Nelson, the sister of Samuel and William III. William Nelson III died in 1761 and Samuel Nelson died in 1782. According to a summary of Land Records on file at the Snow Hill Library, in 1796, Hugh and Margaret Stevenson sold and 8 3/10 acre portion of Castle Hill to Joel Nelson. No reference is given and the deed for this transaction could not be located. Census records and his will indicate that Joel Nelson owned a large amount of property in this area. It is not clear where this small parcel was located or how it fits into the chain of title for the site property, but Joel Nelson, his wife Priscilla, their son Samuel McMaster, his wife Esther, her sister Charlotte, Samuel's and Esther's son Sewell, Samuel's and Esther's son Reuben, and his daughter Olive K. are all buried at the small cemetery situated near the site (mentioned previously). There is a strong likelihood that this 8 3/10 acre property contained both the cemetery and site 18WO183.

Joel Nelson (son of Samuel and Mary Nelson) married Priscilla Sturgis prior to the 1796 purchase and they had 5 children. Priscilla died in 1845 and Joel died in 1860 and they are buried side by side in the northeast corner of the cemetery near the site. According to Charles W. Nelson, the caretaker of the cemetery, Joel was Elder of the Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church for the last 60 years of his life. Joel Nelson's will reflects a man of money with a large estate and at least 10-12 slaves, which he divided among his widow and children. The 1850 census records that Joel Nelson's property was worth \$1,500 and that his son Thomas and a 17-year-old black female named Rebecca Sturgis lived with him. The 1860 census shows Thomas as head of household, but the property was now worth \$5,000 and the personal estate was valued at \$8,360. Joel Nelson's will divided his property among his three surviving children, with his eldest son, Thomas, receiving the bulk of the estate.

Maps dating to the late 19th and 20th centuries do not show a structure in the vicinity of the site and local informants did not recall a structure located near 18WO183. An 1877 atlas map shows some landowners and house locations, but an examination of the 1870 and 1880 census records indicates that many households are not depicted. The name H.M. Stevenson is written across the general area of the site and cemetery on the 1877 map. The "H.M. Stevenson" shown as owner of the property in 1877 is Hugh Mills Stevenson, though technically he did not own the property after 1822. He also was not resident on the property in 1877. Based on the names associated with the residences surrounding the property on the 1877 map and the names listed in the 1830 census as the neighbors of Hugh and Martha Stevenson (his wife), as well as land ownership data reconstructed for the tracts surrounding 18WO183, it would appear that Hugh and Martha Stevenson were living in a residence on the property containing 18WO183 by 1830. Martha Stevenson is known to have died by 1862 and was buried in the Nelson family's cemetery near the site. On the 1870 and 1880 censuses, Hugh M. Stevenson is listed as a carpenter (he had previously been listed as a farmer) residing with the family of his eldest son, Thomas (also a carpenter) in Newtown and then Pocomoke City. Hugh is thought to have died in 1884, and may have been buried (unmarked) next to his wife in the Nelson Cemetery.

As mentioned previously, Hugh M. Stevenson technically did not own the property after 1822. Millie Hudson was the cousin of Hugh and was also his wife's sister. Hudson had acquired 93 1/8 acres from Stevenson at a court-ordered sale of the estate of Hugh M. Stevenson in 1822. She conveyed the property in 1841 to William and Joseph Stevenson, her sister's sons, reserving life estate to Hugh Mills Stevenson (their father). Joseph Stevenson would eventually sell the tract to his brother Hugh S. Stevenson. He would go on to sell it to a William Clarke in 1886.

William Clarke sold the 93 1/8 acre tract to Charles Hinman in 1903. One year later Hinman sold the tract to Cephus and Lillie Riggin. The Riggins sold the tract in 1914 along with an adjoining 100 acre property that they had acquired in 1896 to the Castle Hill Orchard Company. The president of the company was Orlando Harrison, a member of a local family that owned a large nursery business and considerable real estate in the county. The company would later sell the roughly 193 acre tract to Alda and Mary Jones. In 1958 the Joneses sold the tract to Dewey and Maud Pusey. The deed for that transaction describes the land as part of "Castle Hill", "Convenience", the "Blades Farm", and the "Stevenson Farm" and part of the same land conveyed to the Joneses by Helen B. Boone in 1952. This was apparently a mortgage, since the Joneses conveyed the property to Boone the same day. The land was sold to Anne Blank by the Puseys in 1959. At present, with the exception of the right-of-way owned by the Maryland SHA, the 193 acres tract still belongs to the Blank family.

The site was first identified in 1997 during Phase I shovel testing prior to the dualization of US 113. The artifact density and distribution indicate that the site extends about 110 meters east-west by 45 meters north-south and encompasses approximately 4,950 square meters. A total of 82 artifacts were found in 9 of the 24 excavated shovel test pits (STPs) and during surface collection. There were 44 architecture-related items (37 brick fragments, 2 pieces of mortar, 3 window glass shards, and 2 cut nails). Kitchen items included 1 blue hand-painted Delftware, 2 Westerwald stoneware, 2 late refined earthenware, 1 white salt glazed stoneware, 1 gray slat glazed stoneware, 1 lead and manganese glazed earthenware, 2 lead glazed redware, 1 unglazed redware, 4 creamware, 1 pearlware, 2 whiteware, 16 container glass, and 10 shell fragments. Miscellaneous items were 1 metal 'strap', 1 quartzite cobble fragment, 2 aqua and 1 olive flat glass fragments, and a piece of plastic. Two tobacco-related items were fragments of ball clay pipe bowls.



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Prehistoric

Other name(s)

Historic

Brief

Description:

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Unknown

Phase II work was conducted between November and December 1997 and in September and December 1999, and January 2000. One of the goals of the work was to obtain more information that might contribute to an understanding of the growth dynamics that Snow Hill underwent in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Other goals of the Phase II testing were to assess the integrity of the archeological deposits in the site, to ascertain spatial distributions of artifacts, and to obtain a larger sample of diagnostic artifacts. A total of 72 STPs were dug at 10 meter intervals in the main site area and a further 31 STPs were placed east and south of the main site area in order to find the limits of the artifact scatter as it extended away from the site. Six 1 meter X 1 meter test units (TUs) were also excavated during Phase II investigations. The TUs were placed where concentrations of artifacts were relatively high and sediments above the subsoil were thickest.

One feature was identified during excavation of one of the Phase II test units. It was interpreted as possibly the base of a posthole or pier and measured 44 by 48 cm. It extended 5 cm into Stratum II. An overlapping character was observed, with two outlines to the posthole/pier suggesting that it was replaced or strengthened at some point.

1,085 historic artifacts were found during the Phase II study. Items from the activities group include 1 metal hook and 1 metal tack. There were 688 architectural items (638 brick fragments, 1 asbestos shingle, 1 foundation stone, 2 wrought nails, 11 cut nails, 1 wire nail, 12 unidentifiable nails, and 22 window glass shards). There was 1 white porcelain button in the clothing group. There were 257 kitchen-related items (15 container glass, 21 late refined earthenware, 2 other earthenware, 16 creamware, 10 pearlware, 3 Delftware, 1 Jackfield, 1 ironstone, 6 gray salt glazed stoneware, 1 American blue & gray, 1 white salt glazed stoneware, 2 other stoneware, 1 yellowware, 55 redware, 100 tin can fragments, 3 pieces of animal bone, and 17 shell fragments). Miscellaneous objects include 4 shards of unidentified glass, 29 coal/slag, 1 aluminum pop-top, 11 unidentified metal fragments, and 1 quartzite cobble fragment. There were also 4 ball clay pipe bowl fragments.

Five prehistoric artifacts were recovered from MD 5 during the Phase II study. The assemblage consists of 1 Levanna projectile point, one rhyolite flake, one heat-altered quartzite cobble fragment (fire-cracked rock), and 2 shell-tempered sherds. A Late Woodland date is suggested by these artifacts and may have been associated with short-term activity such as hunting.

Based on ceramic terminal manufacture dates, the main period of occupation at MD 5 (18WO183) appeared to be during the late 18th or early 19th century, although items produced as early as the 17th century were also identified at the site. Results of the investigation revealed that intact cultural features and/or deposits might be present at the site. The site has the potential to address important questions regarding the 17th century occupation of the interior Delmarva Peninsula specifically and about the initially stages of movement of historic occupation from the floodplains of the Chesapeake Bay region into the interior more generally. More than half of the site (59%) is within the existing Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) right-of-way, and would be destroyed by the US 113 roadwork, thus, Phase III data recovery was recommended before the planned improvements to the highway were undertaken.

Site 18WO183 was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) based on Phase II evaluation results, and a site treatment plan was designed and approved following the guidelines outlined in a 1998 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Federal Highway Administration and the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office. The Phase III data recovery was carried out in August and September of 2003.

Data recovery in 2003 commenced with the re-establishment of the site grid and location of site datum and Phase II test units. Hand-excavated 1 X 1m test units were placed in the wooded western portion of the site, where Phase II investigations indicated the densest artifact concentrations occurred, and early historic period ceramics were concentrated. The excavations began with individual test units placed adjacent to the three most productive Phase II units. These units were expanded into 3 larger lock excavations, the size and configuration of which were determined by the density of artifact recovery, integrity of deposits, and location of features. Total horizontal extent of hand excavated units within the wooded area was 26 square meters.

Mechanized stripping of the plowzone within the right-of-way (ROW) corridor was conducted (concurrent with the wooded area test unit excavations) to search for cultural features in the cultivated portion of the site. All of the agricultural field within the ROW was stripped: an area approximately 40 X 95 m (131 X 311 ft) in extent. When test unit excavation was complete, the wooded area was also stripped of plowzone to ensure that no intact features remained undiscovered in this portion of the site. A total of 307 m² was stripped. No features were identified in the wooded area of the site, but several features (including complex features such as refuse pits, a foundation, a privy, and a well) were identified in the cultivated portion of the site. Seven additional test units were then excavated within the complex features located in the agricultural field, including two 1 X 1.5 m units.

The stripping was conducted by operators provided by the SHA using a Gradall or a backhoe with a toothless bucket. The goal of the stripping was to obtain as clean of a surface as possible, allowing the recognition of cultural features with minimal impact. All stripping was monitored by one or more archeologists, who shovel shaved the surface of the interface and systematically flagged all potential features as they were exposed. Approximately 50 to 70 cm of topsoil was removed across the site. Saplings and small trees were removed during stripping of the western wooded portion, but mature trees were left in place.

There was some variation in excavation methods for the various test units, but in general test units were excavated in 10 cm arbitrary levels within natural strata. The interface of each stratum was scraped and examined for the presence of features or other buried soil horizons. If no features were present, the excavation of the next level proceeded. Any features encountered were excavated by troweling to define the limits of the feature, mapping and photographing in plan view, and cross-sectioning along the long axis of the feature. During cross sectioning, the initial half was excavated by natural fill when easily recognizable or as a single unit when natural fill appeared uniform. The feature was drawn and photographed in profile and the remainder of the fill was excavated by natural or fill zones. If at any time a feature was determined to be noncultural in origin, excavation was terminated. Flotation samples were collected from cultural features. It should be noted that with the exceptionally large/deep features, these methods had to be modified to accommodate safety concerns, physical restrictions, practical concerns (i.e. time available), and field conditions.

Excavation of the units was terminated after a culturally sterile 10 cm level had been excavated. All soil removed from the test units was screened through hardware mesh for uniform artifact recovery. Stratigraphic profiles of two adjoining walls of all excavated blocks were recorded and photographed in black and white and color slide formats.

A unit level form was completed for every level excavated in each test unit, and a block unit summary form was completed following the termination of large block of units. These forms included a plan map showing all features and other soil anomalies, explanation of any changes in the basic excavation strategy, soil descriptions (including Munsell color identifications), a list of photographs taken, and a list of all artifact bags, flotation samples, and other samples recovered from each test unit. Feature forms were also used for recording data on individual features.



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Following the stripping of the site, 91 soil anomalies were recognized, primarily in the agricultural field portion of the site. Upon further investigation, 63 of these were definitively determined to be noncultural in origin. Five of the cultural features were large, complex features, including a house (consisting of a brick foundation, builder's trenches, and a chimney fall), a brick-lined well, a barrel-lined privy, a barrel-lined refuse pit, and a large pit of undetermined function. The house structure is relatively small, yet it (or at least the foundation) was constructed of brick. Twenty of the features are potential postmolds. The remaining three features were pits of various sizes and undetermined function. Most of the soil anomalies, including the noncultural ones, contained a low density of artifacts. In contrast, the cultural features produced significant data regarding the mid 18th to early 19th century occupation of the site. In total, 26,473 historic artifacts were recovered, primarily dating from the mid 18th through early 19th century.

The historic artifacts recovered from the cultural features during data recovery at 18WO183 included 24 activity items, 12,978 architectural objects, 19 clothing items (2 white metal buttons, 1 brass button, 4 brass shoe buckles, and 12 pre-1824 straight pins), 4 furniture items (3 brass tacks and a brass hinge), 7,273 kitchen-related objects, 1 personal item (gold and brass jewelry), 84 tobacco pipe fragments (76 ball clay and 8 red clay), 25 arms objects (gunflints), and 175 miscellaneous objects (166 unidentified metal, 1 unidentified graphite chunk, 8 pieces of slag). The activity items were a piece of lamp glass, 1 piece of brass wire, 18 pieces of hardware, an 18th century padlock, an axe, a metal tool, and a horseshoe. The architectural artifacts were 13,870 fragments of brick, a piece of building stone, 217 mortar fragments, 1 piece of slate, 84 window glass fragments, 23 cut nails, 419 wrought nails, 361 unidentified nails, 1 door stock lock, and a hinge. The kitchen assemblage included 1,011 ceramic sherds (1 Astbury, 20 Buckley, 47 Delftware, 3 Jackfield, 28 Staffordshire slipware, 154 creamware, 118 pearlware, 8 miscellaneous earthenware, 21 Chinese porcelain, 4 Nottigham stoneware, 11 Scratch Blue stoneware, 10 other white salt-glazed stoneware, 82 miscellaneous stoneware, 1 whiteware, 2 yellowware, and 501 redware), 243 bottle fragments, 119 metal kitchen implements or utensils, and 5,900 faunal objects (2,292 animal bones, 388 oyster shells, 2 welk shells, 1,821 clam shells, 1,387 unidentified shells, and 10 eggshells). The majority of these materials came from the well (10,405 artifacts) and the privy (7,675 artifacts), with the refuse pit (2,409) and house (1,247) also having sizeable assemblages.

The historic artifacts recovered from non-feature contexts included 5 activity items (4 unidentified hardware, and 1 brass harness), 2,991 architectural artifacts, 3 clothing items (1 plastic button, 1 brass button, and 1 shoe buckle), 746 kitchen-related artifacts, 1 personal item (a black glass bead), 78 tobacco pipe fragments (70 ball clay and 8 red clay), 13 arms objects (8 gunflints, 2 brass cartridges, 2 shotgun shells, and 1 lead shot), and 58 miscellaneous objects (41 unidentified iron objects, 2 unidentified glass fragments, 1 piece of slate, 9 pieces of coal, 4 pieces of slag, and 1 unidentified object). The architectural assemblage included 2,799 pieces of brick, 1 piece of building stone, 40 window glass fragments, 3 cut nails, 116 wrought nails, 2 wire nails, and 30 unidentified nails. The kitchen assemblage consisted of 639 ceramic sherds (16 Buckley, 22 Delftware, 5 Jackfield, 12 Staffordshire Slipware, 102 creamware, 22 pearlware, 12 miscellaneous earthenware, 1 Chinese porcelain, 3 other porcelain, 2 Scratch Blue stoneware, 4 other white salt-glazed stoneware, 48 miscellaneous stoneware, 13 whiteware, 1 yellowware, 376 redware), 78 bottle fragments, 2 metal kitchen implements/utensils, 21 animal bones and 6 unidentified shell pieces.

Forty-five prehistoric artifacts were also collected, all from disturbed contexts. Flaked stone tools included 2 jasper bifaces, 1 quartzite core, 1 retouched rhyolite flake, 1 retouched jasper flake, 10 pieces of debitage. Four groundstone objects were recovered: a metate and 3 unidentified ground objects. Other lithics were a hammerstone and 3 worked cobbles. Twenty-one ceramic sherds were recovered including 8 sand-tempered sherds (2 rims), 12 shell-tempered sherds (1 rim), and 1 sherd of unidentified temper. A single prehistoric clay pipe fragment was also recovered. The prehistoric assemblage does not represent a significant occupation of the site.

Approximately 191.8 g of botanical material and wood was collected during Phase III excavations. Upon close inspection, most of this was determined to be intrusive roots and portions of wood barrels from the privy and refuse pit. Four wood samples, 3 from the privy and 1 from the pit were analyzed by the project ethnobotanist. The three privy samples were all white pine and the sample from the refuse pit was some type of cedar. In addition, three fragments of a burnt hickory nutshell were recovered from the well.

Documentary evidence showed that the property owners were part of a large extended family of farmers and skilled laborers (the Nelsons and Stevensons) who owned large parcels of land in the general area. The artifacts indicate a middling planter status for the site's owners/residents, evidenced by the variety of imported ceramic wares and more expensive goods available at that time. Based on the artifactual evidence, the residents could afford some luxury items among the numerous utilitarian goods necessary for daily living. They owned some nicely decorated imported ceramic tablewares and teawares among the larger quantity of domestic wares, as well as wine and liquor bottles, at least two crystal wine glasses and other decorative table glass, a tine coffee pot, a pistol-grip decorated table knife, a gold or gold-plated article of jewelry, and buttons and shoe buckles. They smoked tobacco, drank coffee and tea, imbibed liquor, and combed their hair. A few expensive items (particularly decorated Chinese porcelain) would have had a place of honor in the home. However, the majority of artifacts found at 18WO183 coincide with the types of things considered typical for persons at a middling socioeconomic level. There were lots of domestic-made ceramics of cheap value, but also some fine imported wares. There were some furnishings and ornamentation of clothing, but of modest value and style (such as an almost total lack of any silver or gold plating). They lived in a brick house or at least a house with a brick foundation, but it was of modest size and no outbuildings other than the privy were evident.

The data recovery investigation at 18WO183 mitigated the adverse impact to this significant archeological resource. It also provided substantial new information regarding the lifeways of the local inhabitants during the second half of the 18th century through the early 19th century. The site has now largely been destroyed by the dualization of US 113.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005093, 00007274, 95000620