Phase II and Phase III Archaeological Database and Inventory

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Site Number: 18WO204 **Site Name:** MD 48

Other name(s)

Prehistoric ☐ Historic ☑ Unknown ☐

Brief Description: mid-19th to early 20th century house site

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Maryland Archaeological Research Unit No. 1 SCS soil & sediment code MeB,MeA,MkA

Latitude 38.2918 Longitude -75.2364 Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P Terrestrial site ☑ Underwater site ☐

Elevation 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	☐	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	☐

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Unnamed tributary of Beav

Saltwater		Freshwater	
Ocean	☐	Stream/river	☑
Estuary/tidal river	☐	Swamp	☐
Tidewater/marsh	☐	Lake or pond	☐
		Spring	☐

Minimum distance to water is 198 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	
Late archaic		Late woodland		ca. 1780 - 1820			
Unknown prehistoric context				Unknown historic context			
				Unknown context			

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American		Asian American	
African American		Unknown	
Anglo-American	Y	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	☑	Furnace/forge	☐	**Military**	☐	Post-in-ground	☐
Homestead	☐	Other	☐	Battlefield	☐	Frame-built	☑
Farmstead	☐	**Transportation**	☐	Fortification	☐	Masonry	☐
Mansion	☐	Canal-related	☐	Encampment	☐	Other structure	☐
Plantation	☐	Road/railroad	☐	**Townsite**	☐	**Slave related**	☐
Row/townhome	☐	Wharf/landing	☐	**Religious**	☐	**Non-domestic agri**	☐
Cellar	☑	Maritime-related	☐	Church/mtg house	☐	**Recreational**	☐
Privy	☐	Bridge	☐	Ch support bldg	☐	**Midden/dump**	☐
Industrial	☐	Ford	☐	**Burial area**	☐	**Artifact scatter**	☑
Mining-related	☐	**Educational**	☐	Cemetery	☐	**Spring or well**	☐
Quarry-related	☐	**Commercial**	☐	Sepulchre	☐	**Unknown**	☐
Mill	☐	Trading post	☐	Isolated burial	☐	**Other context**	☐
Black/metalsmith	☐	Store	☐	**Bldg or foundation**	☐		
		Tavern/inn	☐	Possible Structure	☐		

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken

Flotation samples taken 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

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

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek		Popes Creek		Shepard		Keyser	
Dames Qtr		Coulbourn		Townsend		Yeocomico	
Selden Island		Watson		Minguannan		Monongahela	
Accokeek		Mockley		Sullivan Cove		Susquehannock	
Wolfe Neck		Clemson Island		Shenks Ferry			
Vinette		Page		Moyaone			
				Potomac Crk			

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware		Ironstone	23	Staffordshire		**Stoneware**	
Astbury		Jackfield		Tin Glazed		English Brown	
Borderware		Mn Mottled		Whiteware		Eng Dry-bodied	
Buckley		North Devon		**Porcelain**		Nottingham	
Creamware	71	Pearlware	111			Rhenish	
						Wt Salt-glazed	

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts

Flaked stone		Other fired clay	
Ground stone		Human remain(s)	☐
Stone bowls		Modified faunal	
Fire-cracked rock		Unmod faunal	
Other lithics (all)		Oyster shell	☐
Ceramics (all)		Floral material	☐
Rimsherds		Uncommon Obj.	
		Other ☐	

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)		Storage/trash pit	☐
Midden	☐	Burial(s)	☐
Shell midden	☐	Ossuary	☐
Postholes/molds	☐	Unknown	☐
House pattern(s)	☐	Other	☐
Palisade(s)	☐		
Hearth(s)	☐		
Lithic reduc area	☐		

Lithic Material

		Fer quartzite	☐	Sil sandstone	☐
Jasper	☐	Chalcedony	☐	European flint	☐
Chert	☐	Ironstone	☐	Basalt	☐
Rhyolite	☐	Argilite	☐	Unknown	☐
Quartz	☐	Steatite	☐	Other	☐
Quartzite	☐	Sandstone	☐		

☐ **Dated features present at site**

Historic Artifacts

		Tobacco related	8
Pottery (all)	499	Activity item(s)	52
Glass (all)	1583	Human remain(s)	☐
Architectural	1749	Faunal material	☑
Furniture		Misc. kitchen	81
Arms		Floral material	☐
Clothing	5	Misc.	372
Personal items	2	Other ☐	

Historic Features

Const feature	☐	Privy/outhouse	☐	Depression/mound	☐
Foundation	☐	Well/cistern	☐	Burial(s)	☐
Cellar hole/cellar	☑	Trash pit/dump	☐	Railroad bed	☐
Hearth/chimney	☐	Sheet midden	☐	Earthworks	☐
Postholes/molds	☐	Planting feature	☐	Mill raceway	☐
Paling ditch/fence	☐	Road/walkway	☐	Wheel pit	☐

Unknown ☐ Other ☑ refuse pit?

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:

Site MD 48 (18WO204) is an 18th-19th century historic period artifact scatter that sits in a cultivated ridge and on an adjacent ridge slope beside US 113 in rural Worcester County. The southwestern part of the site is on the crest of the ridge and the northern and eastern sections are on a slight downslope. The soil type at the site is Matapeake silt loam, which formed in upland environments and is unlikely to contain deeply buried deposits.

The site was first identified in 1997 during Phase I shovel testing for (then) proposed improvements to US 113. Maps dated to 1877 indicated that there were 3 residences located in the vicinity of the site. In addition, 20th century maps show structures at this location. Phase I survey methods included field walking and surface collection, and excavation of 36 shovel test pits (STPs). A total of 171 historic artifacts were recovered from 20 of the STPs and the surface. Three of these STPs that were located in the northwestern part of the site produced 44.6% of the artifacts recovered during Phase I. The artifact distribution indicates that the historic site measures about 60 meters northeast-southwest by 100 meters northeast-southwest, and covers about 6,000 square meters.

Phase II work in the project area was conducted between November and December 1997 and in September and December 1999, and January 2000. The primary goals of the Phase II work were to assess if the strata encountered in the 3 STPs mentioned above represented a midden, to assess if there were 1 or more historic period residences at the site and if the artifacts are associated with those occupations, to determine if there are interpretable patterns in the artifact assemblage at the site, and to assess the integrity of the deposits within the proposed right-of-way (ROW). Phase II investigations involved the excavation of 96 STPs at 10 meter intervals, and 7 m² test units (TUs) were excavated. Test units west of the ROW contained a significantly higher number of artifacts with more complex stratigraphy than the other units and included cultural features.

Features 1a and 1b were encountered in TU 1. Feature 1a was an irregularly-shaped artifact-rich layer of dark brown loamy sand below the plow zone that overlaid a large, deep pit that contained dense historic artifacts (Feature 1b). Feature 1b appears to represent a pit that was excavated for the purposes of disposing of the structural/ domestic remains from the residence depicted on the 1877 map. Feature 1a extends beyond the excavated limits of the Feature 1b pit and appears to represent the material that was spread out when the pit was initially excavated and the area was graded. Feature 1a may have been a domestic midden related to the structure on the 1877 map but has been mixed with later deposits and cannot be considered intact.

Feature 2 was identified in TU 5 below a second plow zone or possibly a mixed lower plow zone/feature layer. It was a roughly circular pit measuring 1m X 1m with a depth of 28 cm. The material recovered from the pit dates to the early 19th through the mid-20th century. There were a large number of brick fragments that did not appear to in situ, unidentified metal, and glass bottle fragments and whole bottles with manufacturing ranges from 1920-1968. There were few other artifacts. This feature was likely excavated for the purposes of disposing of debris beneath the plow zone.

A total of 3,816 historic artifacts were found during the Phase I and Phase II field seasons from surface collection and from STPs. There were 52 activity items (1 metal wick holder knob, 6 graphite rods, 2 electric fuse parts, 12 metal fragments of farm equipment, 1 ceramic drainage pipe fragment, and 22 miscellaneous metal hardware items). There were 1,749 items in the architecture group (718 brick fragments, 42 pieces of mortar, 3 asbestos fragments, 2 hinges, 116 cut nails, 68 wire nails, 274 unidentified nails, 3 pieces of slate, and 523 window glass shards). The clothing item group contained 2 brass buttons, 1 plastic button, 1 nylon stocking, and 1 shoe part. The 1,579 kitchen items included 1,034 whole bottles and bottle glass fragments, 21 unidentified glass shards, 5 glass Mason jar lid fragments, 1 bottle cap, 179 late refined earthenware, 9 other earthenware, 111 pearlware, 71 creamware, 12 porcelain, 23 ironstone, 14 brown stoneware, 1 buff stoneware, 12 gray salt-glazed stoneware, 6 gray stoneware, 1 white stoneware, 1 unidentified stoneware, 2 yellow ware, and 57 redware sherds, 15 bone fragments, and 60 oyster shell fragments. The 372 miscellaneous items were 9 unidentified rubber/Bakelite fragments, 296 unidentified metal fragments, 4 pieces of plastic, and 63 pieces of coal. The 2 items from the personal items group were light blue glass beads. Eight clay pipe pieces make up the tobacco-related items.

Site MD 48 (18WO204) can best be defined by its eastern and western parts. The eastern part of the site is a low-density historic scatter with artifacts dating from the late 18th century to the present day. The artifacts are not likely to be associated with intact subsurface features or deposits. Deposits on the western part of the site contain the only cultural subsurface deposits. These features represent secondary mix fill rather than intact subsurface deposits. The archeological deposits within the proposed ROW represent low-density refuse disposal over a century-and-a-half, some associated with cultivation activities and materials that derive from the domestic structure that was on the site. Based on the available evidence the archeologists suggest that the site does not offer significant research value.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00005093, 00007274