

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

2010 Gibb, J.
Archaeological investigation of the Lansdale Road tenant house site (AA-236A; 18AN1453),
Essex Farm, Harwood, Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

Research Firm/Institution:

GIBB ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING
2554 Carrollton Road
Annapolis, MD 21403

Library ID No: 95008670 Catalog/Shelving ID: AN 796

Sites examined:

18AN1453

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification: In 2009 a tree fell on the Lansdale Road Tenant House (AA-236A, 18AN1453), effectively destroying the building. The owner removed the ruin without applying for, and receiving, the required demolition permit. The Office of the County Archaeologist, therefore, did not have the opportunity to comment on this action. The County Archaeologist requested an archaeological investigation to partially mitigate the loss of information from demolition and removal.
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III		

Project Objectives: The Office of the County Archaeologist requested an archaeological investigation to partially mitigate the loss of information from demolition and removal, stipulating the following tasks: 1. A comprehensive historic context and archival research study for the parcel as it relates to the lost 19th-century resources and related land ownership; 2. A Phase I archaeological survey of the documented boundaries of AA-236A; 3. A detailed site plan of existing structures, ruins or archaeological remnants, outbuildings, and associated landscape features within the area of impact; and 4. A Phase III level investigation of the Tenant House/ Slave Cabin designed in coordination with the Anne Arundel County archaeologist to explore the ante- and post-bellum history of the site and specifically, to study the architecture and material culture of enslaved populations and tenant farmers in the 19th and early 20th century.
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Research Potential:

Shovel testing and stratigraphic units failed to uncover any architectural data or evidence of trash middens dating earlier than the late 20th century. The field findings suggest the possibility of a swept yard, at least at the east end of the building, but demolition, cleanup, and surface restoration preclude any conclusions from the scanty negative evidence.