Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

All information contained within the individual site database and inventory sheets is solely the work of the researchers and authors noted below. The data provided has been culled from the original site reports noted below and in many cases has been lifted directly from them with little or no editing. The database and inventory sheets are meant to serve as a synopsis of the report findings and a finding aid and are not intended to replace or republish the research of the authors noted below.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2006 Gibb, J.G.
Phase III Data Recovery at Idlewild Farm (18AN1257), Davidsonville Road, Davidsonville, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Subdivision No. 03-037.
Submitted to Caruso Homes, Inc.

Library ID No: 97002997 Catalog/Shelving ID: AN 528

Research Firm/Institutution:

Gibb Archaeological Consulting
2554 Carrollton Road
Crofton, MD 21114-2870

Sites examined:

18AN1257

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II

Phase III [X]

Project Justification:

This report describes the findings of a Phase III data recovery at the previously identified Idlewild Farm site in Davidsonville, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. A 1994 survey had identified a low-density early Colonial site and an adjacent late 19th century domestic site (a probable tenancy) on the property. Caruso Homes, Inc. was proposing resubdivision of the two lots of Idlewild Farm on which these deposits were identified. The developer determined that avoidance of the site was not viable and requested a data recovery, the specifics of which were approved by the Anne Arundel County Archeologist. The work was undertaken to meet legal compliance with Anne Arundel County Subdivision regulation.

Project Objectives:

-Determine the level of labor and wealth invested in the construction and maintenance of shelter at the site.

-Determine if structures have been built other than dwellings and, if so, whether the functions of those structures can be determined. Assess whether these functions illuminate the economic strategies of the site occupants.

-Determine the extent to which the site occupants invested in furnishing their dwelling.

-Assess what faunal remains reveal about animal husbandry at the site.

-Determine the extent to which site occupants rely on wild foods, including game and locally available vegetable foods.

-Look for evidence of grains in the ashy pit fills present that represent crop as well as food choices.

Research Potential:

Following the Phase III study, nothing survived of the Idlewild Farm site below ground. Therefore, no significant archeological site would be adversely affected by construction of the new residential development. Permission was granted for the development to proceed, but it appears that an economic downturn may have halted plans. No housing development has been constructed, but regardless, Site 18AN1257 does not appear to retain any additional research value.