

# 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:

1983 Hurry, Robert  
An Archeological Survey of the Benjamin Banneker Property, Baltimore County, Maryland.  
Submitted to Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks  
Library ID No: 00007683 Catalog/Shelving ID: BA 26B

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD

## Sites examined:

18BA241 18BA282 18BA283

## Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II		Archeologists from the Maryland Historical Trust received a request from the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Department to locate and define the limits of the Benjamin Banneker house site known to be somewhere within the boundaries of his former 72-acre farm. Accordingly, a Phase I survey was conducted in the summer of 1983.
Phase III		

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Locate and define the limits of identified sites within the boundaries of the Banneker former homestead

MAC Accession: 1983.014

## Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18BA241.

See below for remaining research questions at 18BA282.

See below for remaining research questions at 18BA283.

## REPORT INFORMATION:

2002 Hurry, Robert J.  
The Discovery and Archeological Investigation of the Benjamin Banneker Homestead, Baltimore County, Maryland (18BA282).  
Submitted to Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks  
Library ID No: 97001211 Catalog/Shelving ID: QB36.B22

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032

## Sites examined:

18BA282

## Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	As a result of the identification of the Banneker house site in 1983, Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks purchased property in January 1985 for development of the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park. Archeological investigations were required ahead of proposed development at the park, and were conducted at the site in 1985 and 1986. The object of the investigations was not to excavate the complete site but instead, the project was designed as a management tool to create a balance between the research efforts and long-term site preservation. The 1985 survey focused on: 1) identifying the archeological components of the Banneker homestead; 2) determining the spatial organization of the site through its archeological remains; 3) determining subsistence and dietary patterns from food remains and residues; and 4) developing an economic model of Banneker's lifestyle as compared with his contemporaries. The 1986 investigation expanded upon the data collected during the previous year's work to address more specific problem-oriented research issues including location choice, architectural style and construction, spatial organization, habits
Phase III		

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Define the boundaries of the farmstead complex
-Delineate areas of cultural activity
-Identify surviving subsurface features associated with the site

Research Potential:

The Banneker Site (18BA282) is the location of an early 18th-early 19th century African-American farmstead. The 2.2 hectare site represents the locus of activity associated with the Banneker occupation of the original 40.5 hectare farmstead. The site consists of the remains of two buildings located about 15 meters apart. The Feature 10 cellar hole likely represented an earlier structure that was abandoned when the more substantial second dwelling, represented by the Feature 22 cellar hole, was built (ca. 1780s). In addition to the 2 filled cellar holes, a variety of other features were identified including numerous postholes and molds that may have been associated with fence lines that defined activity areas, and several unidentified anomalies. Despite the extent of archeological excavations at the site and the information gained therein, details about the layout and organization of the Banneker farmstead remain largely unknown. For example, testing was insufficient to ascertain fence alignments within the complex. It was suggested that additional data recovery would aid in the interpretation of different activity areas and their varying functions and with the interpretation of how the Bannekers structured their immediate environment to meet their needs. The site was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B and D. Further archeological, but minimally invasive, work was recommended for the site in order to identify the Banneker family cemetery and to broaden the understanding of the man, his family, and his farmstead.

The Benjamin Banneker Historical Park was opened to the public in 1998. The Maryland Historical Trust received a grant to implement a public interpretation program of the site. The program was designed to demonstrate how archeology can be used to collect data on poorly documented individuals and groups and to increase awareness of Banneker and 18th century black Americans. A detail report of the program can be found in the Trust library, MHT #BA 113. The exhibition planning and design for the Historical Park are detailed in MHT report #BA 163.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1986 Peters, Kristen S.  
Economic Analysis at the Benjamin Banneker Site.  
Submitted to Presented at the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust

Library ID No: 00005431 Catalog/Shelving ID: BA 26C

Sites examined:

18BA282

Project Details:

Project Justification:

This paper evaluates the economic status of Benjamin Banneker utilizing both hisotrical references and documentation and archeological data obtained during the 1985 and 1986 excavations at the site.

Project Objectives:

-Provide a more complete reconstruction of the economic choices made by the site's occupants in the 18th and 19th centuries

Research Potential:

See above for remaining research questions at 18BA282.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1992 Comer, E.A.  
Phase I Archeological Investigation at Benjamin Banneker Historical Park: Prehistoric and Historic Evidence of Use in the Patapsco River Drainage, Baltimore County, Maryland.  
Submitted to Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks

Research Firm/Institution:

E.A. Comer /Archaeology  
10508 Pilla Terra Court  
Laurel, MD 20723

Library ID No: 00005513 Catalog/Shelving ID: BA 101

Sites examined:

18BA283

Project Details:

- Phase I
- Phase II
- Phase III

Project Justification:

In late 1991, Phase I testing was conducted at Site 18BA283 along a proposed utility corridor associated with the new caretaker's residence. The alignment was to run approximately 12 m behind the Treuth Residence and about 3.048 m (10 ft) to the side of a brick outbuilding, and finally ended at the new caretaker's house.

Project Objectives:

-Determine if archeological sites were present within the survey corridor  
  
-Determine whether or not any discovered resources were significant  
  
-Determine if significant resources were eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places

Research Potential:

The Treuth Residence Site (18BA283) consists of an extant mid-19th century stone house and the remains of a possible late 18th century residence that may have been later reused as a barn or garage. The possible 18th century structure was represented by the remains of a stone wall that was located northwest of the Treuth house. The only other feature present at the site was a circle of fieldstones similar to those used in the construction of the dwelling, located just off the northwest side of the Treuth house. Although there were a few concentrations of artifacts in areas adjacent to the dwelling and outbuilding, a large amount of materials were scattered across the site. All artifacts were confined to the topsoil/plowzone and no subsurface features were encountered during the excavations at the site. While the area of 18BA283 has been fairly well-examined through shovel testing and test unit excavations, the origin and nature of the possible 18th century stone wall remains has not been clearly ascertained. It is recommended that any further earth-moving activities in that area are preceded by at least additional minimal testing. The proposed construction at the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park has since been completed and it is open to the public.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1993 Sanders, S.L. et al.  
 Phase I and II Archeological Investigations at Benjamin Banneker Historic Park, Baltimore County, Maryland.  
 Submitted to Baltimore County, Office of Central Services  
 Library ID No: 00005502      Catalog/Shelving ID: BA 92

Research Firm/Institution:

R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.  
 337 East Third Street  
 Frederick, MD 21701

Sites examined:

18BA241                      18BA283

Project Details:

- Phase I
- Phase II
- Phase III

**Project Justification:**  
 As a result of the identification of the Banneker house site in 1983, Baltimore County Department of Parks and Recreation eventually purchased a total of 142-acres to create the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park. Further archeological investigations were required ahead of proposed development at the park. Site development plans included construction of a caretaker's residence and nearby maintenance area, a visitor's center and picnic and parking areas, and improvements to the Treuth Residence (site 18BA283). Other plans included the reconstruction of a homelot with associated dwellings, outbuildings, and fields, and the stabilization of the Treuth/Lee Farmstead ruins (18BA241). In 1992, Phase I/II archeological testing was conducted at the park ahead of the proposed development.

**Project Objectives:**  
 -Identify and document historic and prehistoric resources within the project area  
 -Evaluate the potential significance of those resources applying National Register criteria  
 -Make management recommendations regarding future treatment and interpretation of those resources

MAC Accession: 1994.032

Research Potential:

The Treuth/Lee Farmstead Site (18BA241) represents a mid-19th to late 20th century farmstead. In addition to the main dwelling (built ca. 1850), the remains of several outbuildings are within the site boundaries including a barn with stables, a creamery and ice house, and a garage that was converted for use as a dwelling when the main house burned down. Testing with the farmstead yielded a temporally mixed assemblage of late 19th and 20th century materials. Most of the artifacts were architectural which reflected the destruction of the main house and the eventual abandonment of the farmstead. Post-occupational refuse disposal and recreation activities were evident in the assemblage. The 19th and 20th century materials derived from temporally mixed deposits, disturbed by the abandonment and later activities. There was no evidence of activities related to the Banneker occupation of the site and no trace Banneker graveyard was recorded. It was determined that the proposed construction would not impede on any significant cultural remains. However, isolated significant deposits may yet be located in untested portions of the site. Therefore, it was recommended that an archeological monitor should be present during clearing and grading activities in the area. The Visitor's Center has since been completed.

See above for remaining research questions at 18BA283.