

# Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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## REPORT INFORMATION:

1986 Ward, H. H.

The Chesapeake City Public School Centennial Archaeological Project: Archaeology for Us.  
Submitted to Maryland Historical Trust

Library ID No: 00005732 Catalog/Shelving ID: CE 25

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust, Upper Delmarva  
Regional Center for Archaeology

Sites examined:

18CE191

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II

Phase III

### Project Justification:

In 1985, the Chesapeake City Elementary School was preparing for a centennial celebration of the original Chesapeake City Public School which was built in 1886 and demolished in 1939 or 1940. A member of the Maryland Historical Trust, Upper Delmarva Regional Center for Archaeology (now defunct), was contacted by school staff to aid in planning and coordinating a historic archeological project as a major educational component of the centennial observance. The aim of the archeological investigations was informed both by the teachers' desire to provide the maximum educational experience and by the archeologist's desire to introduce the students and faculty to the methods, goals and purposes of scientific, historical archeological research.

### Project Objectives:

- Locate the remains of the old school
- Collect adequate artifacts to allow for interpretive displays
- Teach that with a maximum of preliminary research and a minimum of destructive excavation, answers to specific questions can be realized

Research Potential:

The Chesapeake City Public School Site (18CE191) consists of partially disturbed foundations and a filled in basement of the original 1886 schoolhouse and two early 20th century additions. The site of the original 19th century school lies directly in front of the existing elementary school. In 1985, the Chesapeake City Elementary School was preparing for a centennial celebration of the original Chesapeake City Public School which was demolished in 1939/1940. A historic archeological project was planned and executed as a major educational component of the centennial observance. The project represented an example of the education opportunities presented by coordination between schools and professional personnel. In terms of the site, the archeological investigations supported photo-documentary and archival evidence for the location of the original school and the construction of its 2 additions. The subsurface remains lay buried in the front yard of the present school.