

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:

1962 Wilkins, Elwood S., Jr.
Preliminary Report on the Harlan Mill Steatite Quarry (18CE5), Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Delaware, Number Two: 1-22.

Library ID No: BASDE2

Sites examined:

18CE5

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II

Phase III

Project Justification:

Between 1959 and 1961, an avocational archeologist and member of the Eastern States Archeological Federation conducted surface survey, shovel pit testing, and the excavation of test units at the Harlan Mill Quarry site. The excavation was part of a larger project that began in 1955 to locate the raw material sources of artifacts that been excavated from the Minguannan Site (36CH3) located in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Project Objectives:

- Identify the location of the Harlan Mill Steatite Quarry
- Recover data pertaining to the technological complex
- Assess the geologic and technical variations between this site and other quarry sites in the region

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CE5.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1964 Wilkins, Elwood S., Jr.
The Harlan Mill Steatite Quarry, Cecil County, Maryland. Eastern States Archeological Federation No. 23:12-13.

Library ID No: ESAF23

Sites examined:

18CE5

Project Details:

Project Justification:

This is a brief article about the 1959-1961 investigations at the Harlan Mill Steatite Quarry site (18CE5). It provides the information that soil samples were collected for pollen analysis. However, no details of an analysis were provided.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CE5.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1985 Ward, H.H. and J.F. Custer
Survey of Steatite Quarries of Cecil County, Maryland.

Submitted to Maryland Historical Trust

Library ID No: 00005724 Catalog/Shelving ID: CE 17

Research Firm/Institution:

Center for Archaeological Research
University of Delaware, Department of
Anthropology
Newark, DE 19716

Sites examined:

18CE5

Project Details:

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| Phase I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Project Justification: The site was surveyed in 1985 during a survey of prehistoric steatite quarries in Cecil County that was being carried out by the staff of the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research and in part funded by the Maryland Historical Trust. The goal of the investigation into steatite quarry technology was to provide a new, more detailed perspective of the acquisition and consumption of the material by systematically collecting data to allow for a comprehensive description and comparative analysis. The research involved a comprehensive field survey of 5 quarries (2 in Cecil County and 3 in Pennsylvania) and a detailed inventory of all quarry-related steatite artifacts. |
| Phase II | | |
| Phase III | | |

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| Project Objectives: -Locate the quarry area -Delineate any internal activity areas -Collect a representative sample of both utilized and non-utilized steatite material as well as any quarrying tools -Examine the vicinity of the quarry area in an attempt to identify quarry-related habitation sites |
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REPORT INFORMATION:

1987 Ward, H.H. and J.F. Custer
 Steatite Quarries of Northeastern Maryland and Southeastern Pennsylvania: An Analysis of Quarry Technology.
 Submitted to Maryland Historical Trust
 Library ID No: 00005728 Catalog/Shelving ID: CE 21

Research Firm/Institution:

Center for Anthropological Research
 University of Delaware, Department of Anthropology
 Newark, DE 19716

Sites examined:

18CE5

Project Details:

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| Phase I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Project Justification: Site 18CE5 was investigated in 1985 during a survey of prehistoric steatite quarries in Cecil County that was being carried out by the staff of the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research and in part funded by the Maryland Historical Trust. The research involved a comprehensive field survey of 5 quarries including the Harlan Mill quarry and a detailed inventory of all quarry-related steatite artifacts. Preliminary observations based on the field visit were outlined in an earlier survey report. A more detailed analysis of the 1961 artifact assemblage and assessment of the extraction technology used at the site were provided in this report. |
| Phase II | | |
| Phase III | | |

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| Project Objectives: -Locate the actual quarry area -Delineate any internal activity areas -Collect a representative sample of both utilized and non-utilized steatite material as well as any quarrying tools -Examine the vicinity of the quarry area in an attempt to identify quarry-related habitation sites |
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Research Potential:

The Harlan Mill Steatite Quarry Site (18CE5) is a steatite, or soapstone, quarry radiocarbon dated to the Late Archaic period. Primary reduction at the quarry meant that the transportation weight of the vessels was reduced and it insured that the material was suitable for the production of a finished vessel. The lack of evidence for significant habitation at the quarry site suggested that site visitation was by relatively small groups for a limited duration. It was postulated that the movement of late stage vessels represented a mixture of direct procurement forays or low quantity exchange systems. Site 18CE5 is a significant quarry site because it was the only quarries in the region that was discovered and excavated intact. Not only did the quarry provide a remarkably complete view of steatite quarry technology, charcoal samples from a hearth feature identified on the quarry floor yielded the first, and possibly only, absolute dating of local quarry utilization. Because intact cultural features are known to be present at the site, any ground disturbing activities should be preceded by further archeological investigation.