

# Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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## REPORT INFORMATION:

1986 Deiss, R.W.  
Archaeological Excavations at the Thomas Stone, NHS, Port Tobacco, Maryland.  
Submitted to the Thomas Stone National Historic Site  
Library ID No: 00005772 Catalog/Shelving ID: CH 38

## Research Firm/Institution:

National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region  
12200A Plum Orchard Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

## Sites examined:

18CH331

NRHP Listed:

## Project Details:

	Project Justification:
Phase I	The farm Habre de Venture and portions of the main house were originally owned by Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Habre de Venture remained in the Stone family until the 20th century. However, in 1977, a fire gutted much of the main house and it along with many of the outbuildings suffered from exposure to the elements and lack of upkeep while the house remained unoccupied. In 1980 the property was acquired by the National Parks Service and plans were made to stabilize the structural remains and reconstruct the buildings for interpretive history displays. These stabilization and reconstruction plans necessitated archeological mitigation in the vicinity of the "office building" and kitchen additions of the main house.
Phase II	
Phase III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Project Objectives:
-Archeologically explore subsurface remains approximately 5 feet from and encircling the "office building" to mitigate the future placement of an independent or "French drain" around the foundation parameter.
-Conduct a preliminary examination of a rather large depression located near the kitchen addition of the main house.

## Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CH331.

## REPORT INFORMATION:

1987 Bevan, B.  
A Geophysical Survey at the Thomas Stone House - 13 July 1987.  
Submitted to the National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region  
Library ID No: 00005762 Catalog/Shelving ID: CH 28

## Research Firm/Institution:

Geosight  
P.O. Box 135  
Pitman, NJ 08071

## Sites examined:

18CH331 18CH332

NRHP Listed:  NRHP Listed:

## Project Details:

	Project Justification:
Phase I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The farm Habre de Venture and portions of the main house were originally owned by Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Habre de Venture remained in the Stone family until the 20th century. However, in 1977, a fire gutted much of the main house and it along with many of the outbuildings suffered from exposure to the elements and lack of upkeep while the house remained unoccupied. In 1980 the property was acquired by the National Parks Service and plans were made to stabilize the structural remains and reconstruct the buildings for interpretive history displays. These stabilization and reconstruction plans necessitated archeological mitigation and the geophysical survey was carried out to identify possible buried features, disturbed areas at the site, and buried metallic objects.
Phase II	
Phase III	

Project Objectives:
-Conduct a ground penetrating radar survey of the site area.
-Conduct a magnetometer survey of the site area.
-Conduct a ground conductivity survey of the site area.

## Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CH331.

See below for remaining research questions at 18CH332.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1988 Basalik, K.J. and T.R. Lewis  
Archaeological Investigations at Thomas Stone National Historic Site, Charles County,  
Maryland.  
Submitted to the National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region  
  
Library ID No: 00005774      Catalog/Shelving ID: CH 40

Research Firm/Institution:

Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.  
403 East Walnut Street  
North Wales, PA 19454

Sites examined:

18CH331                      18CH332

NRHP Listed:  NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b> The farm Habre de Venture and portions of the main house were originally owned by Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Habre de Venture remained in the Stone family until the 20th century. However, in 1977, a fire gutted much of the main house and it along with many of the outbuildings suffered from exposure to the elements and lack of upkeep while the house remained unoccupied. In 1980 the property was acquired by the National Parks Service and plans were made to stabilize the structural remains and reconstruct the buildings for interpretive history displays. These stabilization and reconstruction plans necessitated archeological mitigation and in 1987 this project was undertaken as a part of that process.
Phase II	
Phase III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Explore subsurface anomalies north of the house and detected by remote sensing in the spring of 1987. -Excavate the surface buried beneath the circa 1930s patio and associated porch support footings along the north side of the house. -Unearth a section of the flooring connected to the kitchen wing area in advance of reconstructive work. -Make preliminary explorations related to finding a wall return on the south side of the building. -Discover possible structural remains associated with the original approach to the house. -Explore an identified historic outbuilding location. -Conduct explorations to locate a privy reported by an informant to be in the southeastern yard area of the house. -Conduct investigations to find physical remains associated with reported "slave cabins" in a field to the west of the tenant house.
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Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CH331.

While excavations in the vicinity of the tenant house (18CH332) did not reveal the presence of any structural remains. Concentrations of artifacts did suggest the possibility of structural locations dating primarily to the mid-19th century. Our understanding of 18CH332 would be aided by geophysical study followed by ground-truthing test excavations. Work focusing on the tenant house itself, both interior and exterior excavations, would help clear up remaining questions concerning its date of construction and the possibility that it is itself an adapted slave cabin.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1990 Sheehan, G.W.  
Tests at Thomas Stone National Historic Site.  
Submitted to the National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region  
  
Library ID No: 00005775      Catalog/Shelving ID: CH 41

Research Firm/Institution:

SJS Archaeological Services, Inc.  
386 Middle Road  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Sites examined:

18CH331

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II	The farm Habre de Venture and portions of the main house were originally owned by Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Habre de Venture remained in the Stone family until the 20th century. However, in 1977, a fire gutted much of the main house and it along with many of the outbuildings suffered from exposure to the elements and lack of upkeep while the house remained unoccupied. In 1980 the property was acquired by the National Parks Service and plans were made to stabilize the structural remains and reconstruct the buildings for interpretive history displays. These stabilization and reconstruction plans necessitated archeological mitigation and in 1987 this project was undertaken as a part of that process.
Phase III	

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Focus testing on the kitchen wing of the main house, with monitoring of work in the structure's basement.
-Mitigate displacement of soil due to planned construction.
-Locate and examine possible features tentatively identified in certain locations by previous work.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18CH331.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1992 Pousson, J.F. and M.R. Virta  
 Management Report: Archeological - Porch Pier Footings at the Thomas Stone House,  
 Package 110, Thomas Stone National Historic Site, Charles County, Maryland.  
 Submitted to the Thomas Stone National Historic Site  
  
 Library ID No: 00005786      Catalog/Shelving ID: CH 52

Research Firm/Institution:

National Park Service - Mid-Atlantic Region  
 12200A Plum Orchard Road  
 Silver Spring, MD 20904

Sites examined:

18CH331

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II	The farm Habre de Venture and portions of the main house were originally owned by Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Habre de Venture remained in the Stone family until the 20th century. However, in 1977, a fire gutted much of the main house and it along with many of the outbuildings suffered from exposure to the elements and lack of upkeep while the house remained unoccupied. In 1980 the property was acquired by the National Parks Service and plans were made to stabilize the structural remains and reconstruct the buildings for interpretive history displays. These stabilization and reconstruction plans necessitated archeological mitigation and in 1992 this project was undertaken as a part of that process.
Phase III	

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Investigate the characteristics of the pier footings for porches that formerly existed on the north and south sides of the main building or original house structure.
-Use the information gained from the excavations to contribute to design of the planned reconstruction of the porches and to mitigate the potential adverse effects of reconstruction on the footings and their associated archeological context.

Research Potential:

Site 18CH331 retains sufficient integrity to address ongoing research question related to the historic period at the site and to aid in interpretive efforts at the Thomas Stone National Historic Site. Many of the soils in the immediate vicinity of the main house have been investigated thoroughly, however, soils further afield (in areas where outbuildings and other structures may be present) have never been subject to systematic shovel testing which might help delineate the original layout of the site. Also, the prehistoric deposits are not well understood and deserve further attention.