

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

2000 Busby, V.R.
The Chicone Indian Town Archaeological Research Project: Report of Archaeological Investigations at Site 18DO11 (The Chicone Site #1), Dorchester County, Maryland, 1994-1995 Seasons.
Submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust
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Research Firm/Institution:

Department of Anthropology
Brooks Hall - University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Sites examined:

18DO11

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification: This report describes two seasons (1994 & 1995) of archeological excavation at 18DO11 within the bounds of the Post-Contact period Chicone Indian reservation in Dorchester County. Prior investigators had identified 18DO11 as the archeological remains of the core settlement of the Late Woodland-to-Contact period village of Chicone, where the Nanticoke "emperor" resided. A graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Virginia initiated the 1994/1995 excavations as part of a larger dissertation project aimed at explicating Nanticoke culture during the Contact period. A Non-Capital Grant from the Maryland Historical Trust provided the majority of financial support for the excavations.
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III		

Project Objectives: -Investigate internal site structure. -Establish temporal control. -Characterize the artifact assemblage. -Identify the location of intact deposits, particularly in the area of a circular soil stain purported to be the Nanticoke "emperor's" residence.
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Research Potential:

Excavations at 18DO11 clearly reveal that a very significant archeological site with intact features and artifact deposits is present. The site relates to an important period in Maryland history, and preserves archeological deposits associated with a period of rapid change in Native American culture, as well as increasing interactions between the indigenous and colonial inhabitants of Maryland. Additional excavation in Area C, the southeastern part of Area A, and in the far eastern portion of the site is strongly recommended in order to flesh out the extent of occupation at the site during the proto-historic period. The resultant material assemblage would contribute further to our understanding of the material choices made by the Nanticoke in the context of European contact and colonization. Opening up enough area to permit the definition of house patterns and possibly the palisade line would contribute significantly to our understanding of the organization of people in space in a Late Woodland-Contact period Eastern Shore village. Combining this intense study of 18DO11 with survey and equal study of other sites within the other parts of the Chicone Village landscape would allow a more complete picture of life at Chicone.