

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1997 KCI Technologies
B&O Railroad Station (Turntable Area) Ellicott City, Maryland.
Submitted to Howard County Department of Public Works
Library ID No: 00005892 Catalog/Shelving ID: HO 72

Research Firm/Institution:

KCI Technologies, Inc.
10 North Park Drive
Hunt Valley, MD 21030-1888

Sites examined:

18HO35

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II

Phase III

Project Justification:

This report describes an archeological assessment conducted in 1997 on behalf of the Howard County Department of Public Works. The assessment was carried out at 18HO35, the remains of the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad roundtable at Ellicott City in Howard County. At the time, Howard County was planning for the restoration and rehabilitation of the roundtable as part of a larger effort to restore the B&O depot to its original appearance. The effort would include the partial reconstruction of the turntable's cobblestone floor and the construction of a retaining wall along the eastern side of the turntable, abutting a walkway that passed over the easternmost side of the structure. The work was conducted in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act due to the public funding of the work.

Project Objectives:

- Review documentation related to a 1974 excavation at the site and other previous documentation efforts.
- Investigate a large fill pile within the eastern half of the turntable pit.
- Assess the integrity and archeological potential of the materials remaining within the interior of the turntable at 18HO35.

Research Potential:

Based on these findings, the 1997 research team suggested that the restoration of the turntable 1) avoid further impacting the intact remnant of cobblestone flooring in the northwestern quadrant of the turntable and 2) that the removal of the fill in the eastern half of the turntable pit be monitored by a qualified archeologist in case intact deposits or stratigraphic profiles were preserved beneath this post 1970s-era fill. The remainder of the turntable appears to have been excavated to a level beneath the cobblestone floor and its bedding. The site is unlikely to yield additional useful archeological information.