

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

2004 Clark, W.E. and P.Y. Inashima
Archeological Investigations with the Duckett and Triadelphia Reservoirs - Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince Georges Counties, Maryland.
Submitted to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
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Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

Sites examined:

18HO244 18MO173 others

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification: In 2003, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) entered into a memorandum of agreement to conduct a joint investigation of the archeological resources contained within the T. Howard Duckett and Triadelphia reservoirs. As a consequence of this agreement, a review of prior archeology and relevant local history, a pedestrian and boat survey, and limited archeological excavations were conducted during April and May of that year. Phase II-level test excavations were carried out at two rockshelter site: 18HO244 in Howard County and 18MO173 in Montgomery County. The work was funded by WSSC in partnership with MHT.
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III		

Project Objectives:
-Confirm the presence of prehistoric occupations at the two sites.
-Determine the chronology of any prehistoric occupation(s) found.
-Define the nature of the depositional matrices comprising the rock shelter floors.
-Establish the state of preservation of prehistoric floral and faunal remains.
-At 18HO244, assess the extent of the destruction/disturbance caused by earlier unauthorized excavations.

Research Potential:

Based on these findings, Site 18HO244 primarily represents a Middle and Late Woodland shelter used as a camp location during the seasonal round of aboriginal peoples. Testing at the site clearly revealed the presence of intact features and artifact bearing soils. Diagnostic artifacts and dateable carbon were also recovered. Large portions of the site remain unexcavated. It should be considered a significant archeological resource.

The 2003 archeological investigation at 18MO173 indicate, at least, two periods of relatively light occupation during prehistoric times. The first occurred during the Middle Archaic as indicated by the presence of a rhyolite Guilford point (ca. 4000 BC). The second occurred during the Middle Woodland as indicated by the recovery of Mockley net-impressed pottery (ca. AD 10 to AD 900). Earlier occupations are suggested by an apparent buried soil horizon which lies beneath the central portion of the rockshelter. The site may have some research potential, if the buried soil horizon noted in the central portion of the site is, indeed, a former living surface and remains intact. Such has yet to be proven.