

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

2012 Schindler, W. and J.L. Seidel

Evaluation of Archaeological Testing & Predictive Modeling on Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore - 2009 Investigations.

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Research Firm/Institution:

Washington College Public Archaeology Laboratory

The Custom House - 101 S. Water St.

Chestertown, MD 21620

Sites examined:

18QU485

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II



Phase III



Project Justification:

Two Washington College projects, undertaken from 2000 to 2007, developed a GIS-based predictive model for archeological sites on Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore. The college's Public Archeology Laboratory began field testing the prehistoric model in 2005 along the Sassafras River in Kent County. After the first two years of testing, the Maryland Historical Trust made an FY 2007 Non-Capital Grant to Washington College to expand the investigation. In 2008, another Non-Capital Grant was awarded to further expand the project into a variety of environmental zones. This report summarizes work done in 2009 to begin the process of testing these varied environmental zones and to further develop the predictive model.

Project Objectives:

-Perform testing over a variety of ecological zones and "focus areas" to assess the developed predictive model.

-Assess the utility of both surface collection and subsurface testing in identifying and accurately characterizing sites.

Research Potential:

A site of some interest to archeologists and prehistorians is Ozinies, a village marked on John Smith's map of the Chesapeake Bay in 1612. Smith showed little detail on the Chester River, as he did not visit it, but his depiction of a King's House in the area indicates that he believed there was a village somewhere in the vicinity. Whether or not the Indiantown Farm site was the village of the Ozinies or not cannot be determined with present data. It should be noted that the Ozinies would have been concerned about protecting their village from raiding groups such as the Massawomeck and the Susquehannock, and 18QU485 would have provided a good location for such defense. The site's location inland on the south side of the river and the presence of period trade beads and abundant Late Woodland pottery, make it at least as likely a candidate for Ozinies as any other site. However, the lack of ceramics recovered to-date, again, suggest a seasonal procurement locale rather than a village occupied for a long duration. Based on the possible connection to Ozinies, the extensive surface remains at Indiantown, and the substantial subsurface remains encountered in the limited 2009 testing, additional work at Indiantown Farm is warranted.