

# Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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## REPORT INFORMATION:

1993 Sonderman, R.C., M.R. Virta, M.W. Nickels, and S.R. Potter

Archeology at Harmony Hall: Exploring the Late Seventeenth-Century Frontiers of Maryland.

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## Research Firm/Institution:

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## Sites examined:

18PR305

## Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II

Phase III



### Project Justification:

Harmony Hall was leased in 1985 to a private firm under the provisions of the National Parks Service's Historic Leasing Program. This program is designed to lease historic properties not open for public interpretation to preservation-minded individuals or entities. As a result of this leasing agreement, new construction and utilities installation were planned by the lessees to improve and rehabilitate the property. The proposed renovations at Harmony Hall necessitated the undertaking of archeological investigations in order to fulfill compliance obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA. Phase III-level work was conducted from 1985 to 1987.

### Project Objectives:

-Fulfill compliance obligations under Section 106 of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, for the tenant's proposed improvements to the property.

-Utilize abundant volunteer labor to conduct extensive data recovery in areas to be impacted, ensuring that no significant cultural resources will be adversely affected by the construction plans of the lease.

## Research Potential:

Excavations at 18PR305 have provided invaluable data regarding the late 17th century occupation of Prince George's County by middling planters. Analytical research on the extant collections is likely to be quite fruitful. While many of the proposed modern improvements appear to have been undertaken, much of the site, including unexcavated portions of features identified in the 1980s, may remain intact. In addition, a substantial prehistoric component appears to be present, but was not addressed at all in the full site report. While soil probing was conducted across site in the search for historic features, our understanding of the prehistory at 18PR305 might benefit from a systematic survey (such as STPs) across the site to locate concentrations of prehistoric materials and possible features to be investigated further. The site should be considered a significant resource and additional work is warranted should an opportunity present itself.