

# Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

All information contained within the individual site database and inventory sheets is solely the work of the researchers and authors noted below. The data provided has been culled from the original site reports noted below and in many cases has been lifted directly from them with little or no editing. The database and inventory sheets are meant to serve as a synopsis of the report findings and a finding aid and are not intended to replace or republish the research of the authors noted below.

## REPORT INFORMATION:

1940 Ferguson, A.L.L. and T.D. Stewart  
An Ossuary Near Piscataway Creek with a Report on the Skeletal Remains. American Antiquity 6(1):4-18.  
Submitted to the Society of American Archaeology  
Library ID No: 00006617      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 65

### Sites examined:

18PR40                      18PR42

### Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b> The search for and excavation of the Piscataway Fort by Alice Ferguson was prompted by the impending sale of the property of one of her neighbors. Mrs. Ferguson suspected that the farm would become the site of a new housing development, which it did around 1946.
Phase II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III	

<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Locate evidence of the Piscataway Fort. -Salvage archeological data from the Clagett farm property which was for sale at the time.
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### Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR40.

See below for remaining research questions at 18FR42.

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## REPORT INFORMATION:

1963 Woodward, D.R.  
Report on Test Excavations for Archeological Evidence at Colonial Farm, Bryans Point, Prince George's County, Maryland.  
Submitted to ASM and the Accokeek Foundation (NPS)  
Library ID No: 00006609      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 57

### Research Firm/Institution:

Douglas R. Woodward (ASM)  
P.O. Box 1331  
Huntingtown, MD 20639

### Sites examined:

18PR5

### Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b> This project was undertaken by the author (a local collector and ASM member) upon discovery of a scatter of lithic flakes and potsherds on the National Colonial Farm. Since the site was previously undocumented, the author sought and obtained permission from the Accokeek Foundation to conduct test excavations to determine the nature and extent of the site.
Phase II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III	

<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Determine the nature and extent of the previously undocumented archeological site.
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### Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR5.

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## REPORT INFORMATION:

1963 Stephenson, R.L., A.L.L. Ferguson, and H.G. Ferguson  
The Accokeek Creek Site: A Middle Atlantic Seaboard Culture Sequence.  
Library ID No: 00006618      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 66

### Research Firm/Institution:

University of Michigan, Museum of Anthropology  
1109 Geddes Avenue  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1079

### Sites examined:

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

**Project Justification:**  
This report is an overview of the excavations conducted by Alice L. Ferguson in the 1930s and 1940s along her property on Piscataway Creek.

**Project Objectives:**  
-Provide a summary monograph describing the entire body of work conducted on the "Hard Bargain" property and adjoining properties during the first half of the 20th century.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR8.  
See below for remaining research questions at 18PR240.  
See below for remaining research questions at 18PR241.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1967 Woodward, D.R.  
Reconnaissance Report on the Farmington Landing Site. Archeological Society of Maryland  
Miscellaneous Papers 7: 1-6.

Research Firm/Institution:

The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1331  
Huntingtown, MD 20639

Library ID No: ASM\_PAPER

Sites examined:

18PR4

Project Details:

Phase I  
Phase II   
Phase III  
**Project Justification:**  
This paper presents the findings of a salvage archeology program of testing conducted by members of the Archeological Society of Maryland in the late 1960s. At that time, the property on which the site was situated was to be either acquired by NPS for the proposed Piscataway National Park or would be acquired for private development. For this reason an exploratory dig was considered appropriate.

**Project Objectives:**  
-Conduct testing at the site to determine its nature and extent.

MAC Accession: 2002.042.068

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR4.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1973 Thurman, M.  
A Short Paper on Ossuaries. Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Middle Atlantic  
Archaeological Conference.  
Submitted to the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference

Research Firm/Institution:

Anthropology Department, Univ. of Maryland  
1111 Woods Hall  
College Park, MD 20742

Library ID No: 4thMACConf Catalog/Shelving ID: Curry Lib

Sites examined:

18PR40

Project Details:

Phase I  
Phase II  
Phase III

<b>Project Justification:</b> This report is the only "published" record of an ossuary excavation project. The work was part salvage operation, part pure research. The project was undertaken in an attempt to relocate the deposits related to the Piscataway Fort previously identified by Alice Ferguson in the late 1930s/1940. A house was eventually built atop the site of an ossuary encountered in 1970. The construction of this house likely played a role in prompting the study.
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<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Locate any remaining evidence of the Piscataway Fort in the area.  -Locate traces of excavation work conducted by Alice Ferguson in the late 1930s and 1940.  -Conduct salvage operations in the area of the proposed house footprint.  -Salvage archeological data from the Clagett farm property which was for sale at the time.
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Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR40.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1972 Thurman, M.D.  
Re-excavation of the Accokeek Creek Site: a Preliminary Report.  
Submitted to the Society for American Archeology  
  
Library ID No: 00006614      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 62

Research Firm/Institution:

Anthropology Department, Univ. of Maryland  
1111 Woods Hall  
College Park, MD 20742

Sites examined:

18PR8

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

Phase I  
Phase II   
Phase III

<b>Project Justification:</b> This was a "pure research" project supported by a grant from the American Philosophical Society.
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<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Determine if intact postmolds were present at 18PR8 and were situated in a discernable "house" pattern.
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Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR8.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1974 Huss Ashmore, R.A.  
Demographic Investigation of a Piscataway Creek Ossuary.  
Submitted to the University of Maryland, Department of Anthropology  
  
Library ID No: 97000769      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 266

Research Firm/Institution:

Anthropology Department, Univ. of Maryland  
1111 Woods Hall  
College Park, MD 20742

Sites examined:

18PR40

Project Details:

<b>Project Justification:</b> This was an osteological and demographic analysis of the burial population from 18PR40 conducted as part of a Master's Thesis.
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<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Accurately characterize the burial population from the ossuary at 18PR40.
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Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR40.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1974 Veatch, B.T.  
The Farmington Landing Site: A Cultural Sequence of the Maryland Coastal Plain.  
Submitted to Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences of the American University

Research Firm/Institution:

Betty T. Veatch - American University  
4400 Massachusetts Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Sites examined:

18PR4

Project Details:

<b>Project Justification:</b>
This analysis was conducted as part of a Master's Thesis by a student at the American University. The site was not threatened by development, but was a suitable research collection and was made available to the student.

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Conduct a thorough analysis of the extant collections from 18PR4 made by avocational archeologists in the 1960s.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR4.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1976 Hume, G.W.

Mitigation of the Accokeek Creek Site Related to Piscataway Park Shoreline Improvements.  
Submitted to the National Park Service

Library ID No: 00006709 Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 145

Research Firm/Institution:

Department of Anthropology - George Washington University  
2110 G St., NW  
Washington, DC 20052

Sites examined:

18PR8

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

Phase I	<b>Project Justification:</b> This work was conducted to mitigate the impact of shoreline erosion control installations at the north end of the site. At that time, the National Park Service was seeking to stabilize the bank by installing gabions into the bank with a 2:1 slope. A survey of the area that would be impacted by gabion construction conducted in 1975 revealed an area of approximately 84 meters with in situ archeological materials that would be graded during construction.
Phase II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Phase III	

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Identify archeological resources in the construction impact area.
-Determine the relation of identified areas to excavated portions of 18PR8 as identified through 1930s era aerial photographs.
-Determine if intact features and in situ artifact deposits are present.

MAC Accession: 1975.027.001

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR8.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1980 Potter, S.R.

A Review of Archeological Resources In Piscataway Park, Maryland.  
Submitted to the National Park Service

Library ID No: 00006605 Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 55

Research Firm/Institution:

National Park Service - National Capital Region  
1100 Ohio Drive, SW  
Washington, DC 20242

Sites examined:

18PR4      18PR5      18PR8      18PR40      18PR42      18PR240      18PR241

NRHP Listed:

others

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II		This project was undertaken to assist park planners and managers in developing management zones for Piscataway Park. All of the known archeological sites were assessed using criteria for scientific significance, historical significance, ethnic significance, and significance for public interpretation.
Phase III		

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Document all sites within the Piscataway Park property.
-Rank sites according to their significance (scientific, historic, ethnic, or value for public interpretation).
-Document sites which have not yet been excavated to an extent where their significance has been determined.
-Provide management recommendations for each site.

Research Potential:

- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR4.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR5.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR8.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR40.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR42.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR240.
- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR241.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1982 Dent, R.J. et. al.  
 Draft Report on the Intensive Archeological Reconnaissance of the National Colonial Farm of the Accokeek Foundation Located within Piscataway National Park, Prince George's County, Maryland.  
 Submitted to the National Park Service  
 Library ID No: 00006613      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 61

Research Firm/Institution:

Anthropology Department, Univ. of Maryland  
 1111 Woods Hall  
 College Park, MD 20742

Sites examined:

18PR5                      Others

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project Justification:</b>
Phase II		In the early 1980s the Accokeek Foundation, which manages Piscataway Park in an agreement with NPS, was undertaking formulation of a development concept and action plan for the National Colonial Farm. As part of that development plan, a comprehensive pedestrian reconnaissance survey was undertaken in the National Colonial Farm portion of Piscataway Park by UMD.
Phase III		

<b>Project Objectives:</b>
-Inventory all sites in the National Colonial Farm project area.
-Interpret the sites in the context of the study area and region.
-Evaluate the impact on the area's archeology by the Colonial Farm project.
-Develop recommendations for eligibility or non-eligibility for the National Register, if possible.
-Determine the need for further work.
-Evaluate predictive models of site location.

Research Potential:

- See below for remaining research questions at 18PR5.

**REPORT INFORMATION:**

1982 McGarry, T.E.  
 Piscataway Archeological Survey - 1981, Piscataway Park, National Parks-East.  
 Submitted to the National Park Service  
 Library ID No: 00006607      Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 56

Research Firm/Institution:

National Capital Team, National Park Service  
 1100 Ohio Dr. SW  
 Washington, DC 20242

Sites examined:

18PR4                      18PR5                      18PR8                      18PR40                      18PR42                      18PR240                      18PR241

NRHP Listed:

others

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project Justification:</b> The 1981 Piscataway Archeological Survey was performed to support the general management plan for Piscataway Park. This was warranted to fill gaps in the archeological database and to identify management problems or concerns under the authority of Executive Order 11593 and Federal Regulation 36CFR800. This was in response to the needs of a general management plan then under progress.
Phase II		
Phase III		

<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Assess known, but poorly defined archeological sites for significance and interpretive potential.  -Define resource management problems in the park.
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Research Potential:

Based on the work conducted at 18PR4 in 1967 and 1968, the site would appear to be quite significant. Intact features were encountered and researchers noted features in the field that went unexcavated. In addition, individual features appear to be datable to specific (and discrete) prehistoric periods based on the presence of diagnostic artifacts. Farmington Landing should be considered a significant site with ongoing research potential.

The original ASM excavators of 18PR5 felt that the site exhibited only "limited hope for significant findings", but with some promising prospects of deeply buried midden deposits in the area within 15.24 meters of the river bank. Furthermore, the researchers from UMD argued that the site was one of the most significant at the National Colonial Farm. Additional research is warranted should the site be threatened by development of the park or a research opportunity present itself to determine if such buried deposits are indeed present and if intact features can be identified. Mechanical stripping of the plow-disturbed soil would likely be a productive excavation strategy.

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR8.

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR40.

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR42.

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR240.

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR241.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1999 Curry, D.C.  
 Feast of the Dead: Aboriginal Ossuaries in Maryland.

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Historical Trust  
 100 Community Place  
 Crownsville, MD 21032

Library ID No: 00007502      Catalog/Shelving ID: E78.M3C87

Sites examined:

18PR8                      18PR40                      18PR42                      18PR240                      18PR241                      others

NRHP Listed:

Project Details:

<b>Project Justification:</b> This work is an accumulation of data on ossuaries in Maryland. It pays particular attention to recurring attributes and data categories in order to facilitate broad-scale comparison and synthesis.
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<b>Project Objectives:</b> -Form a comprehensive, well-organized compendium of archeological reference data for use by professional archeologists studying late prehistoric societies, and ossuaries in particular.  -Introduce the general public to a unique Native American cultural and religious practice and, ultimately, to the benefits of modern archeology.
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Research Potential:

Site 18PR8 is clearly an extremely important site. The Accokeek Creek site served as the basis for understanding ceramic chronology in the Middle Atlantic region. This chronology established the Early Woodland Marcey Creek/Accokeek/Popes Creek – Middle Woodland Mockley – Late Woodland Potomac Creek continuum. The village excavated at 18PR8 represents the largest and last-occupied Piscataway village inhabited before the arrival of Europeans. Based on the continued exposure of intact features and deposits in the 1970s, and the ongoing preservation of the site as a National Park, 18PR8 likely retains significant research potential. It should be considered a significant prehistoric archeological resource.

A subdivision of small homes now sits atop much of Site 18PR40 and 18PR42. It is thought that this post-WWII type housing was actually rather low-impact. House footprints are small and many may be raised on block foundations. Intact deposits may remain in the yards on the sub-divided lots. Thus, the research potential of 18PR40 and 18PR42 is not currently known. A promising avenue for research is detailed examination of the land records from the 1940s and 50s as well as examination of aerial photographs to determine if there are likely spots where intact deposits may remain preserved.

Based on the extant data, 18PR240 appears to be both a prehistorically and historically significant site which exhibited intact burial features, hearths, refuse pits, and postmolds. Furthermore, the original excavators of the site note that additional intact features were likely preserved beneath the upper sandy stratigraphic layer. This suggests that the site is still capable of answering significant research questions.

It is clear from the evidence uncovered by Ferguson, that 18PR241 represented the remains of a fort which played a quite significant role in Maryland's early colonial history. Despite this, no substantive additional work has ever been conducted at the site and its current research potential is not well known. General archeological surveys of Piscataway Park conducted in the 1980s make mention of the site, but provide few details and no description of any fieldwork which would give an indication as to whether intact deposits are still extant. It is perhaps most likely that the site was fully excavated in the 1940s. Mrs. Ferguson made mention in her descriptions of other sites (such as Mockley Point) when she felt features were likely to be present in an area, but were left unexcavated. She made no such comments in her description of the Susquehannock Fort excavations.

