

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:

2000 Galke, L.J. and M.W. Kell

Phase I Archaeological Resources Inventory of the Harper's Creek Area, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Submitted to Natural and Cultural Resources Branch, Dept. of Public Works, NAS

Library ID No: 97000633 Catalog/Shelving ID: ST 184

Research Firm/Institution:

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum,
Maryland Historical Trust
10515 Mackall Road
St. Leonard, MD 20685

Sites examined:

18ST659 18ST751 18ST754
NRHP Eligible: Y Y N
[Justification](#) [Justification](#) [Justification](#)

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	Project Justification:
Phase II		Phase I fieldwork was undertaken aboard the Naval Air Station Patuxent River from June to December 1997 as part of the Navy's compliance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.
Phase III		

MAC Accession: 2001.033

Project Objectives:
-Expand the survey of the facility conducted previously
-Identify all cultural resources that might be impacted by future activity within the area by Patuxent River Naval Air Station

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18ST659.

See below for remaining research questions at 18ST751.

See below for remaining research questions at 18ST754.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2005 Child, K.M., et. al.

Phase II Archeological Evaluation of Site 18ST751, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Submitted to Commander, Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Library ID No: 97001530 Catalog/Shelving ID: ST 202

Research Firm/Institution:

R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.
241 East Fourth Street, Suite 100
Frederick, MD 21701

Sites examined:

18ST751
NRHP Eligible: Y
[Justification](#)

Project Details:

Phase I		Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	Based on the findings of the Phase I archeological investigations, it was recommended that if any further earth moving activities be unavoidable at the site, Phase II testing should be undertaken to determine the National Register eligibility of the site. Phase II investigations commenced in October 2001 at 18ST751.
Phase III		

MAC Accession: 2007.004

Project Objectives:
-Determine the age, nature, and function of the site
-Determine the horizontal and vertical boundaries of the site
-Assess the integrity and information potential of the site

Research Potential:

The historic component of the Rousby site (18ST751) extended from the 17th century through the 20th century with the main period of occupation dated to the last quarter of the 17th century. The features identified during the archeological investigations likely represented the time of Halfehead's lease at the property until the death of Rousby, ca. 1675 (and possibly earlier) to 1685. The presence of intact cultural features from the 17th century suggests that 18ST751 contains important data on farmstead design, subsistence practices, and socio-economic status of its inhabitants during that time. A mid-19th century component is also represented at the site in the form of a large shell deposit. The recovery of 19th century artifacts from the Ap horizon across the site suggests that additional 19th century features may exist elsewhere at the site. Although intact prehistoric deposits have been postulated for the site, the majority of the prehistoric assemblage was mixed with historic deposits in the plowzone and therefore does not represent a significant component. The historic component contains the integrity and significance to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If future impacts are planned for the site, data recovery is recommended.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2006 Sara, T.R. et. al.
 National Register Eligibility Evaluations of Site 18ST659 and 18ST754 and Data Recovery Excavations at Site 18ST659, VXX Presidential Helicopter Facility, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, St. Mary's County, Maryland.
 Submitted to Department of the Navy, Naval Air Station Patuxent River

Research Firm/Institution:

Geo-Marine, Inc.
 2713 Magruder Blvd., Suite D
 Hampton, VA 23666

Library ID No: 97002712 Catalog/Shelving ID: ST 229

Sites examined:

18ST659 18ST754
 NRHP Eligible: Y NRHP Eligible: N
[Justification](#) [Justification](#)

Project Details:

Phase I	Project Justification: Based on the results of the Phase I archeological study, it was recommended that if any further earth moving activities were unavoidable at sites 18ST659 and 18ST754, Phase II testing should be undertaken to determine the National Register eligibility of the sites. Between August and September 2004, Phase II testing of the sites was done ahead of the proposed development of a new VXX Presidential Helicopter Program Support Facility. As a result of the Phase II findings, site 18ST659 was determined eligible for the National Register and recommended for Phase III data recovery prior to construction of the new helicopter facility. Phase III fieldwork was conducted between April and May 2005. As planned, the new construction of the VXX Presidential Helicopter Facility would result in the removal of approximately 80% of the site area; the northern, wooded portion of the site would be protected from future development.
Phase II	
Phase III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	

Project Objectives: -Determine the age, nature, and function of the sites -Determine the horizontal and vertical boundaries of the sites -Assess the integrity and information potential of the sites

MAC Accession: 2004.029, 2006.055

Research Potential:

Based on the archeological investigations, prehistoric occupation of the Harper Creek site (18ST659) was found to have spanned several thousand years. Artifacts dating from the Early Archaic period through the Late Woodland period have been recovered from the site. However, the primary focus of the settlement appears to have been during the late Middle Archaic to early Late Archaic period. The primary lithic activity represented at the site is staged biface reduction and tool manufacture. Evidence of other activities such as fishing and nut mast processing are also represented. The excavation of site 18ST659, and the recovery and subsequent curation of a large sample of the site's material remains, will provide an important contribution to the future study of prehistoric lifeways in the Chesapeake Bay and greater mid-Atlantic region. Although the majority of the site was removed during construction of the new helicopter facility, the northern wooded area, representing about 20% of the overall site area, was not to be impacted by construction. If the northern area cannot be avoided during any future earth moving activities, it has been recommended that further data recovery be conducted in that area. The preferred course of action would be to permanently protect the area.

The archeological investigations at the Harper's Creek Site #8 (18ST754) indicated that a small domestic structure may have stood in the vicinity sometime during the mid to late 19th century. Equally likely is that the site area was used as a dumping ground or trash area. No in situ historic deposits or features were identified and no in situ prehistoric shell middens or features were identified. Although artifacts and shell were recovered from former plowzone deposits within the site, their frequencies were considered very low when viewed against the high frequencies of artifacts recovered from nearby sites in the Harper Creek drainage. Based on these results, the historic component and the prehistoric component of site 18ST754 were found to have low research value and were recommended as not eligible for inclusion in the National Register. No further work was conducted at the site.