

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1982 Hurry, S.D.
Architectural Archaeology of Ocean Hall.
Submitted to Historic St. Mary's City

Library ID No: 00006416 Catalog/Shelving ID: ST 33

Research Firm/Institution:

Maryland Geological Survey
2300 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Sites examined:

18ST71

Project Details:

Phase I

Project Justification:

Phase II

Phase III



Archeological research was conducted in 1980 and 1981 to clear the way for the construction of a proposed new addition to Ocean Hall. Although the main house and the surrounding grounds encompass the site area, in 1980/81 the archeology was to take place within the gutted shell of the 20th century kitchen addition. The proposed area of impact was about 83.61 square meters (900 square feet).

Project Objectives:

- Address the patterning of activity areas.
- Retrieve architectural information that can be used in house renovation.
- Explore methods of investigating a standing structure.

Research Potential:

The Ocean Hall site (18ST71) is a good example of 18th-20th century vernacular architecture in Southern Maryland. With its four heated chambers, formal symmetrical eastern façade, and solid construction of brick and oak, Ocean Hall was an exceptionally high quality structure when constructed in 1703. Further systematic surface collection and excavation would help to identify loci of activities around the main house. Mitigation is recommended whenever earth moving activities occur at the site. The site offers unique opportunities for research due to the long-term, continual occupation of the area.