

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1998 Klein, M.J. et. al.

Phase II Archeological Evaluation, West Area 1, Site 18ST686, St. Clement's Island Shell Midden, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

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Research Firm/Institution:

Dames & Moore Cultural Resource Services and Center for Historic Preservation, Mary Washington College

7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700

Bethesda, MD 20814

Sites examined:

18ST686

NRHP Eligible:

[Justification](#)

Project Details:

Phase I

Project Justification:

Phase II

In September 1997, a Phase II archeological evaluation was undertaken at site 18ST686. The site had been previously identified by the Maryland Historical Trust as a potentially significant archeological site; therefore a Phase I survey was not required. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources was developing plans to build a revetment to retard erosion on St. Clement's Island.

Phase III

Project Objectives:

-Determine whether the midden area was eligible for listing in the Maryland Register of Historic Properties

-Determine the extent to which construction of the proposed revetment would affect significant resources

-Recommend management options that would permit completion of the construction without further damage to significant archeological remains

Research Potential:

West Area 1 of the St. Clement's Island shell midden (18T686) preserves the remnants of short-term occupations by small groups of Native Americans during the Middle and Late Woodland/ Contact periods. This shellfish procurement and processing site has the potential to provide important information on regional prehistoric ceramic chronology, settlement patterns, and task specialization. For these reasons, it was determined that the St. Clement's Island Shell Midden (West Area I) was eligible for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties under Criterion D. Three treatment plans were presented for management of the site: preservation in place, an extended Phase I survey inland, and a Phase III data recovery (recent aerial images show what appears to be revetment in the general location of the site).