**Country Club**

### Brief Description
Colonial settlement of Providence

### Site Location and Environmental Data:
- **Latitude**: 39.0003
- **Longitude**: -76.4556
- **Elevation**: 6 m
- **Site slope**: 0-2%
- **Site setting**:
  - Site Setting restricted
  - Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

#### Topography
- Floodplain
- Hilltop/bluff
- Interior flat
- Upland flat
- Ridge top
- Terrace
- Low terrace

#### Ownership
- Private
- Federal
- State of MD
- Region/county/city
- Unknown

#### Nearest Surface Water
- Name (if any): Mill Creek
- **Minimum distance to water is**: 25 m
- **Water type**: Estuary/tidal river
- **Type of water**: Swamp

### Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:
- **Paleoindian site**: Woodland site
- **Archaic site**: MD Adena
- **Early Archaic**: Early woodland
- **Middle Archaic**: Mid. woodland
- **Late Archaic**: Late woodland
- **Unknown prehistoric context**

- **Contact period site**: ca. 1820 - 1860
- **Prehistoric**: ca. 1630 - 1675 P ca. 1660 - 1700 P ca. 1700 - 1720 P
- **Historic**: Post 1930
- **Unknown historic context**

### Site Function Contextual Data:

#### Historic
- **Urban/Rural?**: Rural
- **Domestic**
  - Homestead
  - Farmstead
  - Mansion
  - Plantation
  - Row/townhome
  - Cellar
  - Privy
- **Industrial**
  - Mining-related
  - Quarry-related
  - Mill
  - Black/metalsmith
  - Other context

- **Military**
- **Transportation**
  - Canal-related
  - Road/railroad
  - Wharf/landing
  - Maritime-related
  - Bridge
  - Ford
- **Educational**
  - Church/mtg house
  - Ch support bldg
  - Cemetery
  - Sepulchre
  - Isolated burial
  - Other context
- **Commercial**
  - Trading post
  - Store
  - Tavern/inn
  - Possible Structure

#### Prehistoric
- **Multi-component**
- **Village**
- **Hamlet**
- **Base camp**
- **Rockshelter/cave**
- **Earthen mound**
- **Cairn**
- **Burial area**
- **Other context**

#### Other context
- **Prehistoric context samples**: Soil samples taken N
- **Historic context samples**: Soil samples taken N

#### Interpretive Sampling Data:
- **Flotation samples taken**
  - Prehistoric context samples N
  - Historic context samples N

#### Other samples taken
- Prehistoric context samples
- Historic context samples
## Diagnostic Artifact Data:

### Projectile Point Types
- Clovis
- Hardaway-Dalton
- Palmer
- Kirk (notch)
- Kirk (stem)
- Le Croy
- Morrow Mtn
- Guilford
- Brewerenton
- Otter Creek

### Prehistoric Sherd Types
- Shephard
- Popes Creek
- Townsent
- Yeocomico
- Dames Qtr
- Coulbourne
- Minguannan
- Monongahela
- Selden Island
- Watson
- Sullivan Cove
- Shenks Ferry
- Accopeek
- Mockley
- Wolfe Neck
- Clemson Island
- Moyaone
- Vinette
- Page
- Potomac Cr

### Historic Sherd Types
- Ironstone
- Staffordshire
- Tin Glazed
- Whiteware
- Porcelain

### Earthenware
- Astbury
- Jackfield
- Mn Mottled
- Whiteware

### Historic Artifacts
- Pottery (all)
- Glass (all)
- Arms
- Clothing

### Architectural
- Foundation
- Cellar hole/ceellar
- Hearth/chimney
- Hearth
- House pattern(s)
- Postholes/molds
- Paling ditch/fence

### Lithic Material
- Fer quartzite
- Sil sandstone
- Jasper
- Chalcedony
- European flint
- Chert
- Ironstone
- Basalt
- Rhyolite
- Argilite
- Unknown
- Quartz
- Steatite
- Quartzite
- Sandstone
- Other

## Radiocarbon Data:

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### Additional radiocarbon results available
In 1634, 140 Catholic and Protestant settlers from England under the patronage of Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, made land at St. Clements Island in the lower reaches of the Potomac River. They then traveled a short distance downriver to Yeocomico, a Piscataway village, and traded with the villagers, exchanging various European items for land. The Piscataway village became the colonists’ St. Mary’s City and the initial seat of Maryland’s colonial government.

Cecil Calvert intended for his Maryland colony to recreate the traditional landscape of Britain, with large estates owned by a small elite of feudal lords and worked by tenants. He therefore divided much of the new colony into "manors", to which were granted large blocks of land with the idea that the holders of manors would lease the land to small planters. By 1642 there were 16 manors in the Maryland colony, all along the Lower Potomac River, the Lower Patuxent River, and the Chesapeake Bay. The Severn River valley was at or beyond the European frontier at that time.

Founded in part as a Catholic refuge and based on a model of aristocratic privilege, Maryland could not escape being drawn into the Protestant-Catholic battles erupting in England. Protestants, principally Puritans, were battling the Catholic monarch, Charles I. Maryland’s Protestant-Catholic troubles began in 1645, when a ship’s captain named Richard Ingle raided the Maryland colony, portraying himself as the agent of Protestant opposition. Ingle targeted Catholics, burning houses and pillaging property. Ingle’s was just the first in a series of conflicts between Protestants and Catholics at intervals down to 1689. Maryland’s political leadership was upended in 1652 as part of Oliver Cromwell’s political maneuvering, and the leadership remained in a state of flux through 1658.

Despite political woes, Maryland continued to thrive and grow. In the 1640s, Maryland acquired a reputation as a good place for poor men to settle, and over the next 20 years thousands of men and hundreds of women immigrated to the colony. The economic mainstay of the colony was growing tobacco for export to Europe. Settlement therefore spread out along the riverways, so that each plantation could have its own dock for loading tobacco onto boats that were rowed out to waiting merchant ships. To feed themselves, the colonists grew Indian corn and raised cattle and half-wild pigs. By 1663 there were about 8,000 people in the colony, spread out along both shores of the Chesapeake Bay and the banks of the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. Because land was readily available, most indentured servants were able to lease or even buy their own plantations once their periods of indenture were over.

Further complicating the religious turmoil of the era, the group of English Protestants known as the Puritans was in conflict with the established Church of England and vying for British political leadership. The Puritan movement had its origins in the 16th century as an activist, prescriptive movement within the Church of England. Puritans became a British political force in the 17th century and rose in political power in the 1640s. They were allied with various Parliamentarians against the policies of Charles I. Tensions between the Puritans and the regional/political mainstream came to a head in 1662, when Parliament passed the Act of Uniformity, upending Puritan ecclesiastical reforms. Many Puritans left the Church of England in 1662 and formed their own separatist congregations. In the Virginia Colony the political leadership was allied with the Anglican mainstream, and they spurred Puritans in the colony. Virginia desired to relocate their Puritan colonists to nearby areas, whereas Maryland desired to gain support in England by welcoming Protestants.

Anne Arundel County was established in 1655 in the midst of Protestant-Catholic turmoil. The first European settlement in the county took place in 1649, when a group of Virginia Puritans was given land on the north shore of the Severn River opposite present-day Annapolis on Greenbury Neck. The early settlement was known as “Providence”, and Greenbury Neck was at first known as “Towne Neck”. Seven of the settlers (William Pell, George Sapher, Robert Rockhold, William Penny, Christopher Oakley, Oliver Spreye, and John Lordking) held 15 acres each and Richard Bennett was granted the remainder (145 acres). A typical Puritan plantation is believed to have consisted of a home lot, and orchard, a garden, and agricultural fields. Each complex required about 1.5 acres of cleared land and clearings at the edge of the Bay were separated by uncleared forested lands.

After 1649, numerous patents were issued on the Broadneck Peninsula, both inside and outside the initial bounds of Providence. There was an influx of members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) into the area in 1659, who intermingled with the Puritan community and ultimately converted many Puritan residents. By 1672 the Quakers had established a substantial community centered on the West River.

The Providence settlement lasted only until the 1670s, and details of the settlement faded from memory and were lost to time. There are no surviving maps of Providence and few documentary resources on the settlers of the Providence settlement. Several potential 17th century sites have been identified by the Anne Arundel County Archeologist as potentially being a part of the Providence settlement, and suggesting a fairly dispersed settlement rather than a compact town. By 1676, Greenbury Neck was being used solely as farmland.

There are records of numerous land sales and transfers on Greenbury Neck between 1658 and 1676. As mentioned above, Richard Bennett was one of the initial settlers of Providence and he was given the lion’s share of land granted to the Puritan immigrants in 1649. By 1658, when he sold the property to an in-law, Nathaniel Utie, Bennett had become the sole owner of Towne Neck (as it was called then). Utie, who served as Governor Stone’s secretary, sold Towne Neck in 1661 to William Pennington, who in turn sold it to Ralph Williams. Williams was a Bristol merchant who also held the position of magistrate in Anne Arundel County. Williams bought another 145 acres “at the head of Towne Neck” from Richard Deavor in 1662. It is noteworthy that the deed description of Deavor’s property, called “Alltogether”, mentions a meeting house.

Ralph Williams held the Towne Neck property until his death in 1673. Site 18AN944 (see synopsis report), near the eastern bank of Carr Creek, has been persuasively identified as a remnant of the timber-lined cellar of Williams’ house. Among the finds from the site were a farthing minted in Bristol in 1660, window lead manufactured in 1681 by Francis Goode, and clay pipes manufactured by Lwellyn Evans (1661-1686), Williams Evans (1660-1697), and Richard Nunney (1652-1696). Williams’ heirs back in Bristol sold the property to Edward Perrin in 1683, and Perrin then sold it to Nicholas Greenberry. The latter renamed the southern tip of the neck to Greenberry’s Point.
Two areas in the vicinity of Building NA74 were examined in the attempt to relocate 18AN340. Area A was the recorded site location, roughly 1,000 square meters in size and immediately adjacent to the Building NA74 parking lot. Much of the area slopes very strongly. Area B was a small promontory located to the northwest, by the 10th Hole Tee, and was 500 m2 in size. Area B was a small level area surrounded by sloping hillside. The survey to relocate Site 18AN340 included the excavation of 15 shovel test pits (STPs).

Eleven STPs were placed at 7.5 m intervals in Area A, along with two judgmentally placed STPs. Only two judgmentally placed STPs were situated in Area B. Shovel tests were approximately 30 cm in diameter and were excavated into subsoil. All excavated soil was screened through hardware cloth to recover artifacts. All shovel tests were backfilled immediately upon completion. Obviously recent objects found in the shovel tests were noted and discarded, along with shell, coal, cinder, brick limestone, and other building materials. Other artifacts were bagged by provenience with a tag containing location information. Each shovel test was recorded on a standardized form that included soil descriptions and a schematic drawing of the stratigraphic profile. The location of each shovel test was plotted on field maps, and the coordinates recorded using a high-accuracy GPS device (Trimble GeoXT).
No historic or prehistoric features were identified during the investigation of 18AN340, nor were any prehistoric or colonial artifacts recovered. Small quantities of 19th and 20th century artifacts were recovered from the testing at the base of the slope below the parking lot. None of these are significant finds. The Full assemblage from 18AN340 consisted of a bolt, 1 machine made escutcheon, a machine cut nail, 5 pieces of brick, a sherd of hard-paste porcelain, 4 pieces of redware, 4 container glass fragments, 5 unidentified mammal bones, and 4 unidentified pieces of metal.

Site 18AN340 had been recorded as located near Building NA74 and it was said to have a Colonial-period occupation and possibly a prehistoric occupation. The mapped site location was largely not suitable for testing because it was mostly a strongly sloping hillside and partially a graded and paved parking lot. Archeological survey was conducted adjacent to the parking lot and also a nearby promontory. However, the survey was not able to relocate Site 18AN340. Near the parking lot a path or driveway winds through the woods to a boat landing. The path was found to have shallowly buried shell and asphalt paving, with some associated 19th to 20th century cultural material. The shell deposit and asphalt paving are relatively modern and do not appear to be related to Site 18AN340. The shell deposit and asphalt paving are not considered an archeological site, and no archeological sites were identified in the area investigated.

Although the site is not present at the recorded location, it is possible that it is located outside the tested area, perhaps west or southeast of Building NA74. It is also possible that the site was destroyed through either erosion or construction activity near Building NA74, or that the information given to Tyler Bastian in 1874 was inaccurate and no site was ever present at this location.