This survey project was purely academic in nature, undertaken by an early 20th century naturalist who reported his findings in the local naturalists' journal. The project was an attempt to identify historic Indian towns along the Patuxent River shown on Captain John Smith’s early 17th century map of Virginia. The survey began in 1934 and made use of previous publications and field survey from a cruising boat.

This report describes the findings of a Phase I survey of the St. Leonard Shores residential development in Calvert County, Maryland. St. Leonard Shores was a 602 acre tract of land consisting of open space and large building lots (at the time – 1980) planned for development of a residential community. Plans called for 117 lots with an average lot size of just over 5 acres and covering some 437 acres of total land. The remaining area was planned as open space and recreation areas. Nearly 19,000 feet of streets were planned. The status of the development project at the time of the 1980 survey was that several of the main roads were graded but not paved, and no houses were under construction. The work was conducted based on an agreement between MHT (who had identified potential archaeological resources on the property through background research and a preliminary field visit) and members of the St. Leonard Shores Join Venture. Survey field research at two sites progressed to a level that seems equivalent to Phase II testing (i.e. the excavation of formal test units).

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After the survey work of 1980, the housing development project moved forward as planned, no known additional archeological work was ever conducted at 18CV15. It is not known to what extent archeological resources were impacted by the construction activities. Based on modern satellite imagery of the area, the cannery site and pockets of shell midden and the prehistoric lens may be preserved closer to the water's edge. If landowner permission can be obtained, and an opportunity presents itself, a site visit (at a minimum) is warranted to ascertain the current condition of what remains of the site.

Despite plowing, 18CV55 contained intact features. Diagnostic artifacts point to a timer period of significant archeological interest. Thus, 18CV55 should be considered a significant site capable of addressing research questions related to Maryland’s colonial history. A more thorough, systematic testing program at the site is warranted. Today the site appears to be fairly wooded, suggesting that the site may be well-preserved.