Phase I Archeological Survey and Phase II Archeological Evaluations at Sites 18HA34 and 18HA284 for the Proposed Old Trails Residential Development, Harford County, Maryland.

Submitted to Old Trail Partnership, LLC

Library ID No: 97002475 Catalog/Shelving ID: HA 103

Sites examined:
- 18HA34
- 18HA284

NRHP Eligible: Y NRHP Eligible: N

Project Details:
Phase I X Phase II X Phase III

Project Justification:
Phase I and II investigations were conducted at Site 18HA34 and Site 18HA284 between May and June 2005 ahead of the proposed construction of the Old Trails Residential Development.

Project Objectives:
- Locate, identify, and delineate all archeological resources
- Evaluate the potential of those resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places
- Determine the nature, age, and function of the identified resources
- Define the horizontal and vertical site boundaries
- Determine the integrity of the resources.

Research Potential:
See below for remaining research questions at 18HA34.

Old Trails Locus 2 (18HA284) is a multicomponent site with Late Archaic/Early Woodland and Middle Woodland short-term camps and a Late Woodland base camp, a Civil War find, and a late 18th/ early 19th to 20th century artifact scatter. Although there appears to have been some limited activity during the Late Archaic/Early Woodland and Middle Woodland periods, the Late Woodland period saw the most intensive use of the site. Although two horizontally distinct loci (Locus A and Locus B) were identified at the site, and some limited evidence for vertical integrity was recognized, there did appear to be considerable conflation of the different occupations. This, combined with the lack of identified cultural features, resulted in the determination that the prehistoric component of 18HA284 did not possess significant research potential. Historic activity probably represents nothing more than brief episodes of discard from the late 18th to the 20th century, and an isolated artifact reflecting Civil War activity in the area. The historic component did not exhibit any sign of integrity or significant research potential. Neither the prehistoric nor the historic components of Site 18HA284 possessed significance as defined by the National Register criteria for evaluation. No further work was recommended.

Phase III Archeological Data Recovery at Site 18HA34 for the Proposed Old Trails Residential Development, Harford County, Maryland.

Submitted to Old Trail Partnership, LLC

Library ID No: 95001308 Catalog/Shelving ID: HA 116

Sites examined:
- 18HA34

NRHP Eligible: Y

Project Details:
Phase I X Phase II X Phase III

Project Justification:
Based on the Phase I/II testing at 18HA34, it was determined that the site could provide more information regarding site structure, intra-site activity patterns, and temporally discrete artifact assemblages. The excavators recommended that the prehistoric component of Site 18HA34 was eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D, an opinion with which personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust concurred. Therefore, if the site could not be avoided, data recovery was recommended. Phase III investigations were undertaken in

Project Objectives:
- Identify discrete activity areas at the site
- Identify the types of lithic procurement and reduction strategies employed at the site
- Determine how artifacts and feature types identified at the site fit into regional typologies and how they could be used to refine those typologies.
November 2005. A total impact area of 170.4 m² (1,834.33 ft²) was slotted for excavation as part of the mitigation with data recovery focused on those areas of the site that were to be directly impacted by the proposed Old Trails Development.

The Walsh Gravel Pit Site (18HA34) is a multicomponent site with Late Archaic to Late Woodland base camp occupations, and a late 19th to early 20th century artifact scatter. Three prehistoric temporal components were identified at the site: a Late Archaic component in the northern and central portions of the site, an Early-Middle Woodland component in the central portion of the site, and a Late Woodland component that was documented across the majority of the site. Unfortunately, the temporal components were sufficiently conflated so as to prevent serious study of intra-site activity, lithic procurement and lithic reduction within a single time period. As there were no features that yielded diagnostic ceramics or points/knives, and because of the mixture of distinct temporal components at the site, no significant information related to the regional typologies could be addressed. Archeobotanical and protein residue analysis did address questions regarding the types of subsistence resources exploited by the site’s occupants (white oak for fuel and guinea-pig and unspecified plant and grass species for subsistence). The historic component of the site represents episodes of casual discard and is not a contributing element to the National Register eligibility of the site. Because the Phase III data recovery focused only on those areas of the site that were to be directly impacted by the proposed Old Trails Residential Development, any future impacts to other portions of the site should require further assessment and/or mitigation.