

OVERVIEW OF ARCHEOLOGY REQUIREMENTS IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

- In February 2004 the Prince George's County Planning Board implemented an archeology review initiative to focus on the identification and investigation of archeological sites, to include prehistoric Native American and historic period occupations. The initiative required that potential archeological sites must be considered in the review of development applications, and potential means for preservation of these resources should be considered.
- The objective of the Phase I archeological investigation is to identify any archeological site that may be significant to the understanding of the history of human settlement in Prince George's County, including the possible existence of slave quarters and graves, as well as archeological evidence of the presence of Native American peoples.
- In November 2005 the County Council passed, and the County Executive signed, new regulations (Subtitle 24-104, Section 24-121 (18), and 24-135.01) that required review of all subdivision developments to determine whether archeological investigations should occur on development properties.
- The new regulations also implemented the *Guidelines for Archeological Review* (Attachment A).
- Results:
 - All subdivision applications are reviewed by an archeologist that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications standards
 - Phase I (Identification) archeological investigations are required on all properties that may have the potential to yield archeological sites that may be important to Prince George's County, or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
 - If archeological sites are identified that are considered potentially eligible, Phase II additional archeological investigation is required to determine National Register eligibility, using the Secretary of the Interior's criteria for eligibility
 - If archeological sites are determined eligible, or of importance to the County, Phase III data recovery investigations, or avoidance, is required.
 - Archeology staff now coordinates with the Maryland Historical Trust and the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District for all properties that must undergo Section 106 review.