

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME I

CHAPTER	PAGE
ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	ii
List of Figures	ix
List of Tables	xiii
List of Plates	xvi
I. INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background	1
B. The Prehistoric Landscape of Puncheon Run	5
C. The Puncheon Run Project	6
1. Archaeology at Puncheon Run	6
2. Public Interpretation	7
3. The Structure of This Report	11
4. A Note on Chronology	12
II. REGIONAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	14
A. The St. Jones River	14
1. The River Today	14
2. The Ancient River	16
B. Archaeology Along the St. Jones	18
1. The Carey Farm and Island Farm Sites	18
2. The Hickory Bluff Site	23
3. The Blueberry Hill Site	24
4. The Barker's Landing Site	24
5. The Hughes-Willis Site	26
6. The Leipsic Site	26
7. The Pollack Site	27
8. The Air Base School Site	28
9. The Coverdale Farm Site	28
10. State Route 1 Survey	29
11. St. Jones Neck Survey	30
12. U.S. Route 13 Planning Survey	30
13. The Deneumoustier Site	31
C. The Prehistory of the St. Jones Drainage	32
1. The Paleoindian and Archaic Periods	32
2. The Woodland I Period	33
a. The Barker's Landing Complex	34

VOLUME I (continued)

CHAPTER	PAGE
b. The Delmarva Adena Complex	36
c. The Carey Complex	38
d. The Webb Complex	39
e. Woodland I Subsistence	40
f. The Woodland I Settlement System	41
3. The Woodland II Period: The Slaughter Creek Complex	45
a. Woodland II on the St. Jones	45
b. The Woodland II Settlement System	46
III. RESEARCH DESIGN	50
A. Subsistence	50
1. Flotation	51
2. Phytoliths	52
3. Protein Residue	53
4. Soil Strontium	54
5. Storage Pits	55
6. Ethnohistory	55
B. Settlement Patterns	56
1. Household Settlement Patterns	56
2. Community Settlement Patterns	57
3. Regional Settlement Patterns and the Cultural Landscape	59
C. Site Formation Processes	60
D. Technology	63
E. Chronology	65
IV. THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE	67
A. Description of the Site	67
B. Phase I and Phase II Excavations	69
1. Locus 1	71
2. Locus 2	81
3. Locus 3	84
C. Excavations in Locus 1	93
1. Introduction	93
2. Excavations in the Silo Pit Area of Locus 1	94
a. Summary of Phase III Plowzone Sampling Results	94
b. Results of the Phase III Plowzone Stripping	98
c. Feature Excavation Methods	98
d. The Main Pit Cluster	99
e. Features 57, 58, 59, 61, and 64: The Red-Ringed Pits	105

VOLUME I (continued)

CHAPTER	PAGE
f. Feature 41: Possible Prehistoric Storage Pit or Tree Disturbance	108
g. Features 60 and 69	109
h. Features 39, 53, 67, 68, 80, and 85: Natural Features	110
3. Excavations in the Buried Plowzone Area	113
a. Phase III Excavations	114
b. Stratigraphy	116
c. Artifacts	116
d. Features	125
e. Feature 14, a Large Soil Anomaly	125
f. Interpretation	128
4. Excavations in the Cobble Bar Area	129
a. Phase III Excavations	129
b. Stratigraphy	129
c. Discussion	131
d. Lithic Analysis	133
e. Summary	136
D. Site Preservation in Locus 2	137
E. Excavations in Locus 3	138
1. Overview	138
2. Metate Block	140
a. Soil Stratigraphy	140
b. Formation Processes	142
c. Radiocarbon Dates	143
d. Prehistoric Components	144
e. Exotic Stone: Discussion	149
f. Behavior and Function	151
g. Conclusion	172
3. Feature 30 Block	173
a. Radiocarbon Dates	173
b. Prehistoric Components	175
c. Pit Features	177
d. Feature Interpretation	182
e. Conclusions	186
4. Other Features	187
a. Features 15, 16A, and 16B	187
b. Feature 32	187
c. Feature 33	190
d. Chipping Clusters	190

VOLUME I (continued)

CHAPTER	PAGE
V. SUBSISTENCE	194
A. Ethnohistory	195
1. Plant Foods	195
2. Fishing	197
3. Hunting	199
B. Flotation Processing	201
C. Phytolith Analysis	203
D. Soil Chemistry Analysis	205
1. The Human Imprint	205
2. Strontium and Anadromous Fish: An Unresolved Question	206
E. Protein Residue Analysis	206
F. Pits	208
1. Ethnohistory of Storage Pits	208
2. A Comparative Approach to Pit Clusters	210
a. Delaware Park	211
b. Lums Pond	211
c. Carey Farm	212
d. Discussion of Woodland I Feature Clusters	214
3. Pits and Subsistence	214
G. Seasonality	215
VI. THE PUNCHEON RUN PREHISTORIC LANDSCAPE	217
A. The Geological Landscape	217
1. Regional Setting	217
2. Wind, Sand, and Soil	219
3. Basic Structures	220
4. Soils of the Lower Terrace (Locus 3)	221
5. Soils of the Coastal Plain Upland	224
a. Loci 2 and 3	224
b. Locus 1	225
B. The Botanical Landscape	227
1. Introduction	227
2. Botanical Investigations at Puncheon Run	228
3. Landscape Context	229
a. Aquatic Environment	229
b. Terrestrial Environment	230
4. Microenvironmental Zones	231
a. Coastal Plain Uplands	232
b. Transitional Slopes	232

VOLUME I (continued)

CHAPTER	PAGE
c. Wetlands	234
5. Procurement Potential	236
6. Site Loci	240
a. Locus 1	240
b. Locus 2	241
c. Locus 3	243
7. Seasonality	244
8. Summary	245
C. The Zoological Landscape	246
1. Animals in Indian Life	246
2. Animals and the Soil	248
a. Woodchucks at Puncheon Run	248
b. Other Burrowers	250
D. The Cultural Landscape	250
1. The Archaic Forest	252
2. Fishing Camps	252
3. Storage Pits and the Earth's Bounty	253
4. Pots and Paths	254
5. Pits on the Peninsula	255
6. "Empty" Space	256
7. Summary	258
VII. THE PLACE OF PUNCHEON RUN IN THE WOODLAND I SETTLEMENT SYSTEM	259
A. What Is the Puncheon Run Site?	259
1. A Seasonal Fishing Camp: The Metate Block	259
2. Pits and Scrapers: The Feature 30 Block	260
3. An Isolated Processing and Storage Site: The Silo Pit Area	262
4. A Transient Camp: The Buried Plowzone Area	264
5. Stone for Tools: The Cobble Bar	266
6. Locus 2: Camping on the Bluff	266
B. Chronology of Site Use	267
1. Paleoindian and Archaic Periods	267
2. Early Woodland I Period	267
3. Middle Woodland I Period	268
4. Late Woodland I Period	269
5. Woodland II Period	269
C. Theoretical Models of Prehistoric Settlement Patterns	270
1. Base Camps	270
2. Settlement Systems on the St. Jones	274

VOLUME I (continued)

CHAPTER	PAGE
VIII. CONCLUSIONS	282
A. Summary of Findings	283
B. Subsistence	284
C. Settlement Patterns	286
D. Site Formation Processes	291
E. Technology	294
F. Chronology	297
G. The Late Archaic on the St. Jones and the Barker's Landing Complex	299
H. Future Directions	302
REFERENCES CITED	306
THE PEOPLE WHO PREPARED THIS STUDY	332

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	PAGE
1 Location Map, Puncheon Run Site	2
2a-b Trifold Brochure Distributed to the Public	8, 9
3 Early Twentieth-Century Channelization of the St. Jones River in the Vicinity of the Puncheon Run Site	17
4 Major Archaeological Sites in the St. Jones and Murderkill River Drainages	19
5 Feature Cluster I, Late Carey Complex, Carey Farm Site	21
6 Reconstructed Fish Spear or Harpoon, with Small Utilized Flakes	22
7 Artifacts from Blueberry Hill Prehistoric Site, Zone II	25
8 Clemson Island-like Ceramics from the Leipsic Site	27
9 Hockessin Valley Site House Pattern	43
10 <i>Marmota monax</i> (Groundhog)	62
11 Puncheon Run Site	end pocket
12 Overview of Excavations, Locus 1	74
13 Phase II Excavations in Block 15, Locus 1	75
14 Phase II Excavations in Block 14, Locus 1	77
15 Feature 3 (Locus 1), Section View	79
16 Overview of Excavations, Locus 2	82
17 Overview Excavations, Locus 3	86
18 Phase II Excavations in Block 2, Locus 3	89
19 Phase II Excavations in Block 3, Locus 3	90

LIST OF FIGURES (continued)

FIGURE	PAGE
20 Phase II Excavations in Block 4, Locus 3	91
21 Features 24 and 26 Section View, Block 4, Locus 3	92
22 Distribution of Features, Mechanically Stripped Area in Locus 1 (Silo Pit Area)	95
23 Plan of Features in the Main Pit Cluster, Silo Pit Area	96
24 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 46	102
25 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 48	103
26 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 58	107
27 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 39	112
28 Plan of Excavations, Buried Plowzone Area	115
29 Stratigraphic Profile, Unit 267, Buried Plowzone Area	117
30 Relative Frequency of Ceramic and Lithic Artifacts by Excavation Levels, Buried Plowzone Area	120
31 Flake Size Distribution, Buried Plowzone Area and Cobble Bar Area	121
32 Horizontal Distribution of Stone Artifacts, Buried Plowzone Area	126
33 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 14	127
34 Plan of Excavations, Cobble Bar Area	130
35 Overview of Phase III Excavations, Locus 3	139
36 Plan View of Excavations, Metate Block	141
37 Mean Debitage Size by Excavation Level, Metate Block	143

LIST OF FIGURES (continued)

FIGURE	PAGE
38	148
Dimension Ratios and “Best-Fit” Lines for Puncheon Pebble Points from the Metate Block	
39	150
Vertical Distributions of Debitage by Raw Material, Metate Block	
40	151
Cobble Cortex by Raw Material, Metate Block	
41	153
Distribution of Fire-Cracked Rock, Metate Block	
42	157
Distribution of Quartz Debitage and Tools, Metate Block	
43	158
Distribution of Jasper Debitage and Tools, Metate Block	
44	159
Distribution of Quartzite Debitage and Tools, Metate Block	
45	160
Distribution of Chert Debitage and Tools, Metate Block	
46	161
Distribution of Argillite Debitage, Metate Block	
47	162
Distribution of Rhyolite Debitage, Metate Block	
48	164
Size Distribution of Unit 422 Quartz Debitage Cluster Versus All Quartz Debitage in Metate Block	
49	164
Size Distribution of Unit 399 Jasper Debitage Cluster Versus All Jasper Debitage in Metate Block	
50	174
Plan of Excavations, Feature 30 Block	
51	178
Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 30	
52	180
Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 37	
53	181
Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 38	
54	183
Raw Material Composition of Debitage Assemblages, Feature 30 Block	
55	183
Debitage Frequency by Excavation Level, Feature 30 Block Versus Metate Block	

LIST OF FIGURES (continued)

FIGURE	PAGE
56 Feature 32, Plan and Stratigraphic Profile	189
57 Debitage Frequencies by Size Categories for Locus 3 Chipping Clusters	193
58 Stratigraphic Profile, Feature 19, Lums Pond Site	212
59 Feature Cluster III, South-Central Area, Carey Farm Site	213
60 Drainage Swale and Alluvial Fan, Locus 2	222
61 Idealized Landscape Section, Showing Microenvironmental Zones, Locus 3	232
62 Map of Microenvironmental Zones at the Puncheon Run Site	233
63 Relative Frequency of Ethnobotanical Species, Ethnographic Literature Versus Archaeological Assemblage	238
64 Existing Vegetative Communities at Puncheon Run	242
65 Dominant Procurement Season for Plant Food Types	244
66 Arrangement of Gardens and Cultivated Fields	251
67 <i>The Earth's Bounty</i>	261
68 General Woodland I Settlement Pattern Model	271
69 Woodland I Settlement Model, Northern Delaware	276
70 "Focal" Settlement Pattern with Semipermanent Base Camp	277
71 Diffuse "Forager" Settlement Pattern with Frequent Residential Moves	278
72 Pit House Architecture	289
73 Argillite Biface from Feature 1059, Carey Farm Site	301

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
1	Delaware and Regional Chronologies	12
2	Locus 1 Artifact Class Frequencies	73
3	Locus 2 Artifact Class Frequencies	81
4	Locus 3 Artifact Class Frequencies	84
5	Summary of Prehistoric Assemblage, Silo Pit Area	97
6	Excavated Features in the Silo Pit Area	99
7	Radiocarbon Dates from Locus 1, Main Pit Cluster	104
8	Soil Chemistry of the Silo Pits	106
9	Soil Chemistry from Control Columns near the Silo Pits	107
10	Soil Chemistry of Feature 41	108
11	Summary of Prehistoric Assemblage, Feature 69	110
12	Summary of Prehistoric Lithic Assemblage, Buried Plowzone Area	118
13	Use-wear Analysis of Tools from the Buried Plowzone Area	122
14	Ceramics from the Buried Plowzone Area	123
15	Ceramics from the Buried Plowzone Area by Stratum	123
16	Radiocarbon Dates from Locus 1, Buried Plowzone Area	124
17	Features in the Buried Plowzone Area	125
18	Summary of Prehistoric Assemblage, Cobble Bar Area	132
19	Core Types and Raw Materials from the Puncheon Run Site	134
20	Biface to Core Ratios at the Puncheon Run Site	135

LIST OF TABLES (continued)

TABLE	PAGE
21 Ratios of Formal to Informal Tools at the Puncheon Run Site	136
22 Radiocarbon Dates from the Metate Block	144
23 Distribution of Puncheon Pebble Points	145
24 Raw Material Comparison for Small Debitage and Points, Metate Block	149
25 Use-wear Analysis of Tools from the Metate Block	167
26 Biface Types by Raw Material, Metate Block	168
27 Core Types by Raw Material, Metate Block	170
28 Bipolar Core Frequencies from Selected Regional Sites	171
29 Radiocarbon Dates from the Feature 30 Block	173
30 Lithic Raw Material Proportions of Chipped Stone Artifacts at the Feature 30 Block	184
31 Use-wear Analysis of Tools from the Feature 30 Block	186
32 Summary of Prehistoric Assemblages, Locus 3 Chipping Clusters	191
33 Raw Material of Debitage, Locus 3 Chipping Clusters	192
34 Soil Profile in Unit 58, Lower Terrace, Locus 3	223
35 Soil Profile in Unit 214, Coastal Plain Upland, Locus 2	224
36 Soil Profile in Unit 233, Buried Plowzone Area, Locus 1	226
37 Characteristic Plant Species of Three Wetland Communities Along the St. Jones	229
38 Characteristic Plant Species of the Early Historic Upland Forests of Delaware ...	231
39 Plant Species Indicator Categories, National Wetland Plant List	237

LIST OF TABLES (continued)

TABLE		PAGE
40	Plant Species by Wetland Indicator Category, Ethnographic Literature Versus Archaeological Assemblage	237
41	Plant Taxa Documented Archaeologically at the Puncheon Run Site	239
42	Generalized Chronology of Site/Landscape Use	268

LIST OF PLATES

PLATE	PAGE
1 Aerial View of Puncheon Run Site, Facing West	3
2 A Kiosk Provided Interpretive Material for Visitors	7
3 Students Excavating at the Puncheon Run Site	10
4 Flint-knapping Demonstration for Students	10
5 Argillite Bifaces from the Coverdale Farm Site (7K-F-1)	29
6 Ax and Large Grinding Stone (Mano) from the Coverdale Farm Site (7K-F-1) ...	30
7 Artifacts Associated with the Delmarva Adena Occupation of the Coverdale Farm Site (7K-F-1)	31
8 <i>Iva annua</i> (Sumpweed)	52
9 Experimental Butchering of Eel with Stone Tool	54
10 Uprooted Tree near Locus 1	61
11 Experimentally Produced Projectile Point and Associated Debitage	64
12 Metate Block Excavation in Locus 3	67
13 Troweling Excavation Block in Locus 3, After Mechanical Removal of Plowzone	72
14 Feature 8, Block 1, Locus 3	72
15 Features 16A and 16B, Block 3, Locus 3	88
16 Feature 4, Block 14, Locus 1	100
17 Feature 48, Main Pit Cluster, Locus 1	100
18 Ceramic Ware Group XIa (Selden Island Type) from Feature 69, Silo Pit Area, Locus 1	111

LIST OF PLATES (continued)

PLATE	PAGE
19	Feature 69, Locus 1 111
20	Tools from the Buried Plowzone Area 119
21	Ceramics from the Buried Plowzone Area (same as H-2) 124
22	Tools from the Cobble Bar Area 131
23	Tools from Locus 2 137
24	Bifaces from the Metate Block 146
25	Metate (Feature 36) During Excavation, Unit 356, Locus 3 152
26	Metate, Reverse Side 154
27	Examples of Use Wear on Stone Tools from Puncheon Run 166
28	Tools from the Feature 30 Block 176
29	Feature 30 block During Excavation 176
30	Feature 4, Unit 118, Locus 3 190
31	<i>Theire sitting at meate</i> 194
32	<i>The broyling of their fish over the flame of fier</i> 198
33	Common Box Tortoise 200
34	The 'Lotus Lilies' of the St. Jones River 202
35	Microphotograph of Phytoliths from Pickerel Weed (<i>Pondetaria corodata</i>), Leaf Showing Articulated Rods or Raphides 203
36	Microphotograph of Sponge Spicule Body Identified During Phytolith Analysis 204
37	Indians Fishing 208

LIST OF PLATES (continued)

PLATE		PAGE
38	Golden Club Root (<i>Orontium aquaticum</i>)	236
39	Diamondback Terrapin	248
40	Excavation of Woodchuck Den No. 8	249
41	Delaware Wooden Mortar and Pestle	265
42	Indian Woman and Young Girl	280
43	<i>Indians Round a Fire</i>	288

VOLUME II

	PAGE
PEDO-ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Daniel P. Wagner</i>	A-1
LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT OF THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Justine Woodard McKnight</i>	B-1
PALEOETHNOBOTANICAL DATA FROM THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Justine Woodard McKnight</i>	C-1
ETHNOHISTORY OF DELAWARE’S INDIANS <i>John Bedell</i>	D-1
A STUDY OF NATIVE AMERICAN PLANT USE BASED ON A REVIEW OF EARLY HISTORIC COMMENTS ON SUBSISTENCE AND TECHNOLOGY <i>Justine Woodard McKnight</i>	E-1
PHYTOLITH ANALYSIS OF SELECTED SOIL SAMPLES FROM THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Irwin Rovner</i>	F-1
USE-WEAR ANALYSIS OF THE LITHIC TOOLS FROM THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Ludomir R. Lozny</i>	G-1
CERAMICS ANALYSIS, PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Cara Lee Blume and Robert D. Wall</i>	H-1
PROTEIN RESIDUE ANALYSIS <i>Robert M. Jacoby</i>	I-1
PROTEIN RESIDUE ANALYSIS OF ARTIFACTS FROM THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>Kathryn Puseman and Linda Scott Cummings</i>	J-1
FEATURES AT THE PUNCHEON RUN SITE <i>John Bedell and Charles LeeDecker</i>	K-1
EXCAVATION OF A WOODCHUCK DEN <i>Robert M. Jacoby</i>	L-1

VOLUME II (continued)

	PAGE
EXPERIMENTAL REPLICATION OF A “PEBBLE POINT” <i>Robert M. Jacoby and Charles LeeDecker</i>	M-1
REFITTING OF FIRE-CRACKED ROCK FROM THE METATE BLOCK <i>Robert M. Jacoby</i>	N-1
JAY CUSTER’S DELWARE CHRONOLOGY IN REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CONTEXT ... <i>Stuart Fiedel</i>	O-1

VOLUME III

- PART A: DATA SUMMARY TABLES
- PART B: RADIOCARBON DATES
- PART C: PREHISTORIC ARTIFACT CATALOGING METHODS
- PART D: PREHISTORIC ARTIFACT CATALOG
- PART E: HISTORIC ARTIFACT CATALOGING METHODS AND UTILIZED CODES
- PART F: HISTORIC ARTIFACT CATALOG