8 Oct 1981

Visited site with Maureen K. M/Smith, Ali to assess clearing needs. Area will be cut by us with technical assistance from SHA [i.e., tractor] and two men w/chainsaw.] Crew will arrive on site Tuesday Oct 13. We will field our crew the same day. M.K. will contact crew tonight.

Back notes entered 5 Oct 81

On previous visits to the site we have noted several "phomenomena" of interest. Area east of "old" Swijners occasionally cleared and filled. Ca. 10'-15' raise bed for in coming expressway, construction works for Beltway...
coincided with this impact. This process filled part of the abandoned Gwynns channel at the same time the Gwynns was confined to concrete embankments. Race is visible west of the Gwynns in three segments. Northernmost segment previously noted by Wayne Clark. Central segment in woods north of beltway. Southern segment at probable mill site. Intersecting areas highly impacted by Beltway construction.

13 Nov.

Cleaned w/ highway crew

14 Nov.

Siler, Spencer, Louise, Beth cleared & raked.

We set up the grid on the site today. (Spencer, Beth, Silas + I). We re-shot a previous surveyor's line down Old Ct. Rd which was 75° 40' east of magnetic north. We shot in most of the 5 m lines with transit + then chained in the 2.5 m locations for STP's.

19 Oct 81

Field surveyor's co-ordinate E 6+50 gives site value N100 E100. GN is in direction of beltway (see above). STP begin from N115'E1 line.

Excavation of STP's began N115 - N150 on E110 line. Samples completed to E120 line. 1st p excavated at N115E125
STP

@ N 130.5 E 117.5

@ N 132.5

@ N 135

@ N 130 E 120

@ N 132.5 E 120

all encountered buried fill

layers i.e.,

- yellow clay, gravel
- brown fill

probably fill associated w/ ramp to mill

Weather cold and quite windy

Wind Chill: 35°F
Completed STP east of E110 line. Similar disturbances encountered in other STPs as noted yesterday.

Working hypothesis: area east of E110 line graded and material redeposited along terrace and terrace edge. Cut is notably obvious along E110 line. Wire (3 line grounded modern cable) encountered in N115 E127.5.

Possible location of construction or other trailer. Grading noted above probably associated with trailer installation. This process appears to have modified terrace edge. This interpretation explains both yellow PM.
noted above and unusually shallow "A" horizon on E 1125 line. Soil has been graded to east. I suggest an X section along N 1/16 line to show grade. Still to investigate: depth of brown fill/A buried level along "tongue" of soil associated with possible ramp for mill. We need a 1m square in this locale.

Area west of E 1/10 line not disturbed by grading. STP started in this area before lunch. Encountered fair concentration of artifacts. This undisturbed area should prove fruitful.
21 October

Weather warm and sunny. Crew: Maureen Spencer, Louise, and Beth.

Continued with STP's on E102.5, 105, and 107.5 lines. Louise and Spencer picked up slate roof fragment on slopes of depression. In pit N 155 E 105, Spencer encountered very compacted, hard soil but a normal B horizon appeared. Squares N 155 E102.5, N152.5 E 102.5, N152.5 E 105, and N150 E 107.5 had a grayish subsoil, with no hint of yellow as found throughout site so far. Lots of structural debris in N15 E 100 + E97.5 area. We should extend tests all the way to the road (after clearing). Finished about 2 rows today.
22 October

Cloudy, pleasant 60's - Crew: Maureen Spencer, Louise and Beth. In N140 E975 Spencer came down on a rock concentration 10 cm below surface. He widened his pit to 90 x 60 cm and rock covered entire bottom.

In N140 E100 Beth dug a pit and ran into rock 12 cm below surface. Probing between the 2 pits every 15 cm showed continuity. It also extends west and north.

Spencer tested the square "mound" Pit N141 E75.5 showed a fill of compact bright reddish clay, overlying brownish sandy mica fill, all on top of natural subsoil. In N150 E75.5 half of the fill was coal—only the largest pieces were saved.
Oct 28th

Weather: Sunny + pleasant, 60's -- + breezy.

Crew: Maureen, Silas, Spencer Beth + Louise.
Continued w/ STP's on the 92.5 and 95 east lines. Joe came out to help clear -- he cut trees with a chain saw -- however we need quite a bit more cleared out to expose the site/bulldozer till interface. Will call on Al......

While clearing we discovered a stone brick-capped well in the uncleared section. Covered it with an old highway sign segment. In the afternoon a 16 year old kid who was being pursued by cops came running across the field near the Gwynns and hid himself in the Gwynn's gulley. STP work continued down the E90 line.

Called Al re: clearing. Probably too busy this week.
Oct 29th

Weather - cold + rainy - drizzly - whole crew out.

Finished STP's which had been laid out. Jonathan Edwards came out in a.m. Identified blasted rock as probably coming from the Beltway (type 1). He also examined rocks from rock fall and said they would occur naturally in this area (type 2). Also identified some serpentinite + gabbro with talc inclusions. Site area is underlain by marble. He cut down + cleared some areas. David Brown also cleared out some of the fallen trees around the periphery. Started meter squares. Put one in depression + one in area of rock fall.
We are becoming more convinced that the tongue on the s. side of the depression is entirely fill.

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Oct.30, 1981

Weather - cool & mostly sunny. Whole crew. Continued meter squares. Exposed photoplot + drew rock fall. Removed as layer 2. Spencer & Beth dug all am in pit in depression. Mark Parent from Evening Sun came out. - Louise Silas & I worked in test pit of rock fall. Removed rock as layer 2 and started on layer 3 (below rock fall). Spencer & Beth also encountered a layer of intrusive rock (smaller & more scattered than in Test Square 2. Below that were additional artefacts. This pit was completed.
Nov 2, 1981


Continued work on N141 E 96.

Set up a meter square at N118 E 105. Beth + Spencer started here. Had a complex situation: 1 layer humics, 1 lighter "B", and below that natural subsoil in NE 3/4' of pit. A rock fall spanned the square and in the SW corner there is a group of articulated rocks. They will expand the square tomorrow.

Concluded work on N141 E 96 in pm. The disturbed layer of "subsoil" continued to quite a depth (45 cm or so) and then a much brighter, yellowish-orange, true subsoil appeared. We tentatively interpret this square as a rock fall.
over an old "A" - not as true a
showing but an industrially disturbed
old top layer - quite similar perhaps
to what was in the bottom of the
depression.

Silas came in pm.

We took samples for soil Ph.

Nov. 3, 1981

Maureen came and dropped off
equipment in AM - Louise began
an excavation of N 143 - E 109

with removal of modern A horizon.
Excavation was begun in 1/2mx 1 mx south
of N110°E 105 ° similarcomplex stratigraphy
to above unit at bottom we appear to
have two intrusion into subsoil
filled with rock and dark soil. One
of tree (the northernmost) was originally discovered in adjacent square. Interpretation: Possible stone filled pilings for footing of structure.

Mr. Jordan visited site in AM to identify impact associated with Liberty Road improvements ca. 1976/77. All impact at that time was in already disturbed areas north west and east of present tree lines. No impact in tree line area. M.K. returned in afternoon brought along Tyler. Work in N118 E105 exposed two in traction at bottom possibly piling holes.

We cleared today. Silas chainsawed. Jim Hill came out and helped. We cleared enough area to put in 150 additional test pits.

Nov. 5

"Rain" - last day. Came out alone + drew map.

Nov. 6

Weather - partly cloudy + cool. Crew: Maur, Silas, Spencer, Louise, Beth, Bill Lynch. Rain at noon + cold + sunny in p.m.

Today we set up gutter spikes in cleared areas and started stp's again. We did all stp's near old court rd. Found house material, motor, nails, ceramics, pipes, etc. Put in
a line on N112.5 between highway fill and O.C. Rd. Each pit had some different stratigraphy. Spencer in N112.5 E came down on large rocks w/ loose fill between + large artifact - a cellar hole? In N112.5 E Beth had 5 fill layers (not highway related). We set in gutter, splices at North end of site from E 90 east.

Nov. 9


In am finished a line of STP's adjacent to fill: N115 E 75 → 87.5. All of these were very deep + some terminated in rocks + mortar. Others had layers of fill + a sandy argill
subsoil (checked w/ auger). Very confusing so we abandoned any attempt at interpretation + continued STP's at end other end of site. Set up grid over remainder of the site using N130, 140 and 150 lines for transit set ups + put stakes in every five meters. Marked stakes.

Nov 10

Weather: cloudy + cold. Crew: M, Spencer, Beth + Louise. Silas in lad. Let me cut we dug # approximately 47 STP’s —

Nov 12, 1981

Wayne + Phoebe came out to see site.

We finished all STP's in a.m.

In afternoon picked up with meter squares. Beth + Spencer took out rocks and found subssoil immediately below. Louise had no change in the square she worked in.

I checked out the "meadow" on terrace above the site. It is all scraped to subssoil (not filled) and then some fill is deposited up next to tree line. The fill has some historic artifacts (redware, brick, whiteware) but its provenience is lost. We now think the pile of highway fill may cover some undisturbed house remains. Silas + Katy Tallie's all STP's and worked up dirt of nails.
Weather: sunny + cold. Crew: Mr. Silas, Spencer, Louise, Beth + Steve Israel. In am Louise + Steve worked in water square on edge of depression. Spencer + Beth cleaned up N117E and Beth + I profiled N, E and W walls. Spencer + Beth dug 2 more STP's at between road + fill pile. Silas did distribution of pipe stems and we planned an additional square (N120-121, E88-89). Our plan is to start that square and our slit trench today: take off + photograph terrace. Mapping will begin on Monday. In pm we started extra square. The trench showed where the rock fall stopped but no foundation beneath it when rock
Layer removed. Photosd Louise's square and N17E185. Started clearing terrace edge for photo.

Nov. 16, 1981

Weather: sunny and pleasant. Crew: Silas, Spencer + Beth + me.
Spencer + Beth worked in N120 E88 while Silas + I did our S1P interpretation. Spencer + Beth made terrace which I photosd (also 1-md). They then opened up N108? E85? (near the cellar hole).

Morrie Kramer came by this afternoon. He said they built highway in late 50's and in 66-67 they depotsd built bridge for NW X-way, widened road + put in fill for ramps (all 1 job).
Finally in 1974 they filled in the field up the hill between us and Beltway. He said I should be able to find old contracts.

Ernie stopped by to take pictures.

Plan for Tuesday: have Spencer + Beth finish pit; continue STP's w/ Louise, Silas + Katy map; backfill.

Take picture of fill pile; profile w. wall.

Nov. 17th

Our "last day". Spencer + Beth worked in the cellar hole. Louise and I recorded STP's. Silas worked in well + took pics. When Louise and I dug into the depression we encountered alluvial deposits - sands and gravels. This was at the end
of the day.

Tasks remaining: open one more square in NW corner of the site, record all STP's, west wall of N118 E105, photos of mound fill + well, and backfill. Map.

30 Nov '81

Excavated 1 m² at N136/E79
Both + Louise dug to sterile subsoil - no architectural features appeared. Maureen continued recording STP data - recordation should be completed in one more day. Began backfilling STPs from east and south ends of site.
Dec 2, 1981

Finished recording STP's. Tyler + Dennis came out. Finished backfilling STP's and squares. Started mapping with transit. Silas, Beth + I were crew.

Dec. 7, 1981

Silas, Beth + I

Surveyors from SNA showed up + recorded the site. Silas, Beth and I finished mapping, and pulled all stakes. Tried digging through highway fill and the STP, but large blocks of concrete, macadam, and large wires prevented us from augering and/or digging deep enough.
20 Jan 1982

Began Phase II B w/ crew of Maureen K, Beth B, Don C, and Ed C. Weather cold & clear.

Front end loader cleared access lane to site of snow. Removed rubble mass near roadway for later exposure of possible robbed footing. Machine and operator of questionable quality. Long trench to test SHA modifications to terrace began. R. Jacobson and C visited site in afternoon to plan trench strategy. Are a west of previous clearing cleared to facilitate gradual work.

All backhoe trenches I marked out.
Thursday Jan 21

2 inches of new snow w/ more forecast.
No field work.

Jan 22nd.

No field work.

Jan 25th.

Monday cold 15 - 20°F. Waited till noon for the backhoe to start. When enough trench was done we scraped it + covered with plastic.

Tuesday Jan 26th

Came out around 8:30. Machine was to have been digging since 7:30 but broke + seat froze. Had to be taken into shop for repairs. Called Dale + told him we couldn't work with this machine. He got a new contractor.
to start tomorrow. Trench sides were frozen solid, but Rob went out and worked about four hours in the afternoon. Cold 15-20°, 1" new snow.

January 27th

Sunny -20's -

New backhoe from Crest Contracting Co. showed up today. Good machine. Operator Jerome. He finished the floodplain trench #1 and ran into fill & rocks. Dug the "T" trench through the clay mound and over the terrace edge.

Feb. 2, 1981

Checked site today. Most of snow is gone but ground is still completely frozen. -
Saturday; sunny (partly cloudy) in the 40's.
Reset 2 stakes on baseline; in order to set up a grid for soil samples.

Every 3 meters. Some samples cannot be drawn due to backhoe trenches + piles of fill. There is still about 2" of snow and it is extremely muddy.

Crew = Silas, Don, Ed, Beth + myself.

Samples of bedrock went see main map for all locations and elevations.

Worked till 4:00
February 23

Tuesday, sunny, 50's - Crew: Silas, Spencer, Beth, Don, Ed. Reset 2 stakes; set up a stake at N141. Ran a slit trench perpendicular to the base line west, at the N141 line. Had to fell a small tree. From E85 to E95. On the E93 line we put in a cross trench to run from N137 to N141. Trenches were dug 30 centimeters wide.

Some of the dirt from the backhoe trenches had to be "relocated." The ground is still very mushy but considerably improved from Saturday when water was standing in all the holes. Under the clay around the soils are different from further
north & east of it where it looks like plow zone.

This feature is in line with where the rockfall ended on the east. In exposing the rest of the rockfall line we should be able to estimate dimensions & see where the mound fits in. The backhoe trenches are severely slumped in, and in the flood plain are completely filled. Snow is gone.

Slit Trenches filled with mud nearly as fast as we excavated; could follow the rocks by 'feel' but could not expose them. Drew quickie graph. Put in 3, a meter squares, N 139 E 87, N 140 E 87 and N 141 E 87. These square exposed rocks in the 2 southern squares and one edge in the northern one. Silas, Ed and Don went McConnelluj
to take B+W pics of mill race. We quit around 3 because the mud was so bad.

Feb 26, 1982

Weather - 30's - Sunny + crisp

Friday. Crew: Mr. Silas, Spencer Beth, Don and Ed. Gradall arrived at 8:15 am. First scraped near "robbed footing." A squarish feature showed up (rectangular) but could not be identified. Had G. strip in all 4 directions but could but nothing showed up. Then G tried to get back near stone wall collapse but got stuck in the mud, so we abandoned any plan of stripping back there. Next he stripped near cellar hole, exposing walls + cellar. (Pushed down fruit tree). Beth
plotted rockfall and crew opened up more meter squares + half-meter squares, exposing the edge of the rockfall.

In pm Gradall finished scraping around house foundation + removing pile of highway fill. Crew continued w/ rock fall. Reset base line (grid every 10 meters) and set transit at N140 + N145 to shoot grid. Gradall quit @ 4:00 pm.

March 1, 1981

Crew - M, Silas, Beth Spencer, Don + Ed.

Set up Transit - did some grid - reset squares up around stone fall which had become "unauthorized" looking. Started digging up there again. Silas + I have 1:00 pm staff meeting. Continued on rock fall all day. Decent weather - 40's - sunny
March 2, 1982


March 5, 1982

March 8

Monday, cold + clear - 30's. Crew: Me, Silas, Don, Ed, Beth. Rained all weekend + the plastic was covered w/ snow + ice. Had to reset the line via transit due to slumping from the muddy conditions. Continued to expose rock fall. Started taking up rocks in SW corner; but so far have not uncovered any footings or foundations.

March 9

Tuesday, warmer; cloudy + sunny - 40's. Crew: Me, Silas, Ed, Beth. Don sick, Spencer with Dennis (yesterday + today). Finished exposing rock fall; continued taking up rocks.

Northern portion of rocks taken up near supposed corner.
Three apparent brick plinths have been exposed. The bricks seem like they are layered up against a wall. When rocks were taken up, they did not appear to go very deeply. The rocks appear far too shallow to be a wall footing, but their alignment with the bricks argues for this thesis: The mill was a very poorly footed structure. This raises the question of the purpose of the brick plinths: perhaps these are footings for a shed addition allowing the northern side of the structure.
March 10, 1982

Wednesday, weather cool + sunny.
Crew: Silas Spencer, Don, Ed, Beth + me.
Uncovered all areas to let site dry out some more. Continued taking up rock fall which had been exposed.

Reset base line again, put in stake at N38 + shot out to E104 + E106. Put in some test units at 60 ft from the corner of the hill to see if we hit any foundations. If we fail to find foundations, it is highly unlikely that this is the mill.

Process of elimination put it back near the road along the terrace. Don + Spencer shoveled across at N140 line in order to get a clean face under the rocks, looking for features.
March 11


March 12

Weather - warm sunny. Crew: Me, Silas, Ed, Don, Beth, Spencer. Rob came out in am to look at the fill on top of the "mill." Mainly exposed house area; drew section of backhoe trench wall, started 2 meter squares in house area. Ernie visited.

March 15 1982

Tack a photo & sectioned the wall where fill starts. Backhoe got stuck in floodplain and couldn't draw it out beyond edge.

Came up to house area & had him scrape excess dirt from foundation area. He also pulled back from square in which Spencer & Beth had worked in which there was a lot of fill. It turned out to be a trench dug to put in a pipe running from the well there through the site. We also had him remove some dirt from the feature "tree fall" in the south backhoe trench. He left around 3.

Continued other meter square. Ed has a feature.

March 16, 1982

Weather - cloudy, cool, threatening rain.

Crew: Filas Beth Don Ed + Me.
got out a little before 10. Worked till about 2 when it really started coming down.

Ed continued working on post hole; Silas

Don scraped trench area; Beth + I scraped around rocks. Returned to the lab

Wed. March 17, 1982

Weather cloudy, 50's. Crew: We Silas

Don Ed Beth Spencer. Heavy rains

Last night caused extensive water damage, especially in depression. Continue

working in house area (under plastic).

Delineated trench for pipe; Spencer + Beth cleaned off house + discovered that the

"daring" attached to north end of house

was really a chimney base. Ed + Don

found several other possible post holes

north of chimney but no clear cut pattern
yet. Continued shoveling off 3-4 inches to square off area. Repaired plastic with duct tape. Worked till 4:30. Became sunny in pm. Surveyors for contractor visited. Our site is marked out for clearing.

Thursday March 18

Weather: sunny/cloudy, 50's. Crew: Me, Silas, Spencer, Beth, Ed, Don. Don took in time card. Continued scraping down a clean surface in house area. Contacted surveyors were out. Phelida came out in a.m. to review our work progress and tour the site. Beth + Spencer cleaned cellar/holes/rock fall.
Friday March 19, 1982


Monday, March 22, 1982

Weather, sunny and windy - cold feeling - 40's. Crew: Silas, Spencer, Beth, Spencer, Don, Ed. Continued mapping 3-meter square areas and taking down cellar hole in center of house structure. Finished meter square in cellar hole.

Tuesday, March 23, 1982

Weather: Sunny and pleasant - 50's.
Olen; Silas, Me, Spencer, Beth, Don, Ed. Finished mapping of areas near house foundation. Numerous small features were exposed and recorded. Completed paper work of meter square in cellar. Bottom silt layer is holding considerable water which rapidly fills 2 square below level of spread footing. Began clearing up "mill" locus in depression - excavation to dark layer to expose structure edges.

One visitor from S.H.A. trailer at 1 A.M. Two toothed root ripper (chased treaded!) arrived east site by P.M.
Wednesday March 24

50's
Weather sunny & pleasant. Crew: Silas, Me, Spencer, Ed, Don, Beth. Made calls in am to Tyler, eta, Marvin. Scraped mill area (depression) cleaned photographed & mapped floors. We & Tyler came out in pm and had us stage some pictures for the Traveling Exhibit.

Thursday March 25

Weather sunny & pleasant, 50's. Crew: Me, Silas, Beth, Ed, Don, Spencer. In am, we profiled walls to in depression & also excavated fill of "floor" of mill. Spencer found a glove under a copper screen, possibly a oval or round 8 wood-framed screen. Photoed in situ & removed.
Friday March 26

Weather: sunny, windy + cold 30's - 40's.


3 ft. toothed front-end loaders were clearing on the hill immediately south west of us. Found bottom of "drilled wall" in backhoe trench.

Monday 29th

Weather - sunny + mild - 50's - Crew: Don, Ed, Spencer, Beth, Silas, Me.

Visitors: Rita + Lisa. In am: plotted in mill area. Beth + I removed large rocks + scraped back to an even yellow fill. No footings were observed. Ed + Don took down last
2. Squares found a sand-gravel layer extending into the west walls. One possibility is that the "floor" of dark fill appears to be dug into the cobble-sand-layer.

Tuesday March 30 1982

Weather: overcast + cool. 50's. Crew: Spencer Silas Beth Ed, Don, Me, Lucy + Nancy. 2 interns came out to dig.

In depression we dug down below the dark layer which had filled all of Spencer's area (area B) and also dug a slit trench west in the long trench.

In both areas we found the reddish sand + gravel + cobbles - also this layer shows up in the backhoe trench to the north. Current interpretation of the mill is this: depression was excavated to the sand + gravel layer...
Stone walls were laid against edges without a substantial footing. Actually side were not excavated as straight edges sloped but slumped somewhat. Evidence for this is a buried "A" in the profile:

Walls were probably set and after roofing, fill was intentionally dumped in. Old material which had been accumulated against the edge of the building was eroded out and dumped dirt obscured the original
locus of the wall in the soil profile, NE quadrant (identified in N wall + in floor of trench (about 12 x 8?) is filled w/ dark fill and has a very level floor. Some feature inside structure is current interpretation .

In p.m. Intern Pam also came out & worked. In p.m. Good Phelps Bros. Land Clearing Company wished to remove some trees & on the site, but when we saw the amount of disturbance he was creating we told him to lay off. We took out approximately one-half of the quarter of the cellar hole inside structure. Also exposed the other cellar hole which looks small
but the outline was not very convincing. Took up rocks to the north, all the way down to the grayish soil designated as A2.

April 1, 1982

April 2, 1982


April 7

Windy brisk. Ed + I surveyed near Mt Wilson; saw white owl in 19-20c century ruin. Beth + Silas worked at site, took out portion of cellar wall to see if construction could be dated. But it was clean fill.
Finished up around noon.
Take soil samples of sand + gravel
quarter section of cellar

- optimal

✓ mapping

- take up rocks

- cross section features

- draw mill area

- draw other feature

- 3 G 5 - shoreline -

- 3 L 6

2-3 field days

Paul Bender
484-6534

Rita Sutfness
659-1185
Don Creveling
Oxen Hill 839-1390
in Baltimore 889-8394

Ed Chaney
Silver Spring 649-5792
Baltimore 323-9493
366-7382
FOR PHASE II-B

on E 95

Stakes at N115, N133, N146

at N115 shoot 20m to E75, 15m to E80

at N125 shoot E105 (10m) chain out total 25m

at N145 one M to E96, one to E97

10m to E105, 15m to E120

N1395 - N150 = trench 3 on E96

N115 - 116

N125 - N126
127.23 m above sea level
1413.51 ft. above sea level

STP in "Wayne" area
× STP the weed patch

March

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