

## ABSTRACT

The Pollack Prehistoric Site (7K-C-203) is located in Kent County, Delaware, at the confluence of Alston Branch and the Leipsic River, and consists of eight individual sub-areas (Areas A - H). All of the sub-areas contained prehistoric artifacts and pit features. Final Phase III data recovery excavations were focused on understanding the site's role in regional settlement systems, studying the organization of ceramic and lithic technologies throughout the site's occupations, and collecting data on prehistoric subsistence systems. The Pollack Site's setting at the confluence of two major drainages made it an attractive settlement locale for prehistoric peoples for more than 10,000 years as evidenced by the variety of projectile points spanning the period between 8000 B.C. and A.D. 1500, which were recovered from the site. From 8000 to 3000 B.C. the occupations were not very intensive and seem to have been rather ephemeral. The only archaeological indicators of these occupations are projectile points and waste flakes from the manufacture of stone tools.

In contrast to the earlier occupations of the Pollack Site, occupations post-dating 3000 B.C. seem to have been more intensive, and represent longer residence at the site by prehistoric groups. The greater residential stability of these later occupations is evidenced by finds of pit features associated with semi-subterranean houses and storage and processing facilities. A typical house would have had an excavated "basement-like" depression almost as large as the house itself and a "sub-basement" storage pit. Additional storage pits and large outdoor fireplaces that may have been communal resource processing areas are also present. None of the houses were large enough to accommodate more than a nuclear family. In all areas of the site, the house feature distributions show no indications of multiple-family occupations. At any given time in the past, there was probably only one family household in any of the Pollack Site's sub-areas. Some of the pits contained lithic and ceramic debris suggesting that these pits were used as refuse receptacles after they were no longer used as storage pits. The houses were probably used for less than one year, and the presence of interior fireplaces suggests that the houses were occupied during the winter months. There are no data to suggest that there was any change in the households who used the site and the way the site was used from 3000 B.C. to A.D. 1500.

Core and biface reduction were the main lithic technologies used at the site and cobbles and pebbles present at the site were the major raw materials used. Some projectile points found at the site were made from non-local materials and may have been brought to the site as part of the tool kit transported by prehistoric groups. When these tools were used, broken, and discarded, new replacement tools were then manufactured from local pebbles and cobbles. As was the case for settlement at the Pollack Site, there are no indications of changes in lithic technologies over time.

Cover Illustration: The cover illustration shows selected projectile points recovered from the Pollack Prehistoric Site.