



Montgomery County Parks

Preliminary Archaeological Review Form

Date Prepared: 1/29/2018
 Preparers Name: Kelly Arford-Horne

1. Project Identification:

Project Name: Black Hill Regional Park – SEED Structure
Project Manager/Contact: Judie Lai **Agency:** Park Development Division
State/Federal Funding or Permits? Yes, Bond Bill
Park Name: Black Hill Regional Park
Park Address/Location: 20930 Lake Ridge Drive Boyds, Maryland 20841

2. Project Summary and Description of Limits of Disturbance (LOD): The purpose of the project is to provide an environmentally friendly classroom area in the park and repurpose an old maintenance yard. The proposed project includes the removal of the existing mobile home trailer and most of the equipment sheds, as well as at least 50% of the existing impervious surface. The removed structures will be replaced with a sustainable SEED modular structure and one equipment shed will be converted into an accessible covered area. The removed paved surface will not be repaved in order to keep the site more natural looking. While the exact LOD is not yet available, activities should be centered on the existing fenced area, access road, and graveled parking area as depicted in the attached image.

2. Project Setting: (check all that apply)

- urban/suburban; rural
 upland; floodplain/terrace (active; stable terrace)

Recorded Soil(s):

Name	Drainage Class
Brinklow Blocktown Channery Silt Loam	Well-drained
Blocktown Channery Silt Loam	Well-drained

Project Area Drainage(s):

Name	Distance from LOD
Little Seneca Creek	~ 245 meters

Slope:

- less than 10% greater than 10% has a portion less than 10%

Is located within the High Prehistoric Potential Zone:

- yes no portions are yes

4. Recorded Archaeological Sites and Resources in the Vicinity of LOD - Maryland Historic Trust (MHT), Park-Owned Historic Sites (P-OHS), Locational Atlas (LA), Master Plan (MP), Archaeological Resource Files (ARF): **information about the location of archaeological sites may NOT be made available to the public**

Layer/Database	Site/Resource Number	Name/Description	National Register	Distance from LOD
MHT	18MO505	Prehistoric Lithic Scatter	unknown	~ 20m
P-OHS	N/A	19 th -20 th century gold mine/bomb shelter	unknown	~ 60m
LA	None			
MP	None			
ARF	N/A	Several prehistoric and historic sites in vicinity	Unknown	vicinity



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5. Summary: A review of the Montgomery County GIS Archaeology Layer indicated the LOD for *the Black Hills Regional Park – SEED Structure* project is not located within the predetermined High Potential Prehistoric Zone. The high potential zone marks areas that have characteristics similar to locations where prehistoric sites are most often found in Maryland, however, prehistoric sites may be encountered anywhere within the landscape. A review of archaeological site data on file with the Maryland Historic Trust indicates that a number of prehistoric sites were identified in the vicinity of the project area during a survey by park staff in 1999. The closest site identified during that survey, 18MO505, is approximately 20 meters from the LOD. This suggests there is a potential for the presence of prehistoric resources within the LOD.

One historic site is also marked on the Park-Owned Historic Sites GIS layer in the vicinity of the LOD. The site is described as a late 19th-early 20th century gold mine/bomb shelter and is approximately 60 meters from the LOD. This location has not been previously tested or evaluated by archaeologists and the exact boundaries of the site are unknown. No resources were noted on either the Locational Atlas or Master Plan layers.

While there does exist a potential for both historic and prehistoric resources in the vicinity of the LOD, the LOD is restricted primarily to areas that have been previously disturbed by the construction of the parking areas and access roads. Given the presence of previous disturbance, it is unlikely that any *intact* archaeological resources would be affected by the proposed actions. It is recommended that Park archaeologists complete a field visit to confirm the presence of previous disturbance within the LOD. All activities will be completed in accordance with federal, state, and local guidelines governing the protection of archaeological resources.

UPDATE 2/8/18: Kelly Arford-Horne completed a field visit to the proposed LOD on 2/6/18 and 2/8/18 to confirm previous disturbance. Two Shovel Test Pits (STPs) were excavated during the site visits, one within the Phase 1 LOD and one within the Phase 2 LOD. The STP within the Phase 2 LOD confirmed the presence of previous disturbance to a depth of at least 2 feet below ground surface. The STP within the Phase 1 LOD revealed the presence of undisturbed soils and was positive for prehistoric resources. STP 2 was excavated approximately 25 feet north of the paved driveway.

UPDATE 1/3/19: Information regarding updates to the proposed project was received from Wen Huang and Nina Aplebaum. According to a map detailing plans for the proposed construction (attached), there are no significant changes to the LOD and the proposed construction will not directly impact the archaeological resources identified during the previous field visit (2/6/18-2/8/18). It was also indicated that a fence would be placed to the north of the existing paved drive during construction activities to prevent disturbance of the marked "Area of Avoidance", where intact archaeological resources potentially exist. This is in compliance with the previous recommendations (see below). No additional testing or review is recommended at this time.

6. Recommendations: It is recommended that no ground-disturbing activity, including the movement or staging of heavy equipment, occur north of the paved drive (see attachment). Should ground-disturbing activities in that area prove necessary, additional testing to assess the significance of the known archaeological resources may be required. No impact to intact archaeological resources is likely within the Phase 2 LOD. Should the Phase 1 or 2 LOD change from the one described in this review, additional review and/or testing may be necessary.



Archaeological Review Attachment: LOD of Black Hill Regional Park SEED Structure Showing STPs and Recommended Area of Avoidance



SPEED BUMP

NEW DRIVEWAY ACCESS
(FOR BUS DROP-OFF, FIRE TRUCK
AND VEHICLE ACCESS)

MAIN ENTRANCE
AND FEATURE TIMBER
WALLS

EXISTING PAVED FENCED
AREA, TO BE RECLAIMED
TO PLANTING AREA.

ACCESSIBLE
PARKING SPACE, AISLE,
AND BUS-DROP OFF

RAIN GARDEN VIEWING
AND INTERPRETATION
AREA

RELOCATED
GREENHOUSE
SHED

RAIN GARDEN

SWALE

RELOCATED GREEN HOUSE

PLANT BEDS FOR
GREENHOUSE PLANT SALE

ROUGH LOCATION OF
EXISTING SEPTIC FIELD

EXISTING GRAVEL PARKING LOT
TO BE RE-NATURALIZED

NEW FIRE HYDRANT
(POTENTIAL)

LAKE RIDGE DRIVE

ACCESS TO COMPOST-
ING TOILET WASTE
EXISTING SEPTIC TANK
TO BE CONNECTED TO
COMPOSTING TOILET

- EXISTING LANDSCAPE AREAS
- RECLAIMED LANDSCAPE AREAS
- EXISTING ASPHALT PAVEMENT
- PROPOSED ASPHALT PAVEMENT
- PROPOSED CONCRETE PAVEMENT
- FEATURED TIMBER WALL/FENCE



12.24.2018

BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK - SEED CLASSROOM