

ABSTRACT

An *Archaeological Evaluation* (Phase I/II archeological investigation) was conducted of the Ramsey Homes project area, which is located on the eastern side of North Patrick Street between Pendleton and Wythe Streets in the City of Alexandria, Virginia. One archeological site (44AX0160), a Civil War-era military barracks site, was previously recorded extending into the project area by Alexandria Archeology in 1991. Additionally, the project area is located within the bounds of the Parker-Gray Historic District (DHR No. 100-0133) and includes four buildings with 15 units previously recorded with the DHR in 2006 as seven architectural resources (DHR Nos. 100-0133-1328, 100-0133-0754, 100-0133-0751, 100-0133-0747, 100-0133-0749, 100-0133-0745, and 100-0133-0948); these architectural resources are discussed in detail under a separate cover. Thunderbird Archeology, a division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., of Gainesville, Virginia, conducted the study for Ramsey Homes, LP of Alexandria, Virginia. The fieldwork was carried out in July of 2016.

The archeological evidence recovered as result of the investigation indicates an occupation(s) date range for site 44AX0160 beginning in the late first quarter/early second quarter of the 19th century and continuing into the early 20th century, and the documentary research conducted for the project area supports this interpretation. However, as no intact contexts were identified during the current investigation, the interpretive value of the recovered artifact assemblage is limited, specifically regarding the ability to separate the various periods of occupations (i.e. the early to mid-19th-century occupations, the Civil War military occupation, and the post-Civil War occupations) within the project area and to assign artifacts to a specific occupation.

While the interpretive value of the recovered artifact assemblage was limited and no intact contexts or historic cultural features were identified during the Phase I/II investigation, the discovery of a historic living surface that pre-dates the mid-20th century throughout much of the project area indicates that there is a potential that cultural features associated with the historic occupations of the property are extant within the project area. Therefore, in our opinion, the portion of site 44AX0160 that extends into the project area is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D due to the likelihood that it will provide significant information about domestic life and military history within the Parker-Gray Historic District during the second and third quarters of the 19th century. As current development plans will result in impacts to the site, we recommend that archeological data recovery be conducted at site 44AX0160. Additionally, we recommend that demolition of the buildings should occur only under archeological monitoring and that any significant cultural deposits identified beneath the buildings should be mitigated in accordance with an approved treatment plan.