

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARCHIVES**

**Guide to the**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTS**  
**FROM THE INTER-COUNTY CONNECTOR (ICC)**  
**PROJECT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**  
**2011; 2014**

**Record Group 6: Public Works and Transportation**

May 15, 2017  
Updated 2018

Montgomery County Archives  
Montgomery County Records Center  
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### **ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY**

As part of the planning and administrative process connected with the Inter-County Connector highway (MD 200), opened in Montgomery County between 2011 and 2014, the Maryland State Highway Administration conducted a series of archaeological digs to determine the historical value of the property (if any), and to clear the land for development. The Phase II and III investigations were conducted in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190), and the Maryland Historical Trust Act of 1985, as amended (State Finance and Procurement Article 5A-325 and 5A-326 of the Annotated Code of Maryland).

The two sites described in the reports include a Native American site near Georgia Avenue and Norbeck Road that contains artifacts dating to the Stone Age, and the site (near US 29) of a 19th century homestead which contained numerous artifacts of the Jackson family, who lived there from the 1870s until the home burned in 1917. The site of the Jackson homestead is said to have been “one of the most intact archaeological sites in Maryland” by the reporter for the Washington Post who covered the story in 2008. The land studied is important to African-American history in the county, as it represents an area where free blacks and post-Civil War freed slaves purchased property in the latter 19th century.

The story of the ICC’s concept, development and construction is long and involved; for the purposes of this collection, the focus is purely on the historical significance of the land now buried underneath the highway.

### **EXTENT**

0.7 cubic feet: 2 letter-size Hollinger boxes.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

This collection contains two archaeological reports (AR426 and AR358, with their accompanying appendices) commissioned by the Maryland State Highway Administration in preparation for construction of the ICC in Montgomery County. The reports each contain an exhaustive historical-cultural context of the sites, starting in 16,000 BC and continuing to present, as well as several maps of the sites (including artifact density, land contours, et al); extensive lists and descriptions of artifacts found; photographs of the work, the artifacts and the sites; research objectives, methods and analysis; evaluation of findings; interpretation, conclusions and recommendations.

Of particular interest is the report on the findings from the Jackson homestead: land owned by freed slave Melinda Jackson and her family in the latter half of the 19th century.

### **CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS**

This collection is open for research.

### **LANGUAGE**

English.

**PROVENANCE**

Donated in 2017 by Stewart Lilland, who obtained the reports from the State Highway Administration for personal research in October of 2016.

**USING THESE RECORDS**

To request records listed in this finding aid, the following information should be given to the archivist:

Record Group 06, Archaeological Reports from the Inter-County Connector (ICC) Project in Montgomery County, Series Number and Name, Box Number and Folder Title(s).

The preferred citation for materials from these records is:

Montgomery County Archives; Gaithersburg, Maryland. Record Group 06: Public Works and Transportation. Record Title: Archaeological Reports from the Inter-County Connector (ICC) Project in Montgomery County. Series number and series name. Box number and folder title, if appropriate.

**PROCESSING PROCEDURES**

Reports were removed from comb bindings for storage in an acid-free environment. Digital copies were checked for fixity and loaded onto an external hard drive. Original CD was backed up on the server and stored in the Digital Media collection.

**PROCESSING STAFF/FINDING AID AUTHOR**

Sarah Hedlund.

**BOX INVENTORY**

**Box 1**

Phase II and III Archaeological Investigations of the Fairland Branch Site and the Jackson Homestead: Final Report and Appendices (3 Volumes), 2011

**Box 2**

Phase II Evaluation and Phase III Development of the Anderson Branch Site: Final Report and Appendix (2 Volumes), 2014

DVD: ICC 200— Montgomery County: digital copies of the archaeological reports and appendices (*see Media Box 1*)