

Conservation Guide Check List

Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
Maryland Historical Trust

PURPOSE This form should be filled out completely by the field archaeologist and artifact processors to help determine if assemblages or individual artifacts are in need of conservation. The writer can use their discretion as to whether this form is used to describe an entire assemblage, or lots, or individual artifacts within the assemblage, depending on the archaeological significance.

Site: _____ **Site Name:** _____
Time Period: Prehistoric 16thC 17thC 18thC 19thC 20thC
Provenience (if applicable): _____ **Lot No(s)**. (if applicable): _____
Artifact ID (if applicable): _____
Examiner: _____ **Title:** _____ **Date:** _____

MATERIAL TYPE Check all boxes that describe the materials found in this assemblage.

Metal

- Iron
- Copper Alloy
- White Metal
- Lead
- Silver
- Gold
- Other _____

Ceramic

- Prehistoric
- Coarse Earthenware
- Refined Earthenware
- Stoneware
- Porcelain
- Other _____

Material _____

Organic Material

- Wood
- Antler
- Horn
- Shell
- Bone
- Textile
- Other _____

Glass

Type _____

Plaster/Daub

Type _____

Plastic

Describe _____

Decoration

- Glaze/Slip
- Pigment
- Inlay
- Enamel
- Inscriptions / Incisions
- Other _____

BURIAL ENVIRONMENT Describe the burial environment from which the assemblage came.

- Urban
- Rural
- Midden/Privy/Well
- Submerged
- Wet Soil
- Dry Soil
- Moist Soil

Notes: _____

CONDITION ASSESSMENT Mark any and all descriptions that apply to the assemblage, lot, or artifact.

Burial Encrustation/ Dirt

- Thick
- Thin
- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Color _____

Corrosion

- Thick
- Thin Color _____
- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Blisters

Concretion

- Thick
- Thin
- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Color _____

Cracks

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Breaks

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Losses

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Abrasion/ Scratches

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Dents/Gouges

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Wear/Use

- Overall
- Partial
- Minimal
- Describe _____

Describe any other characteristics not listed above: _____

TREATMENT Has this assemblage or artifact received any conservation treatment? Please attach any conservation records.

- Dry brushing
- Wet/solvent cleaning
- Chemical stabilization
- Electrolytic reduction
- Joining/assembly

PRIORITY Based on archaeological significance, how crucial is conservation for this assemblage or object?

Low (not in need of conservation)

Medium (in need of conservatio

High (immediate need for conservation)