

**Keywords: Popes Creek, Mockley, Chronology (Maryland, Virginia, Delmarva)**

Handsman, R.G. and C.W. McNett

1974 The Middle Woodland in the Middle Atlantic: Chronology, Adaptation, and Contact. Revised version of a paper prepared for the Fifth Middle Atlantic Archaeology Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.

In this conference paper revised for publication, the authors summarize the available knowledge for the Middle Woodland time period acquired from sites ranging from the James River estuary in Virginia to southern New England. The discussion of artifacts is broken down into an earlier Popes Creek phase (pp. 12-34) and a later Mockley phase (pp. 34-52), and numerous individual site assemblages are discussed. The paper concludes with a summary of adaptive systems that leads to a presentation of an evolutionary model of developing exchange systems and societal types for Middle Atlantic prehistoric peoples. The authors state that by the Middle Woodland time period, societies had become ranked and participated in a redistributive system of exchange that was predicated upon their participation in vast exchange networks. They go on to state that the exchange was religious in nature and this was the cause of the majority of the population to inhabit outlying satellite villages that surround sparsely populated centralized ceremonial structures (p. 62).