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This publication, written largely for the non-archaeological audience, presents a generalized summary of the prehistory of the Accokeek Creek Site. The site, excavated between 1935 and 1940 and located at the confluence of Piscataway Creek and the Potomac River in Prince George's County, Maryland, was occupied sporadically for "some fifty centuries" (p. 9) by seven identified cultural groups. Stephenson states that the date ranges presented for each period are "based upon a *relative*, rather than on an *absolute* chronology" (emphasis in original; p. 16), which results in dates and sequences that differ from others in the region. Specifically, Popes Creek is interpreted to be earlier than Accokeek because the latter pottery is "thinner, harder, and generally better made" (p. 23) than the former. This chronologic progression has been discounted elsewhere, based on stratigraphy and radiocarbon dates, two analyses not utilized at the Accokeek Creek site.

Mockley ware is named for Mockley Point, located at the northern tip of the site, although this portion of the Middle Woodland period is not very strongly represented. The Mockley ceramics recovered from the site were tempered with unburned, crushed shell, and surface treatments included cord-marking, net-impressions, and fabric-impressions. The vessels varied in size, ranging from a capacity of two to three quarts to over four gallons (p. 25).