NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

NAME

HISTORIC

RECEIVED

AND/OR COMMON

Locus 7 Site

SEP 07 1979

LOCATION

PH & MC

Historic Preservation

STREET & NUMBER

PH & MC

Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Not for publication

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICTORY OF

Fayette City

.22nd

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

Fayette

CODE

051

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

xx SITE

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

STATUS

IN PROCESS

PRESENT USE

x NO

AGRICULTURE

x MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

x PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

x MILITARY

NOMINATED

OWNER OF PROPERTY

Patsy Romanelli & Joseph Daniero

Larry Breckenridge

John & Eliz. Caniglia

NAME

Box 173

N. Charleroi PA 15438

STREET & NUMBER

Uniontown, PA 15401

State

Fayette City

VICTORY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fayette County

STREET & NUMBER

East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Uniontown

STATE

PA 15401

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLEx

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

September 20, 1979

FEDERAL

STATE

x COUNTY

LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania
This prehistoric Indian Village is located in Washington Township, Fayette County, PA., atop a bluff above Donners Run directly to the north of Fayette City. The site is also situated approximately 2000 feet to the west of the Monongahela River and about 1200 feet to the west of a nearly 800 foot wide floodplain along the river. It appears to be on the 900 foot contour interval or about 160 feet above the river. It is in the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau physiographic province in typical Western Pennsylvania rolling countryside, although the land surrounding the site consists largely of wood lots in various stages of growth, some small farms, & residential dwellings. During earlier historic times the area was more heavily farmed.

The village may date anywhere from A.D. 900 - A.D. 1600. If the site follows the pattern of other Monongahela villages, it consists of one or more rings of probably wattle and daub circular houses roughly 10 - 20 or more feet in diameter surrounding an open area or plaza. Attached to these houses were pear or oval-shaped, food storage pits which were covered by low roofs. The entire village is probably enclosed in a wooden stockade consisting of pickets.

Since the Monongahela Indians are known to have had a subsistence economy based upon agriculture supplemented by hunting, fishing, and gathering, the site should at least contain food preparation tools, nut and seed remains, wild animal bones, fishing hooks and fish bones, basketry products, pottery containers, and body adornment objects.

Only limited archeological testing has been carried out at the site which may be as large as 400 feet in diameter. The plow zone appears filled with material as evidenced in the testing of several 1x1 meter units. One of those units yielded 40 pieces of mussel shell, 13 shell-tempered pottery sherds, 9 pieces of lithic debitage, and 5 fragments of animal bone. That in situ material exists at the site was verified by the locating and partially excavating (only a 1x1 meter section) a refuse pit. From the pit the archaeologists removed 35 shell-tempered, cordmarked pottery sherds, 154 mussel shell fragments (over 90% with hinges), 14 pieces of animal bone, 1 drilled turtle leg, 14 pieces of flint chippage, 1 worked piece of hematite, 1 canel coal pendant, 1 piece of possibly fire-cracked sandstone, and 1 fragment of pitted hammerstone.
The importance of the site is several-fold:

1. It apparently is a relatively undisturbed Late Woodland Monongahela Culture site with the only historic disturbance being shallow cultivation by horse-drawn plows and cultivators.

2. It is situated on a bluff which is relatively unusual for Monongahela sites.

3. Although a fair number of Monongahela site locations are known, only two of these sites (Ryan & Gansky) have been totally excavated. As a result, many questions about seasonal site use, locations of certain types of sites in relation to specific physiographic features such as water or raw material sources or natural transportation paths, intraregional cultural variation, cultural variation over time, etc. remain to be answered concerning the site inhabitants.

4. Since sites on the floodplain of the Monongahela River apparently have been largely obliterated by historic residential and industrial development, the site remains as one of only a few known sites adjacent to one of the flood- plains which may have been intensively used for agriculture.

5. The site will be destroyed when the new bridge across the Monongahela River on Legislative Route 1070, Section 50 is built. At that time this in situ cultural resource which has the potential of providing various prehistoric cultural answers will be destroyed.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Michael, Ronald L.
1977 Archaeological and Historical Study of Legislative Route 1070, Sections B10 - B90. Prepared for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

GEORAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.88

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING B ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site extends outward in a radius 200 feet from a point as shown on the attached Fayette City, Pennsylvania 7.5 minute topographic map.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Dr. Ronald L. Michael, Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

DATE
July 16, 1979

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 280

CITY OR TOWN
Uniontown, Pennsylvania

STATE

TELEPHONE
412-438-0686

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL LOCAL
STATE X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DATE

DATE

GPO 892-453