

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only  
received  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic

and/or common Memorial Park Site, 36Cn164

**2. Location**

street & number Memorial Park, South Water Street  not for publication

city, town Lock Haven \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 23

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Clinton code 035

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Veterans of Foreign Wars

street & number South Water Street

city, town Lock Haven \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Pennsylvania

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clinton County Courthouse

street & number East Water Street

city, town Lock Haven \_\_\_\_\_ state Pennsylvania 17745

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

1979-80 Pennsylvania Statewide  
title Archaeological Survey,

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979-80 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Department of Anthropology, Pennsylvania State University

city, town University Park \_\_\_\_\_ state Pennsylvania



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Memorial Park Site, 36 Cnl64, Clinton County

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## 7. Description (continued)

The Memorial Park Site includes the only remaining undisturbed area on the West Branch side of the point of land formed by the Bald Eagle-West Branch confluence. It provides the only access to the archaeological record of the area now disturbed by the city of Lock Haven. The village it represents undoubtedly played a key role in settlement systems and trading networks involving the Bald Eagle and West Branch drainages.

## II. Archaeological Investigations at the Memorial Park Site

The Memorial Park Site was first discovered by Dr. Conran A. Hay during a phase I archaeological survey for the Army Corps of Engineers (Hay et al. 1978). During this survey deep subsurface tests probes were used in an attempt to define site boundaries, and two small test excavations (1 m x 2 m and 1 m x 1 m) were placed within the boundaries of the site (Map 2). The results indicated that a Clemsons Island component was present at the site, and that this component was buried beneath 50 cm to 70 cm of more recent alluvium (Figures 1 and 2). The discovery of a postmold in the floor of one excavation indicated that intact features were present within this component. Deep probe tests conducted using a posthole digger indicated that the site extended throughout the entirety of Memorial Park and throughout some undetermined portion of Piper Airport.

In July 1980 additional research was initiated at the Memorial Park Site. This research was sponsored by the Office of State Archaeology and the Office of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Its primary objective was to provide additional data concerning site boundaries. To this end, two transects of deep probe posthole digger tests, located at 30 m intervals, were excavated. With one exception, all of these tests produced artifactual material. However, artifact densities decreased with distance from the West Branch bank. This reduction in artifact density was used to define the perimeter of the site (Map 2).

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Memorial Park Site can be expected to contribute significant information concerning prehistoric populations at the local level of investigation.

In 1978, a program of archaeological site survey was implemented for the Bald Eagle Creek watershed (Hatch 1980). An objective of this research was to show how sites from each prehistoric phase were behaviorally interrelated in terms of population movements and subsistence strategies. The Memorial Park Site has the potential to make important contributions to this goal.

At present, several key questions regarding Late Woodland settlement systems in Central Pennsylvania remain unanswered. Among the most important of these involves the relationship between small farming hamlets located within secondary and tertiary drainages and the large stockaded villages that are so conspicuous along the West Branch of the Susquehanna and the Susquehanna Rivers. Archaeological research within the Bald Eagle Valley (Hatch 1980) has demonstrated that farming hamlets are the predominant settlement type within this topographic setting. Such sites appear to have been occupied by 1-3 nuclear or extended families: botanical remains from the Fisher Farm Site (36Ce35) indicate that the subsistence activities of these people included maize horticulture in addition to the hunting and collecting of wild foods. With the possible exception of the Memorial Park Site, present data suggest that large village sites are conspicuously absent from the Bald Eagle drainage. Whether, and in what ways, the small hamlets may have been integrated into socioeconomic systems that included the larger villages thus remains unclear.

The size of the Memorial Park Site (it probably once extended beyond its presently known boundaries into areas now disturbed by residential development) and its possible association with a burial mound suggest that it represents a major Late Woodland village. Since it is located at the mouth of Bald Eagle Creek, it is of key importance to an understanding of Late Woodland settlement systems in that and in other secondary and tertiary drainages. More specifically, two conflicting models require evaluation. The first postulates that farming hamlets like the Fisher Farm Site represent dispersed summer-fall occupations of a population which resided in large, nucleated villages during the winter months. Subsistence data from the Fisher Farm Site provide partial support for this model. A second model, however, proposes that both farming hamlets and large villages were occupied year-round by populations exhibiting little or no annual site relocation. The resolution of this issue is critical to reconstructions of Late Woodland population size and social organization.

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8. Significance (continued)

More intensive investigations at the Memorial Park Site may provide data to validate one of the above competing models. Prehistoric features may be unusually well preserved and free from modern contamination. Shallow, plow zone sites in Central Pennsylvania usually include only the bottom portions of storage pits, hearths, etc. The contents of such features are often contaminated with modern seeds of wild and domesticated species. It is often difficult or impossible to separate intrusive seeds from those deposited by prehistoric peoples. Due to the accumulation of recent alluvium at the Memorial Park Site, archaeological features have been protected from this type of contamination. As a result, the assessment of feature contents may be conducted on a more reliable basis, thus providing key data concerning seasonality of residence and subsistence practices. An accurate reconstruction of Late Woodland settlement-subsistence systems may then be possible.

In summary, the Memorial Park Site provides an opportunity to conduct archaeological research concerning the economic and social organization of Late Woodland populations in Central Pennsylvania. The site's location, minimal alteration, and expected feature preservation should provide an unusually favorable opportunity for behavioral analysis.

## 9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Hatch, James W. (ed.). 1980. The Fisher Farm Site: A Late Woodland Hamlet in Context. The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Anthropology Occasional Papers, No. 12.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 19.02

Quadrangle name Lock Haven

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The Memorial Park Site boundaries have been defined on the basis of artifact densities in subsurface probes and excavated test pits. Five surveyed boundaries enclose the site. See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christopher M. Stevenson and Conran A. Hay

organization The Pennsylvania State University date Sept. 1, 1980

street & number 105 Carpenter Building telephone 814-863-2301

city or town University Park state Pennsylvania

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer date \_\_\_\_\_

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration