

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Inventory of Historic Places

Official use only
NUMBER:

SEE INFORMATION SHEET BEFORE FILLING OUT FORM
PLEASE TYPE

1 HISTORICAL NAME OF PROPERTY:

Richard T. Foley Site 36Gr52

2 LOCATION:

STREET [redacted] CITY Holbrook
TOWNSHIP Jackson COUNTY Greene
Congressional District 22

3 CLASSIFICATION:

PRESENT USE

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site			<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
<input type="checkbox"/> object			<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted		Farmland
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: unrestricted		
		<input type="checkbox"/> No		

4 OWNERSHIP:

NAME Richard T. Foley STREET [redacted]
CITY, TOWN Pittsburgh STATE Pennsylvania ZIP 15243

5 LOCATION of LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Greene County Courthouse
STREET High Street CITY, TOWN Waynesburg COUNTY Greene

6 REPRESENTATION in EXISTING SURVEYS:

TITLE OF SURVEY: Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey Program
DATE OF SURVEY: 20 April 1971 FEDERAL STATE LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
CITY Harrisburg, STATE Pennsylvania

7

DESCRIPTION:

Check One

Original Site

Moved Date _____

Architectural Description: A written description including features such as stories in height, length and width, number of bays, alterations and additions to the main structure; type of roof, windows, door, chimney design and placement, materials and style of construction; and a floor plan, if possible.

The R. T. Foley site is a multicomponent prehistoric/historic site located in western Greene County, Pennsylvania. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A Columbia Gas Company meter shed stands on the eastern edge of the terrace which also represents the site's eastern boundaries. At least one gas line runs west (underground) across the southern boundaries of the site from the aforementioned meter shed. The site is presently a fallow field and annually yields a dual hay crop. The locale was last plowed in 1967 at which time numerous artifacts were found by surface collectors. The surrounding hillsides and ridges support a mixed mesophytic habitat of recent origin while the bottoms are generally found as brushland. Some farmsteads however are still maintained. The soils of the Foley site have been identified as a Newark silt loam (U.S.D.A. S.C.S. n.d.) composed of somewhat poorly drained alluvium derived from sedimentary rocks of Permian origin. Newark silt loams, especially those found on T-O terraces, are frequently subject to flooding and thus have a high available water capacity and a high seasonal water table during wet periods of the year.

The site was discovered in 1971 when Mr. Foley undertook garden excavations on the extreme southeast portion of the bottom adjacent to his utility barn. Realizing the potential significance of his artifact discoveries which consisted of flint debitage, pottery, bone and and copper/brass tinkler, Foley contacted members of the Paul R. Stewart Chapter 19, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, who in turn commenced excavations that lasted for a three year period (Hennen n.d.). The total area encompassing these excavations approximates 67.5 square meters (see enclosed Hennen map). It has since been determined that these excavations were located on a trash dump bordering the actual habitation area (Herbstritt n.d.a.)

A total of 13 features comprised of fired sandstone cobbles, deposits of ash and incidental burnings, identified by overlapping reddened soil discolorations in the rich midden soil, were found within 50 centimeters of the bottom of deposits. Artifactual debris included animal and bird bone refuse, flint debitage, flint projectile points, shell tempered cordmarked potsherds and 2 Madisonville-like pedestal fragments. In addition a number of diagnostic artifacts, clay and glass beads, antler combs and a metal cutout depicting a salamander or lizard-like creature and scrap metal fragments indicative of the Historic Monongahela Period (Mayer-Oakes 1955) were found. Other remains included charred corn and corncobs, fish scales/bones and numerous bones of the box turtle.

Test excavations were next undertaken early in 1982 by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History ^{and} reaffirmed earlier findings that a substantial midden deposit was present on the east slope of the site. These excavations, directed by Richard George of the museum's Section of Man, were located just north west from James Hennen's initial excavations. Evidence of the actual village location was however not discovered until later in the year when the site was again investigated by James T. Herbstritt.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER PAGE

Hennen, James and Dorothy Hennen

n.d. The Foley Site 36Gr52 Greene County, Pennsylvania
Manuscript in possession of the submittor.

Herbstritt, James T.

n.d.a. Field work at the R.T.Foley site 1982. Draft report
in the possession of the author.

Herbstritt, James T.

n.d.b. Archaeological data recovery of Gensler (36Gr63) and
Throckmorton (36Gr160) sites along the proposed Manor
Rail line corridor. Report prepared for NPW Consultants,
Inc. and Consolidation Coal Company. Final Report.

Jones, Frank

1945 The archaeological fields of southwestern Pennsylvania.
"The Horn papers" 2: 743-754. Herald Press, Scottdale.

Mayer-Oakes, William J.

1955 Prehistory of the Upper Ohio Valley: An Introductory
Archaeological Study. Anthropological Series No. 2.
Annals of Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh.

U.S.D.A. S.C.S.

n.d. Unpublished soil survey data. U. S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Herbstritt, James T.

1989 "New Discoveries in Archaeology: The 1982

at Foley Farm". Pennsylvania Archaeologist,

vol 10, 1983. Summer. [unclear] [unclear]

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

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Continuation sheet R.T. Foley Site, Greene County Item number 7, 9

Page 2

Settlement pattern data for the Historic Monongahela phase presently suggests a preference for upland locales. Such sites are known south of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania (Mayer-Oakes 1955). To a lesser degree, however, Historic Monongahela base camp hamlets and villages are also known for bottomland locales within valleys; commonly they are found at the mouths of side stream tributaries discharging to the main valley channel (Herbstritt n.d.b.). Connections between Historic Monongahela and the Clover Complex of the Middle Ohio Valley (Mayer-Oakes 1955) are noted in the archeological record. Mississippian connections, especially material traits, which are seen in the ceramic industry and includes pottery trowels, pedestalled vessels and water bottles have also appeared on these late sites. European trade items, glass trade beads and brass items, found on Historic Monongahela sites date to the late 16th-early 17th centuries thus directly revealing time of occupation.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET (DESCRIPTION) ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

At the North 15 West 39 line (from Hennen's established datum point) a large ashy refuse deposit 5 x 3 meters in dimension was excavated by Herbstritt and yielded numerous artifacts related to the Historic Monongahela occupation. Among the diagnostic artifacts were several triangular flint projectile points, a rolled copper/brass bead, a copper/brass disc with appendage and what is believed to be, by virtue of the cordage twist and lip treatment applique, Historic Monongahela pottery (Herbstritt n.d.). East 8.5 meters from the N15W39 line, a child interment between 4 and 5 years of age, was encountered in a semi-flexed position. It as well was associated with the Historic Monongahela occupation insofar as a necklace of alternating blue and white cane drawn glass beads and a rolled cylinder of copper/brass was found beneath the right mandible (Herbstritt n.d.a.).

Settlement pattern data for the Historic Monongahela phase presently suggests a preference for upland locales. Such sites are known south of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania (Mayer-Oakes 1955). To a lesser degree, however, Historic Monongahela base camp hamlets and villages are also known for bottomland locales within valleys; commonly they are found at the mouths of side stream tributaries discharging to the main valley channel (Herbstritt n.d.b). Connections between Historic Monongahela and the Clover Complex of the Middle Ohio Valley (Mayer-Oakes 1955) are noted in the archaeological record. Mississippian connections, especially material traits, which are seen in the ceramic industry and includes pottery trowels, pedestalled vessels and water bottles have also appeared on these late sites. European trade items, glass trade beads and brass items, found on Historic Monongahela sites date to the late 16th - early 17th centuries thus directly revealing time of occupation.

ALC The R. T. Foley site (36Gr52) boundaries are clearly determined on the north and east by Job Creek and on the west 30 meters from an unnamed tributary to Job Creek. The southern boundary is the base or toe slope of an eroded topographic bench which serves as the present location for Foley's garden and barn/utility shed complex. The southern site boundary is 290° WNW of 0° magnetic north. The garden has not yielded supportive evidence, via artifactual debris, that would indicate that the Historic Monongahela component extends onto the elevated bench. The total site area is 2.2 acres.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Statement: Write in your own words a brief statement of significance for each area checked.

PERIOD

1600 - 1699
1700 - 1799

1800 - 1899
1900 - Present

architect: _____
builder: _____

AREA

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS

- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY

- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)
- _____
- _____

The significance of the R. T. Foley site lies in the fact that it is the only undisturbed Monongahela hamlet/village component of the late 16th - early 17th century period presently known for Pennsylvania. No such sites demonstrating occupations for these time periods vis-a-vis European glass beads and other trade related items have thus far been systematically excavated from Monongahela Culture sites in south-western Pennsylvania despite numerous attempts. Furthermore, desultory excavations conducted by local collectors at the turn of the century, and the W.P.A. sponsored projects of the 1930's (Jones 1945) has significantly reduced the potential for controlled studies at all other Historic Monongahela components. The R. T. Foley site also presents a unique opportunity to study the diversity in Historic Monongahela settlement pattern archaeology insofar as it is located in lowland terrain which contrasts sharply with the typical settlement pattern mode for Monongahela during this most recent and important period. The apparent cultural connections with the Middle Ohio Valley Clover and Mississippian manifestations observed via the material remains underscores its importance with special regard to acculturation and the Monongahela Culture's eventual disappearance. The site has tremendous potential for understanding environmental dynamics owing to the quantitative and qualitative nature of floral and faunal remains. Finally, the R. T. Foley site is known to contain important intra-site data with respect to subsurface feature and dwelling layouts that would be germane in understanding the spatial and social dimensions of Historic Monongahela communities.

