Listed On:
VLR 09/16/1982
NRHP 12/13/1985

007 - 1148

Form No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1. NAME

HISTORIC: AU-154 Site Near Paine Run Rock Shelter

AND/OR COMMON:

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK — X NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: LURAY — X VICINITY OF [redacted] — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 06

STATE: VIRGINIA — CODE: 51 — COUNTY: AUGUSTA — CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	X PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
X SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4. AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,

STREET & NUMBER: 143 SOUTH THIRD STREET

CITY, TOWN: PHILADELPHIA — VICINITY OF — STATE: PENNSYLVANIA

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: N.A.

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: — STATE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: N.A.

DATE: — __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

CITY, TOWN: — STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Context:
AU-154 was discovered in late March of 1976 as part of a systematic survey [redacted] undertaken by the Laboratory of Archaeology of the University of Virginia (McLearen 1976). The site was located in the [redacted] surface reconnaissance located several clusters of artifacts on Park property south of the road.

One two meter test square excavated to a depth of 40 cm. in the Summer of 1976 produced 2,157 artifacts including two diagnostic points--a Halifax like base of late Middle Archaic vintage and a Late Archaic Savannah River base. These establish a minimal time range for AU-154 of betweem 3000 and 1000 B.C.

Today AU-154 is densely forested with secondary growth and artifacts are detectable around the bases of trees where roots have brought them to the surface, in the roadbed and in the yard of a privately owned house across Paine Run Hollow Road to the north.

Environment:
AU-154 lies at [redacted] an elevation of 1400 feet [redacted] terrace formed by alluvial and colluvial processes. The site is bisected [redacted], dividing the Park owned land to the south from the privately owned land to the north. Inspection of the private land indicates that the site extends [redacted], while the southern border is marked by the steep mountain slope.(see map). Today, ground cover on Park land is restricted by dense secondary growth of deciduous forest.

Archaeological Investigations:
In addition to the small number of artifacts recovered from the Paine Run Hollow Road in March, 1976, 2,157 stone artifacts were found in the two meter test square excavated that summer. That square was excavated in four arbitrary ten cm. levels to a depth of 40 cm. and all backdirt sieved through ¼ inch mesh screen. A site density of 1,348 artifacts per cubic meter was calculated from that single test square.

Quartzite comprised 90.4% of the stone tools and debitage recovered, while red jasper accounted for a surprising 7.9% with quartz and greenstone making up the balance. It is thought that the high frequency of red jasper is partly explained by a nearby source just to the west where Paine Run cuts an old fault line. This does not explain the absence of jasper at nearby AU-158 (the Paine Run Rockshelter) or in the rest of Paine Run. The demonstrated chronological variation in the use of red jasper in the nearby Shenandoah Valley suggests that it is most frequently used in Paleo Indian times. Despite the present dating of AU-154 to late Middle-Late Archaic times, it is possible that the site is appreciably older and perhaps extends into the Paleo Indian epoch.

Archaeological Investigations:

Analysis of the lithic industry revealed a functionally diversified site. Artifact manufacture is attested by 302 cortex flakes (14.0% of the industry) and 18 cores and core remnants (0.8%). Although most flakes were over 2 cm. long (795--36.9%), a relatively high frequency of micro-flakes (563--26.1%) indicates that the final finishing and/or resharpening of tools took place at AU-154. Because 146 (6.7%) flakes in the assemblag were utilized, it is apparant that much so-called waste was used for a variety of tasks, including food processing and wood and bone working.

Only 37 or 1.7% of the artifacts found were finished core tools or bifaces and 16 of these were unidentifiable. Even the 21 remaining specimens showed discernible functiinal specialization. Microscopic analysis might prove useful if funds were available in the future. Knives (7), scrapers (6) and projectile points (7) were the dominant traditional types and reflect a hunting emphasis. Two unutilized, unfinished bifaces represent an intermediate stage of tool manufacture, while two chipped stone axes attest woodworking and, perhaps, forest clearance.

Intrusuons and Data Limitations:

Although no plow scars were found in the test square, the cross-mending of broken artifacts suggests some disturbance of the site, probably by light, horse drawn plows. No historic structures were found on the Park portion of AU-154, but a new house stands in a small clearing [redacted]. Horizontal clustering of material is indicated by surface concentrations around the bases of certain trees, but large scale excavations and piece plotting (cf. AU-167) would be required to test this observation properly.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
X PREHISTORIC	X ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES late Middle-Late Archaic BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The archaeological significance of AU-154 is indicated by a number of factor

(1) The high frequency of red jasper is unique in the Park (with the possibl exception of WR-103). This may suggest an early, Paleo Indian component at the site which, given the low altitude and proximity to the Shenandoah Valley, is a solid possibility. A second explanation could involve the proximity of jasper outcropings, but is puzzling in light of the absence of the resource even at the nearby site of AU-158. The discontinuity in lithic resource utilization is one of the more intriguing problems posed by any site in the Blue Ridge.

(2) The existence of abundant comparative data from other Paine Run sites (including two --AU-158 and AU-167--nominated for the National Register) allows an almost unparalleled opportunity to investigate the effects of altitude on prehistoric adaptive strategies on the western face of the mountains.

(3) Analysis of the AU-154 tool assemblage indicates a functionally varied site with high artifact density. There is good reason to believe that it was a staging ground for seasonal movement into the Blue Ridge in Archaic times and thus stands between Valley and upland sites in any comparative scheme that might be proposed by future researchers, contrasting valley to montane sites.

(4) The size and richness of AU-154 linked to its limited sampling suggest that future investigations would provide a greater number of chronological indicators and the length of time over which the site was used during the prehistoric era.

(5) Finally, AU-154 is one of the closest archaeological sites to the Shenandoah Valley that still enjoys the protection of the NPS. With the rapid "development" of lands along the Park borders, such an important site needs strong protection and will serve as a resource for future generations of scientists should the destruction of Valley sites continue at its present rate.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Foss, Robert W.
1977 Man and Mountain: An Archaeological Overview of the Shenandoah National Park. M.A. Thesis, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca. 6,000 square meters (2,500 square meters in the Shenandoah National Park)

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[redacted]

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
DR. MICHAEL A. HOFFMAN, ACTING DIRECTOR

ORGANIZATION
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH LAB, WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

DATE

STREET & NUMBER
201 TILLMAN HALL

TELEPHONE
(309)298-1188

CITY OR TOWN
MACOMB

STATE
ILLINOIS 61455

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES____ NO____ NONE____

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ____National ____State ____Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER