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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Looney Hill Creek Site
AND/OR COMMON
Lipes Site

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER [REDACTED]
CITY, TOWN [REDACTED] NOT FOR PUBLICATION
STATE Virginia CODE 51 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 M. Caldwell Butler
COUNTY Botetourt CODE 023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Leona Agnes Lipes
STREET & NUMBER [REDACTED]
CITY, TOWN Buchanan VICINITY OF [REDACTED] STATE Virginia
24066

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Botetourt County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER [REDACTED]
CITY, TOWN Fincastle STATE Virginia
24090

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Archaeological Site Survey
DATE
January 28, 1965 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Wren Kitchen
Virginia Research Center for Archaeology, The College of William and Mary
CITY, TOWN Williamsburg STATE Virginia
23186

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Looney Mill Creek Site, including both prehistoric and historic components, is located on the south bank of the James River [REDACTED]

The prehistoric potential of the site was first noted in 1892 when aboriginal burials were uncovered, but not removed, while workmen were excavating for the construction of an ice house.

Archaeological investigations by the Archaeological Society of Virginia, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, and the Virginia State Library began in October 1968. In September 1969 the investigation was resumed by the Virginia State Library and the Archaeological Society of Virginia, who sampled the aboriginal occupation and located an historic component. Excavations uncovered aboriginal features, including three burials, three refuse-filled storage pits, and post holes suggesting house patterns. These features, containing predominantly Dan River ceramics (95.7%), with some Radford (3.3%), and New River ceramics (1%), date from the Late Woodland period. The Dan River component is within the northern-most limits of its reported range in Virginia. The low acidity in the soil accounted for the unusually well preserved faunal and charred vegetal remains, and bone and shell artifacts. Six Archaic period projectile points, including Kirk and Otter Creek, suggest that the site was sporadically visited from 6000 to 2000 B.C. Historical features uncovered included a Colonial ditch, an unmortared stone foundation with a later brick addition, presumed to be the house of Robert Looney, and the remains of an ice house built in 1892.

The "Great" or "Philadelphia Road", along which many pioneers moved westward during the mid-eighteenth century, is a farm road which passes by the site down to what used to be the location of Looney's Ferry on the James River.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
X PREHISTORIC	X ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__ COMMUNITY PLANNING	__ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__ RELIGION
__ 1400-1499	X ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__ CONSERVATION	__ LAW	__ SCIENCE
__ 1500-1599	__ AGRICULTURE	__ ECONOMICS	__ LITERATURE	__ SCULPTURE
__ 1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__ EDUCATION	__ MILITARY	__ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ ART	__ ENGINEERING	__ MUSIC	__ THEATER
X 1800-1899	__ COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__ PHILOSOPHY	__ TRANSPORTATION
__ 1900-	__ COMMUNICATIONS	__ INDUSTRY	__ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 6000-2000 B.C., 1300-1600 A.D. BUILDER/ARCHITECT
1742-1914 A.D.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Looney Mill Creek site encompasses a series of human occupation. There was slight utilization of the area during the Archaic period from 6000 to 2000 B.C., followed by a more intensive settlement during the Late Woodland period. Robert Looney's homestead beginning in 1742 constituted final utilization of the site.

The well preserved Late Woodland occupation has outstanding potential for providing information on settlement patterning, house architecture, burial practices, and storage pit features. The floral and faunal remains should provide quantitative data on the subsistence base, which, from the archaeological tests, suggest horticultural practices, supplemented by hunting, fishing, and gathering.

On July 30, 1742 Robert Looney, one of the first men to select a homestead in the area, was granted 863 acres on the strategic area along the James River and Looney Mill Creek.

On October 11, 1745 John Buchanan, agent for the Woods River Company, visited Looney on the James River. Earlier that year, Buchanan and James Patton had presented a report to Orange County Court on May 23, 1745, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This section of public road became part of the "Great Road" from the Yadkin River through Virginia to Philadelphia, a distance of 435 miles. Although the first recorded ferry license for the crossing above Looney Mill Creek was granted to James Patton by the Orange Court, the ferry site became known as Looney's Ferry. On a 1751 map of Virginia, Looney's Ferry is designated as the only place of note in what is now Botetourt County.

On October 29, 1753 a group of Moravians "...drove half a mile along the river [James] when we found two roads. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ... We took several loaves of bread along which had been baked for us at Lunis Mill...we bought a pig which we butchered at once."¹ On June 1756 Andrew Lewis wrote to Governor Dinwiddie that he had "ordered ten men to Looney's Fort on the James River."²

Sometime after the Indian raid on Cedar Creek and Renicks Run in 1757, Col. John Buchanan, who also lived at Cherry Tree Bottom, erected Fort Fauquier. Historical records do not demonstrate the exact location of Fort Fauquier in respect to Fort Looney, although they existed contemporaneously.

A house located on this site survived until 1914 when it was torn down. This site may provide information on frontier architecture, as well as on pioneer settlement patterns and subsistence.

(see continuation sheet #1, for footnotes)

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Looney Mill Creek Site, Botetourt County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

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Footnotes:

1. Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. Virginia Historical Society: Richmond.
Vol. 12, p. 151.
2. The Drapers Manuscripts, Wisconsin State Historical Society. Microfilm. Colonial
Williamsburg. 1 QQ 131-132.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Drapers Manuscripts, Wisconsin State Historical Society. Microfilm. Colonial Williamsburg. 1 00 40; 1 00 131-132; 2 00 3, 5, 9, 14, 15, and 18.

Fry, Joshua and Peter Jefferson. "Map of Virginia" 1751.

Kegley, F. B. Kegley's Virginia Frontier. Southwest Virginia Historical Society: Roanoke, 1938. (see continuation sheet #2)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.5

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the property is described as follows: ...

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

Keith Egloff, Survey Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Research Center for Archaeology

STREET & NUMBER

Wren Kitchen, The College of William and Mary

CITY OR TOWN

Williamsburg

DATE

December 16, 1976

TELEPHONE

804-253-4836

STATE

Virginia 23186

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE APR 19 1977

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

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McCord, Howard A. the Lipes Site. Quarterly Bulletin, Archaeological Society of Virginia, Vol. 26, No. 2. 1971.

Stoner, Robert Douthat. A Seedbed of the Republic. Commonwealth Press: Radford, 1962.

Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. Virginia Historical Society: Richmond, Vol. 12, p. 151; Vol. 13, p. 6.

LOONEY MILL CREEK SITE

[REDACTED], Botetourt County, Va.
Credit: R. K. Smith, date of drawing: 1971,
Quarterly Bulletin, Archaeological
Society of Virginia, Vol. 26, No. 2.

Description: The map illustrated the topography of the site and the location of the excavations in relationship to the James River [REDACTED].

The trenches dug in 1968 are shown in a solid line, and those dug in 1969 are drawn with a broken line.

LOONEY MILL CREEK SITE

[REDACTED], Botetourt County, Va.
Credit: Virginia Research Center for
Archaeology, November 1976.

Negative filed: Virginia Research Center
for Archaeology, Williamsburg, Va.

Description: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Photo facing east.

Looney Mill

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

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[REDACTED]. Verbal Boundary Description: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The area delineated for nomination encompasses the fort remains and the areas of prehistoric occupation as indicated in the field survey. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]