

VLR- 3/17/99

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

DRAFT

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Van Buren Furnace

85-~~911~~ 51

other names/site number King Furnace

2. Location

street & number Northeast of Route 713

George Washington and Jefferson National Forests

city or town Woodstock

not for publication

vicinity X

state Virginia

code VA

county Shenandoah

code 171

zip code _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this _____ nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide _____ locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
 National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
 National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper *Date of Action*

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed properties in the count)

<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Noncontributing</i>	
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>5</u>	_____	structures
<u>11</u>	_____	objects
	<u>4</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) The Iron Industry of Virginia, 1620-1920

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry/Processing/Extraction

Iron Furnace

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Limestone

walls: Limestone

roof: N/A

other: Brick-Lined Stack

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Architecture
Industry

1837-1855 ca.
1873-1884

Significant Dates

1837
1873
1884

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

___ previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

___ Other State agency

___ Federal agency

___ Local government

___ University

___ Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>17</u>	<u>711575</u>	<u>4316925</u>	D	___	___
B	___	___	___	F	___	___
C	___	___	___	F	___	___
	___ See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heather Crowl; Emlen Myers, Project Archeologist
organization Dames & Moore, Cultural Resource Services
date 9-30-96
street & number 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700 telephone (301) 652-2215
city or town Bethesda state MD zip code 20814

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, USDA Forest Service
C/O Mike Barber
street & number 5162 Valley Pointe Parkway telephone (450) 265-5100
city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24019-3050

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Van Buren Furnace
name of property

Shenandoah, Virginia
county and State

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Description of Historic Resources

Van Buren Furnace is situated in Shenandoah County at the intersection of Cedar Creek and an unnamed tributary feeding into it. It is located within the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, in an area of young deciduous trees. The furnace site is overgrown with vegetation.

Original

The iron furnace complex at Van Buren was built in 1837. It included the iron furnace and its support facilities, as well as facilities necessary to support the workers and animals who operated the furnace. The furnace was not productive and was abandoned in the 1850s. The exact dimensions of this early furnace are not known. In 1873 the dilapidated furnace was removed and replaced with a larger furnace that could accommodate a hot blast. The new charcoal stack was about 40' high and 9' across the bosh, with two tuyeres. The outer walls were constructed of dry-laid, dressed local limestone and sandstone. The furnace was connected to a ridge to the north by a charging bridge over which iron ore, limestone flux, and charcoal were wheeled and dumped into the central, brick-lined cavity. A casting house where molten iron was formed into pigs and sows in sand molds was located near the furnace. The tub bellows were powered by a waterwheel, and later by a steam engine, set east of and close to the stack. A contained race emptied into the creek about 300' west of the furnace. Additional wooden structures were located on the adjacent hill and included the iron master's house, workers' dwellings, general store, blacksmith shop, stables, and iron ore and charcoal sheds.

Present

Van Buren Furnace remains in good condition. The square, trapezoidal stone furnace is roughly thirty feet at the base, tapering at the top. Most of the overall furnace exterior is intact with clearly defined walls reaching over thirty feet in height. The furnace is built of rough-dressed limestone blocks and sandstone slabs. The arches are clearly defined and in good condition, although two have been reinforced with brick and mortar. The tap hole faces west, and the casting area west of the tap hole has minimal vegetation (grass). The square tap arch is intact with iron lintels supporting an inverse stepped ceiling. An outer flue is also supported by an iron lintel. The entrance has been bricked up, with iron braces added to the brick work. Two smaller square blast arches sit on opposite sides of the furnace; in the southern tuyere arch the blast opening has been reconstructed with brick and mortar. Blast equipment probably supplied both tuyere holes from the rear of the furnace. The north face of the furnace abuts a ridge. All arches are corbelled and have iron lintels. The east face of the furnace is partially collapsed, revealing the inner brick stack.

The north face of the furnace includes a 9' high stone wall attached to and perpendicular to the face. It leads out from the face about 4' and turns ninety degrees to the west to form a support for an earthen terrace. Another less extensive stone terrace support runs parallel to the first. The support for the bridge to the charging deck is located beyond this terrace, and is built on a large natural stone foundation. The bridge support is built up almost to the height of the furnace. The charging deck at the top of the furnace appears intact. A large earthen ramp leads up to the bridge support from the north; the ramp is reinforced on both sides with stones. Beyond this ramp a road bed runs north, northwest across a relatively flat area. Many concentrations of stone are seen in this area and may be evidence of foundations. Most likely, the majority of wooden structures associated with the furnace were located here.

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A rectangular, stone-supported, depression is in a heavily overgrown area east of the furnace. The means of producing a blast (bellows, water wheel, or steam engine) was located in this area. A dressed stone foundation is visible on the ridge above the furnace; its original size and function cannot be determined. There are many charcoal deposits on the ridge near the charging deck location. The outflow from a contained race is located about 300 feet west of the furnace. This channel includes collapsed stone walls. A large slag pile is located between the channel and the furnace. The area south of the furnace includes metal rods and two parallel stone walls. Other possible features can be seen throughout the property. The remains of the miniature experimental furnace, Van Buren Furnace No. 2, were not located.

One contemporary standing structure is located about 1000 feet up route 713. This building is currently used as an outbuilding by the occupants of a nearby, non-contributing house. The building is a 2-story, brick, common bond structure with a standing seam, metal gable roof. It has a ventilation cupula on top, and a wooden exterior staircase. There is no access between the first and second floors in the interior of the building. A chimney is located at the rear of the building, which abuts a ridge. The windows have stone lintels above and below them, and have 6/6 sash. The building is located adjacent to a spring, which is currently not draining and has flooded the first floor. Based on field investigation, this building may have been used by the furnace operators as a combination spring house for storage on the first floor, and office on the second floor. In addition to this structure and the modern house, two non-contributing sheds are located in this area.



NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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CONTINUATION SHEET	Shenandoah, Virginia
	<i>county and State</i>

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Bibliography

Capron, John D.

- 1969 *Van Buren Furnace, Shenandoah County*. Personal Files of John D. Capron. Typescript dated Nov. 24, 1969. Lynchburg College, Virginia.



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Boundaries

The Van Buren Furnace property is bisected by Route 713. The boundary extends north beyond the associated features to a small tributary of Cedar Creek, east to the same creek after it bends to head south, south to Cedar Creek, and west to the spring. The boundary includes the furnace, race, spring house, wheel pit and other evidence of supporting structures. All areas that retain a high level of integrity and are likely to yield information about the nineteenth century Virginia iron industry are included in the boundary.