

Listed On:

VLR 04/16/1974
NRHP 08/13/1974

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Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| |
|--------------------|
| STATE: Virginia |
| COUNTY: Wythe |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |
| ENTRY DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON:
MARTIN SITE, WYTHE COUNTY, VA. (44 Wy 13)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Prehistoric Indian village site

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:
[REDACTED]

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Ninth (William C. Wampler)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: Wythe CODE: 197

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | Camping Ground | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr & Mrs William R Martin

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rt 1 Box 236

CITY OR TOWN:
Draper

STATE:
Virginia, 24324

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wythe County Courthouse, Wytheville, Va.

STREET AND NUMBER:
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:
[REDACTED]

STATE:
[REDACTED]

CODE:
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
none previously made

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
[REDACTED]

STREET AND NUMBER:
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:
[REDACTED]

STATE:
[REDACTED]

CODE:
[REDACTED]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Wythe

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This prehistoric Indian site lies on [REDACTED] Wytheville, Va. The main occupation layer at the site is at a depth of one foot, buried under accumulated flood-deposited silt. The cultural layer is black sand containing plentiful cultural debris, consisting of pottery, stone and bone tools, refuse animal bones, and riverine shells. Many pits and graves extend deeper into the sandy subsoil. Preservation is excellent. Under this layer, which dates from the Late Woodland Period (dated by C-14 test to 1295 AD ± 95 years), there is a succession of earlier levels. The oldest proven thus far is the Late Archaic of about 2000 B.C.

The site has recently been developed as a public campground, with installed water and sewage lines. In digging the trenches for these pipes, a large collection of aboriginal tools and remains was found, plus about twenty Indian skeletons. Display-quality artifacts and several burials are in a small museum on the site. Other remains are in the U.S. National Museum and/or the Virginia State Library, where they are available for further studies.

The original appearance of the Indian village is uncertain, but the evidence disclosed in the limited trenching done establishes it as a large cluster of circular, dome-like wigwams, probably enclosed by a palisade. The village was about 300 feet in diameter originally, although a small part of the village has been eroded away by floods. The remainder covers most of four acres of ground. The site now has a grassy cover and is not in danger of further destruction.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(s) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Martin Site is one of the very few sites which contain a majority pottery type, named Wythe Series by G.G. Holland. The Martin Site and the nearby Cornett Site seem to lie at the center of the area where pottery of this type is found, and presumably this is the area in which it originated.

Other archeologically important traits found in the site are:

Burial of dead in a supine position, with knees elevated and with the head of the burial toward the east.

Circular wigwams, measuring 15 to 25 feet across.

Occasional pottery of types found further south and southwest in Tennessee and in the Carolinas, indicating trade with these areas.

Plentiful amounts of marine shell beads, indicate heavy trade with Indians of the coastal areas.

Abundance of animal and vegetal refuse, indicating the intense exploitation of the local food resources, plus cultivation of corn and beans.

The presence of artifacts from earlier occupation of the site, dating back to Archaic times makes this site important for the stratigraphic data it contains.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The site has not yet been reported upon, except in brief newspaper accounts. A detailed report on the archeological evidence found in the pipeline trenches will be drafted and published in the near future.

Wythe Series pottery is named in C.G. Helland's monograph, published as Smithsonian Contributions to Anthropology, Number 12 in 1970. The title of the report is, AN ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ██████████ | ██████████ | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Four**

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Howard A. MacCord, Sr** **Archeologist**

ORGANIZATION: **Virginia State Library** DATE: **January 2, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia 23219** CODE: **51**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
 Title **Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission**

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| STATE Virginia | |
| COUNTY Wythe | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Martin Site | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | | | |
| STATE: Virginia | CODE 51 | COUNTY: Wythe | CODE 197 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: U.S.G.S. [redacted], Virginia | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24000 | | | |
| DATE: 1965 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS | | | |
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
| 2. North arrow. | | | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | | | |

★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1973-729-148/1441 3-1

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| STATE Virginia | |
| COUNTY Wythe | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Martin Site | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: | | | |
| STATE: Virginia | CODE 51 | COUNTY: Wythe | CODE 197 |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Howard MacCord | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: 1973 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia State Library; Richmond, Virginia | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View from northeast. | | | |