

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"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Camping Ground</b>

**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**

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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 wigwags, 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:			
[REDACTED]			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	51	Wythe	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.			

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:			
[REDACTED]			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	51	Wythe	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.			