

PH 0673545

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED 10/1/76

DATE ENTERED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC ROARING RUN FURNACE

VLR Listed: 6/15/1976
NRHP Listed: 3/21/1983

AND/OR COMMON Same as above

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

On Roaring Run, 1 mile from Craig Co., Approx.

CITY, TOWN 6.5 mi. NW of Eagle Rock, off Va. 621

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Virginia VICINITY OF Eagle Rock 6th
CODE 51 COUNTY Botetourt CODE 023

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)

U.S. Forest Service (USDA) Jefferson National Forest

STREET & NUMBER

210 Franklin Rd. S.W. Caller Service 3900

CITY, TOWN Roanoke VICINITY OF Virginia 24001

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Botetourt County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Fincastle STATE Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

GOOD

X RUINS

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

X UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

ORIGINAL

Roaring Run Furnace was a hot-blast, charcoal furnace using water power. It consisted of one stack (8-1/2' x 36') and supporting wooden buildings. The center of the furnace was a huge kettle. Surrounding the kettle is a hollow space which vented the hot gases from the firebox below the furnace. Running around the kettle in the hollow spaces were air ducts.

The water wheel located in the trough in front of the furnace drove the high billows that forced air through the ducts causing the air to become super heated and then blowing the air into the charcoal fire and resulting in a fire - hot enough to melt the ore and limestone.

Slaves pushing wheel barrows up the ramp connecting the hill with the top of the furnace would charge the kettle with layers of limestone and iron ore. The limestone would act as a flux to separate the iron from the other minerals in the ore. When the cooking was done, the molten iron was poured into sand molds. Small blocks were called pigs and large blocks called sows. The remaining blue-green residue was called slag.

PRESENT

Stone ruins and scattered pieces of slag.

[4] SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1832 - 1875 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Roaring Run furnace was built in 1832 according to Lesley's Directory, by Mr. Robertson.

It was rebuilt in 1847, probably in an effort to compete with Pennsylvania anthracite furnaces. The economies effected were not enough, and the furnace was abandoned in December of 1845.

In 1859, Roaring Run was owned by F.B. Deane and Samuel C. Robinson. Iron from this furnace was exceptionally good, and it is not surprising that the furnace was again rebuilt early in the Civil War.

The furnace only operated during warm weather; the winter was used for burning charcoal and digging ore. Although it was stated that the furnace had a capacity of 10 tons a day, the average production for 35 weeks was actually only 3 tons a day.

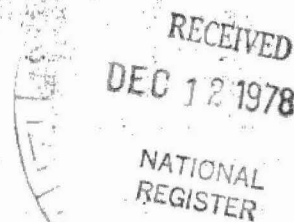
Roaring Run went back in blast probably in 1861. Iron was used locally for the war effort, but most of the pig iron was shipped to the Tredegar Iron Works at Richmond. In order to control the entire output of this furnace, Anderson of Tredegar rented the iron works in December 1864. The production was negligible and the plant was abandoned thereafter.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Iron Manufacturer's Guide", by Lesley (1859)

"The Virginias" (1882)

John D. Capron
Lynchburg, Va.



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	0 0 0	0 0 0		37° 42' 25"	79° 53' 37"	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles A. Blankenship		DATE: 1/3/75
BUSINESS ADDRESS: U. S. Forest Service, Jefferson National Forest		
STREET AND NUMBER: 3517 Brandon Avenue, S.W. 210 FRANKLIN RD.		PHONE: 703-343-1581
CITY OR TOWN: Roanoke,	STATE Virginia	CODE 24001 51

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>State Liaison Officer recommendation:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><i>Junius R. Fishburne, Jr.</i> State Liaison Officer Signature</p> <p>Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Exec. Dir., VHLC</p> <p>In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is <input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local</p> <p>_____ Federal Representative Signature</p> <p>_____ Date</p> <p>_____ Title</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

PH 0693545

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 8 1983

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Roaring Run Furnace

AND/OR COMMON

Roaring Run Furnace

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

~~In rural setting approximately 6.5 miles northwest of Eagle Rock
off Rt. 621 on Roaring Run Creek.~~ ^{new}

CITY, TOWN

Eagle Rock

☒ VICINITY OFNOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY
BotetourtCODE
023**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☒ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED
NA

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☐ ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES RESTRICTED
☒ YES UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ PARK
☒ EDUCATIONAL
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY
☐ OTHER**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

U.S. Forest Service (USDA) Jefferson National Forest

STREET & NUMBER

210 Franklin Road, S.W. Caller Service

CITY, TOWN

Roanoke

VICINITY OF

Virginia 24001

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Botetourt County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fincastle

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

National Forest System Cultural Resource Survey

DATE

NA☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Forest Supervisor's Office

CITY, TOWN

Roanoke

STATE

Virginia 24001

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

ORIGINAL

The original Iron Plantation at Roaring Run consisted of the industrial complex itself plus support facilities to maintain it and the approximately 100 men and like number of oxen, horses, and mules. The keystone of the complex was the 36' tall 3 tuyere furnace stack. Built of dressed local stone, it was originally connected to the flanking hillside by a charging bridge over which iron ore, limestone flux, and charcoal was wheeled and dumped into the central, bricklined cavity of the stack. At the furnace front was attached a casting house where the molten iron was formed by sand molding processes into pigs and sows. The waterwheel which stood just west of the stack powered the tub bellows which either stood above or on an adjacent leveled embankment. Additional wooden structures would have included charcoal & ore sheds, stables, blacksmith shop and probable forge as well as stables, workers' houses, iron masters house, general store, etc. Transportation routes, iron and limestone mines and colliers' pits would also be present in the surrounding environment.

PRESENT

The iron stack still stands in excellent repair. The stone lined and supported waterwheel pit remains as well as stone walls on the hill face. In an archaeological context, the remains of building foundations, casting activities post supports etc. should be present. Evidence of slag, iron ore, limestone, and molded iron are visible.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1832

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

HISTORY

Roaring Run Furnace was built in 1832 and rebuilt in 1847 to compete with the Pennsylvania Anthracite furnaces. Losing the competition, it was abandoned in December 1854. Owned by F.B. Deane and S.C. Robinson in 1859, it was soon producing iron for the war effort. Noted for its exceptionally good iron, it once again went into blast in 1861. Although some iron was used locally to support the war effort, most was transported to the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond. To better control production, the furnace was leased by the Tredegar Works in December, 1864. Roaring Run was probably never in blast in the Post-Civil War period.

SIGNIFICANCE

The furnace was significant on the local, state, and federal levels. Locally the furnace affected thousands of acres of land around it through deforestation and mining as well as impacted the employment possibilities and quality of life of local human populations. On the state level, the iron industry moved money, commodities and people into the western portion of the state providing a larger population base and accounting for patterns of human demography. On the national level, Roaring Run provided a necessary commodity to the cannon and armourments. Archaeology of stack area has great potential to lend insights into 19th century iron industry.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Iron Manufacturer's Guide Lesley

The Virginias 1882

"Papers of John Capron" Lynchburg College Library

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 597560 4173770
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Fenced-in area around furnace and area behind which supported charging bridge
(not to exceed 250' from furnace in any direction)

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

STATE VA CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles A. Blankenship

1/3/75

ORGANIZATION

U.S. Forest Service (USDA) - Jefferson National Forest

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

210 Franklin Rd., S.W. Caller Service 2900

TELEPHONE

703-982-6262

CITY OR TOWN

Roanoke,

STATE

Virginia

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X

NO

NONE

See attached approval (6-15-76)

J. Bryan Mitchell
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 X National (X) State X Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Robert B. Baker Evan L. DeBlois

TITLE

Forest Archaeologist

DATE

2-15-83

DEC 10 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Lester McClelland
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 3/21/83

ATTEST: Patrick Andrus

DATE 3/21/83

61
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

