

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 31 1985  
DATE ENTERED DEC 13 1985

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AU-154 [REDACTED]

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

CITY, TOWN

LURAY

X VICINITY OF [REDACTED]

X NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

STATE

VIRGINIA

CODE

51

COUNTY

AUGUSTA

CODE

015

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, MID-ATLANTIC REGION

STREET & NUMBER

143 SOUTH THIRD STREET

CITY, TOWN

PHILADELPHIA

VICINITY OF

STATE

PENNSYLVANIA

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

N.A.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N.A.

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

## CHECK ONE

## CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

### Context:

AU-154 was discovered in late March of 1976 as part of a systematic survey [redacted] undertaken by the Laboratory of Archaeology of the University of Virginia (McLearen 1976). [redacted]

One two meter test square excavated to a depth of 40 cm. in the Summer of 1976 produced 2,157 artifacts including two diagnostic points--a Halifax like base of late Middle Archaic vintage and a Late Archaic Savannah River base. These establish a minimal time range for AU-154 of between 3000 and 1000 B.C.

Today AU-154 is densely forested with secondary growth and artifacts are detectable around the bases of trees where roots have brought them to the surface. [redacted]

### Environment:

### Archaeological Investigations:

In addition to the small number of artifacts recovered [redacted] in March, 1976, 2,157 stone artifacts were found in the two meter test square excavated that summer. That square was excavated in four arbitrary ten cm. levels to a depth of 40 cm. and all backdirt sieved through  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch mesh screen. A site density of 1,348 artifacts per cubic meter was calculated from that single test square.

Quartzite comprised 90.4% of the stone tools and debitage recovered, while red jasper accounted for a surprising 7.9% with quartz and greenstone making up the balance. It is thought that the high frequency of red jasper is partly explained by a nearby source [redacted]. This does not explain the absence of jasper at nearby AU-158 [redacted]. The demonstrated chronological variation in the use of red jasper in the nearby Shenandoah Valley suggests that it is most frequently used in Paleo Indian times. Despite the present dating of AU-154 to late Middle-Late Archaic times, it is possible that the site is appreciably older and perhaps extends into the Paleo Indian epoch.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES late Middle-Late Archaic BUILDER/ARCHITECT N/A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
The archaeological significance of AU-154 is indicated by a number of factors:

(1) The high frequency of red jasper is unique in the Park (with the possible exception of WR-103). This may suggest an early, Paleo Indian component at the site which, given the low altitude and proximity to the Shenandoah Valley, is a solid possibility. A second explanation could involve the proximity of jasper outcroppings, but is puzzling in light of the absence of the resource even at the nearby site of AU-158. The discontinuity in lithic resource utilization is one of the more intriguing problems posed by any site in the Blue Ridge.

(2) The existence of abundant comparative data from other [redacted] sites (including two --AU-158 and AU-167--nominated for the National Register) allows an almost unparalleled opportunity to investigate the effects of altitude on prehistoric adaptive strategies on the western face of the mountains.

(3) Analysis of the AU-154 tool assemblage indicates a functionally varied site with high artifact density. There is good reason to believe that it was a staging ground for seasonal movement into the Blue Ridge in Archaic times and thus stands between Valley and upland sites in any comparative scheme that might be proposed by future researchers, contrasting valley to montane sites.

(4) The size and richness of AU-154 linked to its limited sampling suggest that future investigations would provide a greater number of chronological indicators and the length of time over which the site was used during the prehistoric era.

(5) [redacted], such an important site needs strong protection and will serve as a resource for future generations of scientists should the destruction of Valley sites continue at its present rate.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Foss, Robert W.  
 1977 Man and Mountain: An Archaeological Overview of the Shenandoah National Park. M.A. Thesis, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [REDACTED]  
 UTM REFERENCES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]			B	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C	[ ]	[ ]	D	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION  
 [REDACTED]

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

STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	N/A	CODE
STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	N/A	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
**DR. MICHAEL A. HOFFMAN, ACTING DIRECTOR**  
 ORGANIZATION  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH LAB, WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
 STREET & NUMBER  
**201 TILLMAN HALL**  
 CITY OR TOWN  
**MACOMB**  
 DATE  
 TELEPHONE  
**(309) 298-1188**  
 STATE  
**ILLINOIS 61455**

# 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES  NO

*[Signature]*  
 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 State National  State  Local

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *[Signature]* DATE **10/27/85**

TITLE **Chief Archaeologist, Shenandoah National Park**

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
*[Signature]*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE **12/13/85**  
 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Archaeological Investigations:

Analysis of the lithic industry revealed a functionally diversified site. Artifact manufacture is attested by 302 cortex flakes (14.0% of the industry) and 18 cores and core remnants (0.8%). Although most flakes were over 2 cm. long (795--36.9%), a relatively high frequency of micro-flakes (563--26.1%) indicates that the final finishing and/or resharpening of tools took place at AU-154. Because 146 (6.7%) flakes in the assemblage were utilized, it is apparant that much so-called waste was used for a variety of tasks, including food processing and wood and bone working.

Only 37 or 1.7% of the artifacts found were finished core tools or bifaces and 16 of these were unidentifiable. Even the 21 remaining specimens showed discernible functional specialization. Microscopic analysis might prove useful if funds were available in the future. Knives (7), scrapers (6), and projectile points (7) were the dominant traditional types and reflect a hunting emphasis. Two unutilized, unfinished bifaces represent an intermediate stage of tool manufacture, while two chipped stone axes attest woodworking and, perhaps, forest clearance.

Intrusions and Data Limitations:

Although no plow scars were found in the test square, the cross-mending of broken artifacts suggests some disturbance of the site, probably by light, horse drawn plows. No historic structures were found

Horizontal clustering of material is indicated by surface concentrations around the bases of certain trees, but large scale excavations and piece plotting (cf. AU-167) would be required to test this observation properly.