

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 OCT 13 1985

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC RM-130, THE BIG RUN QUARRY SITE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK



NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN LURAY

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

07

VICINITY OF

STATE VIRGINIA

CODE 51

COUNTY ROCKINGHAM

CODE 165

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

N/A IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NA

NO

MILITARY

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

DATE

N.A.

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Context:

RM-130, the Big Run Quarry Site, was located and sampled by a two stage process of intensive survey and testing in the late Spring and Summer of 1978 in the Southern Areal Transect sampling zone (Foss 1979: 82-85) as part of our study of the cultural resources of the Shenandoah National Park funded through the Mid-Atlantic Region of the NPS. The two-stage survey process involved an initial "walk through" inspection followed by shovel transects and the excavation of test squares at selected, representative sites.

[REDACTED] has yielded huge amounts of debitage typical of a quarry site. RM-130 is clearly the largest and most intensively used prehistoric quarry located within the Park borders and contrasts to other sites which were used incidentally as quarries (eg., AU-167, AU-158) in the sheer amount of debris present.

Because the tested area of RM-130 produced few chronologically diagnostic artifacts, it is likely that the Middle-Late Archaic date assigned it represents only a part of the entire range of prehistoric use. Diagnostic points found at RM-130 include a small, milky quartz specimen tentatively identified as a LeCroy point dating to Early to early Middle Archaic (ca. 5500-5000 B.C.) and a basal fragment of a quartzite biface resembling a Savannah River point of Late Archaic vintage (ca. 2500 - 1000 B.C.).

Environment:

Archaeological Investigations:

After initial location by a walk-through survey in which no artifacts were collected, RM-130 was designated for intensive, sub-surface sampling. Accordingly, a series of shovel transects spaced 5 m. apart were driven through the center of the site perpendicular to one another (see map) and a single one meter test square excavated in an area of maximum artifact frequency.

AT RM-130 the soils in the test square were sandy from the surface to the depth of 40 cm. where excavation was stopped. Surprisingly, there was little colluvium and most rocks unearthed were artifacts. Because such large amounts of cultural material were found, it has been possible to analyze only a small sample to date. For example, Level A (0-10 cm.) of

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input checked="" 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 Early-late Middle
Archaic

BUILDER/ARCHITECT N/A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

RM-130 is the only major and exclusive quarry site located in the Shenandoah National Park and was probably used by large numbers of Archaic peoples in the Shenandoah Valley for millennia. It represents an important type of economic activity and has produced such spectacular evidence of artifact density as to suggest it was a major manufacturing center for a large territory. Given the number of technological studies now underway at prehistoric sites throughout Virginia (most notably the work of Errett Callahan, personal communication) RM-130 acquires importance as a site where numerous hypotheses relating to prehistoric tool production can be tested against primary archaeological data. Although datable artifacts are not common, they occur in sufficient numbers to provide a chronological framework, while additional excavations would undoubtedly sharpen our control over dating of this crucial site.

[REDACTED]

would allow inter- as well as intra-site studies to be conducted within a functionally and regionally controlled context.

As an example of primary information on the prehistoric "industrial" exploitation of the Blue Ridge, RM-130 occupies a unique place in the culture history of the region and is of special importance to the interpretation of prehistoric economy. Its early date places it at one end of a spectrum of industrial exploitation that can be documented in the Blue Ridge into the 19th century when an attempt to establish a major iron mining and smelting industry collapsed under the weight of northern competition. From an interpretive point of view, we might profitably compare the RM-130 quarry to the Miller Iron Works of early to mid-19th century vintage and, in each case, inquire into the byproducts, both positive and negative, of the use of the Blue Ridge before the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Foss, Robert W.

1979 A Geographical Perspective on Blue Ridge Prehistory: The Prehistoric Survey. in Patterns in Time, by M.A. Hoffman (ed.), Mid-Atlantic Region, NPS, Philadelphia, Pa.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [REDACTED]

UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION



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

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

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

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STREET & NUMBER

201 TILLMAN HALL

TELEPHONE

(309) 298-1188

CITY OR TOWN

MACOMB,

STATE

ILLINOIS 61455

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO

NONE

A. 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 National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Edmund C. Bertram

TITLE

Chief Historian, National Parks Service

DATE

10/27/85

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Yvonne H. Stewart

DATE

12/13/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Archaeological Investigations:

the test square produced a total of 3,469 artifacts, yielding a density of 30,000 artifacts per cubic meter! Although this density dropped with depth even the 30-40 cm. level produced an artifact density of over 1,000 per cubic meter. Over 99.5% of the material was local Erwin Quartzite, with broken and occasionally restorable tool blanks constituting, as expected, the most common bifacial tool category.

The high artifact density and frequency of debitage and the ready availability of limitless supplies of quartzite from adjacent talus slopes, show RM-130 to be primarily a quarry or manufacturing site. The lithic evidence further suggests primary artifact thinning was done on the spot. Edge sharpening flakes were rare and the lack of completed tools indicates that tool blanks, rather than completed bifaces, were the major product of the site.

Intrusions and Data Limitations:

There has been little human disturbance of RM-130 in historic times. It is doubtful whether the terrace was ever plowed because of the extreme rockiness of the soil. Any plowing that would have occurred, however, would have been shallow and ceased over fifty years ago. The talus slope directly west of the site is today covered by thin soil and trees as is RM-130.