

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

12

 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

HISTORIC

Squirrel Hill 36 Wm 35

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West of New Florence near banks of Conemaugh River

CITY, TOWN

New Florence

 NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Ninth Street 21st

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE  
42COUNTY  
WestmorelandCODE  
129**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
 ACCESSIBLE  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER:
**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert Jones

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

New Florence

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Westmoreland County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Greensburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

September 1, 1953

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Anthropology Center of Carnegie Museum

CITY, TOWN

P. O. Box 28, Meridian Station, Butler

STATE

Pennsylvania

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>11/76</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Squirrel Hill site is the remains of a large Late Prehistoric Monongahela village on the terrace south of the Conemaugh River immediately west of the small town of New Florence, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. A steep hill known as Squirrel Hill lies a short distance southeast of the site area and it is from this feature that the site takes its name. The village was recorded as site 36 Wm 35 by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History Upper Ohio Valley Archaeological Survey during 1963.

The terrace on which the site is located is relatively flat and lies at an elevation slightly below 1060 feet above sea level. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ The area has been farmed for many years and as a result many artifacts have been brought to the surface by plowing. Thus, the site is well known to local artifact collectors.

The area of the site is clearly visible as it is marked by a dark oval stain in the soil approximately 300 feet north-south by 200 feet east-west. In this dark soil area fragments of burnt bone, flint chippage, shell-tempered pottery sherds, worked pieces of hematite, and various types of flint and bone tools have been found when the soil has been freshly exposed. Cultural debris in the site area appears to be quite heavy in comparison to most sites in the upper Ohio Valley. This debris would denote an intensive occupation of the village area.

## 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES A. D. 1350 approx.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Monongahela culture

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Squirrel Hill site (36 Wm 35) is one of the largest eastern villages of the Monongahela culture known in the Upper Ohio Valley drainage. It is particularly important since it is situated in the Conemaugh River drainage which was an important passage route between the Ohio and Susquehanna Valleys. The site appears to be related in culture and time to the Johnston site (36 In 2) approximately 10 miles downstream from Squirrel Hill and to the McJunkin site in Allegheny County which has been dated about A. D. 1350.

The dark oval stained soil of the site area indicates that the village had a central open plaza surrounded by a ring of houses which were probably circular and about 20 feet in diameter. If similar to the Johnston and McJunkin sites as believed, the entire village was surrounded by a stockade.

Test excavations conducted by members of the Connomoch Chapter of the Society of Pennsylvania Archaeology in a wooded section of the site along the southern bank of the river uncovered the remains of pits and postmolds. In the pits were quantities of well-preserved faunal remains, bone tools and beads, charred matting, and vegetable material. During these excavations a flexed burial was also found. It was left undisturbed and the pit back-filled so it could be adequately recorded at a future date. Most Monongahela sites contain numerous burials within the village area and the presence of human bone fragments on the surface of the Squirrel Hill site is not unusual. Except for the damage done by plowing, most subsurface features are probably intact.

The Squirrel Hill site is one of the few remaining intact villages of the Johnston Phase of Monongahela. As such, this site should be preserved or thoroughly studied if it will be subject to destruction. The Johnston Phase Monongahela sites occupied the Northeastern sector of the total Monongahela territory in the Upper Ohio Valley and there appears to have been important contacts with peoples of the McFate Culture in northwestern Pennsylvania. The position of these groups in the Late Prehistoric period is still poorly understood. The Squirrel Hill site could provide important information on this problem.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Robson, John G. A Comparison of Artifacts from the Indian Villages Quemahoning and Squirrel Hill. Pennsylvania Archaeologist Vol. xxviii Nos. 3-4 December, 1958

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE  
Dr. Don W. Dragoo, Chief Curator, Archaeology

ORGANIZATION  
Carnegie Museum of Natural History

DATE  
4/19/77

STREET & NUMBER  
P.O. Box 26 Meridian Station

TELEPHONE  
412-482-4250

CITY OR TOWN  
Butler

STATE  
Pennsylvania 16001

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL    STATE X LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission DATE

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER