

063-0077

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VLR 12/17/1974
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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: New Kent
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Moysonec

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
(Hicks Island vicinity)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First (Thomas N. Downing)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: New Kent CODE: 127

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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input 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) <u>Woodland</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY Mr. O. J. Frink, Jr., President

OWNER'S NAME:
Southern Properties, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
P. O. Box 62526

CITY OR TOWN: Virginia Beach STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
New Kent County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: New Kent STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: New Kent

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input 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

Moysonec Indian village site is located on low cultivated land [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

The village was indicated on John Smith's map of Virginia, and the unusual topography was described by Smith in his True Relation:

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Quantities of pottery and lithic fragments indicate prehistoric habitation [REDACTED]. A heavy concentration of surface artifacts [REDACTED] evidences the location there of the 1607 village, as well as settlements and camps of earlier Woodland and Archaic people.

Although Smith did not describe the village, its appearance may be conjectured from excavated Chickahominy River sites and Smith's account of the general form of house construction. It probably consisted of a cluster of buildings "built like arbors, of small young sprigs bowed and tied together and so covered with mats or the barks of trees." One area village that continued to be occupied after 1607 was surrounded by a palisade, but such defense may be a rarity for the Chickahominy.

Eighteenth-century artifacts are found at the [REDACTED] end of the large cultivated field [REDACTED], indicating archaeological remains of the late Colonial period in those areas.

E.A.C.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input 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

As one of a small number of identifiable Chickahominy Indian villages visited by Virginia colonists in 1607, Moysonec has early historical association and considerable archaeological potential.

John Smith explored the Chickahominy River in November and December 1607, and he observed Moysonec, "where a better seat for a town cannot be desired". It was after Smith had proceeded up river that he was captured by Opechancanough and later, according to Smith, rescued by Pocahontas. He described the peninsula in A True Relation, published in 1608, and located the village on his 1612 map of Virginia.

Evidence for the late Woodland Indian village was found at Moysonec when the College of William and Mary's Department of Anthropology surveyed the Chickahominy River's archaeological sites for the National Science Foundation in 1967-71. Triangular projectile points and shell tempered pottery of the type associated with the late prehistoric period were concentrated at the apparent village site at the southwestern end of the peninsula. Earlier Woodland Indian occupation was evidenced by pebble and sand tempered pottery with a variety of surface treatments, and Archaic occupation of as early as 7000-6000 B. C. was represented by Kirk, Guilford, Morrow Mountain, and Savannah River projectile points and soapstone vessel sherds.

Fort James was established in this area as one of three defensive centers ordered as a result of the 1644 massacre led by Opechancanough. In 1646 the Assembly gave Thomas Rolfe, son of John, responsibility for maintaining the fort and granted him 400 acres of adjoining land. The most likely location for the fort would appear to be on one of the knolls at the northern end of the peninsula, but no physical evidence of the fort has been found. Surface artifacts indicate some type of occupation of the lower peninsula in the second half of the eighteenth century.

Moysonec is a valuable subject for the study of aboriginal Virginians at their time of contact with European civilization. The site, undisturbed by modern development, has as yet not received the thorough archaeological excavation that could determine house forms and relationships, tools, diets, and physical conditions of the village's inhabitants.

E.A.C.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barka, Norman F., College of William and Mary Dept. of Anthropology, personal communication, Nov. 1974.
 Hening, William W., Statutes at Large. Philadelphia, 1823, v. 1, pp. 293 and 327.
 McCary, Ben C., John Smith's Map of Virginia, 350th Anniversary Booklet. Williamsburg, 1957.
 Smith, John, A True Relation, 1608, in Narratives of Early Virginia, ed. by Lyon G. Tyler, New York, 1907.
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

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: **190 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: **Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission** DATE: **December 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond,** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **51**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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., Exec. Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 Title: _____

Date: _____

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: _____

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