United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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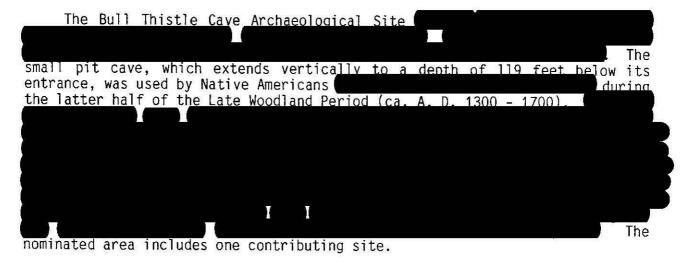
See instructions Type all entries-			onal Register Forms tions		9
1. Nam					
historic Bull	Thistle Ca	ve Archaeol	ogical Site	(DHL	File No. 92-22)
and/or common	N/A				9
2. Loca	tion				
street & number					X not for publication
city, town Tazev	well		X vicinity of		
state Virgin	ia	code	county	Tazewell	code Code
3. Class	sificat	ion			
district building(s) structureX site object	Ownership public private both Public Acqu in procestory being co	lisition	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainmen government industrial military	museum park private residence temperate religious scientific transportation other:
	tion o		L Dogorina:		
5. Loca	tion o		Descripti		
courthouse, regist	try of deeds, e	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	ell County Courth	ouse	
city, town Taze	ewell	-33	200-200-0 Test 200-00 Test 200	sta	te Virginia 24651
6. Repr	esenta	ation in	Existing	Surveys	
Division title Survey	on of Hist (site #	oric Landma	arks has this pro		d eligible?yes _X_ no
		August 1986		federal _X_	state county local
depository for sur	vey records	Division of	f Historic Landma	rks 221 Gover	nor Street
city, town Richr	mond			eta	te Virginia 23219

7. Description

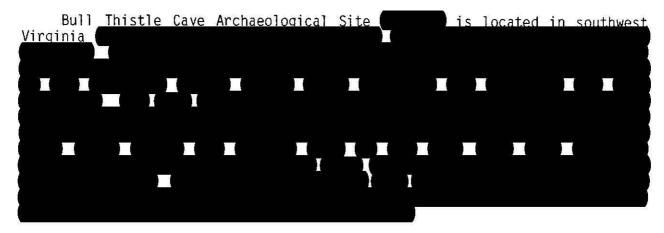
Condition X excellent deteriorated good ruins fair X unexposed	Check one X unaltered altered	Check one X original site moved date	N/A
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Summary Description



Background



Bull Thistle Cave is a small pit, or vertical, cave with a surveyed length, of 575.2 feet and a vertical extent of 119 feet. Sixty-five feet below the narrow entrance is the top of a talus cone located within what is the cave's main chamber, an area seventy feet east-west by sixty feet north-south. A small room (thirty-five feet east-west by twenty feet north-south) extends west of the main chamber from near the top of the talus cone. At a vertical distance of approximately forty-five feet below the top of the talus cone, two narrow passages, one of which connects with a stream passage, extend from the east end of the main chamber.

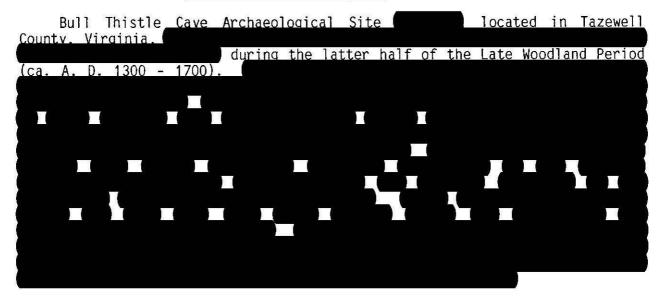
See Continuation Sheet #1

8. Significance

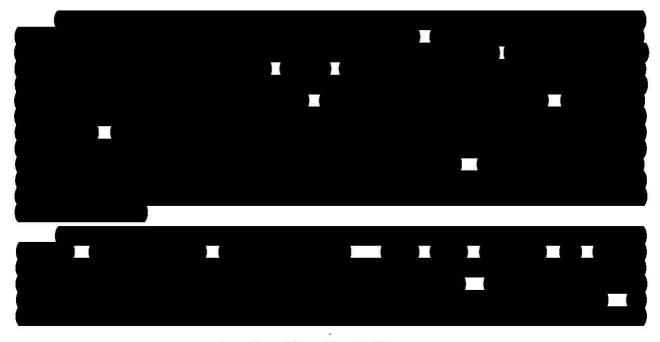
Period	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	N/A	Builder/Architect N/A		¥ ¥ 1790

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Statement of Significance



Background



9.	Major Bibl	iographical	Refe	renc	es		
50	Clark, Wayne E. <u>Virginia</u> . 1 Richmond, Vi See Continuation		the Arch report o	eologica n file w	l Resourc	es in the Caves	s <u>of</u> C Landmarks
10	. Geograpi	nical Data		E8			10
		7.6				• 100	
							Towns 2.5
Verb	al boundary description	on and justification					
	See Continuation						
		12 1 1 10 7				•	
List	all states and countie	s for properties overla code	county		ty boundar	code	
	N/A		county		0.000		
state	. Form Pre	nared Ry	county	IV/ A		code	
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orgar	HZALION and the second polymer project	Historic Landmarks	S	date	1987		
stree	t & number 221 Gover	nor Street		telep	hone 804-	-786-3143	
city o	rtown Richmond			state	Virgini	a 23219	
12	. State His	toric Prese	ervati	on O	fficer	Certifica	tion
The e	valuated significance of	this property within the s	itate is:			3	
<u> </u>	<u>X</u> national	state	local				
665),	e designated State Histor I hereby nominate this proding to the criteria and p	operty for inclusion in th	ie National F	egister and	d certify that	n Act of 1966 (Public it has been evaluate	Law 89– d
State	Historic Preservation Of	ficer signature	H. M	su M	stell		
title	H. Bryan Mitche Division of Hist		0	1	dat	e August 5, 198	37
Fo	or NPS use only	numerity in implement in the	no National P	logicte:	028		
	i nereby certify that this	property is included in th	ie national l	register	dat		8.8
K	eeper of the National Re	gister			uat	·	×
A	ttest:			8	dat	e	

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

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Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site (
Continuation sheet 1

Tazewell County, VA

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Page 1

The ceramic smoking pipe removed from Bull Thistle Cave in 1985 suggests the deposit dates from the Late Woodland Period. The configuration of the recovered portion of the pipe indicates it is an alate-stemmed modified tube or modified platform pipe, styles commonly associated with this period in southwest Virginia. The clay is tempered with crushed mussell shell, a trait considered to have been introduced into the material culture of the native peoples of southwest Virginia from the Mississippian cultures of the Tennessee Valley during the latter half of the Late Woodland Period, or ca. A. D. 1300 - 1700.



See Continuation Sheet #2

Continuation sheet 2

OMB No. 1924-9013 Expires 19-31-87

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, TazewellCounty, VA

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Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site also has potential to yield significant paleoenvironmental information. During the August 1986 survey, the osteological remains of both domestic and wild fauna, apparent victims of the natural pit trap, were noted on the surface of the talus slope and cave floor. It is likely that the talus cone below the pit entrance holds deposits bearing further faunal, floral, and geoarchaeological remains useful for reconstructing past environments through the Holocene and possibly even into the late Pleistocene Period.

M.E.N.H.

OMB %0. 1024-0013 Expires 10-31-9

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Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site

Tazewell County, VA

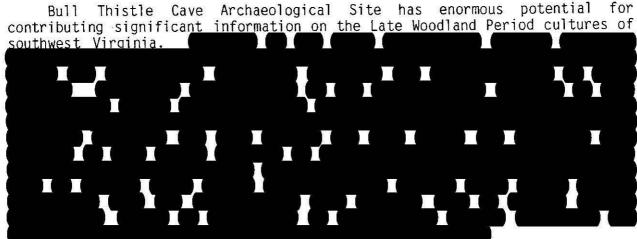
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Continuation sheet 3

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OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-37

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Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site likely contains other intact deposits which may provide significant paleoenvironmental data for the southwest Virginia region. Through the years the cave has served as a natural pit trap, as evidenced by the osteological remains of both wild and domesticated fauna, some in articulated position, presently lying on the cave floor. Similar intact deposits dating from earlier in the Holocene and possibly even into the late Pleistocene may lie buried within the talus cone or beneath the present floor surface. Other types of paleoenvironmental remains with the potential to provide additional information on the flora and climate of the region may also be contained within these deposits.

M.E.N.H.

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-37

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Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site (44TZ92) Tazewell County, VA Continuation sheet 5 Item number 9

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receiv	ed		
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Willey, P. and Crothers, George. Archaeological Survey of Bull Thistle Cave Virginia. 1986. Unpublished report on file with Division of Historic Landmarks, Richmond, Virginia.

NPS Form 10-900-a

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form
Bull Thistle Cave Archaeological Site

Tazewell County, VA

Continuation sheet 6

Item number 10

