1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Albans Site

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Kanawha County Courthouse

STATE: West Virginia

CODE: 54

COUNTY: Kanawha

CODE: 039

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Restaurant
- Science
- Scientific
- Other (Specify) W.Va. Dept. of Highways Storage & Maintenance Area
- Transportation
- Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: State of West Virginia

STREET AND NUMBER: 1800 Washington Street, East

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston

STATE: West Virginia

CODE: 54

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Kanawha County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 416 Kanawha Blvd., East

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston

STATE: West Virginia

CODE: 54

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:
The St. Albans Site is situated between For a distance of several miles, the highway parallels the river, the space between the two varying from about 25 to 100 feet. The edge of the bank near the site is 22 feet above the normal water level, but was 6 feet higher before alluvium was removed for construction of the. The original ground surface can be observed along the river bank in several areas where large pedestals of earth with trees on top were left standing. During the time of the last aboriginal occupation, the surface of the alluvium in this area was between 40 and 45 feet above the river, since the level of the Kanawha River was raised about 15 feet when the Winfield Dam was constructed approximately Continuous build-up of the levee by overbank deposition created an ideal camping place for prehistoric people between ca. 12,000 B.C. and A.D. 1700. Core samples taken from the site indicate occupation to a depth of 37 feet below the present surface in an area about one mile long. Only about 4,500 square feet of the site has been excavated thus far, most of this to a depth of only 17 feet below the surface.

The present surface of the site is covered with grass and trees; the upper or eastern end of the site is occupied by a State Department of Highways maintenance garage and equipment storage and parking lot. The area excavated in 1964-65 has been backfilled and reseeded, and the river bank stabilized with large slabs of concrete. The local Garden Club has planted a number of dogwood trees parallel to the river and is interested in creating a city park for the St. Albans area on the site. This would in no way endanger the site and would serve as protection against unauthorized digging.
### Statement of Significance

The St. Albans Site is important for several reasons: first, it is one of the deepest stratified sites thus far discovered in North America; second, it is one of the oldest; third, each occupation zone is separated from the one above and below by a sterile zone of either clay or sand; fourth, only one type of projectile point has been found in each occupation zone, showing that only one type of point was being used at any given time; and fifth, sufficient charcoal was present in most of the zones to obtain dates (for the first time) on the various point types.

Seven different types of projectile points were recovered from the excavation, ranging in age from 7900 to 6210 B.C. Only two of these types had previously been named from other areas (one from a site in Tennessee and the other from a site in North Carolina).

Few other sites are comparable to the St. Albans Site. With the exception of several sites in North Carolina, the other deep sites are either in caves or rock shelters, and most of these have been disturbed by rock-falls and pits dug by later inhabitants. The various zones or strata in the St. Albans Site were undisturbed by rodents, roots, or man, thus creating a unique situation and adding to the importance of the site.

The various artifacts recovered have added greatly to our knowledge of the Early Archaic Period, not only in West Virginia, but the entire eastern United States.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Broyles, Bettye J. "Preliminary Report: The St. Albans Site (46Ka27), Kanawha County, West Virginia." West Virginia Archeologist, No. 19 (Fall 1966), 1-43.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 13

11. FORM PREPARED BY


West Virginia Antiquities Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University

CITY OR TOWN: Morgantown

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Leonard M. Davis
Title State Historic Preservation Officer
Date March 12, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register