

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Warwick's Fort

Other names/site number: 46Ph82, William Warwick's Fort

Name of related multiple property listing:

Frontier Forts of West Virginia

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 450 Fort Warwick Passage

City or town: Green Bank State: WV County: Pocahontas

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

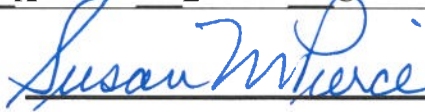
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national X statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A ___ B ___ C X D

	
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	<u>10/1/24</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Arts, Culture and History	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Warwick's Fort _____

Pocahontas, WV _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Warwick's Fort _____

Pocahontas, WV _____

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
<u>1</u>	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DEFENSE/Fortification

DEFENSE/Military facility

DEFENSE/battle site

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

Warwick's Fort _____

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

____ N/A _____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: ____ N/A _____

Narrative Description (Organized following Bulletin 36)

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

William Warwick's Fort is located on a flat terrace overlooking the North Fork of Deer Creek in present Green Bank, Pocahontas County. It is used as a hay field, and tours are given. As multiple Revolutionary War pension applications suggest, and the archeology confirmed, this fort was a moderate sized bastioned stockade with internal buildings. The fort and buildings were confirmed archeologically by the stockade trench, a building cellar, a chimney remnant, a circular tower wall trench, and multiple postmolds. Warwick's Fort was constructed in June 1774 by the Augusta County militia companies of Capt. George Moffett and Capt. George Mathews and garrisoned throughout Lord Dunmore's War and the Revolutionary War, and the artifacts confirm this date range. The fort was constructed on William Warwick's 900-acre tract along the north fork of Deer Creek, and Deer Creek, itself. This land was granted to William Warwick in 1782, but by "settlement right" suggesting he had settled it much earlier and was living there in June 1774. According to local tradition, William Warwick's home was near the present home of Robert and Elaine Sheets about 300 meters northeast of the fort site. The fort served as a base for militia and a haven for settlers, and was a larger, militia-built fort considered safer and superior to the many home-based neighborhood forts. Although the site has been plowed, the complete lack of post-eighteenth-century artifacts and features confirms its high archeological integrity. Warwick's Fort has a large assemblage of late eighteenth-century artifacts that can be used to address significant research questions, as discussed in more detail below under Section 8.

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Narrative Description

Environment

Warwick's Fort site is located on a terrace about 20 to 30 feet (6 to 9 m) above the North Fork of Deer Creek and its floodplain (topo map, site map, Photos 1-2, Figure 1). The site is now used for producing hay though it has also been used recently as cow pasture. It has been plowed in the recent past, but not in the last 40 to 50 years. The site has lines of trees surrounding it on the north and south sides, a slope down to the creek on the west, and more flat pasture/hayfield to the east (Photo 001). Historically, the setting was probably much the same, except that all trees would have been cut to both build the fort and clear a viewshed (field of fire) for the militiamen. The site may have been wooded before the fort's construction, but this is unclear. The North Fork of Deer Creek was the main water source for the fort, and in fact there is oral history of a bucket being lowered from the fort into this creek (see below).

Time Period of Occupation

The significant period of occupation for this nomination is 1774 to the 1783 (the end of the American Revolution). These dates are based on both archival research, particularly Revolutionary War pension applications, and archeologically recovered artifacts. Diagnostic artifacts include wrought nails, French gunflints, gun parts, English ceramics, and clothing and personal items. The English ceramics include delftware, white salt glazed stoneware (including Littler's Blue) and creamware. Diagnostic clothing artifacts include brass and pewter flat buttons, shoe buckles, and knee buckles. Since the abandonment of Warwick's Fort, the site has primarily been utilized by the landowners for agricultural purposes. There is no evidence of later domestic (housesite) use or any outbuildings on site.

Persons, Ethnic Groups or Archeological Cultures

Archival material suggests that Warwick's Fort was built and occupied by Augusta County Militiamen of Euro-American descent. The Companies of Captains George Moffatt and George Mathews built the fort. Many of the men in these companies were from the Staunton, Virginia area (about 80 miles to the east) but some were from closer to the fort. At least fifteen of them later filed public claims for compensation for "6 days working on a fort" (McBride and McBride 2018). This is an unusual level of archival detail for a frontier fort. Some of these militiamen may have brought enslaved African Americans into the fort, but there is no archival or archeological evidence of this. Civilians, men, women, and children would have also inhabited the fort seasonally in times of danger. While most of these civilians were of Euro-American ancestry, some African American (most likely enslaved) could have taken refuge in the fort as well.

A very interesting description of Warwick's Fort comes from Peter Warwick, the great grandson of William Warwick, from an account published in the *Pocahontas Times* newspaper by R. W. Brown in 1934 (McBride and McBride 2018). This account is as follows:

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“...as a rule the old Indian Forts were built in the shape of a parallelogram. Peter Warwick told me that his grandfather said this fort was in circular form, and that the roof was covered with sods and dirt to prevent fire from the enemy. The white oak walls bristled with port holes and surrounded by a stockade fence presented an almost impregnable defense. This fort was used as a home for some of the settlers who often lived for weeks inside its walls.

For many years it remained a famous Fort on the frontier, having withstood several Indian attacks. The fort was situated in the forks of North Fork and Deer Creek on an elevation of ground that commanded a fine view of the surrounding country; now in the west end of a field of F. H. Warwick; Mr. Warwick told me he had hauled several wagon loads of rock from the foundation and chimney of the old Fort.”

More Warwick family history was passed to us by Allen Sheets, cousin and neighbor to Warwick's Fort landowner Bob Sheets. Allen Sheets was told by his grandfather Jacob Asbury Sheets that the fort inhabitants had rigged a wooden plank to extend out from the fort and over the North Fork of Deer Creek, near the fort's southwestern corner. They collected water by extending a bucket on a rope from this plank down the steep slope to the creek.

Physical Characteristics

The Warwick's Fort site is located on a terrace overlooking the North Fork of Deer Creek and is approximately 308 x 170 feet (94 x 52 m, see topo map, site map), as defined by the fort and a buffer area containing a higher density of fort period artifacts (see boundary description below). Archeological investigations have revealed a soil profile consisting of an 8- to 12-inch-deep (.27 to .3 m) medium brown silt loam plow zone, followed by the natural yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil.

Architectural features that define the fort's walls are composed of stockade trenches (Figures 2-5), into which the upright logs of a stockade were inserted, and individual post molds. The stockade trenches sometimes contain visible stains from posts and with low fired clay (daub) used as chinking often in abundance in and near the stockade trenches. The total dimension of the fort is about 140 feet east-west by at least 90 to 100 feet north-south (43 x 27 to 30 m). The stockade trenches are typically 15 to 18 inches (about .35 to .5 m) wide and extending 9 to 12 inches (up to .3 m) into the sub plow zone clay subsoil from the base of the plowzone where they can be observed. Since the overlying plowzone is typically about 9 to 12 inches (.25 to .3 m) deep, the original stockade trench would have been more like about 1.5 to 2 feet (.45 to .6 m) deep from the top of the original ground surface. The fort walls are also defined by isolated post mold stains from the holes into which a single post was inserted. These post molds are typically about a foot (.3 m) across and of varying depths.

The configuration of sections of stockade trench connected by isolated postholes is quite interesting. Please refer to the site map for this discussion. It is possible that some areas without stockade trenches or post holes represent areas where a structure was located. If structures were built in such a way that none of the supports extended into the sub plowzone clay subsoil, their

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existence has been obscured by plowing. Many of the stretches with isolated postmolds spaced at varying intervals likely represent a wall constructed by widely spaced deeper posts, with the interval filled in posts that did not extend far into the ground. An example would be a picket fence where most pickets just touch the ground surface but connected to structural posts extending deeper into the ground at an interval of 6 to 10 feet. The Warwick's Fort configuration likely represents efforts to minimize the labor-intensive stockade trenches and concentrate those at points where a stronger wall was needed for structural integrity, or in areas deemed most vulnerable or central to fort defense. A good example is the section of stockade trenching at the northwest corner of the fort, which has a rectangular protruding area known as a bastion. The bastion is about 6.5 feet (2 m) wide and 10 feet (3 m) long. This bastion would allow for better line of sight or "coverage" of the north and west walls of the fort, as compared to a simple right-angle corner. Many forts of this period had two bastions at opposing corners, providing enhanced coverage of all four fort walls.

The other sections of stockade trench identified include a stretch along the southern end of the west wall, and a short section along the southern end of the east wall, which are connected along the south wall only by isolated postmolds (see site map). This suggests a fence that contained only deep structural posts at intervals, with less deeply placed posts in between, along the south wall. This southern wall is adjacent to the steep bank leading down to the North Fork of Deer Creek, which may have been considered more naturally defended by the terrain, so that a less deeply anchored fence was seen as adequate. However, this same technique of deeply set posts spaced at intervals also defines the eastern wall of the fort, with the exception of the very short stretch of stockade (about 10 feet or 3 meters) at the southern end of the east wall (see site map). In contrast to the south wall, this eastern wall area is very flat and would have been more vulnerable. At the northern end of the east wall, or the northeast corner of the fort, we encountered a short L-shaped section of stockade trench with a postmold at its western end (see site map).

One of the most interesting findings of the fort's structure is located along the north wall of the fort, which is defined in its easternmost section by four postmolds spaced at intervals, and in its western half by two sections of stockade trenching. On the extreme western end this stockade trench is a continuation of the bastion's northern arm. Then there is a gap of about 33 feet (10 m, a possible building?) before the stockade trench continues for 24 ft (7.3 meter). At this point the stockade trench makes a right angle turn to the south and continues for another 24 ft (7.3 meters). There is then a gap of 5.5 ft (1.6 m) which we interpret as a gate opening, after which the stockade trench resumes for another 12 ft (3.6 meters). To the south of this stockade end we documented a series of large pits and postmold stains. These stains and posts likely indicate a building that functioned as a blockhouse, and served the same purpose as the northwestern bastion, to provide an enhanced defensive position. More investigation is needed in this area. Only isolated postmolds were found south of the pit/post concentration.

Our best interpretation of these archeological features is that the fort can be subdivided into a western enclosure, defined by the northwest bastion and line of posts and stockade trenching on its west, and by the line of stockading with the gate opening and possible blockhouse on its east. This area is shown in a light violet color on the site map. Then this same

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line of stockade, gate, and possible building forms the western edge of a second, eastern, enclosed area, shown in light green on the site map. This eastern enclosure is defined on the north, east and south mostly by widely spaced post molds and the tiny bits of stockade trench in the northeast and southeast corners.

The western enclosed area that includes the northwestern bastion has curtain walls that are 82 feet (25 m) along the north and south walls, and 95 to 100 feet (28.9 to 30 m) along the west and east walls. It is interesting that the length of the north and south walls, which seems less constrained by topography than the east and west walls, is just a half a foot shy of the measure of 5 rods, or 82.5 ft. This suggests surveying skills by the fort builders. This west enclosure is similar in size to the area enclosed by stockade trenches at other forts in the Greenbrier region, such as Arbuckle's Fort, Donnally's Fort, and Cook's Fort (McBride and McBride 1998, 2006, 2014). It is likely that this western enclosure represents the original layout of Warwick's fort. This enclosure would certainly have most likely been the best defended portion of the fort.

The eastern enclosure, which is of similar size to the western at 75 ft east-west by 108 ft north-south (23 m x 33 m) could represent a later enlargement of the fort, likely during the American Revolution. The eastern enclosure could also represent a functionally distinct area built to complement the more strongly defended western enclosure, and with possible uses such as an expanded area for camping, work activities, or protecting livestock. The two interpretations are not mutually exclusive.

Other architectural features found at Warwick's Fort are concentrated mostly in the western enclosure, more support that this was the original and most well defended section of the fort. These features include a large (10 x 5 feet, or 3 x 1.5 m) rectangular cellar (Figures 6 and 7) with entrance just east of the northwestern bastion and a 10-foot (3 m) diameter circular structure (see site map) defined by a shallow trench into which posts had been set and located just east of the rectangular cellar (Figure 8). The circular feature is most likely the remains of the circular structure-tower mentioned in the October 23, 1934 *Pocahontas Times* article by R. W. Brown cited above, as constructed of logs and with a sod roof so that attackers would be less likely to be able to set it on fire with flaming arrows. Some small post molds found outside of the circular structure are likely associated with it, such as to add support to an overhanging second story or were construction scaffolding posts. The tower would have abutted the structure that was over the cellar/powder magazine.

The cellar could have been a simple food storage cellar under a building, or it could have been a magazine to store gun powder. Given its location near the northwestern bastion, the second suggestion is certainly possible. The cellar was backfilled with soil, artifacts, and animal bone. There is also an area (4 x 2.5 ft, or 1.2 to .7 m) of reddish burned soil north of the cellar (Figure 9) that is likely the remains of a chimney hearth and where fires were made for cooking and warmth. Unfortunately, no stone chimney bases or foundations have been found but the burned area was encircled with postmolds suggesting it could have been a stick and mud chimney. The October 23, 1934 article in the *Pocahontas Times* cited above stated that wagon loads of foundation and chimney remains had been removed from the site by Mr. F. H. Warwick; this might suggest a stone chimney here or elsewhere on site. Numerous other post molds found

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on the site (see site map) could be from fence posts, stockade posts, earth-fast buildings, or other structures. More excavation is needed to guide interpretation of many of these posts.

A large assemblage of fort period artifacts has been recovered from Warwick's Fort excavations, including from the plow zone and from features. A sample is shown in Figures 10-18. These items include wrought nails, daub (hardened clay), cast iron kettle fragments, ceramics, bottle glass, utensils, brass and pewter flat buttons (Figure 16), brass and iron buckles, musket/rifle balls, gunflints, gun parts (Figure 12), and smoking pipe fragments. These artifacts have been recovered from both the plow zone and features, and with the majority of plow zone artifacts coming from 30 to 40 feet (9 to 12 m) around the cellar and circular tower features (see site map). Wrought nails have also been concentrated near the stockade lines. The wrought nails suggest the presence of buildings within the fort, particularly on the west side. Although the quantity of ceramics and bottle glass is rather low, they do show an interesting variety. Ceramics include cheap utilitarian lead glazed redware, probably made in Virginia or Pennsylvania, as well as refined English delftware, white salt-glazed stoneware, and creamware, and a few Chinese porcelain sherds. Some of the white salt-glazed stoneware sherds are from a Littler's Blue tea set (Figure 13), demonstrating the importance of maintaining the tea ceremony, and status/class differentiation on the frontier. This tea set, like the Chinese porcelain, likely belonged to an officer.

Very few bottle glass fragments have been found, suggesting that most beverages were probably packaged in wooden casks. Most glass fragments recovered are light to medium green and are likely from alcohol bottles. An exception is a small portion of a clear bottle embossed with letters RH on one line, VEN below them, and ALS below those (Figures 14 and 15). This glass is from a "Turlington's Balsam of Life" bottle, a popular British medicine of the time, and one which perhaps speaks to medicinal needs of the fort inhabitants. This bottle would have been embossed on one side with the following eight lines, top to bottom (the letters that appear on the excavated sherd are highlighted).

ROB^T.
TURLI,
NGTON
FOR HIS
INVENTED
BALSAM
OF
LIFE

The large number of buttons and smaller buckles point to the fashion of the time, when numerous buttons and small buckles were present on jackets, waistcoats, and breeches. One set of cufflinks with a floral design was recovered (Figure 17). Shoe buckle fragments were also recovered. One particularly interesting button is a faux 1744 Spanish coin button made from a coin mold. These buttons were sometimes worn in protest to British money and Great Britain itself. Later, the United States based its dollar on the Spanish dollar (eight reals) rather than the British pound.

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A large assemblage of dropped and fired musket/rifle balls (Figure 10) and shot have been recovered as well as melted lead. These are most common in the area around the round tower, and with a secondary concentration in an area in between the bastion and the northeast corner, where we hypothesize that some sort of defensive wall (if not a stockade) was located. The balls are unusably .45 to .50 caliber and are likely associated with rifled muskets, the typical hunting weapons of the time. No large caliber (.69 cal. and up) smooth bore military ammunition has been recovered, suggesting the absence of regular continental soldiers. Only militiamen and civilians are documented at the fort. Lead shot of .30-.32 cal. were also found; these could come from pistols or a buckshot charge fired from a musket. The fired balls and shot are interesting since they could be from incoming enemy fire, even though no large-scale attack is well documented on the fort. Some could be from balls removed from animals, but many of these, if noticed, would have been remelted into new balls. The melted lead suggests ammunition was manufactured at the fort. One bullet mold was also found, but it was found some distance outside the fort.

Other arms related artifacts include gunflints (Figure 11), two fragments of a serpentine musket side plate (shown in Figure 12), and an iron gunflint knapping tool or hammer (Figure 11). Most of the gunflints are of French honey-colored flint, although a few gray gunflints have been recovered. Nearly all whole gunflints are medium musket or rifled-musket size rather than the larger military musket size. The serpentine side plate is unusual since these are usually from fancy American Indian trade guns. Perhaps a militiaman had captured this gun. The gunflint knapper is quite unusual as research suggests only a few of these remain. This tool would have been used to reshape/sharpen the gunflints, which constantly flake off when in use.

Numerous white clay or kaolin smoking pipe fragments have been found on the site, suggesting the popularity of smoking. These fragments include both bowl and stem fragments and suggest they are from the common long-stemmed pipes. All the bowls are plain except for one marked "T D," a type commonly found on colonial sites in the east coast of the present United States. Other personal artifacts include a mouth harp, a thimble, two clasp knives, a "whizzer" toy, a possible militia pay token, and a glass intaglio with a profile illustration of a man's face (Figure 18) that is most likely King George III of Great Britain. Perhaps this intaglio was purposely discarded as an act of patriotism to the Revolutionary cause.

Over 500 animal bones have been recovered from the Warwick's Fort excavations, most of these from the backfill soils of the cellar and bastion. Analysis of the remains suggests an animal protein diet based predominantly on white-tailed deer, followed by pig, and cattle. One racoon bone was found. The Warwick's Fort pattern differs from fort animal bone assemblages from Greenbrier County (Arbuckle's and Donnally's) forts, and a Monroe County (Jarrett's) fort, where the animal bones are dominated by pig, with deer second. The Warwick's Fort pattern probably reflects the more isolated nature of this fort. Interestingly, the white-tailed deer remains are dominated by fore and hind leg fragments and feet, suggesting that the animals were field dressed and just the meatier remains carried back to the fort (McBride and McBride 2018).

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Likely Appearance of the Property During Its Period of Occupation or Use

Historically, the setting was probably much the same as it is today, except that all trees along Deer Creek would have been cut to build the fort and clear a viewshed (field of fire) for the militiamen. The site may have been wooded before the fort's construction, but this is unclear, as many areas of the Greenbrier Valley were savannah and not heavily wooded at the time of Euro-American settlement.

Current and Past Impacts

The main impact to the site is that it has been plowed but given the short occupation span and single component nature of the historic occupation, plowing does not constitute a major problem. The site has been a hay field recently, a function which likely will continue for the foreseeable future, and which poses no impact to the archeological resources. There may have been some stream-based erosion along the southern edge of the fort, but the loss is not estimated at more than a couple feet. The historical documentation suggests that F. H. Warwick, a descendant of William Warwick who owned the land, removed some stone from the fort site.

Integrity

Warwick's Fort has high archeological integrity as a frontier fort. It has extremely high integrity of setting and association and feeling, and the defining features of its location near the confluence of the forks of Deer Creek are highly visible today. Since the militia likely would have cleared many trees to provide good lines of sight, the open pasture/hay field in which the fort is located conveys what the site would have looked like in the 1770s and 1780s.

The excavations at Warwick's Fort have greatly helped in understanding the layout of this militia-built fort. Warwick's Fort had a very short late eighteenth-century occupation, with no later contamination, and so has tremendous archeological clarity. The artifacts recovered have confirmed the archivally suggested date of this site, from 1774 to the 1780s, and have provided evidence of activities and consumption patterns at the site. The presence of late eighteenth-century features, the presence of late eighteenth century artifacts in the plow zone and the lack of later artifacts in the plow zone speaks to the high level of integrity of this site. Although Native American lithics, primarily debitage, is also recovered from this plow zone, these artifacts are easily distinguishable from the eighteenth-century artifacts.

Warwick's Fort has fort period artifacts in the plow zone and intact archeological features below the plow zone that convey its defensive/military function, including three sections of stockade trench with one bastion at the northwest end of the fort and post-molds coming out from the trench, one short stockade corner at the northeastern corner of the fort, and another short stretch near the likely southeast corner of the fort, a burned area that indicates a chimney area adjacent to a round tower that functioned as part of a blockhouse, and an adjacent underground cellar near the tower that almost certainly functioned as a powder magazine cellar, with postmolds around it suggesting the presence of a structure over the cellar. These features allow us to understand the size, design, and construction methods of this fort.

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Previous Investigations

Archeological investigations have been conducted by Dr. W. Stephen McBride and Dr. Kim A. McBride, with support from the University of Kentucky Program for Cultural Resource Assessment, the Kentucky Archeological Survey, the West Virginia Department of Culture and History, the West Virginia Humanities Council, Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area, Pocahontas County Schools, the Cal Price Fund, Pocahontas Historic Landmarks Commission, Fort Warwick, and the Fairs and Festivals Historic Preservation funds to the Summers County Historic Landmarks Commission. The work began with survey (metal detecting and shovel test excavation) in 1990, as part of a grant from the West Virginia Department of Culture and History to the Summers County Historic Landmarks Commission (McBride and McBride 1991) and continued with limited excavation of test units in 2004 and then more intensive work in 2007 using a backhoe to uncover the stockade trenches. Continued metal detecting, shovel test excavation and especially the excavation of test units, was then conducted intermittently for multiple short seasons (sometimes as short as one weekend) in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022. In 2024 a grant from the Appalachian Forest Nation Heritage Area allowed for more unit excavation and plowzone stripping. In many cases we had assistance from students from the Pocahontas County public schools and the general public. Limited geophysical survey in the form of GPR was conducted in 2008 but the main finding was to document previous archeological backhoe trenches, and again in 2020, when GPR and magnetometer survey was conducted. Neither were very successful in identifying the fort stockade trenches but some pit features were identified. Field records are curated by Greenbrier Valley Archaeology, Inc, but copies will be provided to curation facilities. Artifacts are curated by Fort Warwick, LLC, 250 Fort Warwick Passage, Green Bank, WV.

Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources

There is one contributing resource, the archeological site (46Ph82).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Archeology/Historic-Non-Aboriginal
Exploration/Settlement
Military

Warwick's Fort _____

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Period of Significance

1774-1783

Significant Dates

1774

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

Architect/Builder

Captains George Moffatt & George Mathews, and their militia companies

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

This statement is abbreviated, as suggested by the instruction in National Register Bulletin 16A, Page 66 for individual properties registered under a Multiple Property Documentation Form. Warwick's Fort is a highly significant archeological site, significant at the state level, under Criterion D, from 1774 to 1783 under the Multiple Property Documentation *Frontier Forts of West Virginia*. Warwick's Fort was an important militia-built regional fort established by Captains George Moffatt and George Matthew's militia in the Summer of 1774 as part of Lord Dunmore's War, with continued use through the American Revolution. The fort's location on an upland terrace overlooking the North Fort of Deer Creek, provided a defensible position and proximity to Deer Creek, an important transportation corridor. It contains well preserved archeological features and artifacts that can be used to better understand the frontier defensive system of eighteenth-century western Virginia.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Warwick's Fort History

Warwick's Fort was constructed in 1774 on the property of William Warwick (also spelled Warrick) on the Forks of Deer Creek. William Warwick was granted a 900-acre tract in 1783, and had it surveyed in 1787, but probably settled it in the early 1770s (Augusta County Surveyor Book 3:311, Virginia Land Office Grant H 1782-83:75). By virtue of this 900-acre tract William Warwick was one of the larger landowners in what is now Pocahontas County. The origin of Warwick's Fort is best described by William Kennerly in his Revolutionary War Pension application. According to Kennerly, he,

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“rendezvoused in Staunton in the Said County of Augusta in the Month of June 1774 and he marched from there as first sergeant of the company under the Command of Captain George Mathews...From Staunton he marched with the Company to a place called Warwick's Fort in what is now the County of Greenbrier where they joined other men under the command of Captain George Moffett, who also belonged to the Augusta Militia, who was the first Officer in Command and was then engaged in building said fort. This declarant was left at Fort Warwick in Command of sixteen men, the other troops under the command of Capts Moffett and Mathews marched to Point Pleasant to join the Army under the Command of General Lewis. After the battle of the Point, which took place on the 10th of October 1774, the troops that survived returned to Fort Warwick where this declarant had been left in Command and about the 1st of November of said year the troops were discharged and returned home.”

Kennerly's pension statement indicates that the fort was left under Serg. Kennerly's command as Capt. Moffett's and most of Capt. George Mathew's companies marched to Point Pleasant. In his pension statement, Samuel McClure confirmed most of Kennerly's statements, but added that Capt. George Mathews' company also helped build the fort.

The Dunmore's War militia lists indicate that Capt. George Moffett's (also spelled Moffatt) company contained an ensign (James Seawright), 10 sergeants, a drummer, and 73 privates (Skidmore and Kaminsky 2002:117-118). While Capt. Moffett and most of his men were from the Staunton area, some men, such as Joseph Waddell [Woodell] and Alexander Dunlap, were from present Pocahontas County. Interestingly, 17 men in Capt. Moffett's company made a claim from Augusta County “By 6 days work on a fort” (Skidmore and Kaminsky 2002:93, 96, 121). These claims were likely for their work on Warwick's Fort. Capt. George Mathew's Company, many of whom were also from the Staunton region, consisted of First Lieutenant William Robertson, Second Lieutenant George Gibson, Sergeant John Rankin, Sergeant William Kennerly, a drummer, and 30 privates, including William Warwick, Jacob Warwick, and Thomas Cartmill (Draper Manuscripts 2ZZ52; Skidmore and Kaminsky 2002:105).

The pension applications of William Kennerly and Samuel McClure suggest that 120 men and officers were stationed at Warwick's Fort in the summer of 1774, followed by 16 men and a sergeant in September and early October. Finally, the survivors of Moffett's and Mathew's companies returned after the October 10, 1774 battle and stayed until early November. In addition to these men, pensioner William Alexander stated that in September 1774 Capt. John Ewing's company of Augusta County Militia “marched to Warm Springs, Va, then to Warwick's Fort on the Greenbrier River and from there to George Westfall's Fort on a Branch of the Monongahela in Tiger Valley...” (Alexander pension). So, an additional company of militia was at the fort for at least a short time in September 1774. After the Fall of 1774 it is unclear if the fort was garrisoned again until the Revolutionary War began. Garrison information for Warwick's Fort during the Revolutionary War also comes from the pension applications. The pension applications of William Salisbury, William Green, Robert Sitlington, Andrew McCausland, Thomas Blake, George Smith, James Steuart, Zack Taylor, John Sims, Isaiah

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Slavens, and John Dickinson stated that Warwick's Fort was garrisoned by militia in 1776-1779 or 1780 and in 1782. Although we have no documentation, it is likely that the fort was also garrisoned in 1781 since Indian incursions continued in this year. The companies stationed at the fort include those of Capt. John Lewis (1776), Capt. Samuel Vance (1777) (who took over Lewis' company), Capt. Thomas Hicklin (1779 or 1780), Capt. John Givens (1779), Capt. George Poage (1782), Capt. John McKittrick (1782), Lt. Jacob Warwick (1782), and Capt. Robert Cravens (date uncertain). The companies of Givens, McKittrick, and Warwick only stayed at Warwick's Fort a brief time enroute to elsewhere (Smith, Sims, Dickinson pensions).

There are no recorded attacks on Warwick's Fort although nearby farmsteads were attacked on several occasions (Price 1901). Given known Indian activity in present Pocahontas, Greenbrier, and Randolph Counties, it is likely that settlers moved in and out of the fort during most years of the Revolutionary War. It is likely that the fort was abandoned in the mid-1780s.

Warwick's Fort is extremely significant under Criterion D under the areas of Exploration/Settlement, Military and Archaeology/Historic-Non-Aboriginal. In regard to Exploration/Settlement area of significance, Warwick's Fort was a key node or entrepot in the settlement system, serving as a central place in the period before towns were established. Warwick's Fort was one of the larger forts that settlers would go to in times of danger, being preferred over smaller neighborhood forts that were considered less defensible and less comfortable. It was essential in preserving the Euro-American settlements of the area, and from keeping settlers from fleeing back to better defended areas to the east in the 1770s and 1780s, as they had in the 1750s and 1760s.

Warwick's Fort is significant under the area Military. Warwick's Fort was the main militia-built fort for the upper Greenbrier River watershed, and built by prominent military leaders, Captains George Moffatt and George Mathews. Warwick's Fort is one of the forts most frequently cited in the Revolutionary War pension applications of militiamen from the upper Greenbrier Valley. It is well documented in terms of its construction in the summer of 1774 (see narrative description, even to the point of having the names of men who constructed it). Its design as presently understood presents information on variations from the classic two-bastion design for frontier forts as seen in other militia forts (Arbuckle's and Donnally's forts in Greenbrier County, or Cook's Fort in Monroe County) or the schematic fort drawing by militiaman Spenser Records. The location of Warwick's Fort at the confluence of the forks of Deer Creek, a transportation route for Native Americans, informs us of what was thought of as a strategic location.

Warwick's Fort is significant under the area Archaeology/Historic-Non-Aboriginal because the site contains structural features and artifacts that provide data useful in the study of the frontier defensive system, the design and construction methods of frontier forts, the material culture of the militia and settlers, provisioning of food within the fort, and political ideology. More detail on the nature of the deposits and examples of information that contain is provided in Section 7. The site has high archeological integrity, with no other historic period occupation. Despite plowing, the Warwick's Fort artifacts have a horizontal integrity that allows them to be used to identify activity areas within the fort and make hypothesis about past activities/ actions.

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For example, the vast majority of the kitchen and foodways artifacts are concentrated around the cellar and round tower features, suggesting a concentration of domestic activities here. Lead balls are concentrated at the round town and in between the bastion and the northeast corner, where their presence suggests additional fortification. Additionally, the strong archival documentation about Warwick's Fort adds to the research and interpretive potential of its below ground resources.

Additional information is available in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, *Frontier Forts of West Virginia*.

Warwick's Fort

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

For more bibliographical resources, see the MPS *Frontier Forts of West Virginia*

McBride, W. Stephen and Kim A. McBride

2018 *Frontier Defense: Early Settlement in the Upper Greenbrier Valley, Pocahontas County, West Virginia*. Booklet for wide public distribution, supported by a grant from the West Virginia Humanities Council to Summers County Historic Landmarks Commission.

McBride, W. Stephen and Kim A. McBride

2016 "I tremble for the Fate of the Greenbrier People:" Border Conflict in Revolutionary Era West Virginia, In *Preserving Fields of Conflict: Papers from the 2014 Fields of Conflict Conference and Preservation Workshop*, edited by Steven D. Smith, pp. 85-89. South Carolina Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, Columbia.

McBride, W. Stephen, Kim A. McBride, and Greg Adamson

2003 *Frontier Forts in West Virginia: Historical and Archeological Explorations*. West Virginia Division of Culture and History, Charleston.

McBride, W. Stephen, Kim A. McBride and J. David McBride

1996 *Frontier Defense or the Greenbrier and Middle New River Country*. Program for Cultural Resource Assessment Report 375, University of Kentucky, Lexington.

McBride, W. Stephen, and Kim A. McBride

1991 *An Archeological Survey of Frontier Forts in the Greenbrier and Middle New River Valleys of West Virginia*. Program for Cultural Resource Assessment Archeological Report No. 252, University of Kentucky.

Pension applications. All pension applications were initially researched in the microfilm records of the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., but most are now available online via Ancestry.com or at

<https://www.collectingcousins.com/resource/southern-campaigns-revolutionary-war-pension-statements-rosters/>.

Price, William T.

1901 *Historical Sketches of Pocahontas County*. Price Brothers, Publishers, Marlinton, West Virginia. Reprinted 1990 by Heritage Books, Bowie, Maryland.

Skidmore, Warren, with Donna Kaminsky

2002 *Lord Dunmore's Little War of 1774: His Captains and Their Men Who Opened up Kentucky and the West to American Settlement*. Heritage Books, Inc, Bowie, Maryland.

Warwick's Fort _____

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: field records at Greenbrier Valley Archaeology, Inc., artifacts at Fort Warwick Museum, by landowner Robert Sheets, near the site, some artifacts on loan to WV Division of Culture and History, on exhibit at Grave Creek Archaeological Complex

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): Archaeological site 46Ph82

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.2 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Zone: 17n Easting: 599967 Northing: 4252881

Zone: 17n Easting: 599873 Northing: 4252881

Zone: 17n Easting: 599967 Northing: 4252829

Zone: 17n Easting : 599873 Northing: 4252829

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the Warwick's Fort site is a 1.2 acre rectangle 308 ft (94 meters) EW x 170 ft (52 meters) NS, on a terrace overlooking the North Fort of Deer Creek, and shown on the site map as the outer rectangle, and on the USGS Green Bank quad.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is defined by artifact distribution and knowledge of the location of the northwestern bastion and the northern, eastern, and southern walls, as defined by stockade trenching and a series of postmolds, and a buffer out to the edge of the terrace on the north, west, and south sides. The terrace on which the fort is situated extends to the east for over a thousand feet, but the eastern site boundary was set at about 45 feet (13.7 m) east of the last known bit of stockade trench/postmolds (see site map) and was determined by the rapid drop off in fort period artifacts at this distance from the eastern fort wall, as shown by metal detecting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dr. Kim A. McBride & Dr. W. Stephen McBride
organization: Greenbrier Valley Archaeology, Inc.
street & number: 1362 Washington Street E
city or town: Lewisburg state: WV zip code: 24901
e-mail: kim.mcbride@uky.edu
telephone: (859) 421 5943
date: June 3, 2024

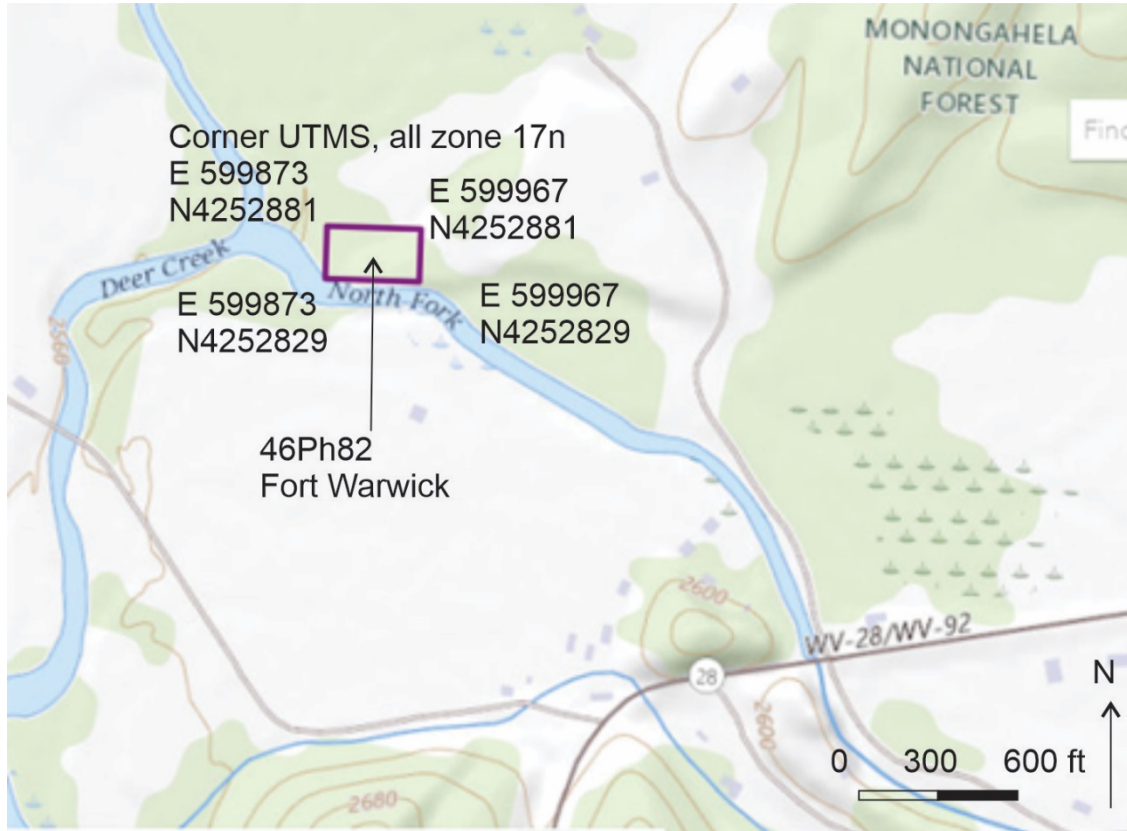
Warwick's Fort

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

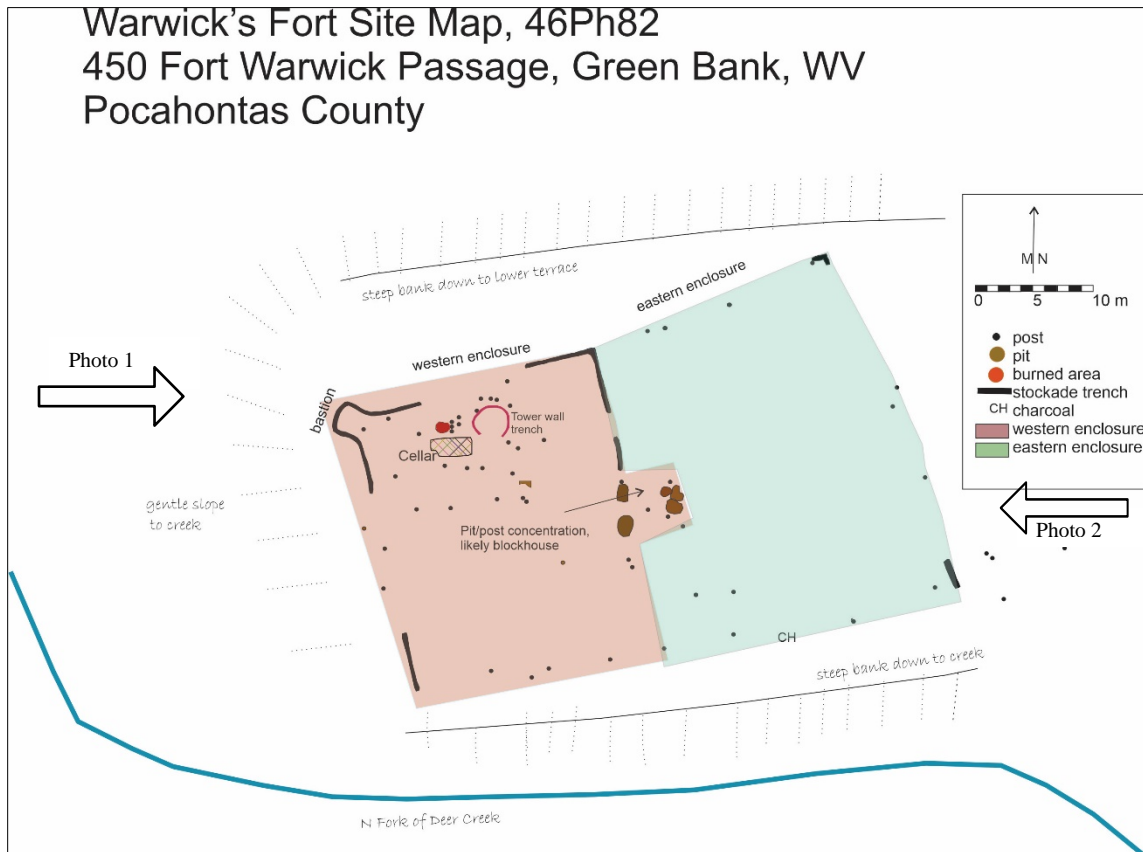


USGS Green Bank Quad, utms in nad 83
<https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/maps>
accessed 2/24/2024

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

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- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Landowner, Robert, Elaine, Jacob and Jed Sheets, 450 Fort Warwick Passage, Green Bank, WV 24944, (304) 456-4815

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Warwick's Fort

City or Vicinity: Green Bank

County: Pocahontas State: West Virginia

Photographer: W. Stephen McBride

Date Photographed: May 2, 2024

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Photo 001 site setting, looking east, May 2, 2024

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Photo 002 site setting, looking west, May 2, 2024

Figure Log

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 001 excavation in progress, looking west, 2016

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 002 excavation of stockade trench, looking east, 2007

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 003 stockade bastion, looking east, 2007

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 004 initial find of stockade trench, looking south, 2007

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 005 stockade trench north wall, 2024

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 006 cellar before excavation, looking west, 2008

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 007 cellar excavated with balk remaining, looking west, 2008

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 008 circular building/tower wall trench stain, looking west, 2017

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 009 burned feature, looking east, 2012

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 010 gunflint, lead balls, 2014

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 011 gunflint and gunflint knapper, 2018

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 012 musket sideplate, 2014

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 013 Littler's Blue salt glazed stoneware, 2014

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 014 glass fragment from Turlington's Balsam of Life bottle, 2017

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 015 Turlington bottle fragment comparison, 2017

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 016 personal items, 2014

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 017 cufflinks, 2014

WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 018 King George III intaglio, 2017

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Photo 001 site setting, looking east, May 2, 2024



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Photo 002 site setting, looking west, May 2, 2024

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 001 excavation in progress, looking west, 2016



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 002 excavation of stockade trench, looking east, 2007



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 003 stockade bastion, looking east, 2007

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 004 initial find of stockade trench, looking south, 2007



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 005 stockade trench north wall, 2024

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 006 cellar before excavation, looking west, 2008



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 007 cellar excavated with balk remaining, looking west, 2008



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 008 circular building/tower wall trench stain, looking west, 2017

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 009 burned feature, looking east, 2012



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 010 gunflint, lead balls, 2014

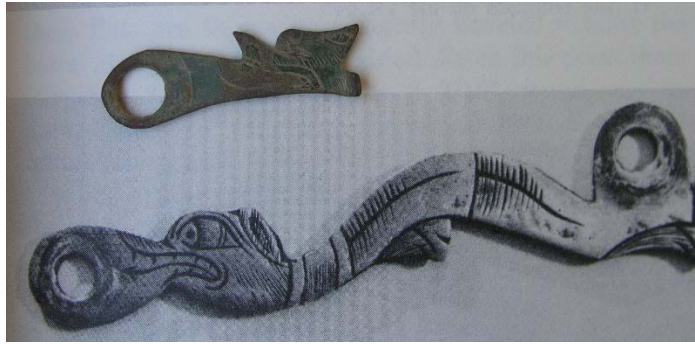


WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_011gunflint and gunflint knapper, 2018

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 012 musket sideplate with illustration, 2014



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 013 Littler's Blue Ceramics, 2014



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 014 glass fragment from Turlington's Balsam of Life bottle, 2017

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 015 Turlington bottle fragment comparison, 2017



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 016 personal items, 2014



WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 017 cufflinks, 2014

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WV_Pocahontas_Warwick's Fort_Figure 018 King George III intaglio, 2017