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~~NR/B~~
 CONTEXT AEO/MIL

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

HM-0019

STREET ADDRESS U.S. Route 50		COMMON/HISTORIC NAME Fort EDWARDS	NO. IN SURVEY HM-45	NO. OF BAYS ☐ FRONT ☐ SIDE
TOWN OR COMMUNITY CAPON BRIDGE		COUNTY Hampshire	NEGATIVE NO.	NOT VISIBLE FROM ROAD ☐
ARCHITECT/BUILDER		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1756	EXTERIOR BUILDING FABRIC wood / log	
DATE _____ NAT. REGISTER LISTED _____ STATE REGISTER LISTED _____		ROOFING MATERIAL	STYLE (STAFF USE ONLY) Shutter Stockade / I- House	
PROPERTY USE OR FUNCTION Museum Private Residence		TYPE OF FOUNDATION	PHOTOGRAPH (2" X 3" CONTACT)	
SURVEY ORGANIZATION AND DATE		QUADRANGLE NAME CAPON BRIDGE		
WV SHPO - 1990 (1976)		PART OF WHAT SURVEY Hampshire County		



SITE NO.

PRESENT OWNERS

Mrs. Vernie Hook

OWNER ADDRESS

Capon Bridge, WV 26711

GENERAL CONDITION OF PROPERTY**ADDITIONS**☐

YES

☐

NO

IF YES, DESCRIBE

ALTERATIONS☐

YES

☐

NO

IF YES, DESCRIBE

NO. AND NATURE OF OUTBUILDINGS**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY (ORIGINAL AND PRESENT)**

A weather boarded house with a central chimney was believed to have been a log cabin within the fort.

A stockade located on or near the site of present Capon Bridge, Hampshire Co. Named for the family of that name, owners of the land thereabouts.

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The site of a stockade, built in the mid-18th century. Troops from this fort were under Captain Mercer, which were ambushed April 18, 1756, along with one hundred men of Washington's Regiment went in pursuit of a body of thirty or forty Frenchmen and Shawnee Indians. The result was an ambushed the stockade, Captain Mercer and all but six of his men were killed and scalped.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

FORM PREPARED BY Karen F. Storer
Phil Pitts (76)

DATE JAN. 1990

ADDRESS WYSHPO

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME FORT EDWARDS

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DEC 1968

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DEC 1968



DEC 1968

WEST VIRGINIA ANTIQUITIES COMMISSION

HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

Inv	Res	Prep	Sub	Acc	Rej
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Please send completed forms to:
 West Virginia Antiquities Commission
 Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University
 Morgantown, West Virginia 26506

FILE NO 9

1	NAME	COMMON	FORT EDWARDS
		and/or HISTORIC	
2	LOCATION	STREET & NUMBER	U.S. ROUTE 50
		TOWN	CAPON BRIDGE
		COUNTY	HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
3	STATUS	OWNER'S NAME	MRS. VERNIE HOOK
		OWNER'S ADDRESS	CAPON BRIDGE W.VA.
		PROPERTY USE	
		PUBLIC ACCESS	YES: NO: ☒ REMARKS:
4	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	COURTHOUSE AT WHICH RECORDED	HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
		ADDRESS	ROMNEY W.VA.
		APPROX. ACREAGE	
5	SITE DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	
		PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION (include photograph if possible)	A WEATHER BEARDED HOUSE WITH A CENTRAL CHIMNEY WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN A LOG CABIN WITHIN THE FORT,
6	SITE SIGNIFICANCE	TIME PERIOD	
		STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	THE THE SITE OF A STOCKADE BUILT IN THE MIDDLE 18TH CENTURY. TROOPS FROM THIS FORT UNDER CAPT. MERCER WERE AMBUSHED IN 1756 AND MANY WERE KILLED THE FRENCH AND INDIANS LATER ATTACKED THE FORT AND WITH THE AID OF SETTLERS IN THE AREA WAS THE GARRISON WAS ABLE TO REPULSE THE ATTACK
7	MAP	ROUGH MAP OF PROPERTY IN RELATION TO SURROUNDINGS (show route numbers and street names)	
8	FORM PREPARED BY	NAME	PHIL PITTS, RESEARCH ASSISTANT West Virginia Antiquities Commission
		ADDRESS	Morgantown, West Virginia 26506
		DATE	FEB. 1976

FORT EDWARDS

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HAMPSHIRE Co

Fort Edwards was a stockade defense situated on or near the site of the present village of Capon Bridge, on Capon River, in present Hampshire County, West Virginia. From Fort Edwards, on April 18, 1756, Captain John Mercer, with one hundred men of Washington's Regiment, went in pursuit of a body of thirty or forty Frenchmen and Shawnese Indians known to be in the vicinity. The result was an ambushade in which Captain Mercer and all but six of his men were killed and scalped. Washington, who was then in Winchester, upon hearing of Mercer's fate, wrote Lord Fairfax, county-lietenant of Frederick County, urging him to order out militia for the defense of the border settlements. He said to Fairfax, April 19, 1756: "Unless I can throw some ammunition into Edwards's Fort to night, the remainder of our party, and the inhabitants that are there, will more than probably fall a sacrifice to the Indians. . . ." But to rely upon the militia of Frederick County, Washington termed "an unhappy reliance."

Hamilton, vol. i, pp. 223, 243, 247, vol. ii, pp. 72, 96, 321;
Lewis, pp. 208-209.

Kercheval (ed. of 1833), p. 102, says forty men were under Captain Mercer.

Fort, Writings of Washington, vol. i, p. 248

Ibid., p. 372.