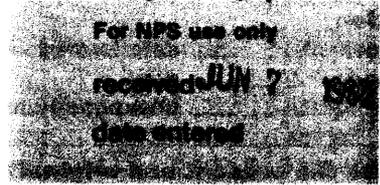


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic late Archaeological Site (22 Hu655)

and/ on Same as above

2. Location

[REDACTED]

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: cemetery

4. Owner of Property

name Tom Fouche

street & number Route 2

city, town Benton

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk

street & number Humphreys County Courthouse

city, town Belzoni

state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

[REDACTED] Occupation at the site occurred during three periods: the initial Poverty Point component; a Baytown component represented by a small midden mound and a few ceramics; and a historic component consisting of the remains of several tenant shacks and an abandoned cemetery. The surface distribution of prehistoric material is in the general configuration of a large semi-circle open to the east. The density of material within this semi-circle, however, is not uniform, with the greatest density of Poverty Point - related materials in a linear band [REDACTED] sides of the site and with the heaviest concentration of Baytown materials, including the mound, in the [REDACTED] section of the site. Excavation of a 1m² test unit and several deep borings revealed that cultural materials are limited to the plowzone (60 cm below surface).

The outstanding feature of the Poverty Point component artifact assemblage is the lapidary industry. Ornamental forms, including several varieties of disc beads, tubular beads, barrel-shaped beads, miniatures, and effigies, were fashioned from a variety of exotic materials but principally from green slate. Other materials employed within the lapidary industry include quartz crystals, bauxite, phyllite, quartz diorite, jasper, and quartzite, and other materials present at the site include novaculite, nepheline syenite, hematite, garnet schist, Tallahatta quartzite, magnetite and hornblende basalt. Though the principal source area is the Ouachita Mountains in Arkansas, a number of other areas are represented.

The Slate site represents a special activity site devoted to the production of lapidary items and was occupied relatively late within the Poverty Point Period (1500-600 B.C.). The lack of midden accumulation and artifacts suggestive of domestic activities, such as Poverty Point objects, fired clay/daub, and extensive debitage, can be construed as evidence of a special activity locus as well as of a limited duration of occupation. An occupation late within the Poverty Point Period is indicated by the apparent inactivity of the stage 4 meander belt (abandoned by 2600 B.P.) at the time of occupation and by the emphasis on the production of non-utilitarian objects, a feature considered characteristic of the Florescent phase of occupation at the Poverty Point site (1000-800 B.C.).

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates see below

Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Specific dates: probably late Poverty Point (1000-800 B.C.) and Baytown Period (300-600 A.D.)

Statement of significance:

The Poverty Point component at the Slate site is significant both for the information that it has yielded and for the information that could be obtained through further investigation. The principal information obtained thus far concerns the lapidary industry. One rare bead form is closely allied with similar beads at the Poverty Point site and another form apparently is represented nowhere else in the southeast. Also, the collection from the site contains all stages of the lapidary manufacturing sequence and has allowed the definition of the manufacturing trajectory. Although controlled surface collections have thus far demonstrated definite patterning at the site, further investigations could approach this matter with greater precision. Potential results include settling the matter of whether or not the Poverty Point material is in a horseshoe configuration, a common pattern for such sites, and might also help to define assemblage differences between the Poverty Point and Baytown components, particularly as regards what are normally regarded as "non-diagnostic" elements. Further definition of a Poverty Point special activity site that lacks Poverty Point objects, an artifact class traditionally thought necessary for recognition of a Poverty Point component, would help identify other Poverty Point components. Finally, identification of source areas utilized by Jaketown Phase sites that are not thought to have been used by Poverty Point Phase sites during the Florescent period may suggest the autonomy with which the various Poverty Point regional centers exercised their patterns of exchange and provide insight into the development and decline of the Poverty Point culture.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lauro, James and Geoffrey R. Lehmann

1982 The Slate site, a Poverty Point lapidary industry in the southern

Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Archaeological Report 7.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale

UMT References

A [redacted]
Zone Easting Northing

[redacted]
Zone Easting Northing

C [redacted]

[redacted]

E [redacted]

F [redacted]

G [redacted]

H [redacted]

Verbal boundary description and justification Controlled surface collections indicate that the site extends from the natural levees on either side of the neck of the Wolf Lake meander in an east/west direction, and runs for approximately 425 meters in a north/south direction beginning about 300 meters north of County Line road (see attached map).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Geoffrey R. Lehmann, Archaeologist

organization Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

date May 4, 1982

street & number P.O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 25, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

7/8/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration