

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

FEB - 7 1984

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Barner Site (22-Co-542)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number



not for publication

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Richard B. Flowers

street & number 895 West Edwards Avenue

city, town Tunica

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Coahoma County Courthouse

street & number 115 First Street

city, town Clarksdale

state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Mississippi Statewide
title Archaeological Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980

federal state county local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson

state Mississippi

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Barner Site is on a low ridge and is approximately eight acres in area. Most of the ridge was landleveled in 1981,

[REDACTED]. This area was excavated (Brookes 1980), and the data obtained to form the basis for this nomination.

At present the site is under cultivation. The landowner plans to continue using it for growing cotton. No further [REDACTED] construction is planned for the immediate future.

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/			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation			
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)			

Specific dates N/A

Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Coles Creek is a cultural period characterized by distinctive ceramics and, at major centers, mound triads. It is restricted in both time and space. [REDACTED] Philip Phillips has stated that Barner may be a step beyond the limits of what is called Coles Creek (personal communication 1980). Since Coles Creek seems to be such a vigorous culture one may well ask why its northern movement was retarded. Further, the movement was retarded during the earlier part of the period (ca. A.D. 800) and remained stalled until the end (ca. A.D. 1200), when it was overwhelmed by the Mississippian expansion. Brain's proposal that tropical flint corn was the retarding factor has been shown to be false (Potts and Brookes).

A research plan for contrasting the northern (Peabody) and southern (Aden) phases of this period is hampered by the fact that no significant excavations have been undertaken on sites of this age in either area. Surface collections have yielded sherds, thus allowing the construction of ceramic phases. The chronology is, therefore, relatively tight. What is lacking is any sort of hard data on subsistence, housing, social organization, and most importantly, agriculture. While this latter category can be subsumed under subsistence, it demands a special place in the problem of Coles Creek, for there is no data to suggest its presence in the Upper Sunflower region during this time period.

Barner is viewed as a village site, with year round habitation a distinct possibility. A comparison of data from an Aden phase village with that from a Peabody phase village would be invaluable. Problem-oriented excavation rather than salvage excavation is needed to allow the formulation of hypotheses concerning the Coles Creek culture. At this time three important questions can be asked about the early Coles Creek culture in the Yazoo Basin:

- 1) How important was agriculture to the people of the Aden phase [REDACTED]
- 2) Did agriculture exist during the Peabody phase in the Upper Sunflower region and if so, to what degree was it important in terms of subsistence?
- 3) Is the northern retardation of Coles Creek (if indeed it is a retardation of a cultural expansion) due to cultural or ecological or other unknown factors, and what is the nature of these factors?

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Barner Site, Coahoma County,

Continuation sheet Mississippi

Item number 8, 9, 10

Page 1

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8 - SIGNIFICANCE

Subsurface features present at the Barner Site provide an opportunity to answer these questions. Though the site is under cultivation, the midden (approximately 2-1/2 to 3-feet thick) protects subsurface features. Preservation of faunal and floral materials is excellent, further adding to the value of the site. Finally, Barner is the only known Peabody phase site with such a thick midden and known presence of subsurface features.

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brookes, Samuel O.

1980 "The Peabody Phase in the Upper Sunflower Region." M.A. thesis,
University of Mississippi.

Potts, Thomas D. and Samuel O. Brookes

1981 "The Bobo Site 22-Co-535." Mississippi Archaeology 16, 1.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal boundary description and justification)

[REDACTED]