

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Mississippi</b>
COUNTY: <b>Coahoma</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>DEC 30 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
~~Wilford Site~~ **Wilford (Wilford) Site**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_ CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Mrs. C. M. Allen**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: **Lula** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **28**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Coahoma County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**First Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Clarksdale** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **28**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**An Archaeological Survey of the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley**

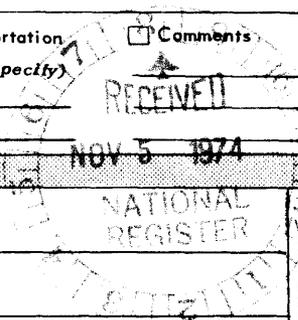
DATE OF SURVEY: **1940-1947**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology - Harvard University**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: **Cambridge** STATE: **Massachusetts** CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wilford Site consists of a prehistoric village site, as well as a small rectangular platform mound overgrown by cane and trees. The mound is approximately ten feet in height, 160 feet in length, and 120 feet in width. The village area covers twenty acres more or less [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A heavy concentration of daub and occasional broken shell-tempered pottery can be found on the surface of the village site.

An earlier survey conducted by the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology in the 1940s recorded two mounds on the site, one of which was simply described as a small mound. Four house patterns were uncovered during the 1969 excavations at the village site, and three of these were superimposed. It is possible that the three house patterns are remnants of the second mound mentioned by the Peabody archaeologists, considering the fact that the site is in a cultivated field.



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SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) <i>ca. 1460 AD (-14)</i>			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The Wilford Site was first recorded by Philip Phillips, James A. Ford, and James B. Griffin in the Peabody Museum's "Archaeological Survey of the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley, 1940-1947." It was partially excavated in the summer of 1969 by John Connaway and Samuel O. McGahey, field archaeologists, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and a team from the University of Mississippi under the direction of Professor Thomas H. Koehler. The excavation was undertaken in an attempt to salvage information regarding house construction on the site, since recent deep plowings had uncovered large pieces of daub.</p> <p>The excavation of the village site [redacted] revealed two house construction areas, one of which yielded three house patterns, apparently representing two reconstructions of the same building. The other area contained a single, large house pattern. Although consisting of the expected rectangular shape, utilizing poles set in wall trenches, the patterns were most unusual. They contained rows of large interior support poles with huge center poles. The larger house pattern also had exterior supports. The interior post molds were in an almost perfectly arranged grid network, leaving practically no usable space at ground level.</p> <p>Research in the archaeological literature of the area to date has failed to disclose records of comparable house patterns. A structure which could be very similar or almost identical is described by Garcilaso de la Vega in his account of the DeSoto expedition through the area in 1541. The Spaniards encountered a group of people on the west side of the Mississippi, who were taking refuge from a flood in houses with raised floors, approximately 18 to 24 feet off the ground. According to the account, the houses had rooms on all four sides, which were used for storing provisions. These descriptions nicely fit the archaeological evidence obtained from the Wilford Site. Further excavations could possibly determine if the houses actually had raised floors, as well as finding evidence of the super-structures involved. Similar house patterns could well be located on the small platform mound, which is almost perfectly preserved.</p>			
<p><i>Patchman phase of Mississippian - ca 1460 AD.</i>  <i>cf. Phillips Arch. Survey of the Lower Yazoo Basin</i>  <i>1970.</i></p>			

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Connaway, John and McGahey, Sam. 1970. Archaeological Survey and Salvage [redacted] and in Hinds County, 1968-1969.  
 Phillips, Philip. 1970. Archaeological Survey [redacted] Mississippi, 1949-1955. Papers of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Vol. 60.  
 Phillips, Philip, Ford, James A., and Griffin, James B. 1951. Archaeological Survey [redacted] 1940-1947. Papers of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Vol. 25.

HR  
NO  
UTM

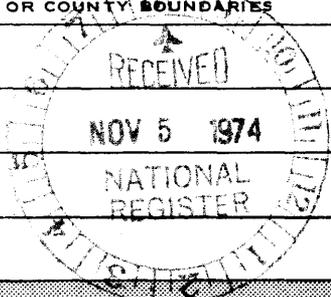
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	[redacted]	[redacted]	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NE	[redacted]	[redacted]	°	'	"	
SE	[redacted]	[redacted]				
SW	[redacted]	[redacted]				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Twenty acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Samuel O. McGahey, Field Archaeologist**

ORGANIZATION: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History**      DATE: **October 30, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Post Office Box 571**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jackson**      STATE: **Mississippi 39205**      CODE: **28**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Elbert R. Hilliard</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>October 30, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u>                  Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>12/30/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u>                  Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>DEC 27 1974</u></p>
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