

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88000306

Date Listed: 4/13/88

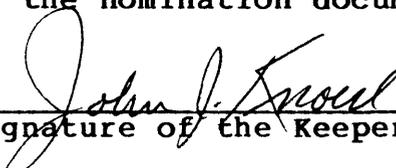
Up The Tree Shell Midden
Property Name

[REDACTED]
County

Mississippi
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

4/13/88
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Item 3. Classification.
Delete 1 Building, add 1 site

Item 6. Function or Use
Delete "Timberland", add "Domestic/camp"

Verified by phone with:
James T. Lauro
Archeologist
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

FEB 29 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Up the Tree Shell Midden
other names/site number (22-Ha-595)

2. Location

street & number [redacted]
city, town [redacted]
state [redacted]

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool 2/24/88
Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Mississippi Department of
State or Federal agency and bureau Archives and History

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

John J. Kroschel 4/13/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Timberland

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Timberland

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls

roof

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Up the Tree Shell Midden (22-Ha-595) is a small shell midden (*rangia cuneata*)

Located on the last piece of high dry ground in the southerly portion of the State of Mississippi, this shell midden is approximately 70 feet x 45 feet in size and extends from the present ground surface to a depth of over 1-1/2 feet. The site appears to date sometime in the Woodland Period (100 B.C.-1000 A.D.) on the basis of two sand tempered plain sherds located on the surface. The site, covered on three sides by marshland and a small bayou,

Cedar, myrtle and several other hardwood varieties of trees along with a thick underbush of palmetto and saw grass cover and protect the site from erosion. No pot holes or other evidence of relic collecting activities were found, quite an unusual situation as many of Mississippi's coast shell middens have had their integrity compromised significantly by this type of activity. On the site was exposed approximately 1-1/2 feet of shell and black earth midden, however, it could not be profiled or photographed without going out into the marsh swamp. The shell is thickly packed and several pieces of deer bone were recovered in the midden. The piece of land more than likely has never been cultivated, however, it is likely that timber may have been harvested here in the past. Conditions for surface collecting were extremely poor due to the vegetation and it is virtually impossible to auger any type of solid core, manually operated, due to the dense and compact nature of the shell deposit. It would not be unreasonable to expect that preservation of faunal remains will be favorable, as is the case at other coastal shell middens (Claiborne Site, Deer Island Site, Raymond Bass Site) and the possible presence of human burials should also be considered.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
archaeology/prehistoric

Period of Significance
Woodland

Significant Dates
50 B.C.-1000A.D.

Cultural Affiliation
Woodland

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Up the Tree Shell Midden (22-Ha-594) is a small, apparently undisturbed Woodland Period shell midden, occupying an area of less than 1/2 acre at the tip of a point of land jutting out into the marshland [redacted]. The site is covered in a heavy growth of mixed hardwoods and underbrush, surrounded by marsh on three sides, and appears to be in a fine state of preservation considering the absence of disturbances due to relic collecting. Shell middens [redacted] are becoming scarce; many have been destroyed by construction, relic collecting, tidal activities, and hurricanes. This makes the value of the site even more important and the Up the Tree Shell Midden is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. The site is likely to produce valuable information important in the area of prehistoric archaeology. Excavations at the site should be geared to gathering as much information as possible regarding coastal subsistence strategies. Faunal remains have been collected on the surface (deer bones) and are most likely to be present in considerable quantities in the midden. Excavations should utilize screening through graduated mesh in an effort to recover small skeletal elements that might fall through a 1/4" screen. The data should be analyzed and attempts made to ascertain the relative importance of the individual elements within the total diet. Little is known about coastal subsistence strategies in Mississippi and questions relative to this area are likely to be answered by scientific excavations at this site. At the Richard Site (22-Hr-636) in Harrison County on Biloxi's Back Bay a single female burial with grave goods was found at the base of a shell and black earth midden in an apparently Mississippian Period Context.

Although Up the Tree appears to date earlier (Woodland Period), the possibility that burial(s) may be found in or beneath the shell midden must not be ruled out. If recovered, this would provide data on Woodland Period burials in a coastal situation. Further, floral remains may be present, and in good preservation due to the conditions at this site. If water screening techniques were utilized, additional subsistence data would come to light. This information in conjunction

See continuation sheet

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Up the Tree Shell Midden (22-Ha-595)

Hancock County, Mississippi

Section number 8 Page 1

with any faunal remains data could be utilized to ask questions about settlement patterns regarding seasonality. We would be in a good position to understand what time(s) of the year the site was utilized.

9. Major Bibliographical References

N/A

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division, Jackson, Mississippi

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 
 Zone Easting Northing

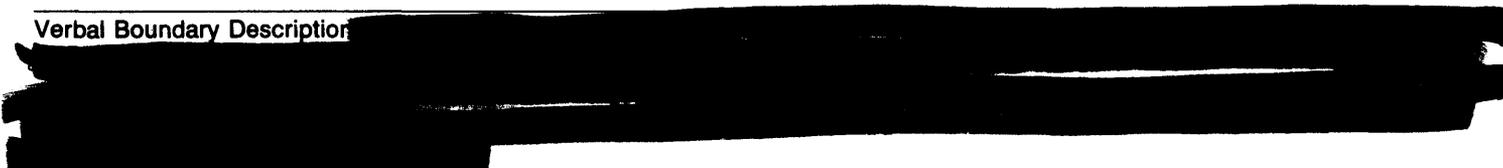
C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

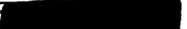
D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description



See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification The boundary is restricted to an area of approximately 70 feet  (s) by 40 feet  where thick deposits of shell and black earth midden are continuously exposed on the surface of the site with no apparent non-site areas.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James T. Lauro/Archaeologist

organization Miss. Department of Archives and History date December 1987

street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson state Mississippi zip code 39205