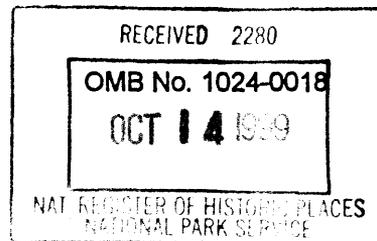


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1361

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: G.W.O. SITE
other names/site number: 22JO568

2. Location

street & number: [redacted] not for publication X
city or town: [redacted]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally X statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul SEPT. 30, 1999
Signature of certifying official Date

DEPUTY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Careal O'Shall 11-23-99

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:
PRIVATE

Number of Resources within Property:
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Category of Property:
SITE

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings sites
1		objects Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
DOMESTIC/camp

Current Functions:
VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification(s): N/A

Materials: N/A
foundation:
roof:
walls:
other:

Narrative Description:

See Continuation Sheets

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

Areas of Significance

ARCHAEOLOGY/Prehistoric

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- X D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Period of Significance

ca. 8000 to 6000 B.C.

Significant Dates

N/A

Criteria Considerations:

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation(s)

EARLY ARCHAIC

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance: See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet.

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

G.W.O. SITE (22JO568)

JONES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property [REDACTED]

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	B			D		
	C			E		
				F		

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: DOUGLAS C. SIMS/MDAH ARCHAEOLOGIST
MASON W. SHEFFIELD/UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI STUDENT
organization: MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY date: JUNE 25, 1999
street & number: P.O. BOX 571 telephone: (601) 359-6940
city or town: JACKSON state: MS zip code: 39205-0571

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner(s)

name:	Lakeland Properties LTD	telephone:	
street & number:	2945 W. Roxboro Road	state:	GA
city or town:	Atlanta	zip code:	30324

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The G.W.O. site (22Jo568) is a multi-component archaeological site [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The site extends approximately 40 x 85 meters [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The site's higher elevated areas (1.5 meters above current floodplain) are principally vegetated by pine and hardwoods with lesser amounts of holly, sassafras and other small bushes comprising the understory, while sweetgum, oak, and palmetto bushes dominate lower sections (Jackson and Scott 1992b:59) (see also 1992a:1).

The site was discovered in the summer of 1992 by Scott and Associates, while conducting a Phase I cultural resources survey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Initial surface inspection, as well as limited shovel testing in heavily vegetated areas, failed to encounter any substantial material remains. However, upon additional inspection, two nutting stones were located in the "backdirt of a 40 centimeter deep animal burrow" (Scott and Associates 1992:1) (see also Jackson and Scott 1992a:3; 1992b:59). Numerous shovel tests and two 50 x 50 centimeter test pits excavated in the vicinity of this burrow revealed the "presence of lithic artifacts to a depth of 1 meter, with an apparent peak in artifact density greater than 40 centimeters below surface" (Jackson and Scott 1992b:60) (see also Jackson and Scott 1992a:4). The presence of the nutting stones, large amounts of deeply deposited lithic debris, and the overall lack of ceramic materials, indicated that the G.W.O. site could possibly be a relatively intact, single component Archaic site. It was decided, therefore, to conduct limited Phase II testing at the site in order to determine whether or not the site was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The initial stage of Phase II testing consisted of establishing a datum and excavating a series of shovel and auger tests along several north-south transects (Scott and Associates 1992; Jackson and Scott 1992a:4; 1992b:60). The encountered "[s]ubsurface remains indicated that [the site] cover[ed] an area roughly 3400 square meters . . . 40 meters wide and at least 85 meters

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

long" up to 1 meter deep (Jackson and Scott 1992b:61-62) (Figure 2). Through these subsurface tests, archaeologists were able to identify the areas containing the highest artifact concentrations, into which four 1 x 1 meter excavation units were placed (Scott and Associates 1992a) (see also Jackson and Scott 1992a:4; 1992b:60) (Figure 3).

These excavations (shovel tests and units) recovered numerous lithic artifacts, a ceramic sherd, carbonized material, and stratigraphic data providing information on G.W.O.'s spatial and temporal extent, as well as data on its inhabitants' diet. Although artifacts were encountered to a depth of 1 meter, most of the formal stone tools and associated lithic debitage were recovered between 30 to 60 centimeters (Jackson and Scott 1992a:12; 1992b:71). The reason for this vertical spread of artifacts, as suggested by Jackson and Scott (1992a:13; 1992b:70) is primarily due to several millennia of bioturbation in the unconsolidated soils, a situation that is completely expected given the dynamic nature of the environs, as well as possible sample error.

Lithic material dominated the collected artifact assemblage. A total of 493 chipped stone (or chipped stone derived) artifacts were recovered from G.W.O. with a majority of them being made from locally available chert (Jackson and Scott 1992a:6; 1992b:63). Included in this assemblage were a variety of diagnostic artifacts, such as an auriculate based projectile point fragment, a Big Sandy point, point preforms, adzes, endscrapers, and a stemmed drill (Figure 4). Other recovered lithics included ground and polished sandstone artifacts, unmodified sandstone and cobbles, and 18 pieces of hematite or red ochre (Jackson and Scott 1992a:6; 1992b:63). Most of the groundstone artifacts recovered from G.W.O. possessed pitted and polished surfaces indicative of numerous possible functions, such as nutting stones, grinding surfaces, bow drill pivots, or anvils (Jackson and Scott 1992a:10-12; 1992b:69-70). Additionally, another groundstone object was identified as a bannerstone fragment (Jackson and Scott 1992a:10; 1992b:69) (Figure 5).

Although the assemblage is dominated by lithic material, other artifacts were also collected from the site during the excavations, including a single grit-tempered ceramic sherd, several unidentified calcined bone fragments, and a sizable amount of carbonized material (Jackson and Scott 1992a:6; 1992b:63). The carbonized material was primarily wood charcoal, but also included 14 pieces of hickory nut shell (Jackson and Scott 1992a:6; 1992b:63-64).

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

A brief examination of the recovered cultural materials and their stratigraphic contexts allows for a tentative reconstruction of occupational sequences, as well provides limited insights on possible activities that may have occurred at G.W.O. Again, although cultural material was encountered to a maximum depth of 1 meter, the maximum density of artifacts is noted between 30 and 60 centimeters. The first identifiable diagnostic, however, was recovered between 40 to 50 centimeters, and tentatively identified by Jackson and Scott (1992a:7; 1992b:67) as a terminal Paleoindian Dalton point (8,500 to 7,500 B.C.). Unfortunately, only a fragment of the point remained, making identification difficult. Upon viewing the point's illustration (see Figure 4), however, Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office chief archaeologist Samuel O. McGahey (pers. communication) suggested the auriculate based fragment could actually be part of an earlier Middle Paleoindian (9,000 to 8,500 B.C.) point type called Quad, pushing the earliest occupation of the site back another 500 to 1,000 years. Whether the earliest component present at G.W.O. is Middle or Late Paleoindian will need to be determined by future investigations focusing on "delineating the vertical and horizontal distribution of the early components of the site" (Jackson and Scott 1992a:14).

The next, more substantial occupation, is undoubtedly Early Archaic (7,500 to 6,000 B.C.) as indicated by the presence of numerous chipping debris, a Big Sandy point, several pointed unifaces, and a unifacial endscraper. Most of this material was recovered at depths of 30 to 50 centimeters below surface. Analysis of these artifacts provides general insights on some of the activities that occurred at the site. First, secondary and small tertiary flakes dominate the lithic assemblage recovered from G.W.O., especially during Early Archaic times. Their ubiquity at the site possibly reflects the prevalence of stone tool maintenance, rather than actual tool or point manufacture (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15 1992b:72-73). The dearth of true biface thinning flakes and the low ratio of projectile points to other tools recovered at the site for this time period also seem to support this premise (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15; 1992b:72). In addition to maintenance activities, Jackson and Scott (1992a:15; 1992b:72) also believe that the site's inhabitants were producing and using expedient flake tools, as indicated by the recovery of several flakes possessing limited use wear. These tool maintenance and production activities, as well as the recovery of a surprising number of groundstone artifacts (e.g., nutting stones), indicates that

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

G.W.O. functioned primarily as a residential base camp during the Early Archaic (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15; 1992b:72).

Occupations and/or activities at the site, although probably similar in nature, seem to diminish after the Early Archaic. This decrease is reflected in the relatively small amounts of chipping debris recovered in upper levels of the site, as well as the limited presence of diagnostic tools. Possible Middle Archaic (6,000 to 3,000 B.C.) and Late Archaic (3,000 to 1,500 B.C.) diagnostics include a single bannerstone fragment and a stemmed drill encountered roughly 10-20 centimeters below surface. The last occupational episode at G.W.O. appears to have been purely ephemeral in nature, as reflected by the recovery of a single grit-tempered sherd (10 centimeters below surface) diagnostic of the Woodland period (500 B.C. to A.D. 1,000) (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15; 1992b:72).

In summary, the artifacts and stratigraphy reveal that G.W.O. experienced multiple occupations over several thousand years, possibly from as early as the Middle Paleoindian through to the Woodland period, with the largest, most sustained occupations occurring during the Early Archaic. These occupations were likely residential in nature, as exhibited by the recovery of numerous flakes illustrating the maintenance of tools at the site, as well as by the presence of groundstone artifacts possibly used to process food stuffs (e.g., nuts). Currently, these occupational episodes are believed to have been relatively short in nature, since the excavations produced no features, such as hearths and post holes, indicative of long-term village life. The recovery of 14 hickory nut shell fragments also supports the notion of a seasonal exploitation model based on the "bottomland nut-bearing hardwoods and other bottomland plant resources" found near Bogue Homo Creek (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15; 1992b:73).

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Only a limited number of sites possessing intact Early Archaic components have been recorded in Mississippi with even fewer located in the Long Leaf Pine Belt (Piney Woods) region (McGahey 1996:380). A noteworthy exception is the G.W.O. site, located in Jones County, which has yielded, and retains the potential to yield, information important to knowledge of Mississippi's prehistory during this time period. Therefore, the G.W.O. archaeological site is significant statewide under the Prehistoric Archaeology Area of Significance of National Register Criterion D.

An overall lack of archaeological research and the prevailing misconception that the region is basically devoid of important sites (see Jackson and Scott 1992b:56) has resulted in a dearth of archaeological information for the Piney Woods (McGahey 1996). Although the 1992 investigations at G.W.O. provide significant new data on the prehistoric inhabitants of south Mississippi, they were not exhaustive (Jackson and Scott 1992b:56). Therefore, additional archaeological research at the site will further knowledge and understanding of the Early Archaic and Piney Woods region as a whole.

Further archaeological investigations at G.W.O. can very likely provide many insights and new data regarding Early Archaic life in the Piney Woods. One major research goal should be to properly record and study the site's stratigraphy, since very little stratigraphic data is available for the Piney Woods region (McGahey 1996:383; n.d. 14), and much of what we know "about early Holocene settlement patterns on the Gulf Coastal Plain of south Mississippi is based [primarily] on surface finds" (Jackson and Scott 1992b:56). G.W.O. possesses a deeply stratified earth midden capable of providing this significant data.

Subsequent research should also recover more substantial cultural materials in context. The collection of charcoal will provide absolute dates (e.g., radiocarbon; oxidizable carbon ratio) for the site and region. No such material was acquired during the initial investigations, and therefore will provide much needed chronological data enabling a refinement of current interpretations of the extensive Early Archaic component, as well as the region's cultural-historical framework. The recovery of a more substantial artifact assemblage, when coupled with stratigraphic data, will enable archaeologists to recognize changes

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
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in lithic technologies over time, as well as provide finer chronological placement for recognized components and specific lithic tools than is currently possible.

Although a limited number of ecofacts were recovered from the site during the initial investigation, it is believed more thorough excavation techniques (e.g., taking flotation samples; screening excavated fill through 1/8" fine hardware cloth) will increase the recovery of such objects. This is very important since no studies regarding floral and faunal remains have been conducted in the region (see McGahey 1996:383; n.d. 14), thereby leaving a void in our understanding of aboriginal dietary habits, as well as seasonal exploitation strategies. The recovery of substantial floral and faunal remains will provide for better interpretations regarding locale species exploitation, thereby affording an opportunity to better reconstruct Early Archaic seasonal hunting and gathering practices for the region. Additionally, the use of this data, coupled with artifactual and chronological data, will also provide insights on changes in adaptation and exploitation strategies throughout time at the site.

Other research goals that could provide important new data on the Early Archaic period in the Piney Woods include intensive geoarchaeological and geophysical studies of the site and its setting. Geoarchaeological studies will provide an opportunity to better understand site formation and effects of bioturbation, possibly providing research models that can be used to at other sites in similar environs. G.W.O. also provides an opportunity to use geophysical technologies, such as ground penetrating radar, in a floodplain environs, where it is hoped it will identify and map features or other anomalies in a less intrusive manner.

In summary, the G.W.O. site is an important repository of information which has, and can continue, to contribute to a better understanding of the "Early Archaic habitation of the Gulf coastal plain" (Jackson and Scott 1992a:15-16), and the cultural processes that helped shape south Mississippi over 10,000 years ago. Future research combined with the previously generated data will provide a more holistic perspective of early Holocene life, not only at the G.W.O. site, but for the Piney Woods region and south Mississippi as well.

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G.W.O. Site (22Jo568)
Jones County, Mississippi

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1992b The G.W.O. Site (22-Jo-568), An Early Archaic Site in Jones County, Mississippi. *Mississippi Archaeology* 27(2):56-75.

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Scott and Associates

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G.W.O. Site (22J0568)
Jones County, Mississippi

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The G.W.O. archaeological site occupies approximately 3400 square meters

[REDACTED]

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries for the G.W.O. archaeological site have been delimited by archaeological investigations at the site

[REDACTED]

PHOTOGRAPH

G.W.O. site (22Jo568)

[REDACTED]

H. Edwin Jackson, Ph.D., Scott and Associates
September 1992

Negative located at The University of Southern Mississippi, Department of
Anthropology and Sociology, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

[REDACTED]