

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 15 1987
date entered MAR 1 1987

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

1. Name

historic Lowe-Steen Site (22-Lw-511)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

[Redacted location information]

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: pasture

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. W. B. Lowe

street & number Highway 27 North

city, town Monticello vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Broad and Washington Streets

city, town Monticello state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Archaeological Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date February 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi 39205

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lowe-Steen Site, 22-Lw-511, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Several small intermittent streams flow close by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The site was entered into the Mississippi Department of Archives and History site files following a February, 1982, field visit by Department archaeologists (Sam Brookes and Pat Galloway). During that field trip a small collection was taken, despite the poor collecting conditions, and auger holes were placed in the mound demonstrating the feature was indeed, an aboriginal mound. The site card mentions the mound is "intact". This conclusion was obviously reached as a result of the auger tests. The mound is 18 - 20' feet tall and is thickly grown in trees. Its condition appears to be very good. A heavy grass cover also protects the mound against erosion and the landowner does not allow any digging in the mound by relic collectors. The mound is most likely a temple mound and is substructural in nature.

In January of 1986, in the company of Mrs. Jean Heartfield, (president, Pearl River Chapter of the Mississippi Archaeological Association), I revisited the site to photograph, meet with the landowner, and made a second collection. The area surrounding the mound is in established pastureland and collecting conditions were extremely poor. Several clay tempered, plain ceramic sherds were picked up, along with several flakes. Several auger tests were placed to the south and the west of the mound but the results were negative in terms of locating any buried cultural deposits. No auger tests were placed in the mound proper, as this had already been done by Mississippi Department of Archives and History archaeologists in 1982. However, two small areas of dark midden-like soil were noted eroding out of the side of the mound. One area in particular showed evidence of burning.

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 1250-1500 A.D. **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lowe-Steen Site, 22-Lw-591, is a large, substructural platform mound, approximately 18 -20' in height, and approximately 140 x 110' feet in diameter

The Lowe-Steen Site is one of only two known recorded sites in this portion of the drainage of this particular size and magnitude. The Mill Creek Site has a mound of this nature, size, and time period. Occupied sometime late in the prehistoric period (Middle Mississippian--Late Mississippian) Lowe-Steen reflects the substructural nature of large, flat topped platform mounds known in the State of Mississippi (Delta, Tombigbee Drainage) but of which few are known in this central portion of the state. Problems of placing Lowe-Steen in a definite phase or period chronologically is complicated by the fact that there is no known ceramic chronology especially in the central and southern portions of the basin. Some clay tempered ceramics that resemble the Addis type known and loess bluff areas were picked up at Lowe-Steen Site but the fact that the site is grown over in pasture makes surface collecting nearly impossible, and we are faced with having a tiny ceramic sample to work from. The auger tests revealed the fact that the mound is relatively intact with evidences of several stages of construction. The construction of the mound in stages vis-a-vis the burning of the temple and loading of dirt atop this, building another temple, etc., is characteristic of temple mounds in the late stages of the Mississippian period. Such appears to be the hat case at Steen-Lowe, also. In that case, several classes of information will be represented in the mound. As at the Lake George site in Yazoo County (Williams and Brain, 1983), we would expect to find not only burials, but evidences of a structure (temple), perhaps even palisaded, (Mound A, Lake George) will possibly be found. Burials will provide information on physical stature and condition, social order, (as evidenced by burial situation and grave goods), and perhaps even religious customs. Any information of these types would be virtually the first reported, and considering this, the value of excavations at Lowe-Steen becomes greatly enhanced.

