

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received MAR 28 1986

date entered

MAY 1 1986

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

1. Name

historic FALLS Site (22-Lf-507)

and/or common Same as above

2. Location

[Redacted location information]

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Elizabeth Falls Munro

street & number 133 Mirramar

city, town Biloxi N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Market Street

city, town Greenwood state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Lower Miss. Valley Survey:  
title Peabody Museum has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1940-1947  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Peabody Museum, Harvard University

city, town Cambridge state Massachusetts

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>    N/A    </u>

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Falls site was first recorded by Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951) during their 1940-1947 survey [REDACTED], and was designated site number 17-0-8. It was listed as a "village site with large mound" attributable to the Baytown period, time range E-D (1951:56). Webb (N.D.: 10-11), following a visit to the site in 1967, describes it as a "village site with a single (over 10 feet in height) platform mound," and notes that a large variety of artifacts attributable to a Poverty Point period occupation has been found there by local collectors. Phillips (1970: Figures 442, 445, 446) indicates three occupations in evidence at the site: Jaketown phase, Poverty Point period; Coahoma phase, Baytown period; and Peabody phase, Coles Creek period. No additional information is given on the site by Phillips.

[REDACTED]. The entire village area has been in cultivation for many years, so it may be presumed that subsurface stratigraphy in occupation zones, along with the integrity of features, will be limited accordingly. Some data concerning this was retrieved in tests at the site, described below.

In 1968, William Hony, then of Mississippi State University, conducted salvage excavations in the mound and adjacent village area. This excavation consisted of 15 five-foot test squares placed on various parts of the mound remains, two squares [REDACTED], and three squares [REDACTED]. In his preliminary report (1968), Hony noted that the part of the mound 'cut [REDACTED] (see photo and Map B) had been graded several times since the 1930s. Because of this and natural erosion, only about one fourth of the original mound remained in 1968. He also noted five midden concentrations in the field west of the mound, referred to herein as the village area.

Three test squares in the small midden areas of the village, [REDACTED] revealed several small refuse pits containing mostly mussel shells, along with fish and turtle bones. Hony, in his report (1968), refers to Baytown pottery types in the lowest levels, overlain by Late Baytown and Mississippian types in the upper levels, but he does not relate the depth to which this midden deposit reaches. Levels were in six-inch increments but no correlation is given between pottery types and specific levels. Apparently, there was enough depth to the midden deposit to leave a portion undisturbed below plow zone.

There were at least six construction stages revealed in the mound excavation, with possible later stages that had been destroyed prior to 1968. The earliest stage began on an unoccupied sterile level, 3 to 6 feet below the present surface. This stage, containing numerous pits, a possible cremation, and four postmolds, was apparently occupied for some time during the Baytown period, as determined from recovered pottery. Stage II, which was apparently flat-topped, was still dominated by Baytown ceramic types, but added a small amount of Coles Creek influence. Stage III, with Baytown types becoming a minority remnant and early Mississippian pottery appearing, revealed a circular structure with a double row of wall postmolds. Hony gives no measurements for this house pattern. Apparently, a transitional Baytown to Mississippian phase was represented at this point. Stages IV and V, according to Hony, continued the transition into Mississippian, and both were surmounted by poorly preserved structures, the plans of which could not be adequately recorded. Stage

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VI contained a Late Mississippian pottery type, Parkin Punctated, not evident in previous stages. Tests in the village midden, previously mentioned, apparently showed similar stages of occupation, according to Hony (1968).

The site was visited by John Connaway on June 20, 1985, at which time a sketch was made (Map B), and the accompanying photo was taken.

[REDACTED] The mound remains, grown up in brush and trees (see photo, upper right corner), though portions are badly eroded. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] leaving only a small toe extending into the field [REDACTED]. A few feet of the mound remnant appears protected [REDACTED].

The photo, facing north, shows most of the village area in the left two-thirds of the picture, all in cultivation. The ground surface is slightly undulating from north to south, with two especially heavy concentrations of shell midden on the higher elevations (see Map B) and more sparsely scattered debris in the lower areas. The presence of cotton planted in the field prevented the taking of more precise measurements of midden concentrations.

# 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** see Description      **Builder/Architect** American Indian

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Even though a large portion of the mound has been destroyed and the village area has suffered the ravages of cultivation, it has been demonstrated that there are subsurface features still present which could contribute significantly to the archaeological record. The transition from Baytown to Mississippian culture is strongly exhibited at the site. The subject of such a transitional period prompted a recent symposium on "Emergent Mississippian" at the Sixth Midsouth Archaeological Conference held June 8-9, 1985, at Mississippi State University. Only one paper dealt with this period [redacted] reflecting the scarcity of knowledge on this subject in the region. Hence the potential for such a contribution from the Falls site and the need for preserving and protecting what remains of it. Beyond this, the presence of artifacts of the Poverty Point culture indicates the need for future investigations into its occurrence at the site. Hony's excavations in 1968 showed no indication of it, although numerous artifacts have been plowed up. His tests in the village area were very limited as well. There is thus the indication that features of the Poverty Point occupation remain buried in untested areas of the site, perhaps with only limited disturbance. Within these may lie clues to both intrasite and intersite settlement and subsistence patterns during this period, another cultural phenomenon about which only limited and inadequate knowledge has been gained.



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Phillips, Philip

1970 Archaeological survey [REDACTED]

1955. Papers of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Vol. 60, Parts  
1 & 2. Cambridge, Mass. Mississippi, 1949-

Phillips, Philip, James A. Ford, and James B. Griffin

1951 Archaeological survey [REDACTED]

1947. Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology 25. 1940-

Webb, Clarence H.

N.D. Untitled manuscript describing Poverty Point sites in Mississippi.  
Manuscript on file, C.H.Webb, Shreveport, LA.

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