

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 27 1987  
date entered

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

FEB 27 1987

1. Name

historic White Perch Paradise Site (22-Md-641)

and or common N/A

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED]

city, town [REDACTED]

state [REDACTED]

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 checked="" 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 Pearl River Valley Water Supply District

street & number P. O. Box 12750

city, town Jackson N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Canton state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date November 1986  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

## 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 White Perch Paradise Site (22-Md-641) is a multi-component occupation located on an 8-9 acre semicircular island [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The site is located in the Jackson Prairie physiographic province. Before the creation of the 26-square mile reservoir, the island would have been an elevated area or hammock [REDACTED] With the creation of the reservoir, the site is now totally surrounded by water. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The island is presently covered in pines, mixed hardwoods, and heavy brush and undergrowth in the late fall and winter of the year. The island is uninhabited and totally undeveloped. Over the years, it has never been cultivated and it is very likely that the site has never been clear cut either, as far as can be determined. This is probably the result of the site's location in deep swamp prior to inundation of the area for creation of the reservoir; the area is, and had been, relatively unattractive and offers little in the form of usage opportunities apparently since aboriginal times.

The White Perch Paradise Site has occupations in the Middle Archaic (6000-3000 B.C.), Late Archaic (3000-1000 B.C.), and Woodland Periods (500 B.C. to 900 A.D.), with the best represented component dating to the Late Archaic Period as evidenced by considerable amounts of narrow stemmed (Ponchartrain-like) projectile points in the private collection of an individual who lives in the vicinity. Several examples of broad based Middle Archaic projectile points (Benton-like) have also been recovered on the surface along with a single example of a drilled stone bead (non-local lithic material; either Late Archaic or Poverty Point). Three polished greenstone celts are also from the surface in this collection, however, these are not terribly helpful for chronological purposes and could date anywhere from Late Archaic/Poverty Point through the Woodland and into the Mississippian Period. Ceramics from the site include earlier, coarse sand tempered types (Early Woodland) and clay tempered Middle-Late Woodland types; the bulk of the sample is undecorated.

A complete walk over surface survey of the island was attempted in early November but water from recent rains and vegetation in certain places made this impossible. Further, the areas walked over generally were still overgrown making surface survey difficult. Shovel testing at approximately 50 meter intervals was conducted (tests were .25 meters across x .25 meters) deep across most of the areas and while no discernible dark organic midden was observed, many of the shovel tests produced lithic and occasionally ceramic samples from the surface to a depth of approximately 25 cm. Collectors have reported heavy amounts of materials on the surface in the winter when vegetation is down and the water is low.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
_____ subsistence/settlement patterns				

**Specific dates** 6000 B.C.-1000 A.D. **Builder/Architect** N/A

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

The White Perch Paradise Site (22-Md-641) is a multi-component archaeological deposit located on an undeveloped island [redacted] Prior to the inundation of a 26-square mile area, [redacted]

[redacted] In the past, the hammock was too small and inaccessible to be used for either agriculture or forestry. The lack of plowing, relic collecting, and clear cutting have left the site in a good state of preservation. [redacted], agriculture is practiced rather heavily and this has taken quite a toll on the resource base. There is every reason to believe that site integrity will continue to be preserved in the coming years and this makes the White Perch Paradise Site an ideal candidate to provide information necessary to a preliminary understanding of cultures utilizing the area from 6000 B.C.-1000 A.D. Features, and perhaps midden, can be expected on the site as shovel testing indicates artifactual material below the surface. If these features can be tied to certain particular components present, we will be in a much better position to make preliminary statements on subsistence and perhaps settlement patterns [redacted]. Excavations should be geared towards recovery of any potential materials such as floral/faunal remains that might be present in features. Presently, we know extremely little about the ceramic chronology of the area, especially when contrasted with other areas of the state, such as the Yazoo Basin or the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Preliminary examination of ceramics from the White Perch Paradise Site indicate similarities to both areas, especially considering the Alexander series (Early Woodland) as similar to Tennessee-Tombigbee materials and the Baytown series (Middle-Late Woodland) as similar to the Yazoo Basin. Further excavations should look for any possible stratigraphic information vis-a-vis the ceramics and with a larger sample size we may be in a better position to understand the chronology. When the relative lack of disturbance of the deposit over the years is considered, the potential for recovering materials in their original context seems very realistic.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

N/A

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property [REDACTED]

Quadrangle name [REDACTED]

Quadrangle scale [REDACTED]

UTM References

A [REDACTED]  
Zone Easting Northing

B [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]  
Zone Easting Northing

C [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

D [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

E [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

F [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

G [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

H [ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

Verbal boundary description and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James Lauro/Archaeologist

Mississippi Department of  
organization Archives and History

date November, 1986

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi 39205

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Kenneth H. P. Pool*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 23, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*J. Melvyn Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

date 2/27/87

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration