

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUN 5 1980
DATE ENTERED JUL 17 1980

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Word Mound (22-Mo-899)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

[REDACTED]

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

[REDACTED]

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: Woods

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Joe Word

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 1

CITY, TOWN

Okolona

VICINITY OF

STATE

Mississippi

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Monroe County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen

STATE

Mississippi

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Archaeological Survey of Monroe County, Mississippi

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Word Mound was located and recorded in March, 1978, during a [REDACTED] by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. One of the primary goals of the survey was to locate and record as many prehistoric sites as possible within a three month period and to evaluate these sites with respect to possible National Register inclusion. The survey was primarily informant based and the Word Mound was reported by the owner, an artifact collector. This mound was found to be only a few hundred meters from the Crawford Site, also being nominated and also reported by Mr. Word.

The Word Mound is a small burial mound [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The mound varies in diameter from c. 18 to 23 meters, is approximately 1.83 meters high, and is typically domical in shape. The boundaries of the mound incorporate its circumference at its basal extremities where the elevation rises abruptly from the surrounding, relatively level land surface of the ridge top. There is an old pothole dug in the top of the mound.

A borehole test in the center showed mound fill to a depth of approximately 1.52 meters, with charred nutshells, charcoal, and small flecks of what appeared to be bone in the fill. Five small sand tempered potsherds with smoothed exteriors, one of which exhibits punctations zoned by narrow incised lines, were found in the backfill from the pothole. They appear to be all from the same vessel, most closely resembling Alexander Punctated, suggesting a Miller I cultural context and a possible connection with the nearby Crawford Site.

The mound appears to be isolated from any settlement areas, except for a small campsite on a lower ridge [REDACTED]. Artifacts from this camp do not indicate any cultural connection. However, the Crawford Site, [REDACTED] may be associated since it contains a Miller I component.

[REDACTED] there is no immediate danger to the mound other than from pothunting and natural erosion.

Other than the borehole test mentioned above, no archaeological investigations have been carried out at the site. Because of this, data concerning cultural affiliation, interment practices, and other socio-religious aspects are quite limited.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Word Mound has remained relatively undisturbed, save for the inevitable central pothole. It thus provides a potentially valuable research site for future study of burial customs within a particular cultural framework. It is reasonable to assume that the use of this mound was limited to a relatively short time span, adding the possible dimension of a short term cultural activity pattern by a certain group of people. This could yield important information not only on socio-religious activities, but on social organization as well. Areal study of this and other such mounds could yield data on social interaction among various groups within a limited area and time span, or aspects of culture change during a longer time.

Most village sites in the area are multi-component, embracing long time spans of continuous or intermittent occupation. On the other hand, the small burial mound is generally restricted to a short term, one group, single component framework. In this respect, certain cultural aspects are more readily discernable as components of a particular culture. Interment methods and customs, of course, are the major features of such mounds. Inferences concerning other data categories, such as those mentioned above, can often be made. Much of this data depends on the degree of preservation of the mound and its contents, and further testing would be necessary to determine its extent at the Word Mound.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [REDACTED]

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

C

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[REDACTED]

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Connaway, Survey Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

DATE

Feb. 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 36

TELEPHONE

(601) 624-2550

CITY OR TOWN

Clarksdale

STATE

Mississippi

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

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

Elmer R. Williams

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE May 26, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Lucas
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/17/80

ATTEST

[Signature]
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-15-80