

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **AUG 15 1986**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Shady Grove Site (22-Qu-525)

and or common N/A

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED] not for publication

city, town [REDACTED] vicinity of

state [REDACTED]

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" 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 Self & Co.

street & number N/A

city, town Marks N/A vicinity of state Mississippi 38646

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number P. O. Box 100, Pecan Street

city, town Marks state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1940-1947 private federal state county local

depository for survey records Peabody Museum, Harvard University

city, town Cambridge state Massachusetts

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 Shady Grove site is situated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In their 1940-1947 survey of the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:54) recorded Shady Grove as a "large village site with large rectangular platform mound and small mound." The mound was 18 feet high (Photo #1: at left) and faced upon a 180 foot long plaza, [REDACTED] and just to the northeast of this was a small conical mound [REDACTED] about 5 feet high (Phillips, Ford, and Griffin 1951:322). Phillips, et.al. placed this site in their E-B time range, or Middle Baytown through Mississippi periods.

In the Peabody Museum's 1941 survey record for Shady Grove, Griffin describes the site as follows:

This is one of the most prolific village sites I have ever seen. We collected four large sacks in a very short time. Worked only one section of the site in that short time and hardly made a scratch.

[REDACTED] Md. B is covered with pottery and broken mussel shells which are more or less concentrated into small localized areas. [REDACTED] where they are visible also show this village site debris. Most of the stuff in location A is Baytown and at least one Marksville Stamped sherd was picked up. There is some shell tempered stuff, but not as much as is found over near the large mound. The small mound (B) is a typical Baytown mound and the fields there are in grass. It is 1½ m. high and 18 m. in diameter.

Mound A is a large, probably rectangular mound with a flat top about 20 x 25 m. square. It is around 6 m. high and has a basal dimension of 35 x 50 m. Many of the sherds closer to the mound are M. Miss, although Baytown is also found there. A thorough exploration of the area would probably show a very large village site. The wealth of material and suggestion of cultural depth afforded by the Marksville specimen strongly suggests that this site would repay strata cuts.

Phillips (1970:Figures 445, 447) indicates on his distribution maps that there were site occupations during the Coahoma phase of the Baytown period,¹ and the Quitman phase of the Mississippi period.² He defines the Coahoma phase as "the main representative of Baytown culture in the Upper Sunflower region, beginning sometime before the end of the Marksville period and carrying on through the entire Baytown period" (1970:905). A sketch map of the site by Jeffrey P. Brain (Peabody Museum site file) shows three collection areas (Figure 2). Indicated are Deasonville³ (Baytown) and Early Mississippian occupations in the area around Mound A; a Deasonville (Baytown) occupation around Mound B; a Tchefuncte (Tchula)⁴ occupation along the natural levee north of Mound B. Collections by a local amateur conclude that the largest and major occupation at Shady Grove is a Baytown component, refuting Phillips' statement that the major occupation was in the Twin Lakes phase (1970:940).⁵ In fact, there is only a minor Marksville period component presently known in evidence there. As for the validity of the Coahoma phase at the site, comparative studies of local collections are in order before definite conclusion can be reached.

(see continuation sheet)

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)

1

Specific dates see description **Builder/Architect** American Indian

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

There are several research problems revealed in the preceding description section to which future investigations at Shady Grove would provide significant answers. First, as pointed out, the major occupation was Baytown, and was assigned to the Coahoma phase of this period. The placement of Shady Grove within the defined sphere of Coahoma phase influence and the relationship between this and similar sites in the local area within this cultural time frame present gaps to be filled in the regional Baytown data base. Intra-site and inter-site research centered around adequate stratigraphic testing and controlled surface collections could easily answer many of these questions. Another important objective would be an analysis of the associated shell middens with regard to subsistence strategies and riverine environment utilization, a subject about which little is known for this period. Although numerous shell middens exist [REDACTED] adequate excavations and publication of data syntheses have not been carried out on such sites. Also, as pointed out in Phillips' statement with regard to the tentativeness of the later Quitman phase, further studies at Shady Grove and related Mississippian sites could better define the phase and its place in Mississippian culture. Starr (1984:206-207) has stated that "the Coldwater River area in particular deserves more study, as the recorded sites assigned to the present archaeological phases seem to grade from Parchman to Quitman, with no distinct breaks, either in the ceramics or in the geographical locations." The whole array of cultural data on the Quitman phase, such as burial customs, site structure, settlement pattern, and subsistence practices, to name a few, is severely lacking. The importance of the Shady Grove site, then, lies in its potential, as a major Quitman phase site and a primary Coahoma phase occupation with intact midden and mound, to fill in these gaps in the data base. This potential also includes the earlier minor occupations of the Late Archaic, Tchula, and Marksville periods, about which little or nothing is known for this area.

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revealed by surface scatter. The Mississippian area centers around the large Mound A and covers approximately 12 to 14 acres, as suggested by surface distribution of sherds and daub concentrations. The heaviest concentrations of this are on the slightly elevated ridge upon which the two mounds are situated at opposite ends (see Figure 1). The large mound has in recent years had some grading on it, so that now it has a more rounded appearance (Photo #1). This was apparently done to facilitate access to mowing machines to keep the mound clear of brush. Both the large mound and the Mound B site are presently covered with grass and are not cultivated.

[redacted], but this does not necessarily reflect the presence of a ramp. The mound now stands ca. 16 feet (4.9 m) high, with basal measurements of ca. 150 feet (45.7 m) [redacted]. The flattened top, though somewhat sloping [redacted], is approximately 45 feet square (13.7 m). There is thus a large proportion of the mound remaining intact and undisturbed. Figure 4 shows an estimation of the changes in Mound A configuration from its appearance in 1941 (dotted line), as suggested by the measurements given on the Peabody Museum's survey file, to its present appearance (solid line). Its east-west length appears to have been shortened somewhat, while its width has become greater, a result of grading the upper portion to the sides to lessen their steepness. The south face shown in Figure 4 roughly corresponds to the view in Photo #1.

Boreholes were placed around the higher elevation [redacted], as indicated on the accompanying sketch map (Figure 1), in order to test for midden depth. The following table summarizes the borehole findings.

Borehole Number	Midden Depth	Shell Depth	Elevation
1	3 ft.		[redacted]
2	2½ ft.	18 in.	[redacted]
3	3 ft.	layer at 2 ft.	[redacted]
4	3 ft.	layer at 2 ft.	[redacted]
5	16 in.		[redacted]
6	18 in.		[redacted]
7	2½ ft.		[redacted]
8	2½ ft.		[redacted]
9	3 ft.		[redacted]
10	3 ft.		[redacted]

The shallow midden in the lower area (bh5 & bh6) is likely consistent over most of the northwest portion of the site above the 160 foot contour (Figure 1), where some dirt moving has taken place. In this area, there may still be numerous sub-plowzone features, such as pits, house patterns, and burials, either partially disturbed or intrusive into sterile soil. Large areas of scattered shell on the surface indicate shell middens or circle remnants similar to the two on the elevation northeast of Mound A.

The deeper midden seen in the remainder of the boreholes on the higher elevation indicates sub-plowzone levels of undisturbed dark midden, and in

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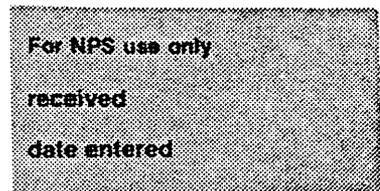
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some cases, layers of shell midden. Features in this area should be relatively intact below the plowzone, thus affording the more rewarding area for further excavation and research.

1. AD 400 - AD 850
2. AD 1200 - AD 1650
3. AD 350 - AD 600
4. 600 BC - 0
5. 600 BC - 0

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

1951 Archaeological survey in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley,
1940-1947. Papers of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology
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Starr, Mary Evelyn

1984 The Parchman phase [redacted] a preliminary
analysis. Appendix in The Wilford Site (22-Co-516), Coahoma
County, Mississippi, by John M. Connaway. Mississippi Department
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The boundary for this site was determined primarily by the extent of midden debris. There is some scatter beyond [redacted] but local informants state that most of this is the result of land forming, where midden soil was hauled into this area from the site.

[redacted] The [redacted] boundary are delineated by an estimated termination of surface midden scatter where some leveling and dirt hauling has taken place. This is based on experience of a local amateur familiar with the site before dirt moving took place. [redacted] is delineated by the termination of surface midden debris.