

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received DEC 9 1986

date entered JAN 7 1987

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

1. Name

historic Dundee Site (22-Tu-501)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number

city, town

state

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 type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A <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. Janet Green Hood

street & number Box 995

city, town Tunica N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number P. O. Box 217

city, town Tunica state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date March 1971 federal state county local

depository for survey records Miss. Dept. of Archives & 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

Brown was the first to describe the Dundee site as follows:

"At Dundee, Tunica Co., there is a group of four large mounds in approximately semi-circular arrangement and several smaller ones. They are in a cultivated field and have been altered by the plow. There is an abundance of pottery fragments and burnt clay. Mound A is 10 to 20 feet high, the ground on which it stands being quite irregular. Mound B is still higher. From it I dug a badly disintegrated skeleton which was partially exposed; this was apparently aboriginal, tho possibly an intrusive burial. A large elm stands on top. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mound C is 14 to 16 feet high and more symmetrical than A and B. Mound D is flat and broad and has an altitude of 4 to 4.5 feet. Medium sized trees stand on it" (1926: 116).

It should be noted here that Brown published no photo or sketch map of the site, so his "A" through "D" mound designations do not necessarily coincide with those on Figure 1. The same is true of the following description by Phillips, Ford, and Griffin, who made a sketch map in 1940, but which was not available for the present research.

In their publication, Phillips, Ford, and Griffin describe only three mounds, presumably Mounds A, C, and D. Brown's "Mound D" is no longer apparent, its exact location undetermined, and thus it is not included in Figure 1. Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:51) describe the site as a "large village site with large and small mounds." They further list it as a small ceremonial center with a 15 foot high Mound A and two conical mounds 100 feet in diameter by 12 feet high and 70 feet in diameter by 3 feet high respectively, which coincide with Phillips' field note descriptions of Mounds C and D (1951:323). Phillips' 1940 survey notes (on file, Peabody Museum) describe the mound group as follows:

"Mound A, irregular oval in plan, ca. 100 by 120' by 12' high, may have been rectangular, but is now completely rounded. It is fairly flat on top. Mound B of the same general character, 100' dia. and 15' high. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] may be due to cultivation. Mound C, 100' dia. and 12' high, has a fairly regular conical shape. Of the three, it appears to have been most cultivated.

Considerable daub in all portions of site, but no M. Miss. pottery. Collections mainly from cotton field around Mound C, plus some sherds on the lower slope of Mound B (west), mostly Cord-marked. Mound D, 70' dia. by 3' high, has been much cultivated and spread. It also shows patches of daub but only one sherd was found on it (Baytown Plain). Impression of collector of a high percentage of cord-marked on all portions of the site."

It appears that the height of the mounds had diminished somewhat since Brown's visit. The undated Mississippi Archaeological Survey (M.A.S.) site card lists the Mound A-D heights at or above the maximum given by Brown, but those dimensions given by Phillips seem to be more accurate. At the present time (1986), the dimensions for the mounds as listed on Figure 1 are estimated to be as follows: Mound A 135 by 75 by 14 feet high, Mound B

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 0 A.D.-1600 A.D. **Builder/Architect** American Indian

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the Dundee site lies in its potential for explaining the problem of a group of apparent "temple" mounds presiding over a predominantly Baytown period village site. This problem was noted in several instances by Phillips, Ford, and Griffin in their 1951 publication, but has never been satisfactorily explained. The persistence of Baytown culture into the Coles Creek period [REDACTED] may have some bearing here, since this far north Coles Creek ceramics are a conspicuous minority, if present at all. The later Mississippian component at Dundee cannot be ignored, but its distinct minority status makes one wonder about the origin of the mounds. Also, Phillips' phase placement of the site leaves a gap (Coles Creek period) between the Baytown and Mississippian components, raising the question of occupation continuity. Dundee is one of the best examples in the northern Yazoo Basin of a site where such a problem remains manifest. Aside from this, the presence of three quite well preserved mounds and some areas of apparently undisturbed village midden give the site added significance for potentially valuable data on ceremonial and burial customs, intra-site activity loci and interaction, house construction, and subsistence activities derived from refuse pit contents. Further study of the ceramics could also help establish better definitions of some of the rather nebulous phase designations for the area.

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75 by 72 by 14 feet high, and Mound C 75 by 72 by 12 feet high. Although Mound D is no longer apparent, the M.A.S. site card states that it is east of the other three and, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The three large mounds are no longer cultivated, but are grown up in weeds, grass, brush, and various sized trees (Photo #1). Their heights appear to be nearly those in 1940, but they seem to have diminished somewhat in size, probably due to cultivation around the base and erosion. They are presently relatively stable because of heavy floral cover.

A series of six boreholes were recently placed [REDACTED] across the midden area. [REDACTED] Mound A in order to test for midden depth. Boreholes #1 through #4, each 30 feet apart, yielded dark black midden to the following depths: #1 - 2.5 feet, #2 & #3 - 2.0 feet, #4 - 1.5 feet. Borehole #5, [REDACTED] showed midden to 1.5 feet, while borehole #6, [REDACTED] in an area with human bones scattered by the plow, only showed midden up to one foot deep. If the latter is the site of Mound D, it was apparently a burial mound. The overall result of this testing is that undisturbed sub-plowzone midden still exists on the site, especially on the higher elevation nearest Mound A. This further implies the presence of sub-surface features available for future study.

[REDACTED] The soil of the flat area east of the mounds is Dundee silt loam and very fine sandy loam, level phase, a moderately well drained soil derived from medium to light textured Mississippi River sediments [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The original timber cover included a fairly heavy growth of red oak, Spanish oak, live oak, red gum, tupelo gum, hickory, maple, and hornbeam, with dense undergrowth of canes, briars, and vines (Fowlkes et.al. 1956:32). Along the old river bank line in the northern portion of the site, where terrain relief is more variable, the soil is Bosket very fine sandy loam, undulating phase, a well to somewhat excessively drained soil similar to the above [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Fowlkes et.al. 1956:20-21). It is likely that the river channel was a cut-off lake at the time of occupation of the site.

With regard to chronology, Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:51, 340) placed the major occupation in their D-C period (late Baytown), based on their 1940 surface collection, and gave it a short time range. Phillips, in his survey record, noted the high percentage of cord-marked pottery, an observation borne out by recent (1986) surface collection of 387 sherds. Baytown types made up nearly 90% of the total, the remainder being of Mississippian origin. It was during this late Baytown period that Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:340) note a "great increase in the number of temple-mound sites...."

Phillips (1970: Figures 444, 445, 447) places the site in the Helena phase of the Marksville period,¹ the Coahoma phase of the Baytown period,² and the Parchman phase of the Mississippi period.³ His sherd counts were unavailable for this research, so the only comparisons that can be made are within the 1986 M.A.S. collection. Since this included no Marksville pottery and Phillips did not mention his reasons, it is not known on what basis he

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included Dundee in the Helena phase. As for the Coahoma phase, which he defines as "the main representative of Baytown culture in the Upper Sunflower region" and covering the entire Baytown period (1970:905), the "preponderance of Mulberry Creek over Baytown" criterion (1970:906) is well established in the collection. Of the majority portion of Baytown ceramics, Mulberry Creek Cordmarked constitutes about 75% to Baytown Plain's 21%. Also, minority types consistent with this phase included Larto Red Filmed, Alligator Incised var. Oxbow, and Salomon Brushed. This and the large majority of Baytown sherds seems to establish the site quite well in Phillips' definition of the Coahoma phase. As for the relatively ill-defined Parchman phase, Phillips based his definition on "adequate collections" from Dundee and four other sites (1970:939-940). The recent M.A.S. collection of only 40 Mississippian sherds is hardly adequate for comparison, so Phillips' word for it must be accepted for the present time.

1. 0 - AD 200
2. AD 300 - AD 850
3. AD 1400 - AD 1600

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Brown, Calvin S.

1926 Archeology of Mississippi. Mississippi Geological Survey,
University.

Fowlkes, Thomas, C.G.Morgan, J.A.Herren, D.D.Mason, and L.A.Davidson

1956 Soil survey of [redacted] i. U.S.Dept. of
Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Series 1942, No. 14.

Phillips, Philip

1970 Archaeological survey [redacted], Mississippi,
1949-1955. Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and
Ethnology, Harvard University, Vol. 60.

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
and Ethnology, Harvard University, Vol. 25.

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The Dundee site boundary essentially conforms to its natural
physiographic situation,

