

PH0509272

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 25 1977

DATE ENTERED JUN 13 1978

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

Smith Creek Site

AND/OR COMMON

22-Wk-511

LOCATION

[REDACTED]

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

TOWN

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George B. Dooley

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2, Box 1034

CITY, TOWN

Woodville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Mississippi 39669

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Chancery Clerk
Wilkinson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Woodville

STATE

Mississippi 39669

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE

1930-35

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History and
Louisiana Geological Survey

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi

New Orleans

Louisiana

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Smith Creek Site is a Coles Creek Indian village of approximately 4 acres with a midden depth of 10 inches (Ford 1936:193, 204).

[REDACTED] Ian Brown (1973:113) has divided the bluff area of the Lower Mississippi Valley into four ecological zones: narrow ridges, broad level plains, tributary floodplains, and the Mississippi floodplain at the foot of the bluffs. He has further divided the first three zones into exterior locations (proximity to the Mississippi floodplain) and interior locations (inland away from the valley). Using Brown's terminology, the Smith Creek Site has an exterior location on the edge of two zones, the narrow ridge zone and the Mississippi floodplain zone.

Within the village area are three mounds arranged in a triangular pattern. The largest, Mound A (200 feet square, 20 feet high, summit plateau 90 feet square), lies in the southwest corner of the site. The eastern edge of Mound A was cut when State Route No. 24, which bisects the site from the northeast to the southwest, was constructed. Mounds B and C are two smaller truncated mounds that have been cultivated in the past (Ford 1936:193; Brain, Brown and Steponaitis n.d.:108). Located east of Mound A, [REDACTED] This burial mound has been partially excavated (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis n.d.:108). Mound C is located along the eastern edge of the site [REDACTED]. It is being eroded by Smith Creek. Ford (1936:197-98) estimated that Mound B was 70 feet square and 6 feet high and that Mound C was 90 feet square and 5 feet high.

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 Smith Creek Site is significant for its role in the definition of the Coles Creek Cultural Tradition. It may also provide the key to an understanding of the interaction of the Coles Creek and the later Plaquemine/Mississippian traditions and of the interaction that these traditions had with the changing environment of the Lower Mississippi Valley bluff region.

This site provided the basis for James A. Ford's definition of the Coles Creek Culture/Tradition and his development of the Coles Creek pottery typology which was later to be used and expanded upon in Southeastern archaeology (Ford 1936:193-98; Neitzel 1977:personal communication). A minor village during the Hamilton Ridge Phase of the Troyville/Baytown Cultural Tradition and the Sundown Phase of the Coles Creek Tradition (A.D. 600-900) (Brown 1973:3), Smith Creek became a major village site during the two middle Coles Creek phases of Ballina and Balmoral (A.D. 900-1100). A population decline occurred during the last or Gordon Phase of the Coles Creek Tradition (A.D. 1100-1200), but the site was still being occupied during part of the following Anna Phase of the Plaquemine/Mississippian Tradition (A.D. 1200-1300).

In his 1973 study, Brown notes that a shift from the exterior to the interior region of the bluff area seems to have taken place during the Gordon Phase of the Coles Creek Tradition (Brown 1973:148). This shift, and the accompanying decrease in population at the Smith Creek Site, might be ecologically explained by the movement of the Mississippi River away from the bluffs at the Smith Creek Site and other Coles Creek sites. Brown feels, however, that this channel change cannot account for the entire regional degeneration. He proposes that interaction between the indigenous Coles Creek Culture and the stronger Plaquemine/Mississippian Tradition may have brought about this shift in the settlement patterns along with the depopulation and cultural change in the bluff area (Brown 1973:149).

Further study of the Smith Creek Site is important for an understanding of the relationship between cultural changes and environmental changes and for a knowledge of the interactions of prehistoric cultural traditions.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brain, Jeffrey P., Ian W. Brown, and Vincas P. Steponaitis
N.d. Archaeological survey [redacted]
[redacted] Unpublished manuscript. Peabody Museum, Harvard
University.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [redacted]
UTM REFERENCES

[redacted] EASTING NORTHING [redacted] ZONE EASTING NORTHING [redacted]
C [redacted] D [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

Robert C. Wilson, Survey Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

STREET & NUMBER

400 Jefferson Davis Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN

Natchez

DATE

September 8, 1977

TELEPHONE

(601) 446-6502

STATE

Mississippi 39120

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

Elmer B. Hilliard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

November 17, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Clayton Cole

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/13/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6.5.78

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6,9&10 PAGE 1

6 - REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Peabody Museum, Harvard University (Lower Mississippi survey)
1971-72 XState
Peabody Museum, Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brown, Ian W.
1973 Settlement patterns [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] B.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology, Harvard
University.

Ford, James A.
1936 Analysis of Indian village site collections for Louisiana
and Mississippi. Louisiana Geological Survey, Department
of Conservation, Anthropological Study 2.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

E [REDACTED]