

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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OCT 31 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration FormNATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Leist A Site (Leist Landing Site) (Leist Site)  
other names/site number 22-Sh-520 (22-N-1)

## 2. Location

☒ not for publication

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☒ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☒ structure  
☐ object

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
	buildings
	sites
1	structures
	objects
1	0
Total	

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register N/A

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the  
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool  
Signature of certifying official

October 24, 1988  
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National  
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.  
☐ removed from the National Register.  
☐ other, (explain:)

John J. Kraed

12/14/88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Mortuary/burial mound

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agricultural

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls

roof

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Leist A Site (22-Sh-520) is a habitation/mortuary site consisting of a single large platform mound with a smaller conical (apparently burial) mound located on its northern corner with no associated cultural material around the immediate flanks and vicinity of the platform mound. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The site was originally recorded in 1949 by Phillips during the Lower Mississippi Valley Archaeological Survey (Phillips 1970). The platform mound is 350' (N/S) x 245' (E/W) and averages approximately eight or nine feet in height except in the north portion where the conical mound is situated. This conical mound is approximately 4-5' in height and 35' in diameter. This arrangement, in which a secondary platform mound is raised on one end of a large primary platform is similar to Mound 2 at the Marksville Site (Vescelius 1957). According to Phillips, it is possible that approximately half the original mound has been cut away [REDACTED]

In 1949 Phillips (1970) put down two test pits in Mound C (referred to as cut A and cut B) revealing rich midden deposits dating to the Marksville Period (Issaquena Phase A.D. 200 to A.D. 400) and a Mississippian Period occupation (Crippen Point Phase A.D. 1000 to A.D. 1200). Pottery from the Issaquena occupation include Marksville Incised vars. Maury, Spanish Fort, Leist, Newsome, and Yokana ceramics. Mississippian period materials include Mississippian Plain var. Yazoo ceramics.

The Leist A Site was revisited several times during the early summer of 1988 by Mississippi Department of Archives and History staff archaeologists at which time a lens of midden from 1-1-1/2' thick was observed eroding out [REDACTED]

The lens revealed Issaquena period ceramics, shell, bone, and lithics in a black earthen matrix. Finally, according to Phillips (1970) several recent historic period graves were noted in the central western portion of the site and may very well represent an abandoned unmarked slave cemetery, however, records in the Sharkey County Courthouse revealed no known cemetery. This burial area would have disturbed far less than 1% of the total mound. Several small relic collectors' holes can be found interspersed across the mound; these also have done extremely little damage to the mound.

☐ See continuation sheet

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☒ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology/prehistoric

Period of Significance

Marksville

Mississippian

Significant Dates

A.D. 1-A.D. 300

A.D. 1000-A.D. 1450

Cultural Affiliation

Woodland

Mississippian

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Leist A Site (22-Sh-520) qualifies for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. This site has yielded and may again yield additional information important in understanding the prehistory of the area. Specifically, it has considerable potential to further our knowledge of the Mississippi Alluvial Plain Marksville and Mississippian Periods (Morgan 1987). In Phillips' (1970) volume on the archaeology of the area, the site is referred to as "one of the finest magnitude." While materials from both the Woodland and Mississippian Periods have been recovered from the site, it is presently not possible to determine the cultural affiliation of the large platform mound and the small conical mound situated atop it. While large, platform mounds are generally thought to be Mississippian Period in origin, it is interesting to note that Phillips (1970:370-371) recorded Issaquena (Woodland) materials in his test pits A and B (cuts A and B) at some two meters below the present ground surface of the mound.

The Leist A Site provides an opportunity to evaluate both Woodland and Mississippian cultural processes operative in the formation of this rich archaeological site. The question of whether or not the large platform mound was constructed during the Middle Woodland can be answered by additional systematic archaeological investigations at the site. The presence of a rich, relatively thick Issaquena midden lens eroding out of the site as noted by the 1988 Mississippi Department of Archives and History team suggests valuable subsistence and perhaps settlement pattern (seasonal) data are present. This could greatly add to our understanding of the Issaquena phase as shell, bone, lithics, and Issaquena ceramics were recovered from the exposed midden. The potential for pit features is also present and if verified their contents may provide carbonized material for radiocarbon dating and subsistence studies.

The site is presently owned by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History thereby protecting the site from any immediate dangers. Little evidence of relic collectors' pot holes are present at this site and this may in part be due to the relative inaccessibility of the site.

☐ See continuation sheet

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Phillips, Philip

1970 ~~Archaeological Survey~~ [REDACTED]-1955. Papers of  
the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University,  
Vol. 60.

Morgan, David T.

n.d. The Post-Archaic Prehistory [REDACTED] Manuscript in  
preparation for inclusion in the Comprehensive State Planning  
Document for the State of Mississippi.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)  
has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings  
Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ See continuation sheet

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

### Specify repository:

Mississippi Department of Archives and  
History, Historic Preservation Division,  
Jackson, Mississippi

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property [REDACTED]

### UTM References

A [REDACTED]  
Zone Easting Northing

C [REDACTED]

B [REDACTED]  
Zone Easting Northing

D [REDACTED]

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

[REDACTED]

☐ See continuation sheet

### Boundary Justification

[REDACTED]

☐ See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James Lauro/Archaeologist

organization Mississippi Department of Archives and History date July, 1988

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi zip code 39205

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 88002700

Date Listed: 12/14/88

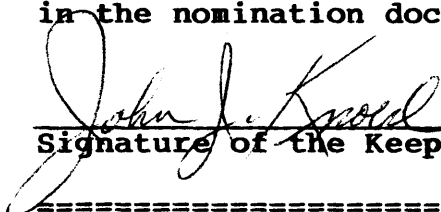
Leist Mound A Site  
Property Name

County

State

Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

12/14/88  
Date of Action

=====

**Amended Items in Nomination:**

Item 8 Period of Significance

The periods of significance are A.D. 1-300 and A.D. 1000-1450.

Verified by phone with:

Geoffrey R. Lehmann

Archeologist

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)