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CONDITION

\_\_EXCELLENT \_\_GOOD \_\_\_DETERIORATED \_\_\_RUINS \_\_\_UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

\_\_\_UNALTERED

CHECK ONE

\_\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

## Ingomar Mound, 🛋 late Mississippi Period temple mound

only surviving remnant of an archaeological site of fourteen mounds originally described in 1890-91 by Cyrus Thomas of the Bureau of American Ethnology. Thomas, who excavated eight of the mounds, reported that twelve central mounds were surrounded by a rectangular earth embankment 2 feet high and 10 feet wide at the base.

In 1935, the site was visited by Moreau B. Chambers of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, who found seven mounds still in existence. Chambers made notes, drew a map, and made a collection from the site. In a 1937 "Selected List of Significant Archaeological Sites" compiled by the department, the site was recommended for "careful investigation and preservation." Chambers's collection was destroyed in a fire, and the first volume of his field journal has been lost. The second volume of his field journal does have a brief description of the ceramic collection.

Today the site consists of a single, rectangular, flat-topped mound approximately 25-28 feet high, 250 feet long, and 150 feet wide at the base, and about 125 feet long and 90 feet wide on top. The mound is fenced off and covered with grass and trees. Although in the past it has been subjected to cultivation, erosion, and vandalism, it now appears to be stable and is protected by the landowner. The area around the mound is utilized for cotton cultivation, with the exception of the south side, which is in pasture.

Since 1935, the site has been visited by several professional archaeologists, but only surface collections have been made. Examination of these collections has revealed artifacts of the Woodland Period as well as the Mississippi Period. Except for the one remaining mound, the land has been leveled by a previous owner, and there is no physical evidence of the embankment, the ditch, or any of the other mounds.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
XPREHISTORIC	X_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-17 <b>99</b>	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS		POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	
	and the second				

#### SPECIFIC DATES

#### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ingomar Mound is the sole remaining feature of a large ceremonial center of the late Mississippi Period of cultural development. A temple mound, it represents a type rarely found in the northeast section of Mississippi. It is also significant because of its potential for the testing of aboriginal settlement pattern hypotheses, such as the system environments theory of Clay (1976) and the spatial efficiency theory of Steponaitis (1977), and for the development of new theories and models.

Since the artifacts recovered from the surface of the site indicate the possibility of successive occupations by people of the Woodland Period and the Mississippi Period or of contemporary occupations by different cultural groups, excavation could yield data relating to aboriginal interaction. Spanish artifacts excavated from the site in the late nineteenth century by Cyrus Thomas suggest that further testing could also produce data pertaining to the contact of prehistoric people with Europeans. Finally, the site should be preserved as a visual reminder of the achievements of the people who inhabited Mississippi in prehistoric times.

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Clay, R. Berle

1976 Tactics, strategy, and operations: The Mississippi system responds to its environment. <u>Mid-Continental Journal of Archaeology</u>, Vol. 1, No. 2.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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### 9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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