

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 18 1978
DATE ENTERED	1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Platt Island (8Cr182)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER [REDACTED] Big Cypress National Preserve

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Wilde, City, Fla VICINITY OF

STATE

Florida

CODE

12

COUNTY

Collier

CODE

021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(if applicable)* Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Collier County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Naples

STATE

Florida

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Preliminary Report of the Archeological Survey of Big Cypress National Preserve

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

National Park Service: Southeast Archeological Center

CITY, TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Florida

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Context

The Platt Island mounds were located in 1977 during the National Park Service archeological survey of the Big Cypress National Preserve. Although recorded on the USGS Miles City 7'5" series topographic map, this site had not been previously recorded in the State of Florida's Master Site File. The survey was part of a four year study designed to compile and assess the cultural resources of the reserve. The Platt Islands Mounds are one of seven sites in the preserve considered eligible for nomination on the National Register.

This multicomponent site is situated on Platt Island [REDACTED]. The site encompasses at least five discrete black dirt mounds and midden areas. Dense underbrush prevented the survey team from determining the site's exact boundaries. It is possible that this site has additional mound or midden components.

Diagnostic artifacts indicate an occupation that ranges from as early as the Glades I (Late) through the Glades II A. This reflects a span of time beginning ca. 400 AD through ca. 900 AD. It should be noted that the recovered data sample are not necessarily representative of the entire site. It would not be unusual if future testing demonstrated a longer period of occupation.

The mounds are generally oval or loaf shaped and vary in elevation from .5 meter to 1.5 meters above the adjacent hammock ground. The mounds vary in dimensions ranging from 4 to 7 meters in diameter.

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries include all of the known components of the site [REDACTED] would have served as an important resource area as well as a transportation route for the site's inhabitants. In addition, organic material data could be preserved [REDACTED] a circumstance not uncommon within the glades area. The nominated property encompasses six acres.

Environment

[REDACTED] that are interspered across the sawgrass prairie and cypress forest. A hardwood tree community intermixed with an understory of shrubs dominate the site. A wide variety of resources are offered by the several local ecotones. Fish, reptiles, birds and amphibians abound in the slough and sawgrass. The hammock islands have a large variety of plants, mammals, birds, and amphibians.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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Platt Island

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Archeological Investigations

No previous professional archeological research has been conducted on this site. Excavations by artifact collectors have disturbed at least two of the black dirt mounds. The surface of these two mounds are strewn with pottery and faunal bone. A collection made by an artifact collector and donated to the National Park Service contained thousands of pieces of bone, approximately 2000 pottery sherds, and numerous shell and bone artifacts. This data represented material from one mound's upper 20 cm. level. Two C₁₄ samples were also recovered from this site. Their age is as follows:

um-1135
um-1094

1055±65 B.P.
925±65 B.P.

Data Limitations

The general quality of this site shows little disturbance since prehistoric times. However, within the past year artifact hunters have removed the upper 25 cm. of a single mound and placed test pits in two of the other mounds. The rest of the site is intact and is without intrusions. Environmental conditions have favored the preservation of a large number of data sets throughout the site complex.

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 ca. 400 AD - 900 AD BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Platt Island Mounds represent a site complex of discrete components that contain data sets reflecting subsistence and settlement patterns typical of Native American occupation of the northwest section of the Big Cypress.

These data sets may be described as follows:

1. Artifactual data is primarily composed of pottery sherds. Ceramics in the Glades Area are the principal artifactual marker for chronology. Other artifacts include bone and shell tools and ornaments. This type of data still remains in undisturbed portions of the site. These artifacts would reflect subsistence patterns technology and, in some cases, chronology.
2. Subsistence data comprises a major percentage of the site's data universe. Consisting of faunal bone, charred seeds, shells, and human coprolites, this offers investigators an unusual opportunity to reconstruct subsistence patterns; particularly types of food being exploited, resource selectivity, prehistoric hunting and fishing methodology, and methods of food preparation. The human fecal material commonly preserved in large prehistoric middens in the Big Cypress, offer an opportunity to study diet and human parasitic pathology.
3. Large quantities of charcoal, remnants from fire pits and hearths, exist throughout the site. To date, four samples have been collected and submitted for C14 dates. Sufficient charcoal exist at all occupational levels to possibly determine the complete chronology of settlement.

Studies of prehistoric culture in Big Cypress have been nonexistent. Although close similarities are apparent between this area and the coastal Everglades, differences in adaptive strategies to local microenvironments are apparent. Future research may be able to answer questions about these differences. Other questions, such as whether seasonality is a factor in settlement selection, can also be addressed. John Griffin characterized settlement in the glades culture area as "circumglades", referring to this belief that occupation focused along the coastal zone, and that the interior glades were subject to only occasional resource exploitation and minor occupation. This site, and similar interior sites, conclusively demonstrate that this was not the case. Major settlements did occupy the interior.


9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ehrenhard, John, Robert S. Carr, Robert Taylor
 1978 A Preliminary Report on the Archeological Survey of Big Cypress
 National Preserve

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6

UTM REFERENCES

A 
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

--	--	--	--

 EASTING
 C

--	--	--	--

 NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION



LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION Robert S. Carr DATE 12/77
 STREET & NUMBER NPS, Southeast Archeological Center TELEPHONE (904) 222-1167
 CITY OR TOWN P.O. Box 2416 STATE Florida
Tallahassee 32304

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO NONE


 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE J. D. Hall DATE 6/26/78
 TITLE Chief, Div. of Cultural Resource Mgmt.

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION <u>Jann H. Gilmore</u> ATTEST KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>12/19/78</u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE <u>12/13/78</u>