



31 May 2019

CULTURAL RESOURCES DESKTOP REVIEW — ADDENDUM

Project Name: Helena Harbor Site Certification, ca. 5,121 Acres
Project Type: Preliminary Cultural Resource Assessment
County: Phillips, AR
Legal description: Sections 13, 14, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, 36 T3S R4E;
..... Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 T3S R5E
USGS Quadrangles: Friars Point NW, Ark-Miss; Moon Lake, Miss-Ark 1964 7.5 min

The Arkansas Electric Cooperative and Phillips County Economic Development have partnered to pursue a “site certification” designation for a large parcel at Helena Harbor. The subject tract is located along the Mississippi River in Phillips County between Helena, Arkansas and Friars Point, Mississippi. The project footprint encompasses approximately 5,121 acres. The purpose of the certification is to pre-qualify the site for industrial development by conducting a review of readiness criteria that includes a consideration of existing properties of cultural and historical significance. A literature and records search of cultural resource data available within the project area was undertaken as a component of the environmental review.

Arkansas Archeological Survey (AAS) records check

Material submitted on May 16, 2019 provided preliminary identification data for 67 archaeological properties currently mapped within the project area. A detailed review of these properties has subsequently been completed, permitting the identification of seventeen sites that have been recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP; Table 1). A historic-era cemetery containing an unknown number of graves that has not received a Smithsonian trinomial is also mapped within the project area. These properties are shown in satellite view and on USGS quadrangles in Figures 1 and 2.

Table 1. NRHP-eligible archaeological sites within the Helena Harbor tract.

Site	Easting	Northing	Recorded	Description	Size (sq m)
3PH19	718765	3810707	1940	Ellis (15-N-2); platform mound remnant and associated occupation area; Baytown-Coles Creek and Mississippian Old Town phase components	52,000
3PH200	715125	3810707	1982-83	Late Woodland plain and cordmarked ceramics, debitage; possible midden deposit	700
3PH201	715275	3810747	1982-83	Late Woodland plain and cordmarked ceramics, debitage, adzes; high-density near-surface scatter with possible midden deposits	3,000
3PH246	720005	3810847	1989	Col. Rabb cemetery (d. 1856); possibly 8 graves in total	1,800
3PH249	720185	3810907	1989	Rabb Plantation site, 19th-20th century occupation area opposite Montezuma Towhead, river side of the main levee	40,000
3PH255	717625	3810367	1989	Baytown-Mississippian occupation area near Ellis; midden deposits	6,000
3PH256	717605	3810167	1989	Baytown-Mississippian occupation area near Ellis; midden deposits and sub-plowzone features	6,000



Site	Easting	Northing	Recorded	Description	Size (sq m)
3PH257	716985	3809067	1989	Large Baytown-Mississippian occupation area southwest of Ellis; midden deposits and sub-plowzone features	26,000
3PH264	716555	3810867	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	3,000
3PH265	716625	3810847	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	6,750
3PH266	716505	3810477	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	4,200
3PH267	716535	3810557	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	4,200
3PH268	716515	3810337	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	4,200
3PH291	716835	3808887	1991	Woodland occupation area near 3PH257; possible midden and features	4,000
3PH292	716605	3811197	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	1,600
3PH293	716745	3811497	1991	Woodland occupation area; possible midden and features	1,980
3PH294	716625	3809107	1991	Large Woodland occupation area near 3PH257; midden and features	22,500

Sites in red are those mentioned in AHPP/SHPO correspondence dated May 6, 2019; UTM coordinates are zone 15S, NAD83

With the exception of the Rabb Plantation site and associated cemetery (3PH246/249), all the cultural properties of interest are located on the landside of the main Mississippi River levee. These interior sites are all prehistoric archaeological sites except for the small unnumbered cemetery in the northeastern sector. Other sites mapped in the project area have either been destroyed, mitigated through previous data recovery, or in the opinion of Panamerican do not appear to meet any of the eligibility criteria for nomination to the NRHP. The majority of the recorded sites are small to medium size surface artifact scatters related to early 20th century habitation and refuse disposal in this portion of the floodplain.

Conclusions

Detailed assessment work conducted at six of the sites listed in Table 1 (3PH19, 3PH246, 3PH249, 3PH255, 3PH256, and 3PH257) has been described in previous reports related to the development of the Helena Slackwater Harbor (Childress et al. 1995; Weaver et al. 1996). These sites should either be avoided or mitigated through data recovery. The remainder of the sites recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP have not been formally tested.

Respectfully submitted,



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References:

Childress, M.R., M.E. Starr, C.D. Koeppel, D.C. Crampton, G.G. Weaver, M.L. Barnhardt, A.B. Shea, and E. Breitburg

1995 *Archaeological Investigations at Helena Slackwater Harbor, Volume I: Survey, Testing and Excavation of Prehistoric Sites and Components*. Garrow & Associates, Memphis. Submitted to U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District, Memphis, Tennessee.

Weaver, G.G., J.L. Hopkins, L.W. Weaver, S. Schaffer, M.L. Barnhardt, and L. Kennedy

1996 *Archaeological Investigations at Helena Slackwater Harbor, Volume II: Survey, Testing and Excavation of Historical Sites and Components*. Garrow & Associates, Memphis. Submitted to U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District, Memphis, Tennessee.

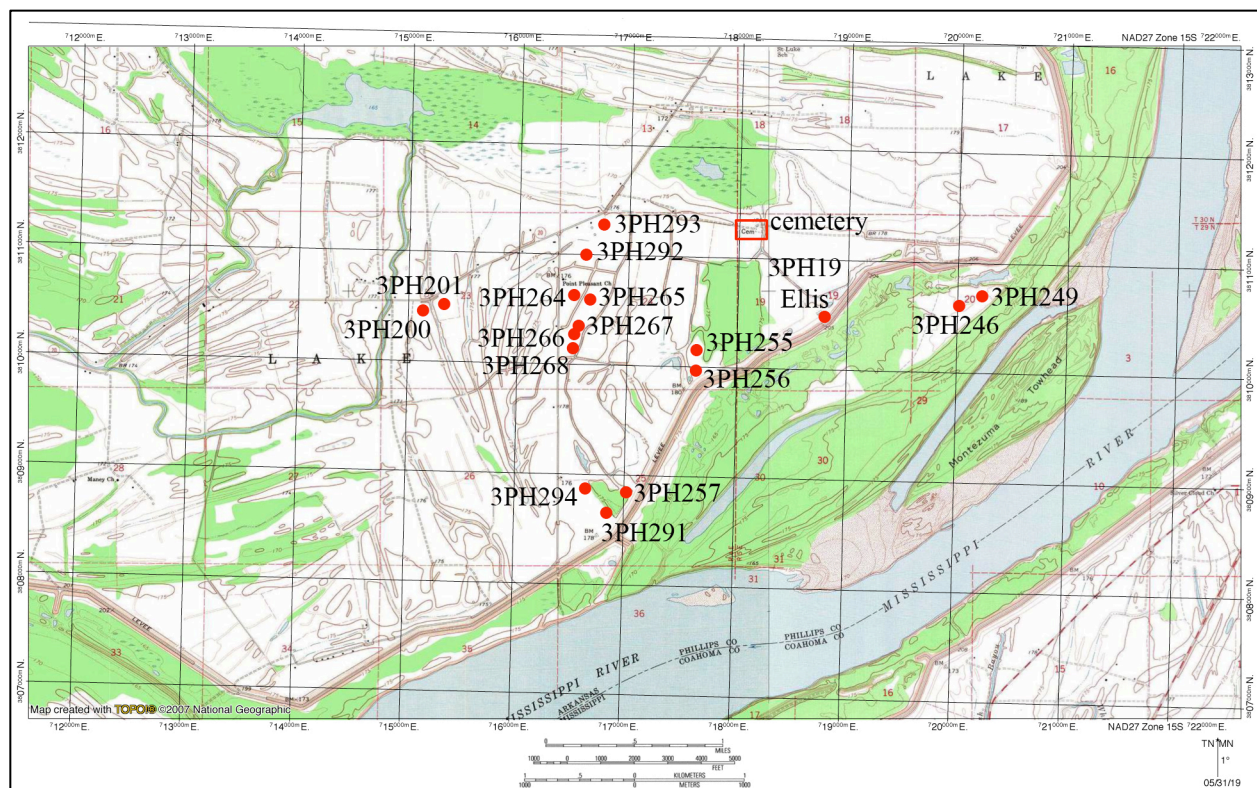


Figure 1. NRHP-eligible archaeological sites recorded in the project area (base map: Moon Lake MS-AR, Friars Point NW AR-MS 1964 7.5-min. quad).



Figure 2. Satellite image of Helena Harbor project area NRHP-eligible sites.