MIDDLE GEORGIA

ABOUT YOUR VISIT:

Ocmulgee's visitor center houses an archaeological museum interpreting the cultures of the American Indians who inhabited the site. A short orientation film and a gift shop are also available in the visitor center.

The park has 5-1/2 miles of walking trails. Near the visitor center is a reconstructed 1000 year old ceremonial earthlodge. Visitors can reach the Great Temple Mound via a 1/2 mile walk or the park road. Other features in the park include a burial mound, temple mounds, prehistoric trenches, and the site of a colonial British trading post.

The Monument is open 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily, except Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

DIRECTIONS: Ocmulgee National Monument is located on the eastern edge of Macon, GA., along U.S. 80. Travelers on I-75 should exit onto I-16. Take Exit 4; turn left on U.S. 80 (Coliseum Drive); then turn right and follow U.S. 80 (Emery Highway) a mile to the park.

Ocmulgee National Monument, established in 1936, is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The park's address is 1207 Emery Highway, Macon, Georgia 31201 Telephone (912) 752-8257.

PEOPLE OF THE MACON PLATEAU

Ocmulgee National Monument is a memorial to the antiquity of people in Southeastern North America. From Ice Age hunters to the Creek Indians of historic times, there is evidence here of at least 10,000 years of human habitation.

Between A.D. 900-1150, an elite society supported by skillful farmers lived on this site near the Ocmulgee River. They constructed a town of rectangular wooden buildings, huge pyramidal temple mounds, and at least one burial mound. Circular earthlodge served as places to conduct meetings and ceremonies.

After this large Early Mississippian Period ceremonial center declined, other villages were built in the area by the later Mississippian "Lamar" Culture. These were the people encountered by Spaniard Hernando DeSoto in 1540.

During historic times, the great mounds continued to evoke awe and admiration. Naturalist William Bartram journeyed through Ocmulgee in the 1770's and described the "wonderful remains of the power and grandeur of the ancients in this part of America."
# 1997 Calendar of Events

## January

- **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**
- **1. New Years Day (Closed)**
- **22. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**

## February

- **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**
- **1. Film: “Black Warriors of the Seminole” (2 pm)**
- **15. Birdwatch (9 am)**
- **16. Flute/Storytelling (1-4:30 pm)**
- **19. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**

## March

- **NATIONAL PARK WEEK**
- **15. Birdwatch (9 am)**
- **19. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**
- **22. Pine Needle Basketry Workshop (10 am-4:30 pm) $5 Fee - Call for Reservation**
- **23. Pine Needle Basketry Demos (9-4:30 pm)**

## April

- **ARCHEOLOGY WEEK***HISTORIC*** PRESERVATION MONTH**
- **5. Film: “Parks Panorama” (2 pm)**
- **9. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**
- **12. Birdwatch (9 am)**
- **19. MARCH FOR THE PARK ***EARTH DAY*** CELEBRATION**
- **27. Lamar Mounds Field Trip (2 pm)**

## May

- **3. Artifact Identification Day (9 am-1 pm/2-4:30 pm)**
- **Lecture: "Archeology in Middle GA" (3 pm)**
- **10. Migratory Bird Day (9 am-4:30 pm)**
- **Lecture: "Macon's Mounds" (1 pm)**

## June

- **FRIENDS OF OCMULGEE OLD FIELDS Monthly Meetings**
  - 3rd Saturday, 10:00 am
  - Call for Information 912-752-8257

## July

- **INDEPENDENCE MONTH**
- **4. Independence Day Ocmulgee Nat’l Monument**
  - A great place to visit!!
- **9 & 23. Children's Workshop (10 am-2 pm) Ages 6-12 Call for Reservations**
- **19. Film: "Lost in Time" (2 pm)**
- **26. Film: "More than Bows and Arrows" (2 pm)**

## August

- **PUBLIC LANDS MONTH**
- **16. Film: "First Frontiers" (2 pm)**
- **20. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**

## September

- **WILDLIFE MONTH**
- **14. Bird Watch (9 am)**
- **15. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**
- **18. Artifact Identification Day (9-1 pm & 2-4:30 pm)**

## October

- **NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**
- **1. Lamar Mounds Field Trip (2 pm)**
- **8. Film: "Search for the First Americans" (2 pm)**
- **15. Film: "The Early Americans" (2 pm)**
- **22. Film: "Legacy of the Moundbuilders" (2 pm)**
- **29. Film: "The Long Road Home" (2 pm)**

## November

- **PUBLIC LANDS MONTH**
- **4. Film: "The Endangered Species Act: An American Legacy" (2 pm)**
- **11. Film: "Biological Diversity: It Makes All the Difference" (2 pm)**
- **15. Discovery Lab Orientation (4 pm) Call for Reservations**
- **18. Artifact Identification Day (9-1 pm & 2-4:30 pm)**

## December

- **HAVE A SAFE AND MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON!!**
- **25. Christmas Day (Closed)**

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Programs Sponsored By The OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

(912) 752-8257