**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**
**INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM**
**FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

### 1. NAME

**COMMON:**

**INDIAN MOUNDS**

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**

### 2. LOCATION

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

Shiloh National Military Park

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Shiloh

**STATE:**

Tennessee

**COUNTY:**

Hardin

**ENTRY NUMBER**

T 73

**DATE**

07-27-1979

**ENTRY DATE**

APR 27 1979

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

**ENTRY NUMBER**

07-27-1979

**ENTRY DATE**

APR 27 1979

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

**CATEGORY**

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<td>Both</td>
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**PRESENT USE**

- Park
- No

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

- In Process
- Being Considered
- No

### 4. AGENCY

**National Park Service**

**REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS:**

Southeast Region

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Atlanta

**STATE:**

Georgia

**CODE:**

13

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**

Park Files

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

Shiloh National Military Park

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Shiloh

**STATE:**

Tennessee

**CODE:**

47

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE OF SURVEY:**

Shiloh NMP Boundary Survey

**DATE OF SURVEY:**

1939/Rev 1956

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**

Park Files

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Shiloh

**STATE:**

Tennessee

**CODE:**

47
Preservation recommended.

This is a group of prehistoric Indian Mounds consisting of seven major and twenty-four smaller ones. The mounds are in a cluster along the river bluffs in what was once a palisaded village site. There have been a number of excavations of the mounds in the past, the most thorough being conducted by the Smithsonian Institution in 1934. In addition, several early settlers had homes in the area, and a number of Civil War battlefield graves were dug there. In recent years visitors have caused erosion problems by climbing upon the mounds. It is proposed that the seven major mounds be stabilized to prevent further erosion.

Significance: 1st Order

(Recommended Treatment: Preservation
(Cost estimate for above: $4,000.
Photographs enclosed

The mounds within the district are as follows:

3. Indian Mound (No. HS 3)
   A conically-shaped burial mound 33' x 54' x 9½' high. This mound was found to contain twenty interments during the 1934 excavation. The effigy pipe which is in the Park's museum collection was also found in this mound.
   Longitude: 88° 19' 10"  Latitude: 35° 08' 25"

4. - 9. Indian Mounds (Nos. HS 4 - HS 9)
   These six large mounds are all flat-topped and generally rectangular in shape. They are believed to have served as the bases for temples or for the homes of very important persons.

4. Indian Mound (No. HS 4)
   90' x 105' x 8½' high
   Longitude: 88° 19' 16"  Latitude: 35° 08' 34"

5. Indian Mound (No. HS 5)
   86' x 70' x 8½' high
   Longitude: 88° 19' 11"  Latitude: 35° 08' 29"

6. Indian Mound (No. HS 6)
   39' x 41' x 11' high
   Longitude: 88° 19' 22"  Latitude: 35° 08' 33"

7. Indian Mound (No. HS 7)
   86' x 112' x 6' high
   Longitude: 88° 19' 14"  Latitude: 35° 08' 35"
4. - 9. Indian Mounds (Nos. HS 4 - HS 9) (Continued)

8. Indian Mound (No. HS 8)
47' x 47' x 12½' high
Longitude: 88° 19' 10" Latitude: 35° 08' 34"

9. Indian Mound (No. HS 9)
42' x 58' x 10' high
Longitude: 88° 19' 13" Latitude: 35° 08' 30"

10. - 33. Indian Mounds (Nos. HS 10 - HS 33)
These twenty-four smaller mounds are generally circular in shape, and rounded at the top. They are believed to have used as bases for residences.

10. Indian Mound (No. HS 10)
Diameter 28'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 16" Latitude: 35° 08' 37"

11. Indian Mound (No. HS 11)
Diameter 17'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15" Latitude: 35° 08' 33"

12. Indian Mound (No. HS 12)
Diameter 33'; Height 3'
Longitude: 88° 19' 11" Latitude: 35° 08' 31"

13. Indian Mound (No. HS 13)
Diameter 12'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15" Latitude: 35° 08' 34"

14. Indian Mound (No. HS 14)
Diameter 24'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 22" Latitude: 35° 08' 35"

15. Indian Mound (No. HS 15)
Diameter 22'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 22" Latitude: 35° 08' 35"

16. Indian Mound (No. HS 16)
Diameter 26'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 18" Latitude: 35° 08' 34"

17. Indian Mound (No. HS 17)
Diameter 25'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 18" Latitude: 35° 08' 33"
10. - 33. Indian Mounds (Nos. HS 10 - HS 33) (Continued)

18. Indian Mound (No. HS 18)
Diameter 30'; Height 2½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 19" Latitude: 35° 08' 32"

19. Indian Mound (No. HS 19)
Diameter 34'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 19" Latitude: 35° 08' 29"

20. Indian Mound (No. HS 20)
Diameter 29'; Height 1½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 16" Latitude: 35° 08' 29"

21. Indian Mound (No. HS 21)
Diameter 22'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15" Latitude: 35° 08' 29"

22. Indian Mound (No. HS 22)
Diameter 14'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 17" Latitude: 35° 08' 28"

23. Indian Mound (No. HS 23)
Diameter 12'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 16" Latitude: 35° 08' 28"

24. Indian Mound (No. HS 24)
Diameter 16'; Height 1½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15" Latitude: 35° 08' 28"

25. Indian Mound (No. HS 25)
Diameter 24'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 14" Latitude: 35° 08' 28"

26. Indian Mound (No. HS 26)
Diameter 16'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 11" Latitude: 35° 08' 27"

27. Indian Mound (No. HS 27)
Diameter 14'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 11" Latitude: 35° 08' 27"

28. Indian Mound (No. HS 28)
Diameter 19'; Height 1½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 10" Latitude: 35° 08' 26"
10. - 33. Indian Mounds (Nos. HS 10 - HS 33) (Continued)

29. Indian Mound (No. HS 29)
Diameter 25'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 10"  Latitude: 35° 08' 23"

30. Indian Mound (No. HS 30)
Diameter 22'; Height 1½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 11"  Latitude: 35° 08' 22"

31. Indian Mound (No. HS 31)
Diameter 14'; Height 1'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15"  Latitude: 35° 08' 34"

32. Indian Mound (No. HS 32)
Diameter 26'; Height 2'
Longitude: 88° 19' 17"  Latitude: 35° 08' 32"

33. Indian Mound (No. HS 33)
Diameter 28'; Height 2½'
Longitude: 88° 19' 15"  Latitude: 35° 08' 36"
While these mounds played only a peripheral part in the Battle of Shiloh (April 6-7, 1862), for which the area was set aside as a National Military Park and later placed on the National Register; they are considered to be one of the finest groups of such mounds along the Tennessee River. Archeological evidence shows that these mounds were constructed before the Indians had any contact with European trade goods and that they may date back as early as 800 years ago. Most of the mounds have been dug into, or otherwise disturbed, in the past. Although these excavations apparently resulted in the finding of a considerable number of artifacts (including the stone human effigy pipe now in the park's museum collection), even the most recent and thorough excavation, that conducted by the Smithsonian Institution in 1933-34, was limited to the testing of only three mounds and a small percentage of the village area. Hence the major portion of the site remains undisturbed. It thus constitutes a major archeological resource. Approximately 30 burials were recovered from Dr. Robert's 1933-34 excavations; the stone human effigy pipe from Colonel Cornelius Cadles 1899 excavations.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 78

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

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Robert Nash, Chief I&RM
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Shiloh National Military Park
STREET AND NUMBER: 4
PHONE: 901-689-3410
CITY: Shiloh
STATE: Tennessee

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ None

State Liaison Officer Signature:

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

☐ Local Federal Representative Signature:

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ None

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

ATTEST:

Date 4/27/79

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE'S TITLE:

Date 7/24/79
INDIAN MOUND GROUP
SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
(NOT TO SCALE)
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Indian Mounds Hardin County, TENNESSEE

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

Name change to Shiloh Indian Mounds Site

Keeper [Signature] 9/24/89
The National Register name for this property was listed as "Indian Mounds". The site has recently been designated a National Historic Landmark with the name "Shiloh Indian Mounds Site". The latter name is more appropriate and, therefore, should also be the National Register name.

Herbert L. Harper, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Tennessee Historical Commission
7/27/89

Edwin Bearss, Federal Preservation Officer
National Park Service
8/22/89
The National Register name for this property was listed as "Indian Mounds". The site has recently been designated a National Historic Landmark with the name "Shiloh Indian Mounds Site". The latter name is more appropriate and, therefore, should also be the National Register name.
View of typical major platform mound (No. HS 9) from West.
UNited States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Property Photograph Form
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. Name
COMMON: Indian Mounds
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. Location
STREET AND NUMBER: Shiloh National Military Park
CITY OR TOWN: Shiloh
STATE: Tennessee

3. Photo Reference
PHOTO CREDIT: NPS
DATE OF PHOTO: 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Shiloh National Military Park

4. Identification
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
View of Burial Mound (No. HS 3) from North.

FEB 24 1976
NATIONAL REGISTER
STATE
Tennessee
COUNTY
Hardin
ENTRY NUMBER
APR 27 1979
DATE
FEB 24 1976
NATIONAL REGISTER
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# United States National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places

### Property Photograph Form

**Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph**

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**STREET AND NUMBER**

- Shiloh National Military Park
- Shiloh, Tennessee 38376

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## Property Photograph Form

1. **Name**
   - **Common**: Indian Mound (No. HS-8)
   - **And/or Historic**: Indian Mound (No. HS-8)
   - **Numeric Code (Assigned by NPS)**: APR 27 1979

2. **Location**
   - **State**: Tennessee
   - **County**: Hardin 071
   - **Town**: Shiloh 2208
   - **Street and Number**: Shiloh National Military Park
   - **Street**: Shiloh
   - **Number**: Tennessee 38376

3. **Photo Reference**
   - **Photo Credit**: E. H. Ellis
   - **Date**: 7/6/73
   - **Negative Filed At**: Shiloh NMP

4. **Identification**
   - **Describe View, Direction, etc.**: West side of mound.