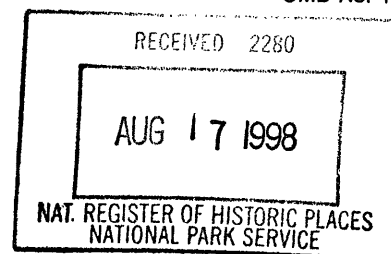


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Third Gulf Breeze

other names/site number 8SR8

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED] ☒ not for publication

city or town Gulf Breeze ☐ vicinity

state Florida code FL county Santa Rosa code 113 zip code 32561

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M. Greenberg FPO 8-17-98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Department of the Interior - National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith L. Pettiford, DSHPO 7-1-98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office/Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

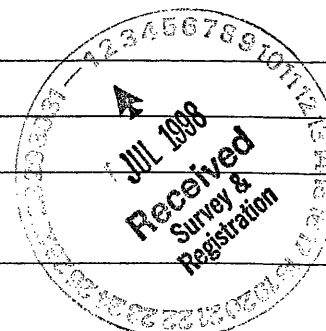
- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other, (explain): _____

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Bernard J. Fitts

9/28/98



5. Classification**Ownership of Property**
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☒ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Prehistoric and Historic Archeological
Properties of the Naval Live Oaks Reservation**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / village site

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE / outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE / park

LANDSCAPE / forest

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls

roof

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☒ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHEOLOGY / PREHISTORIC

Period of Significance

1000BC - AD200

AD1200 - AD1700

AD200 - AD500

AD500 - AD1200

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked "above")

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Woodland

Mississippian

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Southeast Archeological Center (NPS)

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property 5.31 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1												
2												

3												
	Zone			Easting			Northing					
4												

☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared Byname/title Norma Harris, Research Associate; Reviewed by Judith A. Bense, Phdorganization University of West Florida, Archeology Inst. date April 1997street & number 11000 University Parkway, Bldg. 80 telephone (850) 474-3015city or town Pensacola state FL zip code 32514**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name U.S. Department of Interior; National Park Service; Gulf Islands National Seashorestreet & number 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway telephone (850) 934-2606city or town Gulf Breeze state FL zip code 32561

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

8SR8 The Third Gulf Breeze Site

Section 7. Narrative Description

Summary

The Third Gulf Breeze site (8SR8) is large shell ring [REDACTED] National Seashore. Shell deposits varying from between 35 centimeters and 1 meter in thickness form a semi-circular shape [REDACTED] dark gray midden extends beyond the shell remains for several feet in all directions. The site covers approximately [REDACTED] including the dense u-shaped shell area, and adjacent midden. [REDACTED]

Artifacts from the numerous test excavations in 8SR8 have produced dates beginning in the Early Woodland and continuing into the Mississippian stage of prehistory (1000 B.C. - A.D. 1450). Although this site was visited by every culture in these two stages, the major component belongs to the Santa Rosa Swift Creek culture of the Middle Woodland (A.D. 200 - A.D. 500). The Pensacola culture, Bottle Creek phase (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1450) is also well represented on the site. Cultural materials recovered include bone, shellfish, lithics, and pottery.

Erosion has destroyed a portion of the site [REDACTED] Although vandalism has been noted (Tesar, 1973), and construction has impacted the site in a minor way, researchers have noted that the site is mostly undisturbed (approximately 70%).

Environmental Setting

The Third Gulf Breeze site is [REDACTED] Associated soils include poorly drained Leon sand (0-2% slope) and excessively drained Kureb sand (0-8% slope). Vegetation consists of live oaks, magnolia, cedar and some pines. Secondary growth is represented by yaupon holly, wax myrtle, palmetto, and scrub oaks. Density of this vegetation varies from relatively clear to very dense. [REDACTED] the live oak plantation and reserve that was present in the 1800s, pointing out the types of live oak tree natural shapes that could be used in ship construction.

Periods of Site Occupation

The periods represented at this site were determined from ceramic analysis done by each

researcher who has tested 8SR8. Due to the large number of people who have investigated this site, a complete list of ceramics collected is not included here. For details of this type, see the reports listed in the section entitled "Previous Investigations". A summary of the ceramic types is presented in that section.

Based on the previous works of various professionals and amateurs, the following time periods of occupation occur at the Third Gulf Breeze site. Each is described in detail in the Historic Contexts section of the multiple property listing cover form.

Woodland

Deptford	1000 B.C. - A.D. 200
Santa Rosa/Swift Creek	A.D. 200 - A.D. 500
Weeden Island	A.D. 500 - A.D. 1200

Mississippian

Early Pensacola, Bottle Creek phase	A.D. 1200 - A. D. 1450
--	------------------------

The Santa Rosa/Swift Creek culture is best represented in the shell ring feature of the site, built during this time period. This period is also the largest component, with the Pensacola culture second in significance based on the numbers of ceramics recovered from various excavations. Deptford and Weeden Island components of the site are minor. Each of these is attributed to the researcher who first reported them in the Previous Works section below.

Physical Description

The Third Gulf Breeze site contains a dense, u-shaped shell midden, [REDACTED] and a surrounding dark gray, organic midden with scattered light shell and cultural materials [REDACTED]. The shell midden varies from 35 centimeters and 1 meter in thickness, [REDACTED]. The central section of the semi-circle have very little shell, but other cultural evidence is present. Other areas of shell are exposed [REDACTED] and in animal burrows and uprooted trees. Live oaks dominate the current vegetation, forming part of the oak-magnolia-cedar climax forest.

Appearance of the Site During the Prehistoric Period

Vegetation present during the prehistoric period was virtually the same as the modern plant complex. Human activity on the site would have resulted in the clearing of areas surrounding the site of secondary growth, and perhaps some larger trees were removed as well.

The Santa Rosa/Swift Creek shell ring feature was elevated between 0.5 and 1.0 meters above the surrounding landscape. The "plaza" area inside the semi-circular shell ring was kept relatively clean, having few cultural materials. The shell configuration was probably formed by

accretion, sheet deposits and filling of refuse pits. Debris that accumulated in the “plaza” was probably swept into the accumulating ring. Therefore, the shell ring itself was probably constructed as a result of keeping the “plaza” area clean, and general refuse disposal.

The shell midden extends outside the shell ring, tapering off generally [REDACTED]. The surrounding shell midden contains cultural materials such as ceramics and bone, and was evidently also used by the builders of the ring and plaza. Excavation of other rings suggests that structures were located outside the shell rings and similar u-shaped constructions (see Waring and Larson, 1977; Bense, 1992 and 1994; Phillips, 1992; Thomas and Campbell, 1993). The “U” shape of the current shell ring could also have been a full circle and the current configuration is a result of erosion along the bluff overlooking the sound.

Mixing of the archaeological deposits in 8SR8 suggests that there was some agriculture practiced on the site in the later major prehistoric occupation. The Mississippian groups that are represented at the site by Pensacola ceramics may have practiced limited agriculture and disturbed the older prehistoric deposits (see Willey, 1949). The physical appearance of the site would have been relatively clear of vegetation if this was the case, with Pensacola groups practicing slash and burn agriculture in small areas.

Past and Current Impacts

Erosion along the southern edge of the site is exposing cultural deposits in the bluff profile. Vandalism has also been noted (Tesar, 1973), although the site has been well protected from looters since the construction [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] through the site also have some slight adverse effects on the integrity of the site. All researchers agree that a major portion of the site still exists, approximately 70% (see Previous Investigations section below).

Previous Investigations

Eleven separate investigations have taken place at the Third Gulf Breeze site. The rare shell ring has attracted both amateurs and professionals for over 100 years; however, their impact has been slight. Most of the excavations have consisted of small test units or shovel testing, and since the National Park Service re-acquired the property, these investigations have been limited to determining impacts on the site from construction or erosion and vandalism, or to recommend appropriate cultural resource management data. Each researcher is discussed below in chronological order, along with a summary of their findings and field methods and the purpose of their investigations.

The first documented visit to 8SR8 was published in the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for the year 1883 (Walker, 1885). S. T. Walker of Milton, Florida authored an article about mounds and shell ‘heaps’ on the west coast of Florida. He described

“immense beds of shell” (p. 859) and suggested that there was a large population who had lived on the site. Artifacts discussed include broken pottery and implements made of shell scattered about the site. He also described a clay image in the shape of a bird’s head. Walker’s method of examination is unknown, and the location of any collections is also unknown.

Archaeologist Gordon R. Willey conducted test excavations in the 1940s in the Reserve, including 8SR8 (Willey, 1949). His first step was a surface collection, and then six test pits were placed in the site deposits: (2) 1.5 x 1.5 meter units; (2) 2 x 2 meter units and (1) 3 x 3 meter unit. He collected 128 pottery sherds from the surface, and a total of 1,808 sherds were recovered from the stratigraphic units. Willey found a significant Santa Rosa/Swift Creek (A.D. 200 - A.D. 500) component associated with the shell ring. Representative ceramic types from this time period included Swift Creek Complicated Stamped, Santa Rosa Stamped, Alligator Bayou and Basin Bayou Incised. Ceramics from the Pensacola culture (A.D. 1200 to A.D. 1450) included Lake Jackson Plain, Pensacola Incised and Pensacola Plain. Minor amounts of Deptford and Weeden Island pottery were also recovered.

William C. Lazarus examined ceramic changes in an article published in 1961 summarizing ten middens on the Naval Live Oaks Reservation. He included an analysis of the ceramics recovered by Willey at 8SR8, comparing the changes in Ft. Walton period sherds in four of the units excavated (Lazarus, 1961). Lazarus conducted no field work for this project at 8SR8.

Amateurs S. S. Williams and T.E. Brown visited the site in 1966 and report potholes in the site that seemed to be recent, one approximately 3 feet deep and 6 feet across, the other a long, shallow excavation of unknown dimensions. The amateurs then undertook their own excavations. Six units were then placed in the site of varying sizes. Ceramics reported include Franklin Plain, Swift Creek Complicated Stamped, Alligator Bayou and St. Andrews Complicated Stamped. Other artifacts included a white quartz metate, bone awls and projectile points (Williams, Brown and Fagan, 1967).

In 1968, David S. Phelps of Florida State University conducted testing at 8SR8. His research concentrated on the Santa Rosa/Swift Creek component of the site and a preliminary report was included in a paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in 1969 (Phelps, 1969). No details are available regarding field methods, or ceramic analysis. No final report was produced. The associated artifacts are located at East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina.

The Third Gulf Breeze site was again visited in 1973. Louis Tesar conducted a survey of known sites, and located new sites within the boundaries of the Reserve (Tesar, 1973). His examination of the site primarily concentrated on the surface materials, and a synthesis of previous works. Based on that data, and some brief subsurface investigation, Tesar recommended that the site be preserved and/or excavated thoroughly. He speculated that the village must have been home to at least 200 individuals during the Santa Rosa/Swift Creek

period.

A. Wayne Prokopetz conducted survey and testing in 1976 for the National Park Service, including 8SR8. The survey concentrated on areas most in danger of disturbance from construction activities, especially 8SR8. He concurred with the findings of Willey concerning components, and went on to state: "this site is one of the most important prehistoric sites in Northwest Florida and that all efforts should be made to properly protect it from damage" (Prokopetz, 1976). He used soil augering at ten foot intervals to delineate the site boundaries, and a 5' x 5' test unit was also excavated in stratigraphic levels in the northeast corner of the site.

Bruce Piatek of the National Park Service monitored [REDACTED] in the Naval Live Oaks Area. Through a miscommunication, the actual work had started two months earlier, so areas that had already been disturbed were immediately surveyed. Some unmonitored disturbance of cultural materials associated with 8SR8 did occur, but this was restricted to the eastern edge of the site. [REDACTED] produced cultural materials, and radio carbon dates were obtained from this strata. A date of $1,385 \pm 80$ years B. P. was obtained, but it was not associated with cultural material. Piatek also noted very good preservation, including well preserved wood (Piatek, 1980).

Under contract with the Park Service, another survey of selected sites was conducted in November and December of 1980. Florida State University reports that 5 shovel tests were placed on the eastern edge of 8SR8 at the request of the Park Service due to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] however, the test did not identify any midden, just a few Ft. Walton period sherds in areas that may already have been disturbed [REDACTED] Huston and Stoutamire also noted vandalism on the site (Huston and Stoutamire, 1982).

The most extensive boundary testing at the Third Gulf Breeze site was done by a Florida State University field school in the summer of 1982. 92 shovel tests were done at 20 meter intervals, then again at 5 meters in selected areas to better determine the extent of the site. Soil samples were also taken for orthophosphate analysis. 4 test units were excavated including 2 bulk sample columns and (1) 1 x 1.5 meter unit, and (1) 1 x 2 meter unit. A detailed map of the shell ring and associated middens was made, and a copy from the report is enclosed with this summary. The investigators found that the dominant ceramics from the shell ring area were Santa Rosa/Swift Creek, with a high number of Pensacola sherds in the upper levels of the site. They, too, found a few Deptford and Weeden Island ceramics, and considered these to be minor components. No features were identified in the excavations; however, the authors state that this is not surprising due to the limited number of units excavated (Doran and Piatek, 1985).

National Park Service archaeologist, Jack Walker, conducted excavations [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Naval Live Oaks in 1986 which impacted the Pensacola component area of 8SR8. Walker dug ten 30 centimeter square shovel tests, twelve 50 centimeter squares,

twenty-one 1 x 1 meter units, and two 5 x 5 meter units. His preliminary findings confirmed that this was primarily a Pensacola occupation. One Santa Rosa/Swift Creek feature was excavated. No final report is available for this work at present (Hammersten, 1989). All artifacts from monitoring and testing done by the National Park Service and Florida State University are housed at the Southeast Archaeological Center, National Park Service, Tallahassee, Florida.

8SR8 The Third Gulf Breeze Site

Section 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Third Gulf Breeze site is a multi-component site, with evidence of occupation from the Early Woodland Deptford phase (1000 B.C. - A.D. 200) through the Middle Mississippian (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1450) described in Section E in the accompanying multiple property listing cover form. The Middle Woodland Santa Rosa/Swift Creek phase (A.D. 200 - A.D. 500) of occupation is represented by a u-shaped shell ring and central plaza [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. This site is significant under criterion D, with the potential to yield important information about the time periods represented, as well as the important information already accumulated from various test excavations.

The shell ring configuration of the Santa Rosa/Swift Creek culture has attracted much attention from amateur and professional archaeologists for over 100 years, and continues to be considered one of the most important sites in Northwest Florida in this time period, as well as its substantial later occupation during the Middle Mississippian Pensacola culture phase (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1450). Research questions appropriate to the data available in this site include questions of culture history, subsistence, settlement patterns and cultural ecology. There has been some disturbance from erosion and vandalism; however, professionals who have done testing at the site have repeatedly insisted that the site retains archaeological integrity, and should be protected.

Archaeological Significance

The Third Gulf Breeze site's richness and unusual shell ring feature have prompted researchers to recommend protection and/or mitigation of the site. The National Park Service has been better able to protect the site [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and contains deposits from the Santa Rosa/Swift Creek culture (A.D. 200 - A.D. 500), and the Pensacola, Bottle Creek phase (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1450). These are the major occupation phases. There are two other Woodland deposits: Deptford (1000 B.C. - A.D. 200) and Weeden Island (A.D. 500 - A.D. 1200).

The Santa Rosa/Swift Creek shell ring may have been a special activity site, having significance to the prehistoric people of this period beyond simply a village location. The configuration of the semi-circular shell ring rose to between 0.5 and 1.0 meters about the surrounding ground surface, with a central "plaza" that was kept clean of debris. The width of the dense ring varies between 15 and 46 meters, and is between 35 centimeters and 1 meter thick. This spatial arrangement is typical of other shell rings in the southeast, although little research has been done at these types of sites (Bense, 1992 and 1994; Phillips, 1992; Thomas and Campbell, 1993; Waring and Larson, 1977). The Bernath site in Mulatto Bayou approximately

██████████ 8SR8 contained human burials in the central plaza (Bense, 1992 and 1994; Phillips, 1992). There is no evidence of burials in the Gulf Breeze plaza, but there has been limited work in that area. Settlement seems to have been outside of these shell rings, producing another occupation surface. This is confirmed at the Third Gulf Breeze site, with shell midden extending beyond the ring in all directions, and tapering off to sparse areas of shell. Outside this shell area is evidence of another organically rich midden lacking shell, and this area probably has the biggest potential for preserved features and structural remains.

Preservation is very good in some parts of the site, especially when artifacts are located in the dense shell midden. This suggests that information about food procurement and preparation is likely from the deposits. Other technological questions can be answered from this type of data, as well as internal spatial arrangements within the village. Past environmental data for several hundred years can also be reconstructed from surviving bone and plant remains. By studying the site as a whole, activity areas can be identified, adding information to social organization.

Patterns of settlement and the associations of one site to another is an important research question, especially during the Middle Woodland, since certain types of sites including shell rings and mounds are rare. The Manly mound (8SR40) located on the Naval Live Oaks Reserve ██████████ 8SR8 has been identified as a Santa Rosa/Swift Creek site (Prokopetz, 1976). Mound and shell ring complexes may be related in some way, tied to each other through more than just sharing the same occupation dates (Bense, 1992; Thomas and Campbell, 1993).

The Pensacola occupation (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1450) of this site has the potential for further research from this time period. Willey (1949) suggested that the Pensacola people mixed the deposits from previous occupations by practicing limited agriculture. There is little evidence for agriculture in this type of environment along the Gulf Coast, and research designed to test this assumption could be important for developing a full picture of Middle Mississippian settlement in Florida.

8SR8 The Third Gulf Breeze Site

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