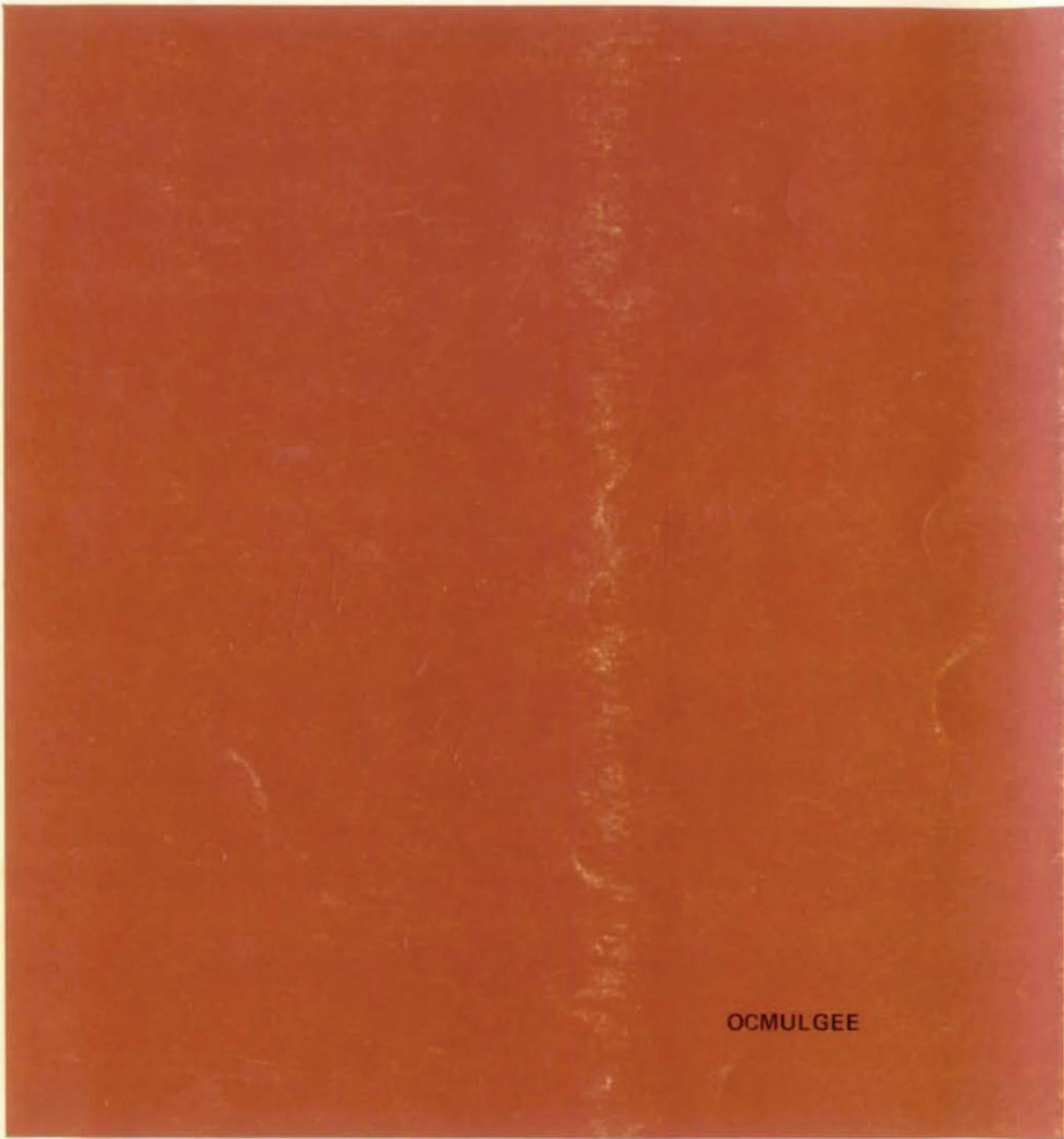


363/D-65

MASTER PLAN



OCMULGEE

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT

MASTER PLAN

AND

INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS

June, 1972

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

INTRODUCTION

REGION

SIGNIFICANCE AND BACKGROUND OF THE AREA

RESOURCE

PURPOSE AND MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- General Management
- Resource Protection
- Visitor Use

THE PLAN

- Resource Management
- Visitor Services and Facilities
- Administration
- Immediate Attention
- Interpretive Section
- Interpretive Supplement

APPENDIXES

- A: Legislative History
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (To Follow)
- C. BIBLIOGRAPHY
- D. PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

"I respect Assyria, China, Teutonia, and the Hebrews;
I adopt each theory, myth, god and demi-god;
I see that the old accounts, bibles, geneologies are true,
without exception;
I assert that all past days were what they should have been."

Walt Whitman,

1860 With antedents

INTRODUCTION

One can so easily bring to mind the monuments of past civilizations, so numerous all over the world--and even name those most notable: the great Egyptian pyramids; the Acropolis of Greece; the stone cities of the Mayas in Yucatan. But when we attempt to summon examples of monuments of the past cultures of our own United States to mind it is difficult to even begin.

Fortunately, at Ocmulgee National Monument in middle-Georgia, there are preserved a number of monumental temple mounds built by prehistoric Indian cultures to memorialize the power and glory of their kings.

It is to sensitively and realistically guide the visitor use, preservation, and management of these prime archeological resources that the following master plan for Ocmulgee National Monument has been created by the National Park Service.

REGION

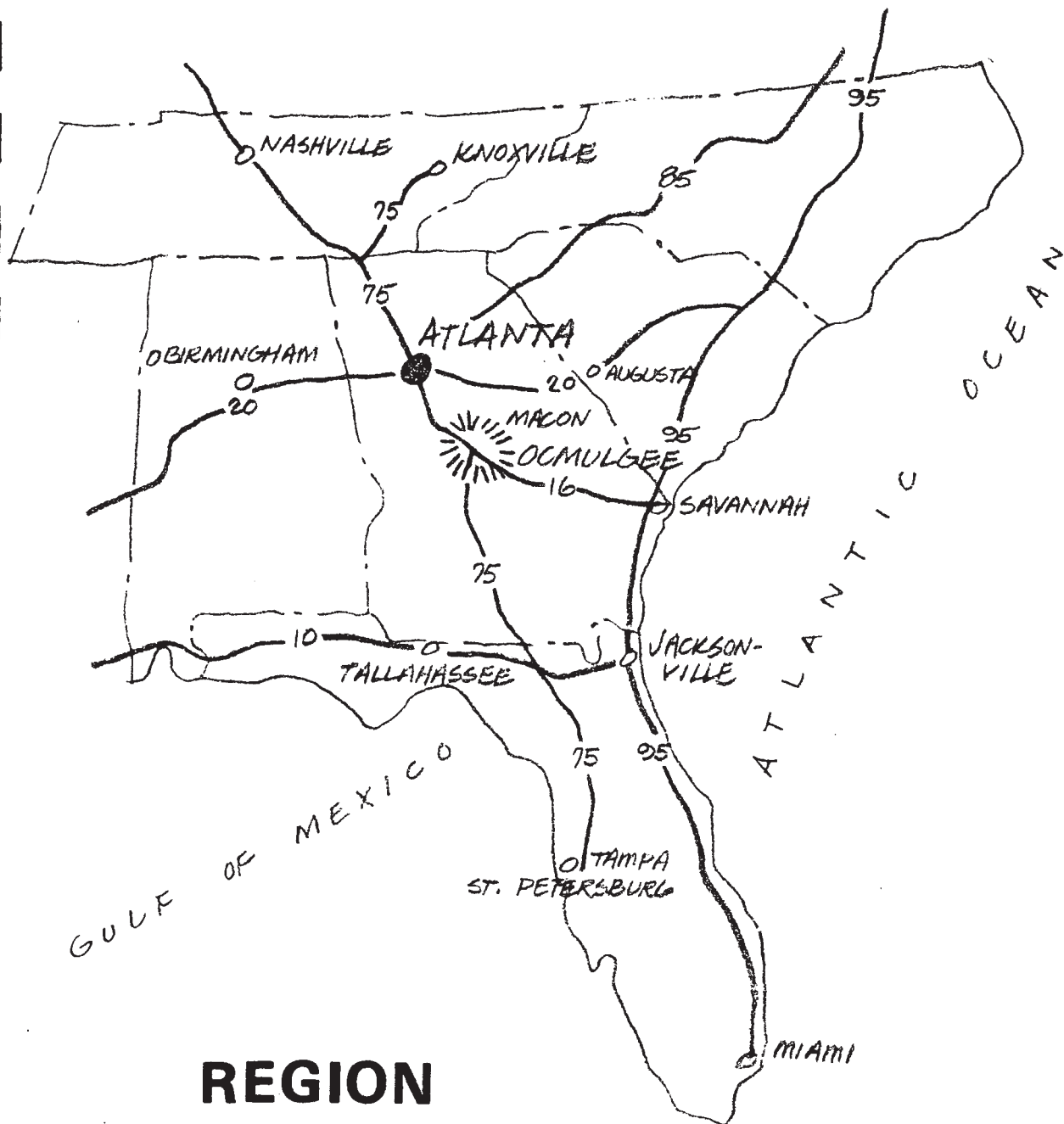
Ocmulgee National Monument is located about a mile east of, and in part adjacent to, the City of Macon, which is the seat, in Bibb County, middle-Georgia.

Macon with a population of 200,000, lies at the intersection of important east-west and north-south travel routes, and as one of the largest cities in Georgia, is presently undergoing rapid expansion. It now offers a city picnic ground, two 4-year colleges and a junior college, a science and art youth museum, and numerous historic buildings. Among the last are several classic Georgian and Italian Renaissance houses that were recently added to the National Register. There is also a reconstructed block of the Federal trading post of Fort Hawkins.

Bibb County operates a recreational area at Lake Tobesofkee on the west side of Macon, and the Lake Sinclair Forest Service recreation area, and High Falls and Indian Springs State Parks lie to the north of town.

The State of Georgia has a number of other archeological treasures in addition to Ocmulgee, including Kolomoke and Etoway, two pre-historic sites situated in the south and north ends of the State, respectively.

The construction of the Interstate Highway System has physically affected Ocmulgee National Monument lands, and is also significantly affecting travel patterns in the region. A large percentage of Florida-bound visitors now use the Interstate bypass around Macon, resulting in a greater physical separation from the monument. However, a tourist information center has recently been constructed on the bypass, and the information about the monument provided at this facility could result in the diversion of some Interstate travelers. The Interstate has now provided easy access from Atlanta to the Bibb County area, and as a result, the county is rapidly becoming a recreation attraction for metropolitan residents. The Florida "Disney World" attraction will also have a direct effect upon travel patterns through middle-Georgia, and the monument will undoubtedly feel this as well.



REGION

OCMULGEE
NATIONAL MONUMENT

NO SCALE



SIGNIFICANCE AND BACKGROUND OF THE AREA

Ocmulgee National Monument is probably the oldest continuously inhabited spot in America. It is situated near a major river, a forest, and a farmland. Because it was relatively easily defended against intruders, the original Indian inhabitants lived there for the entire span of Southeastern prehistory, a prehistory that peaked in the 1000-year-old mound-village of agriculturists whose remains we see today.

Late in 1773, William Bartram discovered ". . . three mounds raised by the Indians over three of their Great Kings who were killed in the Wars." The Ocmulgee mound group went untouched until as late as 1930, and then all that was learned of the culture of the people who made it was that the large pyramidal mound was a temple mound of a Mississippian tradition culture, and that a second mound had been used for burials.

Largely through the sponsorship of the Smithsonian Institution, an archeological excavation was begun at Ocmulgee Fields. This began a period of 8 years' archeological work, involving the removal of tons of earth, the recovery of thousands of artifacts, and the establishing of Ocmulgee's archeological significance beyond any shadow of a doubt.

The Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Historical Society, under the leadership of General Walter A. Harris, Charles C. Harold, and Linton M. Solomon, acquired the lands in 1934-35, and donated them to the National Park Service in 1936. Ocmulgee was authorized as a national monument by the 73rd Congress, June 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 958). It was established as such by Presidential proclamation (No. 2212, 50 Stat. 1798) on December 23, 1936, and enlarged by Presidential proclamation (No. 2493, 55 Stat. 1654) on June 13, 1941.

RESOURCE

Ocmulgee National Monument is situated in Bibb County, Georgia, on the east side of the Ocmulgee River, and at the eastern edge of the City of Macon.

The monument covers 683.48 acres, about 380 of them forested, of which approximately 300 are upland tree species. Elevation ranges from 280 to 400 feet. Basically, the land consists of a pine-forested plateau, and sloping land and a swamp that drains into Walnut Creek and the Ocmulgee River. The main, 638-acre Old Fields section of the monument is located at the fall line of the Ocmulgee River, and is bordered by this river on the south. The area is a thrusting tongue of the "red hills," which extends into the river bottom. Bottom lands comprise the southernmost portion of the monument. The majority of the Old Fields section is geologically composed of a rolling peneplain, which tilts slightly south toward the floodplain. The major significance of the monument is derived from its 10,000-year prehistoric use, which was first recognized during excavations by the Smithsonian Institution in the 1930's. The peak of this prehistoric use was a mound village of agriculturists that existed about 1000 years ago. The phenomena of mound building centered mainly in the Ohio Valley, although there

are scattered mounds in Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, and Wisconsin as well. But mound building in the Southeastern United States began some centuries after the end of the Ohio Valley period. Ocmulgee National Monument contains seven mounds dating back 1000 years, and ranging in height to 40 feet. These are still the dominant physical features of the area.

The principal interpretive feature in the monument is the reconstructed ceremonial earth lodge, which dates from A.D. 1016. The lodge contains a central firepit, and an eagle-effigy platform, or dias, surrounded by forty-seven seats around the inside wall of the lodge. It is believed that the lodge served as a ceremonial chamber, and was mainly used during the winter. This is the only complete prehistoric earth-lodge yet found in the United States, and is probably one of the oldest public buildings in America. The lodge is presently interpreted by a guide, and is only opened to the public as the need arises.

Within 30 yards of the lodge lies the Cornfield Mound, a cultivated field over which a large mound was built. The field consists of a series of well-defined rows believed to have served a religious purpose--perhaps as a sacred seed patch. The mound served as a platform for one or more temples.

The largest feature in the park is the Great Temple Mound, which is located in the southwestern portion. It was built in successive stages, each made level to provide a platform for the temple built atop it. At present, a flight of wooden stairs lead to the top of the mound, and the area is self-interpreted.

North of the Great Temple Mound lies the Lesser Temple Mound, now only a triangular remnant, most of it having been cut away during the construction of the Macon, Dublin, and Savannah Railroad in 1843. A flight of wooden stairs provides access to the top of the mound.

Northwest of the Great Temple Mound lies the Funeral Mound. It was constructed in seven stages, each one containing burials. Each layer also shows evidence of the construction of a temple on top of its flat upper surface. Over half of the mound was obliterated by construction of the Central of Georgia Railway, and by archeological excavations during the 1930's. It was reshaped in 1954 to its present appearance, which approximates that of the third building stage.

Of lesser importance are the three remaining mounds--the Southeast, Dunlap, and McDougal. The McDougal Mound has been partially removed for fill; the Dunlap and Southeast Mounds have suffered minor damage from erosion.

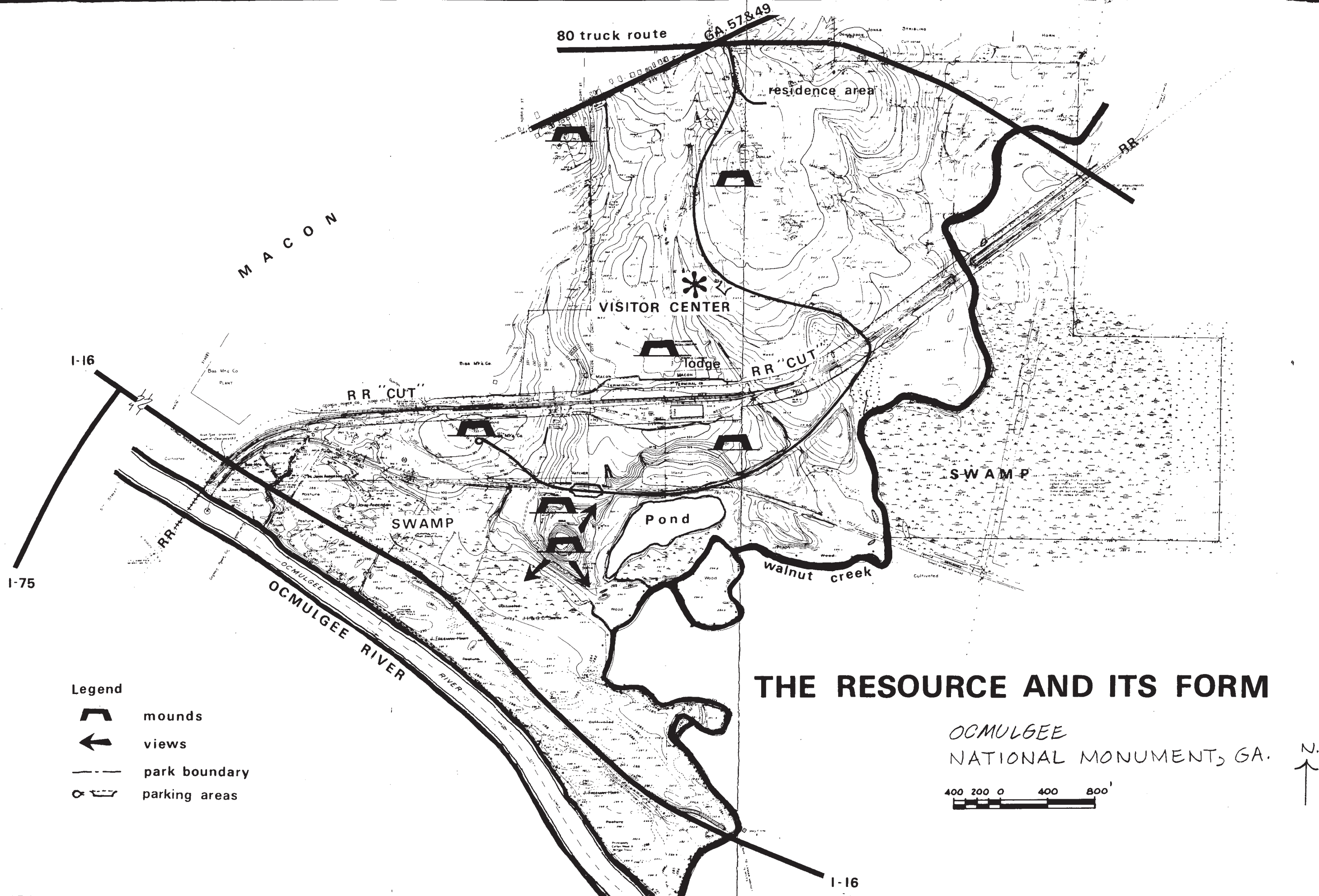
In addition to these features, archeological excavations have revealed numerous house sites, burials, and storage and refuse pits, none of which are currently exhibited.

Historic colonial material is also evident at Ocmulgee--associated with a 1700 British trading post site, which was established among the historic Creek or Muskogee inhabitants of the plateau.

The Lamar area, detached from the monument, represents a prehistoric village of the Creeks who occupied Georgia at the time of the first Spanish explorations. Lamar contains two mounds that archeologists have revealed were surrounded by numerous houses and burials, all enclosed within a wooden palisade. The site is located in the swampland approximately 3 miles below Macon, along the Ocmulgee River and south of the developed part of the monument. Access is difficult, because Interstate 16 cuts off the main road to the area. In addition, the area lying between the plateau and Lamar sections of the park may be used for an Interstate interchange with U.S. 80. This will have an effect upon the access to, and the environment of, the Lamar section.

The 638-acre Ocmulgee Old Field section of the monument includes the remains of the Middle Mississippian village occupied between A.D. 900 and 100, the period of primary interpretive interest.

In addition to a rich prehistory, Ocmulgee National Monument has considerable historic interest. For over 100 years prior to the establishment of the monument, Old Fields was the scene of intensive activity, which greatly modified the face of the land. Two railroad cuts were made directly through the village site; a fertilizer plant, brick works, railroad yards, and other such facilities were established and operated in and around the site; communications lines were run through; and the village site became the scene of agricultural activity. The 45-acre Lamar site went through decades of modern farming and grazing that modified the village features. The results of erosion and flooding have caused a thick mantle of clay to be deposited over the entire site. Following the creation of the monument, farming and other economic activities ceased, and the village sites were taken over by heavy vegetation.



80 truck route

GA. 57&49

residence area

M A C O N

VISITOR CENTER

Lodge

RR "CUT"

RR "CUT"

SWAMP

SWAMP

Pond

walnut creek

OCMULGEE RIVER

RIVER

THE RESOURCE AND ITS FORM

OCMULGEE
NATIONAL MONUMENT, GA.



Legend

-  mounds
-  views
-  park boundary
-  parking areas

PURPOSE AND MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

The act establishing Ocmulgee National Monument stated that ". . . when title to lands commonly known as the 'Old Ocmulgee Field,' upon which certain Indian mounds of great historical importance are located shall have been vested in the United States, said area shall be set aside as a national monument."

The two establishment proclamations state that the land was set aside "as a national monument," and "for national monument purposes." They also state that the monument shall be supervised, managed, and controlled, as provided in the Act of August 25, 1916 (Stat. 535). This August 25 act further defines the purpose of the monument as ". . . to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

General Management

- . Manage the park as a day-use area.
- . Obtain additional staff and facilities necessary to maintain and protect the natural and historical resources, and to provide adequate standards of service to the park visitor.
- . Provide additional onsite housing for effective park protection and area services.
- . Cooperate with the Southeast Archeological Center to develop the resources available from archeological materials, in order to obtain additional information about the region and its use, and to expand the interpretive story of the monument.
- . Work with the Southeast Archeological Center, the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, and the Denver Service Center, to develop better ways of preserving and exhibiting the valuable and fragile archeological resources without damaging their scientific values.
- . Obtain the legislation and donated funds necessary to add lands to the monument that are needed to maintain the natural and historical significance and setting of the prehistoric scene.

Resource Protection

- . Continue the restoration of the historic terrain and prehistoric features, while keeping in mind the integrity of the resource.
- . Implement the proposed "live" demonstrations, arts, and crafts, through cooperation with the Creek Indian Tribe and the Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation.
- . To preserve the historical significance of the monument, it is necessary to minimize as much as possible the effects of developments that are impinging upon park boundaries. Planting, screening, and fencing are needed to preserve as much as possible of the natural scene.
- . Make a complete biological and ecological study of the area to provide the information needed for management of the natural resources.

Visitor Use

- . Develop park resources for maximum visitor use and enjoyment through the diffusion of public-use facilities, to prevent overcrowding and overuse of specific areas.
- . Reconstruct a portion of the Master Farmer village, and conduct living-history programs, in order to interpret at least one period of Indian life on the Macon Plateau.

- . Obtain and install equipment needed to control the temperature and humidity in the visitor center for the safety and comfort of the visitor and for the protection of the historic and prehistoric artifacts.
- . Reconstruct the Earth Lodge to provide the controlled climate necessary for the preservation of the prehistoric floor, and to install a sound-and-light program to better interpret the facility for the public.
- . Build a new road to the visitor center that will create a setting entrance to the park.
- . Build another railroad underpass to provide safe two-way travel, allowing buses and other large vehicles access to the mounds and environmental trails.
- . Provide for maximum use of onsite interpretation.
- . Begin to establish the carrying capacities of the park through observed resource and visitor over-use.
- . Fully develop the Environmental Study Area potential at Ocmulgee in conjunction with the local school system.
- . Work with the city and State highway departments to improve the directional signing to Ocmulgee.

THE PLAN

"Here, cloaked in scientific trappings were the sentiments of a nation then engaged in genocide.

To proclaim the worthlessness of the American Indian was virtually an article of political faith in this era of Indian "removal".

Robert Silverberg: The Mound Builders
of Ancient America (1968)

Resource Management

Restoration and Maintenance of the Prehistoric Terrain

A principal management objective is to re-create, as nearly as possible, the physical condition of terrain and vegetation existing at the time of the major prehistoric occupation.

The manner in which the existing railroad cuts through the Macon Plateau near the base of the Great Temple Mound is unfortunate. Unhappily, the visitor thinks he is looking at an Indian mound. The visible scar that presently exists causes a great visitor hazard; it should be softened, and terraced at several points. We must recognize this railroad cut as a 20th-century byproduct, and interpret it honestly and accurately. Today, the cut area presents an interesting and varied section of the countryside, and in no way should we attempt to change it.

To preserve the historical significance of the monument, it is necessary to minimize as much as possible the effects of developments that are impinging upon our boundaries. Planting, screening, and fencing are needed to preserve as much as possible of the natural scene.

A prehistoric ground cover plan is needed to guide in the re-establishing of appropriate vegetation, wherever practicable. Archeological studies indicate the appearance of the terrain of the Macon Plateau in prehistoric times. Research should be continued to obtain additional knowledge.

Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Stabilization of
Historic and Prehistoric Features

The rehabilitation, reconstruction, and stabilization of prehistoric features of the Master Farmer culture is necessary to enhance the interpretation of significant features for continuing use and enjoyment.

Stabilization and maintenance of existing features should continue to receive the thoughtful care and effective action of the park staff.

The Great and Lesser Temple Mounds should be restored to their original contours. The existing wooden stairs should be removed from the front of the mounds, because they are inaccurate, and considerably reduce the impact of the mounds. We recommend inset steps which are more in keeping with the Funeral Mound and should lie perpendicular to the mound. The authentic restoration of these features will require archeological research.

The Lamar Site is difficult to interpret because of its detached location. It will require a levee, an improved access road, a small parking area, onsite interpretation or a minifolder, and clearing of the site.

We suggest that we do not attempt to interpret Lamar without lands sufficient to protect it, and staff enough to oversee it. We will only invite increased vandalism by opening the site. Lamar is at present for the archeology buff and student.

Establishment of Live Indian Demonstration of Arts and Crafts

This is a project piloted by the Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the National Park Service. It will include participation of the Creek Indians of Oklahoma - past inhabitants of Ocmulgee. Part of the Indians' mission is to come to live and work in the Macon area, and to fulfill the need for live demonstrations of their arts and crafts within Ocmulgee National Monument.

Maintenance and Protection Services

Maintenance includes the 640-acre Park and the detached 45-acre Lamar Tract. Increased grounds maintenance workload, construction of the proposed physical facilities, increases in travel expected to be realized upon completion of the Interstate 16 and Interstate 75 connection, and the development of new visitor center use-facilities will require additional personnel, to execute a quality program of management.

Park construction of a separated utility area is warranted, and should be given high priority. Centralized maintenance facilities will assure efficient use of manpower.

The park is located at the edge of a large urban area, and is surrounded on three sides by slum or substandard housing. Vandalism is sporadic. The Lamar Site goes almost completely unprotected. Additional personnel are required to carry out adequate protection program. The Lamar Site boundary should be enlarged to include sufficient acreage to provide a

natural boundary for improved protection and administration. Additional employees quartered within the park area will help protection coverage.

Management of the Archeological Collection

The basic collection is from the archeological work done in the 1930's, which amassed vast quantities of specimens.

Also included are collections from other federally sponsored excavations in Georgia, with the bulk of the materials from excavations on the Natchez Trace. The present collection is presently being moved to the University of Florida at Tallahassee, where it will be more readily available to students and other scientific groups interested in research.

Land Classification and Facilities

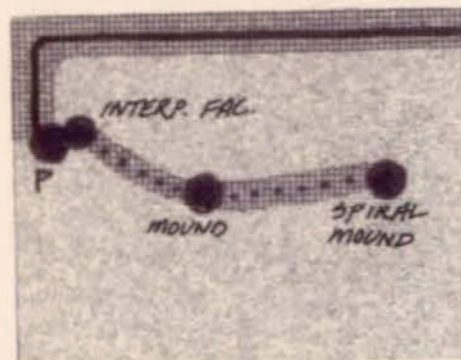
The land classification system used is similar to that proposed by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission and prescribed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation for application to Federal lands.

The majority of the monument is preserved in Class VI, with areas of Class II and Class III set aside for circulation and to provide a setting and environment or atmosphere for the historic features of the area.

Class I designates high-density use -- in this case, the visitor center, the Lodge area, the Great Temple Mound, the Funeral Mound and the proposed village site.

Other recreational facilities in the park include some picnicking and nature trails. Self-guided nature trails will be a major interpretive-recreational use within the park.

LAMAR AREA



SEE GEN. DEVEL. PLAN

MACON

80 (TRUCK RT.)

GA. 57 & 49

housing area

McDOUGAL MOUND

DUNLAP MOUND

CIVIL WAR FORT

VISITOR CENTER

CORNFIELD MOUND

EARTHLODGE

R.R.

80 (TRUCK RT.)

CREEK

WALNUT

N. P. S. BNDY.

1-16

1-75

R.R.

FUNERAL MOUND

VILLAGE (PROPOSED)

TRADING POST

SE. MOUND

LESSER

GREAT TEMPLE MOUND

INTERP. FACILITY (PROPOSED)

LEGEND

- PAVED ROAD
- WALKS & TRAILS
- LAND CLASSIFICATION
- CLASS I & II GEN. OUTDOOR REC.
- CLASS III NATURAL OUTDOOR REC.
- CLASS VI HISTORIC & CULTURAL AREA

PROPOSED

LAND CLASSIFICATION

and facilities

OCMULGEE

NATIONAL MONUMENT, GA.

400 200 0 400 800'



1-16

Boundary Recommendation (Proposed land acquisitions)

It is important that lands surrounding the Lamar area -- amounting to approximately 1454 acres -- be purchased.

This land is needed to preserve the Lamar Site setting. It would be in the interest of both the park and the community to acquire this prime water-oriented recreational potential now. The lands are mostly lowland and floodplain, and are within fair purchase value at present.

The area should also be looked at as a regional recreational potential with the city and the park meeting this recreational need.

Two other smaller land purchases of buffer importance in the park are a 100'- by 800'- foot right-of-way along U.S. 80 (the Emery Highway) just north of the park and a triangular tract of land also along U.S. 80, but to the south. Both are urgently needed to complement the setting of the park.

Ways in which land acquisition could be sought:

1. Encourage the City and County to seek amendatory legislation so that the National Park Service can purchase land as an inholding, placing it within our total park boundary.
2. Public donation.
3. The National Park Foundation.
4. The Eastern National Park and Monuments Association.

5. Encourage the state representatives to raise funds locally, with matching funds being raised by the local Historical Society.

6. White House Historical Society Association, Washington, D.C.

The Corps of Engineers could be asked to provide dredging materials to build the needed levees around the Lamar Site. This operation could take place when the annual dredging of the navigable Ocmulgee River is undertaken.

Preservation of the Natural Environment

The park is generally maintained and operated well. It is not a highly scenic area, but it is gently rolling, covered with grass, and frequently covered with wildflowers. Broken stands of pine and deciduous trees create vistas of considerable esthetic appeal. Sweetgums, oaks, and other trees provide spectacular color in autumn.

Insect pests and tree-disease control should be continued through a systematic inspection program. Its purpose is to detect and control insects and diseases that kill or otherwise damage trees, making them less resistant to subsequent attacks by pests. The park should continue to maintain good relations with the Georgia Forestry Commission, and to seek their advice when needed. An herbicidal or other control program should be continued for the eradication of undesirable plant species, namely kudzu, pricklypear, sandspurs, chinaberry, and haw. Where herbicides and other chemical pesticides are used, all measures should

be applied in a manner fully consistent with the protection of the environment and subject to the Director's approval of the applicable pesticide project proposals.

Fire breaks should be established along the central of Georgia Railroad and along the park boundary, where fire hazard and risk from outside fires are high.

Continue to maintain good public relations with the Bibb County Forestry Unit with whom we have a cooperative agreement for the early detection of park fires.

Visitor Services and Facilities

Approach to the Site

The present access to the monument entrance is near an unsightly commercial intersection. Finding the entrance is a confusing, difficult, and dangerous matter. Acceleration and deceleration lanes are urgently needed to direct the visitor safely to the entrance. The new lanes would require re-shaping and landscaping of the existing entrance. This should be viewed as immediate and temporary; a more permanent entrance should be located off of U.S. 80, 23, and 129. This entrance makes an ideal "setting" entrance as the land on both sides of the highway lie in Park Service ownership. The existing entrance road should then be closed and screened from route 80, 23, and 129. The remaining road would then become the service road to the residence area.

Entrance Fee

It is recommended that the present fee be discontinued, because it will negate the purpose of the craft shop when it comes into being.

The Visitor Center

The Museum Laboratory Division is currently revising and planning exhibits for the existing exhibit space within the building.

Additional space may be required for the exhibits. If this be true, the building will require extensive changes within. The "Administrative Facilities" section delves further into these details.

Circulation

The relocation of the entrance road will provide a frontal approach to the first major orientation facility, the visitors center.

This will encourage the visitor to make his first contact here.

Vehicular traffic after leaving the visitor center will terminate at two parking facilities at the southwest end of the park near the Great Temple and Funeral Mounds. Newly proposed trails will encourage the visitor to interpret sites on foot. Trails with interpretive leaflets will include:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Mound Village Trail | 1/2 Mile |
| 2. Pine Forest Trail | 1-1/2 Miles |
| 3. Island Trail (Ocmulgee River) | 4 Miles |
| 4. Opelofa Ethnobotanical Trail (lowlands) | 3/4 Mile |

Heavy emphasis will be put on the use of these trails for recreation.

Visitor-Use Zone

At present, the heaviest outdoor visitor use takes place at the Earth Lodge, which requires a guide almost full time. It is necessary for the Lodge to be self-interpreting. We must also disperse the visitors throughout the park by providing more onsite

interpretation. And we also recommend that a study be made of the Lodge to determine how best it might be interpreted--possibly through a sound-and-light program. The team suggests the roof be removed from the 34-year-old structure, and a permanent building enclose the existing prehistoric floor. The floor must be a climate-controlled, because it is constructed of clay (dating back to 1000 AD), and requires a constant temperature to maintain its condition. If the building is left in its original state (earth- and concrete-covered, and leaking) it is only a matter of time before serious deterioration of the floor will occur, if it has not already!

The adjacent Cornfield Mound should remain fairly much as it is: we should play down the importance of this mound in relationship to the adjacent Earth Lodge. The Cornfield Mound story is not clearly interpreted on site, but should be.

The village boundary--presently a drainage ditch--should be restored to resemble its original form--a natural spring that defined the northern boundary of the village site.

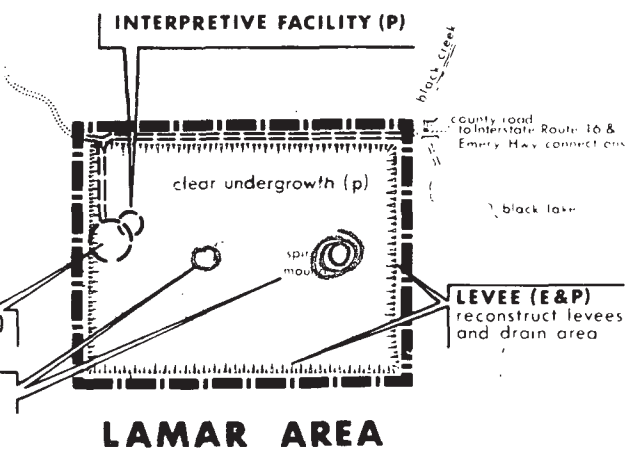
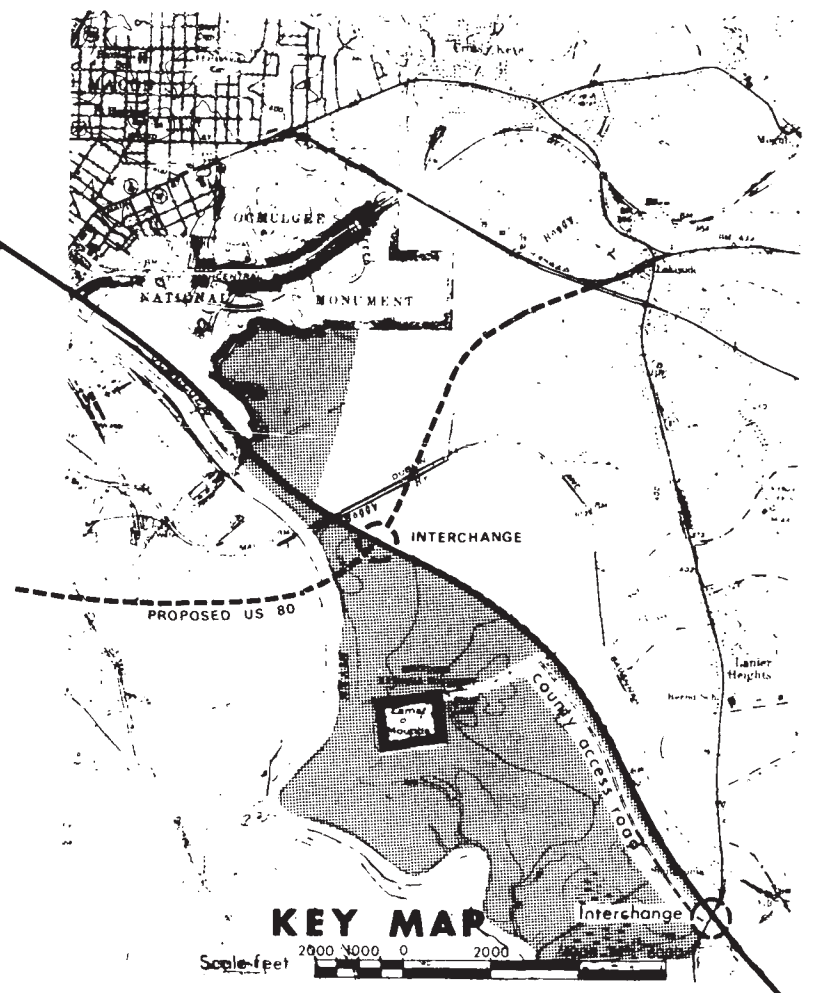
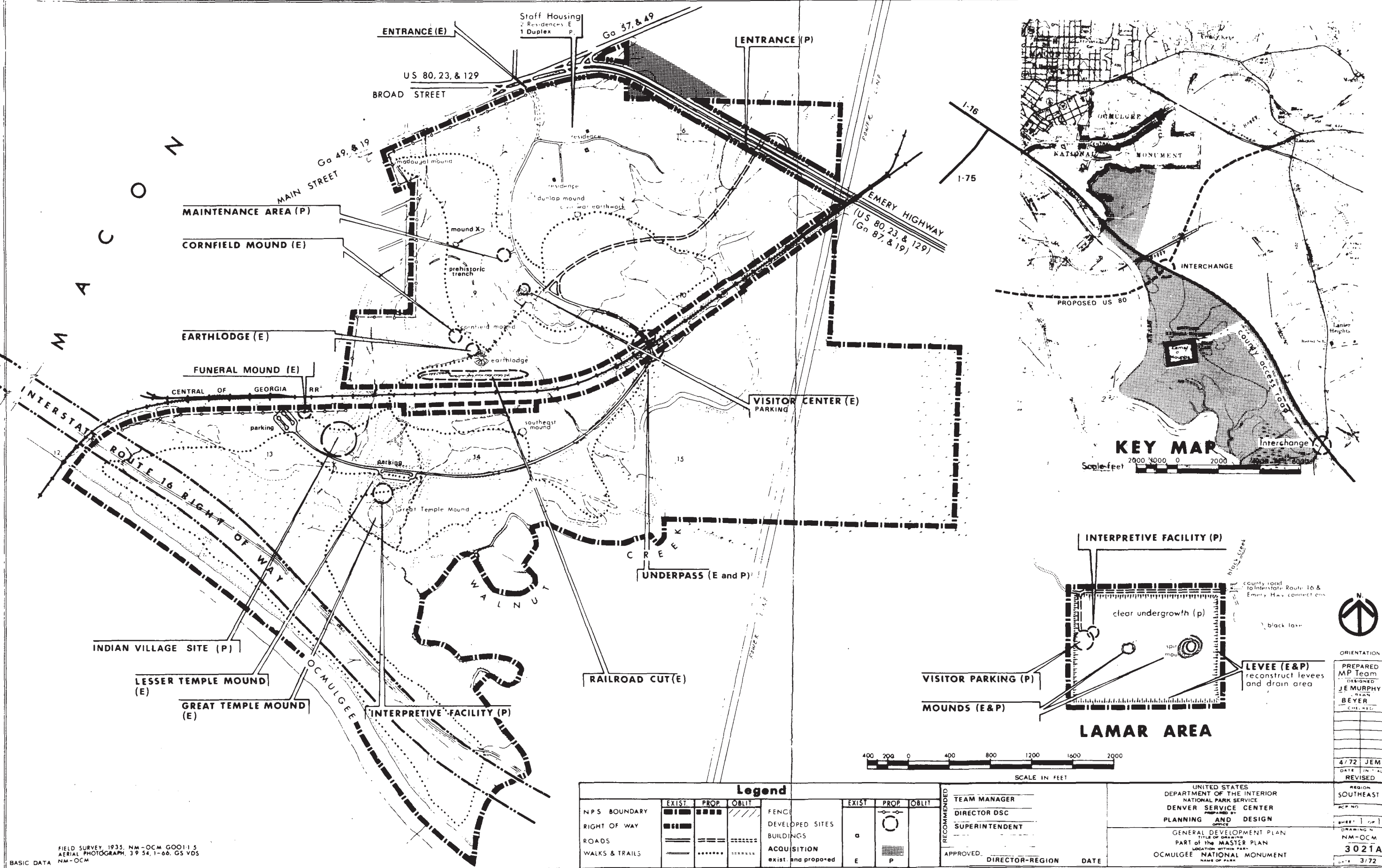
To make better use of the park and to disperse visitor concentration, we are recommending a few new onsite interpretive facilities. The first would include a reconstruction (a Silotte) of the original temple which was built atop the Great Temple Mound.

This would form a basic outline against the skyline, and would encourage the visitor to want to visit and interpret the southern end of the park.

An interpretive shelter and restroom facilities should be made available between the Greater and Lesser Temple Mounds. This site is open to the hot Georgia sun and is half a mile from the visitor center. This facility will be greatly appreciated by the park visitor, because no natural shade is available in the area. Water service can be brought to this area from the visitor center.

The main interpretive feature in this area will be a partial reconstruction of a prehistoric Indian village. This would be "portable," and could be trucked to the site and set up within a few hours. The period of interpretation might be the prehistoric era (when stone implements were used). The idea of a "portable" village has merit, in that the risk of vandalism in this park is very high and we must protect this investment.

Interpretation at the Trading Post site should include the story of Indian life, and how it changed from that of an independent farmer to a hunter dependent on the trade for many necessities. This might be portrayed in an interpretive painting.



Legend				Legend				Legend			
EXIST	PROP	OBLIT		EXIST	PROP	OBLIT		EXIST	PROP	OBLIT	
NPS BOUNDARY				FENCE	---	---		TEAM MANAGER			
RIGHT OF WAY				DEVELOPED SITES	o	o		DIRECTOR DSC			
ROADS	---	---		BUILDINGS	o	o		SUPERINTENDENT			
WALKS & TRAILS	---	---		ACQUISITION	o	o		APPROVED			
				exist. and proposed	o	o		DIRECTOR-REGION			
								DATE			

FIELD SURVEY, 1935, NM-OCM, G0011.5
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 3/9/54, 1-66, GS VDS
BASIC DATA NM-OCM

ORIENTATION
PREPARED
MP Team
DESIGNED
J.E. MURPHY
CHECKED
B.EYER
DATE
4/72
JEM
REVISOR
REGION
SOUTHEAST
SHEET
1 OF 1
DRAWING NO.
NM-OCM
3021A
DATE
3/72

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DENVER SERVICE CENTER
PLANNING AND DESIGN
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT
NAME OF PARK

Visitor Protection

Ocmulgee is fortunate to have good cooperation from the Macon police force, and from the Bibb County Sheriff's Office, who give assistance on request.

Illegal hunting and shooting present a safety hazard. So do undesirable characters such as moonshiners, winos, and prison-escapees.

On busy days supervision at parking areas is required in order to avoid damage to roads and grass, etc.

Because of the high degree of vandalism, it is recommended that a uniformed ranger be added to the park staff to relieve busy interpreters from protection duties.

MACON

80 (TRUCK RT.)

GA. 57 & 49

R.R.
80 (TRUCK RT.)

1-16

1-75

LEGEND

- INTERPRETIVE SITES
- MAIN ROAD SYSTEM
- WALKS AND TRAILS
- P PARKING FACILITY

MCDUGAL MOUND

DUNLAP MOUND

CIVIL WAR FORT

VISITOR CENTER

CORNFIELD MOUND

EARTHLODGE

FUNERAL MOUND

VILLAGE (PROPOSED)

TRADING POST

S.E. MOUND

LESSER & GREAT TEMPLE MOUND

INTERP. FACILITY (PROPOSED)

WALNUT CREEK

N. P. S. BNDY.

PROPOSED DAY USE ZONE

OCMULGEE
NATIONAL MONUMENT, GA.

400 200 0 400 800'



Administration

Staff Organization and Staffing Needs

The monument is administered by a superintendent, who is headquartered within the park and requires only an operating staff on site. The primary base of operations is the existing visitor center. In addition to the superintendent, the permanent staff includes an administrative assistant, an archeologist (also headquartered in the park), a park technician, a clerk-typist, a maintenance man, and a maintenance workman. An interpreter is on the staff as a seasonal, six months employee. Additional staffing needs will include a ranger, two Creek Indian interpreters (who are expected to be hired immediately, and will live outside the park), another clerk-typist, and a maintenance foreman.

Residential Requirements

Housing within the monument consists at the present time of the Dunlap House, more than a hundred years old, which is occupied by the superintendent, and a residence, built in 1962, where the archeologist lives. Both of the structures are in good condition, although some restoration work will be necessary on the exterior of the Dunlap House. To increase the protection of the monument, it is desirable to build a duplex to house two more employee families.

Administrative Facilities

At the present time, the existing visitor center/administration building houses offices, exhibits, a library, an archeological laboratory, and large storage areas for collections. The archeological collections are presently being moved to the University of Florida at Tallahassee, and will constitute the Southeast Archeological Center. The exhibits are currently being revised, and may require more floor space. A multiuse room is needed, and so is a crafts shop, enlarged toilet facilities, and a clay room for children. Extensive changes in interior arrangements will be required. The structure needs to be air-conditioned. With the removal of the Southeast Archeological Center, there will be an excess of space in the basement. Some space is currently used for maintenance functions which are incompatible with the programs for which this structure was intended. A separate maintenance area is needed, to include a workshop and storage space.

Predicated Visitation

Peoples' universal interest in the American past, Indians, and archeology, provides a major incentive for visiting Ocmulgee. A third of the park visitation consists of organized school

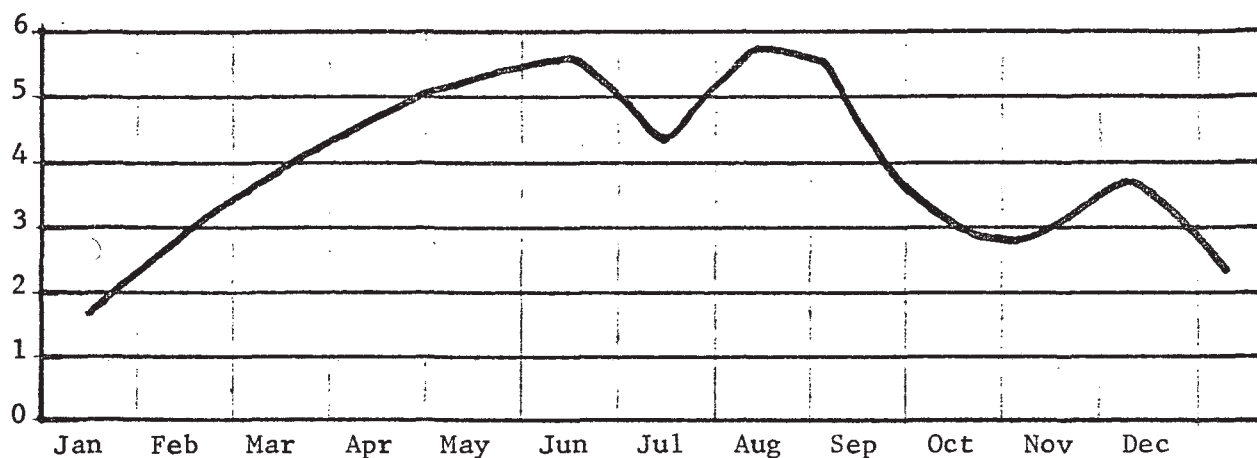
groups, centering on third and fourth grade levels, and ranging from kindergarten to post-graduate specialists.

There is a travel pattern at Ocmulgee of slow winters with a spring and fall peak of school-group visits and a summer plateau that varies with the summer heat. Average yearly travel is 60,000 to 80,000. A general weekly travel pattern is also evident, with 25% visitation Monday through Friday, 25% on Saturday, and 50% on Sunday, excluding organized groups. The middle-Georgia area is the main source of visitation, but out-of-state travelers going through to Florida or the mountains comprise a significant source of visitors. Macon projections for population growth show a 30% increase over the 1960 figures. With the construction of new highways, I-16, I-75 and the proposed State route 80, visitation is expected to increase substantially. More and more, the monument is serving a real regional need, with visitors from Atlanta increasing in number.

Average visiting time is 1-1/2 hours, and there are three separate activities: the Museum, the Earth-Lodge Tour, and the Temple Mound drive and/or walk. Visiting time may extend to 3 or more hours, depending upon interest. Added visitor services are: a special nature trail, underground development at this time, and a small lunch area of six tables to accommodate out-of-town travelers.

Ocmulgee, National Monument

Visitors in
1,000's



Yearly cycle - 1970

(diagram shows number of visitors per month)

Forecast Spring 1971 of visits to the Monument 1971 - 1975

1971	1972..	1973	1974	1975	
60.7	66.5	72.3	78.1	83.9	(in the thousands)

by US Department of the Interior, NPS

The environmental education possibilities at Ocmulgee have been explored, but, since access to the restroom facilities must be obtained through the interpretive museum, this hampers use of the area by such groups. Access to the restroom facilities from outside the building is of real concern.

Immediate Attention

The most immediate concern is the Earth Lodge--its management and its deteriorating condition. A study of its future existence and interpretation is a prime concern, and a study should be undertaken immediately.

Another concern is the existing entrance to the park: acceleration and deceleration lanes are badly needed to guide the visitor safely to the park.

Staffing is the third concern, and deserves study and recommendation.

APPENDIXES

- A. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
- C. BIBLIOGRAPHY
- D. PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

A. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

June 14, 1934

An act to authorize the establishment
of the Ocmulgee National Monument in
Bibb County, Georgia (48 Stat. 958).

December 23, 1936

Presidential proclamation establishing
Ocmulgee National Monument
(No. 2212, 50 Stat. 1798).

June 13, 1941

Presidential proclamation
(No. 2493, 34 Stat. 225)
adding certain lands to Ocmulgee
National Monument.

19. Ocmulgee National Monument

Establishment of monument authorized.....Act of June 14, 1934 Page
169

An Act To authorize the establishment of the Ocmulgee National Monument in Bibb County, Georgia, approved June 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 958)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to lands commonly known as the "Old Ocmulgee Field", upon which certain Indian mounds of great historical importance are located, comprising approximately two thousand acres, in and around the city of Macon, County of Bibb, State of Georgia, as shall be designated by the Secretary of the Interior, in the exercise of his judgment and discretion as necessary for national-monument purposes, shall have been vested in the United States, said area shall be set aside as a national monument, by proclamation of the President, and shall be known as the "Ocmulgee National Monument": *Provided*, That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any lands within the aforesaid area, but such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.¹ (16 U.S.C. sec. 447a.)

Ocmulgee,
National
Monument,
Bibb County,
Ga., set apart
when lands
therefor vest in
United States.

Lands to be
acquired by
donation only.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to accept donations of land, interests in land, buildings, structures, and other property, within the boundaries of said national monument as determined and fixed hereunder and donations of funds for the purchase and/or maintenance thereof, the title and evidence of title to lands acquired to be satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*, That he may acquire on behalf of the United States under any donated funds by purchase when purchasable at prices deemed by him reasonable, otherwise by condemnation under the provisions of the Act of August 1, 1888, such tracts of land within the said national monument as may be necessary for the completion thereof. (16 U.S.C. sec. 447b.)

Acceptance of
lands, funds,
etc.

Purchases from
donated funds.

SEC. 3. The administration, protection, and development of the Ocmulgee National Monument shall be under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior subject to the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916, as amended. (16 U.S.C. sec. 447c.)

Administration.

¹ See proclamation No. 2212 of December 23, 1936 (50 Stat. 1798, 1 Fed. Reg. 2228) establishing monument.

1798

PROCLAMATIONS, 1936

7116), and by the provision in the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act, 1937, approved June 4, 1936.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 27 day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six,
[SEAL] and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-first.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President:

R. WALTON MOORE

Acting Secretary of State.

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT—GEORGIA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the act of Congress entitled "An Act To authorize the establishment of the Ocmulgee National Monument in Bibb County, Georgia", approved June 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 958), provides, in part:

That when title to lands commonly known as the "Old Ocmulgee Fields", upon which certain Indian mounds of great historical importance are located, comprising approximately two thousand acres, in and around the city of Macon, County of Bibb, State of Georgia, as shall be designated by the Secretary of the Interior, in the exercise of his judgment and discretion as necessary for national-monument purposes, shall have been vested in the United States, said area shall be set aside as a national monument, by proclamation of the President, and shall be known as the "Ocmulgee National Monument":

AND WHEREAS the Secretary of the Interior has designated an area comprising 678.48 acres of such land as necessary for national-monument purposes, title to which is vested in the United States:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the statutory provisions above set out, do proclaim that the aforesaid area as indicated on the diagram attached hereto and forming a part hereof is hereby set aside as a national monument to be known as the Ocmulgee National Monument.

Warning is hereby expressly given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

The Director of the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall have the supervision, management, and control of the monument as provided in the act of Congress entitled "An Act To establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535, U. S. C., title 16, secs. 1 and 2), and acts supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof.

December 27, 1936
[No. 2212]

Ocmulgee National
Monument, Ga.
Preamble.
48 Stat. 958.
16 U. S. C. §§ 447a-
447c.

Statutory provi-
sion.

Establishment pro-
claimed.

Warning against
unlawful acts.

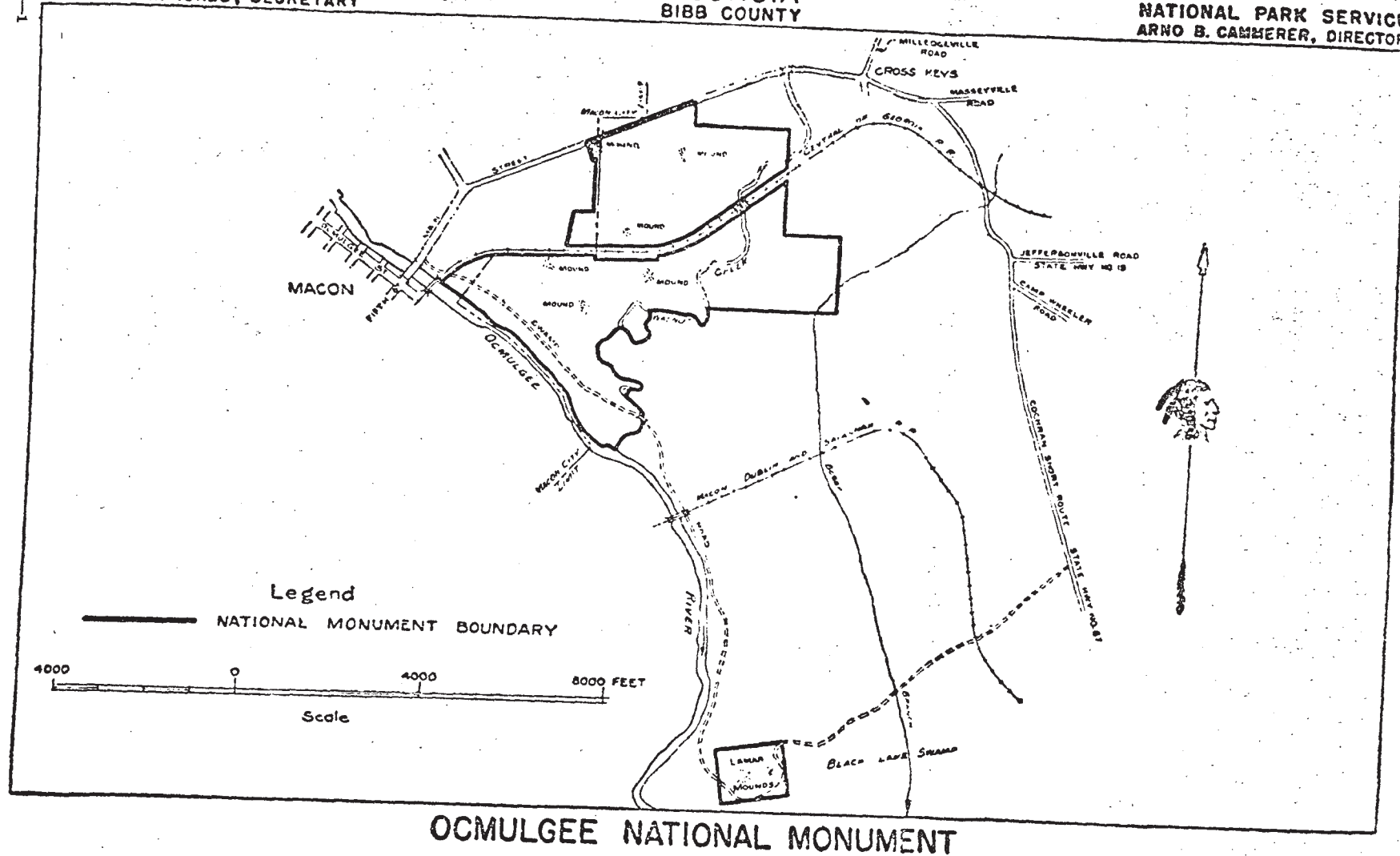
Supervision.

39 Stat. 535.
16 U. S. C. §§ 1, 2.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HAROLD L. ICKES, SECRETARY

GEORGIA
BIBB COUNTY

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
ARNO B. CAMMERER, DIRECTOR



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 23^d day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-six and [SEAL] of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-first.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President

R. WALTON MOORE

Acting Secretary of State.

SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST--MINNESOTA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

December 28, 1936
[No. 2213]

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS by proclamation of April 9, 1927 (45 Stat. 2901), there were set apart as the Superior National Forest in the State of Minnesota certain lands which had been, or might thereafter be, acquired by the United States of America under authority of the act of Congress approved March 1, 1911, ch. 186, 36 Stat. 961 (U. S. C., title 16, sec. 516), as amended by the act of June 7, 1924, ch. 348, 43 Stat. 653 (U. S. C., title 16, sec. 515), together with certain adjoining public lands; and

Superior National Forest, Minn.
Preamble.
45 Stat. 2901.

26 Stat. 962.
16 U. S. C. §§ 516, 515.

WHEREAS it appears that it would be in the public interest to modify the boundaries of the said national forest by including therein certain forest lands which have been, or may be, acquired under authority of the said acts of March 1, 1911, and June 7, 1924, and certain adjoining public lands:

Boundaries modified.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the power in me vested by section 24 of the act of March 3, 1891, ch. 561, 26 Stat. 1095, 1103, as amended (U. S. C., title 16, sec. 471), the act of June 4, 1897, ch. 2, 30 Stat. 34, 36 (U. S. C., title 16, sec. 473), and section 11 of the said act of March 1, 1911, do proclaim that all lands of the United States within the areas shown as additions on the diagram attached hereto and made a part hereof are hereby included in and reserved as a part of the Superior National Forest, and that all lands within such areas which may hereafter be acquired by the United States under the said acts of March 1, 1911, and June 7, 1924, shall upon acquisition of title thereto be reserved and administered as a part of the said Forest.

26 Stat. 1103.
16 U. S. C. § 471.

30 Stat. 36.
16 U. S. C. § 473.
16 U. S. C. § 521.

Treatment of acquisitions.

The reservation made by this proclamation shall, as to such of the lands as are affected thereby, be subject to the terms and conditions of the act of July 10, 1930, ch. 881, 46 Stat. 1020, and shall as to all lands which are at this date legally appropriated under the public land laws or reserved for any public purpose other than for classification under Executive Orders No. 5833 of April 8, 1932, and No. 6964 of February 5, 1935, as amended, be subject to, and shall not interfere with or defeat, legal rights under such appropriation, nor prevent the use for such public purpose of lands so reserved, so long as such appropriation is legally maintained or such reservation remains in force.

Terms and conditions.

46 Stat. 1020.
16 U. S. C. §§ 577-577b.

Prior rights, etc., not affected.

CHAP. 3060.—An Act For the preservation of American antiquities.

June 8, 1906.

[S. 1698.]

[Public, No. 209.]

American antiquities.
Penalty for unauthorized excavations, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity, situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of the Government having jurisdiction over the lands on which said antiquities are situated, shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum of not more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a period of not more than ninety days, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected: *Provided*, That when such objects are situated upon a tract covered by a bona fide unperfected claim or held in private ownership, the tract, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the proper care and management of the object, may be relinquished to the Government, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to accept the relinquishment of such tracts in behalf of the Government of the United States.

Setting apart of historic, etc., public lands.

Provided,
Relinquishment of private claims.

SEC. 3. That permits for the examination of ruins, the excavation of archaeological sites, and the gathering of objects of antiquity upon the lands under their respective jurisdictions may be granted by the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, and War to institutions which they may deem properly qualified to conduct such examination, excavation, or gathering, subject to such rules and regulations as they may prescribe: *Provided*, That the examinations, excavations, and gatherings are undertaken for the benefit of reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions, with a view to increasing the knowledge of such objects, and that the gatherings shall be made for permanent preservation in public museums.

Permits for excavations, etc.

Provided,
Preservation in museums.

SEC. 4. That the Secretaries of the Departments aforesaid shall make and publish from time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Regulations.

Approved, June 8, 1906.

CHAP. 3061.—An Act To appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars as a part contribution toward the erection of a monument at Provincetown, Massachusetts, in commemoration of the landing of the Pilgrims and the signing of the Mayflower compact.

June 8, 1906.

[S. 1570.]

[Public, No. 210.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of forty thousand dollars, to aid in erecting a monument at Provincetown, Massachusetts, in commemoration of the first landing of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod and the signing of the compact in the cabin of the Mayflower in the harbor of said Provincetown: *Provided*, That the said sum of forty thousand dollars shall not be payable until there shall have been raised and made available for the erection of said monument an additional sum of at least forty thousand dollars; *Provided further*, That the design of said monument shall be approved by the Secretary of War, the governor of the Commonwealth of Mas-

Provincetown, Mass.
Appropriation to aid in erecting monument of landing of Pilgrims.*Provided*,
Condition.

Approval of design, etc.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (To Follow)

C: BIBLIOGRAPHY

KELLY, A.R.

1938. A Preliminary Report on Archeological Explorations of Macon.
Anthropological papers No. 1, Bulletin 119. BAE.
Washington D.C.: government printing office.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1961. Ocmulgee. Historical Handbook Series No. 24.
Washington, D.C.
1965. Master Plan for Ocmulgee National Monument. Macon.
1967. Interpretive Prospectus for Ocmulgee National Monument.
Macon.
1968. Administrative Policies for Historical Areas of
the National Park System. Washington, D.C.

SILVERBERG, ROBERT.

1965. The Mound Builders of Ancient America. Greenwich, Connec-
ticut: New York Graphic Society, Ltd.

D. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY PARTICIPANTS

John E. Murphy,
Team Captain, Landscape Architect, DSC

Dr. Allan Kent
Senior Interpretive Planner, HFC

William Carwford
Superintendent, Ocmulgee National Monument, Georgia
and staff

Robert Nichols
Archeologist, HFC

Per Rundberg
Architect, DSC

Jane Harvey
Writer-Editor DSC

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT

MASTER PLAN

INTERPRETIVE SECTION

Interpretive Prospectus
Portion

written by

Alan E. Kent, Senior Interpretive Planner, Denver Service Center (HFC)

Consultants

W. Pingree Crawford, Superintendent, Ocmulgee NM

Norman N. Ritchie, Archeologist, Ocmulgee NM

John W. Walker, Research Archeologist, Southeast Archeological Center

Richard D. Faust, Acting Chief, Southeast Archeological Center

John E. Murphy, A.S.L.A., Landscape Architect, Denver Service Center
(Master Plan Team Captain)

Per Rundberg, A.I.A., Architect, Denver Service Center

Robert F. Nichols, Staff Curator, Branch of Museum Development,
Harpers Ferry Center

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
SUMMARY	i
INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES	1
INTERPRETIVE THEMES	2
INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENTS	6
The Visitor Center	6
Site Features	8
village boundary	8
earthlodge	9
cornfield mound	10
historic creek village	11
trading post	12
temple mounds area	12
lesser temple mound	12
great temple mound	12
funeral mound	14
Trails	14
mound village trail	14
walking trail	14
opelofa trail	15
island trail	16
Other Park Features	17
Lamar	17
Interpretive Outreach	18

INTERPRETIVE SUPPLEMENT

Page

Personal Services	i
conducted trips	i
informal contacts	i
Publications/Sales/Crafts	ii
Interpretive Staffing	v
Research Needs	vi
Scope of Study Collections	viii
Cost Estimates	x
Interpretive Priorities	xii

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT
INTERPRETIVE PROSPECTUS
SUMMARY

The Interpretive Prospectus for Ocmulgee has been developed as an integral part of the Master Plan for the site. The objectives of the proposed interpretive programs look toward conveying a sense of man's occupation of this particular piece of ground for over 10,000 years. In stressing the continuous story of man's life on the land and his impact on it, a point of focus is possible that rises above all the many pieces of the story, which in themselves can be confusing and perhaps pointless without such an overall point of view pervading the interpretive approach.

Ocmulgee embraces many stories. One that is potentially exciting has overtones of here and now. After 150 years, members of the Creek Nation are returning to their homeland to operate a Creek crafts program as a concession in the park's Visitor Center. Two Creek have joined the park staff as interpreters. Eventually, proposals look toward the reconstruction of a portion of the Historic Creek Village to provide additional opportunities for demonstrations and for a better understanding of the Creek way of life.

Exhibits in the Visitor Center (one of the largest in the System) are dated and ineffective. A contract is being let to provide a design solution to the various functions of the building: lobby,

information/orientation, publications/sales, corridor, interpretive presentations, Creek crafts program, offices, curatorial work space and storage, restrooms. A multipurpose room with an AV capability, space for a demonstration activities area for young people and a lunch room could be provided in the lower level space.

The ceremonial earthlodge, the most popular attraction in the park, has original features which are deteriorating. A preservation/engineering study is needed to insure its proper conservation and point directions toward a more dramatic interpretive presentation that might involve a miniature sound-and-light program in recapturing the activities that went on inside the earthlodge 1,000 years ago.

Park development has been concentrated in the area of the Visitor Center-earthlodge in the past. This Prospectus suggests greater attention be given to outlying features of the site. A Sign and Wayside Plan should be developed to provide interpretation via paintings, markers and audios for the Cornfield Mound, the Trading Post and Path, the Funeral Mound, the Southeast Mound, the Civil War earthworks, the railroad cut and historic tunnel and some other features. The Historic Creek Village reconstruction will provide Living History opportunities. A structure, atop the Great Temple Mound, will be built to stimulate a religious structure of 1,000

years ago. It will contain interpretive devices that explain the way of life of the mound builders and, since a view of modern Macon is available from these heights, tie past to present in the context of man's continuing life on this land.

Several trails are proposed to permit school groups and general visitors to learn about history, nature and environmental values.

The detached Lamar site has flooding problems and could not be adequately developed without additional lands. The overgrown aspects of Lamar suggest a situation vastly different from the parklike character of Ocmulgee and the opportunity exists to promote a spirit of adventure at this place. Lamar's relationship to the Ocmulgee River is much more apparent also (than is the Monument's) and this is a decided plus should the future hold promise for development here.

The Prospectus suggests some new publications for the park and makes recommendations on sales items (including the possibility of reproductions of interesting excavated specimens like the copper sun disks).

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT

MASTER PLAN

INTERPRETIVE SECTION

Interpretive Objectives

Interpretive programs for the site should aim at conveying a sense of man's occupation of this particular piece of ground for over 10,000 years. The focus, then, is a continuum that stresses man's evolving life on the land and his use of and impact on it. Such an approach starts with the present (to which the visitor can relate most easily), looks at the past in its infinite variety and, hopefully, points directions for future conduct. The approach should not dilute the stellar aspects of the park story (e.g., it would be foolish to accord equal time to the builders of the mounds and the builders of the railroads), but the continuum should pervade the various presentations overall.

American history has for too long stressed the period after the coming of Columbus (or for this region the expedition of DeSoto). There is an opportunity at Ocmulgee to stress the rich and varied Indian cultures that existed here for hundreds of years before the arrival of the first Europeans.

In providing opportunities for a Creek demonstration-sales development at Ocmulgee, the park can foster and promote a crafts program that will provide the Creek Nation and visitors alike with numerous enriching benefits.

Interpretive Themes

These are, of course, many and varied and are, in interpretive presentations, subject to the rules of balance, significance and site remains. There is, first of all, the story of the land: the geography, geology, topography and natural history of Ocmulgee. Here, the Ocmulgee River passes from the red clay land of the rolling piedmont to the sandy flat lands of the coastal plain. Diverse habitats meet and blend here, causing a richness of plant and animal life. Within a short distance, the river has rapids, channels, and ponds. There are wooded bottomlands and swamps, pine forests and deciduous upland forests. These resources, particularly as they are related to the story of man through the years and as they relate to us today, form a part of the park story.

Man came to Ocmulgee initially as hunter and the tale of Paleo-Indian activity appears first in the chronological sequence. Then, in succession, the stories involve the way of life of the Indians of the Woodland Period, the Macon Plateau Period (the Master Farmers whose life style is so well represented in the park's principal site remains), and the Lamar Period (represented chiefly in the park's Lamar detached area).

While these broad themes can be said to encompass a host of lesser topics, it seems appropriate to list a few that would be covered in

the interpretive programs (most of which involve an evolutionary, or at least changing, process cutting across the periods cited above):

How did hunting and gathering change over the years and how did the implements and weapons used in the pursuit of these occupations change?

How did Indians fashion spearpoints and arrowheads and other tools and implements?

What was the nature of the agriculture practiced by the Indians and how did it change and evolve over the years?

Where did all of the groups involved in the Ocmulgee story come from? Why did they come here? What contact did they have with neighbors? With distant groups?

What parts did the mounds play in Indian culture? How were they built? How did they differ in function?

Pot Making. How did it evolve as a craft and as an art form?

What other art forms were developed or acquired in the prehistoric periods?

What part did the earthlodge play in Indian life during the Macon Plateau Period?

These themes and sub-themes cover what is generally termed (and sometimes almost disparagingly dismissed as) the Prehistoric. These themes represent the heart of the Ocmulgee story (although we can still characterize the continuum as the soul of the interpretive approach).

The rest of the Ocmulgee story is Historic. Paramount to this phase is the tale of the Creeks from the time of contact with the first Europeans in 1540 to that of their removal to Oklahoma Territory early in the second quarter of the 19th century. Important to the overall story of Ocmulgee is the way of life of the Creeks before contact, as well as how this pattern of life changed and evolved in the years between 1540 and 1830. What their life was like after they left the Southeast for Oklahoma is an important footnote to the story, as is the fact that some have returned to the Monument and to the city to work in demonstration-crafts programs and other activities.

If "The Creeks After Ocmulgee" is a valid theme, then "Ocmulgee After the Creeks" is an equally appropriate one. The city of Macon was founded (1823) about the time that the Indian story in the Ocmulgee area faded from view. The story of man on the land then becomes closely

attached to the story of the city of Macon as it evolved from a riverboat town to a railroad hub (the railroad boom being so graphically represented in the park with the prominent cut), through the Civil War era (with its park features), Reconstruction, the Electric Age and 20th century industrial Macon. Though clearly subordinate to the importance of the Prehistoric and early Historic periods, these latter-day developments assist with the announced objective of viewing man on the land over the entire span of years he spent at Ocmulgee.

This look at the totality of man's experience here leads naturally into -- indeed is an important part of -- man's concern for his environment. Only by looking at the past, can we understand the present in order to try to arrange future courses of action. A major theme for Ocmulgee National Monument must be Environmental Awareness.

Central, too, to the Ocmulgee story is the archeological theme: how we acquired most of the rich story of the site. The "role of the spade" is a fascinating one and deserves telling along with the many other elements of the Ocmulgee story.

Interpretive Developments

The following interpretive proposals for Ocmulgee National Monument constitute the Interpretive Prospectus for the park. An Interpretive Supplement at the rear of the document contains materials to implement these proposals.

The Visitor Center

The Visitor Center structure will be redesigned and recast to provide better space and facilities for information/orientation, for interpretive presentations, for publications/sales and to house the Creek crafts program. New arrangements for offices, restrooms, artifacts storage, etc., will also be devised. A contract will be let to provide a design solution for the functions discussed.

More specifically, the present lobby should be redesigned to provide better information/orientation space, to provide a series of more compelling exhibits to introduce the visitor to the Ocmulgee story and to provide an interesting treatment of the vast upper wall space. The possibility of tying the existing relief map more closely to the view window should also be explored. The lobby should provide visitors with an idea of what to see and do in the Visitor Center, as well as what to see and do in the park.

The corridor leading to the major exhibit area might be appropriately decorated in keeping with park themes.

The present museum area, which contains dated and ineffective exhibits, would be completely redesigned to house a multimedia presentation of the major portion of the Ocmulgee story. The production would highlight man's continuous occupation of the site for over 10,000 years as a point of focus, but would concentrate most acutely on the years from first occupation (Paleo-Indian and Archaic periods) to that time in the 1820's when the Creeks lost their last lands at Ocmulgee. The walk-through presentation would combine artifacts, graphics, dioramas, projections (films and slides) in a total program that will illuminate for visitors the many facets of the Ocmulgee story.

Separate areas in the Visitor Center (most probably in the present administrative offices-conference space) will use exhibits and audiovisual elements to present these themes: the Creeks after Ocmulgee; Ocmulgee after the Creeks; and the role of the archeologist in uncovering evidence about the site.

The Visitor Center should also provide space for the Creek craft program: demonstration/work space, sales space and storage space. It should also accommodate general publications display and sales. In addition, space is needed for general storage, artifacts

storage, offices, library, a multipurpose room with an AV capability and space for a demonstration activities area for young people. A lunch room might also be in order. Most of these activities could be accommodated in the building's ground floor level, although the Creek craft program and the general publications/sales may be considered for the upper level.

(The latter could be combined with the former if upper level space is available for both; if not, general publications display/sales should be afforded space on the upper floor.)

Site Features

Village Boundary. As the visitor leaves the Visitor Center en route to the first dramatic park feature, the earthlodge, he encounters vestiges of the old Indian village boundary. This area should be restored to its natural spring drainage and appropriately bridged. The boundary and spring, together with the trees and shrubs which were part of the story of Indian occupation, should be interpreted to visitors on their way to the earthlodge. (Personal services and guided tours will continue to loom large in Ocmulgee's interpretive programs and these features can be interpreted by the park guide and possibly mentioned in the park minifolder so that interpretive markers -- particularly in this section of the park can be kept to a minimum.)

Earthlodge. The most popular site feature has been the ceremonial earthlodge, in part a reconstruction, but which shows the original clay floor and lower parts of the building as they appeared in 1000 A.D. at the height of the Macon Plateau occupation. Because of the fragile nature of the resource and its continuing deterioration and because of the terribly sturdy nature of the concrete reconstruction portion of the structure, a conservation-engineering study is recommended that will point directions for future use, development and preservation of the resource. Until this study is completed, suggestions for interpretive development of the resource can only be speculative at best. The joint study must answer questions like the following. Is it possible to remove the concrete reconstruction portion of the structure without at the same time destroying or damaging the priceless original sections of the site feature? If it is not possible to remove the concrete reconstruction section, can adequate temperature and humidity controls be introduced to protect the feature but still allow visitor entry for interpretive purposes? Or will visitors have to be physically separated from the feature to achieve the needed controls? If this is the case how can this best be achieved? Can a miniature sound and light program then be developed (in keeping with the temperature/humidity controls) to interpret this interesting structure and the activities that went on inside it?

If the concrete reconstruction portion can be removed without damaging the original features, we might then opt for removal and the substitution of a modern structure that can more easily provide the needed protection controls and allow for a dramatic interpretive presentation of these important remains. The report may state that the original features are so delicate that the structure will need to be closed to visitors until such time as future technology can solve present problems of development and interpretation. As it is, the present generation of visitors is using the structure far more than the occupants of 1,000 years ago. The requested study will point directions on this score.

Cornfield Mound. This feature, a short distance northwest of the earthlodge, is a ceremonial mound atop which the Macon Plateau inhabitants built one or more religious buildings. Perhaps of greater importance, however, since there are more spectacular ceremonial mounds in the park, is the cornfield which lies beneath it. Thus important evidence of early agriculture has been nicely preserved. Ultimately, a section of the cornfield (properly protected) should be made available for visitor viewing. For the immediate future, an interpretive marker, dealing with both functions of the site, should suffice. (The Cornfield Mound can also be interpreted in conjunction with the personal services and/or programmed audiovisual presentation at the earthlodge.)

At this point, the visitor can elect to continue his walk to other major park features or return to the Visitor Center parking lot and drive to those attractions.

Historic Creek Village. To foster an understanding of the Creek way of life both before and after contact with European explorers and colonists, it is recommended that a rudimentary Historic Creek Village be established on or near the site of the community -- most probably between the Funeral Mound and the drainage on the north side of the park road. This should be started in a small way (say with one or two Creek dwellings). It could be expanded as circumstances dictate. Some crops could be grown nearby. Perhaps the period of precontact should receive greatest stress, but the way of life after contact could be interpreted as well. Costumed demonstrators would make fire, build dugout canoes (with stone axes), chips arrowheads, weave cloth, make pots, cook, grind corn and show feathermaking. A painting of the Indian village as it looked in its entirety in the last years of the 17th century could introduce visitors to the miniature village. It might be housed in a simple shelter, to protect visitors from the sun. An audio message, or, preferably, a printed label would interpret the painting and introduce visitors to the Living History experience.

Trading Post. This was an active center of Carolina's trade with the Indians from about 1690 to 1715. The Creek village was nearby. The site is marked (rather ineffectively) by logs placed on the ground. It should be marked in better fashion, possibly with some vertical posts. Reconstruction does not seem advisable at this time. A painting under a small shelter, plus an audio message, could interpret the site and the Trading Path nearby. The nature of the trade and the impact of European colonists on the Creeks should be stressed. Since there was a Scottish trader at the post, a character voice might handle the audio message.

Temple Mounds Area. Here is the lower parking lot. A modest Shelter-Rest Area structure will house rest rooms. Here or nearby an interpretive marker should deal with the railroad cut, its impact on the Indian remains and its role in the history of the Macon region (part of the continuing story of man's impact on the land).

Lesser Temple Mound. The present stairway to the top of this ceremonial mound should be replaced by a more authentic-looking series of steps. Interpretation of this feature can be handled from atop the Great Temple Mound.

Great Temple Mound. This, the principal religious structure of the Macon Plateau peoples, is the most striking and impressive feature in the park and serves as a natural magnet to visitors. The present intrusive stairway should be replaced by one that approximates the

look of the original steps. All of the ceremonial mounds, a thousand years ago, had structures on top which were used for ceremonial purposes. None of the mounds now have such buildings. For Great Temple Mound, a structure is proposed that suggests a "temple" from afar, but which will, in fact, function as an interpretive shelter. (The exact appearance of the original structures is unknown, but some reconstructions exist. There is "evidence of a rectangular framework of small posts set at intervals. These were very likely intertwined with cane, and the whole building plastered with clay and roofed with sod or thatch.") From atop the mound, the visitor can see Macon by looking one way and evidences of the past by looking the other (the Macon Plateau and subsequent civilizations). Interpretation here should tie past to present to provide a meaningful whole for the visitor. Exhibit devices, possibly including audio, should deal with the way of life of the Macon Plateau people, offer a conception of the village as it appeared from this point, and identify specific features and relate them to the life styles of the occupants. These would include the roles of agriculture, the Lesser Temple Mound, the nearby earthlodges, the fortification trenches and the Funeral Mound in the Macon Plateau way of life and death. (While with this approach, no extensive on-site interpretation is needed for the trenches and earthlodge sites, these should be suitably marked.) A portion of the Great Temple Mound might be allowed to revert to its natural succession vegetation to show this aspect of time and change. (The Southeast Mound would be an alternate candidate for this role.)

Funeral Mound. Important civil or religious leaders of the Macon Plateau occupation were buried here. The mound is now only about 25 per cent of its original site. An audio message, combined with a graphic visualization of the mound in its heyday, along with some views of the archeology of the site, should provide adequate interpretation for visitors. At some time in the future (this is presently a vandalism-prone area) an interior section of the mound might be exposed for visitors. It should be properly protected, but visitors could then walk in and see a section of the remains.

Trails

The park will provide a number of trails to provide for the archeological, historical, ethnological, natural history and environmental enrichment of visitors -- young and old alike.

Mound Village Trail. This trail goes to the major park features which have been described above. Interpretation would be as previously indicated. Visitors would have the option of walking the entire trail from the Visitor Center and returning to it, or of driving to the lower parking area and walking to many of the features from there.

Walking Trail. Interpretation along this and the other trails mentioned below would be pegged at a much lower key than that proposed for the major features on the Mound Village Trail. Simple trail

guide leaflets could handle most of the interpretation. This one has historical and natural features and is about one-and-one-half miles in length. It would start in the area of the Visitor Center. An introductory trail marker would be required. The trail would proceed to the Civil War earthworks, pass on to Walnut Creek through the pine forest and thence to the historic tunnel under the railroad track, from where it would return to the Visitor Center parking lot or tie onto the Opelofa Trail (discussed below). Interpretive markers might be required for the earthworks and their role in the story of Macon and the Civil War. Attention would be called to the nearby Dunlap House, which served Union General Stoneman as headquarters during his activities in the area. A ten-pounder Parrott Rifle would grace the earthworks. An interpretive marker might also be placed near the historic tunnel under the railroad tracks to explain its function and highlight the role of the railroad in the park's story. (At some future date, consideration should be given to restoring the Dunlap House and reconstructing selected outbuildings to establish a Living History Farm of the 1830's and opening it to visitors as another aspect of man's life at Ocmulgee. The contrast with the Indian way of life could be most enlightening.)

Opelofa Trail. This ethno-botanical trail will be used mainly by school classes studying history, nature and environmental values, but would be open to all visitors. It is less than one mile in length.

Features include a swamp area, vegetation, birds, mammals, snakes, the Southeast Mound, the Trading Post and Walnut Creek. An introductory trail marker is needed. A simple trail guide leaflet could handle most of the interpretation. Some simple identifications might also be required. An interpretive marker could explain the role of the Southeast Mound in the Macon Plateau story. (The Trading Post would be interpreted as indicated above.) Although users could use the trail in either direction, the recommended route is from the lower parking lot to the Trading Post site, through the ecology succession of the old fields, past the Southeast Mound, through the ecology of the pine forest to Walnut Creek and the pine gum swamp area, which abounds in a wide variety of bird and animal life that can be nicely contrasted with that of the pine forest. The trail would end with a dramatic view of the Great Temple Mound.

Island Trail. This loop trail, about four miles in length, would interpret historical and natural features en route. The Ocmulgee River, so important to the history of the site and not really apparent to those visiting the developed areas of the park, will be the principal attraction of this trail. An introductory trail marker is needed. A simple trail guide leaflet and simple identifications might also be required. The trail would lead from the lower parking area across Highway I 16 (through the water drain pipe) to the Ocmulgee River. A

delightful walk along the river is possible. Visitors would come back via the Walnut Creek opening of the highway to the base of the Great Temple Mound. This is not viewed as a year-round trail, but, in season, would permit visitors and school groups to learn more about the ecology and history (the railroads again) of the region. Just walking it -- without any of the interpretive adornments -- provides an enriching experience.

Other Park Features

Mound "X" and the Dunlap and McDougal Mounds should be located and identified in the park free folder, but no formal trails to them or on-site interpretation are planned.

Lamar

As the Macon Plateau civilization declined in the region, another group assumed the dominant role. One of their major centers was the Lamar site, about three miles south (as the crow flies) in the swamps along the Ocmulgee River. No highway separates the remains here from the river. Indeed, this site (unlike Ocmulgee) makes the relationship of the river to the Lamar civilization most clear and apparent and is one of its great virtues. Additional land (including that down to the river) will be needed in order to develop Lamar. A study is needed to determine how the site can be made usable and accessible. Flooding is a problem. Elaborate interpretation is not envisioned, but the

contact station and needed interpretive devices should be portable or floatable. Consideration should be given to retaining much of the overgrown character of the site, although some clearing would be needed to establish the character of the two temple mounds and at least a section of the stockade site. The overgrown aspects of Lamar suggest a situation vastly different from the parklike character of Ocmulgee and should be retained to promote a spirit of adventure at this place. If circumstances permit, land acquisition programs should include the Swift Creek (pottery) site in this development and might include some lands along the river between Ocmulgee and Lamar that could be used for expanded recreational pursuits by the park.

Interpretive Outreach

The park will work closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and with the City of Macon and town organizations in the development of the Creek crafts program and related activities. The park will participate in the celebration of the annual Creek Week, which includes parades, dances and other events on-site and off. The park will continue to work closely with the city in the interpretation of the nearby reconstructed Fort Hawkins, which is a part of the Ocmulgee story. It will cooperate in the operation of 96-stop Macon Heritage Tour and work closely with the Museum of Arts and Science in its programs for young people. It will continue to cooperate with regional

schools and other institutions in the development of Environmental Awareness programs in the park. It will continue to maintain good relations with the communications media of the region to foster park programs and will, personnel permitting, give off-site talks whenever possible on park themes.

"Here at Ocmulgee there is what might be called a 'point in space,' much like the point in space of South Pass, from which Turner saw the sequence of western expansion. At this point in space we can see the sequence from early man hunting with a spear on through to modern man laying an interchange for a transcontinental highway Only here at Ocmulgee has man persisted so long and so well as a cultural animal. This I believe is the true significance of Ocmulgee National Monument and what should be the general theme of development in the interpretive mission of the site"

- Norman N. Ritchie

INTERPRETIVE SUPPLEMENT

Personal Services

These have been an Ocmulgee hallmark. In an age when parks are being asked to rely less on personal services, it is hoped that Ocmulgee can continue, even expand, these services.

Conducted Trips

These should be offered to organized groups visiting the area and to the general public as manpower permits. The conducted trips would vary considerably in form or length, depending on the group's age, interest and the amount of time available. It is particularly desirable to offer these special services to the many school groups visiting the park who can benefit from presentations tailored specifically to their needs. The Earthlodge-Cornfield Mound conducted trip has been most popular, but others covering the park's trail system would, manpower permitting, be in order.

Informal Contacts

As staffing allows, personnel should also be available for visitor contact on the park grounds, as well as in the Visitor Center. On weekends and during periods of heavy visitor impact, personnel could be stationed near the Great Temple Mound and in the Earthlodge-Cornfield Mound area for formal and informal talks and individual personal

contact. As the Living History program expands (particularly with the Creek village), demonstrators will add much to the expressed desire of providing more personal services. The crafts activities of the Creek concession demonstrators should also permit an important step in this direction.

Publications/Sales/Crafts

A four-fold information folder is the principal publication at Ocmulgee and is distributed to most visitors. Its content is excellent. As park development proceeds, it should be revised to include a larger and better map that can be a more effective guide to park features and trails. The park would prefer not to go the minifolder route. The importance and complex nature of the park story strongly suggest that it be allowed the luxury of a larger format free folder.

The Ocmulgee Historical Handbook (1956) is dated in format. It should be rewritten to include information acquired since its publication and to deal somewhat more broadly with the story of man at Ocmulgee from his earliest appearance to the present. The rewrite should come to terms with the terminology used in describing the various peoples who occupied the site. (The free folder has apparently done this and uniformity of terminology is essential in

all interpretive media to prevent confusion.) The format should be redesigned and the guide section at the end eliminated.

Ocmulgee has a highly effective coloring book for children. It should be continued. Other publications aimed primarily at young people should also be considered.

A number of trail guides (simple in nature) would be in order. A reprint or rewrite of Archeology of the Funeral Mound . . . (Fairbanks) should be considered. Small booklets on the Creek crafts program, on Creek mythology and on the Living History program would also be in order. These publication needs would be handled through the cooperating association.

As developments progress, the number of color postcards available for sale can be expanded. Slide series should be added.

In addition to the handbook and the coloring book, the area sells about 15 titles dealing with park and allied themes. As new titles appear the list can be expanded, while the least effective works can be dropped from the sales roster. The design of the new sales facility should permit visitors to browse the publications.

Souvenir items might be added (or suggested for sale by the concession operation). These could include reproductions of interesting excavated specimens like the copper sun disks.

The Creek crafts program and its concession operation will permit the sale of a wide variety of Indian cultural items. The concession expects to sell materials from non-Creek tribes, as well as their own, although all sales items will be Indian-made. In such programs, the demonstration aspects must always be considered as important as the sales. The item itself can have aesthetic and utilitarian value to the purchaser, but the making of an object possesses interpretive values that show infinitely more about the culture of a people or peoples. The concession should be urged to concentrate on Creek crafts. If the workers use modern equipment this is understandable, but demonstrators should be asked to learn the old ways too, so these can be shown. The concession should study the arts and crafts of pre-Creek peoples at Ocmulgee with a view toward making and selling some of these objects in the operation.

A display or sample demonstration area in the lobby of the Visitor Center should be planned to call attention to the craft program and its location. Displays at the Welcome Center and at other places in the Macon area dealing with the program will be provided by the concession and the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce.

(A separate young people's demonstration activities area is planned for the ground floor of the Visitor Center. In this workshop, school

groups can work with clay, learn to make pots, fashion flints, etc., to learn and appreciate the cultures of the past by direct involvement in them.)

Interpretive Staffing

EXISTING			PROPOSED		
Title	No.	M.Y.	Title	No.	M.Y.
Permanent			Permanent		
Archeologist GS-9	1	1	Archeologist GS-9	1	1
Park Tech. GS-5	1	1	Park Tech. GS-6	1	1
Park Aid GS-4	2	2	Park Aid GS-4	2	2
WAE					
Park Aid GS-4	1	0.5	Park Aid GS-4	2	0.8
Total	5	4.5		6	4.8

The two (permanent) Park Aids, GS-4, are Creek Indians recently employed as interpreters. A Ranger, GS-7, augments the park's protection capabilities in July 1972. As more interpretive facilities are developed on the grounds and the Creek demonstration activities are expanded, one or more permanent Park Aid positions and several WAE Park Aid positions would be needed. Opportunities to establish VIP programs in the park will also be explored.

Research Needs

The proposed interpretive developments and programs point up some very definite research needs. A study of Creek ethnology will help to portray the appearance of the Creek Indian village and the way of life of the Creeks both before and after European contact. We will need to know what their houses looked like in order to reconstruct one or two or more. We will need to know how they dressed, what activities went on in the houses (!) and outside of them, the nature of the agriculture they practiced, the crafts, etc., and the artifacts and paraphernalia that would have been in the houses and around the village. Such a study would pay rich dividends in the demonstrations-crafts programs proposed for both the park and the concession operation.

Data supporting the appearance of the Trading Post of ca. 1690-1715, the look of the Funeral Mound (at its final stage?) and the appearance of the Macon Plateau Indian village (from atop Great Temple Mound) will be needed to support proposed wayside exhibit illustrations of those features. Similar supporting data is needed for the appearance of a Macon Plateau temple (to guide the architect with the design of the structure to be placed atop Great Temple Mound) and possibly of a Macon Plateau house, should one of these be reconstructed. Much of this information doubtless exists in scattered form, but it will need to be packaged as an aid to exhibit production.

The need for the preservation/engineering study of the Earthlodge has been mentioned previously. If an audiovisual program is prepared for the site, the script writers will need detailed information on the purpose of the structure and the activities that went on inside of it.

Many of the above projects may be considered data gathering rather than research, but they do represent important needs to support interpretive proposals.

There are also several specific problem areas which will require more excavation and research in order to provide information relating to significant archeological resources:

- 1) Report on Mound D (Cornfield Mound) excavations.
- 2) Compilation and comparative analysis of data on the Earthlodge.
- 3) Archeological investigation of Mounds A and B (Great Temple Mound and Lesser Temple Mound).
- 4) Report on excavation, Lamar site.
- 5) Archeological investigation, Cornfield Mound Area.
- 6) Projectile point types of the time horizons noted on the Macon Plateau.

- 7) Archeological investigation of the prehistoric trench system.
- 8) Synthesis archeological investigations on the Macon Plateau.

Studies on Ocmulgee after the Creeks (a history of Macon, particularly in relation to the site) and the Creeks after Ocmulgee would also be in order. An Historic Structure Report report will be needed for the Dunlap House and grounds to point interpretive directions for this feature.

Scope of Study Collections

With the removal of the Southeast Archeological Center from Ocmulgee National Monument to Florida State University at Tallahassee, the collecting functions will change significantly. The bulk of the Ocmulgee collections are unstudied and will be removed to the new headquarters of the Center. After they have been studied, they will be returned to the park. The many specimens that have been studied (e.g., Funeral Mound) will remain in storage at the park. Certain collections from other parks (e.g., Natchez Trace Parkway, Russell Cave) will be removed to the Center for study and returned to the parks concerned at a later date. Other collections

that have been studied will be returned to the parks involved or to the NPS Clearinghouse at Springfield, Virginia. These include the Robinson Collection of prehistoric items (Colonial) and materials from Appomattox Court House and Arkansas Post.

Efforts should be made to continue to accession materials which relate to the Ocmulgee story and are of value for exhibit or study purposes. In accessioning new materials some discretion should be exercised so that collections of severely limited or negligible value will not be acquired. The park collection can be made more usable by reducing it in size through elimination of objects of limited value and/or inadequate provenience information, but decisions relating to any reductions in the collection should be made only by a technically competent individual who has become thoroughly familiar with the collection.

Additional archeological and, especially, ethnological Creek items should be sought, many of which may be replicas to enhance the park's demonstrations programs. Selected specimens representative of the story of man's activities on the site during the 19th and 20th centuries should also be acquired.

Adequate space exists for both storage and curatorial functions.

In order to properly preserve the collections, temperature and humidity controls should be provided in the storage area.

Cost Estimates

Visitor Center

Concept for redo of interpretive presentations and functions in V. C. (would include lobby and corridor, major exhibit space, auxiliary exhibit spaces, Creek crafts area, multipurpose room and young people's workshop space, curatorial and storage area, offices, restrooms, information/publication/sales)	\$
Information desk	\$
Orientation devices	\$
Redo of orientation relief map	\$
Lobby exhibits	\$
Lobby wall treatments	\$
Corridor wall treatments	\$
Interpretation for major presentation area	\$
Interpretation for auxiliary presentation areas	\$
Cases for exhibits for Creek crafts area	\$
Publications/Sales display	\$
Audiovisual program for multipurpose room	\$
Audiovisual equipment for multipurpose room	\$
Equipment, materials and supplies for young people's workshop space	\$
Storage cabinets for artifacts	\$
Miscellaneous Visitor Center signage	\$

Earthlodge

Preservation/Engineering study	\$
Planning for earthlodge multimedia program	\$
Multimedia program for earthlodge	\$
Equipment for multimedia program	\$

Wayside Interpretation

Planning for wayside exhibits	\$ 3,500.00
Paintings for Historic Creek Village, Trading Post and Funeral Mound; 3 @ \$4,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Minimum structures to shade painting and visitors; 3 @ \$	\$
Trading Post marking treatment	\$
Interpretive markers for Funeral Mound, Cornfield Mound, Earthworks, Historic Tunnel, Southeast Mound; 3 @ \$1,500.00; 2 @ \$1,000.00	\$ 6,500.00
Introductory trail markers; 4 @ \$1,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Miscellaneous simple trail markers	\$ 500.00
Planning for wayside audiovisual programs	\$ 800.00
Scripts and production of wayside recorded messages; 3 @ \$1,000	\$ 3,000.00
Equipment for wayside recorded messages; 3 @ \$1,200.00	\$ 3,600.00

Temple Mounds Shelter-Rest Area

Structure	\$
Planning for orientation/interpretation	\$ 500.00
Orientation exhibit	\$ 2,500.00
Interpretive marker for railroad cut	\$ 1,200.00

Great Temple Mound

Structure	\$
Planning for interpretation	\$ 3,000.00
Painting of Macon Plateau village	\$ 4,000.00
Interpretive markers and/or audio devices in structure	\$ 10,000.00

Historic Creek Village

Creek dwellings; 2 @ \$	\$
Specimen purchases for Creek demonstration activities	\$

Interpretive Priorities

In order to provide some sense of priorities, the following listing is provided. All are important to the development programs of Ocmulgee National Monument and the priorities will here and there tend to meld or mesh.

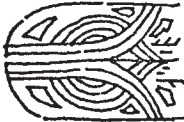
1. Creek Crafts Program.
2. Creek Demonstrations Activities.
3. Preservation/Engineering Study for Earthlodge.
4. Redo of Visitor Center Functions and Interpretive Presentations.
(Certain aspects of this are already in the works to support the Creek crafts program. A functions and interpretation concept for the building is underway with F.Y. 1972 programmed funds.)
5. Trail Developments.
6. Earthlodge Solution and Interpretation.
7. Wayside Exhibits Program.
8. Creek Indian Village Developments.
9. Temple Mounds Shelter-Rest Area Developments.
10. Structure and Interpretation on Great Temple Mound

It would be helpful if the last four items could be developed as a package. The more elaborate interpretive proposals suggested for Cornfield Mound and Funeral Mound and the Living Farm developments on the Dunlap Farm would have much lower priorities.

Supp. Copy

DENVER SERVICE CENTER
PLANNING AND DESIGN DIRECTIVE

MASTER PLAN REVISION



OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT, GEORGIA



Date: March 1972

Project No.: 0-363-04014

RECOMMENDED:

W. P. Cameron
Superintendent, Ocmulgee National Monument

4-3-72
Date

Arthur H. Beyer
Team Manager, Southeast Region, DSC

3-27-72
Date

Glenn O. Harding
Director, Denver Service Center

3-27-72
Date

APPROVED:

Director, Southeast Region

Date

PART I

Project Title: Master Plan Revision, Ocmulgee National Monument, Georgia.

Description: To prepare an up-dated conceptual document which will strengthen and redefine overall management and development proposals for Ocmulgee National Monument.

To coordinate and involve other groups interested in the cultural, historical, and archaeological assets of Ocmulgee.

Stimulate local citizen involvement and their interest in the park throughout the master plan revision process.

The Interpretive Prospectus is also included in the professional services program for '72 and will be prepared concurrently with the master plan.

Team: Landscape Architect (DSC) (Team Captain-Master Plan) - John Murphy
Interpretive Planner - Alan Kent (HFC)
Park Superintendent, Ocmulgee - W. T. Crawford
Archaeologist - Robert Nichols (HFC-Museum Division)
Architect (DSC) - Per Rundberg

Consultants and Advisors: City of Macon Representative
Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation
Southeastern Archaeological Representative
Southeast Director and Staff
Writer (DSC)

Planning Funds Available: \$7,000

Time Schedule: Start preliminary planning - Feb. '72
Field Study - 1st to Mid-April '72
Draft Completion - June '72
Plan Review (notify for public meeting) - July '72
Complete Master Plan - August '72

Public Review - August '72
Master Plan/Interpretive Prospectus
Approval - September '72

Development Costs:

To be made available by the planning process.

PART II

End Product:

To produce a Master Plan.

Present Status:

The area was authorized by an Act of Congress in 1934 and was established in 1936, lands being acquired through local public service organizations and donated to the National Park Service. One boundary change has been made since 1934 with the donation of five acres of land adjoining the southern boundary of the Lamar site.

The Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Park Service are presently piloting a project which will include participation of the Creek Indians of Oklahoma (past inhabitants of Ocmulgee in Southeast United States) to live in and work in the Macon area. Part of their mission will be to fulfill the need for live demonstrations of their arts and crafts within Ocmulgee Park.

Management Objectives:

A. Introduction of the visitor to the area.

1. First, to relocate the park entrance off busy U.S. Rts. 80, 23, and 129 and develop a safe, esthetically attractive park entrance.
2. Improve fee collection and information as needed. Determine if fee collection should be discontinued altogether.

B. Visitors Center.

1. The Museum Division is presently planning and revising present exhibits and exhibit space. An Auditorium for park interpretation may be needed as the Park suggests.

C. The Visitor and the Site.

1. Promote and provide for self-guided on-site interpretation and interpretation shelters.
2. Eliminate present automobile encroachment on the interpretive resource.
3. Earthlodge - determine if this and other sites are to be self-guided or not.

Park Problems:

Access to Ocmulgee is near a three-point intersection in the road alignment making the entrance a confusing and complicated intersection. Visitors find it difficult and dangerous to locate and enter the Park. The existing entry to the Visitors Center allows a large number of visitors to bypass the building, thus missing initial orientation and loss in visitor satisfaction. At present, the automobile encroaches very near many of the interpretive resources and significantly diminishes their value.

On site interpretation is lacking in its inability to convey to the visitor enough information for him to understand the meaning of the site. The Park also suffers from a railroad and automobile road right-of-way which cut through the Park.

The prehistoric past is the basic resource at Ocmulgee National

Monument, but it should not be limited to this. Interpretation of the resource should be broadened to include the theme of Man--particularly his continuous habitation for over 10,000 years on this piece of ground.

Management Requirements:

To conserve and manage for their highest purpose the natural, historical, and recreational resources of the National Park Service and to carry out the intent of Congress as indicated by enabling legislation.

PART III

Basic Data:

Approved existing Master Plan.
Approved existing Interpretive Prospectus.

Park documents and periodicals describing park and related facilities.

OCMULGEE MASTER PLAN REPORT OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREA

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

REGIONAL FACTORS

HISTORICAL DATA

PHYSICAL RESOURCES

MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

THE PLAN

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

LAND CLASSIFICATION

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATIONS

VISITOR SERVICES AND FACILITIES

APPENDIX

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

* All the above is subject to change.

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT, GEORGIA

Logistics:

Reservations will be made for team members at the Brown Motel. Motel accommodations will be within walking distance of the Park.

Agenda:

4/10 - Monday:

9:00 a.m. Meet with Superintendent Crawford, staff and local representatives.

1:30 p.m. Park tour

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Reconvene for discussion

4/11 - Tuesday:

9:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. Planning discussions

4/12 - Wednesday:

9:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. Planning decisions (only the team involved)

4/13 - Thursday:

9:00 a.m. Reconvene for planning discussions and decisions, if decisions were not met on Wednesday. (Only the team involved.)