

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.45.0031	DATE 10/15/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Hanckel Mound

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
(38CH7)

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:  
Rockville, [REDACTED]

STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 39      COUNTY: Charleston      CODE: 019

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

[REDACTED]

**5.**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 39

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
none

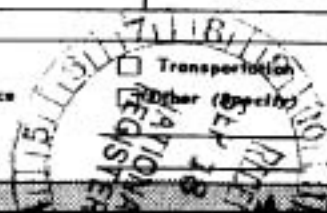
DATE OF SURVEY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
\_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_      STATE: \_\_\_\_\_      CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

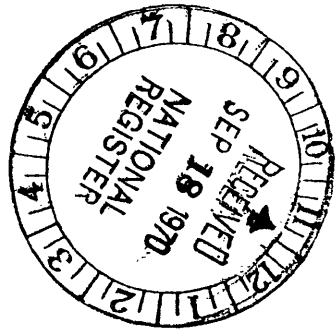
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hanckel Mound is a prehistoric Indian shell midden deposited in a ring shape. [REDACTED]

The ring was at least 158 feet in diameter from crest to crest. The deposit stands at one point 8 feet above a flat central area, devoid of shell, which is about 5 feet above mean sea level. The midden is composed largely of oyster shell. Periwinkles, animal bone, and pottery sherds are abundant where the truncated perimeter faces on the creek. Some removal of shell has probably occurred on the east edge of the ring, [REDACTED]. However, deep undisturbed deposits remain at the south edge. The ring is clear of vegetation except for a few trees.

The ring has suffered erosion recently, but is now protected by a plank and piling seawall.



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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |                                       |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century             | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known)

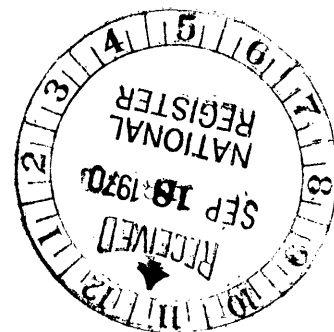
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal             | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic               | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture            | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce               | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications         | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation           |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hanckel Mound is one of 20 or more prehistoric shell rings located from the central coast of South Carolina to the central coast of Georgia, a distance of about 150 miles. All are believed to date early in the second millenium B.C., and they contain some of the earliest pottery known in North America. Only very limited excavations have been undertaken in a few of these rings. Consequently, the function of the ring shape is unknown, although the rings appear to be carefully planned and systematically deposited structures. As such, they also present one of the earliest records of sedentary life among people who must have lived entirely by foraging. The shell rings can be expected to yield valuable information about past habitats on the coast, both from their rich content of food refuse and from their relationships to modern environments. Most are situated about 5 feet above mean sea level, but the relationship to sea level at the time of occupation is unknown. It seems unlikely that sea level was a great deal higher about 4000 years ago than at present from the evidence of these lowlying rings. An unknown number of shell rings has been lost to marine erosion and to borrowing shell for road building; many of the remaining rings show the effects of unauthorized digging.

The remaining portion of Hanckel Mound includes at least 8 feet of cultural deposits. Apparently this was one of the largest shell rings, both in diameter and depth of deposits. No excavation has been done here and no date has been obtained for the site.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

None

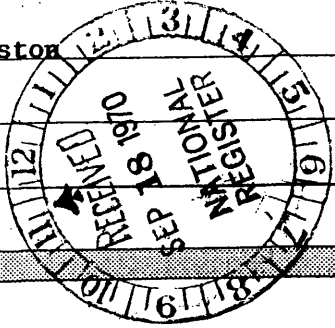
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . .	0 . .		0 . .	0 . .	
NE	0 . .	0 . .		0 . .	0 . .	
SE	0 . .	0 . .		0 . .	0 . .	
SW	0 . .	0 . .		0 . .	0 . .	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: [REDACTED]

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
South Carolina		Charleston	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Dr. E. Thomas Hemmings**

ORGANIZATION: **Institute of Archeology and Anthropology** DATE: **4-15-70**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**University of South Carolina**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **39**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *Charles S. Lep*

Title: Director, South Carolina Department Archives & History

Date: August 29, 1970

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

*Ernest Allen Connally*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: OCT 15 1970

ATTEST:

*William J. Smiley*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: OCT 12 1970