

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

1. Mound on the farm of W. L. Ricketts, about 4½ miles south of Mt. Sterling on the Oldham Pike. Mound is about 50 feet in diameter and 24 feet high; growing on top are 14 trees (second growth, 10-14 inches in diameter)— one locust, two walnuts and eleven hackberries. Mound was opened by Mr. G. B. Cockrell, the former owner of the farm, about fifteen years ago. Mr. Cockrell, according to his nephew, Mr. Clell Cockrell of Mt. Sterling, secured a very large number of artifacts and uncovered many skeletons. A number of trenches and deep holes in the mound show where Mr. Cockrell dug. Mr. Clell Cockrell made a small excavation in the west side of the mound and found a number of human bones and the fragments of a pipe, the latter being now in the possession of W. S. Webb. W. D. Funkhouser, W. S. Webb and Clell Cockrell dug into the mound on July 19, 1924, opening trenches from the south and west sides where the mound had apparently never been disturbed, but found nothing except a few fragments of human bones and two human teeth on the surface and the fragments of a human left scapula in the south trench. A second excavation on July 26 continued the trenches to the bottom of the mound, but nothing further was found and the work was discontinued.
2. Grave at the corner of the farm of Henry Hunt on the Gibson Dirt Road, off the Carmago-Mt. Sterling Pike about 7 miles from Mt. Sterling. The deed to this farm designates the "center of Indian Grave" as the corner of Mr. Hunt's place. Grave consists of a pile of slate, shale and loose sandstone rock about 30 feet in diameter and two feet high. Superficial digging showed no evidences of artifacts nor bones, but a complete excavation was not made. Examined by W. S. Webb and W. D. Funkhouser.
3. Mound on opposite side of the farm mentioned in No. 2 is evidenced by stones which had originally formed a circle but many of which had been moved. This is probably the mound mentioned by Rafinesque as on Brush Creek. Examined by W. S. Webb and W. D. Funkhouser.
4. Mounds on Somerset Creek and Buck Creek. Mentioned by Rafinesque but not definitely located.
5. Dr. Edmond D. Wells of Middlesboro, reports the finding in Montgomery County of what appeared to be a stone image about the size of a man's head by workmen who were grading a road. It was found six feet underground at a high point and was apparently carved or molded from some very hard substance to resemble a face. The artifact is in the possession of Dr. Wells.
6. Mound on the farm of Dr. S. E. Spratt, about 4½ miles south of Mt. Sterling on the Oldham Pike, across the pike from the W. L. Ricketts Farm. Mound 25 feet in diameter and five feet high. Shows evidences of an old trench through the center from north to south. Three trenches were dug by the authors from the edge to the center of the mound in places where there were no signs of previous digging. Found fragments of one skeleton with bones badly broken and scattered. No artifacts of any kind. Examined by W. D. Funkhouser and W. S. Webb.
7. Elliptical mound on property of Mrs. Bell Stafford, ¾ mile from Carmago on the dirt road. A sand mound which had apparently been excavated. Visited by W. S. Webb in July, 1924, but not carefully examined.
8. Mound on city property (old negro cemetery) in Mt. Sterling. Opened by Mr. Clell Cockrell in July, 1924. Mr. Cockrell secured several flint artifacts and the leg bones of a human skeleton. Visited by W. S. Webb and W. D. Funkhouser, July 19, 1924, but no excavation was made. This is a small circular mound about eight feet high with a large elm tree on top. On August 3, 1924, Mr. Cockrell reported the finding of a skeleton on the bottom of the mound under 6½ feet of earth. With the bones were found two buttons, which were examined by W. D. Funkhouser and reported as follows: "Larger button just the diameter of a nickel; brass, face smooth at edges, obliterated design in center; on the reverse above the shank a figure of a crown; below the shank the words, "Treble Gilt"; apparently from a uniform. Smaller button just the diameter of a dime; brass; smooth on face; large shank on back. On August 11, 1924, Mr. Cockrell sent to the University the following human bones which were undoubtedly very old: one left tibia, fragments of both humeri and both ulnae, three skull fragments, one lower molar tooth. Mr. Cockrell reported that during his absence from the mound, boys carried away or destroyed all other bones of the skeleton.

9. Mound on farm of Greer Brothers, Jeffersonville. Mound about 25 feet in diameter. Partly plowed over. In sod in summer of 1924. Flint chips in abundance about one hundred feet from the mound. Reported by W. S. Webb, but not excavated.
10. Large mound on farm of Mr. Gaitskill, about one mile from Mt. Sterling. Elliptical, 70 yards long, 520 feet in circumference, 60 feet high. This is supposed to be the mound for which the city of Mt. Sterling was named.
11. Large mound on the property of Major D. J. Burchett. As broad as the Gaitskill mound and higher (about 80 feet high) but not so long. It is heavily timbered with very large trees and has caved in or been dug into at the top. Visited and described by W. S. Webb, but not excavated.
12. A small mound about fifty yards from No. 11. The top of the mound has been opened but there is no record of contents. Reported by W. S. Webb.
13. A medium sized mound which forms a triangle with Nos. 11 and 12. Covered with large trees and caved in or dug into at the top. Reported by W. S. Webb.
14. A mound on the property of Mrs. Clarence White, one mile from No. 13, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the road, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mt. Sterling. Visited by W. S. Webb, but not described nor excavated.
15. Small mound in front yard of R. T. Judy, on Judy Pike, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mt. Sterling. Reported by W. S. Webb.
16. Mound on Oldham Pike about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Carmago Pike. Reported by Robert Moss.
17. Burial grounds on the farm of Samuel and Walker Mason about eight miles southwest of Richmond on the Lancaster Pike. One grave supposed to have contained the skeleton of a "giant." Reported in the "Richmond Register," Oct. 26, 1924.

Source: Ancient Life in Kentucky, Funkhouser and Webb, 1928, pages 327-329