

BALMORAL MOUNDS

GPS Coordinates: *Latitude: 32.131944 Longitude: -91.240638*

Driving Directions:

— *From La 575 at Somerset, head south on US 65. Go 3.0 miles to marker on left.*

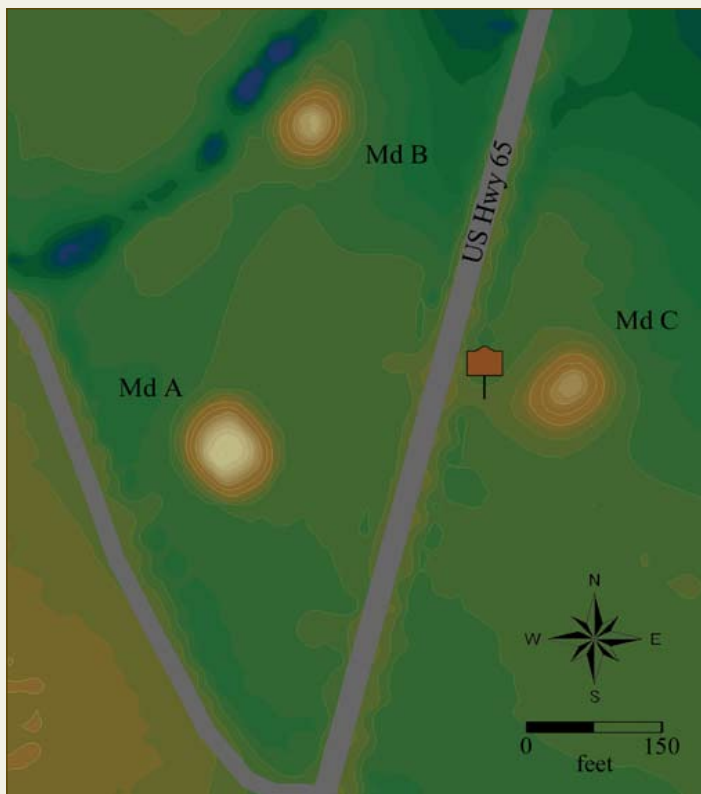
— *From La 4, head north on US 65. Go 4.3 miles to marker on right.*

Number of Mounds: 3

Number of Visible Mounds: 3

Summer Viewing: *Excellent*

Winter Viewing: *Excellent*



A must-see. This is the most visible mound group on the entire Trail. The three mounds of Balmoral form an equilateral triangle on the east and west sides of US 65, on the south side of Bayou de Rousset. A 1963 investigation found that the site was intensively occupied before mound construction. Decorated ceramics and a radiocarbon sample suggest Balmoral dates to AD 700–1200 (Coles Creek period). In 2003, mapping and coring showed that Mound A is an 11-foot-tall platform mound that measures almost 150 by 165 feet at its base. Dome-shaped Mound B is 9 feet tall and about 100 by 130 feet at the base. Mound C, also dome-shaped, is 8 feet tall and about 130 by 150 feet at its base. Cores from Mounds A and C suggest they were built in single stages at about the same time. Although Mound B has not been investigated, artifacts found nearby make it likely that it's the same age. □