

FITZHUGH MOUNDS

GPS Coordinates: *Latitude: 32.320722 Longitude: -91.080361*

Driving Directions:

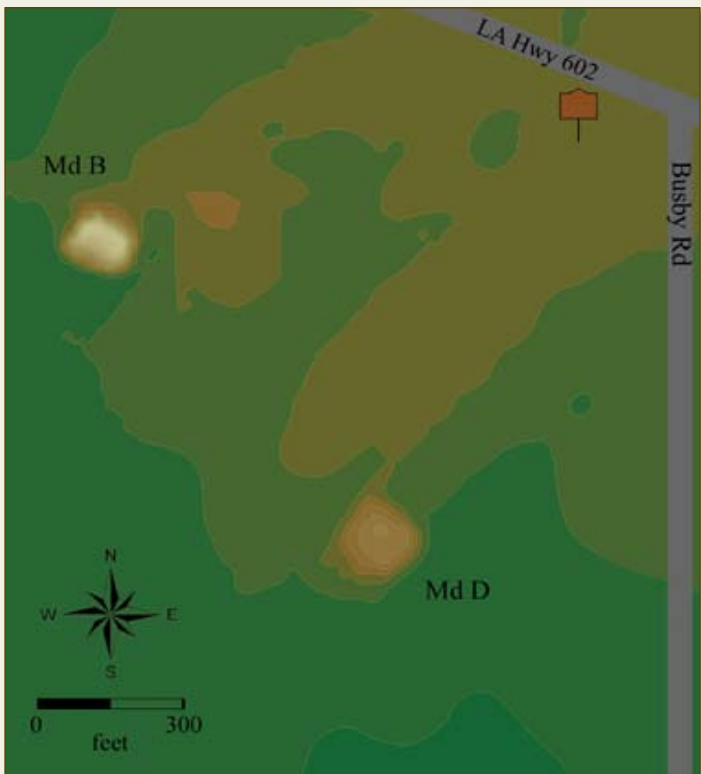
- *From I-20 (exit 173), head east on La 602. Go 6.9 miles to marker on right.*
- *From I-20 (exit 182), head south-southwest on La 602. Go 4.0 miles to marker on left.*

Number of Mounds: 2

Number of Visible Mounds: 2

Summer Viewing: *Poor, and distant*

Winter Viewing: *Good, but distant*



Only two mounds remain of what was once an impressive seven-mound complex at Fitzhugh. First described and illustrated in *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley* by Squire and Davis in 1848, it's perhaps the first documented prehistoric mound site in Louisiana. Originally, at least four mounds formed a plaza, and two of them had ramps that led to their summits. The largest mound was almost 30 feet tall. A 3-foot-high causeway 75 feet wide extended west about 2,700 feet from one of the mounds; that mound was later used for fill to build Interstate 20. Only two mounds remain (Md. B and Md. D); the other mounds and causeway have been plowed extensively and are no longer visible. One of the remaining mounds (Md. B) is 10 feet tall; the other (Md. D) is just under 4 feet high and serves as an active historic cemetery. Prehistoric ceramics suggest the mounds date to AD 1200–1541 (Plaquemine/Mississippi period). ▢