

7/12/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Lewis, Col. Alfred C., House (Oldfields) Jackson County, MISSISSIPPI

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

Keeper

Carol Shull 8-24-89

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received JUN 5 1980

date entered OCT 16 1980

1. Name

historic Colonel Alfred E. Lewis House

and/or common Oldfields

2. Location

street & number 1901 Watersedge Drive not for publication

city, town Gautier vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Mississippi code 028 county Jackson code 059

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Robert Peacoc and Tony Sirna

street & number 1901 Watersedge Drive

city, town Gautier vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

Office of the Chancery Clerk
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson County Courthouse

street & number Canty Street

city, town Pascagoula state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

7. Description

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>1947</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The one-and-a-half story frame house is nine-by-four bays in plan with a gable roof and an open foundation of brick piers. Along the north and south facades, there is a full inset gallery with tapered, solid wooden posts. Facing the beach, the centered entry on the south facade has sidelights and transom with the same simple shouldered moldings used on all the north and south fenestration. On the north and south facades, windows alternate with doorways so that all rooms have a single-leaf, glazed door leading onto one of the two galleries. All windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash. All openings are shuttered except the south entry. A six-inch flushboard is used on the south facade, with clapboard elsewhere.

A hall runs through the center of the house with a wide double-leaf door at each end. Most rooms retain their original Greek Revival doors with shouldered and inclined architrave surrounds. There are two interior chimneys. There is a large unfinished attic reached by an enclosed stairs.

The three acre lot slopes to the beach with large live oaks shading the house. The building had to be moved some hundred feet back from the water's edge after the major hurricane of 1947 undermined the foundation.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates built c. 1845, moved 1947
Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Alfred E. Lewis House is an outstanding example of a large Greek Revival cottage of one-and-a-half stories with undercut galleries. The house was built on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico around 1845, near what is now Pascagoula, Mississippi. The plantation was instrumental in the settlement of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, for few larger enterprises had been started in the region by that time. Replete with service buildings, docks, racetrack and cemetery, the house originally stood on a tract as large as 20,000 acres.

Colonel Alfred E. Lewis was an important figure in the history of the Mississippi Gulf Coast as planter, merchant, politician and Civil War officer. His trade extended to Cuba, Texas, and the West Indies. He served, at various times, as county tax collector, postmaster, and state representative. Lewis signed the Mississippi Ordinance of Secession in 1861, organizing his own regiment known as the Live Oak Rifles.

The plantation was bought in 1906 from Colonel Lewis by the father of Agnes (Sissie) Grinstead, who later married Walter Anderson, one of Mississippi's most prominent twentieth-century artists. Walter Anderson (1903–65) and his wife lived at Oldfields in the 1930's and 40's, years which formed an important and distinctive period in the artist's career.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 3 acres

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Pascagoula

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

A

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Total area approximately 300x400' south: water's edge (300'), north: Watersedge Drive and adjacent property, east: old fence perpendicular to water's edge, west: adjacent property (400').

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William David Smith III, Architectural Consultant

organization _____ date 1/15/80

street & number 1205 St. Charles, Apt. 707 telephone 504-524-5611 ext. 707

city or town New Orleans state Louisiana

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *R. Hilliard*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 26, 1980

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| For HCRRS use only | |
| I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register | |
| <u>W. Ray Luce</u> | date <u>10/16/80</u> |
| Keeper of the National Register | |
| Attest: <u>Carol Debie</u> | date <u>10/16/80</u> |
| Chief of Regional Office | |

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Continuation Sheet**

Lewis, Col. Alfred C., House (Oldfields)
Gautier, Jackson County, Mississippi

Section number 8 Page 1

Amendment to the Statement of Significance

Walter Anderson's Oldfields period began in 1940 when he and his wife, Agnes Grinstead, moved to Oldfields, her childhood home in Gautier. His doctors had suggested that he could be released from the mental hospital and he could function if he felt free. Here Anderson had a happy family life and enjoyed his children, who were a comfort to him. Here, where Anderson felt loved and useful, he produced many joyful pen and ink drawings, mammoth block prints, sketches of the classics, large watercolors, and calendar drawings of daily activities. He also produced various cartoons for murals that were never executed. In later years, as he became immersed in his work, the presence of the others became unbearable. Unable to cope with this, he moved to the Cottage in 1948 where his solitary existence and his Horn Island period began.

Oldfields is a significant site in the life of Walter Inglis Anderson because an entire period of his artwork, quite distinct from his early period or his later Horn Island period, developed while he lived and worked at Oldfields.

Oldfields is included in the Walter Anderson Thematic Resources Group.

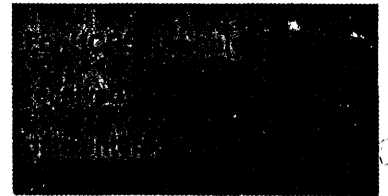
Information compiled by Maria C. Bargas, August 1985.

Kenneth H. P'Pool
Kenneth H. P'Pool
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

July 7, 1989
Date

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

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9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cain, C. E. Four Centuries on the Pascagoula. 2 vols. State College, MS: n.p., 1953 and 1962.

Federal Writers' Project. Mississippi Gulf Coast; yesterday and today, 1699-1939. Gulfport, MS: Gulfport Printing Co., 1939.

Mississippi Press Register (Pascagoula), Feb. 26, 1961, p. 18.

Peacoc, Robert and Tony Sirna. "Oldfields." Manuscript. Gautier, MS.

11 - FORM PREPARED BY

Lloyd Ostby, Architectural Historian
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Jackson, Mississippi

May, 1980
(601) 354-7326

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Continuation sheet

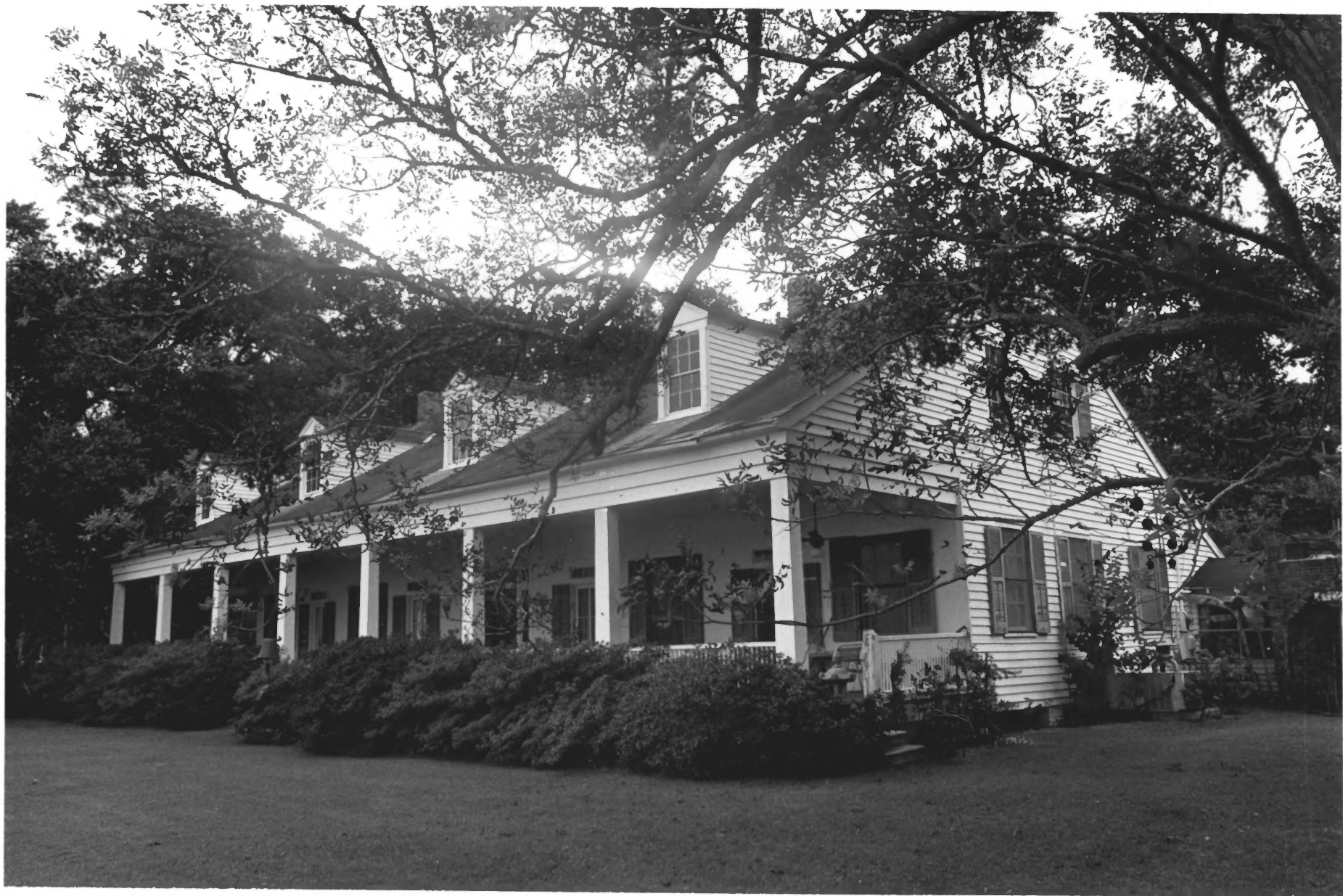
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←
Colonel Alfred E. Lewis House JUN 5 1980
Gautier, Jackson County, Mississippi
William David Smith III
1205 St. Charles, Apt. 707, New Orleans, LA
August, 1979
View to northwest
Photo No. 1 of 3

Anderson, Walter, MAS, MS

OCT 16 1980



Colonel Alfred E. Lewis House
Gautier, Jackson County, Mississippi

William David Smith III

1205 St. Charles, Apt. 707, New Orleans, LA

August, 1979

View to southeast

Photo No. 2 of 3

Anderson Walter MS, MS

JUN 5 1980

OCT 16 1980



Colonel, Alfred E. Lewis, House
Gautier, Jackson County, Mississippi
William David Smith III
1205 St. Charles, Apt. 707, New Orleans, LA
August, 1979
View to north
Photo No. 3 of 3

JUN 5 1980

Anderson, Walter MPS, MS

OCT 16 1980