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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropr	iate)			
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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and l	Known) 1851-	57		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One	or More as Appropria	ate)		
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The palatial proportions of Stanton Hall and the variety of its Victorian detail represent antebellum opulence rarely achieved and more rarely maintained. Built for Frederick Stanton, a cotton broker, in the years 1851-57, the construction project is reputed to have required a chartered vessel from Europe to bring the carved moldings, cast and wrought iron, exterior ornament and fence, Carrara marble mantelpieces, bronze chandeliers, gold-framed mirrors, silver hardware, and appropriate furniture. More successful as a showplace than a residence, Stanton Hall continues to impress the visitors who tour it daily as a museum house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

All accounts of the building of Stanton Hall mention the chartering of a ship to bring materials and furnishings from abroad; the scale and ornament confirm the story. The house dominates an urban hilltop site a full block square. The surrounding iron fence has elaborate gate posts with a lyre motif. Four giant order fluted columns with modified Corinthian capitals maintain the tradition of Natchez porticoes with an added richness. Pilasters at the large sidelighted entrance have traditional Corinthian caps. Iron lace railings decorate both levels of the portico and a two-story gallery on the west elevation. The principal mass of the house is plastered and painted white with dark green shutters. Above the hip roof is a large belvedere with two arched openings on each side and an overhanging bracketed cornice.

The interior also combines classicism with more ornate styles. Its scale is evident in the central hall which is 16 feet wide and 72 feet long. All the doors on the first floor have heavy Greek frames with anthemion bands and acroteria-ornamented cornices. The length of the hall is broken only by an elliptical arch supported on consoles. The ballroom, at the right, is similarly divided by a triple arch with foliated corbels and pendants. The five first-floor mantels are of white Carrara marble richly carved with fruits and flowers. Bronze chandeliers with etched glass diffusing shades hang from plaster rosettes in each room. Each chandelier has a unique design; those in the dining room represent the Natchez Indians in battle array. By opening the sliding doors between the ballroom and music room, the entire length of the house is infinitely extended in immense gold-framed mirrors which face each other 72 feet apart.

To the left of the central hall a stairhall separates the library at the front from the dining room at the rear. Stairs begin at the grade level porte-cochere and rise to the attic below the belvedere. Bedrooms on the second floor repeat the scale of the first floor but with simplified moldings and black marble mantels.

A service wing at the rear is less extensive than originally and contains bathrooms, a caretaker's apartment, and the shop and office required in its present function as a museum house. Plantings, particularly live oak trees, on the front of the property have matured to a beauty not experienced by the original owners. The rear of the property includes parking area, restaurant and swimming pool for the Pilgrimage Garden Club.

Named Belfast by Frederick Stanton, the cotton broker who built it in 1851-58, the house had been completed only a short while when he died. Its institutional scale made it a maintenance burden to his descendants. In the 1890s it became the Stanton College for Young Ladies. In 1940, after a variety of uses, it was purchased by the Pilgrimage Garden Club and restored as their headquarters. S

Form 10-300c (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE Mississippi

COUNTY

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Adams

FOR NPS USE ONLY

(Continuation Sheet)

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

(Number all entries) 7.

Description

Stanton Hall, Natchez, Mississippi





First Floor Plan

Second Floor Plan

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FORM	10-301	A
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property broundaries where required.

2. North arrow.

3. Latitude and longitude reference.







Stanton Hall, Natchez, Mississippi