

NHL

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Adams
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Melrose

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Melrose Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Natchez

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
4

STATE
Mississippi

CODE
28

COUNTY:
Adams

CODE
001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Estate of George Malin Davis Kelly

STREET AND NUMBER:
Melrose

CITY OR TOWN:
Natchez

STATE:
Mississippi

CODE
28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Office of the Chancery Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER:
Adams County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Natchez

STATE:
Mississippi

CODE
28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (2 photos)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Division of Prints and Photographs

STREET AND NUMBER:
Library of Congress

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D. C.

CODE
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Adams
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Melrose, though not innovative, is a highly successful attempt at perfecting the Natchez plantation mansion created at Auburn and Arlington 25 or 30 years before. The dimensions are somewhat larger and the construction more solid. The Doric tetrastyle portico is modified by the broad spacing of the center columns; the iron railings are notable for their delicacy. The rear gallery is incorporated in the design and the hip roof is crowned with a balustrade.

Fluted Ionic columns frame the broad interior openings which have carved sunbursts in the transom space. Wood mouldings, despite their large scale and simple profiles, do not appear ponderous. Plaster cornices are of Spartan simplicity and the dark marble mantels are simply carved. The Grecian purity of the architectural setting contrasts sharply with the ornate Victorian furniture; bronze chandeliers, gold-framed mirrors and heavy draperies. A carved mahogany punkah is prominent in the dining room.

Melrose is most remarkable for the quality of the preservation and maintenance of the house, outbuildings and grounds. To the rear of the house is a symmetrical service yard; a two-story kitchen, latticed octagonal cistern house and square brick privy on the left are balanced by a two-story dairy and identical cistern house and privy on the right. Slave cabins, a barn, carriage house, and poultry house are more distant. The approach drive skirts the great, shaded lawns at the front.

Built in 1845 for attorney John T. McMurren, Melrose was his until 1865 when it was sold, with most of its furnishings, to George Malin Davis. Vacant through a quarter-century, the house in 1901 became the home of Davis' grandson, George M. D. Kelly, and his bride, a spirited lady who has lived there for 73 years.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1845

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In a community of magnificent mansions, Melrose is remarkable for the perfection of its design and the integrity of its maintenance and surroundings. Its detached kitchen is still used, having never been replaced by alterations or additions to the main house. Built in 1845, its ownership has been in only two families; its furnishings have never been dispersed. The lawns and outbuildings complete a complex designed and executed as a whole and never compromised by unsympathetic accretions or encroachments.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	31° 32' 41½"	91° 23' 05"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	31° 32' 41½"	91° 22' 41½"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	31° 32' 22"	91° 22' 46"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	31° 32' 21"	91° 23' 09"		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 56.1 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paul Goeldner, Architect, Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historic and Architectural Surveys,
National Park Service

DATE: 1/7/74

STREET AND NUMBER:
1100 L Street NW

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: District of Columbia

CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

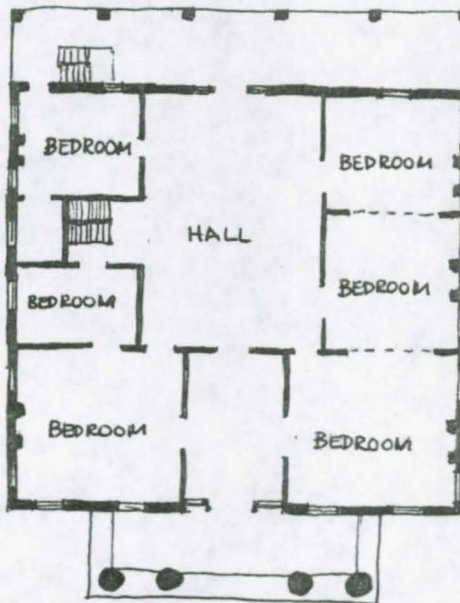
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

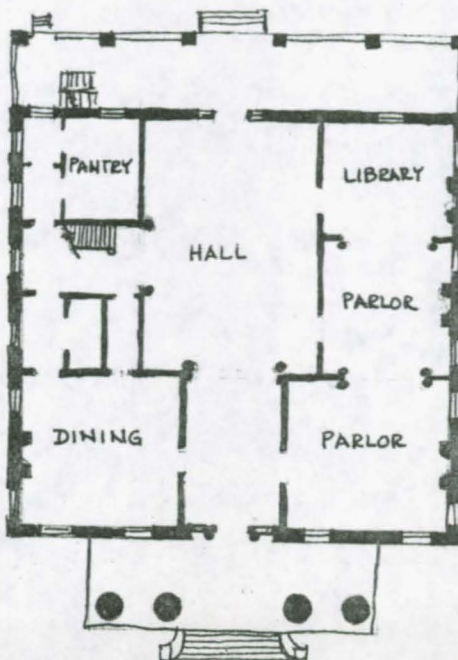
(Number all entries)

Plans of Melrose
Natchez, Mississippi

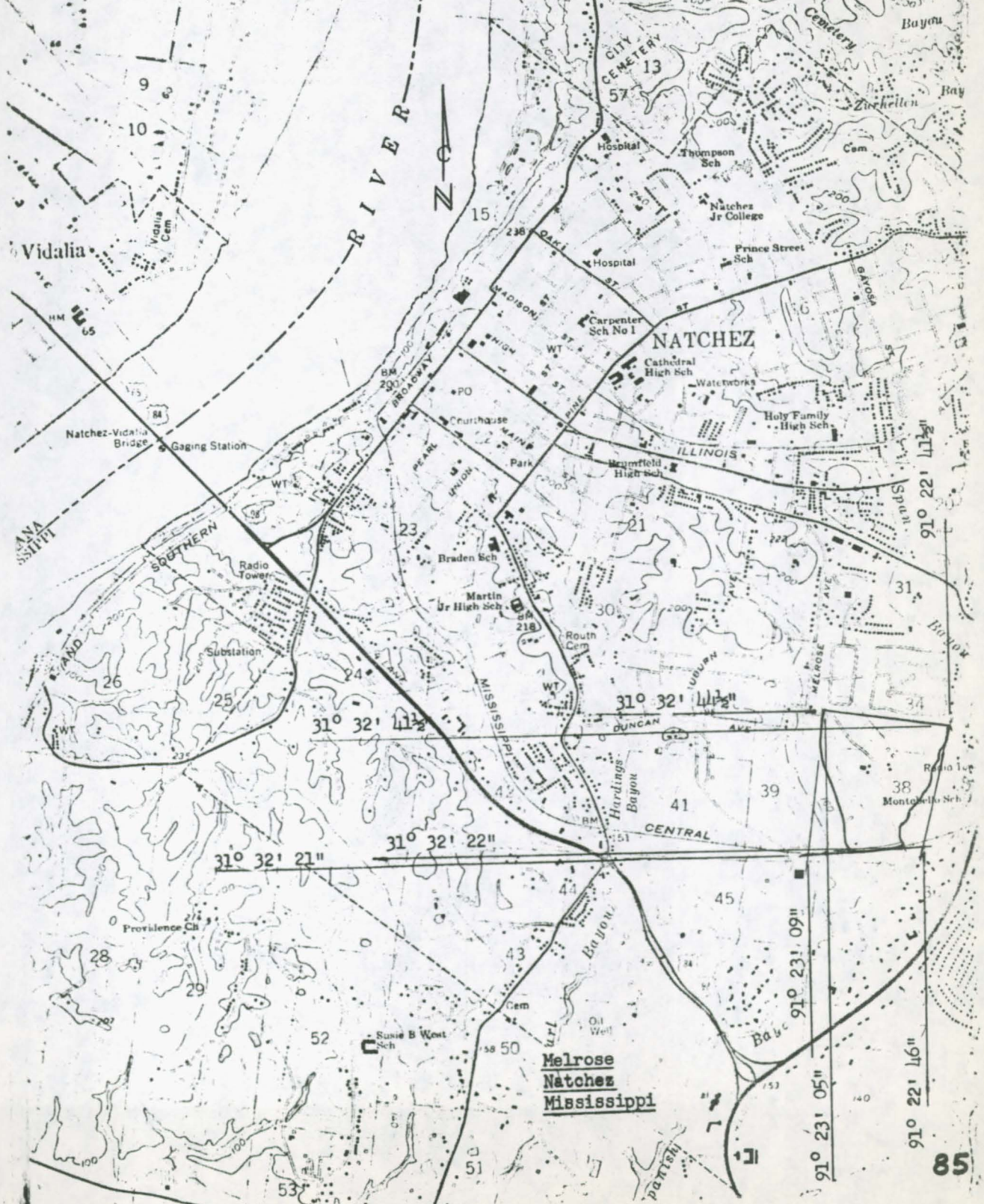
Second floor



First floor



PLY POINT
BM 65



**Melrose
Natchez
Mississippi**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON Melrose	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
2. LOCATION		
STATE Mississippi	COUNTY Adams	TOWN Natchez
STREET AND NUMBER Melrose Avenue		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT Paul Goeldner NPS	DATE November 1973	NEGATIVE FILED AT Historic Sites Survey National Park Service
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

1. Exterior from west.
2. Exterior of kitchen building from southwest.
3. Interior - double parlors.

GPO 932-009

Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Melrose		AND/OR HISTORIC:	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Melrose Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Natchez			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 28	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series, Natchez Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1 : 24,000			
DATE: 1963			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Property boundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference. 			



Melrose, Natchez, Mississippi

NPS Photo 1973



Melrose, Natchez, Mississippi

NPS Photo 1973



Melrose, Natchez, Mississippi

NPS Photo 1973



Adams County
28-001-003-0018

STATE WIDE SURVEY
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Melrose 1845
~~1174-1184~~

3^{col}

3 Column cut

3 Column Cut x 4 3/4"

Disable Veterans
War mem. 1864



Melrose

I 6

STATE WIDE SURVEY
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology
North Carolina Department of Archives and History

Adams County
28-001-003-003