

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

HE NO UTM

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Marion	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 716.28.0006	DATE 6/21/71

1. NAME

COMMON:

Ford House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Old Columbia-Covington Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Sandy Hook

STATE

Mississippi 39478

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Marion

CODE

091

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> No					

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Marion County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Columbia

STATE:

Mississippi 39429

CODE

28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Courthouse, Marion County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Columbia

STATE

Mississippi 39429

CODE

28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:

1936

☒ Federal

☐ State

☐ County

☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Division of Prints and Photographs

STREET AND NUMBER:

Library of Congress

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

District of Columbia

CODE

08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ Excellent☒ Good☐ Fair

(Check One)

☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two and a half story Ford House, located about twenty miles south of Columbia near Sandy Hook, Mississippi, was constructed ca. 1810. The house is approximately fifty feet long and fifty feet wide, including the overhangs. It is a crude but strong structure--a vernacular expression of the raised style of architecture which was popular in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

A first story clay brick base, with concrete floors now covered with sand, forms the foundation for the upper one and a half stories. The latter, constructed of clapboards of heart pine, now ash-gray in color, appears to be hand-cut and hand-dressed. The clapboards are put together with wrought-iron nails and wooden pegs. The brick wall is about two feet thick at the ground, tapering slightly in thickness at the top. The four windows on the east side, second floor, are "9 over 9" while all other windows in the house are "3 over 1" of modern design with the exception of the Andrew Jackson room which has a wooden shutter, the only one left in the house. Chimneys on either side of the house provide fireplaces on each floor, with the larger fireplaces on the first floor which were most likely used for cooking. Both the front and the back of the house have overhanging porches at the second floor level which were added sometime after the original construction was completed. The porch on the east side of the house extends the full length of the house and has handmade rails on three sides with a large gate in the center. The porch on the west side is enclosed on either end to provide two rooms, leaving a gallery in the center about twelve feet wide with the same type of rail and gate as the east porch. The areas underneath the overhangs, front and rear, were left open creating covered patios with earthen floors. The side of the house first seen when it is approached from Highway 35 was originally the rear, the house having been built to face the Pearl River to the west. All but two of several old, moss-draped cedar trees which grew on the lawn near the west entrance to the building were destroyed in 1969 by Hurricane Camille. The tin roof of the house was replaced after Hurricane Camille with a composition roof to look like cedar shakes. Although there is little or no tangible evidence there now, it is believed that originally a stockade surrounded the house as a garrison against the Indians.

Hand-hewn sills, approximately ten by twelve inches, around the perimeter and throughout the first floor and two one by three feet brick pillars in the center of the first floor room lend support to the sturdy foundation. Exposed peeled poles approximately six inches in diameter are notched on the ends and flattened on top to provide joists for flooring for the second floor. Bottoms of morticed studs for the

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7.
second floor, secured with wooden pegs into the sills, are exposed underneath the floor ceiling of the first floor, and each stud is marked with a Roman numeral. Doors, approximately forty inches wide and six feet high, are made of one by ten inch planks. What appears to be original hardware remains on some of the doors. Straightrun stairways with turned stair rails and slender balusters rise from the ground on either side to the second floor of six rooms and a foyer.

The flooring and inside walls of the second floor are one by twelve inch heart pine. Each of the rooms at the end of the gallery, west side, are approximately ten by fourteen feet. The west gallery leads into a foyer with a square room to the north and the Andrew Jackson room, about twelve by sixteen feet, to the south of the foyer. The largest room, about fourteen by twenty-four feet runs parallel with the east porch and an adjacent room, measuring about fourteen by sixteen feet, is to the north of this room. Each of these rooms and the attic, which is approximately sixteen by forty feet, has fireplaces.

Located about one hundred yards to the northwest of the house is a barn of heart pine with a hand-hewn cypress roof. On either side of the central wagon-run is a row of animal stalls. Sheds on both sides of the stalls and at the rear of the barn make the overall measurements of the building approximately 54 x 60 feet. The attic or upper story is floored and was used for the storage of hay and other feeds. From the ground at the front of the barn a straightrun stairway rises, parallel to the wall, to a small landing and a large door where entrance is made to the attic.

8.

On October 29, 1816, seventeen delegates from fifteen counties met in convention at the Ford House to consider the question of division of the Mississippi Territory. The primary purpose of the convention, which became known as the Pearl River Convention, was to submit to Congress reasons for non-division of the Mississippi Territory. Among notable delegates to the convention were Cowles Meade, Secretary of the Mississippi Territory, who served as chairman of the convention, Samuel Dale, famous Indian scout, who represented Monroe County and Joseph E. Davis, elder brother and guardian of Jefferson Davis, who along with Meade represented Jefferson County. John Ford was elected secretary of the convention to replace James Phillip who resigned after the convention had begun.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1810

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education

☒ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☒ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Philosophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

☐ itarian

☐ Communications

☒ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Ford House, originally known as the Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort, is located near Sandy Hook in Marion County, Mississippi. John Ford arrived in this section of the Mississippi Territory during the first decade of the nineteenth century, and it is believed that Ford built the house shortly after his arrival.

John Ford, a native of South Carolina, came to what is now Marion County as a Methodist minister and on November 14, 1814, the second Mississippi Methodist Conference assembled at his house. William Winans, a leader in Mississippi Methodism, attended the conference and was re-elected to serve as secretary. One of Ford's minister sons, Thomas, is reported to have "fought the first battles of Methodism in the State capital [Jackson]."

John Ford was active in the defense of the Mississippi Territory during the War of 1812 and the concurrent Creek war of 1813, and during this period of time his house served as a refuge for pioneer settlers. The diary entry of November 27, 1814, of one of Andrew Jackson's staff members, Major Howell Tatum, states that Andrew Jackson spent the night of November 27, 1814, at John Ford's house on his way to defend New Orleans. The entry reads: "27th. [November, 1814]....Crossed Pearl river at Fords Ferry and travelled 2 1/2 miles to John Ford's Fort, in all 31 miles and halted for the night....Nov. 28th. Proceeded from Fords about 9 o'clock...."

According to the Territorial Papers, John Ford was postmaster of Fords MS Ty in November of 1815. The Ford family reputedly gained the friendship of Tallapoosa, a Choctaw Indian, who kept the Fords informed when his tribe plotted an attack on Ford's Fort and when the tribe became suspicious of Tallapoosa's activities he was allowed to hide in the attic of the Ford House while his tribe made an unsuccessful search of the house for him.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. (Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891), Vol. I, pp. 751-754.
 Cain, Cyril E. (ed.), Four Centuries on the Pascagoula. (n.p., 1953), Vol. I, p.102.
 Carter, Clarence E. (ed.), The Territorial Papers of the United States, VI, The Territory of Mississippi. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1937), pp. 564, 708-709, 715.

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			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	31° 0' 41" 89° 47' 10"	
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6 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: Carl A. Ray, Senior Historian

ORGANIZATION: Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History DATE: March 17, 1971
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 North State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson STATE: Mississippi 39205 CODE: 28

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 R. A. McLemore

Title Director, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History

Date March 17, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUN 21 1971

Date _____

ATTEST: William H. Harts
 Keeper of The National Register

Date MAY 4 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Marion	
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8.

In 1817 John Ford was named a delegate representing Marion County, to the first State Constitutional Convention at Washington, Mississippi, the Territorial capital, and as a delegate signed the Constitution of 1817.

John Ford died in 1826, but his descendants retained ownership of the property until November, 1962, when the Marion County Historical Society obtained possession of about six acres of land on which the house and barn are located. In the meantime the Society has partially restored the house which was opened to the public on June 30, 1963.

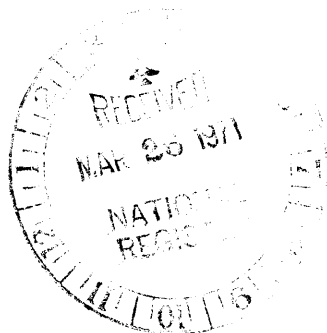
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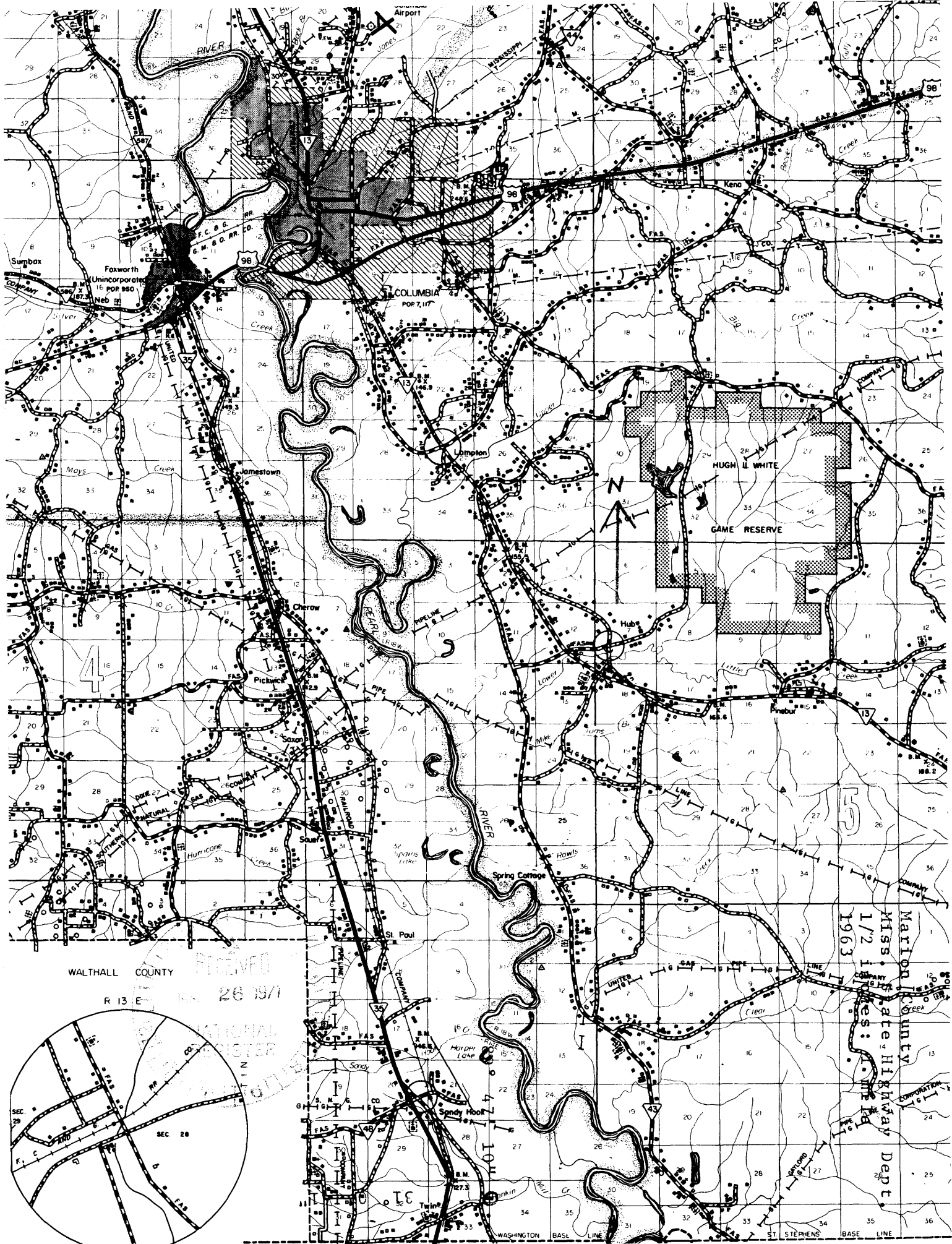
Federal Writers Project, Mississippi: A Guide to the Magnolia State. (New York: Hastings House, 1949), pp. 479-480. Governors' Records, Mississippi Territory, Series A., Vol. M, p. 97, Vol. 21 (February 22, 1813), Vol. 16 (July 7, 1813), Vol. 14 (July 22, 1813), Vol. 14 (August 1-2, 1813), Vol. 12 (August 5, 1813). Manuscript Collections. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

Jones, John G., A Complete History of Methodism as Connected with the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. (Nashville: Southern Methodist Publishing House, 1887), Vol. I, pp. 352-354, 365.

Rowland, Dunbar, "Mississippi's First Constitution and Its Makers," Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society. (Oxford, 1902), Vol. VI, p. 82.

Tatum, Major Howell Diary. Manuscript Collections. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

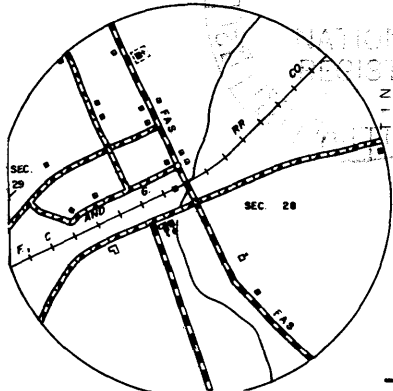




WALTHALL COUNTY

R 13 E

26 1971



Marion County Miss. State Highway Dept. 1963

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

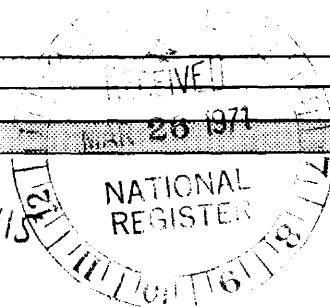
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Marion	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.61.28.0006	DATE 6/2/77

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Ford House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Columbia-Covington Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Hook			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 28	COUNTY: Marion	CODE 091
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Mississippi State Highway Department			
SCALE: 1/2 inch: 1 mile			
DATE: 1963			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE

Mississippi

COUNTY

Marion

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

71.6.28.0006

6/31/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Ford House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Old Columbia-Covington Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Sandy Hook

STATE:

Mississippi 39478

CODE

COUNTY:

28

Marion

CODE

091

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: B. B. Bradley

DATE OF PHOTO: March 4, 1971

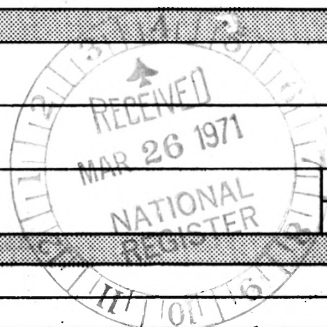
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Columbian Progress, Columbia, Mississippi

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Present day front, original rear, west elevation, looking east.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Marion	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.6.28.0006	DATE 6/2/71

1. NAME

COMMON: **Ford House**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Old Columbia-Covington Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Sandy Hook

STATE:

Mississippi 39478

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Marion

CODE

091

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **B. B. Bradley**

DATE OF PHOTO: **March 4, 1971**

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Columbian Progress, Columbia, Mississippi

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Original front, facing east, looking northwest.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Marion	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 716,38,0006	DATE 6/17/71

1. NAME			
COMMON: Ford House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Columbia-Covington Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Hook			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 39478	COUNTY: Marion	CODE 091
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: B. B. Bradley			
DATE OF PHOTO: March 4, 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Columbian Progress, Columbia, Mississippi			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. North elevation, looking south.			





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE

Mississippi

COUNTY

Marion

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

71.6.28.0006

6/21/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Ford House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Ford Stockade or Ford's Fort

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Old Columbia-Covington Road

CITY OR TOWN:

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STATE:

Mississippi 39478

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Marion

CODE

091

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: B. B. Bradley

DATE OF PHOTO: March 4, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Columbian Progress, Columbia, Mississippi

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Northwest elevation of barn looking southeast

