

**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 HCERS use only

received FEB 16 1982  
date entered MAR 19 1982

**1. Name**

historic Warren-Erwin House

and/or common same as above

**2. Location**

*Palestine Rd.*

On the east side of Palestine Rd. about a mile and a half  
street & number south of its intersection with State Highway 84 NA not for publication

city, town Washington *Miss.* ☒ vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Mississippi code 28 county Adams code 1

**3. Classification**

|                                                 |                                             |                                                       |                                        |                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Category</b>                                 | <b>Ownership</b>                            | <b>Status</b>                                         | <b>Present Use</b>                     |                                                       |
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress  | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process         | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted              | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input checked="" 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 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Holder

street & number Rt. 5, Box 297

city, town Natchez ☒ vicinity of state Mississippi 39120

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Adams County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Natchez state Mississippi 39120

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title NA has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ no

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

| Condition                                     |                                       | Check one                                   | Check one                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good                 | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair                 | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |                                             | date <u>summer 1979</u>                   |

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on an eleven-acre tract of land south of Washington, Mississippi, and entered on the east side of the Washington-Palestine Road about a mile and a half from its intersection with State Highway 84/98, the Warren-Erwin House is a story-and-a-half, frame, mid-nineteenth century plantation residence set upon brick foundation piers. The gable roof is flanked by two, outside-end brick chimneys, which break away at the second-story floor level to rise unattached from the gable ends of the house. The southwesterly facade is fronted by a gallery supported by tapered box columns with molded capitals that are linked by an unusual jigsaw railing. The five-bay facade, which is finished in matched boards with a molded base, consists of a center-bay entrance doorway flanked by well-detailed windows with molded surrounds and aprons with two fascias. All window openings are filled with six-over-six, double-hung sash and were never closed by shutter blinds. The entrance doorway consists of double-leaf, molded, two-panel doors that are set within sidelights and transom that feature a possibly unique arrangement of oval lights with intermediate applied decorative trim. The sidelights are set over molded panels and the pilasters of the doorway support an architrave with simple cornice supported by paired brackets. The interior floor plan of the house is a common variation of the early, regional, single-pile plan with central passage and rear "cabinet" rooms with what would have been a recessed rear gallery in the early plan being enclosed as part of the original construction in the later variation. The walls and ceilings throughout the interior are finished in matched boards, and the mantel pieces are wooden and pilastered. The two major front rooms and central hall are more richly trimmed with architrave door and window surrounds, four-paneled and molded doors, and molded bases. The rear "cabinet" rooms, the room between the "cabinets," and the second-story bedrooms feature unmolded, two-panel doors, unmolded door and window surrounds, and unmolded bases. The interior enclosed stairway is entered on the southerly wall of the room between the "cabinet" rooms, where it first makes a quarter turn with winders and then continues in a straight flight in a southwesterly direction to terminate in a second-story hallway. Before the house was moved to its present site, it had never been plumbed or wired and retained all of its original paint colors and wood-graining, most of which has been preserved. The original detached kitchen had already disappeared before the house was moved, and the present owners have added a one-story rear wing with gable roof to house a modern kitchen, den, and bathrooms.

## 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/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900–                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|                                               |                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |                                                 |                                                  |

**Specific dates** ca. 1860 **Builder/Architect** unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Warren-Erwin House is one of Mississippi's unique residential essays in the vernacular Greek Revival Style. The house is a good example of the typical, mid-nineteenth century, Mississippi plantation house that is characterized as a story-and-a-half, frame residence set upon brick foundation piers with gable roof, undercut gallery, and five-bay facade. However, the house achieves distinction from its vernacular architectural details which include the use of double-leaf entrance doors more commonly associated with Federal Style architecture, the possibly unique oval lights and applied decoration of the sidelights and transom of the entrance doorway, and the unusual jigsaw railing of the front gallery. The house gains added significance from the survival of its original interior paint scheme, most of which has been retained, and from its continuous ownership by the same family for which it was constructed. The house was probably constructed shortly before the Civil War for Jefferson County planter Daniel Warren and wife Elizabeth. After Elizabeth's death in the early 1870's, Daniel Warren moved to Texas, and the house became the residence of his daughter Nancy and her husband T. J. Erwin. Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Erwin, Jr., were the last family members to reside in the house before it was acquired in 1979 by their great-grandson Larry Holder and wife Annette. Empty for many years and in deteriorating condition, the Holders moved the house approximately thirty-five miles to neighboring Adams County and placed the house on an eleven-acre portion of a plantation site similar to the original site. Before the house was moved and subsequently restored, it had never been plumbed or wired for electricity. Its original interior decorative scheme had survived intact and included grained doors, black mantel pieces, and the use of as many as four different paint colors for walls, bases, architrave surrounds, and window sashes. The second-story bedrooms had never been painted and the wood walls had mellowed to a deep brown color.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Holder, Larry, great-grandson of T. J. Erwin, Jr. and great-great-great-grandson of Daniel Warren. Interviewed by Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation, at Natchez, Mississippi, Nov. 1, 1981.

Miller, Mary W., Historic Natchez Foundation. Inspection of Warren-Erwin House, Nov. 1, 1981.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 11 acres

Quadrangle name Washington, Mississippi

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 1 5 6 6 1 7 1 8 3 4 9 2 4 8 0  
Zone Easting Northing

B 1 5 6 6 1 5 9 5 3 4 9 2 2 7 5  
Zone Easting Northing

C 1 5 6 6 1 3 5 0 3 4 9 2 4 1 0

D 1 5 6 6 1 4 7 0 3 4 9 2 6 1 0

E                                             

F                                             

G                                             

H                                             

**Verbal boundary description and justification** See attached xerox copy of survey of Sheriff's Retreat Plantation with 11-acre nominated tract outlined in red. This eleven-acre tract constitutes the total acreage acquired by the owner of the Warren-Erwin House and provides a plantation-like setting for the house in its new location.

### 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 Mary Warren Miller/Research Consultant

organization Historic Natchez Foundation

date November 20, 1981

street & number P. O. Box 1761

telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez

state Mississippi 39120

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   national    state X 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

*Robert J. Searly*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date February 2, 1982

### For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 3/19/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

Warren-Erwin House  
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Sec. 48

Sec. 60

"BEN LOMOND PLANTATION"

"GREENFIELD PLANTATION"

"Bailey et al"

"Bailey et al"

Sec. 61

Tract "A"  
CENTRAL RAILROAD

"SHERIFFS RETREAT PLANTATION"

Sec. 66

Sec. 65

"Bailey et al"

"Bailey et al"

CONTENTS

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| I.C.R.R. R.O.W.    | 4.12 A  |
| Road R.O.W. (1927) | 1.41 A  |
| Tract "A"          | 78.00 A |
| Total              | 83.53 A |

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS  
October 26, 1977

Francis J. Gasquet

George J. Guido

Lawrence C. O'Ferrall

I, R. L. Hammack, Reg. Land Surveyor No. 1234, State of Mississippi do hereby certify this map depicts the results of an actual field survey and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*R. L. Hammack*





# WARREN-ERWIN HOUSE

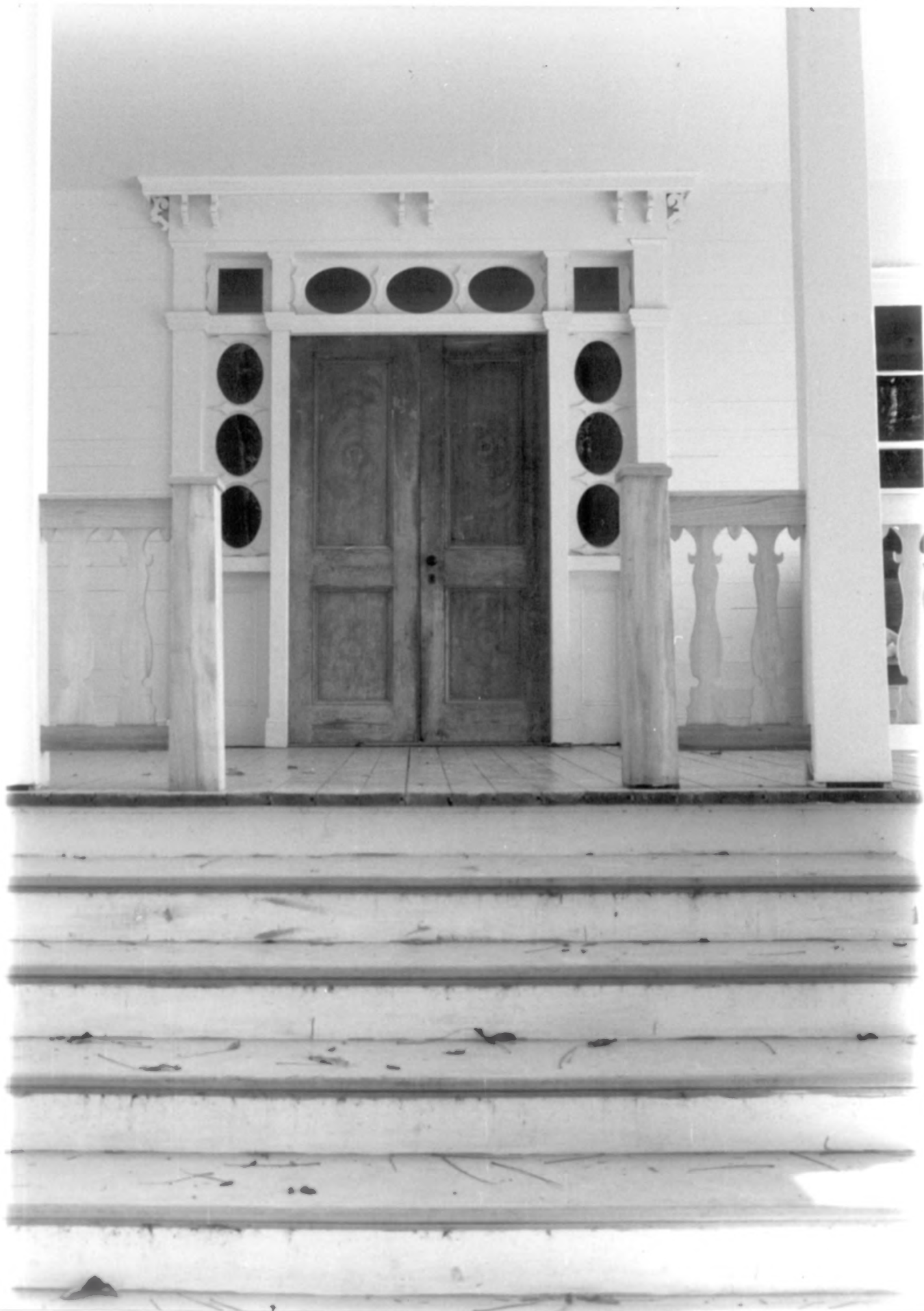
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Looking northerly, the facade and southeasterly side elevation of the Warren-Erwin House showing rear addition and ca. 1900 outbuilding.

Mary W. Miller , Historic Natchez Foundation,  
December, 1981

Photo 1 of 3

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WARREN-ERWIN HOUSE

Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Looking northeasterly, the entrance doorway  
of the Warren-Erwin House.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation,  
December, 1981

Photo 2 of 3

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WARREN-ERWIN HOUSE

Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Looking northwesterly, the mantel piece  
of the northwestern second-story bedroom  
showing also unpainted board walls.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation,  
December, 1981

Photo 3 of 3

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