

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEPH0669571
FOR NPS USE ONLYRECEIVED MAY 23 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 16 1978NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bedford Plantation

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER Northeast of Natchez on the northeast side of road
leading southeast from Cannonsburg off U.S. Route 61

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Natchez

VICINITY OF

Fourth

STATE

Mississippi

CODE

28

COUNTY

Adams

CODE

001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

X BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

X PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

X OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

X YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Jean deForrest McConnell

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4, Box 138

CITY, TOWN

Natchez

VICINITY OF

STATE

Mississippi 39120

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Office of the Chancery Clerk
Adams County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Natchez

STATE

Mississippi 39120

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1975

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house at Bedford Plantation is a modest one-story frame farm home with a long front gallery set beneath the unbroken slope of a gable roof. The long, low silhouette, the single-pile plan without hall, the set-back gallery, the plastered front wall combined with clapboard sides and back, and the brick-nogged, heavy-frame construction are typical regional developments from Creole antecedents. The full assemblage of such characteristics is typical of lower Louisiana but unusual in Mississippi.

The house faces northwest from the top of a gentle rise close by the northeast side of a gravel road leading from the Cannonsburg community southeast through Adams County. It is surrounded by a lawn dotted with crepe myrtle and cedars, the whole set among pastures and pine forests on the eighty-three-acre tract termed the "Homestead . . . part of Bedford Plantation" in an 1881 survey map of the property.

The interior contains three front rooms, each twenty-one feet square by fourteen feet high, set side by side across the front of the house, with chimneys on the common walls. A long back room, twelve feet deep and possibly once an open gallery, extends across the center room and a portion of the end rooms but is terminated at each end by a small "cabinet" room of the same construction and detailing as the main rooms. An early-twentieth-century gallery, now enclosed, occupies the entire width of the house at the back. The space beneath each main end room is excavated to form a brick-walled cellar room.

Interior and exterior trim is in the late Federal style used in the Natchez area during the late 1820s. The three nearly identical mantelpieces are especially fine essays in that style. Moldings are used both on the interior and exterior to crown the bases and to form backbands to the door and window casings. Simple batten doors, some with transoms, are used throughout except in the center bay, where front, back, and intermediate doors are in the Greek Revival style with two vertical, molded panels. These stylistically later doors were originally equipped with mid-nineteenth-century hardware.

The integrity of the Bedford Plantation house is lessened but not seriously impaired by several changes made during the first half of the twentieth century. These changes entailed the replacement of the clapboards, the removal of the facade stucco, and the reworking of the front gallery. More recently, space has been found for the kitchen and baths in the "cabinet" rooms and in one of the end rooms. The earlier changes are being reversed as part of a long-term restoration project, of which the current phase is the restoration of the front gallery to its former appearance.

Of the outbuildings, only the schoolhouse survives. It is located about one hundred yards north-northeast of the house. This one-room frame structure is covered with board and batten walls and a gable roof. There is a small gallery on the front and an attached shed on the rear. The structure apparently dates from the second half of the nineteenth century.

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/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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Combining construction techniques and features more commonly associated with the Creole building tradition in Louisiana, the residence at Bedford Plantation is a well-preserved example of a vernacular architectural form indigenous to the lower Mississippi Valley but rarely constructed in Mississippi. It is one of the few documented structures in the state employing brick-nogged, heavy-frame construction. The house, which stylistically dates from the late 1820s or early 1830s, was the seat of planter Thomas Hall's 6,318-acre Bedford Plantation, which he began assembling in 1831 (Probate Record: Real Estate, 3:120). The property was the site of a Civil War skirmish on October 2, 1864, involving Colonel Embury D. Osband's troops as they moved from Vicksburg to Natchez (O. R., 1,39:575-576).

Thomas Hall, first mentioned in Adams County in the 1830 census, was born in Mississippi and died in 1856, leaving an impressive estate of over 5,500 acres to be divided among his four heirs. The house and "dower" tract of 1,431.95 acres were left to his wife. In 1880 the acreage surrounding the house was reduced to an 81.75 acre "homestead tract" to satisfy the creditors of Hall's daughter and son-in-law, Sallie T. and Edmund Ogden (Deed Book XX:748-50). The 1880 homestead tract remains intact today under single ownership except for .73 acre on the opposite side of the public roads.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Adams County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book XX, Probate Record: Real Estate, vol. 3.

United States. War Department. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Ser. T, vol. 39. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1892.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 81

QUADRANGLE NAME Fayette, Miss.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 671285 3499620

B 15 671285 3498740

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 15 670610 3498740

D 15 670610 3499620

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property begins at the southeasterly corner of the intersection of the Cannonsburg Road and the crossroad which is located just below the northerly line of Section 56, Township 8 North, Range 1 West. It then runs

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

Ronald W. Miller, Site Administrator

ORGANIZATION

Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

DATE

April, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

400 Jefferson Davis Boulevard

TELEPHONE

(601) 446-6502

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

LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elmer R. Hilliard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 18, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

11/16/78

DATE

Nov 15, 1978

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 23 1978

DATE ENTERED

NOV 16 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

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10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description)

easterly along the southerly side of said crossroad for 212 feet, then south 57 degrees 18 minutes east for 1679 feet, then south 27.75 degrees west for 2059 feet, then north 75 degrees west for 264 feet, then north 46 degrees west for 1204 feet, then north 5 degrees west for 1772 feet, then north 80.75 degrees east to the easterly side of the Cannonsburg Road, then with the easterly side of the Cannonsburg Road to the beginning.



PHOTO NO. 1 - BEDFORD PLANTATION

Vicinity of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Photographer: Unknown

ca. 1940

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

The house viewed from the northwest.

NOV 16 1978

MAY 23 1978



PHOTO NO. 2 - BEDFORD PLANTATION

Vicinity of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Ronald W. Miller

March, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

The house viewed from the north. NOV 16 1978

MAY 23 1978



PHOTO NO. 3 - BEDFORD PLANTATION
Vicinity of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
Ronald W. Miller
March, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
The facade of the house at the north corner,
viewed from the west.

MAY 23 1978

MAY 23 1978



PHOTO NO. 4 - BEDFORD PLANTATION

Vicinity of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Ronald W. Miller

March, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

The interior of the center room, viewed from
the north corner.

NOV 16 1978

MAY 23 1978



PHOTO NO. 5 - BEDFORD PLANTATION
Vicinity of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
Ronald W. Miller
March, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
The schoolhouse, viewed from the west.

NOV 16 1978

MAY 23 1978