

**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 HCRS use only

received

JUN 9 1983

date entered

1. Name

historic Buie House

and/or common Ezell House

2. Location

street & number ~~1 1/2 miles west of the Natchez Trace Parkway about 2 1/2 miles~~
~~northwest of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 61 N. and the~~ NA not for publication

city, town ~~Natchez Trace Parkway~~
Natchez vic. ☒ vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Mississippi code 28 county Adams code 1

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture ☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial ☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☒ work in progress	☐ educational ☒ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment ☐ religious
☐ object	NA in process	☐ yes: restricted	☐ government ☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial ☐ transportation
		☒ no	☐ military ☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name L. R. McGehee

street & number Route 6, Box 223

city, town Natchez ☒ vicinity of state Mississippi 39120

5. Location of Legal Description

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

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☒ moved

date summer, 1982

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on a picturesque tract of land approximately one and one-half miles northwest of the Natchez Trace Parkway, the Buie House is a one-and-a-half story, frame, Greek Revival plantation residence that rests upon brick foundation piers. The gabled roof is flanked by an outside-end brick chimney at each gable end, and a recessed gallery is sheltered by the front slope of the roof. The entablature of the gallery is supported by molded box columns which are echoed on the front wall of the house by pilasters. The box columns extend almost to the ground to rest upon small brick foundation piers. The perimeter of the gallery floor runs behind the supporting box columns and is also recessed behind the planes formed by the gable ends of the house. This unusual and eminently practical gallery arrangement, well protected from the weather, features a railing composed of square newels linked by rectangular-sectioned balusters and molded handrail. The northerly facade of the house, which is finished in horizontal tongue-and-groove boards and unmolded baseboard, is divided into six bays with each three-bay half consisting of a center-bay doorway flanked by windows. All windows of the house are filled with six-over-six, double-hung sash and were originally closed by shutter blinds, now missing. The two matching entrance doorways, which are not transomed, are filled with a single-leaf door with four molded panels of unusual proportions and construction. The upper panels are shortened and the lock rail is intersected by the center stile.

The interior plan of the house features a single-pile plan, one room deep with no central passage, and a regionally common recessed rear gallery flanked by "cabinet" rooms. All door and window openings of the first-story interior have molded architrave surrounds, the doors are two-paneled and molded, the bases are unmolded, and the wooden pilastered mantel pieces of the two major rooms are exceptionally wide. Access to the upper half story is from the recessed rear gallery, where an enclosed stairway runs in a northerly direction in a single straight flight to terminate in the middle of the unpartitioned second story. The stairwell is railed by square newels and rectangular-sectioned balusters. The second-story windows are unmolded, and board-and-batten doors provide access to floored closets under the eaves. The walls of the upper half story and the recessed rear gallery are finished in horizontal tongue-and-groove boards, but the walls of the first-story rooms were constructed of wide, rough-sawn boards that were originally covered in cheesecloth and wallpapered. Evidence of the original interior decorative painting scheme survives in doors that are both mahogany and oak-grained and in the marbled baseboard of the easterly "cabinet" room.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates unknown **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Buie House is one of Mississippi's unique residential essays in the vernacular Greek Revival Style. Constructed ca. 1855, 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 gabled roof and undercut gallery. However, the house achieves distinction from its vernacular architectural details and from its integrity. The most unusual feature of the house is its front gallery construction which features box columns extending almost to the ground to rest upon brick foundation piers and a gallery floor which is recessed on all three sides for protection from the weather. This gallery treatment seems to be peculiar in the southwestern area of the state to Jefferson and Franklin Counties, where approximately a half dozen antebellum examples have survived. At least two of these residences, the Scott House and the Buie House of Jefferson County, were apparently constructed by the same local builder as evidenced by similarities in gallery construction, millwork, floor plan, second-story arrangement, and walls of wallpapered rough-sawn boards rather than matched boards or plaster. Abandoned and threatened by demolition by owners who would not preserve the house or sell it for restoration on site, the Buie House was rescued by Adams County preservationist Leicester R. McGehee. The house was subsequently moved approximately forty-five miles from Jefferson County to a plantation site in Adams County near the Jefferson County line. The historic character of the original plantation site has been maintained in the new setting, and the house is being sympathetically restored as residential rental property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Miller, Mary W. Historic Natchez Foundation. Inspection of Buie House on original site in 1982 and on new site in March 1983.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.43 acres

Quadrangle name Pine Ridge, Miss-La.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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6	6	4	0	3	1	0
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3	5	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property forms a four-sided figure with right angle corners and equal sides of 250 feet each with the center being the center point of the roof ridge of the house. The sides of the figure are parallel to the walls of the house.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Warren Miller/preservation consultant

organization Historic Natchez Foundation

date April 4, 1983

street & number P. O. Box 1761

telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez

state Mississippi 39120

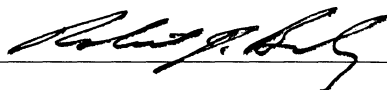
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ 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



title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 31, 1983

For HCRS use only

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

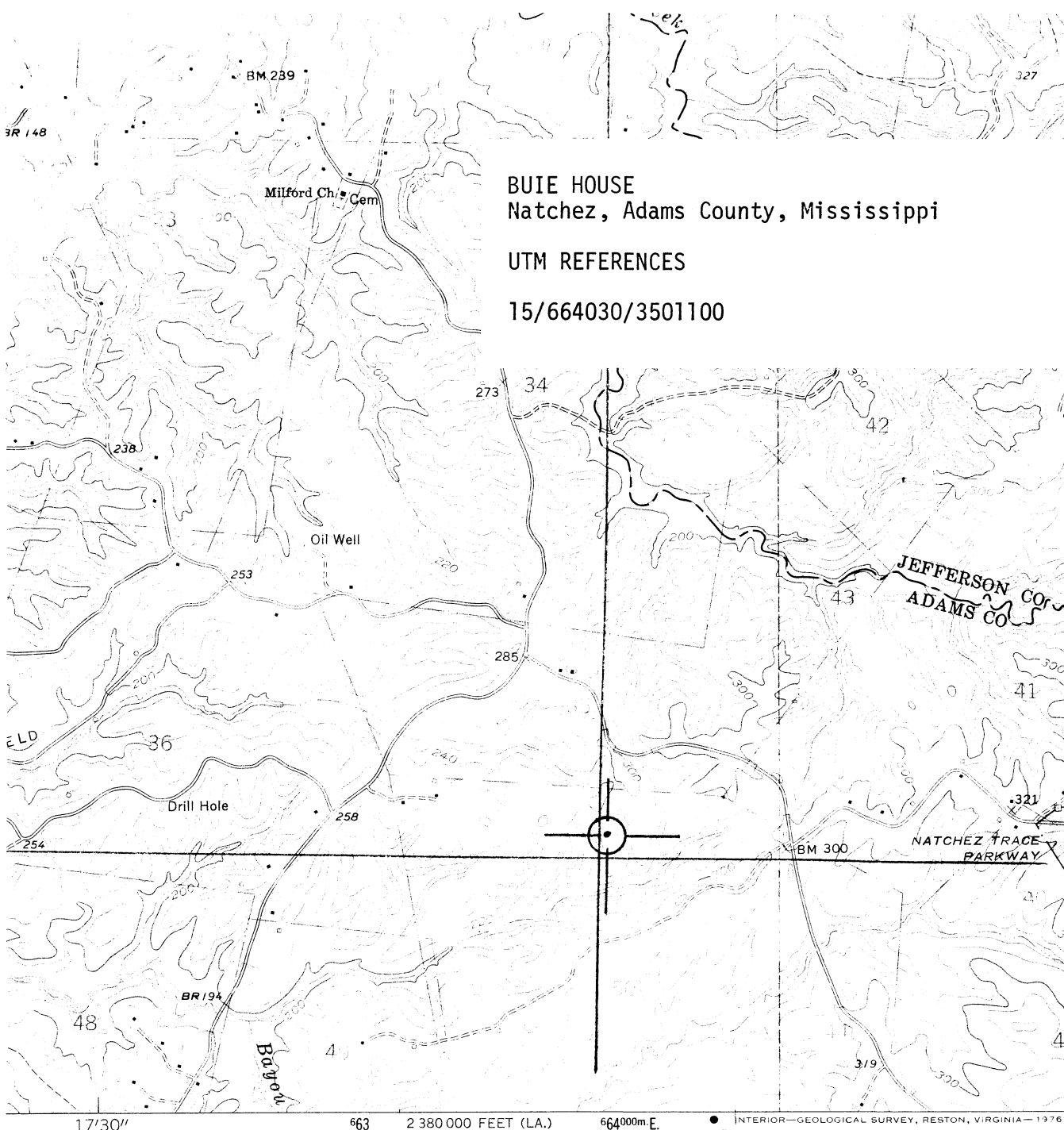
date 7/13/83


for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



1 MILE
}



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty Light-duty
Medium-duty Unimproved dirt

State Route

PINE RIDGE, MISS.—I
NE/4 NACHEZ 15' QUADRANGLE
N3137.5—W9115/7.5

1963

AMS 2747 III NE—SERIES V843



BUIE HOUSE

Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Looking southeasterly, the northerly facade
and the westerly side elevation of the
Buie House during restoration.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation,
April 1983

Photo 1 of 2



BUIE HOUSE

Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Looking northeasterly, the eastern front room of the Buie House during restoration.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation, April 1983

Photo 2 of 2