

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

HB NO VTN

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 11 1972	

1. NAME	
COMMON: Belmont	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Intersection of State Highways 1 and 438			
CITY OR TOWN: Wayside			
STATE Mississippi	CODE 38780	COUNTY: Washington	CODE 151

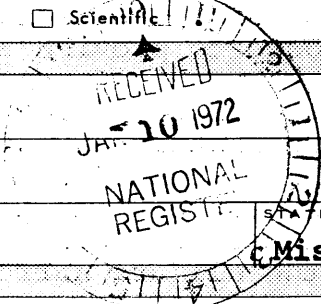
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☒ Other (Specify) Hunting Lodge

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Belmont Lodge, Inc.	
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 899	
CITY OR TOWN: Jackson	STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39205 28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Ave.	
CITY OR TOWN: Greenville	STATE: Mississippi CODE: 38701 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: Mississippi	FOR NPS USE ONLY
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ENTRY NUMBER: 111 1972	DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Belmont is a five-bay, common-bond brick structure with two stories and attic beneath a shallow hipped roof. Its six chimneys were originally tall, ornate stacks with recessed panels but in recent years they have been simplified and shortened by removal of the flaring caps. The two units of the house, a main block and an ell, produce a Georgian effect reinforced by a deeply corbeled water table and a series of pilasters at the corners and spaced along the walls. The two-story portico centered on the facade combines classical and Italianate influences. Its double tier of square wooden columns with curvilinear brackets supports a frieze-like expanse and a projecting cornice which are joined by additional brackets, a feature which extends around the side elevations as well. The pediment above is defined by brackets beneath a cornice brought together in two planes, and the tympanum is pierced by a now-open circular window which was once glassed in a star-shaped pattern.

The ell is on an axis with the south elevation of the main block but extends approximately eight feet beyond it. A small porch with entrance to the ell utilizes the angle between the two units, its trim (box column and carved brackets) echoing that of the facade. The galleries on the inner or north elevation of the ell and the rear or east elevation of the main block are also supported by box columns, and these are joined by balustrades of turned balusters. Portions of the second story gallery have been enclosed to provide additional rooms.

Fenestration consists of long, narrow windows (six over six) with cut-stone lintels and sills; some also have green shutters. The 11-foot doorways of the main block have sidelights of colored glass, narrow pilasters, and wooden casings which project at the lintels to form the distinctive Greek cross-sets. The doors of the ell are narrower and simpler, with transoms beneath cut-stone lintels.

The floor plan of the main block of Belmont, unaltered except for the addition of baths, consists of a central hall (13'10" by 41') with two 20' by 20' rooms on each side. The same arrangement is present on both floors, and the stairway is offset in the rear hall. The two downstairs rooms on the south side of the hallway, with sliding walnut doors between, were apparently originally double parlors. Their elaborate plaster ceilings, with cornice, borderwork, paterae, and medallions, which feature a melange of flowers, foliage, and fruit, are believed to have been executed some years after completion of the house. According to family tradition, similarly ornate ceilings were earlier present throughout the main block, but the only other remaining today is in the stairhall and displays a different combination of motifs: rosettes, brackets, and cherubs. The stairway itself is the substantial though not imposing form

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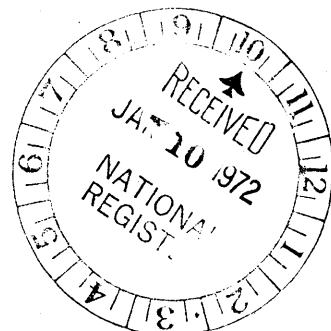
7.

avored in the mid-century and consists of a straight run of 20 risers to the second floor. From a rather ponderous newel, the broad handrail is carried by a balustrade of turned balusters, placed two to a tread, up to and around the second floor hallway.

Other interior architectural details of the main block include 14-foot ceilings, fitted cornices above the crossettes of the door and floor-length window casings; and deep, molded baseboards. The cast-iron mantelpieces in both parlors contain the same elements (molded arch of the fireplace opening beneath a cartouche, spandrels, and a rounded shelf), although that in the first parlor is somewhat more elaborately rendered than the other.

The first floor layout of the ell, progressing back from the main block (eastward), consists of dining room (original), kitchen and storage area (formerly a butler's pantry), stairhall, and bedroom. The upstairs contains, in the same sequence, bedroom, kitchen, stairhall, and bedroom. The focal room in the ell was originally the dining room, with its ceiling adorned in plaster with a rich scheme of pumpkins, corn and grapes. The present treatment is simpler, featuring the multiple profiles of molded bands on walls and ceiling and at their juncture. The dining room mantelpiece, like all those throughout the house except the two in the parlors, is a simple wooden type featuring a pair of broad pilasters supporting a plain frieze and narrow shelf. The sole adornment is molding at the plinths, capitals, and cornices. Family tradition maintains that the original mantelpieces at Belmont were elaborately carved in marble.

On the south lawn are the remains of a lily pool and a cistern, and recently a brick walk leading toward the pool and the site of the rose garden was unearthed. A second cistern is located in the angle of the main block and the ell, and farther back in the rear yard are two brick outbuildings thought to have been a smoke house and a dairy.



SIGNIFICANCE

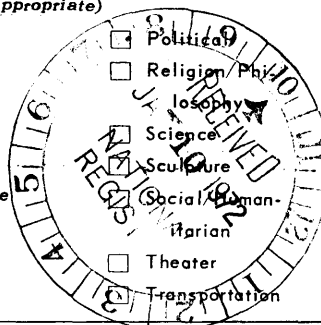
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **ca. 1857**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☒ Science | _____ |
| ☒ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☒ Sculpture | _____ |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Literature | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Military | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Music | | _____ |
| ☐ Conservation | | | _____ |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Belmont at Wayside, built ca. 1857 for William W. Worthington, is one of the few antebellum houses left standing in the Mississippi Delta and the last remaining home of the influential Worthington family. The first members of the Worthington family to come to what is now the southern portion of Washington County were four brothers who emigrated from Kentucky during the 1820s and 1830s. Samuel Worthington was one of the first white settlers in the area; his brother William W. Worthington came afterwards. Together they cleared the land, and by the time of the Civil War, the Worthington brothers, Samuel, William W., Isaac, and Elisha, had become wealthy planters in the Mississippi and Arkansas Delta. The family played a leading role in the early affairs of Washington County, especially levee building, and continued to be prominent until the early 1900s.

Samuel Worthington owned several plantations, chiefly of which was Wayside, where his home, Willowby (later known as Wayside House), was located. Wayside House, sometimes confused with Belmont, was built a few acres southwest of the latter, on Lake Lee, and was razed in 1932. Samuel Worthington's daughter Amanda wrote a diary during the Civil War, describing life at Wayside House and at Belmont. A typescript copy of the diary is in the collections of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. It reveals, among other things, the cultural and educational interests of the Worthington families.

The land on which Belmont is located was first owned by Alexander G. McNutt, who received a patent from the United States government in 1832. McNutt served as Governor of the State of Mississippi from 1838-1842. The property changed hands several times before 1853, when it was acquired by Samuel Worthington; in 1855 Samuel sold it to his brother William W. At that time William W. Worthington was a wealthy planter who owned 80 slaves, according to the 1855 personal tax rolls of Washington County.

Although little happened at the house during the Civil

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Title, Washington County, 15-A. Chancery Clerk's Office, Washington County Courthouse, Greenville, Mississippi.

Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from Miss." Microcopy #269, Roll #4, 1st. Cav., S-Z. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

Deed Book O, p. 748. Chancery Clerk's Office, Washington County Courthouse, Greenville, Mississippi.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		33° 16' 09"	91° 01' 59"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **6.43**

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:
Clinton Ikerd Bagley, Junior Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History** DATE: **Jan. 5, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
P. O. Box 571

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

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: **R. A. McLemore**

Title: **Director, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History**

Date: **January 5, 1972**

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **4/11/72**

ATTEST:

William H. Huntz
Keeper of The National Register

Date: **APR 11 1972**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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8.

War, the plantation was plundered in the early spring of 1863 by Major General Frederick Steele, Commander of the 4th Division of the 13th Army Corps. The area was again raided in June, 1863, by Colonel E. D. Osband of the Fourth Illinois Cavalry. William Worthington had four sons who served in Company H, First Mississippi Cavalry. Of the 3 who were prisoners of war, one was pardoned by President Lincoln in 1864.

Despite the perils of Reconstruction, William W. Worthington and his descendants managed to retain Belmont. Worthington's daughter Mary Nutt (wife of John Nutt, whose father, Haller Nutt, built Longwood at Natchez) owned a portion of the plantation in 1902. In 1929 the Worthingtons surrendered their claim, and a few years later the house and property were acquired by the Weathers family, who made Belmont their home until the mid-1940s. In 1946 the residence began to be utilized by the Belmont Hunting Lodge, founded by the late Governor Dennis Murphree, and since 1961 the Belmont Lodge, Inc., has owned the house and six and one-half acres of the original estate.

9.

Deed Book E, p.490. Chancery Clerk's Office, Washington County Courthouse, Greenville, Mississippi.

Historic American Buildings Survey. "Belmont," No. 76, 1936; 3 photographs.

Interview: Mrs. George C. Weathers, Greenville, Mississippi, May 17, 1971.

Interview: Mr. Andre' D. Worthington, Glen Allen, Mississippi, grandnephew of W. W. Worthington, Jr., May 18, 1971.

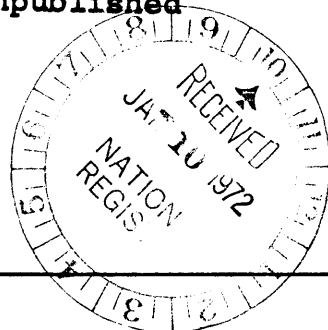
Interview: W. W. Worthington, V, Memphis, Tennessee, great-grandson of W. W. Worthington, Jr., and Mrs. Worthington, V, June 12, 1971.

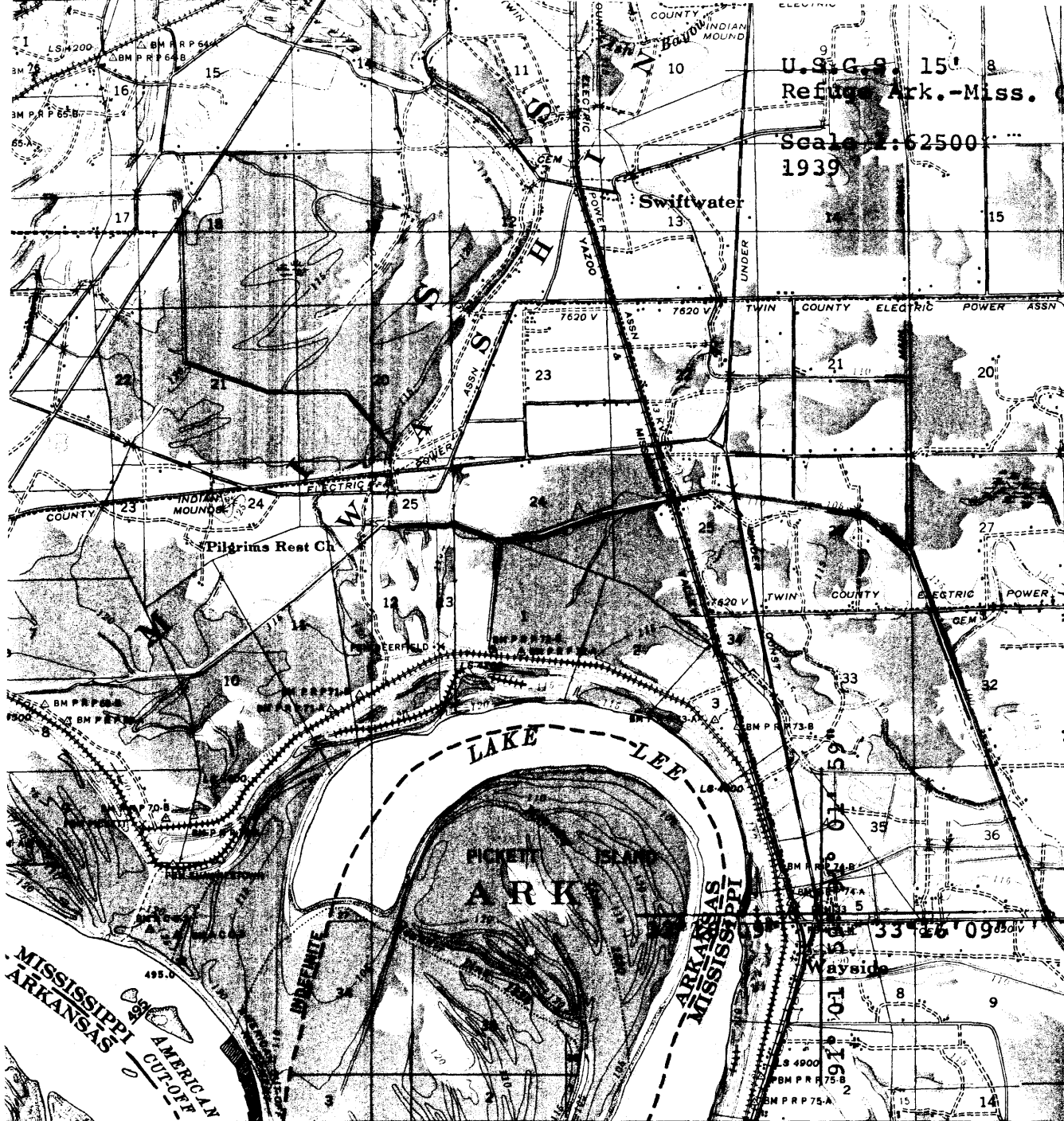
McCain, William D., and Capers, Charlotte, eds. Papers of Washington County Historical Society. Jackson, Mississippi: Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Historical Society, 1954. Pp. 173, 350-365.

Washington County, Mississippi, Personal Tax Rolls, 1855.

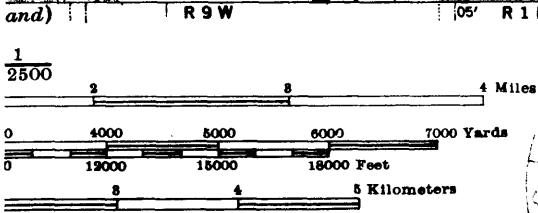
Worthington Family Papers. Manuscript Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

Worthington, W. W., IV. "Belmont Plantation." Unpublished manuscript, ca. 1936, 10 pages.





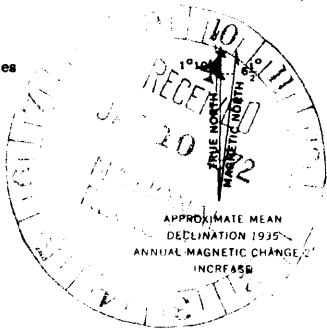
U.S.G.S. 15' 8
 Refuge Ark.-Miss. 0
 Scale 1:62500
 1939



Interval 5 feet
 Elevations differ from mean sea level elevations as determined by a foot. Persons interested may secure elevations of bench mark, by applying to the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

M. GRID SYSTEM FOR PROGRESSIVE MAPS
 S. SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 59
 MISSISSIPPI, ZONE WEST BY TICKS.
 INSIDE NEAT LINE AT 10,000 FOOT INTERVALS.

FOR 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.,
 ON COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS,
 REGION WICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI



INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.-11

LEGEND

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Levee | +++++ | Levee mile post |
| Retards and dikes | | Levee station |
| Revetment | | Towhead |
| River Gage | • | |

Distance below Cairo gage are shown at 5 Mile

REFUGE ARK.-A
 EDITION OF 1939



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 Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 11 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: **Belmont**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Intersection of State Highways 1 and 438

CITY OR TOWN:

Wayside

STATE:

Mississippi 38780

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Washington

CODE

151

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

Dr. D. C. Montgomery, Jr.,

PHOTO CREDIT: **P. O. Box 1335, Greenville, Mississippi 38701**

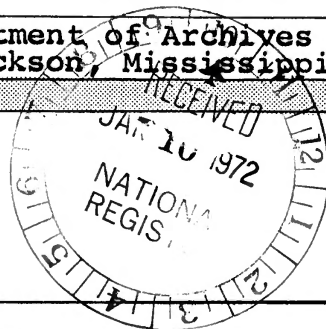
DATE OF PHOTO: **February, 1971**

NEGATIVE FILED AT: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front (west) elevation.





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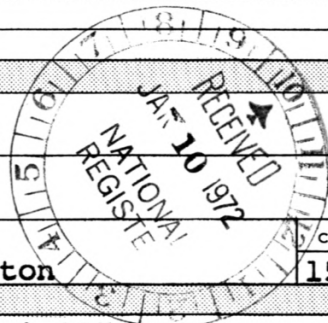
DATE OF PHOTO: February, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205

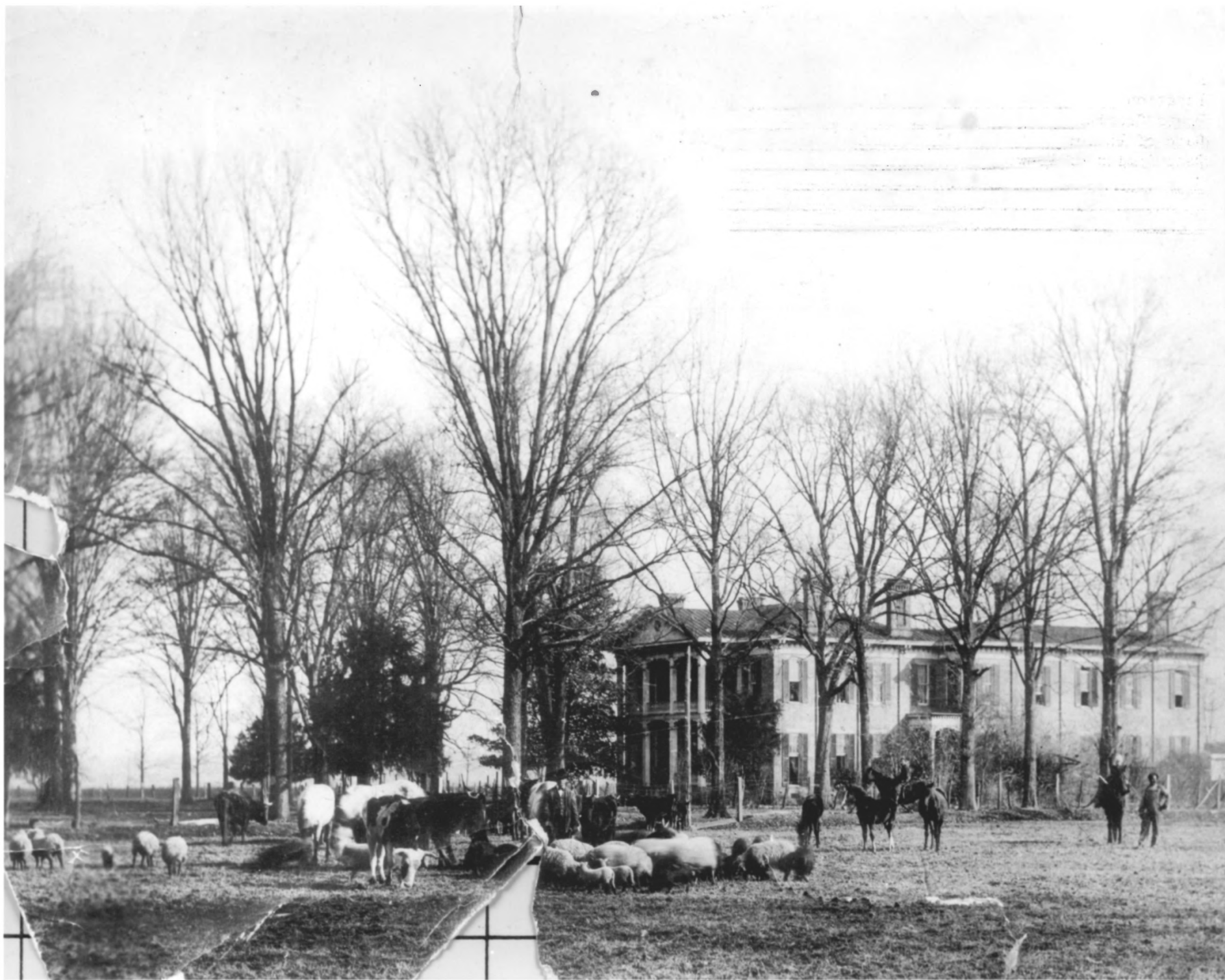
4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Right: east (rear) elevation of main block, looking west.
Left: east and north elevations of ell.
Cisterns at left and in angle between main block and ell.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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STATE:

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CODE

28

COUNTY:

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3. PHOTO REFERENCE **Courtesy of W. W. Worthington;**

PHOTO CREDIT: **529 Kingsman Dr., Memphis, Tenn. 38117**

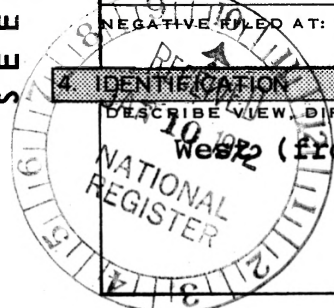
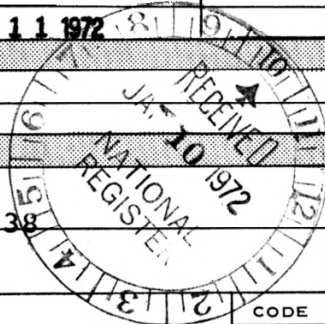
DATE OF PHOTO: **ca. 1900**

NEGATIVE FILED AT: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

West (front) and south elevations, looking northeast.



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3. PHOTO REFERENCE **Dr. D. C. Montgomery, Jr., P. O. Box 1335**

PHOTO CREDIT: **Greenville, Mississippi 38701**

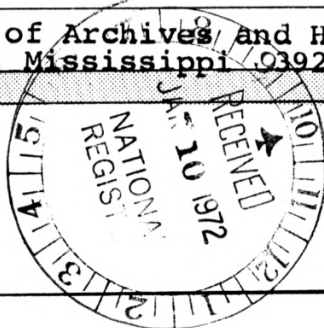
DATE OF PHOTO: **May, 1971**

NEGATIVE FILED AT: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Central hallway, looking east.



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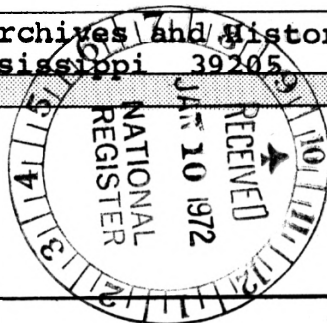
DATE OF PHOTO: May, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205

4. IDENTIFICATION

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Double parlors, looking northwest.



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