Form No. 10 300a (Hev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 59

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7 - DESCRIPTION

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Historic Cemeteries in Port Gibson (Thematic Group)

The historic cemetery theme relates to the historic development of Port Gibson. The founding of the early settlement, organization of religious institutions, and the beginnings of self-determination for blacks after the Civil War are important historic movements reflected in the establishment of the cemeteries. Their major common physical characteristics are rural setting and relative isolation from residential areas.

The group displays striking contrasts in individual physical treatment and in historic and associational significance. Wintergreen is representative in plan and design quality of mid-nineteenth-century romantically inspired funerial landscapes, epitomized by Mount Auburn in Cambridge, Greenwood in Brooklyn, and Laurel Hill in Philadelphia. Wintergreen lacks only the topographical contours of its contemporaries. The contiguous Catholic and Jewish cemeteries share similar settings; however, the compacted plan, elevated monuments, and superior maintenance of the Jewish Cemetery contrast with the partially barren field of its neighbor, which is accentuated by an overgrown crucifix focal point and vandalism to several notable monuments. Golden West Cemetery, with its grassy hillside setting, displays none of the landscape elements of the other three, nor does it have a symmetrical arrangement of plots. Random placement of makeshift cast-concrete monuments and lack of shrubbery or any formal landscape plan impart an appealing pastoral folk-art quality to Golden West.

This cemetery survey of the Port Gibson multiple resource area was conducted by Jack A. Gold, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Of the five extant cemeteries in Port Gibson, Scott Memorial Cemetery was the only one omitted from the thematic group. It was not included because it lacks historic or landscape significance.





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> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF PORT GIBSON [Miss.]

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 60

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

Historic Cemeteries in Port Gibson (Thematic Group)

Each of the four cemeteries included in the thematic group relates to the historic development of Port Gibson as described in the individual survey forms. A fifth cemetery, Scott Memorial, is not included because of its recent establishment and lack of historic or landscape significance. The historic significance of Wintergreen as the burial ground for Samuel Gibson, an early Port Gibson settler, is enhanced by the application of midnineteenth-century principles of landscape planning in the United States. In the context of Mississippi, the thematic cemetery group is notable as a significant aggregation of small-town cemeteries supported by private associations (Wintergreen and Golden West), and religious congregations (Catholic and Jewish).



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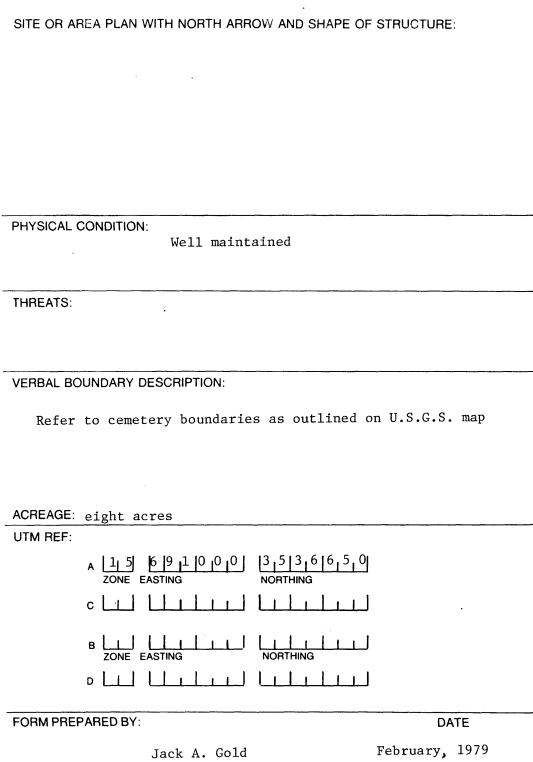
Historic Sites Survey ^{1B}

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State of Mississippi Department of Archives & History P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS. 39205

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:	NAME: Wintergreen Cemetery
Wintergreen Cemetery is situated on a large eight-acre lot heavily forested with giant cedars. A curving drive with an inner loop leads east to a new section. Family plots are characteristically outlined with intricately decorated cast-iron fences, most in imitation of gnarled tree trunks. Several prominent family monuments are embellished with statues and obelisks. At the west end of the inner loop is a circular gathering place used in the past for Confederate Memorial Day exercises (Arnold). A soldiers' row from the Battle of Port Gibson is identified by an iron marker and located west of the gathering place.	STREET NO: East End, Greenwood Street TOWN/VIC: Port Gibson COUNTY: Claiborne BLOCK/LOT: PRESENT OWNER: Wintergreen Cemetery Association c/o James 0. Carpenter, 1401 College Port Gibson, Mississippi 39150 PRESENT USE: cemetery FORMER USE:
	DATE: 1807 - present
ALTERATIONS: Extension of the cemetery east of its original site.	STYLE: ARCH/BUILDER: SOURCE OF DATE:
OUTBUILDINGS:	ENVIRONMENT: residential, forested
LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Presence of cedars throughout the cemetery casts pebbled shadows and darkens the entire space. Grounds are planted with a variety of shrubbery and flowering trees.	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE NEIGHBORHOOD LOCAL STATE X NATIONAL
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Wintergreen Cemetery began as the Gibson family burying place after 1800. A grandchild of Samuel Gibson was buried here in 1807. The impressive monuments, ornate family gates and fences, and curving drive create a striking visual impression and express the romantic inclinations of mid-nineteenth-century cemetery landscapes popular in the eastern United States.	PHOTOS
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(THEMATIC GROUP) Port Gibson, Mississippi Clauborne Co. Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery; view to southeast Photo # 84 07125

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Polt Libson Multiple Resource area HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP) Claiborne Co Port Gibson, Mississippi Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. View to east. Photo # 93 of 125

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Dort Gibson Multiple Resource area HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP) Port Gibson, Mississippi Claubarne Ca Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. Gathering place; view to northeast. Photo W 94 0 125 DOE MAY 3 0 1979 DOE 11 22 1979



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HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP)

Port Gibson, Mississippi

Jack A. Gold

January, 1979

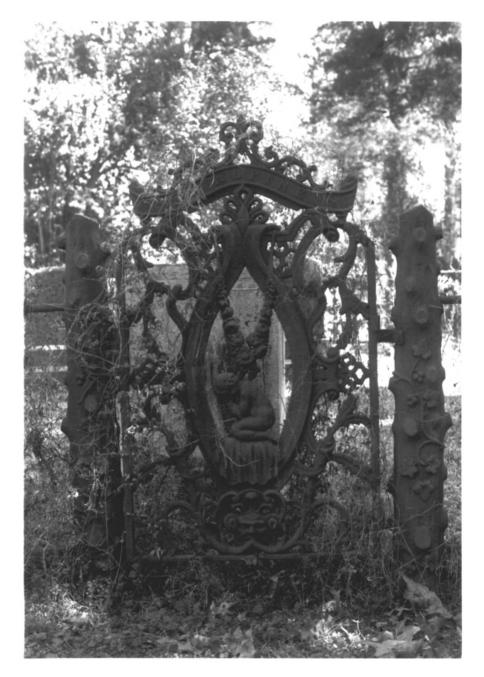
Claiborne Co.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. Monument, view to

northeast. Photo 🏟 95 of 135 Date

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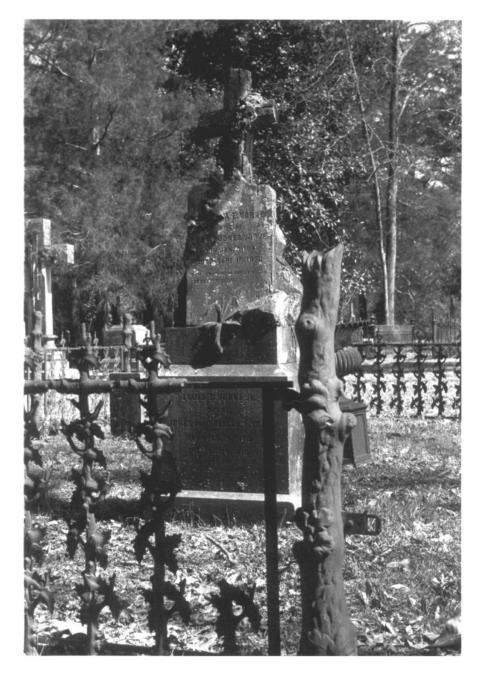
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Dert Gibson Multiple Kreomee area HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP) Port Gibson, Mississippi Claiborne Ce. Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. McAlpine gate: view

to east. Photo W 96 07 125

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Nort Hibson Multiple Resource area HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP) Port Gibson, Mississippi Clarborne Co. Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. View to east. Photo 19 97 07 125

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Port Libson Multiple Resource area

HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON (THEMATIC GROUP)

Port Gibson, Mississippi Claibarne Co.

Jack A. Gold

January, 1979

Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. Row of Confederate dead:

view to north. Photo 198 98 97125 MAY 30 1979

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Nort Sibson Multiple Resource area HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORT GIBSON Port Gibson, Mississippi Claibarne Co Jack A. Gold January, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wintergreen Cemetery. View to west. Photo WI1 103 07 125 DOIE MAY 3 0 1979 JUI 22 1979