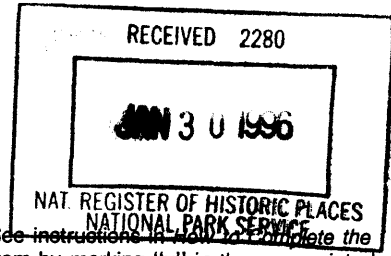


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in NPS Form 10-900a. Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2058 U.S. Highway 51 N/A not for publication

city or town Wesson N/A vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Copiah code 29 zip code 39191

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kimeth H. P. Poole January 23, 1996
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall 3/1/96
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Entered in the National Register

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

Historic and Architectural Resources of
Copiah County, Mississippi

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry _____

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: specialty store _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style _____
Italianate _____

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick _____
walls brick _____

roof not visible _____
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

Period of Significance

circa 1875-1910

Significant Dates

circa 1875

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

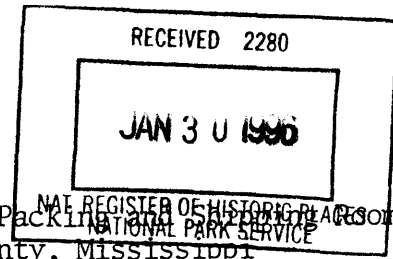
- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi



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7. DESCRIPTION

Located in downtown Wesson on Main Street (U.S. Highway 51), between Factory and Spring Streets, the Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms Building is an imposing, two-story, detached, rectangular, brick building constructed circa 1875 with commercial Italianate influences. The flat roof of the building is encircled by a brick parapet, which at the northeast and southwest elevations is embellished by piers that extend above the parapet at the corners of the building and at each side of a central, two-bay wide, segmentally curved, raised section of the parapet wall. A corbelled brick cornice enhances the parapet. The other major buildings of the Mississippi Mills complex were located on the northwest side of Main Street, but none of these buildings survives. Although the northeast elevation of the Packing and Shipping Rooms building that faces Factory Street apparently was originally the main facade, the northwest elevation facing Main Street is currently used as the main facade.

The northeast elevation is the most ornate, with the two floors being separated by a corbelled belt course and the six bays of each story being accentuated by brick piers. The window and door openings are segmentally arched. The first floor features paired four-over-four, double-hung windows; double-leaf, six-panel doors (the original two-panel glazed doors with panels replacing the glazing) topped by a four-light transom; a six-light window framed by what appears to be the original six-panel hinged shutters; and the other openings of this level have been in-filled with brick. The second story features six window openings, two of which have been in-filled with wooden shingles. The windows are nine-over-nine, double-hung sash.

The first story of the northwest elevation, now used as the main facade of the building, features (from north to south) double-leaf, panelled and glazed doors recessed between display windows; three "picture" windows, above which are two small segmentally-arched window openings; double-leaf, two-panel/four-light, wooden doors topped by a five-light transom; a nine-over-nine, double-hung window; a small four-light window; and a nine-over-nine, double-hung window. The latter four openings are segmentally arched. A wood shingle, pent awning spans the first floor openings. The second story has six segmentally-arched, nine-over-nine, double-hung windows.

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Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi

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The southwest elevation, which faces Spring Street, has a single-leaf, panelled and glazed door with a three-light transom; a "picture" window; two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows; and double-leaf glazed wooden doors with a five-light transom, all within segmentally-arched openings except for the "picture" window. The second story has six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows in segmentally-arched openings.

The first floor of the interior of the building is divided into two main spaces, with a wall running northeast-southwest dividing the building in half. A small office and stairway were added to the northeast corner of the building in the early twentieth century. The original stairway is extant but is enclosed by modern panelling. The first floor features its original chamfered wooden columns, a post-and-lintel mantelpiece, and wooden ceiling, floors, and walls. The second floor is a large open space with square wooden posts (and one round post), brick walls, and wooden ceiling. A post-and-lintel mantelpiece is in the southwest end wall.

Although the building has undergone alterations through the years, the main alterations are limited to the in-filling of some of the window openings with brick or wood shingles, the installation of several "picture" and display windows, and enclosing the original staircase in modern panelling. The building retains a high degree of integrity of association, feeling, location, and setting and conveys the sense of time and place of Wesson during its industrial heyday.

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Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi

Section number 8 Page 3

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms Building is locally significant in the area of industry (Criterion A), representing the importance of the cotton and woolen mills industry to the history and development of Wesson and the surrounding area. As discussed on pages 29-32 of the MPS cover document entitled "Historic and Architectural Resources of Copiah County, Mississippi," the town of Wesson was founded as a mill town in 1864 and grew to be the most populous town in Copiah County from 1880 until 1910, the year the mills closed. (The associated historic context developed in the MPS cover document and represented by this property is "Copiah County's Development from the Post-Bellum Period to the End of World War II, 1866-1945.") By 1887, the mills employed 1,200 persons from Copiah and the surrounding areas and created a local demand for a variety of farm produce. In 1890 the Mississippi Mills was one of the largest mills in the South (Wesson Enterprise; Mississippi Statistical Summary). The Packing and Shipping Rooms Building, which also reportedly housed the office of the secretary-treasurer of the mills, gains additional significance because it is the only extant building associated with the Mississippi Mills, other than residential resources, to survive. The period of significance extends from circa 1875, when the building was constructed, to 1910, the year the mills closed.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from 1886 to 1900 identify this building as the Packing and Shipping Rooms of the Mississippi Mills. By 1905, in addition to housing rooms for the mills, a bank was located in the building, and in 1910 a post office, bank, and general store were also housed there. The mills closed in 1910, and the 1925 Sanborn map shows that at that time the building continued to be used as a post office and bank, and for feed storage (Sanborn Maps). The building currently houses a furniture store.

Although the building has undergone alterations through the years, it retains sufficient integrity to be eligible for listing in the area of industry as the sole extant industrial building of the Mississippi Mills complex. The building retains a high degree of integrity of association, feeling, location, and setting, and retains sufficient architectural integrity to convey the sense of time and place of Wesson's industrial development (see the registration requirements for industrial resources on page 74 of the MPS cover document).

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Mississippi Mills Packing and Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. Vol. II.
Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1891.

Mississippi Statistical Summary of Population 1800-1980. Mississippi
Power and Light Company, February 1983.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Wesson, Mississippi: 1886, 1889,
1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1925. On microfilm at the Mississippi
Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

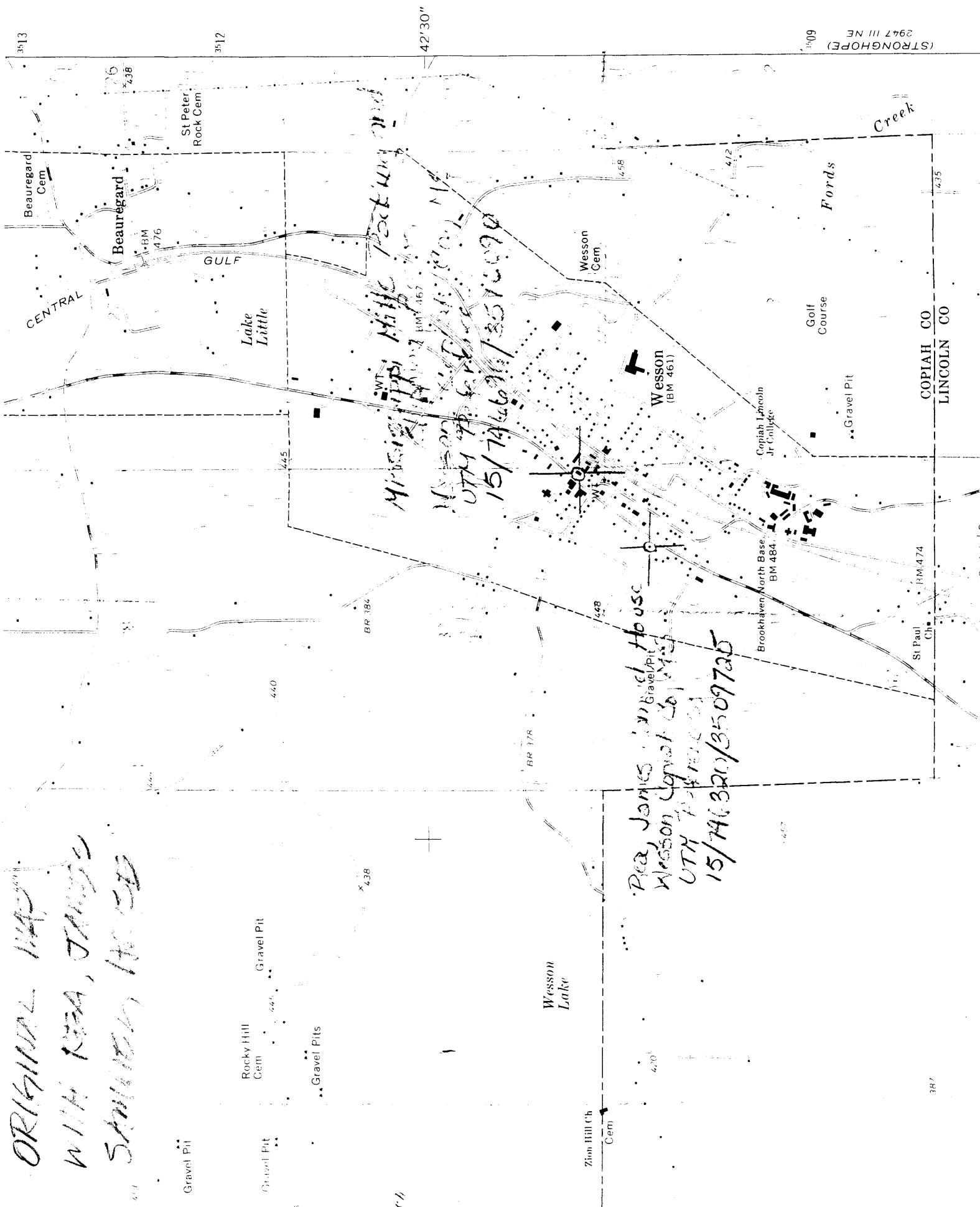
The Wesson Enterprise, Wesson, Mississippi. Centennial edition,
June 5, 1964.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is described as
a certain tract of land located in Square A, according to the
official plat of the Town of Wesson, Mississippi, more particularly
described as follows: beginning on the south side of Factory Street
at a point 30 feet east of the northwest corner of said Square A,
according to the official plat of the Town of Wesson, Mississippi,
and running thence southerly on a line parallel with Front Street a
distance of 144.5 feet, more or less, to the north side of Spring
Street, thence easterly along the north side of Spring Street 69 feet
and 8 inches, thence northerly along a line parallel with Front
Street 144.5 feet, more or less, to the south side of Factory Street,
thence westerly along the south side of Factory Street 69 feet and 8
inches to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: The property being nominated consists of the
parcel historically associated with the Mississippi Mills Packing and
Shipping Rooms Building.

ORIGINAL MAP
WITH REEA, JAMES
SANDERS, AR 58



MISSISSIPPI MILLS
WESSON MILLS
UTM 15/744671/3510090

PRA JAMES SANDERS HOUSE
WESSON COPIAL COL MS
UTM 15/744671/3510090

(STRONGHOPE)
2947 III NE



Mississippi Mills Packing + Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS
Brenda R. Crook

November 21, 1995

MS Dept. of Archives & History

Northwest elevation (originally main facade,
now used as side elev. for loading furniture)
view to southeast

Photo 1 of 4



Mississippi Mills Packing & Shipping Rooms

Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Brenda R. Crook

June 1995

MS Dept of Archives & History

Northwest & southwest elevations, view to East

Photo 2 of 4



EWD PHOTO

NO PARKING
HERE

WESKEL & WINDMILL

WESKEL & WINDMILL

Mississippi Mills Packing & Shipping Rooms
Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Brenda R Crook

June 1995

MS Dept. of Archives & History

Southwest (Spring St.) elevation & southeast elev.,
view to north

Photo 3 of 4



g Sale
IN THE HOUSE
BUY ONE
GET ONE
FREE
DECLINING
FURNITURE
SALE

Mississippi Mills Packing & Shipping Rooms

Wesson, Copiah Co., MS

Brenda R. Crook

November 21, 1995

MS Dept. of Archives & History

First floor interior, view to south

Photo 4 of 4