

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Evergreen Plantation

AND/OR COMMON

Old Mullin Place

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Hardy Road 4 miles north of Grenada

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Grenada

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Mississippi

CODE

28

COUNTY

Grenada

CODE

043

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Jack and Mary Wallace Crocker

STREET & NUMBER

1713 32nd Street

CITY, TOWN

Lubbock

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE

Texas

79411

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Grenada County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Green Street

CITY, TOWN

Grenada

STATE

Mississippi

38901

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1975

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi

39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Evergreen Plantation house and four outbuildings are grouped symmetrically in a tree-shaded eight-and-a-half-acre yard enclosed by a fence and served by a circular drive which turns east off of Hardy Road approximately four miles north of Grenada and two miles from the extinct town of Troy, Mississippi. The fence along Hardy Road is of decorative cast iron, with a tripartite pedestrian and vehicular gate opening onto the drive at the center. The main house is a two-story, five-bay brick structure with a tin-sheathed gable roof, two stuccoed chimneys rising symmetrically from the ridge, a wood-bracketed plaster cornice, and matching two-story central porticoes on the east and west facades. The hip-roofed porticoes are surrounded by low brick steps and supported by square paneled brick columns which are reflected by pilasters. They shelter simple Greek Revival doorways with square-paned transoms and sidelights at both the first and second floor levels, decorative iron railings on the balconies, and a scored stucco wall covering on the primary (west) elevation. The segmental-arched windows are capped with a decoratively corbeled crown that is plastered on the facade examples. All windows contain the original double-hung, six-over-six wood sash, and most of the original louvred exterior blinds survive in place.

A brick walk surrounds the house, connecting it with two flanking one-story brick octagonal dependencies that reflect the overall design of the house with similar details such as tin roofs, bracketed cornices, corbeled chimney caps, and segmental-arched windows. Behind the house, two rectangular two-room outbuildings face each other across the yard. In spite of serious roof and wall damage caused by a fallen tree, an original mantel survives in one room of the north structure, the original kitchen building. The south rear dependency, which probably originally accommodated house servants, has been used as a garage in recent years. Other structures which originally stood on the Evergreen Plantation grounds included a lattice well house, which has been dismantled and stored on the property, and octagonal iron gazebos, which were removed from Evergreen by the youngest son of the builder to his home two miles away.

The interior of the Evergreen Plantation house reflects a simple center-hall plan, two rooms deep, on both floor levels. The plan and an elevation of the house appear in an 1862 catalogue of Buildings Furnished by Hinkle, Guild & Co., a Cincinnati, Ohio, architectural supply firm; and most of the interior millwork details can be traced to stock designs advertised in the same catalogue (see appendix). The eight major rooms each measure twenty feet square, with fourteen-foot ceilings, and a straight stair rises along the north wall of the center hall. The first floor hall and parlor (southwest room) contain the most elaborate millwork in the house. Architraves in the hall feature the Greek Revival crossette surmounted by a dentiled cornice, while the parlor examples are composed of tall pilasters supporting an entablature with a dentiled cornice and wide frieze. The parlor ceiling is ornamented with geometric designs executed with applied wood moldings. The house has eight fireplaces, originally served by six mantels of wood and two of cast iron. The wooden and one of the iron mantels, of simple pilastered Greek Revival design, survive in place. The more elaborate Rococo Revival cast-iron parlor mantel was removed in recent years. The original floors

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 checked="" 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

1855-59

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Evergreen Plantation is significant in the cultural history of north central Mississippi for several reasons. The Evergreen Plantation complex is unusual in that it is architecturally more academic than other plantations in the surrounding area, and is of brick construction in a region dominated by timber until the late nineteenth century. The house is architecturally important as the probable product of a known local architect, and as a documented instance of the use of prefabricated decorative building materials. Historically noteworthy as the ambitious home of a prominent early citizen of the Grenada vicinity, Evergreen continues to figure in the growth of that community as the subject of an exemplary private restoration effort now in progress.

Evergreen was built ca. 1855-59 for Robert Mullin (1818-1885), a native of Belfast, Ireland, who came to America as a child and first lived in Ohio and Kentucky. He was attracted to Mississippi in 1838 because the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek (1830) opened up the north central part of the state for settlement. Establishing himself as a tailor in the now extinct Yalobusha River town of Troy, he soon engaged in other business interests such as shipping cotton. Mullin married Mary Walton in May, 1843, and the couple eventually had nine children. According to an 1890 reference,

About 1859 [Mullin] purchased the place that he afterward named Evergreen plantation, consisting of twenty-two hundred acres of the choicest land in the county, and on this erected a large, two-story brick house, a very handsome and imposing structure. This building, standing on an elevation covered with magnolia and evergreen trees, commands a lovely view of the surrounding country and is picturesque in the extreme (Goodspeed 2:484).

A distinctive feature of the construction was the use of prefabricated finishing elements, such as the stairway, mantels, and possibly the doors with frames, which were obtained from Hinkle, Guild and Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. One source names John Moore, a local house carpenter, as designer and builder of the house (WPA records, Grenada County, p. 85). Moore, one of the earliest settlers in the area, is credited with the construction of at least three other Greek Revival houses in Grenada.

After the Civil War, Mullin established himself in Grenada as a successful businessman and community leader. In 1870 along with John Moore and sheriff L. French, he was commissioned to supervise the erection of a jail, and during an 1878 yellow

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1891. Pp. 483, 484.

Hinkle, Guild and Co.'s Plans and Buildings, Moldings, Architraves. . . . Cincinnati: Hinkle, Guild & Co., 1862.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8-1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	5
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7	9	2	0	7	5
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3	7	4	8	2	7	5
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ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

North half of Section 26, Township 23, ^{N1}Range 4 East. See attached sketch for boundary dimensions and buildings layout.

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

Mary Wallace Crocker, Associate Professor of Housing

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Texas Tech University

October 12, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1713 32nd Street

(806) 747-6566

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Lubbock

Texas 79411

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elmer B. Hilliard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

August 15, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 & 8 PAGE 1

7 - DESCRIPTION

throughout the house are of random-width pine boards, with a painted grain in some rooms. Alterations to the house have been minor, and all were effected in 1926, when narrow hardwood flooring was installed over the original floorboards in the first floor hall, the parlor, and the dining room; two bathrooms were installed by enclosing space in the southeast room on both floors; and a kitchen was created in a portion of the northeast room on the first floor. The Evergreen Plantation house and outbuildings have suffered some deterioration in recent years, but a complete restoration begun several years ago by the last owners will be carried to completion by the present owners, who plan to make Evergreen their home.

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

fever epidemic he was one of three citizens appointed to a relief committee to administer emergency services to the people and the town.

A fire in Grenada's central business district in 1884 destroyed many mercantile establishments, including Mullin's, but within a few months he had rebuilt. The editor of the Grenada Sentinel praised Mullin's enterprise:

If this community is indebted to any one man more than another for the renaissance, which has appeared in Grenada after a lapse of more than half a century, it is Mr. Robert Mullin. . . . His age and experience assure others, younger than himself, that he is a safe business man, and wherein he would lead in improvements, others might safely follow. That he had capital to make good his tastes and his pride in such buildings as would remain as mementoes to his enterprise, when he should have passed away (December 20, 1884).

Elsewhere in the same issue the editor commented that the buildings constructed by Mullin would "long stand as a material monument of his good taste and ambition. . . ."

We imagine this splendid building is simply the desire of his old age, to do something for the benefit of the people amongst whom he lived, worked, toiled with no stain to mar his escutcheon.

Mullin's youngest son, R. W. Mullin, married Effie Thomas in 1890, and in 1926 Evergreen Plantation passed to their only child, Mary. In July, 1974, the property was sold to Grady and Frances Green, who in turn sold Evergreen to Jack and

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 & 9 PAGE 2

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

Mary Wallace Crocker in June, 1976.

Evergreen Plantation is important as an architecturally significant house probably designed by a well-known local builder; as the home of a prominent citizen of the Grenada vicinity; and as a documented example of the widespread use of pre-fabricated decorative building materials in mid-nineteenth century America, particularly in regions of rapid growth such as the Old Southwest.

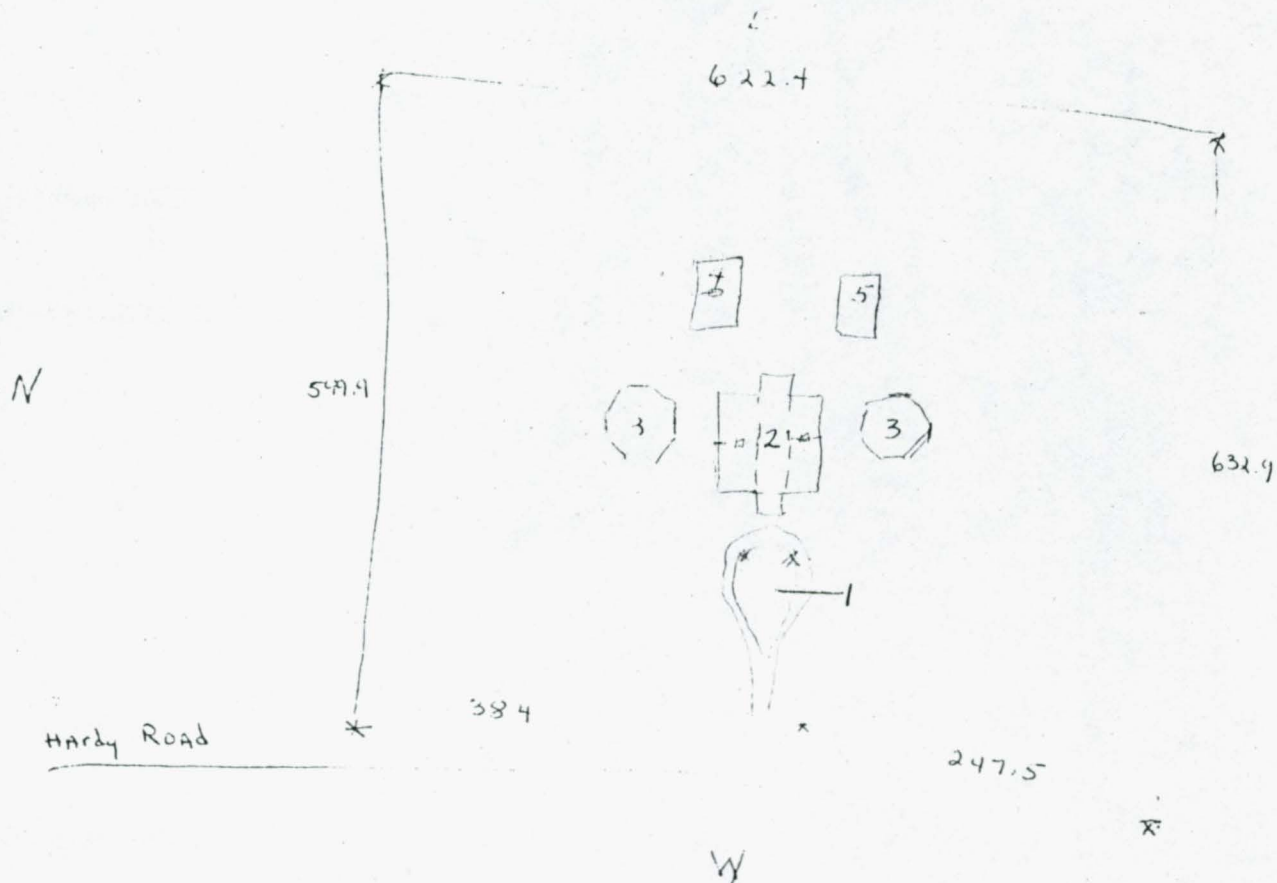
9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Grenada Sentinel. June 6, 1885; Dec. 20, 1884; July 18, 1891.

United States. Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules, Grenada County, 1850, 1860.

Work Projects Administration. Grenada County Records. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

SKETCH FOR EVERGREEN LAYOUT



KEY:

- 1-Circular drive that goes between house and 2 magnolia trees planted on mounds
- 2-Main House
- 3-Octagonal Dependencies
- 4-Kitchen
- 5-Two room building

Located approximately

- 4 miles north of Grenada
- 2 miles north of Troy
- 90 miles south of Memphis, Tennessee

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres enclosed by fence. Ten acres in total plot
 North half of Section 26
 Town 23N
 Range 4E

EVERGREEN PLANTATION
 Vicinity of Grenada, Grenada County
 Mississippi



PHOTO NO. 1 - EVERGREEN PLANTATION
Vicinity of Grenada, Grenada County,
Mississippi
Elizabeth P. Reynolds
Mississippi Department of Archives
and History
September, 1975
View of West (front) elevation



PHOTO NO. 2 - EVERGREEN PLANTATION
Vicinity of Grenada, Grenada County,
Mississippi
Elizabeth P. Reynolds
Mississippi Department of Archives
and History
September, 1975
Rear elevation, looking east



PHOTO NO. 3 - EVERGREEN PLANTATION
Vicinity of Grenada, Grenada County,
Mississippi

Elizabeth P. Reynolds
Mississippi Department of Archives
and History

September, 1975
View of stair and typical interior door
treatment, from southwest