HE NO UTM

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
Mississippi	
COUNTY:	
Claiborne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.11.28.0015	11/23/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Windsor Ruins

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Windsor

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
12 miles southwest of Port Gibson on State Highway #552.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	28	Claiborne	021

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☒ Other (Specify) None
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Thomas Daniell Magruder et al

STREET AND NUMBER:
900 Hickory Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
McComb	Mississippi 39648	28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of the Chancery Clerk, Claiborne County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Port Gibson	Mississippi 39150	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:	STATE:	CODE
Washington	District of Columbia	08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Claiborne
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
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

Windsor was in the raised Greek Revival style with fully finished basement, two residential floors, and an attic. Twenty-nine columns, thirty feet high with ten-foot paneled stucco plinths, supported the projecting roofline with its plain, broad frieze and molded cornice, providing protection for the galleries which encompassed the house at the second and third levels. The fluted stucco-over-brick columns had iron Corinthian capitals and were joined at the galleries by an ornamental iron balustrade. Three flights of iron stairs provided access to the raised second floor on the façade (west elevation) and on each side, and a fourth led up to the ell on the east. Fenestration in the main block consisted of floor-length windows on the residential stories and shorter ones in the basement, and spacing was symmetrical on all floors: four across front and rear and six on each side elevation. Doorways were centered and those on the second and third floors were formally treated with elliptical fanlights with radial muntins and rectangular panes in the side lights. A square-shaped cupola was centered atop the hipped slate roof, its glass walls recessed beneath extended eaves which were supported at the corners by three miniature Corinthian columns, reinforcing the stylistic impact of the main block below. The eight chimneys were uniformly simple stacks and, despite their number, a minimum intrusion on the temple effect.

Windsor contained a total of twenty-three rooms and three hallways, with the floor plan of the main block consisting of central hallways with three rooms (measuring approximately 19 feet by 20 feet) on each side. The basement was given over to such utilitarian functions as dairy, store rooms, commissary, schoolroom, and doctor's office. The second floor on the south side of the hall contained double parlors and the library, and on the north was the master suite: bedroom, study, and bath. The third floor consisted of bedrooms and a second bath, and both baths were supplied with rainwater piped from the attic, where it was stored in tanks eight feet wide, twenty feet long, and five feet deep. The basement floor of the ell contained the kitchen and the secondary stairs; the dining room, with pantry and dumb waiter, was located directly above; and on the third floor were three bedrooms. The interior features of Windsor included a spiral staircase offset in the rear of the hallway and twenty-five mantelpieces made of Georgia and Tennessee marble, as well as two marble bathtubs. Ebony-framed mirrors surrounded the dark marble of the library mantelpiece, and chandeliers, floor-to-ceiling mirrors, and red draperies lined with white silk were included in the decor of the parlors.

NATIONAL REGISTER 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* 1859-61

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The builder of Windsor, Smith Coffee Daniell, II, was born in Mississippi in 1826, the son of an Indian fighter turned farmer and landowner. His own holdings were so vast (eventually totaling 21,000 acres in Mississippi and Louisiana) that he studied law at the University of Virginia in order to better administer his estates. In 1849 he was married to his cousin Catherine Freeland (1830-1903), by whom he had six children, and in 1859 he began building Windsor. Basic construction was done by slave labor, and the 16-inch bricks for the walls were made at a kiln across the road from the house. Skilled carpenters were brought from New England for the finished woodwork, and the iron stairs, column capitals, and balustrades were manufactured in St. Louis and shipped down the Mississippi River to the port of Bruinsburg, several miles west of Windsor. Daniell died at age 34 on April 28, 1861, only weeks after completing his home at a cost of $175,000.00.

During the Civil War, Windsor reputedly was used as an observation post by the Confederates, who sent signals from its cupola across the Mississippi River to Louisiana. It is also said to have served as a Union hospital after the Battle of Port Gibson in May, 1863, its mistress having dissuaded Federal troops from burning it.

Windsor remained the home of the Daniell family until February 17, 1890, on which date a fire broke out after a house guest accidentally dropped cigarette ashes into debris left by carpenters making repairs to the third floor. All was destroyed except a few pieces of china and the columns, balustrades, and iron stairs (one flight of stairs and some sections of balustrade are now installed at the chapel of nearby Alcorn College). The property was inherited by a daughter of Smith Coffee Daniell, II, Priscilla (1850-1932), who had been married at Windsor on December 13, 1888, to Joseph Moore Magruder. It next passed to Priscilla's niece, Katherine Daniell Magruder, whose heirs were the present owners: Thomas Daniell Magruder, John Martin Magruder, Robert Walter Magruder, and Samuel Bertron Magruder. The family cemetery located a mile north of the ruins contains the graves of

NATIONAL REGISTER RECEIVED JUN 28

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Burning of the Daniell Residence." The Southern Reveille (Port Gibson, Mississippi). February 21, 1890. P. 3, column 2.

Office of the Chancery Clerk, Claiborne County Courthouse, Port Gibson, Mississippi. Will Books B, p. 302; 4, p. 25; 4, pp. 223-24.

Personal Inspection by Dawn Maddox, June 11, 1971.

Telephone Interview: Mr. Thomas Daniell Magruder, McComb, Mississippi, June 3, 1971.

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	°	'	"	°	'	"		31°	56'	27"	91°	08'	14"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.1 acres

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

RECEIVED JUN 23 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dawn Maddox, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE: June 17, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: Post Office Box 571

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson

STATE: Mississippi 39205

CODE: 28

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

R. A. McLemore

Title Director, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History

Date June 17, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A Connally

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

NOV 23 1971

Date

ATTEST:

William Murtagh

Keeper of The National Register

NOV 22 1971

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Claiborne	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71. 11. 28. 8015	11/23/71

(Number all entries)

8.
Smith Coffee Daniell, I, II, and III, their wives and a number of children, Catherine Magruder Skinner (grandmother of Smith II and his wife), and Frisby Freeland (Revolutionary War soldier and father of Catherine Freeland Daniell).

The original floor plans and only known photographs of Windsor were destroyed in the 1890 fire, but the appearance of the house has been reconstructed from data supplied by Smith Coffee Daniell, IV (1885-1970), grandson of the builder. Mr. Daniell, who was born at Windsor and lived there until it burned, presumably relied on his own recollections, family tradition, and his professional training as a civil engineer to produce a physical description and layout of the house. The material is deposited with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and no other primary documentation is known to exist. Of the twenty-nine original columns, twenty-two remain standing today, evoking the grandeur as well as defining the dimensions of what was the ultimate expression of residential Greek Revival architecture in antebellum Mississippi. In order to preserve the ruins, the Port Gibson-Claiborne County Historical Society sponsored in 1970 a stabilization program which included sandblasting, waterproofing, and removal of cedar trees which grew atop the capitals.

9.
United States Census, 1860. Claiborne County, Mississippi, Population Schedules.
"Windsor" Subject and Photograph Files. Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.
Works Progress Administration. "History of Claiborne County: Old Homes" (typescript). Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

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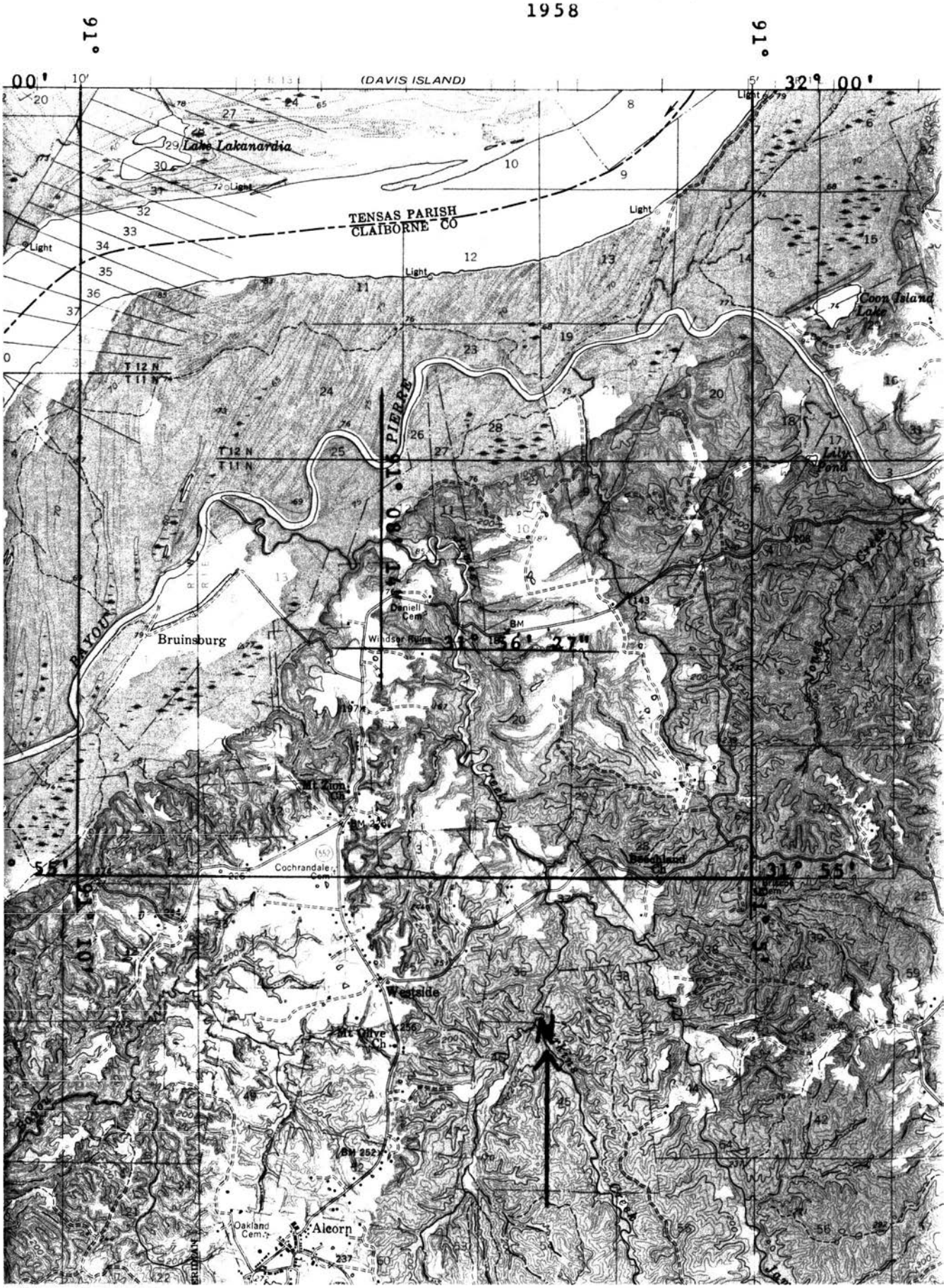
U.S.G.S. 15'
St. Joseph Quadrangle
Scale: 1:62500
1958



WINDSOR RUINS
12 MILES S.W. OF PORT GIBSON ON STATE HIGHWAY 552
COLUMNS OF FAÇADE AND SOUTH ELEVATION, LOOKING N.E.
JUNE 11, 1971

NPS Number 71.11.28.0015

Title: Windsor Ruins

Loc. Claiborne, Miss.

Columns of facade and south elevation

①

Photo By
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY
Box 571
JACKSON 5, MISSISSIPPI

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FLIGHT OF WINDSOR STAIRS AND PORTION OF BALUSTRADE AT ENTRANCE TO CHAPEL, ALCORN COLLEGE, LORMAN, MISS.

JUNE 11, 1971

NPS Number 71.11.28.0015

Title: Windsor Ruins

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	
Claiborne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.11.28.0015	11/23/71

MISSISSIPPI

JA

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Windsor Ruins

AND/OR HISTORIC: Windsor

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

12 miles southwest of Port Gibson on State Highway #552.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	28	Claiborne	021

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE OF PHOTO: June 11, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Post Office Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Flight of Windsor stairs and portion of balustrade at entrance to Chapel, Alcorn College, Lorman, Mississippi.

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Jacket 533-183 Illus No. 156A

Width 19½ picas Depth ~~8~~ 10 picas Focus 33½ %

☒ Sq. Ht. ~~[]Line []Comb. []Sil'te []Broad~~

WINDSOR RUINS

CLAIBORNE CO MISS

P.C. = MISSISSIPPI DEPT OF ARCHIVES + HISTORY

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number _____

Title: _____

_____

Loc. _____

_____

_____

6

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	
Claiborne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.11.28.0015	11/23/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Windsor Ruins

AND/OR HISTORIC: Windsor

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

12 miles southwest of Port Gibson on State Highway #552.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	28	Claiborne	021

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE OF PHOTO: June 11, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Post Office Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Columns of façade and south elevation, looking northeast.

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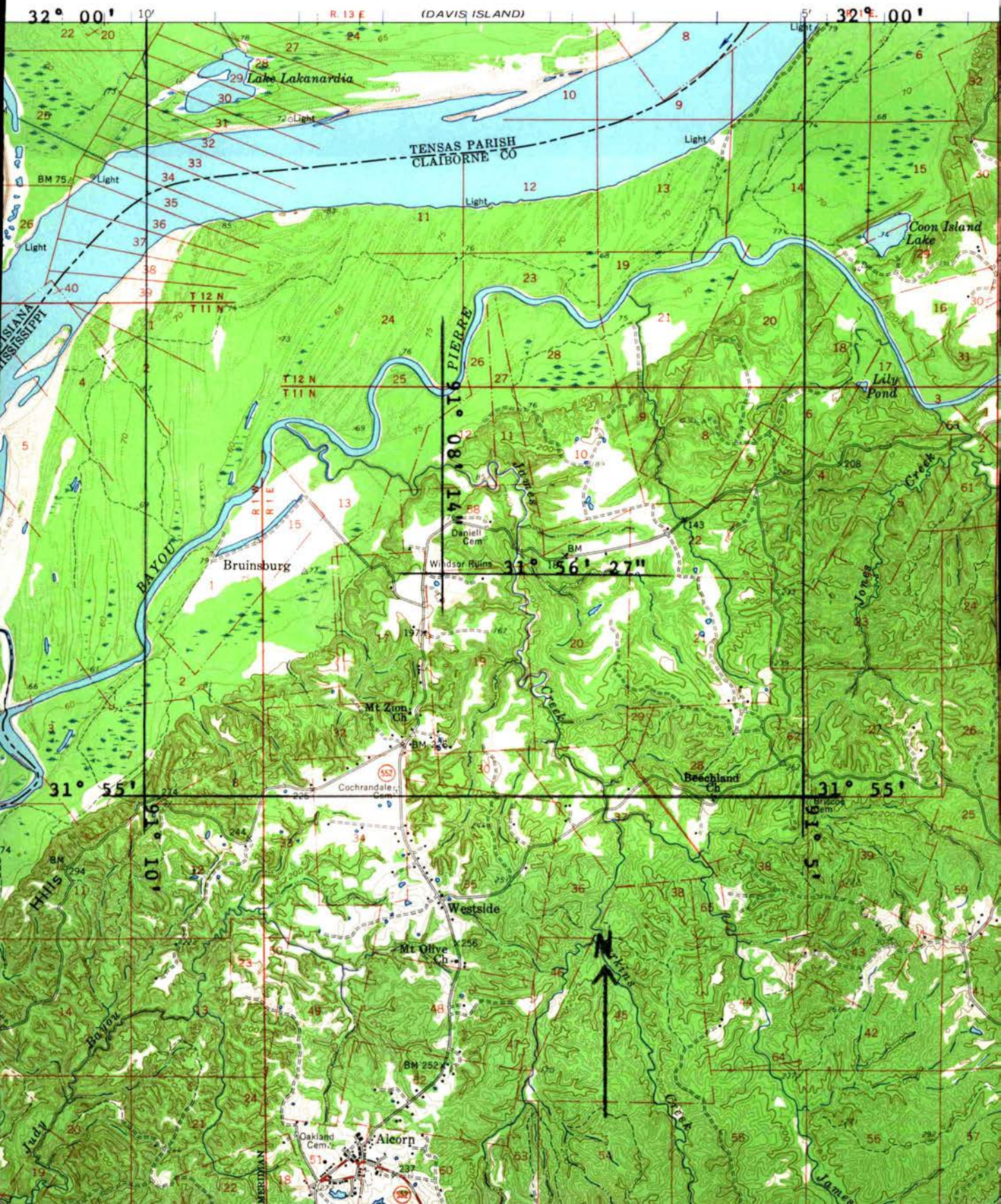
U.S.G.S. 15'
St. Joseph Quadrangle
Scale: 1:62500
1958



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Claiborne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71-11-28-0015	11/23/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Windsor Ruins

AND/OR HISTORIC: Windsor

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

12 miles southwest of Port Gibson on State Highway #552.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	28	Claiborne	021

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. 15' St. Joseph Quadrangle

SCALE: 1:62500

DATE: 1958

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property broundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

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NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ST. JOSEPH QUADRANGLE
MISSISSIPPI–LOUISIANA
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods and by planetable surveys 1958. Aerial photographs taken 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Mississippi coordinate system, west zone, and Louisiana coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

A portion of the Claiborne-Jefferson County boundary is indeterminate

TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH
6½°
APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1958

SCALE 1:62 500

1 ½ 0 1 2 3 4 MILES

3000 0 3000 6000 9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET

1 .5 0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETERS

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND BY THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, BATON ROUGE 4, LOUISIANA
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route — State Route

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JAN 23 1979
NATIONAL REGISTER

ST. JOSEPH, MISS.—LA.
N3145—W9100/15
1958

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2014

RECEIVED 2280
APR 16 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Supplemental Nomination
Windsor Ruins, Claiborne County, Mississippi

Administrative Information

Windsor Ruins was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 23, 1971. Forty years after Windsor Ruins' National Register listing, the accumulation of additional information about the property warrants this supplement to the original nomination. In the interim, archaeological studies investigated the mansion's footprint and the buried chain wall beneath the columns, a Civil War-period sketch of the house surfaced, and new information has come to light about preservation efforts at the site prior to acquisition by the Department of Archives and History. As may have been typical at the time of the original nomination, the sections on "Description" and "Significance" are very brief (1 page and 1.5 pages respectively). The purpose of this Supplemental Nomination is to update the National Register nomination to reflect the current status of data about this site.

Section 3. State/Federal Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ 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 _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national _X_ statewide ___local

3-24-2014

State Historic Preservation Officer **Date**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

_____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Section 7: Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, iron_____

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly

describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Windsor Ruins is located in southwestern Claiborne County, Mississippi, on Highway 552, approximately 14 miles west of Port Gibson. The setting is rural with mature vegetation. Twenty-three complete columns and 5 truncated columns outline the footprint of the Windsor mansion constructed during 1858-1861.

Narrative Description

Windsor Ruins is located in southwestern Claiborne County, Mississippi, on Highway 552, approximately 14 miles west of Port Gibson. Twenty-three complete columns and 5 truncated columns outline the footprint of the Windsor mansion constructed during 1858-1861. The mansion was oriented to face west, toward the Mississippi River, therefore, the present-day parking lot is adjacent to the front of the structure. The mansion originally comprised 29 columns. (One column on the north side was razed at ground level prior to state acquisition of the property.) Windsor burned in 1890, leaving the 23 columns standing. The truncated columns collapsed during or soon after the fire. The complete columns, brick construction with iron capitals, are 40 feet high and measure 3 feet 6 5/8 inches in diameter at the base. They stand upon paneled brick plinths 10 feet high and 4 feet 8 inches square, which in turn rest upon a below-ground brick chain wall 5-7 brick courses deep and 4.72 feet wide at the top. Due to weathering and early preservation efforts, patches of original plaster are missing from the columns, exposing the underlying brick. Sections of iron balustrade from the third floor gallery hang between some of the columns. A low-profile, wooden rail fence surrounds the columns, and signs warn visitors to remain outside the enclosure to avoid injury from falling debris. The property is adjacent to the Canemount Wildlife Management Area.

Section 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.)

[X] 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.

[X] 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.

[X] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture
Social History
Archaeology, Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Period of Significance
1859-1964

Significant Dates
1890

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

Windsor Ruins in Claiborne County, Mississippi, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places for statewide significance under Criterion A for association with Social History, Criterion C for association with Architecture and Criterion D for association with Archaelogy, Historic, Non-aborignal.

HISTORIC CONDITION

PHYSIOGRAPHIC SETTING

Windsor Ruins is located in Claiborne County, Mississippi, in the region known as the Petit Gulf Hills. This topographic feature is a part of the Loess Hills that form a distinctive physiographic zone in Mississippi extending from below the Natchez region north to the lower Yazoo River just north of Vicksburg, where the hills angle away from the Mississippi River toward the northeast and then north to form the eastern boundary of the Yazoo Basin. The Petit Gulf Hills are named for the Petit Gulf, which appears on French colonial maps of the region in the early 1720s marking a spot where the river's dynamics created a swirling current.[1] (Grand Gulf, a similar hydrological feature noted by the French, was about 10 miles north of Petit Gulf.) Today, Bayou Pierre flows out of the Petit Gulf Hills and enters the Mississippi River about 400 yards southwest of Windsor. James

Creek, a tributary of Bayou Pierre, flows north out of the uplands immediately east of Windsor. In the mid-nineteenth century, the Mississippi River's channel was closer to Windsor, occupying the approximate bed of the present-day lower course of Bayou Pierre. At that time, James Creek flowed directly into the Mississippi River near Windsor and Bayou Pierre's mouth was about five miles upriver.[2] (FIGURE 1)

EARLY HISTORY

Smith Coffee Daniell II, born in Mississippi in 1826, built the mansion he called "Windsor" during the years 1858-1861. Daniell, a cotton planter who owned approximately 21,000 acres in Mississippi and Louisiana, died in 1861, just weeks after taking possession of his new home.[3] The mansion comprised a main three-story block (ground floor and two raised stories) topped with a cupola or belvedere, with an attached three-story service ell that extended from the east side of the main block. With the exception of archaeological remains representing a probable smokehouse just east of the ell, dependency structures that supported the mansion have not been identified. Daniell family documentation indicates that outbuildings probably included a blacksmith shop, three steam gins, slave quarters, carriage house and stables, and various other utility buildings.[4]

The Daniells were part of a close-knit group of interrelated families, many of whose founding members had migrated to the Petit Gulf Hills from Maryland at the beginning of the Cotton Boom. The removal of the American Indian groups from the region, paired with the importation of enslaved African Americans from the former tobacco states, set up the conditions for fortunes to be made by Daniell and other cotton planters. The community of families that settled this area included the Daniells, Freelands, Magruders, and Skinners. Living in relative isolation, these families intermarried and consolidated their considerable holdings. In 1830, this community of cotton planters founded Oakland College (present-day Alcorn State University).[5]

Smith Coffee Daniell II constructed Windsor at a cost of approximately $175,000 using his own slave labor force, augmented by skilled carpenters and artisans recruited from Mississippi, Maryland, Massachusetts,

and New York, as well as from Europe. David Shroder of Maryland supervised the construction work. Shroder also supervised the construction of other mansions in the area, including Rosswood in Jefferson County. According to Mimi Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation director, Shroder's buildings combine an eclectic mix of Gothic, Italianate, and Greek architectural styles.[6] Although largely unheralded in documentation about Windsor's construction, the contributions of the enslaved African Americans who carried out most of the construction work must also be recognized. Apart from the nearby river port town of Bruinsburg, the closest significant settlement was Port Gibson, about 12 miles to the northeast along the Bruinsburg Road (present-day Highway 552). Windsor is approximately equidistant between Vicksburg, about 30 miles to the north, and Natchez, about 30 miles to the south.

WINDSOR DURING THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

General Ulysses S. Grant's invasion of Mississippi and subsequent campaign for the capture of Vicksburg began on the night of April 30, 1863, with a river crossing at Bruinsburg, less than two miles from Windsor. With the sudden arrival of 22,000 Union soldiers, the Daniell family found itself in the midst of what National Park Service Historian Terrence Winschel has called "the greatest amphibious military operation in American history up to that time."[7] According to family correspondence, General Grant set up temporary headquarters in the Windsor mansion and the army eventually confiscated the plantation's three steam gins along with 165 horses and mules, and burned 3000 bales of cotton. As the Vicksburg Campaign fighting intensified around Port Gibson, the Union army transformed Windsor into a field hospital treating between 400 and 500 wounded soldiers. Daniell's widow (and cousin) Catherine Freeland Daniell (1830-1903) and the couple's six children, along with several other family members, lived at Windsor at the time of the Union invasion. Although allowed to remain in the mansion, the family members had to relocate to rooms on the third floor while the hospital was active. According to Daniell family correspondence, an unknown number of Union dead were interred in the

grounds around Windsor.[8]

The Daniell family remained at Windsor during the Reconstruction years following the conclusion of the Civil War. Correspondence indicates that the family members quickly became accustomed to a less extravagant lifestyle. They derived income through the leasing of part of their land and managed to raise cotton. Approximately 150 former slaves remained at Windsor after the War, working for wages. Although "Yankee adventurers" occasionally made life difficult for the Daniells, Eliza M. Ross (Smith Coffee Daniell II's maternal aunt) was able to write in 1871 that, despite the hard times and lack of money, life was still "very comfortable."[9] In 1868, Catherine Daniell married Dr. William G. Williams, formerly of Pennsylvania, who practiced medicine in the nearby town of Rodney.[10]

The extended family's life in the c. 17,000-square-foot mansion ended abruptly on February 17, 1890, when an accidental fire destroyed the main block and ell. The cause of the blaze is not known, but according to family tradition the fire started in the cupola or attic. Apparently no one was injured and family members dispersed to live with relatives.[11] Following the fire, twenty-three of the original twenty-nine columns remained standing with their iron capitals more or less intact. (Note: In her 1971 nomination, Maddox stated mistakenly that twenty-two complete columns remain standing.) The upper sections of the other six columns apparently fell with the burning building leaving truncated lower sections and plinths. A few sections of cast iron balustrade at the upper gallery level remained attached to their column anchors. The cast iron stairway from the ell was removed from Windsor Ruins sometime between 1890 and 1912 and installed at Oakland Chapel on the campus of nearby Alcorn State University, formerly Oakland College.[12] The whereabouts of the other three cast iron stairways is not known. Port Gibson resident R. L. Ritchey, who assisted with the cleanup of the Windsor site in the early 1970s (see below) suggested that the stairways may have been sold for scrap iron.[13] Priscilla Daniell (the builder's daughter, 1850-1932) married Joseph Moore Magruder and inherited Windsor following the death of her mother. The property remained in the Magruder family until its donation (1.84 acres) to the State of

Mississippi in 1974.[14] At this time, Windsor Ruins came under the administration of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

EARLY PRESERVATION EFFORTS

In 1970 the Port Gibson – Claiborne County Historical Society in cooperation with the Magruder family attempted to preserve the columns by "sandblasting, waterproofing, and removal of cedar trees atop the capitals."[15] This effort included painting patches of exposed brick with watered-down Portland cement in an effort to protect the columns from weathering. Unfortunately, the Portland, being much harder and more impermeable than the bricks and original lime and sand mortar, has trapped moisture within the bricks causing deterioration and spalling of the brick faces. Another attempt at protecting the columns prior to state acquisition, however, has proven to be much more successful. Convex concrete caps were applied on the tops of the twenty-three remaining column capitals, effectively keeping rainwater from entering the column interiors.[16] Endeavoring to clean up the site before state acquisition, the Magruder family removed the fire debris from within the column enclosure using a front-end loader and backhoe, and piled the debris material a few yards north of the columns.[17] Perhaps to create an additional opening wide enough to bring the heavy equipment inside the column enclosure, one of the column bases on the north side was razed at ground level, resulting in the present configuration of twenty-three complete and five partial columns.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY ADMINISTRATION

Soon after state acquisition, the Department of Archives and History contracted with the firm John Milner Associates, Inc. to conduct an archaeological study of the mansion site. The resulting report, *A Final Report on Archaeological Investigations, Historical Research, and Architectural Analysis for Windsor Ruins Historic Site, Claiborne County, Mississippi*, provides a baseline analysis of the lost mansion's footprint (FIGURE 2). The

Milner report demonstrates the potential for retrieving archaeological information from the ruins, despite the disturbance caused by the removal of the fire debris. The state-owned property adjacent to the mansion site (approximately 1.74 acres) has not been investigated archaeologically. This property has the potential to yield important archaeological information about dependency structures associated with the mansion and about the Union army's occupation and use of the house in 1863. As discussed above, Daniell family correspondence indicates the possible presence of Union soldiers' graves in the vicinity of the mansion.[18]

When the State of Mississippi acquired the Windsor property, the site included an abandoned three-room, wood frame house, possibly a tenant house, located beside the cistern on the north side of the column enclosure. The date of the tenant house's construction is not known; Milner and Associates personnel examined the house and found that it might have been built before the 1890 fire, noting that main house debris scavenged after the fire had been used in repairs to the tenant house, but apparently not in its initial construction.[19] By the mid-1990s, the tenant house was beginning to collapse and was demolished in 1996.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

All of the known architectural drawings and photographs of Windsor perished in the 1890 fire. As a consequence, reconstructions of the mansion's appearance were based upon written descriptions until the discovery of a Civil War-era sketch of Windsor (Figure 3). The house was one of only a few antebellum Southern mansions incorporating a peripteral (continuous) colonnade encompassing most of the structure. The visual effect of Windsor's twenty-nine Corinthian columns must have been impressive. A person approaching Windsor from the Bruinsburg Road would have beheld a grand façade, with as many as seventeen of the columns visible at once. The elegant cast iron stairways would have augmented the building's temple-like appearance and provided a pedestal effect. Existing examples of peripterally colonnaded houses include Dunleith (twenty-six columns, c. 1855-1857) at Natchez (the sole remaining peripterally colonnaded house in Mississippi) and Oak

Alley (twenty-eight columns, 1848) at Vacherie, Louisiana. Both Dunleith and Oak Alley are constructed in the Doric order in contrast to Windsor's more elaborate Corinthian style.[20]

The remarkable discovery in the early 1990s of a Union soldier's 1863 sketch of Windsor (FIGURE 3), done during Grant's Vicksburg Campaign invasion, reveals some of the house's exterior details while bringing other architectural elements into question. Jennifer Baughn, Chief Architectural Historian for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, described the sketch as follows:

> "While not the work of a professional, the drawing clearly indicates a number of important characteristics of Windsor that were previously unknown. Showing the familiar massive columns atop their paneled bases and topped by lightly sketched capitals, the drawing also reveals that the house was much more eclectic and flamboyant than expected. Composed of a rectangular block and a rear service wing, and encircled by a peripteral two-tiered gallery supported on massive fluted Corinthian columns atop paneled pier bases, the house was further heightened by a pyramidal roof--probably of tin--accentuated by an octagonal belvedere topped by what appears to be a flared pyramidal roof. On the drawing, the balustrade encircling the house at both levels appears to be simple with straight wooden balusters, in contrast to the lacy ironwork so familiar in the ruins. Windows on the [main] floor – flat-headed as would be expected in the Greek Revival style – appear to stretch to the floor level, providing easy access to the porch from every room in the house. Surprisingly, the sketch indicates that the [third] floor windows had round heads – an Italianate detail – and further that the belvedere windows had the pointed heads of the Gothic style. The cornice itself displays a combination of styling, with what appears to be a classical dentil course above a cornice of brackets or modillions that is more Italianate in its character. Chimneys that look stuccoed and paneled in a similar way to the column piers pierced the roof on both the side slopes of the main block and on the porch slope of the rear wing."[21]

Perhaps the most striking thing about the 1863 sketch is the absence of the two south exposure exterior cast iron stairways. The artist's attention to other details while omitting these important architectural components is puzzling. The Milner report's measured drawing of the Windsor floor plan indicates four exterior stairways and shows stone footing supports where the stairways would have rested upon the ground (FIGURE 2). According to the Milner report, the exterior stairways varied in width: west (front) 17 feet 6 inches; main block north and south 13 feet; and ell south 14 feet 3.5 inches.[22] Part of the stone footing supports for the north side stairway are visible today, although the stone supports for the west stairway appear to have been lost during site development. A sunken farm road running parallel with the south line of columns is close enough to the south side of the ruins to have obliterated traces of the footings for the two south exposure stairways. The farm road presumably developed in the early twentieth century after the removal of the stairways.

That twenty-three of Windsor's columns remain standing one hundred and fifty years after their construction is a testament to sound engineering in their design and execution. The six partial columns all collapsed during or shortly after the fire that destroyed the house, perhaps pulled down by falling roof beams. There is no evidence suggesting that any columns have fallen since 1890. By the time of Windsor's construction, the structural requirements for brick column design were well established. The enormous columns (40 feet high and measuring 3 feet 6 5/8 inches in diameter at the base) stand upon paneled brick plinths 10 feet high and 4 feet 8 inches square, which in turn rest upon a below-ground brick chain wall 5-7 brick courses deep and 4.72 feet wide at the top. The sides of the chain wall are stepped out in pyramid fashion to a base width of 6.89 feet. Under each column, the chain wall expands to accommodate the dimensions of the plinth bases.[23] The below-ground footing is critical for structural stability, since each column (including capital, column, and plinth) weighs an estimated 49,200 pounds (24.6 tons).[24] Each iron capital weighs approximately 1,200 pounds and is comprised of numerous interlocking parts including a two-piece cap (upon which rested the entablature lintel

supporting the roof), a multiple-piece decorative floral urn, and a notched base ring. The base ring notches served as the template for the fluting that extended the length of the columns.[25]

Windsor's main three-story building was square in plan view, measuring 64 feet 2 inches on each side. The service ell measured 59 feet x 26.5 feet. The galleries on the main block and ell were approximately 9 feet deep. The Milner archaeological report provides information about the building's ground floor layout, with a central west-east hallway flanked by three rooms on the north and south sides (FIGURE 2). At ground level, the load-bearing brick walls of these rooms were approximately 18 inches thick and the inner and outer surfaces of the walls were covered with a layer of stucco. The brick flooring was also covered with stucco. Where the flooring covered the chain wall, the bricks were mortared in place. Elsewhere, the floor bricks were installed without mortar. The interior flooring bricks were laid in simple side-by-side and end-to-end patterns directly on the clay ground surface, which had been leveled and prepared prior to construction. Where the floor extended under the galleries, the brick paving pattern changed to herringbone, extending to the outer edge of the column bases. The central hallway was approximately 16 feet wide. The excavations showed that the size of the rooms decreased from west to east, with the two west rooms measuring 23 feet x 21.5 feet and the two east rooms measuring 16 feet x 21.5 feet. The service ell had two ground floor rooms, with the west room measuring 31 feet x 23 feet and the east room measuring 21.5 feet x 23 feet. These load-bearing ground floor walls reveal the approximate configuration of the rooms on the second (main) and third floors. The construction material for the walls above the ground floor is not known. The upper walls may have been brick, but Townsend et al. note the possibility of wood framing in the upper walls. The type of wood used is also speculative; however, the archaeologists recovered a small section of charred cypress tongue-in-groove flooring in the excavation of the north gallery. The piece may have come from the second floor gallery. Whatever their composition, the upper wall exteriors were probably covered in stucco. The archaeologists also located the brick footings for chimneys centered along the north and south walls of the six main block rooms. The two ground floor rooms in the ell each

had somewhat more substantial chimney footings along the north wall, with the fireplace in the east room having possibly served as a bake oven. All chimneys were recessed into the walls to present a smooth, uncomplicated exterior surface adjacent to the columns.[26]

There was no archaeological evidence for the locations of interior staircases. For these and other interior details, we must rely on a floor plan sketch of the house's layout based upon a description by Smith Coffee Daniell IV, which appeared in a 1974 *Clarion Ledger-Jackson Daily News* article (FIGURE 4). According to Daniell, who lived in the house as a child, a circular staircase on the second floor at the east end of the central hallway provided access to the third floor. A kitchen occupied the service ell's ground floor. An enclosed staircase at the eastern end of the ell connected the kitchen to the dining room. Daniell indicated that a dumbwaiter also connected the kitchen and dining room. In the main block, the ground floor included a school room, doctor's office, dairy, commissary, and two storage rooms. On the second or main floor, accessed by gallery stairways, the rooms included two parlors, a bedroom, study, library, and bathroom. The third floor was comprised of five bedrooms and a bathroom. Three bedrooms occupied the ell's third floor above the dining room, giving Windsor a total of nine bedrooms.[27]

Daniell's recollection of interior bathrooms on the second and third floors is corroborated by the archaeological study. The Milner archaeologists found evidence of an elaborate drainage system (FIGURE 2), a part of which apparently carried sewage away from the house. At the northwest corner of the ell, two vertical drains emptied into a horizontal brick box drain that ran along the base of the north side of the ell and emptied into an arched culvert at the northeast corner of the ell. The culvert extended twelve feet to the north to discharge into an open wooden trough that angled away to the northeast, extending some forty feet into a field. These two drains may have serviced the second and third floor bathrooms, which Daniell's floor plan shows in the northeast corner of the main block. In a similar drain complex at the southeast corner of the ell, two apparent sewage drains emptied into a brick box drain extending northward along the base of the east side of the ell to join the

other box drain at the northeast corner of the ell and empty into the aforementioned arched culvert. These last two drains may indicate a possible servant's bathroom in the east end of the ell (Daniell's floor plan does not show a bathroom in this area) or perhaps the drains were for the removal of kitchen refuse. Each of the two drain complexes also incorporated a single downspout for rainwater. The downspout associated with the drain complex at the northwest corner of the ell emptied into a buried brick box drain, which ran into the cistern located approximately 15 feet north of the ell. Another downspout at the northeast corner of the main block also fed into this cistern. A rainwater downspout leading into the drain complex at the southeast corner of the ell emptied into a buried brick box drain that fed a cistern located some 25 feet southeast of the southeast corner of the ell. The archaeologists also uncovered a buried box drain that apparently carried overflow from the north cistern to the arched culvert at the northeast corner of the ell.[28]

For the operation of indoor toilets, which were not uncommon by the middle of the nineteenth century, the plumbing system would have relied upon gravity to bring water into the bathrooms and subsequently carry refuse further down into the house's drainage system. This indicates the likely presence of a rainwater holding tank in the upper part of the house. As noted above, at least part of the rainwater runoff from the Windsor roof was captured by the drains leading to two cisterns. Other roof drains may have been designed to bring rainwater into a holding tank beneath the roof. In Maddox's 1971 nomination, she states that the bathrooms "were supplied with rainwater piped from the attic, where it was stored in tanks eight feet wide, twenty feet long, and five feet deep." Although the statement isn't footnoted, she probably learned this from Thomas Daniell Magruder, whom she interviewed in 1971. Aside from the attic, another possible location for the holding tank (or tanks) was within the cupola or belvedere. J. L. and Mary Ritchey stated that Smith Coffee Daniell IV told them the cupola was an open-topped cistern, apparently disguised to appear as a cupola or belvedere when viewed from ground level. In her reconstructive oil painting of Windsor, done in consultation with Daniell, Mary Ritchey depicts the cupola as a square or rectangular structure with no visible roof (FIGURE 5). Unfortunately, Daniell's floor plan

does not include the cupola or any indication of the use of space above the third floor.[29] Adding to the mystery surrounding Windsor's appearance, the faux rectangular cupola depicted in Mary Ritchey's painting is strikingly different from the roofed cupola in the 1863 sketch. Also of interest with regard to the cupola, the Milner archaeologists found pieces of miniature iron capitals matching the larger capitals atop the columns. Townsend et al. speculate that these small capitals sat atop miniature columns supporting the cupola roof.[30]

WINDSOR IN PHOTOGRAPHS AND MOVIES

Any discussion of Windsor Ruins would be incomplete without mention of the site's appearance in two major motion pictures: "Raintree County" (1957, starring Montgomery Clift and Elizabeth Taylor) and "Ghosts of Mississippi" (1996, starring Alec Baldwin, James Woods, and Whoopi Goldberg). The lost mansion's solemn grouping of columns, standing forty feet high in eerie isolation, has also inspired legions of professional and amateur photographers. Perhaps the first serious photographer to capture Windsor Ruins on film was the writer Eudora Welty, who visited the site on a winter day in 1942. Among the shadows playing across the dirt road in the foreground is Welty's own silhouette. (FIGURE 6)

CURRENT CONDITION

The twenty-three complete columns and five partial columns of Windsor Ruins are in guardedly stable condition. Although the columns have stood since the 1890 fire, enduring tropical storm force winds on numerous occasions, moisture and other effects of weathering have caused deterioration in the brick and mortar. Large areas of the original fluted plaster are missing from the brick columns and from the plinths. Attempts by a local historical group to waterproof some of the exposed brick using Portland cement resulted in trapped moisture that has damaged some of the columns' exterior bricks. A preliminary structural study carried out in 2009 led to the initiation of a more thorough analysis of the columns by the Department of Archives and History in 2012.[31]

The composite cast iron column capitals, though weathered, are only minimally affected by rust. Most of

the column capitals are missing some of their ornamental pieces, in part due to past growth of vegetation sprouting from seeds in bird droppings. The expansion of the roots and stems of these plants forced pieces of the capitals to become dislodged. To keep this damage at a minimum, the Department of Archives and History hires a bucket truck crew to inspect the capitals on an annual basis to remove any plants beginning to sprout. The placement of convex concrete caps on the column capitals in 1970 by the previous owner effectively sealed the column tops and has been a major factor in the preservation of the columns thus far.

Endnotes

[1] Anonymous map [ca. 1720]: *Carte du cours de la rivière du Mississipi depuis les Illinois jusqu'à son embouchure*. (HMC Karpinski series F 05-1-2. Bibliothèque nationale de France, Département des cartes et plans, Ge DD 2987, 8819 B).
[2] Cross et al. *Atlas of Mississippi* pp. 5-6; Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 1, 5.
[3] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 5, 11, 14.
[4] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 14, 52-57, 83, 84, Appendix A "Inventory of the Estate of Smith Coffee Daniell II." In 2012, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) acquired the property surrounding Windsor Ruins, creating an opportunity for an archaeological survey to locate the mansion's outbuildings. The MDWFP property includes the Freeland/Daniell Cemetery, which is located on one of the Indian mounds in the Windsor mound group, approximately 800 yards north of the Ruins.
[5] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 5, 8, 9.
[6] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* Figure 20; Mimi Miller personal communication 6/2/2010.
[7] Winschel *Triumph & Defeat* 57-58.
[8] Letter transcript from E. M. Ross, January 25, 1867 (Eliza Magruder Skinner Ross, sister of Smith Coffee Daniell II's mother Priscilla) in Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 9, 14, "Appendix A"; Maddox *Windsor Ruins*. Presumably, the Union burials at Windsor were later reinterred in national cemeteries such as the ones at Natchez and Vicksburg. Maddox *Windsor Ruins*.
[9] Letter transcripts from E. M. Ross, July 9, 1867; July 25, 1868; September 4, 1871 in Townsend et al. *A Final Report* "Appendix A."
[10] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 11, 23.
[11] Maddox *Windsor Ruins*; Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 24-25.
[12] Adams *Historic Structures Report* 1; Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 75.
[13] R. L. Ritchey, personal communication 8/26/2010.
[14] Maddox *Windsor Ruins*.
[15] Maddox *Windsor Ruins*.
[16] The name "Fred Masterson" and partially legible date "1/?/1970" were inscribed in the wet concrete of

one of the column caps, providing a general date for this work.
[17] R. L. Ritchey, personal communication 6/11/2010. Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 49.
[18] Winschel *Triumph & Defeat* 57-58. Letter transcript from E. M. Ross, January 25, 1867 (Eliza Magruder Skinner Ross, sister of Smith Coffee Daniell II's mother Priscilla) in Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 9, 14, "Appendix A."
[19] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 85.
[20] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 37, 71, 72. The mansion known as "The Forest," located approximately five miles south of Natchez, was probably the earliest peripterally colonnaded mansion in Mississippi. Constructed c. 1816, The Forest burned in the mid-1850s. Todd Sanders personal communication 3/14/2011 and 3/16/2011.
[21] Jennifer Baughn, personal communication 6/15/2010. R. L. Ritchey reports that, if Windsor had a tin roof, no trace of it remained among the house rubble in the early 1970s. Personal communication 8/26/10.
[22] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 46, 73, 75.
[23] Hahn, *2013 Archaeological Investigations at Windsor Ruins.*
[24] Estimate of column weight is from Walsh "Ruins of Windsor Engineer's Report" Calculation sheet 2.
[25] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 78, Figure 21; Walsh "Ruins of Windsor Engineer's Report" Calculation sheets 1 and 2.
[26] Hahn, *2013 Archaeological Investigations at Windsor Ruins* 9; Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 37, 40, 42-43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 73, 75, 78. An oil painting by Port Gibson resident Mary Ritchey (see FIGURE 5), done in consultation with Smith Coffee Daniell IV, indicates the presence of only four chimneys in the main building, while the Milner archaeology revealed footings for six chimneys in the main building. One further note about the chimneys: In her description of the 1863 sketch, Baughn notes the chimneys (three of them) shown on the ell roof's south exposure, a detail that is contradicted by the Milner archaeological report, which revealed that the ell chimneys were on the north wall and would have protruded from the roof's north exposure. Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 49.
[27] McIntire "Windsor Castle Recalled."
[28] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 45, 48, 50, 52, 58, 78, 80, Figure 11.
[29] R. L. and Mary Ritchey, personal communication 6/11/2010; Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 80.
[30] Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 76.
[31] Davidson *Windsor Ruins Historic Structures Report*; Maddox *Windsor Ruins.*

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Cross, Ralph D., Robert W. Wales (eds.), Charles T. Traylor (cart.) *Atlas of Mississippi* (University Press of Mississippi, Jackson 1974).

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Letter: Lt. George Smith to Hattie Smith, (Camp between Port Gibson and Black River, Mississippi) May 6, 1863. Collections of Al Nummer, Reno, Nevada, reproduced in part in Townsend et al. *A Final Report* 20. McIntire, Carl "Windsor Castle Recalled" (*Clarion Ledger-Jackson Daily News*, May 18, 1974).

Maddox, Dawn *Windsor Ruins National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* [listed 11/23/1971] (National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior 1971).

"May 1st 1863 Residence Near Bruinsburg [sic] Miss." (Sketch by Union soldier Henry Otis Dwight, 20th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on file in the Archives Library, Mississippi Department of Archives and History).

Townsend, Alex H. et al. *A Final Report on Archaeological Investigations, Historical Research, and Architectural Analysis for Windsor Ruins Historic Site, Claiborne County, Mississippi* (Prepared for the Department of Archives and History, State of Mississippi by John Milner Associates, Inc., August 1978).

Walsh, John "Ruins of Windsor Engineer's Report" (Draft manuscript on file, Mississippi Department of Archives and History 2010).

Winschel, Terrence J. *Triumph & Defeat: The Vicksburg Campaign* (Savas Beatie LLC, New York 2004).

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
_X_ 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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 021-ALC-1001 NR ML_____

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property _____2.1_____

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 31.859167 Longitude: -91.130278

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is the legal description of the Windsor Ruins property owned by the State of Mississippi and administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, described as follows:
Beginning at the most southwesterly column of said Windsor Ruins, go S89°28'W for 27.0 feet to the point of beginning. From said point of beginning go S68°40'E for 220.0 feet to a concrete monument; thence go N21°25'E for 365.1 feet to a concrete monument; thence go N68°40'W for 220.0 feet to a concrete monument; thence goS21°25'W for 365.1 feet to a concrete monument and point being the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is the legal description of the Windsor Ruins property owned by the State of Mississippi and administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: James F. Barnett, Jr.
organization: Mississippi Department of Archives and History
street & number: 400 Jefferson Davis Blvd.
city or town: Natchez state: MS zip code: 39120
e-mail jbarnett@mdah.state.ms.us
telephone: 601-446-6502
date: 1/24/2014

Windsor Ruins
Google earth

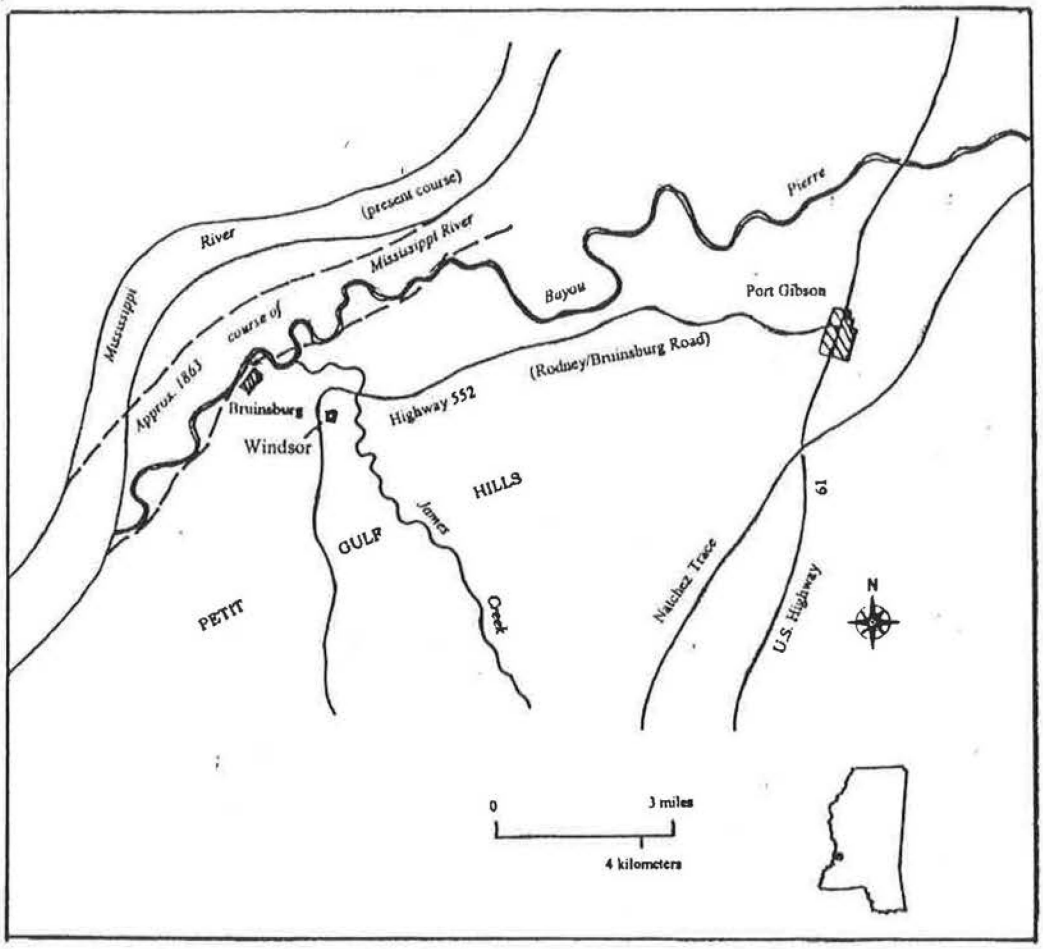


FIGURE 1. The Windsor Ruins area.

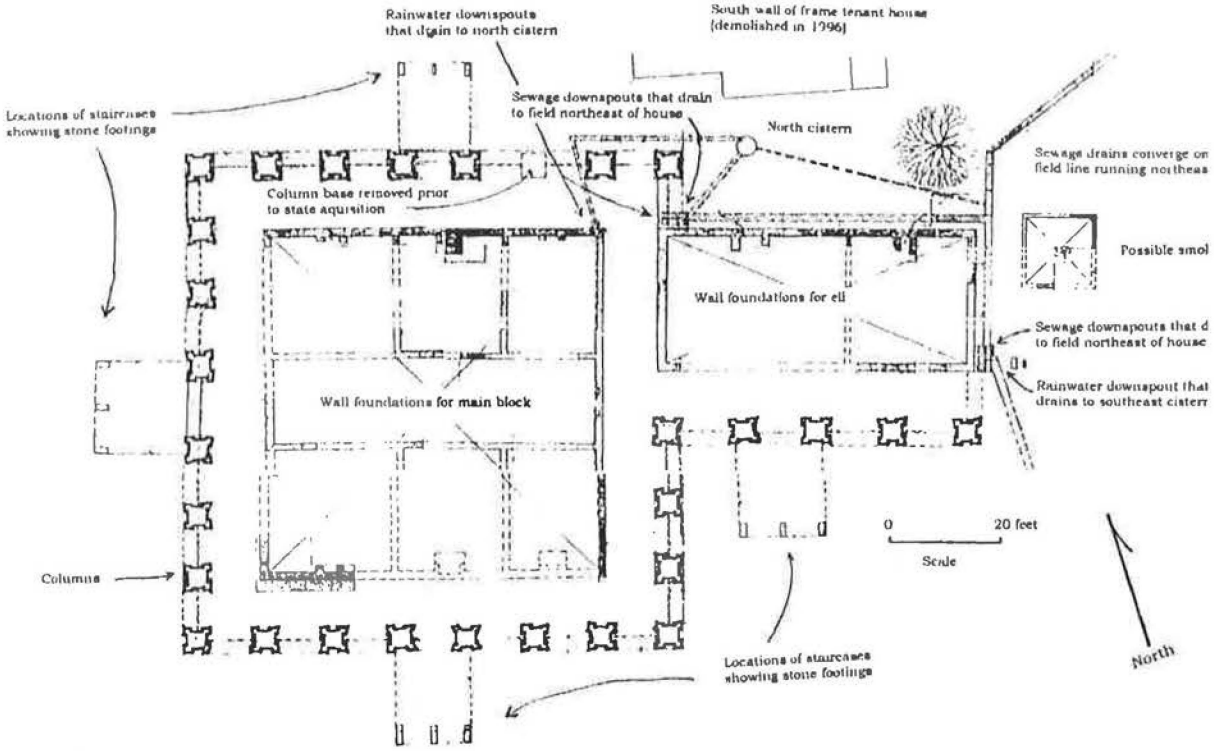
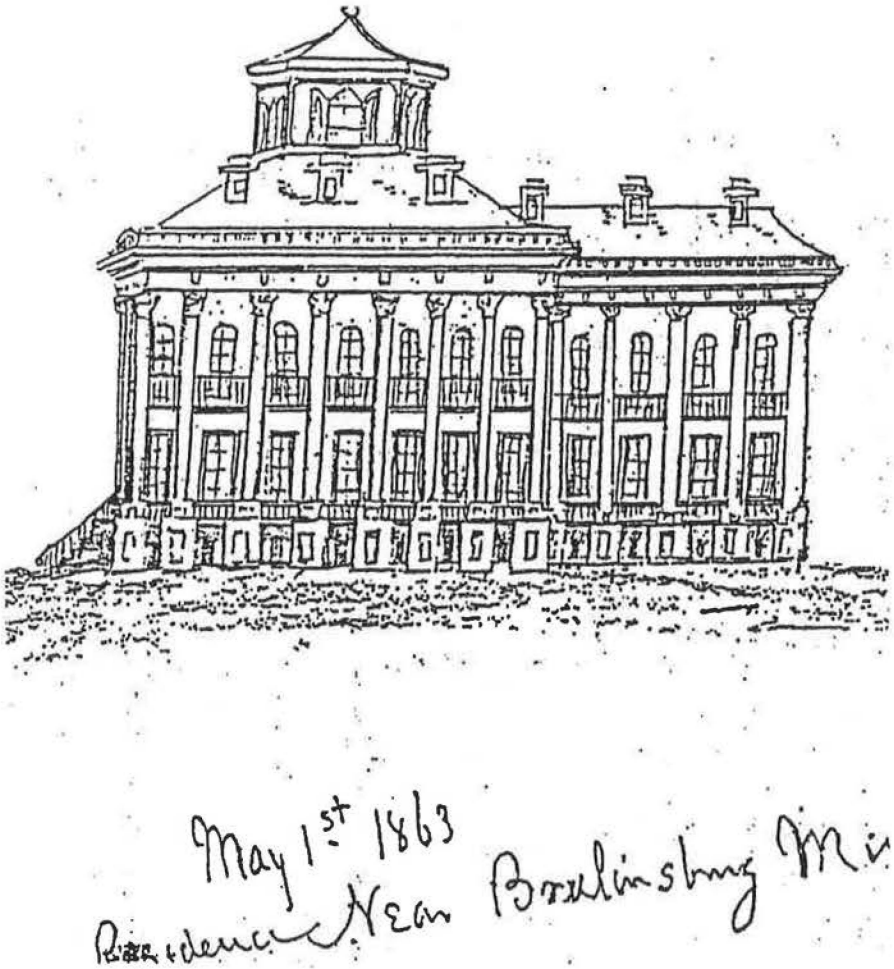
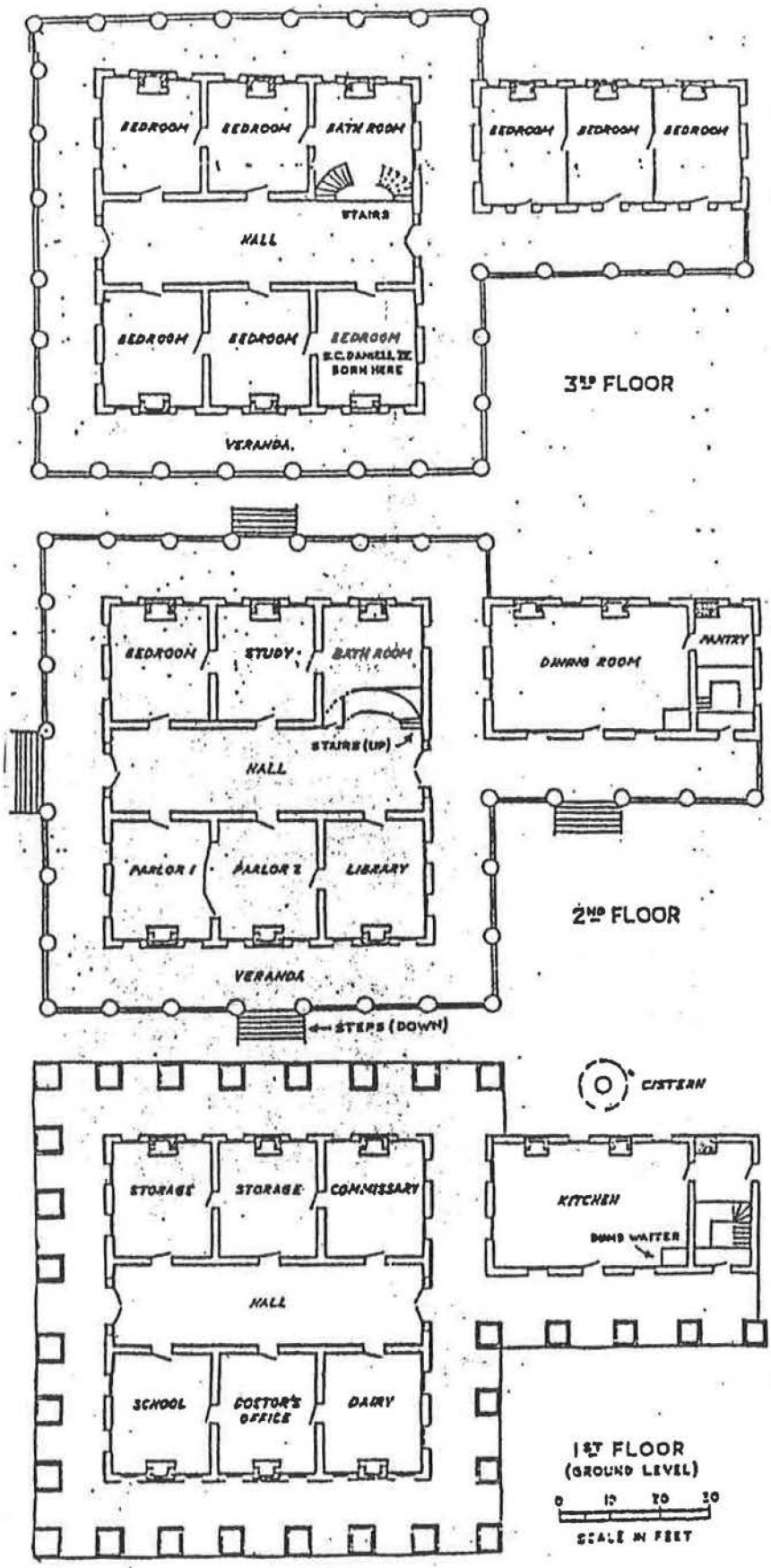


Figure 2. Windsor Ruins architectural plan based upon Townsend et. al.



:ch of Windsor by Union Soldier during Grant's Vicksburg Campa.
Mississippi Department of Archive:

Figure 3



FLOOR PLAN OF WINDSOR as drawn by Smith C. Daniell, IV, from memory and from measurements made of the ruins. The original plans were burned when the house was destroyed. The first floor was at ground level. There was a smaller fourth floor which contained only a ballroom, never finished and above this was the observation tower.

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Windsor Ruins

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MISSISSIPPI, Claiborne

DATE RECEIVED: 4/16/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/02/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 71000447

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 6.2.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE ___ DATE 6.2.14

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.
Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

71000447

Windsor Ruins

RECEIPT PROPERTY Claiborne Co. STATE Miss

REGISTER NUMBER

DATE OF RECEIPT 6/28/71	YES	NO	NUMBER	
DATA PAGE	✓		2	71.11.28.0015 11/23/71
PHOTO (S)	✓			
PHOTO DESCRIP (S)	✓			
MAP (S)				
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)	✓		1	
LOGGED	✓			
ACKNOWLEDGE 6/28/71				

2-24-72

RESUBMIT

OK Henuk 7/28/71

REVIEW I like these as ruins only, not anything more. means 9/15/71 OK S Marvin 7/28/71

HISTORIAN as ruins OK 9/15/71

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT Maybe, but I'm not convinced by this form. Chambers 9-15-71

ASST. KEEPER The claim is that it was the "ultimate" of this type architecture in antebellum Mississippi. OK Mullen 19 Nov

KEEPER Acceptable as an architectural ruin By Mullen: Perhaps ruin should be a type in #8? 11/22/71

ENTRY

CHIEF, OAHP EHC 11-23-71

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR ok CD 8/9/71

HABS, '36

Date

Federal Register Entry 1-4-72

Annual Edition Entry

Logged 11/23/71

Card 11/23/71

WORKING NUMBER 6.28.71.1

COMMENTS:

RECEIVED JUN 28 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Charles H. Griffin

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
P. O. BOX 571
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

R. A. McLEMORE, PH.D., LIT.D.
DIRECTOR

June 17, 1971

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
801 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

We are pleased to enclose, herewith, the necessary nomination forms, maps, and photographs for the Windsor Ruins, Claiborne County, Mississippi.

The Windsor Ruins were approved for nomination by our Professional Review Board at its meeting on October 14, 1969. This site is located in the 3rd Congressional District, Congressman Charles H. Griffin.

We trust that you will find the enclosed forms in order and will let us hear from you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

R. A. McLemore

R. A. McLemore
State Liaison Officer

RAMcL:sm

Enclosures

RECEIVED
JUN 28 1971
NATIONAL REGISTER

JUN 28 1971

2

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MISSISSIPPI

Date Entered NOV 23 1971

Name	Location
Windsor Ruins	Claiborne County
Springfield Plantation	Fayette vicinity Jefferson County
Big Black River Battlefield	Smith's Station, Hinds County Bovina, Warren County

Also Notified

Hon. James O. Eastland
Hon. John C. Stennis
Hon. Charles H. Griffin

Director, Southeast Region

State Liaison Officer
Dr. R. A. McLemore
Director
State of Mississippi
Department of Archives & History
Post Office Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

HR

MCMeans:mm 11/23/71

TELEPHONE REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT: Windsor Ruins

~~TO~~/FROM: Clay Barksdale DATE: 10-2-78

ADDRESS: Cong. Conklin office (Miss.) PHONE: 225-5865

STAFF MEMBER: Joy Bush DIVISION:

REPORT:

They want to know what percentage of State and for Federal funding available for preservation — stabilization
development
acquisition

(with regard to Windsor Ruins — a listed property)

[note NR file has "FUNDED" stamped on it.

10:20 called him back — told him SHPO handles funding — gave Wm. Allen's number in Miss SHPO.

TELEPHONE REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT: Windsor Ruins

~~To~~/FROM: Carlton Smith DATE: 10-11-78

ADDRESS: Harvard, Mass. PHONE: 617 work 271-2246 home 456-8693

STAFF MEMBER: Joy Bush DIVISION: NR

REPORT: He called to communicate his concern about the Windsor Ruins – he visited there and found no protective measures - gate open, no guard, etc. He was very upset - wrote to Cong. Cochran (who called a few weeks ago to NR – we told them to speak to SHPO. Cochran's office recommended he talk to us. He (Smith) has written letters to some Civil War magazines – expects a major public uproar shortly. Smith wants controlled access to area at least - if nec., want it made a National Historic Site via Fed. legislation. Told him I'd call him back.

Talked to Carolyn Pitts – site is not NHL

Called Smith back - said input most effective at State level - he was already planning to write that SHPO.
Told him I would file ~~his~~ the record of his call.

Ben -

I'd like your opinion on these vis-à-vis our Criteria and the areas of significance which they have checked.

These ruins are well known, often figure in "Holiday Magazine - Deep South" type publicity, etc., and may well be locally significant.

But - I think there are many other houses still standing in the state which show the same associational values and architectural styles. Somehow this doesn't convince me as much as Rosewell (which was THE grandest Colonial Georgian house) or the Wade Hampton House ruins in S. Carolina - where the form emphasized the value of the ruins per se, not what the bldg had been.

Dr. Murtagh

Al's point is valid of selecting best antebellum house in the South. This is certified to be best (even though ruined) in Miss.

Bob

FY 1972

CODING PROBLEM SHEET

State Name MS County Name CLAIBORNE Resource Name WINDSOR RUINS

Multiple Name

Reference No. 71000447 Certification Date 11-23-71

Problem Field:

- ___ Owner
- ___ Resource Type
- ___ No. Contrib./Non-Contrib. Resources
- ___ Historic Function/Historic Sub-function
- ___ Current Function/Current Sub-function
- ___ Level of Significance
- ___ Applicable Criteria
- ___ Criteria Considerations
- X Area of Significance
- ___ Period of Significance
- ___ Architect/Builder/Engineer
- ___ PR Level Information
- ___ Cultural Affiliation
- ___ Architectural Style
- ___ Construction Materials
- ___ Acreage
- ___ UTM Coordinates
- ___ Other

Solution:

Too little remains of building to code architectural significance.

Coding Problem Team: O'Donnell Date: 8/27/86 NR Staff: Date:

Data Collector's Explanation of Problem:

NOT SIGNIFICANT FOR MILITARY OR ARCHITECTURE. MILITARY ASSOCIATION IS MINOR AND SPECULATION. THERE IS NO ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCE! I GAVE IT SOCIAL HISTORY (IT MAKES [redacted] MORE SENSE THAN ARCHITECTURE)

no architecture, no social history.

Data Collector: REDMOND Today's Date 3-18-86 D.R. Corrected yet for BRZ Date 9/3/86

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT-IN-AID ACTION

Do Not Use This Space

1. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER: 75022402

2. *(Reserved for use by State central information reception agency)*

3. GRANTOR: a. Federal agency: Department of the Interior

b. Organizational unit: National Park Service

c. Administering office – (1) Name: Division of Grants

(2) Address – Street or P.O. Box: 18th and C Streets NW. | City: Washington | State: DC | Zip Code: 20240

4. FEDERAL AGENCY GRANT IDENTIFIER: a. Code: 28-75-00052-00

b. Title: Windsor Ruins Development, Phase I

c. Purpose: Archeological investigation to determine location of outbuildings, gardens and landscaping features. Historical research concerning physical history of house and property.

5. GRANTEE: a. Name: Mississippi Mr. Elbert Hilliard, Dir., State of Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History

b. Address – Street or P.O. Box: Post Office Box 571 | City: Jackson | State: Mississippi | Zip Code: 39205

6. GRANTEE TYPE *(Check only the single most applicable box)*

a. State	b. Inter-state	c. County	d. City	e. School district	f. Special unit	g. Community action	h. Sponsored organization	i. Other
XX								

7. APPLICATION RECEIPT DATE Year	Month	Day	8. ACTION DATE Year	Month	Day	9. EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE Year	Month	Day	10. ENDING DATE Year	Month	Day
75	03	18	75	03	31	75	03	31	78	03	30

11. TYPE OF ACTION *(Check as many boxes as apply to this action)*

a. New grant	b. Continuation grant	c. Supplemental grant *(identify agency in item 16)*	d. Change in existing grant (1) Increase in duration	(2) Decrease in duration	(3) Cancellation	(4) Increase($)	(5) Decrease($)
XX							

12. AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

a. Federal – (1) basic	(2) Supplemental	b. State	c. Local	d. Other
$ 12,500	$	$12,500*	$	$

13. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM *(if none, clarify in item 16)*

a. Program Number: 15.904

b. Supplemental Program Number:

14. AUTHORIZATION

a. Federal Budget Accounts	10-58-1040-0-1-405		
b. Public Laws	PL Title Sec. 89 665	PL Title Sec.	PL Title Sec.
c. U.S. Code	16 U.S.C. 470		

15. FACILITY LOCATION: *(For facility grant actions only)*

a. City: 12 mi. sw of Port Gibson on Mississippi 552

b. County: Claiborne

16. REMARKS

*donated property

Prepared by Ralph E. Thomas 523(139)-5054

STANDARD FORM 2
June 1970 Bureau of the Budget Circular A-98
240-101

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY REPORT
REFERENCE No.: 71000447 Control No.: 860318\BRZ

PROPERTY NAME: Windsor Ruins

OTHER NAME/ SITE No. : NOT APPLICABLE

MULTIPLE NAME: NOT APPLICABLE

ADDRESS/ BOUNDARY : 12 mi. SW of Port Gibson on MS 552

CITY: Port Gibson VICINITY

COUNTY: Claiborne STATE: MISSISSIPPI

Restricted Location Information: Owner: PRIVATE Resource Type: SITE

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	0	0
Sites	1	0
Structures	0	0
Objects	0	0

Nomination/Determination Type: SINGLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT Nominator Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Federal Agency: NOT APPLICABLE

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER Date: 11/23/71

Other Certification: NOT APPLICABLE

Historic Functions: DOMESTIC

Historic Subfunctions: SINGLE DWELLING

Current Functions: LANDSCAPE

Current Subfunctions: UNDERWATER X

Level of Significance: STATE LOCAL Applicable Criteria: EVENT

military

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Periods of Significance: 1850-1874 Circa: Specific Sig. Years: 1859 1860 1861

Architect/Builder/Engineer/ Designer: NOT APPLICABLE

Cultural Affiliation: NOT APPLICABLE

Other Documentation: NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A HAER No. N/A

Architectural Styles: NOT APPLICABLE

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: INAPPLICABLE
Wall Materials: INAPPLICABLE
Roof Materials: INAPPLICABLE
Other Materials: STUCCO IRON

Acreage: 2.1

UTM	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
Coordinates:	01/	/9 99 999/	/99 99 999	15/	/6 76 079/	/35 35 204

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT *of* ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

MDAH

PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6850 • Fax 601-576-6975
mdah.state.ms.us
H.T. Holmes, Director

April 14, 2014

RECEIVED 2280
APR 16 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Paul Loether
Program Director, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are pleased to enclose the nomination form and supporting documents to nominate the following properties to the National Register of Historic Places:

Windsor Ruins Supplemental Nomination, Alcorn vic, Claiborne County 71000447

The property was approved for nomination by the Mississippi National Register Review Board at its meeting on March 20, 2014.

We trust you will find the enclosed materials in order and will let us hear from you at you convenience.

Sincerely,

HT Holmes

H.T. Holmes
State Historic Preservation Officer

By: William M. Gatlin

National Register Coordinator