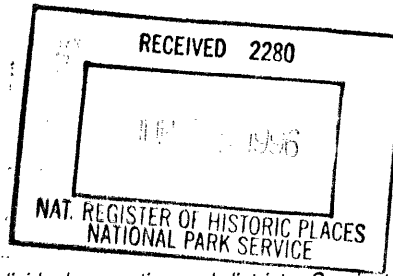


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 *How to 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 Taborian Hospital

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number U.S. Highway 61 at McGinnis Street n/a  not for publication

city or town Mound Bayou n/a  vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Bolivar code 11 zip code 38762

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.)  
Kenneth H. P. Pool JUNE 20, 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 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 8-1-90  
Entered in the National Register

Taborian Hospital  
Name of Property

Bolivar County, Mississippi  
County and State

**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.)

n/a

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

n/a

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Health Care/hospital

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in use

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Art Deco

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

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)

Health/Medicine  
Ethnic Heritage/Black

**Period of Significance**

1942-1946

**Significant Dates**

1942

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

**Cultural Affiliation**

n/a

**Architect/Builder**

McKissack and McKissack

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Taborian Hospital  
Name of Property

Bolivar County, Mississippi  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 2.1 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	5	7	1	0	2	5	0	3	7	5	0	9	7	5
Zone			Easting					Northing						

3 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

4 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michelle Weaver/Architectural Historian

organization Mississippi Department of Archives & History date March 8, 1996

street & number Post Office Box 571 telephone 601/359-6940

city or town Jackson state Mississippi zip code 39205

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name I.O.O.T. Knights & Daughters of Tabor, Inc. (K.H. Smith - Chief Grand Mentor)

street & number Drawer 169 telephone 601/741-2181

city or town Mound Bayou state Mississippi zip code 38762

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Taborian Hospital

Mound Bayou, Bolivar County, Mississippi

Section number 7 & 8 Page 1  
7 - Description

Facing west, on the edge of the downtown area of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, the Taborian Hospital is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of United States Highway 61 and Mc Ginnis Street. Built between 1941 and 1942, the hospital is a one-story, Art Deco-style, irregularly-massed, brick building. The roof is obscured by a parapet wall capped by cast-concrete coping and the roof-line is pierced by a large smokestack. Poured, concrete belt-courses also run the perimeter of the building both above and below the windows on all elevations of the building. Some original, metal awnings remain over the window openings. The structure rests on a concrete foundation.

The western (main) elevation of the building is U-shaped with two wings extending toward the west. The facade is approached by a concrete walkway which leads to a central, semi-circular portico with a stepped Art Deco cornice. The original entrance under the portico is obscured by plywood sheets, although the original, metal, double-leaf doors are intact underneath. Windows on the primary facade are three-over-three, double-hung, metal sash. The placement of the windows on the facade is symmetrical from the portico with three grouped windows, two ganged windows, and one single window. The extending wings have five, ganged windows on the facade which are filled with eight-over-eight, double-hung, wooden sash. Both the interior and exterior elevations of the ells have two windows which are ganged, containing the same sash configuration as the facade, and four single windows which are filled with three-over-three, double-hung, metal sash.

The eastern elevation of the building has a central and northern projecting ell. This elevation has few openings, but ganged, casement windows are located on the northernmost ell, although they are obscured by plywood. A few small, casement windows are found on the eastern and northern elevations. Doorways on all elevations are filled with metal, flush doors.

The hospital is divided into multiple rooms according to past function and need. The two ells on the western facade are large rooms, with summer porches on the westernmost ends. The ells on the eastern elevation housed the cafeteria in the southern ell and the operating room in the northern ell. All other rooms are divided into smaller spaces. The interior walls are finished in plaster, the ceilings with dropped tiles, and the floors with asbestos tiles.

The Taborian Hospital in Mound Bayou retains a great degree of its original architectural integrity. There have been no significant modifications to the building since its completion in 1942. The building has been deserted since 1985.

**8 - Statement of Significance**

The Taborian Hospital, circa 1942, is locally significant under Criterion A for its role in Health and Medicine in the African American community of Mound Bayou. The period of significance extends from 1942, the year the hospital was opened to the public, to 1946, fifty years from this date. The building was constructed by the Knights and Daughters of Tabor, a fraternal organization headquartered in Mound Bayou, to tend to the medical needs of African Americans in the Mississippi River Delta.

Mound Bayou was founded in 1887 by former slaves as an example to other African Americans in the South of the benefits and rewards of self-determination and self-government. This society developed independently and offered its citizens the benefits of full participation in the social, economic, and governmental aspects of the community. Service organizations were gaining in strength across the nation at this time, and the Knights and Daughters of Tabor was a strong and influential group in the black community.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Taborian Hospital

Mound Bayou, Bolivar County, Mississippi

8, 9 &amp; 10 2

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

As the Order grew in number and strength, the members began to wish for a Temple in which to house their headquarters. However, at the same time, the leaders of the group realized the plight of the black inhabitants of the Delta, and their increasing need for good medical care in the segregated South. A vote was taken of all the members, and the overwhelming result endorsed the building of a state-of-the-art hospital in Mound Bayou.

Construction of the Taborian Hospital was undertaken by McKissack and McKissack Construction Company of Nashville, Tennessee, a black owned and managed construction company. Work began on the hospital in 1940, and the building was opened to the public on February 12, 1942. Fully certified by the State Department of Health and the Mississippi Commission on Hospital Care, the hospital had modern equipment and competent doctors in residence. The facility could easily minister to fifty-two patients, and many more in emergency situations. It was the only hospital in the Mississippi River Delta that served African Americans without prejudice for many years, and continued to serve the rural populace even after legal segregation was abolished.

The Taborian Hospital functioned until 1982, when a number of state hospitals were closed due to lack of accreditation and the concentration of doctors in larger and more modern hospitals in urban areas. The Knights and Daughters of Tabor still own the building and are currently exploring adaptive reuse of the structure.

**9 - Bibliography**

Historic Resources Inventory Files. Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi  
Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Mississippi Landmark Files, Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi  
Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Site visits, August 10 & October 26, 1995, by Michelle Weaver, Architectural Historian,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

**10 - Geographical Data****Verbal Boundary Description**

A certain tract of land, being part of the southwest 1/4 of Section 33, Township 24 North, Range 5 West, Bolivar County, Mississippi, described as: Beginning at a point on the eastern boundary line of the right of way of U. S. Highway No. 61, said point being 113 feet east and 8 feet north of an iron stake, which marks the southwest corner of Section 33, Township 24 North, Range 5 West, Bolivar County, Mississippi, and run thence north 1 degree 30 minutes west along the eastern right of way line of said U.S. Highway No. 61 for 300 feet; thence east for 312.0 feet to the east line of gravel drive; thence S 1 degree 30 minutes east along the east edge of said gravel drive for 305.35 feet; thence north 89 degrees 00 minutes west for 312.05 to the point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Taborian Hospital in Mound Bayou, Mississippi.