United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name				
historic Finlay House				
and/or common same	as above			
2. Location				
street & number 137 N	orth Poplar	Street	N/ <u>/</u>	A not for publication
city, town Greenville		N/A_vicinity of	congressional district	Second
state Mississippi	code	28 county	Washington	code 151
3. Classifica	ation			
object in pro	c te cquisition	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agricultureX commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
street & number P. 0.	Box 1083	N/A vicinity of	state	Mississippi
5. Location	of Lega	l Descripti	on	
courthouse, registry of deed		ce of the Chancer ington County Cou	•	
street & number	900	Washington Avenue	2	
city, town	Gree	nville	state	Mississippi
6. Represen	tation i	n Existing	Surveys	
title N/A		has this pr	operty been determined ele	egible? yes $rac{X}{}$ no
date		W-12	federal stat	e county loca
depository for survey record	ls .			
city, town			state	

7. Description

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on the eastern side of Poplar Street not far from the downtown commercial area of Greenville, the Finlay House is a two-story, frame, Italianate townhouse set upon a low-brick foundation and topped by a hipped roof with wide bracketed eaves. The three-bay westerly facade, finished in matched boards, is fronted by a double-tiered gallery cut under the front slope of the roof. The gallery is supported by wooden box columns which features molded capitals topped by elongated brackets on the second-story level. The columns are linked on the second-story level only by a jigsaw balustrade. The windows of the facade are floor-length and filled six-over-nine, double-hung sash except in the southernmost bay of the first story where an original window has been converted to a door. All other original windows of the house are filled with six-over-six, doublehung sash. Formerly, though not thought to be original, a straight stairway ran diagonally across the facade. Access to the interior is provided through a transomed doorway with molded four-panel door that is located in the northernmost bay of the facade and a matching doorway on the second-story level provides access to the second-story gallery.

The unfinished upstairs rooms are reached by an outside stairway on the south elevation. This exterior stairway was added after the 1981 move in compliance with the city fire code. The Finlay House has been moved three times. It was first moved to 706 Central (old numbering system) in 1887 when Washington Avenue was becoming the business district. Twenty years later the house was moved to 111 Shelby Street. Though the building had been vacant for several years, the present owner moved the house in 1981 to its present address. A new small one-story addition with hipped roof has been added to the rear of the house. This addition is connected to the original house by an enclosed breezeway.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		literature military music : philosophy	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Specific dates	ca. 1872	Builder/Architect R.	N. Johnson, builder	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The present town of Greenville, Mississippi, was incorporated in 1870, and the Finlay House is considered to be the earliest surviving residential structure in the town. The old town of Greenville, which is five miles south of the present town, was burned during the Civil War. The Finlay family were early settlers of Greenville and were instrumental in laying out the plans for the new town. The Finlay House was constructed prior to 1873 and is illustrated in an 1873 map of the town. Furthermore, this building is one of only two buildings illustrated that still survive today. Although altered and relocated three times (1887, 1908, 1981), the house is the only representative of the Italianate style in the community. The exterior integrity of the building is good, but the interior of the building has been altered considerably since the house was converted into apartments in the late 1930s. The Finlay House has remained vacant for several years and was deteriorating until 1981 when the present owner moved the house several yards to face Poplar Street. This move has placed the building less than half a block from its original location. Furthermore, the move has insured that the building will be preserved.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Papers of the Washington County Historical Society, 1910-1915. Published by Mississippi Archives and History. Jackson, Miss., 1954, pp. 273-74. **Geographical Data** 10. Acreage of nominated property <u>less than one</u> Quadrangle nameGreenville, Miss.-Ark. Quadrangle scale 1:24000**UMT References** Verbal boundary description and justification See attached xerox of city tax map with nominated property outlined in red. property is located on map #59-19. List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state code N/Acounty code state code county code Form Prepared By name/title Clinton I. Bagley, Research Consultant N/A organization date January 5, 1982 street & number P. O. Box 1332 (601) 332-7956 telephone city or town state Greenville Mississippi **State Historic Preservation Officer Certification** The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: X local national state 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. State Historic Preservation Officer signature Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer April 6, 1982 title date

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Finlay House, Washington County, Continuation sheet Mississippi

Item number

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9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stockwell, Eunice Collection. Newspaper Abstract for Greenville Times, July 9, 1887. W. A. Percy Library. Special Collections. Greenville, Miss.

Thirty Ninth Anniversary Edition, Greenville Times. Office Supply Company. Greenville, Miss. 1970.

Washington County. Deed Books S and T2. Greenville, Miss.

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