

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0689491

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 6 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 16 1978

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
Glenburnie
AND/OR COMMON
Glenburnie

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
551 John R. Junkin Drive
CITY, TOWN
Natchez
STATE
Mississippi

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fourth

___ VICINITY OF

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
Mississippi 28 Adams 1

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Tony Byrne
STREET & NUMBER
551 John R. Junkin Drive
CITY, TOWN
Natchez
STATE
Mississippi 39120

___ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Adams County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Square
CITY, TOWN
Natchez
STATE
Mississippi 39120

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Survey of Historic Sites
DATE
1976
___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
CITY, TOWN
Jackson
STATE
Mississippi 39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Glenburnie is a single-story hip-roof frame residence with an undercut gallery along the facade (south elevation). The house is enlarged with a two-room gable-roof extension along the west elevation.

The seven-bay facade of the hip roof section is stuccoed and scored. A central frontispiece entrance features symmetrical architraves and an elliptical arch and fanlight. The undercut gallery is supported by Tuscan columns and framed by a balustrade with a central stair. Six-over-six windows have blinds and simple enframements. The four-bay east elevation is clapboarded and is extended to the north with a flat-roof bathroom addition. The north (rear) elevation features a three-bay inset gallery with a full-length, squared multi-paned window in the first bay.

Along the south and west elevations of the gable-roof extension is an undercut gallery with a turned balustrade and Tuscan columns supporting a dentiled cornice. The two-bay north and south elevations have six-over-six windows, while the six-bay west elevation (facade) has full-length six-over-nine windows enriched with architraves. A projecting pediment with dentiled cornice and semicircular window is centered on the facade, underscored by the frontispiece entrance with an elliptical arch and fanlight.

The interior of the hip roof section features double parlors with identical Ionic-columned mantels and plaster ceiling cornices; a centerpiece is also in the south parlor. A prominent entranceway between the two rooms echoes the symmetrical architectural design of the entrance. A library and dining room on the west side and the two chambers on the east side have flat architraves with molded backbands and pilastered mantels. Library and dining room mantels are detailed with egg and dart molding on the pilaster caps. The two-room gable-roof addition contains a modern kitchen on the north side and a long "trophy room" with a pilastered, dentiled-cap mantel on the south side.

A single-bay gable-roof frame outbuilding is located approximately thirty feet north of the house, and a larger five-bay guest house (former dairy) is to the northeast. Two wellheads, bricked and stuccoed, are located approximately fifteen feet north of the house. The densely wooded lot, resplendent with live oaks, is soon to be landscaped.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Glenburnie is a locally significant example of the merging of two architectural styles: the late Federal and the Neo-Colonial. The original ca. 1833 residence incorporates such Adamesque details as elliptical arches and classically inspired Tuscan columns reminiscent of Jeffersonian porticos, while the 1901 addition features the gabled and pedimented forms of the Georgian Revival. In the 1930s the property was the subject of national publicity in connection with the murder of the owner, a member of families long prominent in Natchez history.

The parcel of land which formerly comprised the Glenburnie estate was originally part of a tract of 918.98 acres acquired by Adam Bingaman from the Spanish government on May 15, 1789 (Certificate A-319). Upon the sale and division of the land, approximately twenty-two acres were acquired by John Linton. The parcel remained intact for over 100 years and became known as Glenburnie.

On December 29, 1828, the Glenburnie tract was purchased from John Linton by Halsey Townsend, judge of probate for Adams County. His deed, the earliest extant, describes the property as

bounded on the north by Auburn, the seat of Stephen Duncan, Esq., on the east by a branch of St. Catherine's Creek known by the name of Muddy Bayou which separates this tract from the land of Adam Bingaman, Esq., on the south by a line parallel with the northern boundry [sic] and five chains distant from it and on the west by lands belonging to the heirs of the late Winthrop Sargeant (Deed Book R:110).

This same property was sold on May 23, 1833, by Townsend's widow to Mrs. Frances Elizabeth Kempe Sprague (Deed Book U:153). It is thought that the original section of the Glenburnie house was built during her ownership. Architecturally, the section does date from the early 1830s; additional evidence that Frances Sprague constructed a residence is provided by her sale of the estate in 1850 to her son-in-law, Josiah Winchester, for \$9000 (Deed Book HH:175).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Adams County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books R, U, HH, KK, QQ, 3A, 3R, 3T, 3Z, 5A. Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Microfilm.

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. 2 vols. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891, I:1021.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.65

QUADRANGLE NAME Natchez

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 6,5,2,6,1,5 3,4,8,9,8,8,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Tract III of Glenburney in Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi, as shown on map thereof recorded at Plat Book 8, page 15 in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Adams County, Mississippi (originally containing 4.954 acres, more or less, LESS AND EXCEPT 0.3098 acres,
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Norman Chronister, Research Assistant
Jack A. Gold, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE October, 1978

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 571

TELEPHONE 601-354-7326

CITY OR TOWN Jackson

STATE Mississippi 39205

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Elmer R. Hilliard

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE November 1, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u>[Signature]</u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>12.19.78</u>
ATTEST: <u>[Signature]</u> CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	DATE <u>11/19/78</u>

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 & 9 PAGE 1

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

Between 1854 and 1899, Glenburnie had five successive owners (Deed Books KK:268, KK:269, QQ:394, 3A:304, 3R:265). During this time no apparent alterations were made to the house. In 1901 the property was purchased by Henry G. Buckley, who built the Neo-Colonial extension west of the original structure (Deed Book 3T:694).

On December 8, 1904, Buckley sold Glenburnie to Miss Jane Surget Merrill (Deed Book 3Z:677). Miss Merrill was the daughter of Ayres P. Merrill, Jr. (d. 1883), who resided at Elms Court in Natchez and was appointed Minister to the Kingdom of Belgium in 1876 by President Ulysses S. Grant. Her great-grandfather was Sir William Dunbar (1755-1810) of The Forest near Natchez, noted planter, scientist, and explorer of the Old Southwest. The murder of Miss Merrill at Glenburnie on August 14, 1932, captured national attention when the eccentric residents of the neighboring estate, Glenwood ("Goat Castle"), were charged with the crime. The case became known as the "Goat Castle Murder."

Jane Surget Merrill's will, dated February 28, 1925, bequeathed Glenburnie to her life-long friend, Duncan Minor. Following Minor's death in 1939, his heirs conveyed Glenburnie to Walter P. Abbott, Adams County chancery clerk (Will Book O:177), who in turn conveyed it to Miss Merrill's niece, Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks (Deed Book 5A:505).

In 1976, 4.9 acres of the Glenburnie estate, including the house, were purchased from the heirs of Pauline M. Dicks by the mayor of Natchez, Tony Byrne (Deed Book 13F:125), who has undertaken the restoration of the house and grounds.

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chronister, Norman, research assistant. Telephone interview with Miss Mary Postelwaite, Natchez, Mississippi, September 12, 1978.

Chronister, Norman, research assistant. Telephone interview with Mrs. Lynda L. Crist, The Papers of Jefferson Davis, Rice University, Houston, Texas, September 13, 1978.

Gold, Jack A., architectural historian. Personal inspection, September 8, 1978.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History.
Frances Elizabeth Kempe Sprague Scrapbook.
Subject Files: Glenburnie, Glenwood, Goat Castle, Goat Castle (In Re Jane Merrill Murder Case).

Mississippi. Secretary of State. Register of County Officers, 1818-1824. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Record Group 28, vol. 283.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 2

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Randall, Ruth Painter. I Varina. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1962.
- Ross, Ishbel. First Lady of the South. New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1958.
- Rowland, Eron. Varina Howell, Wife of Jefferson Davis. New York: The MacMillan Company, 1927.
- United States. Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules, City of Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi, 1840, 1850.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

more or less, surrounding the "brick barn" as shown on said map, which was conveyed by Dr. John B. Dicks, Jr. and Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks, his mother, to Gayle Evans by deed dated December 20, 1972 and recorded at Deed Book 12-G, page 296 of the Deed Records of Adams County, Mississippi; the herein described and conveyed property containing 4.6456 acres, more or less, and being more specifically described as follows:

From the intersection of the northeast edge of John R. Junkin Drive (U. S. Highways #65, 84 and 98) with the northern boundary of a portion of Inglewood containing 18.62 acres as shown on map made by H. R. Rhodes, C. E., dated May 11, 1928, and recorded in Deed Book 4-M, page 423 of the Adams County Deed Records, run in a southeast direction along the northeast edge of said John R. Junkin Drive for 727.09 feet to the point of beginning. Thence from said point of beginning, run southeast along the northeast edge of John R. Junkin Drive for 293.56 feet to a point; thence go North 61° 34' East for 233.21 feet to a point; thence along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 275 feet for a distance of 118.31 feet to a point; thence go North 44° 45' East a distance of 214.08 feet to a point; thence go North 10° 25' East along the westerly boundary of tract conveyed to Gayle Evans by deed recorded at Deed Book 12-G, page 296 of the Deed Records of Adams County, Mississippi for a distance of 181.63 feet to a point; thence go North 79° 35' West for a distance of 300 feet to a point; thence along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 175 feet for a distance of 328.74 feet to a point; thence go South 61° 34' East for 160.18 feet back to the point of beginning on U. S. Highway #65, 84 and 98 - John R. Junkin Drive.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Said premises herein described and conveyed containing 4.6456 acres, more or less, and being substantially the same property described as Lot #1 of Block #1 of City Tax Map #69 of the City Tax Maps prepared and revised by Hunnicutt & Associates and kept in the office of the City Tax Collector and Assessor in the Municipal Building of Natchez, Mississippi.

The herein described and conveyed premises are part of Glenburney Plantation which was conveyed by Walter P. Abbott, Chancery Clerk of Adams County, Mississippi, to Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks by deed dated May 15, 1941 and recorded at Deed Book 5-A, page 505 of the Deed Records of Adams County, Mississippi, and thereafter conveyed by Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks unto her son, Dr. John B. Dicks, Jr., by deed dated August 29, 1968 and recorded at Deed Book 11-B, page 349 of the Adams County Deed Records, in which instrument the said Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks reserved unto herself a life estate in and to said property. The said Mrs. Pauline M. Dicks died intestate at Natchez, in Adams County, Mississippi, on April 16, 1973, the administration of her estate is docketed as Cause No. 24,777 of the Chancery Court of Adams County, Mississippi, and Final Decree Closing said Estate is dated May 1, 1974 and is recorded at Minute Book 5-G, page 146 of the Minutes of the Chancery Court of Adams County, Mississippi. Together with the non-exclusive right and the use of all presently existing water, sewer, utility and roadway easements and improvements and installation thereon over, on and across the entirety of said Glenburney property which said property is shown at Plat Book 8, page 15 of the Records of Adams County, Mississippi.