

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received **JUL 28 1983**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Magnolia Manor

and/or common same as above

2. Location

street & number 3rd and Amite Streets, N/A not for publication

city, town Osyka N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi code 28 county Pike code 113

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Walter Wesley and Elizabeth Haynes Ott

street & number P. O. Box 156

city, town Osyka N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Pike County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Magnolia state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moveddate N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in southwestern Mississippi just north of the Louisiana border, the town of Osyka (pop. 586), possesses primarily late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century historic resources. Although the town experienced a great rush of settlement and construction in the 1850s, Osyka lost most of its mid-nineteenth-century building stock due to a fire in the 1890s. Magnolia Manor, facing east on a grassy, tree-shaded lot in southwestern Osyka, is the city's only remaining Greek Revival cottage.

Magnolia Manor is a well-executed variation of the prototype Greek Revival cottage built throughout Mississippi in the antebellum and immediate postbellum years. Basically, the building is a one-and-a-half-story, gable-roofed, five-bay residence with a full-width, flat-roofed gallery extending across the facade. The interior employs the central hall, double-pile plan and has two interior chimneys.

The frame cottage, raised on a low, brick foundation, has an impressive five-bay gallery. The flat-roofed gallery has a heavy entablature and is delineated by slender, square wooden columns with simple molded capitals. Similar square pilasters are located at the corners of the facade. A crossed-stick balustrade encloses the gallery. The centered entrance consists of a single leaf door flanked by sidelights above molded panels and is capped by a transom. The entrance is contained within a formal frontispiece with pilasters and a dentiled entablature. The entrance is flanked by two pairs of six-over-nine double-hung, floor-to-ceiling windows, all with matching architraves and cornices. Each window is flanked by its original full length cypress blinds.

The rear elevation features an original, shallow, undercut gallery of three rear bays, extending from the single leaf door entrance to the southwest corner. The gallery is supported by slender square wooden columns and has a plain balustrade. A one-story, gable-roofed, rectangularly-shaped addition is connected to the main residence at the northwest corner. The addition, connected to the house during the recent renovation, replaced an earlier and similar greatly deteriorated addition originally installed at the southwest corner. The reorientation of the addition enabled a more complete restoration of the back gallery.

Notable interior features of the residence include simple molded architraves for both doors and windows, eight-foot paneled single leaf doors, tongue-and-groove heart pine floors, and original pilastered mantels.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1868–69 **Builder/Architect** Isaac Wesley Cutrer

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Magnolia Manor is architecturally significant as a fine example of a post-Civil War Greek Revival cottage and is notable as the sole remaining Greek Revival residence within the environs of Osyka. It is also significant as the residence of Isaac Wesley Cutrer, an early settler and merchant of Osyka.

During the flush times of Mississippi's antebellum years, the Greek Revival style flourished throughout the state. The one-story, five-bay, cottage form of the idiom was built almost everywhere, from the prosperous plantation societies of Natchez and Columbus to the nascent railroad communities of Osyka and Magnolia in Pike County. In the rural areas of the state, these simple cottages usually exhibited some sophisticated elements, whether in the frontispiece, window surrounds, colonnade, or interior woodwork. Magnolia Manor, notable for being constructed during the depressed post-war economic years, expresses an eloquent combination of the simple, strong form of the Greek Revival cottage, and the detailed decorative elements found among Mississippi's more elaborate Greek Revival mansions.

The town of Osyka, first settled during the 1820s, became prominent in the 1850s as the terminus for the New Orleans railroad line. With the advent of the railroad, settlers flocked to Osyka, and in the process, established residences, organized church congregations, and opened schools. By 1858, the city of Osyka obtained its charter. Among the men attracted to Osyka was Isaac Wesley Cutrer (b. 1815), who moved to Osyka from Covington, Louisiana, and is credited with designing the streets and planting trees along the avenues in 1855 (Lucy Wall Varnado, Osyka: A Memorial History, 1812-1878, Pike County, Mississippi: Chronology, Directories, Genealogies [Owensboro, Kentucky: Cook and McDowell, 1980], pp. 47, 71). Cutrer set up a mercantile establishment in Osyka. In 1868, three years after the Civil War (which left Osyka unscathed) he acquired land for a residence. The land was purchased in the name of Mary Sullivan Cutrer, Cutrer's second wife, surrogate mother to his first family of eight children and mother of his second family of seven children. Cutrer died in 1888 and his wife died in 1912 (Varnado, p. 81). The property remained in the family until 1970. In 1973, Elizabeth Haynes Ott and Walter Wesley Ott, grandson of Isaac Wesley Cutrer, purchased the residence and initiated a sympathetic restoration of the building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Pike County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book 1.

Varnado, Lucy Wall. Osyka: A Memorial History, 1812-1878, Pike County, Mississippi: Chronology, Directories, Genealogies. Owensboro, Kentucky: Cook and McDowell, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property one acre

Quadrangle name Osyka, Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	4	1	0	5	0	3	4	3	2	6	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property consists of a one-acre square corner plot (Northeast quadrant of original four-acre plot) bounded on the east by 3rd Street and on the North by Amite Street. Lots 1, 4, 5, and 8, Square 26, Township of Osyka.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Walter Wesley and Elizabeth Haynes Ott, Owners

organization N/A date April 5, 1983

street & number P. O. Box 156 telephone (601) 542-5782

city or town Osyka state Mississippi

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 

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date July 14, 1983

For NPS use only

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



date 9/9/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration