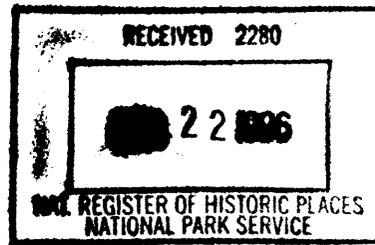


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Miller House; Hardy House

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

2. Location

street & number 416 Broadway N/A not for publication

city or town Minden N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Webster code 119 zip code 71055

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.)

Gerry Hobdy 3/18/96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Gerry Hobdy, Date  
LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism  
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 commenting 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 A. Ball  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

4-18-96

Entered in the  
National Register

Miller House  
Name of Property

Webster Parish, LA  
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**

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**7. Description**

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

Greek Revival  
Colonial Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick  
walls weatherboard  
roof asphalt  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Miller House, Webster Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 1

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The Miller House is a two story frame residence located on the edge of downtown Minden. Built c.1840 in the Greek Revival style, it received a major remodeling in the Colonial Revival style in 1917, although much of its early character survives. Alterations have been minimal since the remodeling.

William Hardy purchased the lot in question in 1840, and it is believed he constructed the house shortly thereafter. As originally built, the house was five bays wide and one room deep with an exceptionally wide central hall both upstairs and down. There was a capacious two tier front gallery with simple square posts (per an early photo). In this provincial Greek Revival design, the gallery did not have full entablatures. Rather, the upper posts terminated directly beneath the cornice.

The Miller House retains the following noteworthy c. 1840 features: 1) the overall two story, five bay mass under a gable end roof; 2) the exceptionally wide flush boards on the facade; 3) the wide central doorways both upstairs and down with their plank fluting, pronounced corner blocks and fretwork inspired glazing bar pattern on the transom and sidelights; 4) a number of doors featuring two vertical panels; 5) sixteen over sixteen windows on the facade (fitted in the early twentieth century with weights and pulleys); and 6) four vernacular Federal-Greek Revival mantels. While the upstairs mantels are very plain, those downstairs feature heavy pilasters, boldly formed panels, and exceptionally heavy cornices formed by corbeled planks.

Old Miller family photographs show that by 1906 the original square posts had been replaced with round columns, and balustrades with turned balusters had replaced the originals which featured square balusters. In 1905 the present owner's father, J. R. Miller, moved the house nearer the back of the lot. (It was originally very close to the street.)

In 1917, as noted in the local newspaper, Mr. Miller had his house remodeled. The architect for this extensive work was Clarence King of Shreveport, per extant blueprints. Work included greatly enlarging the house and modifications to the facade. Rear rooms were added both upstairs and down, under a hip roof, creating a house two rooms deep. The old central hall was extended to the rear and fitted with a wide curving Colonial Revival staircase. A one story rear wing of unknown date was replaced with a larger single story wing, and a single story sun room wing was added on the south side toward the rear. King also added a paneled dado to most of the downstairs rooms. In the hallway the dado follows the ascent of the staircase, enhancing its visual presence. The new upstairs rear rooms functioned as sleeping porches, featuring interior windows for ventilation.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Miller House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

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King's modifications to the facade gave it a sophisticated Greek Revival appearance. King added properly proportioned entablatures on both stories and Tuscan columns. (The columns are similar in type to the ones they replaced.) Evidently he reused portions of the balustrades in place by at least 1906.

Alterations since the 1917 King remodeling include:

- (1) The front doors upstairs and down have been replaced with relatively modern French doors. The French doors downstairs have been fitted with louvered shutters.
- (2) Bathrooms have been installed upstairs.
- (3) A grade level screened patio has been added off the rear wing.

Assessment of Integrity

As one can see from the foregoing, the house has been altered very little since it received its significant 1917 remodeling. It retains the features that contribute to its architectural significance from both the Greek Revival and Colonial Revival periods.

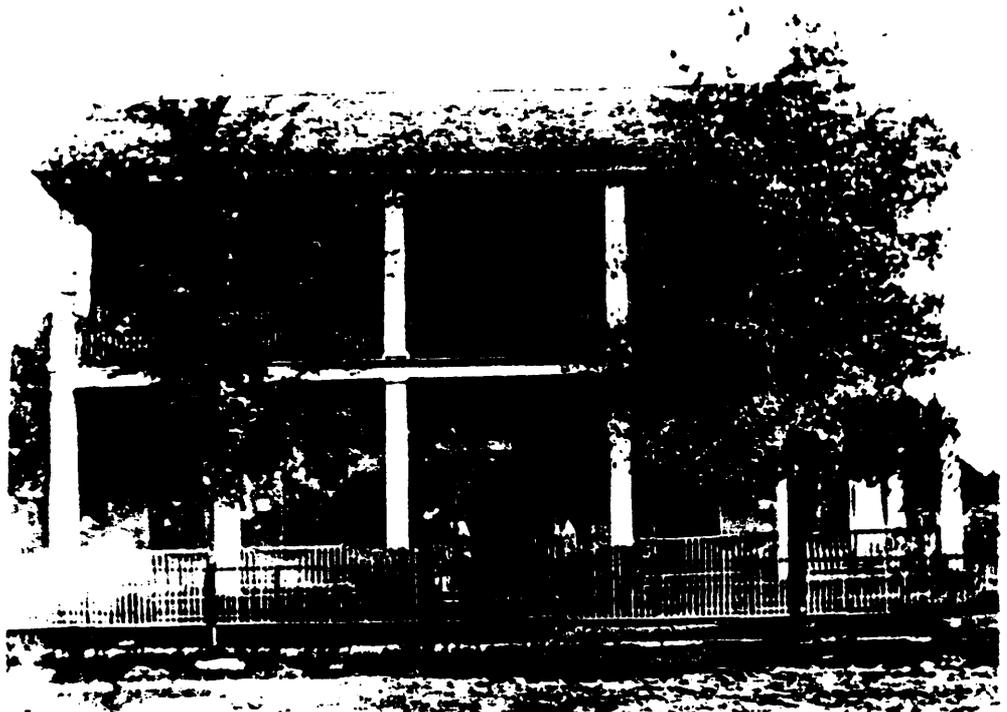
**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Miller House, Webster Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 3

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house's original  
appearance



c.1912 photo  
showing house  
before 1917  
remodeling



Miller House  
Name of Property

Webster Parish, LA  
County and State

**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.  
(a few feet back on the lot in 1905)
- 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)

architecture

**Period of Significance**

c. 1840, 1917

**Significant Dates**

c. 1840, 1917

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

1917 remodeling: Clarence King, Architect

**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):** N/A

- 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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Miller House  
Name of Property

Webster Parish, LA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** less than an acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 5	4 7 3 0 0 0	3 6 0 8 2 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 National Register Staff  
organization Division of Historic Preservation date February 1996  
street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-8160  
city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

**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 Mrs. Roy Miller Inabnett  
street & number 416 Broadway telephone 318-377-0355  
city or town Minden state LA zip code 71055

**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 Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Miller House, Webster Parish, LA  
Section number 8 Page 1

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The Miller House is of local significance in the area of architecture. It is significant on the parish level because its early twentieth century modifications make it an important example of the Colonial Revival influence. It is also significant within the town of Minden as a rare example of the Greek Revival influence due to its surviving original woodwork.

### The Colonial Revival

The comprehensive parish-wide Standing Structures Survey has recorded some 432 buildings in Webster Parish which are over 50 years old. The vast majority of these date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Most are unstyled. Among the styled buildings the bungalow influence predominates, with mostly low key examples. Finer or more elaborately styled buildings tend to follow the Queen Anne Revival or Colonial Revival traditions. The parish contains a total of 23 examples of the Colonial Revival influence. The Miller House is conspicuous among this group because its well proportioned replacement gallery closely resembles one that would be found on an antebellum Greek Revival plantation house. This handsome feature is a truly fine example of something that has been noted by architectural historians as a significant trend in the Colonial Revival movement in the South -- the tendency to espouse the "white columned" look of the increasingly romanticized "Old South." Indeed, the Miller House gallery is so convincing that it passes for antebellum even to the trained eye.

### The Greek Revival

Founded in 1836 and incorporated in 1850, the town of Minden is among the earliest communities in North Louisiana. Indeed, on the eve of the Civil War it was a thriving center of trade and commerce. However, the town was all but rebuilt in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Thus, although Minden developed and reached its early fruition during the heyday of the Greek Revival, only six residences survive in the town to represent the Greek Revival influence. Although the Miller House has been modified over the years, it still retains the overall look and massing of a two story, central hall Greek Revival house. More importantly, it retains the distinctively styled front entrances with transoms and sidelights as well as four mantels which are highly characteristic of the rural Greek Revival taste. As such, it constitutes a rare and notable legacy from the town's earliest architectural heritage.

### Historical Note:

The Miller House takes its historic name from J. R. Miller, who purchased the house in 1895. He and his wife lived there until their deaths in 1952. It has since been occupied by the Millers' daughter, Roy Miller Inabnett.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Miller House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number  $\frac{9}{10}$  Page  $\frac{1}{1}$

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Various historic photos in possession of Roy Miller Inabnett. Copies of some in National Register file, Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

Undated blueprints, Clarence King, Architect. Copy in Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

J. R. Miller Ledgers, 1905, 1917, showing payment for moving the house and payment to Clarence King, in possession of Roy Miller Inabnett.

*Webster Signal*, August 3, 1917, as referenced in *Minden Press-Herald*, October 4, 1991.

Conveyance Records, copies in National Register file, Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

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**Boundary Description:** Lot 72 of the original plan of the town of Minden, said lot measuring 60 feet in width by a depth of 120.

**Justification:** Boundaries follow property lines of the parcel of land upon which the house was built c.1840.