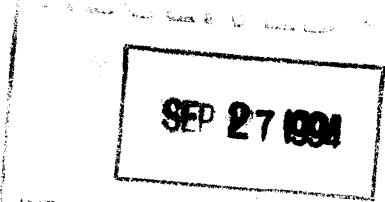


1252

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 Holloway, John Fielding, House

other names/site number Polk, Robert Decatur ("Cap"), House; Holloway-Polk House

2. Location

street & number US Hwy. 84, approx. 450 ft. east of intersection with N/A not for publication
MS Hwy. 541, Mount Carmel community

city or town Prentiss vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Jefferson Davis code 65 zip code 39474

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. Paul September 16, 1994
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 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: _____)

for
Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in National Register Date of Action 10-28-94

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Name of Property

Jefferson Davis 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	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
_____	_____	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)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation wood

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Name of Property

Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi
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.
- 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.

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

c. 1873-1906

Significant Dates

c. 1873

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Mathison, Neil

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Mississippi Dept. of Archives & History

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Name of Property

Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 1 | 6 | | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | | 3 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 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 Edrice J. Polk (based on research of Neva Thompson); edited by Brenda R. Crook, MDAH

organization Historical Researcher & Oral Historian date June 9, 1994

street & number P.O. Box 1493 telephone (601) 792-2893

city or town Prentiss state MS zip code 39474-1493

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 Colonel and Mrs. Paul G. Polk

street & number P.O. Box 1493 telephone (601) 792-8384

city or town Prentiss state MS zip code 39474-1493

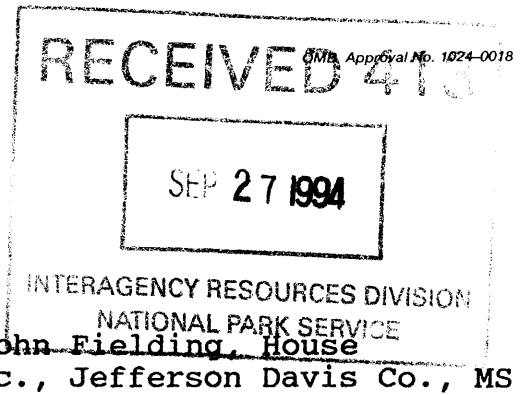
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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

Section number 7 Page 1



Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

7. DESCRIPTION

Situated on five acres of land, the John Fielding Holloway House faces north onto U.S. Highway 84 in Mount Carmel, a crossroads community located in the rolling pine hills of northeast Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. The immediate yard surrounding the house is separated from the rest of the tree-shaded lawn by a combination wood and wire fence. Built circa 1873, the Holloway House is the community's only remaining nineteenth century structure. It is believed that the house was originally constructed as a "dogtrot," with two rooms 17'4"x16'8" in size separated by an open hall or breezeway 10'0" in width. Apparently soon after construction the dogtrot passage was enclosed and the house enlarged with the addition of a full-width undercut gallery to the main facade and a porch and cabinet rooms to the rear elevation. The resulting house is a vernacular Greek Revival galleried planters cottage. The original detached kitchen was attached to the rear of the house circa 1945 (see accompanying floor plan).

The house rests on a low foundation of heart pine blocks, and the walls are clad in horizontal lapped siding. In the east gable end is a shouldered brick chimney, while on the west elevation only the lower portion of a chimney remains. Windows throughout the house were replaced in the 1960s with aluminum double-hung sash of two horizontal panes over two horizontal panes, but the original window frames are intact. The main (north) facade is a five-bay elevation with a central double-leaf entrance containing glazed and panelled doors surrounded by an eight-light transom and three-light sidelights set above molded panels. The windows of this facade are protected by wooden louvered blinds. The full-width undercut gallery features a wooden deck, shallow box columns with molded capitals, a plain balustrade with molded handrail, and a coved ceiling. The eaves of the porch roof wrap around to the side elevations.

The interior of the house features horizontal flush board walls, heart pine ceilings, random-width pine floors, seven-foot tall four-panel doors, and an original mantelpiece in the parlor composed of pilasters with molded capitals supporting a plain frieze and curvilinear mantel shelf.

South of the house is a noncontributing storage house complete with an underground storm shelter.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

Section number 8 Page 2

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Fielding Holloway House is locally significant in the area of exploration and settlement (Criterion A), being the only extant nineteenth century building remaining in the once thriving community of Mount Carmel and dating prior to the establishment of Jefferson Davis County, which was formed in 1906 out of portions of Covington and Lawrence Counties. Prior to 1906, Mount Carmel was located within the boundaries of Covington County, which was sparsely settled during the nineteenth century. The Holloway House is one of the very few identifiable buildings from the nineteenth century to survive in Covington and Jefferson Davis Counties. The period of significance begins circa 1873 when the house was built and ends in 1906, the year Jefferson Davis County was established.

Mount Carmel is one of the oldest settlements in what is now Jefferson Davis County. The town was laid out in 1819 by John Ragan, whose plan provided for 74 lots 100 feet square, streets 60 feet in width, and a large central public square with two springs. The town was incorporated in 1835 and was apparently a thriving village during the nineteenth century, with two or three stores, two churches, and a school. Mount Carmel Academy was a coeducational school founded sometime before 1830 and incorporated on May 13, 1837. This was the first school of its class in southeast Mississippi, and at its peak boasted an enrollment of 70 to 80 students. However, in 1845 the school was abandoned in favor of Zion Seminary, which gave the name Seminary to the town where it was located, approximately 20 miles southeast of Mount Carmel ("Mt. Carmel Recalled").

Travelling through the area in the mid-nineteenth century, Benjamin L.C. Wailes made the following entry in his journal on September 1, 1852:

After crossing [the] Bouie [river] over a bridge (passing through the bottom land in which there is a good deal of large oak & gum mixed with some Shortleaf pine) ascended a considerable eminence to a level table land of Oak and hickory, on which the village of Mount Carmel is situated. About 70 inhabitants. Two or three considerable Country Stores. More business [is] done [here] than at Williamsburg [the county seat from 1824-1906], and the situation is much handsomer, & the buildings (tho' plain frame)

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Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

Section number 8 Page 3

[are] better. . . . (Moore, "South Mississippi in 1852:
Some Selections from the Journal of Benjamin L.C. Wailes,"
p. 31).

The Holloway House was built circa 1873 by Neil Mathison for John Fielding Holloway. Mathison, a resident of the Dry Creek community, was also the contractor for the two courthouses (1830 and 1854) located in Williamsburg (Hitt, Covington Crossroads, p. 3). Holloway was born in Mount Carmel in 1844, and in 1869 he married Josephine Magee, with whom he had five children (U.S. Bureau of the Census). Holloway built a general merchandise store on Lot 15 of the plat of Mount Carmel, and in 1866 Duncan McRaney became his partner in the business, with the firm being named Holloway & McRaney (Rowland, Vol. III, pp. 564-565). Holloway died in 1887, but the family retained ownership of the house until 1904.

When Mount Carmel was by-passed by the Gulf & Ship Island Railroad in 1899 and the Mississippi Central Railroad in 1903, most of the town's residents and businesses moved to Prentiss, Bassfield, or Collins, which were all located on a rail line. Subsequently, Mount Carmel was officially unincorporated in 1904 ("Mt. Carmel Recalled"). On March 31, 1906, the Legislature created Jefferson Davis County from portions of Lawrence and Covington Counties, and the village became one of the oldest settlements of the newly-formed county.

Mount Carmel gradually became populated solely by African Americans. Blacks purchased land in the village and the surrounding area in the early 1900s and maintained a self-contained community with all essential services, farm products and goods. Robert Decatur ("Cap") Polk, an African American born in 1872, purchased the Holloway House in 1911. He was the leading planter and businessman in the area, owning over 600 acres of land. Many tenants and sharecroppers lived on this acreage, much of which was planted in cotton, corn, peanuts, and soybeans. There were also large pastures for his cattle herds. In addition, "Cap" Polk owned a cotton gin and a cane mill and was instrumental in setting up a blacksmith shop for use by the population of the area. "Cap" Polk and his wife, Anna Hall, had eleven children, including Paul Jones Polk, father of Colonel Paul Gray Polk, who now owns and lives in the house.

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

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

Section number 8 Page 4

Although comprehensive county-wide surveys of Jefferson Davis and Covington counties have not yet been conducted, reconnaissance surveys indicate that very few nineteenth century structures are extant in these two counties. The other nineteenth century buildings identified thus far are as follows:

Covington County

1. George Washington Rogers House (c. 1870), Salem community, Collins vicinity
2. John Magee House (c. 1850), Collins vicinity
3. Davis House (c. 1873, 1921), Seminary vicinity

Jefferson Davis County

1. 1907 House (first half of nineteenth century), Prentiss, (National Register 1978)
2. Jesse Smith House (c. 1850), New Hebron vicinity
3. Dogtrot House (built during the last quarter of the nineteenth century), Prentiss vicinity
4. Slater House (c. 1853), Prentiss vicinity
5. Hopewell Presbyterian Church (c. 1840-50), Jaynesville vicinity
6. Bethel Church (1882), New Hebron vicinity

The Holloway House retains a high degree of integrity on both its exterior and interior. The only major alteration has been the replacement of the windows in the 1960s; however, the original window frames are in place. Even with the replacement of the windows, the house retains sufficient integrity from its period of significance to qualify for listing in the National Register as a rare surviving building from the early settlement of Mount Carmel and Covington and Jefferson Davis Counties.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

Section number 9, 10 Page 5

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hitt, Gwen Keys. Covington Crossroads. Hattiesburg, MS: University of Southern Mississippi Printing Center, 1985.

Jefferson Davis County. Deed Book 2, pp. 488, 496, 515, 533, 551, 565, and Book 28, p. 362.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Covington and Jefferson Davis Counties.

Moore, John Hebron, editor. "South Mississippi in 1852: Some Selections from the Journal of Benjamin L.C. Wailes," The Journal of Mississippi History, Vol. XVIII, 1956, pp. 18-32.

"Mt. Carmel Recalled." Clarion-Ledger, September 20, 1970, Section B, p. 3.

Rowland, Dunbar, LL.D. Mississippi, Vol. I, II & III. Southern Historical Association, 1916.

United States. Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules, Covington County, Mississippi, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description: That portion of Parcel 30 located south of U.S. Highway 84 that contains the east half of Lots 51 and 52 and Lots 50, 61, 62, 63, 64, 67, 68, 69, and 70, as delineated on the accompanying scale map. This property is located in the Village of Mount Carmel, Section 23, Township 8 North, Range 18 West, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi.

Boundary Justification: The boundaries contain a 2.8 acre area that includes the Holloway House, its one outbuilding, and its immediate setting. Although the owners currently own 6.8 acres, acreage to the north of US Highway 84 and south of Lots 61 and 70 was excluded because it is not part of the immediate setting of the house.

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

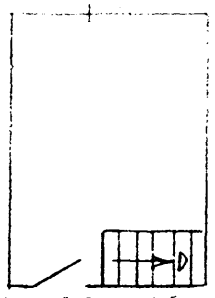
Holloway, John Fielding, House
Prentiss vic., Jefferson Davis Co., MS

Section number 10 Page 6

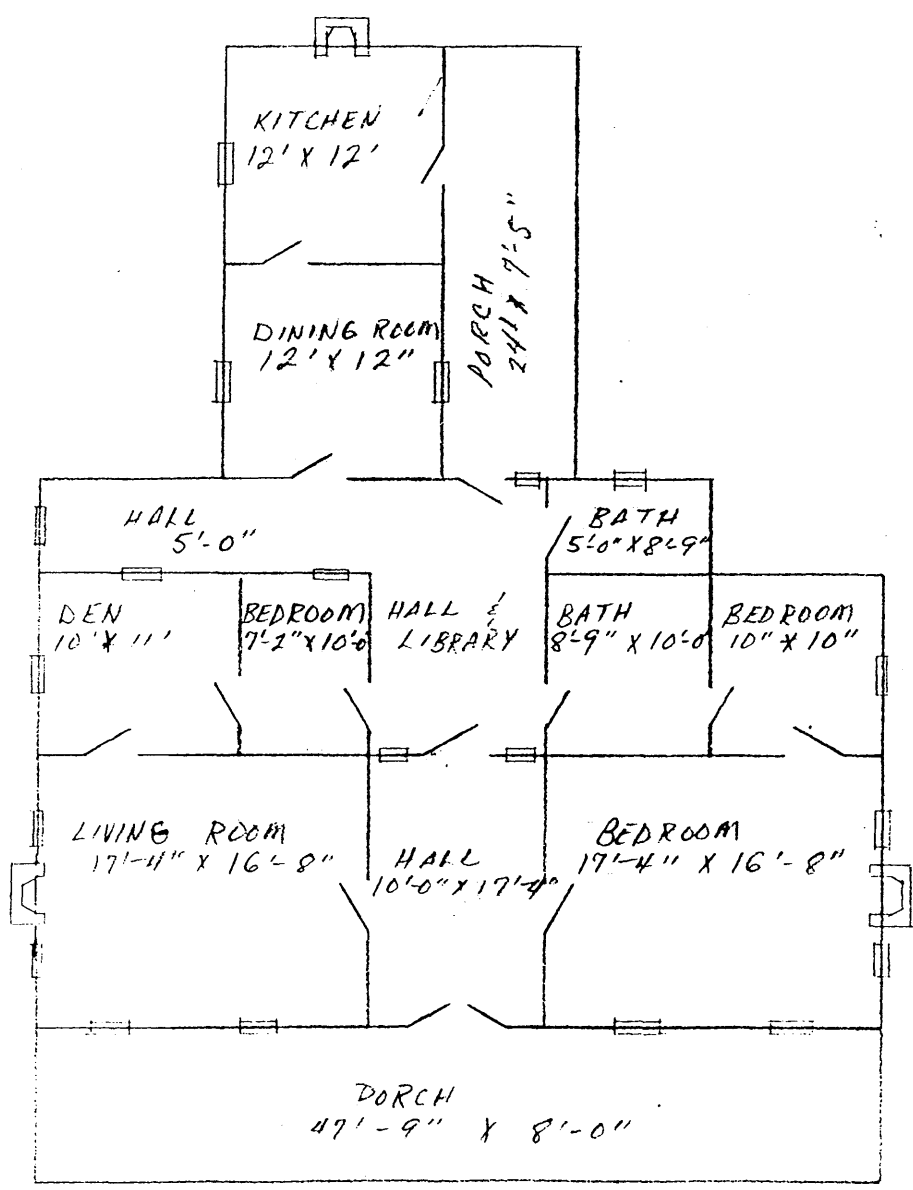


PLAT OF MOUNT CARMEL, JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY, MS

from Jefferson Davis County Tax Assessor's Office



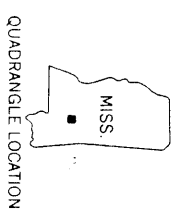
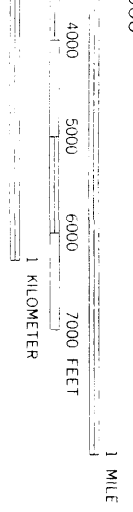
UNDER GROUND
STORM SHELTER } STORAGE
11'-6" X 17'-0"



HOLLOWAY, JOHN FIELDING, HOUSE
PRENTISS VIC., JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

HOUSE FOR:
MRS. E. J. POLK
DR. BY: FREDDY MILLS
JEFF DAVIS CO. NOTED

10 FEET
L DATUM OF 1929



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, Light-duty road, all weather,
hard surface Improved surface

Secondary highway, all weather, Unimproved road, fair or dry
hard surface weather

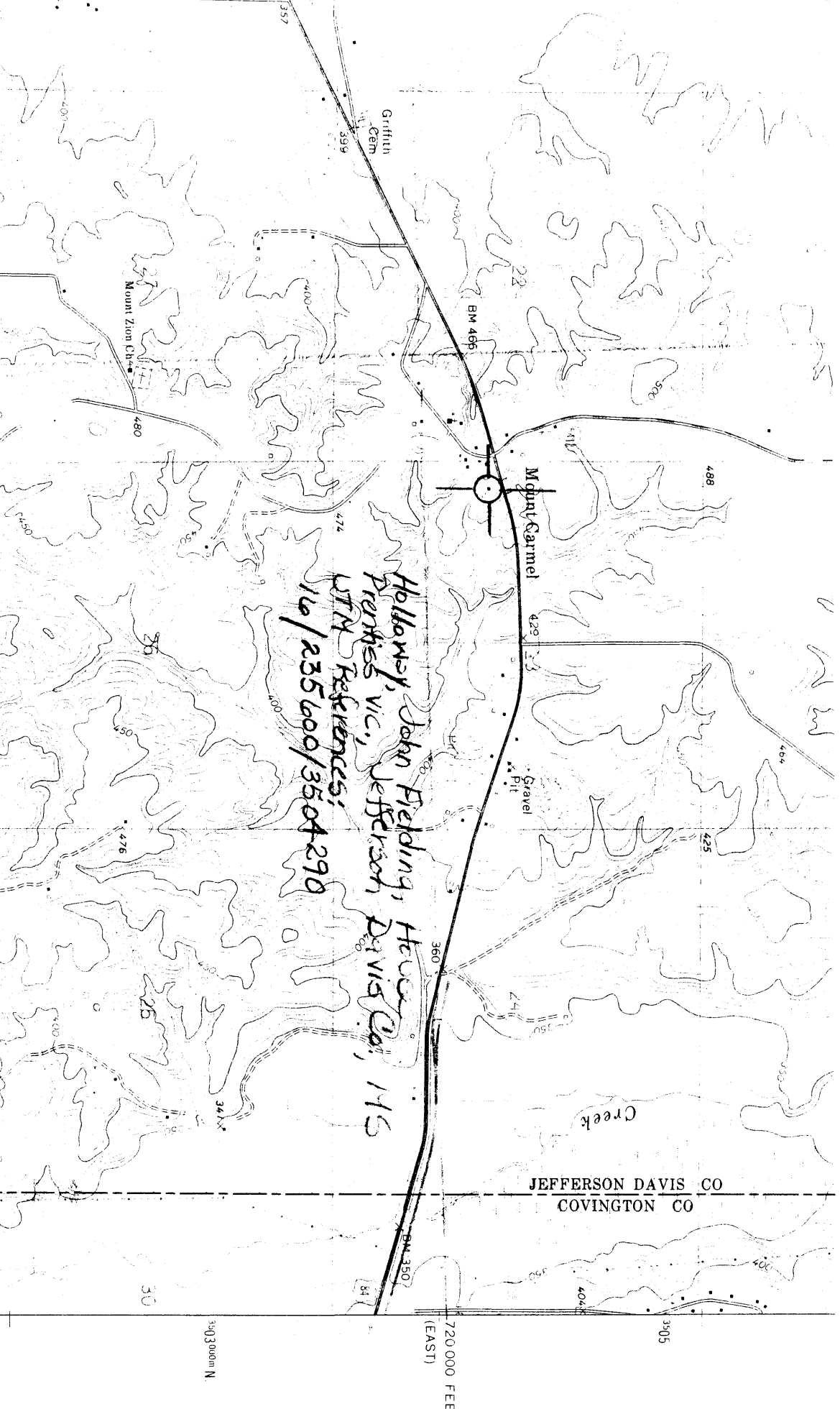
U. S. Route State Route

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA-1982
210 000 FEET (EAST)

31° 37' 30"

337 334 335 47' 30" 336 337 000m E 210 000 FEET (EAST) 89° 45'



*Holloway, John Fielding, Heuser, Davis Co, MS
Progress, vic. Jefferson
UTM References:
110 / 235 600 / 35 04 290*

JEFFERSON DAVIS CO
COVINGTON CO

MIKE CONNOR
3047 II SW

MOUNT CARMEL, MISS.

N 3137.5-W 8945.7.5