UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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7 - DESCRIPTION

Drake Hill Historic District

The Drake Hill Historic District is situated on a forested four-acre site at the top of Drake Hill in Port Gibson, west of the central business district. The three houses comprising the district are aligned approximately two hundred feet apart facing southeast. 446 Drake Hill (no. 301) and 440 Drake Hill (no. 302) are set back two hundred feet from the curved road; 418 (no. 303) is set back fifty feet. The houses were the original components of the Drake family development and were built between 1880 and 1910. Residential construction north and south of the proposed district along Drake Hill Drive occurred after 1960. The Drake family tennis court, no longer extant, was located southeast of the district on the present site of a house.

Inventory of Buildings in District

- 293. 446 Drake Hill Drive. Two-and-a-half-story crossgable frame residence with double shed gallery (screened) across facade. Semicircular fanlight in gable; bay window and entrance frontispiece on first floor. Colonial Revival, ca. 1906. Single-story unpainted board-and-batten cottage (ca. 1890) with inset gallery situated twenty-five feet from northwest corner of house.
- 294. 440 Drake Hill Drive. Two-and-a-half-story hip-roof frame residence with extended gable front and double shed gallery. Originally flanking-gable Greek Revival cottage, ca. 1840. Remodeled Queen Anne, ca. 1885.
- 295. 418 Drake Hill Drive. One-and-a-half-story gable-front frame residence. Two-bay inset porch (partially enclosed) across facade. Colonial Revival, ca. 1906.

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

The Drake Hill Historic District is both architecturally and historically significant. Displaying a sympathetic stylistic combination of the Colonial Revival with the Queen Anne, the picturesque ensemble has a singular appeal in its rural landscape setting. The Drake family has been prominent in the area since the nineteenth century. Elijah Steel Drake was born in 1841 at Magnolia Springs Plantation in Jefferson County (Laura D. S. Harrell. "Drakes of Devonshire, England; North Carolina, Kentucky and Mississippi" 7:126). He practiced law in Port Gibson from 1869 until his death in 1914, purchasing and remodeling the first Drake property (no. 302) on Drake Hill ca. 1880 (Ellen Steele Satterfield, granddaughter of Elijah Steel Drake, interviewed by Jack A. Gold, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Port Gibson, Miss., Feb. 21, 1979). The other two houses were constructed ca. 1906 by Elijah Drake's children. His daughter, Laura Stevenson Drake Satterfield, who lived at 418 Drake Hill (no. 303), was the mother of Laura D. S. H. Sturdivant, historian, and John Creighton Satterfield, former president of the American Bar Association.

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HISTORIC RESOURCES OF PORT GIBSON [Miss.]

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10 - GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Drake Hill Historic District

UTM References:

Zone 15 Easting 690130 Northing 3537570

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Drake Hill Historic District is a rectangle comprising approximately three acres. District boundaries correspond with the boundary lines on the Drake Hill sketch map (4).

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[] 430-(2) 295 DRIVE 294 (*) (*) (*) c DRAKE MAY 3 0 1975) 293 NATIONAL REGISTER Sketch Map (4) DRAKE HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT Port Gibson, Mississippi See accompanying list for street number and building description. Boundaries of proposed district: JUL 22 1979 RODNET ROAP