

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Pleasant Hill

and/or common Midway

2. Location *E of Woodville on MS 24*

street & number North of State Highway 24 about 3 miles east of Woodville ^{NA} not for publication

city, town Woodville *Ms*, vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Mississippi code 28 county Wilkinson code 157

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ^{NA} 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 Mr. and Mrs. John Hewes

street & number P. O. Box 12

city, town Woodville ^{NA} vicinity of state Mississippi 39669

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Woodville state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NA has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved | date <u>October 1981</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located about three miles east of Woodville, Mississippi, north of State Highway 24 which leads from Woodville to Centreville, Midway is a one-and-a-half story, Greek Revival, frame plantation residence set upon brick foundation piers. The gable roof was originally flanked by two, outside-end brick chimneys on the eastern elevation and one, outside-end brick chimney on the western elevation. The five-bay, southerly facade, which is finished in shiplap siding, is fronted by an undercut gallery with molded box cornice. The gallery is supported by wooden box columns with molded capitals and bases, and the columns are linked by rectangular-sectioned balusters with molded handrail. The box columns, which were probably installed in the mid-nineteenth century, replaced earlier chamfered posts which were reused as supports for a rear gallery. Physical evidence indicates that a rear gallery was not a feature of the house as originally constructed but was probably added when the front gallery supports were changed.

Access to the interior of the house is provided through a single-leaf, unmolded two-panel door surrounded by transom and sidelights with rectilinear molding. The sidelights are set over unmolded panels. An identical rear doorway provides access to the rear gallery of the house which is also reached from the northeastern room, or original dining room, through a transomed doorway without sidelights. The interior floor plan of the house is a double-pile plan with central passage. The easternmost rooms and the hallway feature an unusual wainscoting of wooden horizontal boards molded like the shiplap siding of the facade. All interior door and window surrounds feature simply molded cornices, and the doors are two-paneled and unmolded. The baseboards are unmolded and present a single fascia. Two of the pilastered, wooden mantel pieces are original.

The most outstanding architectural feature of the interior of the house is its stairway, which features chamfered and tapered newels and rectangular-sectioned balusters. The stairway runs along the westerly hall wall in a southerly direction and makes a quarter turn with winders before terminating in a wide, second-story hallway. Transomed doorways provide access to the two bedrooms, only one of which was originally heated by a fireplace. The bedrooms feature coved ceilings and unusual, original, under-the-eave closets with full-size, two-panel doors.

No original outbuildings survived before the house was moved in 1981.

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 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. 1840 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed ca. 1840, Midway is a good example of the typical, mid-nineteenth century, Mississippi plantation residence that is characterized as a one-and-a-half story, frame residence set upon brick foundation piers with gable roof, undercut front gallery, and five-bay facade. However, the house is distinguished from its Mississippi counterparts by its vernacular quality. The house is an outstanding example of an untutored builder's naive interpretation of elements of a higher style of architecture employed in an original and seemingly unique manner. The shiplap siding of the facade and the similarly molded dado of the interior are probably unique for this region at this time. The interior stairway with its tapered, chamfered newels is beautifully executed. The chamfered posts of the rear gallery, which are original to the front gallery, are one of only three known regional examples of chamfered posts that taper. Also unusual are the original closets in the second-story bedrooms which are reached through full-size, two-panel doors. In October 1981, to rescue the house from demolition, the present owners purchased Midway and subsequently moved it about three miles west of its original site to a neighboring plantation site that, like the original site, faces State Highway 24 from Woodville to Centreville. Although used as a grain storage building and in deteriorated condition, the architectural integrity of the house was excellent. Much of the original interior decorative scheme of whitewashed plaster walls and grained millwork survived untouched.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Miller, Mary W., Historic Natchez Foundation. Inspection of Midway, Oct. 15, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre (0.92)

Quadrangle name Woodville, Mississippi

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

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| 1 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | | |

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H

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| Zone | Easting | | | Northing | | | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property forms a four-sided figure with right angle corners and equal sides of 200 feet each with the center being the center point of the roof ridge of the house. The sides of the figure are parallel to the walls of the house.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Warren Miller/Research Consultant

organization Historic Natchez Foundation date October 21, 1981

street & number P. O. Box 1761 telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez state Mississippi 39120

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Robert J. ...*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date July 28, 1982

For HCBS use only
I hereby certify that the property is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
[Signature]
Special Agent in Charge