

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1278
RECORDED
JUL 19 1990

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jordan, Moses, House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 940 East Broad St. n/a not for publication
city, town West Point n/a vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Clay code 25 zip code 39773

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
West Point Multiple Resource Area

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool July 2, 1990
Signature of certifying official Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date
MS Department of Archives and History
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:) _____

Amy Federman 8/31/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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 brick

walls weatherboard

roof composition shingles

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Moses Jordan House is located on a large town lot at the top of a small rise on East Broad Street. The yard is landscaped and has several mature trees. The house faces north, as it did in its original location on the road between Columbus and Houston -- now Main Street.

The house is a one story raised cottage in the Greek Revival style. A two-thirds length gallery with battered, paneled, square columns is centered on the five bay facade. At the top of the gallery and the facade, a wide entablature with a denticulated cornice encompasses the house. The low, hipped roof is topped by a low balustrade with turned spindles. Seven chimneys pierce the roof, three each on the east and west elevations, and one interior chimney on the roof's south plane.

The entry is through a large single leaf door centered between paired 6/6 double hung windows. The windows within the gallery, one on each side, have jib bottoms. All window hoods are simple, but have hood moldings. Sidelights and overlights for the entry door are red flashed glass. The sidelights have clear cutwork designs; the overlights are plain. Pilasters within the entry and at facade corners match the column design. Wooden jalousies screen the upper fourth of the west end of the gallery.

In traditional Greek Revival style, the house has a central hall plan, with three rooms opening off of each side of the wide hallway. Additions to the rear include a pantry space connecting the former independent kitchen to the main body of the house, the enclosure of the centered, former interior back porch, and the addition of a shed roofed extension in the ell formed by the kitchen and the house. A further addition, which will return the house to a rectangular massing, is under construction.

Interior finish work is of high quality. Oral tradition says that the millwork and finish carpentry were done by the same craftsmen who worked at Waverly Plantation, Moses Jordan and Col. George Young being friends. The most striking interior features are an ornate millwork arch centered in the central hall, and the fine detail in denticulated Greek Revival door surrounds on both interior and exterior entries at both hall ends. Door and window surrounds throughout the interior are eared, and have wide, milled moldings. Mantle pieces are wooden, detailed with chamfered edges and various moldings. Floors are heart pine.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1852

Significant Dates
1852

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Moses Jordan House is primarily significant for its architectural importance in the context of West Point, as the most complete and accomplished example of ante-bellum Greek Revival architecture in the city. Although it has been moved two blocks from its original location, it retains its original architectural character. The Greek Revival style was the dominant choice of architecturally aware people in Mississippi throughout the 1850s. (See property types listed in the Multiple Property documentation form.) It was the preferred ante-bellum style for the houses of prominent West Point citizens.

In addition to holding its own with similar resources throughout the state, the house is notable as the home of Moses Jordan, the earliest developer of West Point, local promoter of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and a State Senator in 1861, 1862, and 1864. Jordan owned the critical sections in Township 16 South, Range 6 East where the town was platted. Local historian Ruth White Williams documents in her forthcoming book, On the Map Since 1846, how Jordan maneuvered decisions concerning the town and the railway to his advantage. He donated the land for the first depot, near the corner of Main and Commerce streets, and had the rest of his holdings divided into lots. (Williams Interview) The first commercial and residential buildings in the new city were therefore built on Jordan's speculative land, purchased in 1850 before railroad construction was begun in Mobile. (Deed Records).

Jordan's house has historical connections with the Civil War, as well. Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest made the home his headquarters during the time that military action was taking place around West Point. A letter among papers in the Local History Room of the Bryan Public Library documents Forrest's visit. Mrs. P.B. Dugan (nee Martha Ann Westbrook), was staying at the Jordan home after her mother's death and met General Forrest. She told her family that Forrest's men "camped just across the street on the north side of Main Street and the camp extended northeastwardly, covering the woods" now used by the City of West Point for parks and fairgrounds. Mrs. Dugan reported that the soldiers burned "a number of rails of the fences" in their campfires one night and were ordered by Forrest to replace them the next day.

After Jordan's death, the house continued in private use until 1895, when it became the President's House for the head of the Southern Female College, a Presbyterian-sponsored institution. Deed records show that it was relocated to East Broad Street in 1903, when the college changed hands. Because of its quality and its associations with an important early settler and developer, the house remains important to the built history of West Point, even though it is not in its original location.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Christian, Grathan B. "The West Point Story," The West Point Centennial. West Point Centennial Committee, 1958.

Clay County Centennial Committee. Clay County Centennial Celebration 1872-1972. West Point, Miss.: Clay County Board of Supervisors, 1972.

Clay County, Mississippi. Tax Assessor's and Chancery Clerk's records. West Point, Mississippi.

Sanborn Insurance Company. Map of West point for 1925. New York: Sanborn Map Co.

Williams, Ruth White, local historian. Interviewed by phone, by Joan Embree, preservation consultant, in November, 1988.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Bryan Public Library, West Point

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	6
---	---

3	4	7	6	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	1	9	1	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

All of Lots three and four (4) and 4½ feet off the west side of Lot fifteen (15), all in Block forty-nine (49), Ward 4 of the City of West Point, MS, of and according to the Arthur L. Goodman Survey & Plat of the City of West Point, MS, which plat was adopted January 11, 1938.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary was chosen to include the house and the setting in which the house has been located since early this century. The boundary includes a recently-added carport at the rear (south).

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Embree
organization Preservation Consultant date Dec. 15, 1988
street & number 20 Lake Valley Rd. telephone (601) 324-0410
city or town Starkville state MS zip code 39759
Owners: Dr. & Mrs. W.H. Edwards, Jr., 940 East Broad St., West Point, MS 39773

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs
Section number _____ Page _____

Jordan, Moses, House
West Point
Clay County, MS

The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) Moses Jordan House
- (2) West Point, Clay County, Mississippi
- (3) Joan Embree
- (4) October, 1987, November, 1988
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

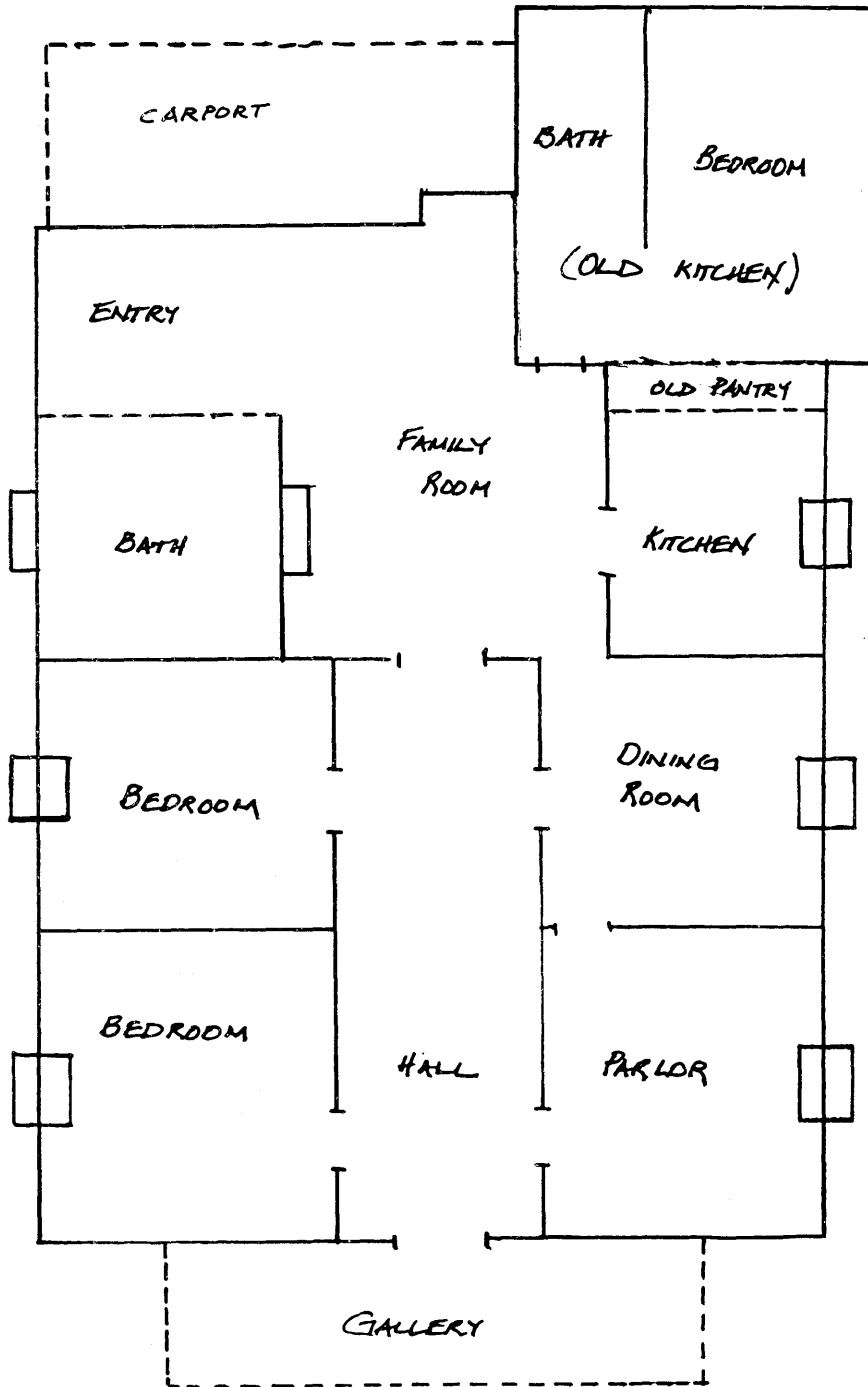
Photo 1--(4) View of Facade, north elevation, view to south

Photo 2--(4) View of central hall with arch, front door with red flashed glass, and millwork, view to north

Photo 3--(4) Millwork on original mantle in back parlor, view to west

Photo 4--(4) Original rear exterior exit, millwork, view to north

MOSES JORDAN HOUSE
940 EAST BROAD ST.
WEST POINT, MS



SCALE: 1/4 IN. = 3 FT.