

**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

For HCRS use only
received FEB 16 1982
date entered MAR 22 1982

1. Name

historic Sunnyslope

and/or common Sunnyslope

2. Location NE of Centreville

street & number West of State Highway 33 about 1 1/2 miles north of its intersection with State Highway 48 NA not for publication

city, town Centreville Miss. vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Mississippi code 28 county Amite code 5

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. William T. Polk

street & number 808 Alabama Street

city, town Vidalia NA vicinity of state Louisiana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Amite County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Liberty 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 type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>NA</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located northeast of Centreville, on the eastern side of State Highway 33 about one and a fourth miles north of the intersection of State Highway 48, Sunnyslope is located about four hundred feet from the road and is entered by a gravel drive. The vernacular, frame, Greek Revival plantation residence is set upon brick foundation piers and is topped with a gabled roof pierced by one interior brick chimney. The six-bay, westerly facade is fronted by a recessed gallery with molded cornice that is supported by wooden box columns with molded capitals. The columns are linked by an unusual railing consisting of a molded handrail and a wide, molded and paneled foot rail with no balusters. The facade of the house is plastered and adorned with a dado composed of molded chair rail, horizontal matched boards, and wide unmolded baseboard. All windows contain six-over-six, double-hung sash and were originally closed by shutter blinds, some now missing. Access to the interior is provided through two entry doorways located in the center bay of each three-bay half of the facade. Each entry doorway consists of an unmolded, four-panel door set beneath a transom.

The unusual interior floor plan is a variation on the early regional single-pile plan which features rear "cabinet" rooms enclosing each end of a recessed rear gallery. In Sunnyslope, which has no central hallway, this plan is varied by the original enclosure of the rear gallery area for a stair hall and by the original division of the northern rear "cabinet" room into two smaller rooms. The interior of the house is identically trimmed throughout with wooden pilastered mantel pieces, unmolded four-panel doors, unmolded door and window surrounds, and wide unmolded baseboards. The stairway, which features neither newels nor balusters, begins in a short open flight on the eastern hall wall, makes an open quarter turn with winders, and continues in a straight enclosed flight in a westerly direction to terminate in an unusual L-shaped hallway which provides access to the two upstairs bedrooms. The upstairs bedrooms and the front northern downstairs room feature large closets located adjacent to the central chimney. Each closet contains original wooden pegs and is closed by double-leaf doors that match the other doors of the house. Most of the doors of the house still retain their original oak-graining.

The rear of the house has been altered by the deterioration of the original three-bay back porch. A gabled-roof frame dependency with central chimney once stood to the rear of the main house and was linked to the house by a covered walk. No original outbuildings survive, but a large metal-clad barn, constructed in the twentieth century, is located northeast of the house.

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 mid-1850's **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Sunnyslope is representative of the typical Mississippi, mid-nineteenth century, Greek Revival plantation residence which is characteristically described as a one-and-a-half story frame dwelling with gabled roof and recessed front gallery. However, certain vernacular architectural features render Sunnyslope unique among its Mississippi counterparts. The house retains the facade configuration of earlier houses in the Federal Style which feature two entrance doorways rather than the more typical mid-nineteenth century, center-bay entrance doorway that opens onto a central hallway. Its gallery railing, which features a molded handrail and wide, paneled footrail, may be the only such gallery railing extant in the state. The interior floor plan of both the principal and second stories may also be unique for Mississippi. The interior floor plan, which is a common variation on the early regional single-pile plan which features rear "cabinet" rooms enclosing each end of a recessed rear gallery, differs from its counterparts in that the northern rear "cabinet" room was originally divided into two smaller rooms. The L-shaped hallway of the second-story and the configuration of the stairway which opens onto the hallway also have no precedent in Mississippi regional architecture. Perhaps the most functional of the oddities of Sunnyslope are the large closets of three of the major rooms. These closets, which feature original wooden pegs, are closed by full-sized, double-leaf doors that retain their original oak graining. Since Sunnyslope stylistically dates to the mid-1850's, the house was probably constructed as the plantation residence of Joseph W. Anderson and his wife Margaret on land given to Anderson by his family. No record of Joseph Anderson's marriage has been located, but it probably occurred in the early 1850's, since Margaret Anderson joined Bethany Presbyterian Church in 1853 and the birth of their oldest child was recorded in the same year (Records of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Centreville Public Library, Centreville, Mississippi). The Andersons were among the earliest and most prominent settlers of Amite County with John Anderson having come to Amite County from South Carolina in 1821 (Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi [Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1891], Vol. I, 304). Sunnyslope has been owned by the same family since its construction and is now the property of Joseph Anderson's great-grandson, Dr. William Polk, who plans to sympathetically restore the property. Although in poor to fair condition, the integrity of the house is outstanding.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Amite County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books 18, 19, 22, 117, 149.
 Bethany Presbyterian Church Records. Centreville Public Library, Centreville, Mississippi.
Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1891.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 3.7 acres

Quadrangle name Gloster, MS.

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone			Easting				Northing						

C

Zone			Easting				Northing						

D

Zone			Easting				Northing						

E

Zone			Easting				Northing						

F

Zone			Easting				Northing						

G

Zone			Easting				Northing						

H

Zone			Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property forms a four-sided figure with right angles and corners and equal sides of 400 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

organization Historic Natchez Foundation

date December 20, 1980

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. Bailey

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date February 2, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Lynn S. Beck

date 3/22/1982

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Ann Duhie

date 3/22/82

Chief of Registration

SUNNYSLOPE
Centreville, Amite County, Mississippi

UTM REFERENCES

15/686875/3443620

