



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, the Coopwood, Capt. Thomas, House, in Monroe County, Mississippi, reference number 88000492, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 09/09/2004, as evidenced by the WEEKLY LIST notice of September 17, 2004. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

2/19/2009  
Date

owner objection withdrawn. Listed 9 September 2004



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Capt. Thomas Coopwood House

and/or common Sunset Manor

2. Location

street & number 205 Thayer Avenue

N/A not for publication

city, town Aberdeen

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi

code 28

county Monroe

code 095

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A 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 Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Howell

street & number P. O. Box 544

city, town Aberdeen

N/A vicinity of

state MS 39730

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Chancery Clerk Building

street & number 201 W. Commerce St.

city, town Aberdeen

state MS 39730

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Captain Thomas Coopwood House is comprised of two separate sections built approximately fifteen years apart. They are connected by an enclosed porch.

The earlier brick section (c.1836) is a plain, rectangular house form. According to Helen M. Crawford, the bricks are square, rather than oblong, but of average width. The three-brick-deep walls rest on a wider brick foundation. The current owner has stuccoed the exterior in order to "preserve" the brick. The house had a window on both the north and south elevations near the east facade. A door was located in the center of the east facade and another on the western end of the south facade. Another door across from this one on the north facade may have originally been a window as it is not as wide as the other two doors. The house had a wooden floor which has now been replaced by a concrete floor. The current owner also rebuilt the west chimney. On the interior, he added a partition to the 40 foot x 16 foot interior space. John Rodabough, a prominent local historian, believed that the interior space had originally been divided into several rooms. He also reported that this brick house initially had three more rooms. Unfortunately, he does not make it clear if he is describing the room configuration of the house or a wing of three rooms (Helen M. Crawford, "Buford Howell's House Has A Long and Interesting Past," The Aberdeen Examiner, May 1, 1986 and John Rodabough, "Port of Aberdeen: Antebellum Homes, Part XI, Elegant Cottages," The Aberdeen Examiner, March 23, 1972).

A four room house for servants was located to the south of this brick house. The tornado of April 20, 1920, damaged this building beyond repair. The storm also tore six chimneys off the main house and destroyed eleven trees in the front yard (Rodabough, "Port of Aberdeen").

The frame, Greek Revival cottage portion (c. 1852) of the house rests on brick piers that have a concrete block infill. This one story, five-by-four-bay house's most attractive feature is a portico whose pedimented gable is set perpendicular to the ridge of the cottage's truncated hip roof. The classical design of the portico utilizes two pairs of fluted Doric columns and two square pilasters which support a pedimented gable with raking cornices and an entablature. The entrance within the portico is comprised of panelled double doors capped by a multi-light transom and flanked by sidelights with corner lights above and panelling below them. The whole is embraced by a fluted surround. The portico has a wood deck and is accessed by concrete steps. Four windows, two on each side, which have been altered to two-over-two, double hung sash but still retain their louvred shutters, flank the portico. The majority of the windows have been altered to two-over-two, double hung sash.

The south (side) elevation is marked by two exterior brick chimneys. Between them is a small, frame addition with a gable roof,

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1836, c. 1852      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Captain Thomas Coopwood House is significant as a typical representative example of a Greek Revival cottage in Aberdeen and for its association with Coopwood. It is eligible for the National Register under Criteria B and C.

The frame portion of the present house, which is the Greek Revival section, was built in the early 1850's. The year 1852 is generally believed to be the date of construction. At a later date, the brick and the frame houses were connected by a closed-in porch or breezeway.

A Chickasaw Indian, Puck-ah-no-tubby, sold Section 32, T14, R7E to Captain Thomas Coopwood (1793-1862) for one thousand dollars on May 2, 1836. Local tradition has long held that Coopwood built a brick house (now the rear section for the present building) here that same year. The present owner, Buford Howell, believes Coopwood built his brick house in 1826 and lived on the site in a log cabin prior to that. With no documentation to verify either construction date, the later year has been selected based on tradition and the deed that exists.

Coopwood was a planter, lawyer and politician. In addition to this house near Aberdeen (at that time the building was outside the incorporation limits of the town), he had a large plantation on the prairie, which was being worked by thirty-seven slaves in 1860. He also speculated in land, being one of the largest buyers of lots in New Aberdeen. Coopwood also had a law office with Benjamin F. Coopwood near the Old Courthouse in 1846. The office building is no longer extant. In 1845, Coopwood ran as the Whig candidate for governor of Mississippi, but was defeated by fifteen votes. He represented Monroe County in the Legislature in 1852. When the Civil War broke out, Coopwood became an officer in Company L of the 24th Mississippi Infantry, CSA, the "Monroe Rifles." He was killed at the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky in 1862.

Rev. George Washington Coopwood, a Primitive Baptist minister and Captain Coopwood's brother, lived in the house sometime prior to 1887. In that year, Charles Thayer of Bloomington, Illinois bought the property. Monroe Howell purchased the house around 1910 and today it is the residence of his son, D. B. Howell (Crawford, "Buford Howell's House...").

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Crawford, Helen M. "Buford Howell's House Has A Long & Interesting Past."

The Aberdeen Examiner, May 1, 1986.

Rodabough, John. "Port of Aberdeen: Antebellum Homes, Part XI, Elegant Cottages." The Aberdeen Examiner, March 23, 1972.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2.8 acres

Quadrangle name Aberdeen, MS

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	3	5	5	4	8	5	3	7	4	3	5	1	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

Parcel Number 108-L-33-001-012-00 as recorded in the Numerical Index located in the Chancery Clerk's Office.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan M. Enzweiler - Architectural Historian

organization Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

date September 1987

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state MS 39205

## 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Kenneth H. P. Pool*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 6, 1988

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

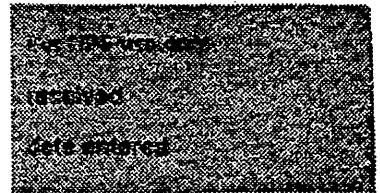
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Capt. Thomas Coopwood House,

Continuation sheet Aberdeen MRA, Monroe Co., MS Item number

7

Page 1

a paired six-over-six, double hung sash window and a shed roofed stoop. In a photograph taken circa 1940 and reproduced in a recent newspaper (Crawford, "Buford Howell's House..."), it appears that there was a shed-roofed porch with a balustrade where the frame addition is today. The south facade's windows have wooden lugsills and panelled wooden lintels. The north elevation of the Greek Revival cottage displays three exterior brick chimneys interspaced with windows. Endboards with rather large, simple capitals accent the front corners of the cottage. A full entablature encircles at least three elevations of the house.

Today, the Captain Thomas Coopwood House sits on a small rise on a 2.8 acre tract of land. A concrete sidewalk shaded by a magnolia tree and flanked by bushes leads from the street to the portico. The many trees which once shaded the front yard were uprooted by a tornado in 1920. Shrubbery has been planted near the foundation of the Greek Revival portion of the house. There is no evidence of any formal landscaping from the antebellum period. The rest of the property is shaded by large trees. According to Rodabough, the servants' quarters for the house were demolished in 1920. The only outbuilding at present is a garage, which is a non-contributing element.



Individual Properties  
 ABERDEEN MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA  
 Aberdeen, Monroe County, Mississippi

UTM REFERENCES:

- A. Capt. Thomas Coopwood House  
16/355485/3743510
- B. Old Homestead & Sykes Barn  
16/356660/3743600
- C. Adams-French House  
16/357110/3744000
- D. Aberdeen City Hall  
16/357055/3743620
- E. Johnson House  
16/356945/3742990
- F. William A. Dunklin House  
16/356910/3742950
- G. C. C. Day House  
16/357075/3743030
- H. Holiday Haven  
16/357085/3742930
- I. Austin Pollard House 16/357190/3742290

Aberdeen Commercial Buildings Thematic Group  
 Aberdeen Multiple Resource Area  
 Aberdeen, Monroe County, Mississippi

UTM REFERENCES:

- J Buildings, 110-122 E. Commerce Street  
16/357220/3743660
- K Buildings, NW corner Commerce & Meridian  
16/357125/3743670
- L Building, 133 E. Commerce Street  
16/357270/3743580

