

**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 Monmouth

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number N/A not for publication

city, town Natchez N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi code 28 county Adams code 1

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 Ron D. and Lani Riches

street & number Monmouth (P. O. Box 1736)

city, town Natchez N/A vicinity of state Mississippi 39120

**5. Location of Legal Description**

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

street & number Market St.

city, town Natchez state Mississippi 39120

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Historic American Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1972  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Division of Prints & Photographs, Library of Congress

city, town Washington state D. C.

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

### Summary

Monmouth is one of the most monumental, but externally austere, mansions in Natchez. Originally a Federal-style residence, the house underwent an extensive remodelling in the Greek Revival style circa 1853, which was carried out by John A. Quitman. The current owners of Monmouth, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Riches, restored the property in the late 1970's and have furnished it with many items of Quitman furniture and memorabilia.

### Monmouth

Monmouth is a rather austere, but superbly proportioned, two-story common-bond brick residence consisting of main block and rear wing. A giant order portico, featuring four massive square columns (plaster-covered brick with molded bases and caps) spans the three central bays of the five-bay front (north) facade. The north and west elevations, as well as an expanse of several feet on the east elevation, are stuccoed white and scored to resemble stone. The columns support a full entablature of architrave, frieze, and cornice crowned by a triangular pediment. The first floor of the portico is slate, and a balustrade of v-shaped design encloses the second-floor balcony. First and second-floor entrances at front and rear are identical, with three-panel double-leaf doors of hand-carved wood recessed within casings trimmed with slender fluted pilasters. Semicircular fanlights with radial and swag muntins are framed by molded arches, which in turn are surmounted at center by wedges of keystone-shaped marble. Detached side lights (a feature apparently unique to Natchez architecture) are six-over-six with deep reveals and again with marble wedges with cabled fluting placed atop the lintels. Windows of the main block have twelve-over-twelve double-hung sash, flat arches of rubbed brick, marble keystones, and (on the front facade) two-part wooden shutters. Two tall interior chimneys, stuccoed with flaring caps, project above the side elevations, which also feature dentiled bands running beneath the eaves. A two-tiered gallery with columns and entablature matching those of the facade extends across the rear elevation to the eastern bay where it turns at a right angle and continues along the east elevation of the rear wing.

The wing is attached, corner to corner, to the southeast corner of the main block. The rectangular shape, brick fabric, hipped roof, and prominent chimneys of the wing repeat those features of the main house, but fenestration differs, being the later six-over-six sash and lacking keystones in the flat arches. The interior of the wing consists of four rooms. One of the downstairs rooms was originally Quitman's library and has been restored to its former use by the Riches. The other three rooms serve as bedrooms for Monmouth's

## 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" 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			

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<b>Specific dates</b>	c. 1818	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown
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### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### Summary

Monmouth, the house of Governor John Anthony Quitman (Sept. 1, 1799 - July 17, 1858), is eligible for National Historic Landmark status under Criterion B because of its association with this nationally known Mexican War general and states' rights advocate and particularly because of his leadership in the Cuba Filibustering Expedition of 1853–1855. Monmouth in Natchez, Mississippi was constructed c. 1818 by John Hankinson on a thirty acre estate. Quitman purchased the property on March 11, 1826, and it was his primary residence until his death in 1858. Monmouth represents Quitman's economic and social status as a wealthy, influential lawyer and planter with a great financial stake in slavery. (In 1849 Quitman owned over three hundred slaves and approximately fifteen thousand acres of land). Beginning in 1828 when he was a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives, Quitman held a variety of positions in state government which culminated in his election as Governor in 1849. On the national political scene, Quitman ran unsuccessfully as the vice-presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket in 1848, but was a member of the United States House of Representatives almost a decade later, from March 4, 1856, until July 17, 1858. His outstanding service in the Mexican War (1846–1847) earned Quitman national acclaim as a war hero. He served as brigadier general of volunteers from July 1, 1846, to May 14, 1847, then as major general of volunteers from May 14, 1847 to July 20, 1848. Quitman was also appointed civil and military governor of Mexico City from September 14 to November 1, 1847. Quitman was an outspoken proponent of states' rights and a staunch defender of slavery. His commitment to these causes led him to undertake command of a Cuban filibustering expedition which, though it was never carried out, created serious repercussions for the United States' domestic and foreign policies (Mary Warren Miller and Ronald W. Miller, The Great Houses of Natchez [Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1986], p. 77; Monmouth, Natchez, Department of Archives and History, Jackson; and James H. McLendon, "John A. Quitman, Fire-Eating Governor." Journal of Mississippi History 15:77).

#### John A. Quitman

Quitman served as Governor of Mississippi from January 10, 1850, until February 3, 1851. The primary objective of his administration

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 26 acres

Quadrangle name Natchez, Miss.-La.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	5	6	5	3	2	8	0	3	4	9	1	9	3	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

1	5	6	5	3	3	4	0	3	4	9	1	7	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

1	5	6	5	3	2	9	0	3	4	9	1	7	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

1	5	6	5	3	2	4	0	3	4	9	1	4	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

1	5	6	5	3	2	7	0	3	4	9	1	3	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

1	5	6	5	3	1	8	0	3	4	9	1	4	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

1	5	6	5	3	1	4	0	3	4	9	1	5	5	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

1	5	6	5	2	9	7	0	3	4	9	1	6	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

(Continued)

### Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Enzweiler, Architectural Historian & Dawn Maddox, Architectural Historian

organization Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

date June 1987

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi 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 June 24, 1987

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

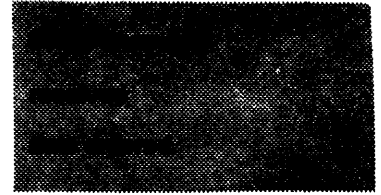
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormContinuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co., Item number 7 Page 1  
Mississippi

bed-and-breakfast operation.

Facing the wing across the rear yard is a detached common-bond brick service building with three chimneys, nine-over-six fenestration, box cornice, and an arcaded passageway on the east elevation. The ground floor was originally utilized as a kitchen, with individual servants' rooms upstairs. This building was rehabilitated in 1979-1980 by the Riches. The first story contains a breakfast room for the guests of Monmouth and the second story has been sensitively converted into modern living quarters.

The plan of the main block has the familiar symmetry of the period on both floors. The first-floor central hallway is flanked on the east by a parlor and a drawing room and on the west by formal and family dining rooms. Upstairs are a hallway and four bedrooms. Interior finish is primarily Federal, with decorated door openings on the first floor being especially noteworthy and characterized by fluted pilasters which support overdoors of friezes, paterae endblocks, and projecting molded shelves. Between the parlor and the drawing room is a wide arched doorway with clustered fluted pilasters, circularly carved center blocks in the archivolt and soffit, and semi-elliptical fanlight with radial and swag muntins. The double sliding doors of this opening have been removed. Wooden mantelpieces composed of Adamesque motifs (fans, paterae, and columns) are on the second floor, with the one in the chamber parlor being most elaborate. Downstairs the mantelpieces in the east rooms are beige-veined black marble and those in the formal and family dining rooms are white marble and white-painted wood, respectively. The stairway, offset in the rear of the central hallway, curves in a graceful quarter-turn with winders to the second floor. The handrail begins atop a cluster of slender, oval-sectioned balusters on the curtail step and is supported in its ascent by a subsequent placement of two balusters per tread. Additional architectural detail throughout the house includes crown and picture moldings, ceiling medallions, chair rails, black-painted baseboards, paneling beneath windows and within window and door casings, and corner cupboards.

John A. Quitman left his indelible stamp on Monmouth during a circa 1853 remodeling, in which the Federal-style house received a Greek Revival facelift. Quitman covered the original brick of the front facade with scored stucco and built the imposing portico. He also added the rear gallery and two story wing to the southeast corner of the house, according to the plans of James McClure, an architect of Cincinnati, Ohio. To the detached brick kitchen, Quitman added a second story and an arcaded gallery (Mary Warren Miller & Ronald W. Miller, The Great Houses of Natchez [Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1986], p. 77).

When the new gallery was added, a new roof was placed over the rear slope of the original roof of the main block, raising it and

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

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



Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co., Item number 7  
Mississippi

Page 2

extending it over the gallery. The rear slope of the original roof, retaining most of its wood shingle covering, is intact beneath the newer roof.

The facade was remodeled in the same style as the rear of the house. Beneath the roof of the present portico, weathered wood shingles remain in place with flashing and framing outlining an uncovered triangular area where the gable roof of an earlier portico or pavilion was attached to the front slope of the main roof. The present deep entablature around the portico and across the facade gives further evidence of remodeling. It projects above the eaves, covers the tops of the window keystones and, on the return at the sides, abuts a smaller, simpler, and probably original dentil cornice. The only other known changes to the original plan, prior to the Riches' restoration, are the bathrooms installed circa 1918 on each end of the rear gallery as part of the complete restoration undertaken by Mrs. Hubert Barnum.

When Quitman purchased Monmouth in 1826, the property was comprised of the main house with a cellar under half of it, a detached brick kitchen behind it, a garden house and "convenient outhouses in good repair." Before the house lay a picturesque front vista -- the drive winding up to Monmouth was shaded by oak trees dripping with Spanish moss -- and a developed garden also graced the property (Robert E. May, John A. Quitman, Old South Crusader [Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1985], p. 28).

Quitman, an avid horticulturalist, personally tended to the greenhouse, orchards and vegetable gardens at Monmouth when he was home. Also, about 1849 he had Monmouth's old stable and barn razed, so that a new brick stable and poultry yard could be constructed. The former minister to Spain, Daniel Barringer, visited Monmouth in 1855 and described "The Genl.'s place [as] very striking -- very much improved, yet left so as to give the most natural effect and the beautiful ground and splendid oaks, with long hanging moss, to their branches....He lives in a princely style -- in a...castle of a house -- plain and rich -- old fashioned...with very plain but rich furniture" (May, pp. 137-138, 218).

Monmouth remained in the Quitman Family until at least 1909. The property then passed through several hands until it was purchased in 1978 by Mr. and Mrs. Ron Riches of Los Angeles, California. They immediately undertook an exacting restoration of Monmouth, with the restoration of the main house and its wing taking three years, from 1978 to 1980. During this restoration, Monmouth's two gasoliers and two gas sconces were again made operable. The original brick kitchen was rehabilitated from 1979 to 1980. In 1982 an archaeological investigation of the Quitman property revealed where two small frame houses, slave quarters, had stood. These were reconstructed on their original sites.

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

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



Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co.,  
Mississippi Item number 7

Page 3

When the Riches purchased Monmouth, the house contained a few Quitman pieces such as a carved settee and side chairs, a rosewood parlor set (sofa and two chairs) upholstered in wine-colored damask, and a sideboard. Since then, the Riches have diligently searched out other furniture and memorabilia belonging to John Quitman and his family. Original furnishings also now include Quitman's desk, his massive four-poster bed and another four-poster bed. Included among the memorabilia are the red handkerchief Quitman used to rally his troops in the Mexican War, the gold sword presented to Quitman by President Polk and Congress for his services during the Mexican War (Quitman was the only one out of six generals during the war to receive this honor), the family Bible which Quitman purchased for Monmouth and other assorted materials (Ron Riches, present owner of Monmouth, telephone interview by Susan Enzweiler, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, June 12, 1987).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormContinuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co. Item number 8 Page 1  
Mississippi

was to stop Federal encroachment upon states' rights. He bitterly opposed the Compromise of 1850. The Governor feared that the Union could not be maintained because of the growing mistrust between the North and the South and the developments in territorial expansion. Although Quitman was a firm believer in Manifest Destiny, he saw the trends in territorial expansion as ultimately upsetting the balance of power in Congress in favor of the North, and, thus, slavery would be abolished by legislation (Robert E. May, John A. Quitman, Old South Crusader. [Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1985], pp. 229-230).

Consequently, Cuba was important to Quitman and other politically aware slaveholders for two reasons. Foremost they hoped that Cuba, which already had a slave system intact, would be annexed as a slave state. At the very least, however, a successful filibuster would prevent the Africanization of Cuba. Africanization was a policy of a free labor system for blacks in Cuba which Spain was inaugurating under pressure from England and France. The success of this emancipation policy would close the door on one of the South's few potential outlets for slavery expansion and would bring emancipation too close to the Gulf Coast states for the likes of large slaveholders like Quitman. The Governor wrote that the South's "social institutions will receive a fatal stab through the same blow that reaches the heart of Cuba" (C. Stanley Urban, "The Abortive Quitman Filibustering Expedition, 1853-1855." Journal of Mississippi History 18:177, 182-183 and May, p. 277).

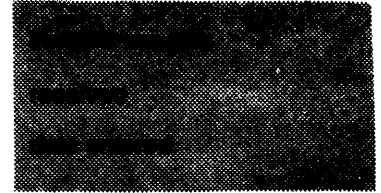
To Quitman and his cohorts, filibustering was the only means of averting Africanization in Cuba. An American declaration of war against Spain, in the filibusters' eyes, would only accelerate the Spanish process of emancipation so that the blacks would be armed to meet the American invasion force. This prospect greatly alarmed Southern slaveholders. An American purchase of Cuba was equally distasteful. The filibusters presumed that if Cuba was acquired in this manner the island would carry with it the hated decrees which had already set into motion the process of Africanization and then Northerners might lobby successfully to have Cuba admitted as a non-slave state. The filibusters hoped to conquer Cuba quickly and preempt the finalization of emancipation. Cuba could then proclaim itself an independent republic, annul the Africanization edicts and demand slave state status as a condition of its annexation to the United States (May, p. 278).

Considering Quitman's views on Manifest Destiny and the future of slavery in the United States, it is easy to understand why General



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

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



Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co., Item number 8 Page 2  
Mississippi

Narciso Lopez, a Cuban revolutionary, visited the Governor in March 1850. Lopez offered Quitman the command of a filibustering expedition against Spanish Cuba. Quitman declined to accept the command, but did give Lopez some assistance. Historians differ over exactly what kind of help the Governor gave to the revolutionary. Quitman's most recent biographer, Robert E. May, believes the Governor may have gone so far as to accept the command of a reinforcement expedition that would leave New Orleans between June 1st and June 15, 1850, on the condition that Lopez had successfully led the main invasion force by then. In any case, Lopez's second-in-command, Ambrosio Jose Gonzalez, wrote to Quitman on March 20, 1850, from Natchez that the Governor's statement that he "'could not engage until the people of Cuba, by their own free act, should first erect the standard of Independence,'" satisfied the Cubans' wishes (Urban, p. 176; May, pp. 236, 238 and John A. Quitman Papers, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson).

Lopez's expedition was a failure. In July 1850, two months after the enterprise, Quitman and fifteen others were indicted by a federal grand jury for their involvement with Lopez's violation of the neutrality laws. Eventually, the indictments were dropped, but not before Quitman had resigned as Governor on February 3, 1851.

John Quitman returned to Monmouth and threw himself into Natchez radical politics from late March to early May 1851. Although his attempts to lead Mississippi into secession over the Compromise of 1850 had failed, he was still respected among disunionists throughout the South. Public opinion, however, was behind the moderates who supported the Compromise in order to preserve the Union (May, p. 256).

For Quitman and the other states' rights politicians, this turn of events made Cuba even more significant. The island signified a new beginning for the stalled 1850 southern rights struggle (May, pp. 280-281).

After the disastrous Lopez expedition, a group of Louisiana's filibusters organized a secret "Order of the Lone Star" to reestablish the Cuba annexation movement. This organization influenced the outcome of the 1852 Presidential election, particularly in the Deep South, where Democrat Franklin Pierce was believed to support annexation and rumored to belong to the order. This support may have helped Pierce to win the election (May, p. 271).

Quitman had maintained contact with the filibusters since 1850 and had even publicly expressed his support for their cause at a meeting held in Natchez in December 1851 (May, p. 271).

Beginning in December 1852 and for several months thereafter, John

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormContinuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co.,  
Mississippi

Item number 8

Page 3

Quitman remained at Monmouth and committed himself to organizing another Cuba filibuster. That same month, a Cuban filibusterer, probably Louis Schlessinger, visited Quitman at Monmouth. On April 29, 1853, representatives from the Cuban Junta (this organization had been recently established to organize another filibuster expedition) visited Quitman at Natchez in order to offer him the position of "exclusive chief" of their planned revolution. He would retain complete military and civil power until he believed that it was possible to establish an independent form of government for Cuba. Quitman accepted their offer on the condition that the filibuster would be adequately funded and that all the Cuban exiles in the United States would rally around him (May, pp. 271-272).

The Quitman filibuster expedition, though abortive, held much more serious consequences for American-Spanish relations than had the previous Cuban filibusters led by General Narciso Lopez. Quitman drew many of his recruits from the most respectable families in the South and the Southwest. This gave his expedition a definite regional flavor and a respectability not enjoyed by the earlier Lopez expeditions. The composition of the filibuster force sent a clear message to the rest of the country that Southerners were becoming increasingly discontent over their position in American society and were willing to fight to preserve their way of life (Urban, pp. 180-181 and May, pp. 279-280).

President Pierce, for his part, was proexpansionist and feared Africanization in Cuba, so he gave tacit consent to Quitman's proposed filibuster. However, from 1853 to 1855 relations between the United States and Spain deteriorated rapidly due, in part, to Quitman's activities. Certain events would force Pierce to stop Quitman in order to avoid potential conflict with Spain and national strife (Urban, p. 183).

In the spring of 1854 the Spanish consul at New Orleans, A. M. Segovia, reported to his superiors in Havana that it was dangerous to remain in the city because feelings were running so high in support of the filibuster. Neither the mayor nor federal officials in the city would guarantee his protection (Urban, p. 182).

From early in 1854 to January 1855 the Pierce administration was negotiating with Spain to purchase Cuba for \$130,000,000.00. Pierce was willing to facilitate matters by yielding to Spain's demands that Quitman's filibuster expedition be stopped. Therefore, Pierce issued a proclamation on May 31, 1854, forbidding such adventurism against allies. Quitman and other leaders in his expedition were required to post a three thousand dollar bond that they would not violate the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet      Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co.,  
Mississippi      Item number      8      Page      4

neutrality laws. This action seriously cut down on the recruits and funding for the venture, which was already plagued by money problems and a growing distrust between Quitman and the Cuban Junta. Nevertheless, Quitman's expedition played a key role in American-Spanish relations over the next several months (Urban, pp. 183-184).

The American offer to purchase Cuba was turned down by Spain and the Pierce administration abandoned purchase plans indefinitely. Northerners were already greatly angered over the possible expansion of slavery into Kansas, and the purchase of Cuba, which abolitionists believed would be a slave state, would only interject more strife into a tense political situation (Urban, pp. 184-185).

In the meantime, Spanish spies learned that Quitman had assured Pierce that he would take no action to jeopardize the administration's plans unless a revolution broke out in Cuba. This information had a dramatic impact on Cuba's Captain-General Jose de la Concha. Concha sidetracked the revolutionary zeal of Cuba's slaveholders by abandoning Africanization. Secure in the possession of their property, the upper class was placated and now had no desire to overthrow Spanish rule. If Quitman knew about his loss of popular support on the island, it did not affect his actions, since he still continued his efforts as if nothing had changed (Urban, pp. 185-186).

Rumors circulated in January 1855 that Quitman would shortly launch his filibuster expedition. This greatly alarmed Spanish officials in Havana, and they took drastic measures, even to the point of proclaiming a state of siege. A conspiracy plot on the island was uncovered and crushed. Spain received help from English naval vessels in patrolling the waters off Cuba and de la Concha warned Pierce that he would arm the blacks if Quitman landed with his filibusters (Urban, pp. 188-189).

Quitman went to Washington, D.C. in mid-February 1855 to discuss the filibuster expedition with President Pierce. A good case can be made that he was summoned to the Capitol by an administration eager to extricate itself from a potentially explosive situation -- a possible war with England, France and Spain over a proslavery expansion issue which the North would certainly condemn. If the filibusters now defied Washington and departed, it would appear to the public that Southern Democrats had flaunted the Presidential Proclamation of May 1854 and exacerbate the volatile relationship existing between the nation's political parties. Lastly, de la Concha's threat to arm Cuba's blacks carried serious implications for the South as well as Cuba's slaveholders. It is believed by historians that Pierce, his

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

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



Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co., Item number 8 Page 5  
Mississippi

Secretary of State, William L. Marcy, and Spanish ambassador L.A. del Cueto met with Quitman. They seem to have told him quite frankly that the filibusters would not be allowed to leave the United States and impressed upon him the importance of abandoning his venture. About March 15, 1855, Quitman told his agents to disband the expedition's army, and the following month he tendered his resignation to the Cuban Junta (Urban, pp. 188-189, 191-192 and May, p. 295).

Quitman's filibuster expedition, although it was never carried out, was a clear sign to the country's politicians of how disaffected Southerners had become concerning their place in the Union. Inevitably, Quitman would become the South's standard bearer. He was recognized as a national hero due to his efforts in the Mexican War and enjoyed additional regional popularity as a Southern nationalist. The former Mississippi governor was crucial in rallying support from states' rights advocates and slaveholders for the filibuster. His expedition rapidly gained grass roots support among the Southern people and foreshadowed the intensity of emotion and the animosity between North and South which would soon erupt into armed conflict.

Quitman and Monmouth

More than any other structure, Monmouth and its grounds embodies the life, ambitions, accomplishments, and forceful character of its owner, John A. Quitman. Although Monmouth was already a substantial estate when he purchased it in 1826, Quitman shaped it into what he believed to be an appropriate symbol of his status and role as a wealthy and politically powerful member of the planter-aristocracy.

Monmouth's Greek Revival character primarily reflected in its massive square-columned portico, stuccoed facade, and galleried rear wing, is part of an extensive renovation executed by Quitman in 1853 at the height of his career. He also lavished attention on the development and maintenance of Monmouth's grounds as well (see #7, Physical Description).

As John A. Quitman's residence for thirty-two years and as the location of many of the events associated with his political intrigues, Monmouth is the place which best represents the man, his career, and the significant role he played in setting the stage for the War Between the States.

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

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



Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co. Item number 9 Page 1  
Mississippi

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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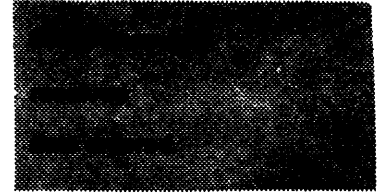
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Riches, Ron, present owner of Monmouth. Telephone interview by Susan Enzweiler, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, June 12, 1987.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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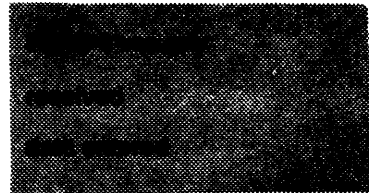
Continuation sheet Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co., Item number 10 Page 1  
Mississippi

#10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - Verbal Boundary Description

Monmouth, beginning at a point where the westerly line of Melrose Avenue is intersected by the northerly line of Lot B-B, said point is also the northeasterly corner of said Lot B-B, and run thence from said point of beginning so established north 81 degrees 24 feet west from a distance of 125.4 feet to the northwesterly corner of said Lot B-B; thence south 8 degrees 45 feet west along the westerly line of said Lot B-B for a distance of 75 feet; thence south 9 degrees 27 feet west for a distance of 75 feet; thence south 9 degrees 13 feet west for a distance of 74.8 feet; thence south 8 degrees 26 feet west for a distance of 74.3 feet; thence north 82 degrees 2 feet west for a distance of 16.2 feet; thence south 9 degrees 6 feet west for a distance of 6.6 feet; thence south 8 degrees 48 feet west for a distance of 174.9 feet; thence south 9 degrees 3 feet west for a distance of 100.1 feet; thence south 80 degrees 47 feet east for a distance of 14.9 feet; thence south 81 degrees 26 feet east for a distance of 125 feet to the westerly line of Melrose Avenue; thence south 9 degrees 16 feet west along the westerly line of Melrose Avenue for a distance of 60 feet; thence north 81 degrees 26 feet west along the northerly line of said Lots B and B-1 for a distance of 125 feet to the northwesterly corner of said Lots B and B-1; thence south 9 degrees 2 feet west along the westerly line of said Lots B and B-1 for a distance of 149.9 feet; thence south 9 degrees 0 feet west for a distance of 100.2 feet; thence south 9 degrees 9 feet west for a distance of 99.9 feet; thence south 8 degrees 56 feet west for a distance of 100.6 feet; thence south 8 degrees 46 feet west for a distance of 100.1 feet; thence south 8 degrees 19 feet west for a distance of 100.0 feet; thence north 81 degrees 41 feet west for a distance of 22.1 feet to the center of a bayou; thence following the meanders of said bayou to the southeasterly corner of Lot 18 as shown on the plat of Monmouth Place, Second Division, Block 3, recorded in Plat Book 1 at page 30; thence leaving said bayou run north 10 degrees 11 feet east along the easterly lines of Lots 18 through 27 of Block 3 of said Monmouth Place, Second Division, for a distance of 540 feet, more or less, to the intersection of the easterly line of Lot No. 27 of said lots with the southerly line of the extension of Main Street; run thence in an easterly direction and northeasterly direction along the southerly line of extension of Main Street along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 716.62 feet for a distance of 375.22 feet to a point; thence continuing along the southerly right-of-way of said Main Street extension, run thence north 69 degrees 25 feet east for a distance of 539.12 feet to a point, run thence south 83 degrees 15 feet east for a distance 118.6 feet to the intersection of the southerly line of Main Street extension with the westerly line of Melrose Avenue; run thence along the westerly line of

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

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



Continuation sheet      Monmouth, Natchez, Adams Co.,  
Mississippi      Item number      10      Page      2

Melrose Avenue south 29 degrees 4 feet east for a distance of 114.32 feet; thence continue along the westerly right-of-way line of Melrose Avenue in a southerly direction for 361.74 feet to the northeasterly corner of Lot B-B and the point of beginning, said tract containing 26 acres, more or less, and located in the City of Natchez, Adams County.

UTM's continued

- I. 15 652990 3491830
- J. 15 653080 3491840