

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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, Charles R., House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Tibbee-Columbus Road N/A  not for publication  
city, town West Point  vicinity  
state Mississippi code MS county Clay code 25 zip code 39773

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Clay County 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. Paul  
Signature of certifying official

SEPT. 18, 1991  
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

entered in the  
National Register

Albert J. [Signature]

11/15/91

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

Gothic Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick piers

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other wooden porch

### Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Charles R. Jordan House is a raised Greek Revival cottage with Gothic and Greek Revival details in the woodwork on the full-length front gallery. The roof is hipped, but has a low pitch. Two massive interior chimneys pierce the roof. The facade faces west, toward what used to be the West Point/Tibbee Road and the Illinois Central, formerly Mobile & Ohio, Railroad. (See photo #1.) The facade is three bay (window, door, window). The windows are large 6/6 double hung sash over paneled jib doors. The entry has a massive, paneled, pine single-leaf door in a surround with deep blue lights set in diagonal muntins within squares.

A massed central hall plan, with two rooms to each side, has been altered by the addition of a hipped roof wing at the northeast corner. The entry hall and two adjacent western rooms have faux bois work on doors, surrounds, and baseboards. Mantels on the double-faced interior fireplaces are restrained classical designs in all four rooms. Interior doors are large, single-leafed, and paneled. They are hung in tall molded surrounds with three-light transoms. (See photo #2.) The door at the back of the entry hall is in line with the load bearing central wall. It opens into the dining room, where another door opens onto the back porch. The two back bedrooms open off of the dining room, and the late 19th or early 20th century kitchen ell opens off of the northeast bedroom. The latter contains the kitchen, a bedroom, and, under the porch roof, a bathroom.

Fine interior details include the woodwork, milled in a simple classical style in surrounds for four panel doors with transoms; mantels with simple classical motifs (See photo #3), and extensive wood graining on all the woodwork in the original section. Mantels, all original, have been painted, and the current residents do not know if they once also had faux finishes.

Alterations to the house over time include the installation of beaded ceiling board to cover failing plaster on all interior ceilings c. 1920, drywall on walls of northeast bedroom and modern wood paneling on the kitchen addition, the reconstruction within the last two years of the ornate woodwork on the front gallery, the replacement of boards on the facade, under the gallery, and the alteration of the front steps from wood to brick.

Virginia Lance, daughter of Robert Cox who moved to the house in 1894, remembers two cooks' houses, a coal house with a dovecote at the top, a chicken house, a barn, a smokehouse, and another unidentified building. All of these outbuildings, essential to the management of an early plantation, have disappeared in this century.

See continuation sheet

**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  
c. 1858

Significant Dates  
c. 1858

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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 Charles R. Jordan home is significant for its architectural style and sophistication and its integrity among the limited antebellum resources in rural Clay County. A vernacular form of Greek Revival, with Gothic Revival features, it comes close to rivaling the few substantial early houses in the City of West Point, which was developing as the house was being built, c. 1858. Charles R. Jordan was one of three brothers who came from North Carolina soon after the opening of the territory and built houses that still survive. (William Jordan built a log house on the old Aberdeen Road, now North Eshman Ave., which has been modernized and is owned by Kyle Chandler and his family. Moses Jordan built a splendid Greek Revival home c. 1852 on the old road from Columbus to Coffeeville, now called Main Street.)

Moses Jordan's city house may well have influenced Charles's decision about what style of house to build. Charles chose the same basic shape, floor plan, and low hipped roof that appears on the town house. It may have been the distance from town or a difference in tastes which caused the Jordan house at Tibbee to be more simply finished, both inside and out. Although Moses's house has heavy Greek Revival detailing in exterior and interior woodwork, Charles's has modified classical details and faux bois graining on its woodwork, and a blend of Gothic and Greek Revival details on its exuberant front porch.

Jordan is listed on the 1850 census, at the age of 31, along with his wife, Susannah, three small children, and his overseer, Jasper Millsaps. His land is valued at \$6,400. He is also listed as a Mobile and Ohio Agent, and a boarder in the Starkville home of George W. Critz. The M&O reached the City of West Point in 1858, having passed through Jordan's front yard on its way north. By the 1860 census, he was richer on all accounts with eight children, real estate valued at \$45,000, and personal property valued at \$130,000. He sold the Tibbee house and property in 1871 to Alexander H. Simpson, who put it into trust deeds with cotton brokers regularly, apparently to finance his cotton crops, and finally lost it in 1892. The Cox family, members of which still occupy the house, moved into it in 1894. "Happy" Cox served as the Mobile and Ohio Depot manager at Tibbee when the town was at its peak, around 1900. His son, R.L. Cox, ran a General Merchandise store and was postmaster in the community in the early 20th century. The business buildings of Tibbee burned in about 1927, but the houses to either side -- Jordan's on the north and W.F. Walker's on the south, were saved.

See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Charles R. Jordan House, Tibbee, Clay County, Mississippi

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Although the outbuildings once associated with the Jordan house are gone, the house remains as a fine example of attention to the kind of stylish plan and detail which were chosen by a man of property and civic importance in the years when Mississippi cotton provided wealth and prestige, and when railroads were beginning to carry that cotton north in larger amounts and in faster times than before possible.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See Historic Context bibliography.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Specify repository:**

Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre

**UTM References**

A 16 348500 3711000  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries for the Charles Jordan House include the frontage between the facade and the (Illinois Central) railroad right-of-way on the west, and to 50 feet from the house to the north, east, and south.

Section 9, Township 19, Range 16 -- 4.5 acres H&L, southwest corner of the northeast quarter.

**Boundary Justification**

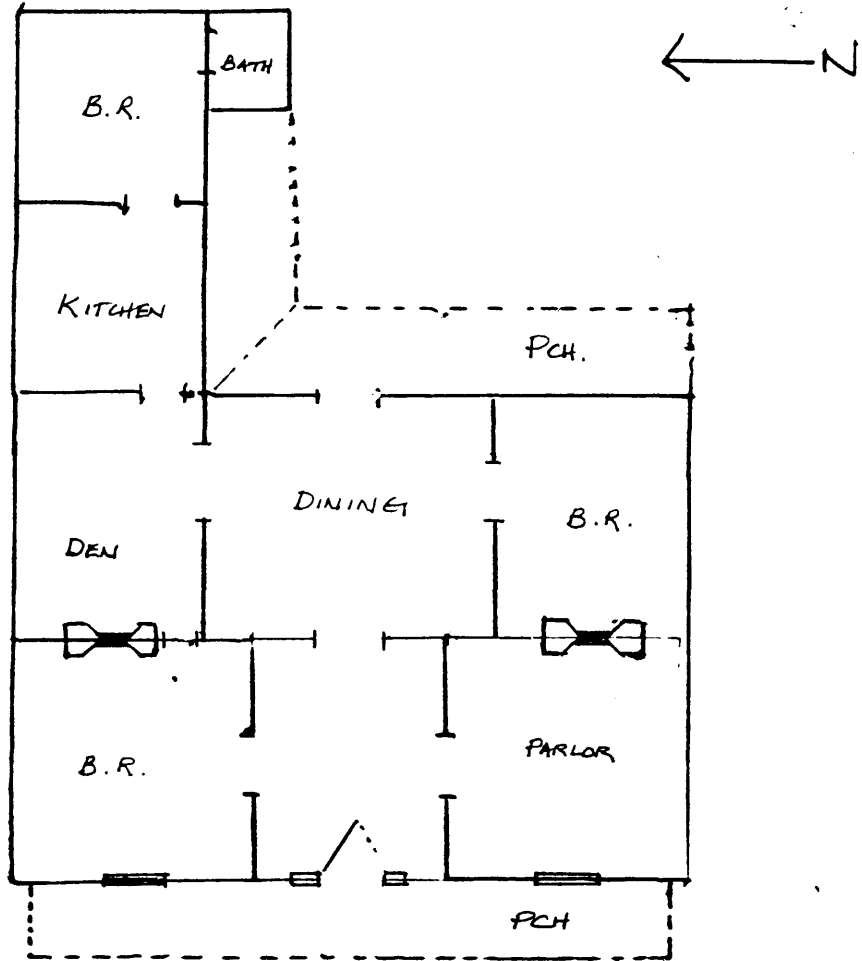
The boundaries include the house and its immediate surroundings. All of the original buildings have been removed and the road has been altered, leaving the house as the sole artifact of a once-large farming operation.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joan Embree  
 organization Preservation Consultant date 7/15/89  
 street & number 20 Lake Valley Road telephone (601) 324-0410  
 city or town Starkville state MS zip code 39759

# CHARLES R. JORDAN HOUSE



NOT TO SCALE



ILLINOIS CENTRAL