

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



JUN 25 1991

NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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).

1. Name of Property

historic name Merrill-Newhardt House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 508 W. Quitman Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Iuka

N/A vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Tishomingo code 141 zip code 38852

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

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic Resources of Iuka

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.

Signature of certifying official Kenneth H. P. Paul

Date June 17, 1991

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, determined eligible for the National Register, determined not eligible for the National Register, removed from the National Register, other, (explain:)

Entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 8/9/91

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

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK PIERS
walls WEATHERBOARD

roof ASPHALT SHINGLES
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Merrill-Newhardt House is set back from the north side of West Quitman Street, an early and main east-west road past the mineral springs through Iuka. Several large trees shade the yard and there is a one-room building just east of the house that shares the home's Greek Revival style. (See Photo #1.)

The house is one story, with a truncated pyramidal roof trimmed with a square balustrade. The facade is five bay (W,W,D,W,W), with a simple single leafed wood paneled door centered under a four light transom. The door and the flanking 9/6 double hung windows have narrow surrounds with edging boards and rectangular blocks similar to those at Dunrobin, the R.C. Brinkley House. The nearly full length front gallery has a prominent gabled entry and hipped side extensions. It is supported on square hollow columns with molded capitals and bases. The simple frieze on the porch and the main section of the house has a molded cornice. Corner pilasters match the column style.

The west elevation has been altered by the addition of a door in place of a window and a small side porch. A second change occurred at the rear, where a small window was added for the kitchen. A shed roofed rear porch has been enclosed with new windows and weatherboard. Chimneys for the double-faced interior fireplaces were removed in the mid-20th century renovations.

The small building to the east is side gabled, with a single, four paneled door under a three light transom on the facade. A frieze and corner pilasters matching those on the house complete the facade detail. Single windows on the east and west elevations are 9/6 double hung, in frames similar to those on the house. The northern elevation has no windows, but a brick stovepipe flue which has been abbreviated to below roof level.

Nothing remains of the original interior of the house. The mantels, woodwork and walls have been altered. The floor plan remains essentially the same, though the left front room has been opened to include the width of the central hall and a bathroom has been installed at the rear of the hall.

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

Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

1857

1857-1861

Significant Dates

c.1857

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 Merrill-Newhardt House is locally significant architecturally and historically because it is one of a very small number of buildings in the town of Iuka that survive from the early settlement period from about 1857 to 1861 (see cover documentation for the Historic Resources of Iuka). The house was built about 1857.

Edwin Merrill, owner, took up the job of Memphis and Charleston agent when John M. Stone moved on to become Iuka Mayor following the war. His daughter, Effie, who was raised in the house, married Professor John Newhardt, one of the 1882 organizers of the Iuka Normal Institute. The INI, located originally across the street in the buildings that had been used for the Iuka Female Institute, developed such a reputation that it moved to much larger quarters -- the Iuka Springs Hotel -- from 1894 to its demise in 1901. Professor Newhardt is said to have used the one room structure for a classroom when he continued teaching after the Institute closed. Some accounts of the house's history say that James Fenimore Cooper lived there after the war, during summers while he was writing for the Memphis Appeal.

Tyndal "Dick" Merrill, born in the house in 1894, was an aviation pioneer. He won the Harmon Trophy for piloting the first trans-Atlantic commercial flight in 1937. In the 1960s, he and entertainer Arthur Godfrey set 21 world speed records when they flew a corporate jet around the world. As an Eastern Airlines pilot, Merrill eventually recorded over eight million miles in the air.

Although the Merrill-Newhardt House differs in massing from the remaining group of vernacular Greek Revival ante-bellum cottages, it has in common the solid classical style which was the favored image for merchant class houses in the developing town. It shares some details with the L-shaped cottages and some with the R.C. Brinkley house on the old Eastport Road. Although its interior is changed, the exterior, with its associated yard, trees, and "school room," make it an important survivor of early town settlement and development.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See main 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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Approximately 1 acre

UTM References

A

16	3910800	318512420
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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B

Zone	Easting	Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Part Block #6, Hubbard Survey
Lot line fronting on West Quitman, to corner of Bettydale Dr., north to within 30 feet of the house, east to eastern lot line.

Tax Assessor's Map 1006, Section 05, Subdivision 24, Parcel 32

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the land still associated with the house, but not that area which has been divided for new properties.

See continuation sheet

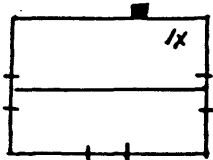
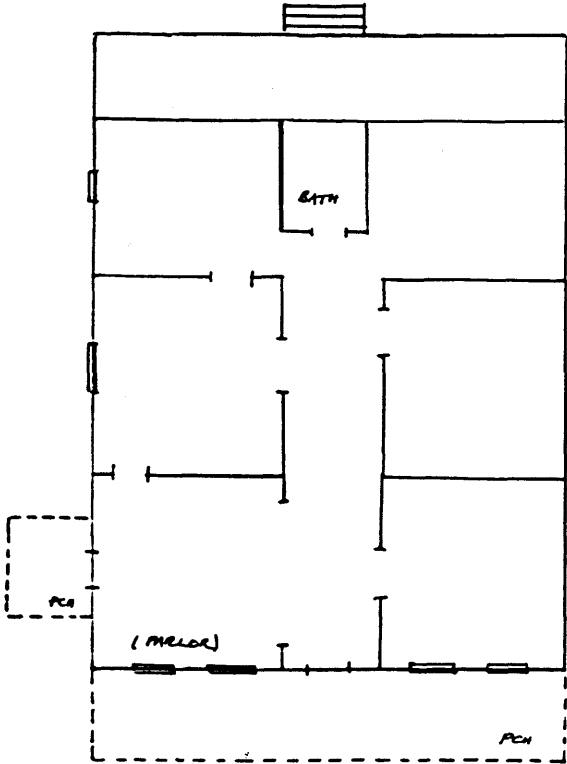
11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Embree
organization Preservation Consultant date 2/20/1990
street & number 20 Lake Valley Road telephone (601) 324-0410
city or town Starkville state MS zip code 39759

Owner: Mrs. Alta Nelson, 508 W. Quitman, Iuka, MS 38852

Merrill-Newhardt House, Iuka, Tishomingo County, Mississippi

BETTY DALE
DRIVE



MERRILL-NEUHWART

WEST QUITMAN

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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1. Name of Property

historic name Merrill-Newhardt House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 508 W. Quitman Street not for publication
city, town Iuka vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Tishomingo code 141 zip code 38852

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>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic Resources of Iuka

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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Signature of certifying official _____

Date _____

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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

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(enter categories from instructions)

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The house is one story, with a low hipped roof finished by a square balustrade. The facade is five bay (W,W,D,W,W), with a simple single leafed wood paneled door centered under a four light transom. The door and the flanking 9/6 double hung windows have narrow surrounds with edging boards and rectangular blocks similar to those at Dunrobin, the R.C. Brinkley House. The nearly full length front gallery has a prominent gabled entry and hipped side extensions. It is supported on square hollow columns with molded capitals and bases. The simple frieze on the porch and the main section of the house has a molded cornice. Corner pilasters match the column style.

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1857
1857-1861

Significant Dates

c.1857
1857

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

The Merrill-Newhardt House is significant as one of the small group of remaining ante-bellum resources which describe the early development of the new railroad town of Iuka. The house is mentioned in local history accounts as having suffered damage when a cannon ball passed through the rafters and lodged in the ceiling of the house during the Battle of Iuka on Sept. 19, 1862.

Edwin Merrill, owner, took up the job of Memphis and Charleston agent when John M. Stone moved on to become Iuka Mayor following the war. His daughter, Effie, who was raised in the house, married Professor John Newhardt, one of the 1882 organizers of the Iuka Normal Institute. The INI, located originally across the street in the buildings that had been used for the Iuka Female Institute, developed such a reputation that it moved to much larger quarters -- the Iuka Springs Hotel -- from 1894 to its demise in 1901. Professor Newhardt is said to have used the one room structure for a classroom when he continued teaching after the Institute closed. Some accounts of the house's history say that James Fenimore Cooper lived there after the war, during summers while he was writing for the "Memphis Appeal."

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- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 1 acre

UTM References

A

16

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

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Part Block #6, Hubbard Survey
Lot line fronting on West Quitman, to corner of Bettydale Dr., north to within 30 feet of the house, east to eastern lot line.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the land still associated with the house, but not that area which has been divided for new properties.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Embree
 organization Preservation Consultant date 2/20/1990
 street & number 20 Lake Valley Road telephone (601) 324-0410
 city or town Starkville state MS zip code 39759

Owner: Mrs. Alta Nelson, 508 W. Quitman, Iuka, MS 38852