

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
GEORGIA  
COUNTY:  
Muscogee  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY DATE  
**DEC 3 1974**

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
FIELDCREST MILLS, INC.  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
The Mott House *(use this)*

**2. LOCATION**

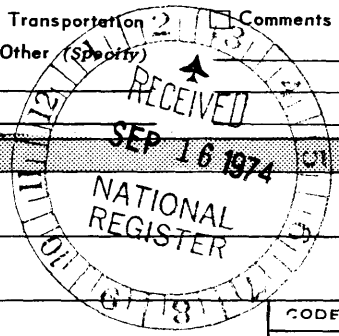
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Front Avenue  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbus, CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
3rd - Jack Brinkley  
STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Muscogee CODE: 215

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		



**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Fieldcrest Mills, Inc.  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Front Avenue  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbus, STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Deed Books - Columbus Government Center  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Tenth Street  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbus, STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic Columbus Building Survey  
DATE OF SURVEY: 6-1-67  Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Historic Columbus Foundation  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
716 Broadway, Columbus, Georgia  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbus STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia  
COUNTY: Muscogee  
ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 3 1974  
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mott House, now the reception and offices of Fieldcrest Mills, is a three story brick building that was built as a private home c. 1840 for Mrs. James S. Calhoun. After being owned by a number of other families, the house was purchased by Fieldcrest for office space. Although this company and the company which preceded it, the Muscogee Manufacturing Company, have constructed many additions to this building, the Mott House section of the mill complex is still recognizable as a unit.

The Mott House is a three story, five bay, Flemish bond brick structure with a mansard roof and a central cupola.

The one story central portico with simple dentilled entablature and floral iron balcony and railing is supported by four fluted Ionic columns and two pilasters and raised above street level by steps that are approached only from the sides. The door is recessed behind fluted Doric columns and surrounded by square fluted pilasters with delicately patterned fanlight and side lights. The elaborate iron work of this portico is continued, but with a different pattern on the railing of the mansard roof which was added to the house in the 1850's. The roof also has dormers which create a third floor for the building and a cupola on top of the roof. This cupola is a glass box with round arched windows and curve brackets in its eaves. (The amount of light the cupola admits and the continuation of the stair into the cupola suggests that, in the house as it was originally designed, the cupola served as a skylight over the stairs as well as an observation tower. The one story sunporch on the south facade may also be a nineteenth century addition. The Muscogee Manufacturing Company and Fieldcrest Mills have made many modern additions to the north side and rear of the building to increase office and storage space.

The interior of the building has been completely remodelled for office space. Only the moulded door frames with their circular corner blocks and the panelled embrasures at the door and window openings are left to suggest the original appearance of the interior of the house.

The present environment of the Mott House is that of being almost completely engulfed by paved mill parking lots and surrounding mill office and factory building. However its direct view of the river is unimpaired.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1839

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mott House is especially significant to Columbus as the last of the great mid-nineteenth century plantation houses that fronted on the Chattahoochee and for association with such historic events as the establishment of the Washington to New Orleans telegraph link and the capture of Columbus during the Civil War. The Mott House is also symbolic of the change from an agricultural based residential neighborhood to an industrial one that took place in this section of Columbus after the Civil War.

This home was originally built on the banks of the Chattahoochee River for Mrs. James S. Calhoun c. 1840. It was purchased in 1849 by a young Irish civil engineer, Daniel Griffin, at a Sheriff's sale for \$8,000 (city lots 35,36,37, and 38). Daniel Griffin built the mansard roof and a beautiful walled garden as well as extensively landscaping the grounds surrounding the house. His home was richly furnished with mahogany furniture, portraits, and silver among other luxurious items. The Griffins entertained many prominent people of the day among them Samuel F.B. Morse. Mr. Griffin served as the first president of the Southern Telegraph Line from Washington, D.C. to New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Griffins raised two daughters, Theresa and Anna. Miss Theresa Griffin founded the Woman's Temperance Union and wrote the first society and woman's news column for the Columbus Enquirer. Miss Anna Griffin was a leader in securing Commission-Manager government for Columbus and lately served as the first and only woman Commissioner of the City.

On January 1, 1856, Daniel Griffin moved to Washington, D.C. and sold the house and lots to Colonel Randolph Mott for \$20,000. Although Colonel Mott was a staunch Unionist, his son, John R. Mott, was Adjutant on the staff of General Henry L. Benning, C.S.A. Colonel Mott invited Major-General James H. Wilson of Wilson's Raiders to make his home his headquarters when Wilson captured Columbus in April, 1865. The Mott House was considered "never to have left the Union."

The view from the portico of the house was across the River to Ingersoll Hill in Alabama, which was the site of the last land battle of the War Between the States (April 25, 1865).

In 1881, the property was sold to Muscogee Manufacturing Company, and in the mid-1960's Muscogee Manufacturing Company sold it to Fieldcrest Mills which uses "The Mott House" for their main office of their mill complex in Columbus.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Biggers, Mrs. James J.W. submitted First National Register form, August 30, 1973.  
 Macgregor, Elizabeth Z. Personal Inspection, May 22, 1974.  
 Pugh, Lynn Smith. Personal interviews with Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Strother, Mrs. Myron Newsome, Mr. F. Clason Kyle, Mr. William D. Smith, Mrs. Maurice A. Crabtree, Mrs. Henry Benning Crawford, Mrs. Burrel Cole, and Mr. William Hudson.  
 Stevens, Carole A. Research at the Georgia Department of Archives and History and preliminary re-writing of this N.R. form.  
 Telfair, Nancy. A History of Columbus Georgia: 1828-1928. Columbus: The Historical Publishing Co., 1929.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

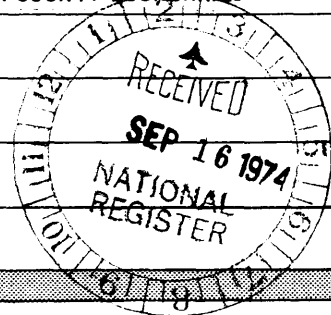
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N 32° 28' 23"	W 84° 59' 40"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
 16/448160  
 4633730  
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources DATE: July 23, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
270 Washington Street, S.W. Room 703-C

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]  
 Title: St. Historic Preservation Officer

Date: September 6, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/3/74

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: Nov 27, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Muscogee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 3	1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (continued)

The Mott House fronts on the Chattahoochee River and is adjacent to the Fourteenth Street Bridge connecting Georgia and Alabama. This bridge is a major traffic artery. A Georgia survey team is currently conducting a feasibility study to determine whether or not to widen this bridge or to propose a new multi-lane bridge at another location along the River.

The Mott House is the North boundary of an eight block historic section of river front industry; the South boundary is the Columbus Iron Works, a National Register site.

The Mott House urgently needs the prestige and protection afforded by the National Register. According to a Columbus zoning ordinance, any site accepted by the National Register obtains "Landmark" status locally, which means that all alterations, improvements, partial demolitions, etc. will be subject to review by the local Board of Historic and Architectural Review.

9. Major Bibliographical References (continued)

Worsely, Etta Blanchard. Columbus on the Chattahoochee. Columbus: Columbus Office and Supply Company, 1951; pages 206-208.

