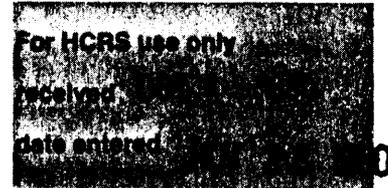


United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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

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



1. Name

historic Mount Olive (Mount Olivet)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Route 6, Box 398 not for publication

city, town Natchez X vicinity of Fourth congressional district

state Mississippi code 28 county Adams code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Bernard P. Wood and Mrs. Lucianne A. Wood

street & number Route 6, Box 398

city, town Natchez, MS 39120 X vicinity of Mississippi state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Adams County Courthouse

street & number Office of The Chancery Clerk

city, town Natchez state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Archives and History

city, town P.O. Box 571 Jackson state Mississippi 39205

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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

Mt. Olive Plantation house circa 1840 was made completely of cypress construction both inside and out. It faced east on Foster Mound Road. It had a hip roof and a columned gallery stretching across the front. The exterior of the house was white with green shutters and brown, possibly grained, doors. It had one and a half stories with 2 dormer windows upstairs and small, 6 over 6 windows with wooden panels under each elsewhere in the structure. All doors (complete with William IV locks and keys) inside and out are paneled except for three sets of double doors which lead from the 3 front rooms onto the gallery. The off-centered front door opens into a hall which connects the gallery to the back center room. The back door is centered with steps leading to ground level. The foundation sits 2 feet off the ground and is made of brick and heavy hand hewn timbers. Four rooms have centered fireplaces and brick chimneys.

The simple rectangular floor plan includes 3 rooms across the front and 3 rooms across the back on the first floor. An enclosed stairway leads from the back center room to the second floor which has 2 small rooms on either side of one large room. All rooms have the original horizontally sheathed cypress paneling.

It would appear that because of the Greek Revival woodwork around and on the doors that the two brick buildings to the back of the house were built around 1850. The larger of the two buildings has two plastered rooms on the first floor. The baseboards and woodwork were painted black, the doors were grained, and the walls were white. The upstairs was unfinished. The smaller of the two buildings is a milk shed with a similar interior but including a milk trough.

Although Mount Olive had maintained integrity throughout the years, it was in the state of deterioration when restoration began. Other than cleaning, recreating, and repairing the following changes were made:

1. A doorway was cut through from hall to parlor. The shouldered architrave woodwork was copied.
2. A bathroom was created within the front right room.
3. A book case was added to the front left room.
4. A ten foot strip was added to the back of the house to include bathrooms, closets, porch, and kitchen.
5. A bath was made in the corner of the upstairs larger room. The smaller rooms were extended into the eaves.

While the Rogillio family and their descendents did not believe in change they did maintain the buildings as best they could. Patch work in the brick buildings and on the chimney is very evident.

Four large oaks shade the front of the house and pecans encompass the side and back. There are three cisterns in existence and a restored brick walk joins the house to the trees.

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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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Mount Olive is architecturally significant because it documents the taste and life style of an American 1840 farmhouse. No major changes have ever been made to the house. The entire structure, except for the addition of modern conveniences during its restoration in 1979-80, remains exactly as it was conceived.

The planter, Emmanuel Rogillio and his wife Eliza Tannehill Foster (born 12-9-1805) built Mount Olive Plantation on property they inherited in 1834 from her great uncle William Foster. They borrowed ideas for their house from other families residences. The exterior was similiar to great-uncle Thomas Foster's Greenfield Plantation and the interior was built in the horizonally sheathed manner of Aunt Barbara Foster Bislands Mistletoe. It was a modest dwelling typical of the lower Mississippi Valley planters home patterned after the West Indian style. The interior was extremely plain reflecting the life style of a deeply religious Methodist family living in the country.

The unpretentious Mount Olive Plantation was built between 1834 and 1843. It stands today exactly as it did then with very minor alteration due only to modern living. It is unique because it is authentic. It has integrity because it has survived the elements of men and nature. The restoration was completed with painstaking efforts to return the home to its original state. As only 4 of the nine rooms had been painted since its construction, interior decoration was simplified and copied or restored.

All of the carpenter locks and butt hinges, and the solid cypress mantels, 4-panel doors, walls, floors, windows, window hardware, and woodwork remain in place and unhurt by time. Each was cleaned and returned to its former state.

Much of the framework of the house was made of hand hewn timbers, many of which are still pegged in place. All of the original plain trim woodwork simple but perfect, remains.

As no vandalism plagued Mount Olive and none of its residents made any noticeable changes from 1840 to 1978, the house documents the past.

Mount Olive Plantation stands on an old Spanish land grant of 180 acres. Emmanuel Rogillio purchased the property around this plot until it came to over 2,000 acres. The land was divided on his death in 1864. The family continued to plant cotton but life never returned to the style that Rogillio worked so hard to attain.

When the last descendent gave up claim to the land in 1978 the house and 6.2 acres became the residence of the family of Bernard P. Wood.

NOV 28 1980
OCT 29 1980

9. Major Bibliographical References

- (1) Book 9, Page 149-150
- (2) Book 14-F, Page 1
- (3) Oral interviews with
 - a. Mrs. Buna Brown Walters, age over 75, who lived in Mount Olive through World War II then again in the 1970's.
 - b. Mrs. A. D. Rand, age over 75, who moved in to Mount Olive as a child and lived there until 1933.
- (4) Booklet - Reunion of Descendents of James Foster
- (5) Copies of receipts and bills found in the attic

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6.29 acres **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**
 Quadrangle name Washington Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A	<u>15</u>	<u>657380</u>	<u>3499380</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Lot 3 in Section 55 Township 8 North Range 2 West from the fence corner of Pleasant Hill Plantation S 51° W, 522.34 feet and S. 45° 44 feet W. 270.39 feet to a pipe set in the fence and going through the center of a pecan tree to N 46° 32' E passing through another pecan to the Foster Mount Road.

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lucianne A. Wood

organization _____ date August 15, 1980

street & number Route 6, Box 398 telephone 445-8685

city or town Natchez state Mississippi 39120

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elmer R. Hilliard

title State Historic Preservation Officer date October 21, 1980

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for secretary Coral D. Shelton date 11-28-80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: W. D. White date 11/28/80
 Chief of Registration

STATES
OF THE INTERIOR
LAND SURVEY

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Mount Olive
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
UTM Reference
15/657380/3499380

