## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

| historic name:<br>other name/site nu   |  |                               |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--------------|--|------------------------------------|------|-------------|---------------|---|
| other name/site nu   |  | Raiford, Rol                  | ert, Hon     | ne and Farm                                      |                                    |      |             |               |   |
|  | ımber:   | Hedge Farm                    |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
| 2. Location  |  |                               |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
| street & number:   | 829 Cayce F  | load                          |              |  | N,                                 | A    | not for p   | ublication    |   |
| city or town:  | Victoria   |                               |              |  | ) ×                                | vici | nity        |               |   |
| state  | Mississippi  | code                          | e MS         | county   | Marshall                           | coc  | le 093      | zip code      | 38679                                   |
| 3. State/Federa  | l Agency (   | ertification                  | 1            |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
| Historic Places and meets does not m nationally st Signature of certifyir Deputy SHPO, Missi | neet the National atewide X local lo | I Register Crite ally. (See o | eria. I reco | ommend that<br>on sheet for a<br>July 28<br>Date | this property be<br>dditional comm | cons | sidered sig |               | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
| In my opinion, the procomments.)   |  | itsdoes                       | not meet     | the National I                                   | Register criteria                  | 1. ( | See con     | tinuation she | et for additiona                        |
| Signature of commer  | nting or other of  | ficial                        |              | Date   |                                    |      |             |               |   |
|  | ncy and bureau   |                               |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
| State or Federal age   |  |                               |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |
| State or Federal age   | Service C  | ertification                  |              |  |                                    |      |             |               |   |

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|------|----|------------|--------|------|
| J. 1 | u  | <b>ass</b> | ificat | 1101 |

| o. olassilication      |          |                                      |  |            |
|------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--|------------|
| Ownership of Property: | Private  | Number of Res                        | ources within Prop                             | erty:      |
| Category of Property:  | District | (Do not include prev<br>Contributing | viously listed resources in<br>Noncontributing | the count) |
|                        |          | 2                                    | 2  | buildings  |
|                        |          | 1                                    | 0  | sites      |
|                        |          | 0                                    | 0  | structures |
|                        |          | 0                                    | 0  | objects    |
|                        |          | 3                                    | 2  | Total      |
|                        |          |                                      |  |            |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

| •  | F   |     |     |    | 11  |
|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| ъ. | Fur | ıcı | ION | or | Use |

**Historic Functions:** 

DOMESTIC

**DOMESTIC** 

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

Sub: single dwelling

secondary structure

agricultural field

**Current Functions:** 

**DOMESTIC** 

**DOMESTIC** 

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: single dwelling

secondary structure agricultural field professional

#### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification:

Greek Revival

Other Description:

N/A

#### **Materials**

foundation

**BRICK** 

roof

**ASPHALT** 

walls

WOOD/weatherboard

other

WOOD/box columns

Narrative Description

See continuation sheets.

\_\_ designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS County and State

Archives and History

Name of repository: Mississippi Department of

University

| Name (     | or Property   | County and State  |
|------------|---|---|
| 8. Sta     | tement of Significance  |   |
| Ap         | plicable National Register Criteria   | Areas of Significance   |
| ХА         | Property is associated with events that   | ARCHITECTURE  |
|            | have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.  | AGRICULTURE   |
| В          | Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.   |   |
| хс         | Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents  |   |
|            | the work of a master, or possesses<br>high artistic values, or represents   | Period of Significance  |
|            | a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.  | ca. 1843 to ca. 1945  |
| D          | Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.  | Significant Dates   |
| Criteri    | a Considerations N/A  |   |
| Proper     | rtv is:   | ca. 1850-55   |
|            | owned by a religious institution or used for  |   |
| ^          | religious purposes  |   |
| В          | removed from its original location.   |   |
| С          | a birthplace or grave   | Significant Persons   |
| D          | a cemetery  | N/A   |
| E          | a reconstructed building, object, or structure  | Cultural Affiliation  |
| F          | a commemorative property  | N/A   |
|            | less than 50 years of age or achieved significance  | Architect/Builder   |
| u          | within the past 50 years.   | Unknown   |
|            | within the past 50 years.   | Unknown   |
|            | ive Statement of Significance ntinuation sheets.  |   |
|            | JOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES  |   |
|            | graphy<br>ntinuation sheet.   |   |
|            |   |   |
| Previo     | ous Documentation on File (NPS): N/A  | Primary Location of Additional Data:  |
| (36<br>pre | eliminary determination of individual listing<br>6 CFR 67) has been requested.<br>eviously listed in the National Register<br>eviously determined eligible by the National Register | X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government |
| de         | signated a National Historic Landmark   | University  |

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Approximately 160 acres

USGS Quad Map Name:

Red Banks Quad; Byhalia Quad

UTM References: Zone Easting

Northing

Zone

Easting

Northing

A 16

259055 260665

3861755

C 16

260650

3861285

B 16

3861715

D 16

259055

3861375

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title:

John Linn Hopkins & Marsha R. Oates

organization:

Hopkins & Associates

date:

February 2, 1998

street & number:

974 Philadelphia Street

telephone:

(901) 278-5186

city or town:

Memphis

state: TN

zip code: 38104

**Property Owner** 

name:

Mr. and Mrs. John L, Loftin, Jr.

street & number:

829 Cayce Road

telephone:

(601) 838-5435

city or town:

Victoria

state: MS

zip code:

38679

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Robert Raiford Home and Farm Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS

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#### DESCRIPTION

The Raiford Home and Farm is located at 829 Cayce Road and occupies a 160 acre parcel facing Cayce Road in Section 33 of Township 2 South, Range 4 West, in the vicinity of the Victoria community of Marshall County, Mississippi. The topography of the property is gently rolling in character, sloping from its eastern and western boundaries into an unnamed creek bottom that transverses the property north-south, roughly at its middle point. The portion developed for the main house and barn yards is found on the highest ground of the eastern half of the property, situated on a low knoll overlooking Cayce Road.

The main house is set back approximately 200 feet from Cayce Road, connected to the road by a modern circular drive adapted from the original alignment. The house yard contains some older red oaks, magnolias and other historic plantings, though the original cedar-lined walkway to the road shown in older photographs has been lost due to old age and the effects of periodic severe storms.

The Raiford House is an outstanding example of a modified center-hall plan Greek Revival house, built in ca. 1850-55. The design of the house is notable for its well proportioned tetrastyle portico, the use of sets of engaged pilasters symmetrically placed across its facade, and its asymmetrically-placed rear hall, which divides the four rooms of the main house block from two other rooms at its rear.

The house is a five-bay, one-story, center hall with rear ell plan, built of heavy timber-frame construction. The gable roofs of the house are covered with asphalt shingles and have boxed cornices and a full entablature on the front facade. The front facade is covered with tongue and groove sheathing, while the other facades are covered with wide weatherboard siding. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sashes throughout. The chimneys are located in interior end walls; each room in the house is provided a fireplace, except for the two halls.

The front facade is dominated by its one-bay wide portico, which has a closed pediment supported by four box columns with Doric capitals. The portico is flanked by two windows, each with a frieze and entablature as a header; the window bays are divided by Doric pilasters that match the height and width of those of the portico. The front entrance of the house is surrounded by a Greek Revival treatment that combines an expressed cornice above a back-banded entablature and antepagment, containing a four-panel double-door topped with a multi-light transom and multi-light sidelights.

The side (north) elevation originally featured four window bays before the break with the ell. This facade was altered in ca. 1995 by the addition of a frame, one-bay wide, three-bay deep

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double-bathroom core, designed by Malcolm Heard of New Orleans. The addition is a remarkably sensitive, contemporary treatment defined by enclosed spaces set under and back from the edges of shed roofs which have short, louvered screens under their eaves to deflect sunlight. The additions are painted in a soft green to contrast with the white of the original house, which adds further shadowing to the addition.

The new porch treatment extends around the house, into the angle of the rear ell, replacing the original rear porch which was lost before the redevelopment of the property by the present owner. The porch has a single door that provides direct access to the northwest bedroom of the house, and an entrance to the rear cross-hall. The bedroom entrance has a single four-panel door topped with a three-light transom; the rear hall entrance has a simple surround containing a four-panel double-door topped with a multi-light transom and flanked with multi-light sidelights.

The rear (western) elevation of the ell is notable for its simplicity, containing only two windows at center of the gable wall. The side (south) elevation originally had a side stoop or porch covering this original entrance. The entrance has been covered with a gable-roofed, two-bay deep, two-bay wide frame bathroom addition, constructed in ca. 1910-15. In spite of the addition, the original rear hall entrance at this location survives; it contains four-panel double-doors with a multi-light transom and flanking multi-light sidelights.

The interior of the Robert Raiford House has a dominant sense of attenuated height. This sense is created by the tall, thin doors, which are 10 feet, 2 inches high but only 36 inches wide, set within an overall ceiling height of 13 feet, 9 inches. The doorways in the front hall are surrounded by the same expressed cornice and back-banded antepagment used on the front door; this trim motif is continued in both the front parlor (north) and sitting room (south). At the end of the front hall is a screen, composed of a four-panel double door with a multi-light transom and sidelights, that mimics the surrounds of all of the exterior doors.

The Robert Raiford House has notable trim details, which decrease in their level of complexity in an orderly progression from front to rear. While all mantelpieces and baseboards match throughout the house, the same is not true of the window and door trims:

in the front two rooms and entrance hall, the trim has an architrave cornice and a robust, back-banded, shouldered architrave;

the middle two rooms and the rear cross-hall have simpler trim, consisting of a robust, back-banded, shouldered architrave; and

the trim in the rear two rooms consists of only the bold, back-banded architrave.

While it is not unusual to find a reduction in the level of trim detail from the public rooms of a house to the private ones, it is rare to see the hierarchy of spaces within a house expressed by three levels of trim detail.

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The middle rooms of the house were used in recent years as bedrooms; the south room is now used as the formal dining room and the north room is still a bedroom.

The cross-hall is to the west of the dining room, set perpendicular to the front hall and separating the two rear (west) rooms from the main block. The southwest room was converted for use as an indoor kitchen in ca. 1910-15.

There are other structures on the property. Structures which support the period of significance for the property are given the designation (C); other structures built after the period of significance do not contribute to the period of significance for the property and are designated (NC). These structures include:

- a. Pump house, ca. 1910-15. One-story, one-bay, brick masonry, gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, board door. (C)
- b. Barn, ca. 1995. One-story with loft, three-bay, frame construction, gambrel roof covered with asphalt shingles, board and batten siding. (NC)
- c. Work Shop, ca. 1996. One and one-half-story, five-bay, frame construction, shed roof covered with asphalt shingles, exterior plywood siding, metal frame fixed and sliding windows. (NC)

The property retains many significant elements of its agrarian landscape which offer important insights into its organization and patterns of use over time. These elements include tree lines, hedge rows, fence lines, landscaped laneways, paths, ponds, and other plantings of trees and ornamental plantings. Historical evidence confirms that many of these features were developed within the period of significance and contribute to the qualities of the property as a rural landscape. These features have been delineated on the enclosed site map to the extent possible. For the purposes of the resource count in this nomination, these elements are combined as one contributing site.

The property also contains a number of archaeological sites. The location of some are known; others are indicated by debris scatters, oral history and the historic records of the property. None of these features have been evaluated by archaeological survey and testing of their significance for listing under Criterion D. As a result, these resources are not included in the resource count, but are noted for future reference and evaluation. There are also burial sites known on the property which may still retain human remains, the disturbance of which will have implications under various state laws.

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Robert Raiford Home and Farm Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS

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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ca. 1850-55 Robert Raiford Home and Farm is being nominated under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a significant example of a fine, rural Greek Revival farm house that has notable qualities of design, detailing and proportion. The property also has significance under Criterion A for its notable aspects of nineteenth and early century rural farm landscape planning, which extend a period of significance to the property of ca. 1843 to ca. 1945.

The Robert Raiford Home is an exceedingly fine example of a high-style Greek Revival house that was executed by its unknown builder with exceptional qualities of design, proportion and detail. The Raiford House compares well with any of its known contemporaries in the important regional cotton trade centers of Holly Springs, Mississippi and LaGrange, Bolivar, and Memphis, Tennessee. That this home was constructed in a rural area well-removed from these centers makes it even more remarkable.

The qualities of the property as a rural landscape are also noteworthy. While none of the laneways, ponds, hedges, paths and other features of the landscape can be tied to a specific date, the evidence found in the existing landscape and the historic record suggests two periods of evolution in the patterns of the farm's development. These two landscape periods provide significant evidence of changing technology and patterns of organization over time in northern Mississippi.

Most notable among these landscape elements are the surviving laneways lined with double rows of bodoc or Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*), which gave the property its traditional place name of "Hedge Farm". The bodoc hedges are apparently an original or early feature of the property. Though some of the integrity of these features has been lost due to clearing activities or the death of individual plantings, the patterns of land division and use created by these features are, none the less, evident.

The bodoc, a species not native to Mississippi, was, as of 1870, "much used in of late years for farm and garden hedges" (Scott 1870: 420). The plant was prized for its dense, rapid, and thorny growth and it was used to prevent livestock straying from pastures.

A few farm properties of the Antebellum era were developed with a rigid, symmetrical division of farm lands defined by axial roads or lanes (see John Fleming Home Place, Collierville (vicinity), Tennessee , NR 12/6/1990). The Raiford Farm was laid out with a non- orthogonol plan within its straight line, Jeffersonian grid boundaries. One of the two thirty-foot wide laneways runs east-southeast for about 450 feet, leading away from the precinct of the main house and the adjacent barnyard. This lane appears to have once intersected with the second laneway another

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325 feet beyond. The second laneway runs approximately 500 feet from the existing southern property line to the northwest, paralleling a creek to the west. Aerial photographs from the early 1950s show that this laneway once continued in a curving line to the north and east, connecting to the barnyard of the farm immediately behind the existing house.

### **History of Development**

Relatively little is known about Robert Raiford (born ca. 1809-11, died 1862), who was born in South Carolina but moved to Mississippi with his wife Margaret B. Raiford (born 1816) in ca. 1838, at the time of the Chickasaw Cession of lands in northern Mississippi. Raiford and his family, like many of their contemporaries, were born in the East Coast states of the Old South and migrated south and west with the frontier to find new farming opportunities. Census records suggest that Robert Raiford may have migrated directly from South Carolina to Mississippi. Over the next few years, he was joined in Marshall County by three of his brothers, Malachi, Thomas and William, all of whom had spent a portion of their early adult years living in Alabama after leaving South Carolina.

Robert Raiford did not acquire land in Marshall County until February 13th of 1843, when he purchased all of Section 33 for the site of Hedge Farm from Henry Anderson and Edward Orne (Deed Book K:595-96) at a cost of \$3,600. Though the deed conveyed the land "together with all improvements and appurtenances thereto belonging...," the property was not at all likely to have been previously developed with structures. Anderson and Orne were major real estate speculators who acquired large areas of land within the Chickasaw Cession. The improvements mentioned, if any improvements had been made at all, were probably limited to the clearing of the Cayce Road to open the area for subdivision and sale to others.

Though Raiford was only in his mid-30s when he acquired the farm property, he apparently had the resources to establish his farm and home in quick order. By 1850, he had expanded his land holdings to 790 acres, of which 450 acres had been cleared and were in production with the help of the labor provided by his thirty slaves and an Anglo-American overseer, Henry Holmes (Census 1850).

While the Census of 1850 clearly shows that the Raifords were living on this property at that time, it is not at all clear if the existing house had yet been built. No tax records for the period were found that might clarify the issue. While the Raifords may have had the means to build this house, its very "high" Greek Revival styling suggests a slightly later date, perhaps the early to middle 1850s. Raiford's self-appraisals of his property's worth in the 1850 and 1860 Census reports seem to add credence to this assertion:

-in 1850, Raiford reported the value of his 790 acres at \$6,400;

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# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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-in 1860, the value of his 960 acre holdings had grown to \$35,000 (only 50 additional acres had been cleared by 1860).

Also, comparison of the Agricultural Schedule returns for the Censuses of 1850 and 1860 appears to support this contention:

- Raiford reported the same \$6,400 value in 1850 as the value of his real estate (population schedule) and the value of his farm (agricultural schedule); but
- in 1860, the value listed on the population schedule was \$35,000, while the agricultural schedule listed the value of the farm as only \$20,000.

Since the value of the family's slaves was considered part of their personal property, the difference in the value of the real estate versus that of the farm could be attributable to the investment in Raiford's house. While these real estate values and their comparison are by no means scientific, the sense is given by Raiford himself that his property had greatly increased in value between 1850 and 1860.

There is some evidence by association that can support the ca. 1850s construction date for the Raiford House. The construction methods employed on the structure mix the technologies of hand-hewn, mortise and tenon, heavy timber framing and other technologies. While the major beams of the structure were hand hewn, the lighter members (studs, rafters and joists) are circular sawn. In opposition is the lathing, which is hand split. Considering the progression of technology in the region, a construction date after ca. 1850 is plausible.

The low-lying topography and loess clay geology of the Mid-South Region did not permit the development of water-driven power technology for uses other than the slow and inefficient milling of grains. The hydrological energy (or "head") necessary to drive a buck saw was not possible, let alone the additional energy necessary to drive a circular saw. The first indications of steam technologies and circular saws did not appear in Memphis until the late 1840s; this technology did not spread to rural areas for a few more years, until development began on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad in the early 1850s. By the mid-1850s, there were two stationary steam sawmills in Collierville, Tennessee when none others existed in rural Shelby County. These mills were apparently established by the railroad to produce the heavy timber needed for ties and bridge construction over the Wolf River swamps near La Grange and Moscow, less than fifteen miles away from the Raiford House.

The mixing of hand-hewn and circular-sawn technologies in a single house is not unknown (see John Fleming House and Farm, NR 12/6/1990). Portable saw mills apparently became available soon after the development of larger, stationary mills in the early 1850s. Since the cutting of a 10-inch floor joist requires no additional technology or power than the cutting of a 10-inch square timber, the "lag" in use of circular saws to cut heavy timber framing may have been caused more

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by convention or scheduling than by technology.

In this period, it was common for the heavy timbers of a house to be squared many months or even a year before the other necessary lumber was milled; this allowed time for the larger framing members to dry. The house builder would then have purchased the smaller framing pieces from a nearby sawmill, or would have produced them himself using a portable saw mill. Whichever was the case, the use of hand-split lath in the Raiford House shows that hand labor had not been entirely replaced by the circular saw in producing all mill work. The hand-split lath used in the construction of the house could well have been an effort in economy, produced by unskilled labor, rather than the paying greater expense of the sawyer and his mill.

Two other houses in the general area of the Raiford House that have design characteristics in common with the Raiford house. These houses are also designed in the Greek Revival style, and have a front one-bay portico and flanking pilasters across the facade. One of these is the Hamer House, in the Old Salem community of Benton County at the Marshall County line; the other is Oak Hill, a house in Michigan City. Both are within ten miles of the Raiford House. The Hamer House has been well-documented to the date of ca. 1857-59; the construction date of Oak Hill is not clearly known. While both houses share common traits with the Raiford House (i. e., front facades with pilasters) neither has the level of sophistication of proportion nor of detail seen on the Raiford House. While the three houses may not be the work of a common builder, the builders of each may have had some association or used similar design sources on which to base their work. At the very least, a construction date for the Raiford House of the early to mid-1850s seems justified by its similarity to the Hamer House in nearby Benton County.

The picture that emerges of the Raiford family is one of a certain level of sophistication, despite of their rural location. Evidence supporting this is found in several sources. For example, the Agricultural Schedule of the 1850 Census shows that the Raifords were somewhat diversified in their farming practices in comparison with their neighbors:

- The Raifords maintained a modest stock of 8 horses, 25 cattle, 2 oxen, 4 mules, 9 "milch cows", and 180 pigs, not unlike their neighbor farmers of similar stature. However, they were among the few farmers raising sheep in Marshall County, of which they had sixteen.
- -The Raifords devoted a substantial amount of acreage to cotton, Indian corn and sweet potatoes, like their neighbors, but they also raised wheat and produced than 1,000 bushels of nitrogen-fixing peas or beans in their fields, very much in contrast with the schedules filed by most farmers in Marshall County (Census 1850).

While this may not be enough evidence to support an assumption that the Raifords were practicing "scientific" farming methods, the evidence of diversity may well be a starting point for further research in this area.

The historical record does not extend far enough into the past to document which parts of the

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rural farming landscape were developed by Raiford or by his descendants. Most farm landscapes evolve over time, and this one is probably not any different. However, there are some aspects of this landscape which, by inference, may survive from its Antebellum development. In particular, the farm's bodoc hedges may be one such element.

The bodoc, or Osage orange, is not a species native to Mississippi, occupying instead a native range in eastern Texas, southeastern Oklahoma and southwestern Arkansas. The use of bodoc as a "living fence" began to be popularized in Illinois during the mid-1840s, and seed was being sold commercially by the early 1850s (Winberry 1979:134-141). The U. S. Department of Agriculture recognized its value in the mid-1850s as an alternative to expensive rail or board fences for enclosing pastures and helped to promote its use. The use of bodoc for farm fencing was put to its greatest use in the Plains States between ca. 1850 and ca. 1870; its use in the states of the South is not well documented. In general, the popularity of bodoc for fencing waned quickly in the late 1870s with the development of inexpensive barbed wire fencing (Winberry 1979:138).

The carefully planted bodoc laneways on the Robert Raiford Farm clearly were developed to contain and direct the farm's animal population. Aerial photographs of the Raiford Farm dating from the 1950s show that the curved laneway to the west of the house extended in an unbroken arc connecting the farm's barnyard with a long, narrow pond located well to the south of the main house (USDA ca. 1954, 1957). Given the number of horses, cows, oxen, mules and sheep kept by the Raiford family in the 1850s and 1860s, it seems plausible that the hedges were developed in this period to delineate pastures and laneways in association with the barn yard.

Other landscape elements present on the property suggest the adoption of other, later methods for controlling the movement of farm animals. There are several cedar-lined hedgerows that are strung with barbed wire and/or woven wire grids, often called "hog wire"; these fenced hedgerows lead west from the barnyard area, once extending to the farm's creek according to photographic evidence (USDA 1957). Many additional features of the property remain as evidence of its development over time. Four of the property's five ponds pre-date World War Two; the location of a ford on the creek is still marked by a small bridge today, leading to the former crop fields on the western half of the property. These fields were removed from crop production in the 1920s and, according to oral tradition, were used for pastures until the late 1950s.

The development of the farm complex and its landscape elements also included the construction of buildings and structures. At least seven outbuildings are suggested by aerial photographs taken in the middle-1950s, including the farm barn, a well house, a carriage barn, and several lesser structures, the appearance and locations of which are supported by other photographs in the possession of the Loftin family. A building is also shown in the aerial photographs to the south and west of the main house which is of sufficient size to represent a tenant house; this

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structure has not been identified in family photographs.

Other structures no longer extant are known to have existed on the property, and the locations of some of these are suggested by scatters of brick, glass and ceramic shards. The Raiford family reported having four slave houses for the use of their thirty slaves in 1850; the number of slave houses grew to six in the Census reports of 1860, housing thirty-nine slaves. The home of the Raiford's overseer was also once located on the Raiford farm. Debris scatters suggest the locations of dwellings to the southwest of the main house, to the north of the main house, and at the edge of a clearing in the western half of the property. The age and significance of these sites has not been tested by archaeologists.

Though most would consider the elements of the farm landscape developed by the Raiford family to be of the greatest significance, the property has clearly evolved during its ownership by other family members. Robert Raiford died in 1862, followed soon after by his wife Margaret. Ownership of the Raiford farm was passed, informally, to Margaret R. Raiford (ca. 1858-1923), who was widowed twice before marrying William Henry Loftin in 1879. Loftin owned a neighboring farm but moved to Hedge Farm with his new wife, where they lived out their lives while farming the property, which had grown to more than two thousand acres (Goodspeed 1891:1140-1141). Upon Mrs. Loftin's death, portions of the farm property were sold, but the original holdings in Section 33 were divided up among the four Loftin children, with eldest son Heath Loftin retaining the 160 acres that remain associated with Hedge Farm. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Loftin, Jr., acquired the property from their cousin in 1989 and have involved themselves in the property's restoration since.

The Raiford Home and Farm is an excellent example of a rural Greek Revival farmstead that possesses a high level of sophistication in its plan, proportions and detailing. It is also a rare surviving example of a rural farm landscape which retains a sense of some of its original organizational patterns, but which also evolved through time, reflecting changes in technology and farming practices in rural Mississippi during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Much additional research, including archaeological testing, may be needed to better understand the layers of significance contained in the resources of this property, both extant and non-extant.

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Robert Raiford Home and Farm Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS

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### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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|----------------|-----|--------|--|
|                |     |        |  |

#### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The property in nomination comprises all of the south half of the north half of Section 33 in Township 2 South, Range 4 West of Marshall County, Mississippi, as delineated in heavy black line on the attached Marshall County Tax Map Number 198.

### **Boundary Justification**

The property in nomination comprises all of that land under single ownership still associated with the Robert Raiford Home and Farm and its significant resources which support the period of significance of 1843 to ca. 1945.

## United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Robert Raiford Home and Farm Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS

Section number

Photographs

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#### **PHOTOGRAPH LIST**

Robert Raiford Home and Farm 829 Cayce Road Victoria vicinity, Mississippi

Photos by:

John L. Hopkins

Date:

January 1998

Negatives:

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photograph 1 of 20:

20: View of the side (south) and front (east) of the Robert Raiford House, looking generally

northwest.

Photograph 2 of 20:

View of the front (east) facade, looking west.

Photograph 3 of 20:

View of the side (north) facade and its addition, looking generally south.

Photograph 4 of 20:

View of the side (south) facade treatments of the rear ell, and the rear (west) facade, looking

generally southeast.

Photograph 5 of 20:

View of the side (south) facade, looking north.

Photograph 6 of 20:

View of the entrance to the rear cross-hall, with the door to the northwest bedroom at center

left.

Photograph 7 of 20:

View of the front entrance hall, looking through its rear screen doorway to the rear cross-hall

and rooms of the ell.

Photograph 8 of 20:

View of the front parlor, looking toward the front entrance.

Photograph 9 of 20:

View of the front parlor.

Photograph 10 of 20:

View of the dining room from the front parlor; the rear cross-hall and kitchen in the ell are

visible through the doorway at center.

Photograph 11 of 20:

View of the sitting room in the rear ell, looking through the rear cross-hall to the front hall.

Photograph 12 of 20:

View of the front bedroom.

Photograph 13 of 20:

View of the rear (northwest) bedroom, looking from the front hall toward the addition to the

north side.

Photograph 14 of 20:

View of the rear (northwest) bedroom, looking toward the rear door to the porch on the ell.

Photograph 15 of 20:

View of the interior of the addition.

Photograph 16 of 20:

View of the kitchen located in the rear ell.

Photograph 17 of 20:

View of the barn, looking generally northwest.

Photograph 18 of 20:

View of the work shop, looking generally northwest.

Photograph 19 of 20:

View of the westernmost bodoc laneway, looking generally north.

Photograph 20 of 20:

View of the east-west bodoc laneway to the south of the main house, looking east.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

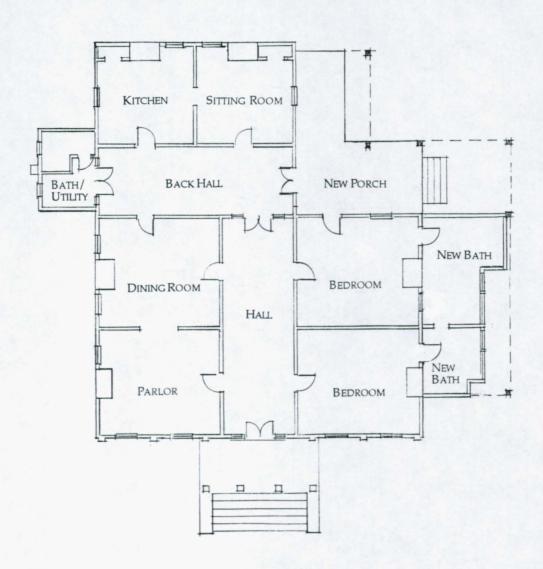
Robert Raiford Home and Farm Victoria vicinity, Marshall Co., MS

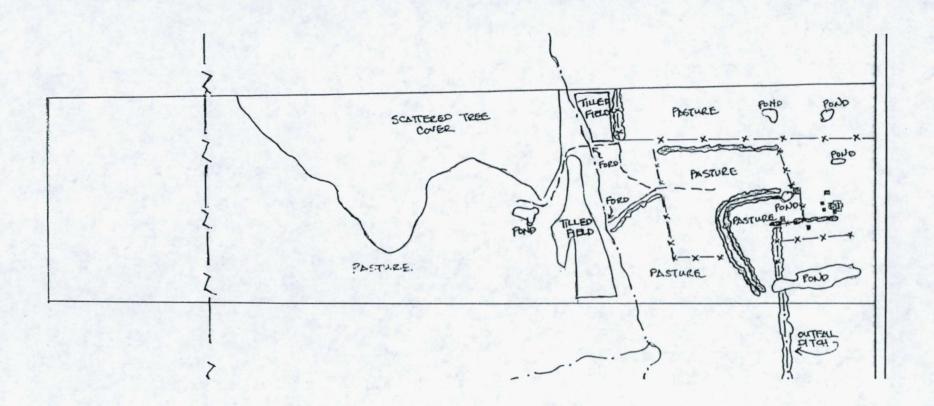
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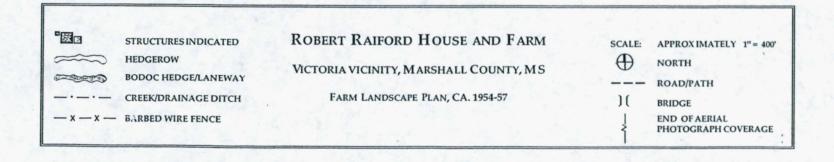
Plan

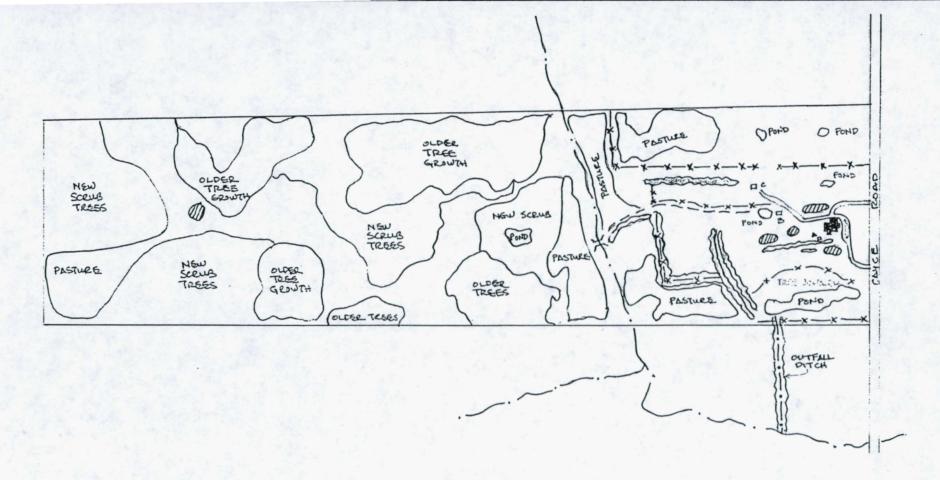
Page \_\_\_13\_\_

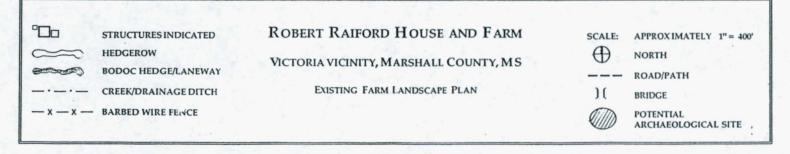
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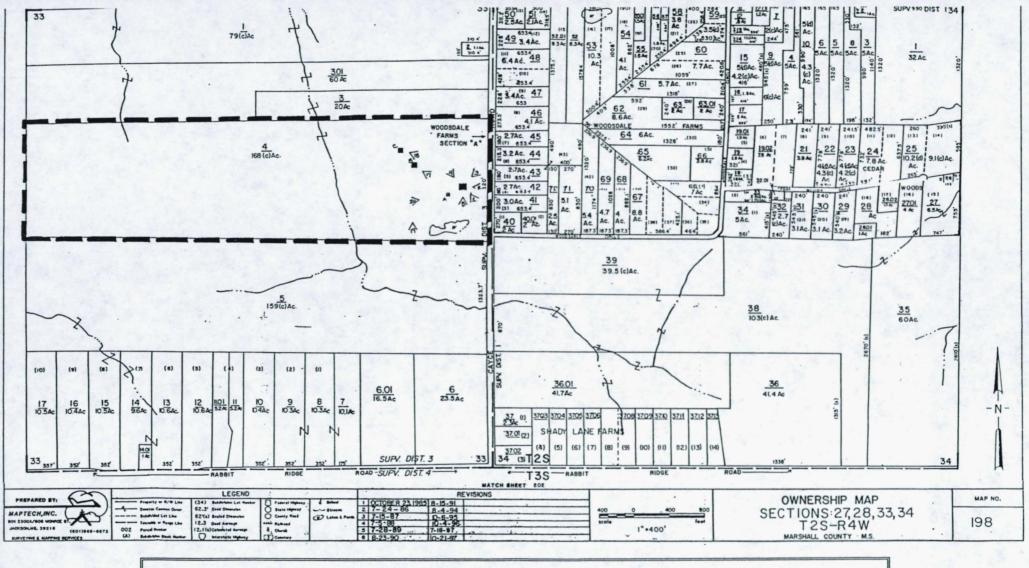












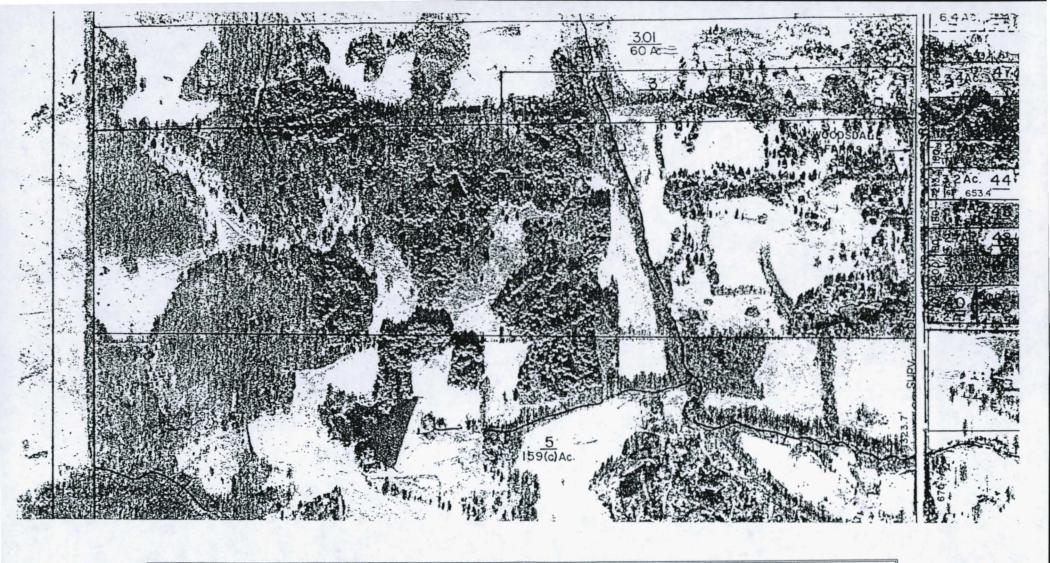
□ BUILDING LOCATION

□ PHOTOGRAPH VIEW

ROBERT RAIFORD HOUSE AND FARM VICTORIA VICINITY, MARSHALL COUNTY, MS MAP OF STRUCTURES AND PHOTOGRAPH KEY

SCALE: AS SHOWN IN MAP TITLE BLOCK

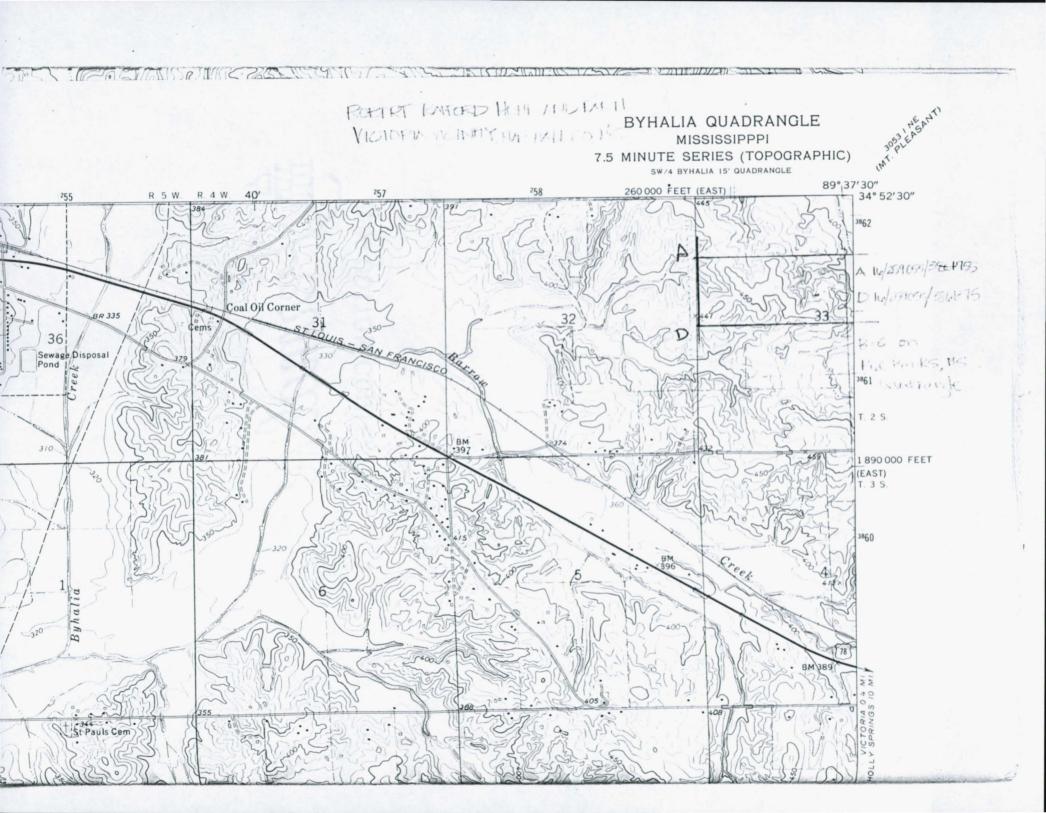
NORTH



→ NORTH

ROBERT RAIFORD HOUSE AND FARM VICTORIA VICINITY, MARSHALL COUNTY, MS AERIAL VIEW, 1992

SCALE: APPROXIMATELY 1" = 400'





ROBERT RAMFORD HOME & FARM VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 1 0F 20



ROBERT RAMFORD HOME & FERRY VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 2 0F 20



ROBERT RANFORD FROME 3 12 VICTORIA VIC., MAR SHALL CO., MS



ROBERT RAFORD HOME & FORCE VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS

PHOTO 4 5F 20



COIDERCI KAIFORD HOME & FARM VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 5 OF 20



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ROBERT RAIFORD HOME & FORM PHOTO 7 OF 20



ROBERT RAIFORD HOME & FORM VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 8 OF 20



KOKZIKI KANTOKO HOME AND FORM VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 9 OF 20



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NOBORI KONTOKO HOME & FORM VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL OD., MS

PHOTO 13 OF 20



ROBERT KAIFOKO HUNG & FART VICTORIA VIC., MARSHALL CO., MS PHOTO 14 0F 20



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