

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

For NCRS use only
received JUL 14 1980
date entered OCT 16 1981

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

1. Name

historic W. J. Quarles House and Cottage

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 120 and 122 East Railroad Street not for publication

city, town Long Beach vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Mississippi code 28 county Harrison code 47

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 William F. Watrous

street & number 130 East Railroad Street

city, town Long Beach vicinity of state Mississippi 39560

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Harrison County Courthouse

street & number P. O. Box CC

city, town Gulfport state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>Cottage moved in 1937</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located at 120 Railroad Street in Long Beach (pop. 6,170), the W. J. Quarles House was built in 1892 across from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad tracks. The building faces south on a wooded and relatively flat site. Evidence of the early informal landscaping around the house includes varieties of roses, magnolia, and pecan.

The two-story five-by-two-bay clapboard residence is built on an open foundation of brick piers. The house is in sound condition despite its somewhat battered appearance as a result of recent hurricanes. In style the building is basically vernacular, although it originally had a two-story Eastlake porch with turned posts and jig-saw cut balustrade, which gave the house a distinctive architectural character (see early photo). The porch was removed after it was damaged by Hurricane Camille in 1969, but the current owner plans to soon reconstruct the porch from several fragments which were saved.

The house has a standing-seam metal roof with gable ends and a central gable on the south (front) facade. The front gable has a decorative apex treatment and is covered with wooden shingles in a three band design. The two-over-two double-hung sash windows remain taped from the time of Hurricane Frederick in 1979. Although the main entrance on the first floor has been boarded for protection against vandals, the house still retains its original exterior doors.

The interior of the Quarles House consists of a center hall plan, two rooms deep. All of the original architrave millwork and four-paneled doors are intact. The walls and ceilings are papered over canvass and horizontal boards. All the mantelpieces are original or date from the early twentieth century and are relatively simple in design. There is one interior chimney. The only alteration to the house is a one-story shed addition to the rear which dates from 1937.

The one-story two-room clapboard cottage (122 Railroad Street) to the east of the Quarles House is a section of an early building on the site. The one-story house which it was taken from originally stood behind and was attached to the Quarles House (see pre-1937 floor plan). W. J. Quarles bought the one-story house in 1884 and lived there until constructing the current two-story house next to it in 1892. The one-story house was torn down in the 1930s and the cottage section removed. The enclosing of the cottage's gallery was done after 1937.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" 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 Quarles House - 1892 **Builder/Architect** Quarles House - H.Y. Quarles & C.B. Gates
 Cottage - late 19th century Cottage - unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

William James Quarles had been a rural school teacher in Middle Tennessee before moving with his family to the little village of Long Beach in January, 1884. There were only thirteen other families living there when the Quarles family arrived; there was no store, no post office, and no school. Settlers went to Pass Christian to buy supplies and claim their mail. That spring he built a store in his front yard and in September was appointed the town's first postmaster. The post office was housed in the store building (now demolished). Jeff Davis Avenue, the town's main street, began as a path to Quarles' store made by settlers who lived on the beach.

Quarles and a friend, Jim Thomas, started the Long Beach truck farming industry in 1884, which was responsible in large measure for the rapid growth of the settlement in the 1890s and early 1900s. Farmers moved in, joined the vegetable producers' associations which Quarles had organized, and by the early 1900s Long Beach was a leading trucking center and the Radish Capital of the South. The town was incorporated in 1905 with 900 residents inside the city limits and about half that number living north of the town. Quarles was called the "Dean of Truckers" in an article which appeared in the Woman's Daily Herald on October 12, 1911. Growers at Long Beach shipped 330 carloads of radishes and other vegetables to northern markets in 1921 for a record season. Quarles also pioneered in the growing of pecans in the area. In the words of M. James Stevens, a Mississippi Gulf Coast historian, "Quarles crystallized Long Beach and was the catalyst responsible for its early growth."

Quarles was also the father of the Long Beach school system, for in 1884 and again in 1885 he taught the eleven school-age children of the community in the front room of his home. In 1886 a one-room school was erected on the site of the present Jeff Davis Avenue Elementary School. Vitally interested in education, he gave land and lumber for a school to be built in North Long Beach so that children of farmers in that area might have a school easily accessible. The school was later named in his honor. Today the school district offices are in the W. J. Quarles Elementary School, the third Quarles School to serve that area. A school trustee for most of his active years, he and his wife boarded the teachers in their home, and, together with two or three other patrons, paid the teachers' salaries. Business man, postmaster, educator, and farmer--his home, the oldest remaining structure in Long Beach today, might well be called the birthplace of the town.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Federal Writers Project. Mississippi Gulf Coast; Yesterday and Today, 1699 - 1939.
 Gulfport, Ms.: Gulfport Printing Co., 1939.

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Pass Christian, Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	2	9	3	2	6	0	3	3	5	9	4	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing							

C

Zone		Easting				Northing							

D

Zone		Easting				Northing							

E

Zone		Easting				Northing							

F

Zone		Easting				Northing							

G

Zone		Easting				Northing							

H

Zone		Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Only enough original property is included to preserve the immediate surroundings of the buildings. See Continuation Sheet for description.

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

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Frank W. Alexander

organization _____

date May 1980

street & number 200 Second St.

telephone 601-863-2387

city or town Long Beach

state Ms. 39560

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 July 2, 1980

For HCRS use only

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

for fact
W. Ray Luce
 Keeper of the National Register

date 10/16/80

Attest: *Cecil Dubois*
 Chief of Registration

date 10/16/80

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Continuation sheet Quarles House

Item number 8

Page

As the residence of William James Quarles from 1884 until 1924, the nominated property is locally significant to the settlement period of Long Beach, Mississippi. Quarles made a number of substantial contributions to the infant community which, largely through his initiative, was transformed from an unorganized settlement into an incorporated town noted for its prosperous truck farming industry. On this site Quarles established the town's public school system, served as its first postmaster, established the first store, and, with a business partner, began the shipment of local produce to Northern markets. These contributions were vital to the development of Long Beach in its earliest period.

William C. Allen
Chief Architectural Historian
Miss. Dept. of Archives and History

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lang, John Horn. History of Harrison County, Mississippi.
Gulfport, Ms.: Dixie Press, 1936.

North and South. April 1908.

Toomer, Allie Quarles. Biographical sketch of W. J. Quarles.
Manuscript. Ca. 1940.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10 & 11

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10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description and Justification)

Beginning at a point in the north boundary line of the L&N Railroad's right of way fifty (50) feet east of a stake in the southeastern corner of land owned by Charles Wendell Lahey and/or Lucille B. Lahey and running easterly with said right of way north boundary line a distance of one hundred fifty-five (155) feet to a point, thence north 19° 45' west (and parallel to Charles Lahey's and/or Lucille Lahey's east boundary line) a distance of one hundred sixty (160) feet to a point, thence westerly parallel to the north boundary line of the L&N Railroad's right of way a distance of one hundred fifty five (155) feet to a point, thence southerly parallel to Charles Lahey's and/or Lucille Lahey's east property line to point of beginning, said parcel of property containing 24,800 square feet.

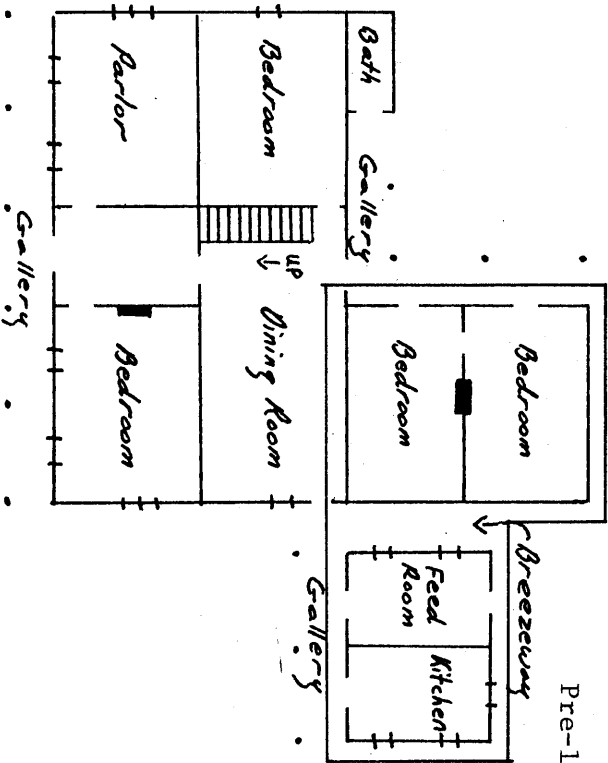
11 - FORM PREPARED BY

Lloyd Ostby, Architectural Historian
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P. O. Box 571 (601) 354-7326
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

May, 1980

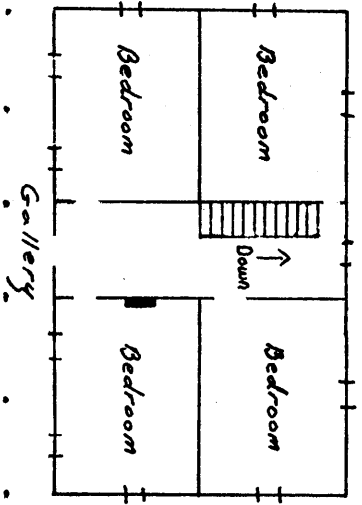
W.J. Quarles House and Cottage Floor Plan Pre-1937
 Long Beach, Harrison County, Mississippi

(not drawn to scale)



First Story

Pre-1884 House (removed ca. 1937, the kitchen/feed room section was moved and became the present cottage)



Second Story