

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAR 11 1987

date entered

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

1. Name

historic

and or common Indian Springs Historic District

2. Location

street & number

N/A not for publication

city, town Ocean Springs

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi

code

28

county

Jackson

code

59

3. Classification

Category

district  
 building(s)  
 structure  
 site  
 object

Ownership

public  
 private  
 both

Public Acquisition

in process  
 being considered

Status

occupied  
 unoccupied  
 work in progress

Accessible

yes: restricted  
 yes: unrestricted  
 no

Present Use

agriculture  
 commercial  
 educational  
 entertainment  
 government  
 industrial  
 military

museum  
 park  
 private residence  
 religious  
 scientific  
 transportation  
 other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town

vicinity of

state

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Canty Street

city, town

Pascagoula

state

Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town

Jackson

state

Mississippi 39205

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Indian Springs Historic District is approximately defined by Old Fort Bayou on the north, Washington Avenue North on the east, the southernmost property lines of 816 Church Street and 810 Iberville Street on the south, and the northward extension to the bayou of the western boundary of the latter property. The level ground along Washington Avenue North and Iberville Avenue slopes gradually towards the bayou. The vegetation of the level area consists of tree-shaded lawns and flower beds. As the ground declines towards the bayou the trees and undergrowth increase in density.

Three of the eleven buildings that comprise the district have been determined to be pivotal, five as contributing, one as marginal and two as non-contributing. They are all of wood frame construction of one-to-two stories. All of the buildings, with the exception of the Indian Springs/Aunt Jenny's Restaurant complex, were built and used as residences during most of their existence. Two of them now serve as offices. The buildings represent somewhat free and individual interpretations and blends of the Queen Anne, Greek Revival and Bungalow styles. The lot sizes vary as does the placement of the buildings on their lots. This lends a greater sense of informality to the Indian Springs Historic District than the more regular lay-outs of the other districts.

- P - Pivotal buildings qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by reasons of individual architectural and/or historical significance.
- C - Contributing buildings are essential to the district's sense of place and sustain the architectural and historical significance of the district.
- M - Marginal buildings do not presently contribute to the architectural significance of the district, but by their scale, material, or setting do not overly compromise the integrity of the district. Marginal buildings include those historical buildings which have been remodeled to such a degree that their architectural character has been seriously compromised. Restoration of original features could cause these buildings to become contributing. Marginal buildings also include deteriorated buildings that contribute to the district but whose condition is so deteriorated that their future is uncertain.
- NC - Non-contributing buildings do not contribute to the

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Ocean Springs, Hancock Co., M Item number 7 Page 1

historical character of the district, but, because they are compatible to the contributing historic buildings in scale, mass, materials, and setting, they do not detract from the visual cohesiveness of the district. Non-contributing buildings include those residences that were constructed after the period of significance and are compatible in scale, mass, material, and setting--if not in detail.

- I - Intrusive buildings by their scale, materials, condition, or setting severely disrupt the cohesion of the historic environment.

INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Washington Avenue North

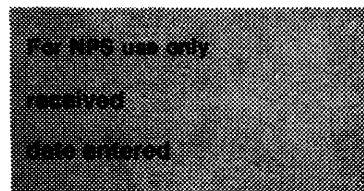
1. 1201. Realty Office. One story, wood frame cottage with a cross gable roof. Imbricated shingles in gables, millwork enriches gable peaks. Three bay porch with turned posts, brackets, and a spindle frieze. Southern bay of porch projects to the east and supports a small gable. Queen Anne. Ca. 1900. (P)
2. 1203. House. One story, wood frame house with a cross gable. Shed roof porch now enclosed. Brick chimney built against center face of polygonal gabled bay. Queen Anne. Ca. 1900. (M)
3. 1217. "Indian Springs." ("Aunt Jenny's Restaurant"). Complex wood frame building consisting of 1920s additions to an 1850s house. One- and two-storied sections. Hip roofs. Wrap-around porch on southern bungalow one story section's southern and eastern elevations. Hip-roofed porte-cochere with slatted frieze. Varied window forms include 16 over 1 double-hung sashes and diamond-paned casements. Variety of siding widths. Outbuildings include a spring shelter, octagonal enclosed gazebo, and restaurant.
  - a. bungalow, Colonial Revival (P)
  - b. spring shelter (C)
  - c. octagonal gazebo (C)
  - d. restaurant (NC)

Church Street

4. 816. House. Two-and one-half stories, wood frame house covered

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by a pyramidal roof. One story three bay full-width porch with turned posts, brackets, balustrade and hip roof. Second floor windows are paired and united with square attic windows to form a visual unit crowned with a gable. Alterations. Ca. 1880. (C)

5. 818. House. One story, wood frame house with a cross gable roof. Undercut porch. Ca. 1930. (C)

Iberville Street

6. 810. Davidson-Smith House. One- and one-half story, wood frame house on four foot tall brick piers. Gable roof. Wrap-around porch which projects on the east elevation and is undercut on the north facade. Battered ear architrave frames transomed and sidelighted entrance. Gables added to side gallery, polygonal bay interrupts facade gallery. Greek Revival with Queen Anne alterations. Ca. 1855. (P)
7. 813. House. One story, wood frame house with a side gable roof. Uncertain date. (NC)
8. 901-903. House. One story, wood frame house with a side cross gable roof. L-shaped plan. Four bay, roofed gallery. The westernmost bay projects beyond the wall of the west elevation. Turned posts with brackets. Queen Anne. Ca. 1900. (C)

Total contributing elements:  
8 buildings

Total noncontributing elements:  
3 buildings

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

**Specific dates** ca. 1850 - ca. 1930 **Builder/Architect** N/A

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Indian Springs Historic District is architecturally significant because of the diversity of architectural forms and styles within its limited number of structures. The Indian Springs, itself, attracted visitors over several centuries and contributed to the development of Ocean Springs as a resort community beginning in the 1850s.

The Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Bungalow styles are all represented in the small number of contributing structures. The Davidson-Smith House at 810 Iberville Street is, at first glance, a Greek Revival raised cottage. However, a chamfered bay complete with a spindle frieze has absorbed two bays of the front gallery injecting a strong note of the Queen Anne style. Aunt Jenny's Restaurant was originally an 1850s house of unknown style. It has over the following seventy years acquired Colonial Revival elements and a strangely bungaloid wing. The most stylistically pure building is the house, presently a realty office, at 1201 Washington Avenue North which is in the Queen Anne style.

The Indian Springs area was the southern landing of a ferry which crossed Old Fort Bayou. The site of the now-defunct ferry landing is near the foot of the slope to the north of Aunt Jenny's Restaurant. The ferry, which was operated by a Portuguese immigrant named Franco, continued in use from the 1850s until early in the twentieth century when a bridge was constructed across Old Fort Bayou. Mr. Franco constructed the core of the present Aunt Jenny's.

That the mineral springs in the area have long attracted visitors was established by a 1976 archaeological excavation which determined that native Americans of the Marksville Period (approximately fifteen centuries ago) occupied the site. In more recent times the Aunt Jenny's complex has served as a convalescents' home and a hotel for those wishing to avail themselves of the springs mineral waters. Due to a decline in the water table the spring is no longer free-flowing.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Hines, Regina B. Ocean Springs, 1892. Pascagoula: Lewis Printing Services, 1979.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property App. 5 acres

Quadrangle name Ocean Springs

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	3	2	4	4	6	0	3	3	6	6	4	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

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

C 

1	6	3	2	4	2	8	0	3	3	6	6	1	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

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

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The boundaries of the Indian Springs Historic District correspond to those of: Lots 1 and 21 of Dr. Bailey's Place Subdivision, and 7A and 6 of Block 131, and Lots 2,3,4,5 and 6 of Block 132 on page 1 of the City of Ocean Springs Map adopted by the Board of Alderman, 1983.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brian N. Berggren, Architectural Historian

organization Miss. Dept. of Archives and History

date May 15, 1986

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi 39205

## 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Kenneth H. P. Paul*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date March 4, 1987

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

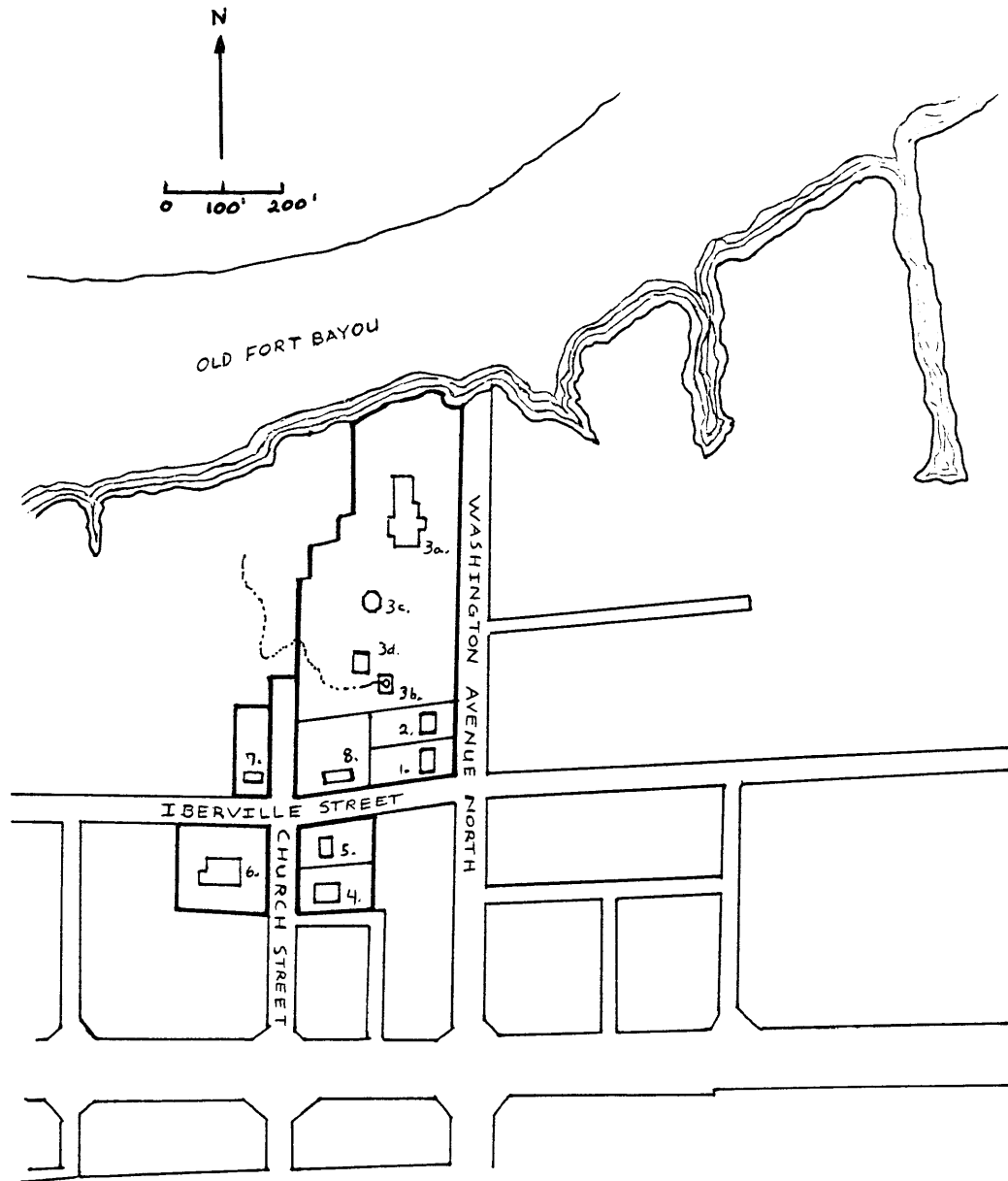
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Indian Springs Historic District  
Ocean Springs, Jackson County, Mississippi