

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0673935

FOR NPS USE ONLY			
RECEIVED	MAY 1	1979	
		JUN	4 1979
DATE ENTERED			

**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
Hotel Vicksburg

AND/OR COMMON
Hotel Vicksburg

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
801 Clay Street

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fourth

CITY, TOWN
Vicksburg

--- VICINITY OF

STATE
Mississippi 39180

CODE
28

COUNTY
Warren

CODE
149

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 type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Joel Alexander

STREET & NUMBER
830 Louisiana Avenue

CITY, TOWN
New Orleans

--- VICINITY OF

STATE
Louisiana 70115

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Office of the Chancery Clerk
Warren County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Cherry Street

CITY, TOWN
Vicksburg

STATE
Mississippi 39180

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE
1979
--- FEDERAL STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN
Jackson

STATE
Mississippi 39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Hotel Vicksburg is an eleven-story six-by-five-bay Colonial Revival-style building of reinforced-concrete-and-brick construction occupying a prominent position facing south on the southeast corner of Clay and Walnut streets. Both the south and west elevations are ornamented with face-brick and Bedford-stone detailing. Facade treatment is classical, utilizing belt courses to divide the building into three sections. The ground level of the two-story lower section contains, on the south side, four three-bay storefronts and the main entrance, which is recessed. A projecting iron canopy, supported by ornamental brackets and suspended by chains, shelters the entrance. A similar canopy originally located on the west side is no longer extant, but an unusual wire-glass-and-iron canopy, semicircular with radiating muntins terminating in projecting arrowheads, remains above the service entrance on this elevation. The second level of the lower section is given an arcaded treatment through use of large round-arched windows with multipane casement sash and semicircular transoms with radiating muntins. Iron balustrades enrich the spandrel area. The middle section, which rises seven stories, contains windows with stepped lintels and eight-over-one sash. The central window on the ninth floor, the top floor of the middle section, is enriched with a scrolled enframing and balustraded spandrel panel with brackets. End windows of the tenth and eleventh floors, located in the top section of the building, are unified by a plain surround with decorated spandrel panel. The building terminates in a decorated stepped parapet above a modillioned cornice. Changes to the exterior of the building include modernization of storefronts in the south elevation and the application of enamel paneling, which covers windows in the west elevation.

The interior is almost entirely intact and contains marble stairs leading to a two-story paneled lobby with plasterwork ceiling, carved oak reservation desk, and cigar stand. While most of the interior enrichment is in the Colonial Revival style, there are some Art Deco features, including a brass fountain in the lobby and light fixtures and plaster panels in the Coral Room ballroom. Three large paintings, two of which remain, once hung on various wall. Hand-painted beams in the Florentine Grill Room (now a Chinese restaurant) have been covered by an acoustical ceiling but are thought to remain intact.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 & 9 PAGE 1

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

the New South, an allegorical work representing various aspects of Southern industry; the Siege of Vicksburg, a map of operations during the Civil War; and the Battle of the Crater, a scene in the siege of Vicksburg which portrayed the Courthouse and other city landmarks. (The last painting is now missing.) Chicago sculptor Carl M. Linnear executed two plaster panels for the Coral Room ballroom. Entitled the Rhapsodic Dance, they are excellent examples of Art Deco.

In constant use as a hotel until 1975, the building was purchased from the Magnolia Hotel Company by the present owner in 1978. Renovation and conversion of the hotel into luxury apartments is now in progress.

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"New Hotel Opens July 3 and 4." Vicksburg Evening Post. Hotel Vicksburg section, July 2, 1929.

"Memorandum Specifications for an Eight-story and Basement Fireproof Hotel for Vicksburg, Miss." Chicago: H. L. Stevens & Co., Feb. 8, 1928. Typescript located in research file, Old Courthouse Museum, Vicksburg, Miss.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input 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 1928

BUILDER/ARCHITECT H. L. Stevens & Co.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Termed a "modest skyscraper" upon its completion, the Hotel Vicksburg remains the tallest building in Vicksburg. Its exterior is well detailed in the Colonial Revival style, while its interior, which is almost totally intact, combines Colonial Revival with Art Deco motifs. Construction of the hotel in 1928 was funded almost entirely with local capital and represented not only the growth and progress of Vicksburg in that decade, but also the city-planning efforts of local businessmen. The demolition in 1972 of two earlier hotels, the Washington and the Pacific House, left the Hotel Vicksburg the only large-scale building in the downtown area originally constructed for use as a hotel.

By 1928 several projects were underway or had been completed which were expected to increase traffic through Vicksburg. The recently completed Yazoo River bridge provided the last link in the north-south route of the scenic highway along the Mississippi River, and the Vicksburg bridge soon to span the Mississippi would make the city an important crossing point on the shortest highway route across the continent. Realizing the investment potential of a new hotel and the importance of such a facility to the growth and prosperity of the city, realtor John S. Hoggatt, cotton dealer K. D. Wells, banker E. S. Butt, and merchant Edgar Leyens formed the Magnolia Hotel Company. They sold stock to "nearly every prominent citizen of the Hill City" ("Hotel Vicksburg," Jackson [Miss.] Daily News, Rotogravure section, June 30, 1929, p. 1), hired architects, and leased the building for twenty years to the Austin-Atkins Hotel Company.

Designed by the Chicago firm of H. L. Stevens and Company, architects and engineers who built only hotels, the building was first planned to be eight stories but was enlarged during construction to eleven. Completed at a cost of \$550,000, the hotel's reinforced-concrete construction was said to make the structure "practically everlasting" and "nearly fireproof" ("New Hotel Opens July 3 and 4," p. 5). Acclaimed as "one of the most modernly equipped hotels in the South" ("Many Attend Brilliant Formal Opening of the New Vicksburg Hostelry," Vicksburg Evening Post, July 4, 1929, p. 10), the building boasted a vacuum-cleaning plant with a two-sweeper capacity and outlets and attachments on each floor, and a refrigeration system which supplied ice water to every room.

Much attention was given to the interior, each public space being decorated in a different motif: the main lobby in the "manner of an English baronial hall of the Georgian period" ("Guide for Inspection of the Hotel Vicksburg," Vicksburg: Van Norman-Downey-Yoste Co., 1929); the Coral Room "in the spirit of French art moderne" (Ibid.); the Monroe Room, a small dining room, in the "American Colonial style" (Ibid.); and the Florentine Grill Room in the Italian Renaissance mode. Two Chicago artists were hired to enrich various wall spaces. Hubert Ropp executed three paintings depicting local subjects: the Pageantry of

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- "Guide for Inspection of the Hotel Vicksburg." Vicksburg: Van Norman-Downey-Yoste Co., 1929. Original located in research file, Old Courthouse Museum, Vicksburg, Miss.
- "Hotel Vicksburg." Jackson Daily News. Rotogravure section, June 30, 1929.
- "Many Attend Brilliant Formal Opening of the New Vicksburg Hostelry." Vicksburg Evening Post. July 4, 1929.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one-half acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Vicksburg West, Miss.-La.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES 450

A 15 699430 3581020

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of lot 220, square 35 of the Vicksburg Proper Survey of the City of Vicksburg, Miss., as follows: beginning at the northeast corner of the intersection of Clay and Walnut streets north 147' 6", east 147' 6", south 73' 9", west 45' 2 1/2", south 73' 9", and west 102' 3 1/2", to the beginning point.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Adele Cramer, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE

February 20, 1979

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 X

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

Elmer A. Hilliard

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE April 16, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 ATTEST: Charles Johnson

DATE 4-4-79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION
Charles Johnson

DATE 5/10/79