

STATE:
Mississippi

COUNTY:
Adams

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.8.23.0012	8/5

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Jefferson College

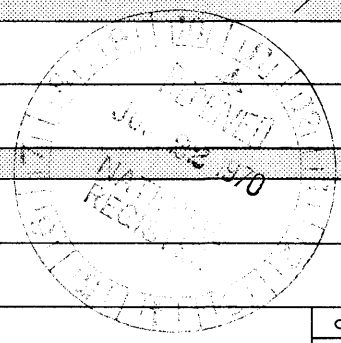
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Jefferson College

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Only two buildings used as residences

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Public ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:
State of Mississippi

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 23
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Adams County Chancery Court

STREET AND NUMBER:
Market Street

CITY OR TOWN: Natchez	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 23
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1936** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Division of Prints and Photographs

STREET AND NUMBER:
Library of Congress

CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 08
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Jefferson College is located on a campus consisting of approximately 78.5 acres. Two original brick buildings, three stories in height, were joined by a third building a few years after their erection, giving the appearance of one large building constructed of three different types of bricks in the federal style of architecture.

The east wing was probably built in the 1820s, while the west wing was built in 1838-39. Each wing consists of three and a half stories, and each wing has three dormer windows and a hipped roof. The center section was built some time after 1851, and consists of three stories with a flat roof and a small wooden bell tower.

Located behind the main buildings are two smaller out buildings of similar construction and architecture. These buildings consist of two stories and a basement or ground floor.

Also located on the campus is the President's House, a wooden two story structure built in the early 19th century.

It is not known what alterations from the original design may have been made in the interior of the buildings.



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AMENDMENT: PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
JEFFERSON COLLEGE
WASHINGTON, ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

7. In 1972, as part of the effort to restore the Jefferson College Campus as nearly as possible to its 1840 appearance, a structurally unsound, three-story gymnasium building which had been constructed in 1894-95 between the two primary original school buildings was removed (see attached photographs).



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1802-1964

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Jefferson College, named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson, was incorporated by the Mississippi Territorial Legislature on May 13, 1802. This was the first act of incorporation passed by the Legislature. The college was established on land donated by John Foster, James Foster, and Randal Gibson. Because of lack of funds, the college could not open its doors to students until January 1, 1811. The school first operated in the frame buildings of Washington Academy, previously located on the campus site.

Mississippi's first constitution was written and signed in the Old Methodist Church established by Lorenzo Dow on the Jefferson College campus, in the summer of 1817. Jefferson College is the birthplace of Mississippi's statehood.

Distinguished members of the College's Board of Trustees were Governors W. C. C. Claiborne, Robert Williams, David Holmes, Walter Leake, and George Poindexter, Senator Thomas Reed, and General Thomas Hinds. Among the noted faculty members were John James Audubon and Leonard Dale, who assisted Samuel F. B. Morse in the development of the telegraph. Jefferson Davis was a student at Jefferson College in 1818. Other outstanding Mississippians who were students there included Congressman J. F. H. Claiborne, Senator and Governor Albert G. Brown, and distinguished geologist B. L. C. Wailes.

It was the desire of the founders that Jefferson College should become a southern West Point. In 1829 military science was added to the course of study. The school, however, never became more than a preparatory school for boys.

On February 4, 1807, Aaron Burr was arraigned for treason in a court building which once stood near the giant oak trees that still stand on the Jefferson College campus. In 1815 General Andrew Jackson visited the college, on his way to Nashville after the Battle of New Orleans. The Marquis de Lafayette may have visited the college when he was a visitor in nearby Natchez in 1825.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. James, D. Clayton, Antebellum Natchez. (Baton Rouge, La., LSU Press: 1968), 235-236.
2. Jefferson College papers, Mississippi Department of Archives and History collections.
3. Marshall, Thomas, They Found It in Natchez. (Baton Rouge, La., Pelican Press: 1939), 156.

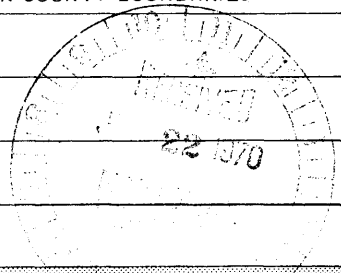
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	31	35	17 "	91	18	08 "			
NE	31	35	18 "	91	17	49 "			
SE	31	34	48 "	91	17	46 "			
SW	31	34	47 "	91	18	05 "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **78.5**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Elbert Hilliard, Director, Div. of Hist. Sites and Archaeology

ORGANIZATION: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History** DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER:
120 North State Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Jackson,** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **23**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *R. G. McNamee*

Title **Director, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History**

Date **June 16, 1970**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Cawley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

AUG 25 1970

Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Montague
Keeper of The National Register

Date **JUL 31 1970**

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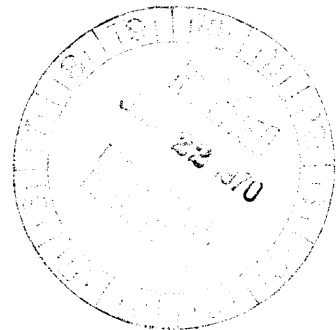
(Number all entries)

Jefferson College

8. Following the 1963-64 session, Jefferson College, which had been a military high school for many years, closed its doors. The State of Mississippi acquired the Jefferson College property in 1965, by purchase authorized by the 1964 Mississippi Legislature.

9. 4. Swearingen, Mack, Life of George Poindexter. (New Orleans, La., Tulane University Press: 1934), 45-47.

5. Sydnor, Charles S., A Gentleman of the Old Natchez Region Benjamin L. C. Wailes. (Durham, N. C., Duke University Press: 1938), 48-233, passim.



"Seale"

St. Catherine Creek

Boundary

"Campbell Est."

Reverse Down Center of Bayou from "A" to "B"

N18°01' E	185.0
N 75°23' E	135.7
N 42°49' W	118.3
N 26°48' E	179.9
N 80°01' W	218.9
N 67°14' W	107.3
N 41°23' E	130.2
N 61°08' W	71.5
N 32°40' E	226.8
N 21°18' W	71.0
N 15°38' E	143.2
N 18°09' E	119.3
N 38°27' E	108.6
N 88°03' E	44.7
N 15°10' E	84.9
N 33°53' E	106.2
N 37°41' E	94.6
N 64°17' E	53.7
N 41°01' W	84.2
N 22°25' E	101.3
N 38°52' E	55.3

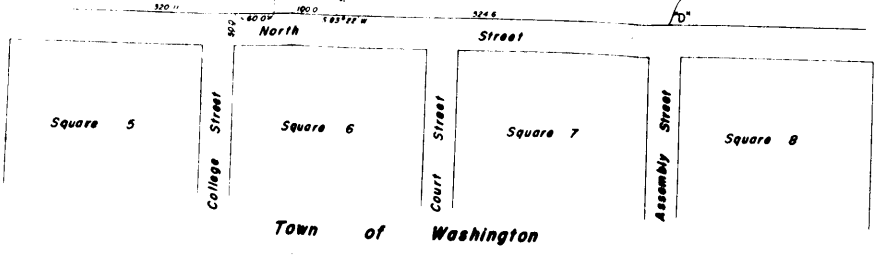
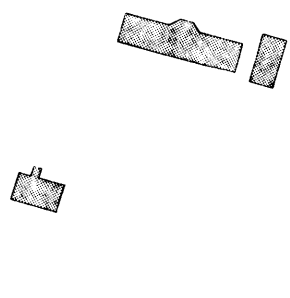
78.5 Acres

"Hart Est."

Reverse Up Center of Drain from "C" to "D"

S 21°23' W	184.9
S 07°36' E	72.4
S 34°50' E	88.6
S 24°42' E	98.5
S 28°48' W	122.8
S 38°33' W	113.6
S 85°02' W	148.4
N 88°36' W	81.7

"Nichols"



Survey of Lands of
JEFFERSON MILITARY COLLEGE
ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
 By
JORDAN, KAISER & SESSIONS
 Civil Engineers - Natchez, Mississippi
 Scale in Feet
 0 100 200 300

Photo By
 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY
 Box 571
 Jackson, Mississippi

Form 10-301
 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
78-8-23-0012	8/05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Jefferson College**
 AND/OR HISTORIC: **Jefferson College**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions, Civil Engineers, Natchez, Miss.

SCALE: **1:1200**

DATE: **1956**

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.

