

Historic Sites Survey

1001



#11
State of Mississippi
Department of Archives & History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS. 39205

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The O'Keefe-Clark Boarding House is a one story, wood frame vernacular building which rests on low stuccoed masonry piers. The side gable roof is pierced by an interior ridge chimney and an exterior chimney rises against the west elevation. The five bay north facade conforms to the fenestration pattern of three central doors flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash windows in the outer bays which is also found on houses at 505 Jackson and 509 Washington Avenues. The five bay projecting porch with a dropped hip roof supported by square posts and a turned balustrade protects the three entrances. The interior features hardware bearing the date 1873.

ALTERATIONS:

Original wrap-around, L-shaped porch was removed at the time of the move. A shed-roofed addition and a carport have been added to the rear.

OUTBUILDINGS:

Small guest cottage

LANDSCAPE FEATURES: A large corner lot with a crushed-shell driveway, featuring pecan trees and other plantings.

NAME: O'Keefe-Clark Boarding House

STREET NO: 2122 Government Street

TOWN/VIC: Ocean Springs

COUNTY: Jackson

BLOCK/LOT:

PRESENT OWNER: Alva and Mary Clark

ADDRESS 2122 Government St., Ocean Springs, MS

PRESENT USE: Residence

FORMER USE: Boarding House

DATE: ca. 1850, moved ca. 1910

STYLE: Vernacular

ARCH/BUILDER: unknown

SOURCE OF DATE: Oral History (Mrs. Rose O'Keefe)

ENVIRONMENT: 1909, 1915 Sanborn Maps

Residential

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

NEIGHBORHOOD

LOCAL X

STATE

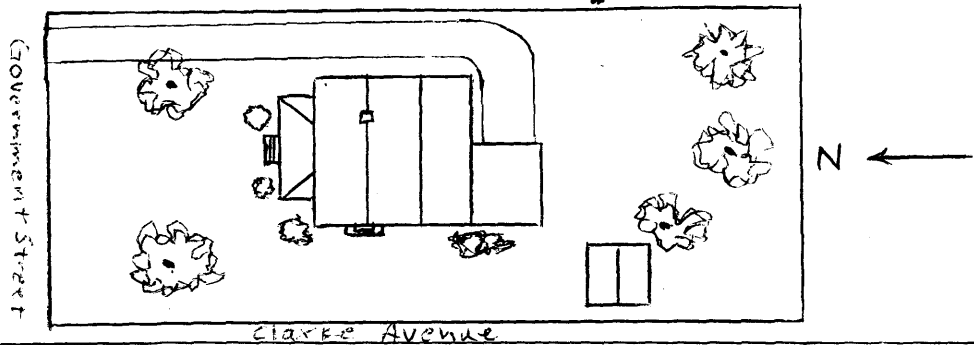
NATIONAL

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The O'Keefe-Clark Boarding House is significant with in the context of Ocean Springs history as a representative example of an important residential building form closely associated with the nineteenth century resort industry in the city, and which belonged to the O'Keefe family who were deeply involved in that industry. The one-story galleried cottage with multiple entrances from the gallery is a recurrent building type in Ocean Springs. At least one other example (509 Washington Avenue) has been documented as having served as a boarding house. The O'Keefe-Clark Boarding House originally stood on the northwest corner of Porter and Jackson Avenues. It was purchased in 1874 by Mary Tracy O'Keefe to operate as a boarding house for New Orleans vacationers. In 1890 the family business was expanded by her son with the addition of an adjoining livery stable and undertaker's establishment. In 1910 the boarding house was moved to its current location where it is believed to have briefly continued in service as a "tourist home."

PHOTOS

NEG. # 1660 - 25A, 27A

SITE OR AREA PLAN WITH NORTH ARROW AND SHAPE OF STRUCTURE:



CONTINUATION:

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

Good

THREATS:

Increased commercial activity along Government Street

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Lot 2B of Block 180 on p. 10 of the City of Ocean Springs Map adopted by the Board of Aldermen

ACREAGE: app. one-half acre

JTM REF:

A	1,6	3,2,5,8,1,5	3,3,6,5,6,6,0
	ZONE EASTING		NORTHING
C			
B			
	ZONE EASTING		NORTHING
D			

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE

Brian Berggren

May 15, 1986