

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0673 994  
FOR NPS USE ONLYRECEIVED MAY 1 1979  
DATE ENTERED

JUL 3 1979

**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

Alex Williams House

AND/OR COMMON

Greystone Hotel

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

937 North Lamar Street

\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Mississippi

CODE  
28COUNTY  
HindsCODE  
49**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

Capitol Investment Corporation

STREET &amp; NUMBER

207 West Capitol Street

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Mississippi 39201

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Chancery Clerk

STREET &amp; NUMBER

316 South President Street  
Hinds County Chancery Court Building

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39201

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1979

\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_ COUNTY \_ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Box 571 Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39205

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT                       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD                                 RUINS  
 FAIR                                  UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Greystone Hotel is an imposing two-story three-by-three-bay Colonial Revival-style structure facing east overlooking Greenwood Cemetery. The building is clapboarded, hip roofed, and distinguished by its two-tiered gallery supported on monumental fluted Ionic columns with Scamozzi capitals. A two-tiered rear gallery has been enclosed. Projecting from the south elevation is a two-story polygonal bay which terminates in a pedimented gable. An off-center entrance incorporates side lights and transom, which contain diamond-shaped panes. The diamond motif is also present in the upper sash of the first-floor windows which flank the entrance, and in the small window on the north elevation which contains colored glass and lights the stairwell. A door centrally placed on the second floor of the front elevation opens onto a cantilevered balustraded balcony.

The interior is largely intact and contains three rooms grouped around the hall on the first floor and four rooms on the second floor. In addition to the Colonial Revival-style staircase with squared newel posts, the mantelpieces are notable original features. Those on the first floor contain curved posts and mirrored overmantels. Mantels on the second floor are simpler, with squared posts and no overmantel.

# 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Black History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1912 BUILDER/ARCHITECT George Thomas

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Important to the study of black history in Jackson, the present Greystone Hotel is probably the only Colonial Revival-style building constructed by George Thomas, a self-taught black contractor well known for his Bungalow-style residences in the community. The size of the two-story building and its formalism set it apart from its neighbors, small vernacular cottages or dwellings designed in the Bungalow style.

Constructed in 1912 as a residence for Alex Williams, a black grocer who owned property which ran 400 feet west (along present Lamar Lane) and whose store was located immediately north of the present structure, the dwelling apparently fulfilled a life-long dream. George Thomas, contractor for the project, aged 96, still lives in the neighborhood, one block north on Cohea Street. The Ionic columns are said to have been built to Alex William's specifications, and the interior planned with Thomas's assistance by members of the Williams family. Apparently Williams did not live to enjoy his new residence for long, since only his wife is listed at the address in the 1916 Jackson city directory. By 1922 the directory listed Harry and Betty Marino. Harry Marino, a cotton sampler with the W.J. Davis Company, and Betty Marino, a teacher at Smith Robertson School, lived at the address until 1945, when they purchased the next house north. The building was first listed as a hotel in 1950. Also at that time the street name was changed from Grayson to Lamar (perhaps the name Greystone is a corruption of Grayson), and shotgun cottages were constructed on the rear lot, forming Lamar Lane.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Jackson, Mississippi, City Directories, 1916-1950. Ashville, North Carolina: Piedmont Press.

Thomas, George. Interviewed by Adele Cramer, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Jackson, Aug., 1978.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1/4 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Jackson

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 5 | 7, 6, 5 | 1, 0, 0 | 3, 5, 7, 8 | 0, 2, 0

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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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 R. Hilliard*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

April 25, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Arthur Charles Atkinson*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-3-79

ATTEST: *Ann H. Gilmore*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

7/2/79

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DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 1

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

United States. Works Progress Administration. Hinds County, Mississippi, Jackson.  
Source material for Mississippi History. Statewide Historical Research Project,  
E.R. Hopkins, Company. Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description)

309' north of Monument St., the property line moves west for 165', north for 83', east for 165', and south for 83', back to the beginning point.