

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Davis-Mitchell House

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 901 Crawford Street N/A not for publication

city, town Vicksburg N/A vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Mississippi code 28 county Warren code 149

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. and Mrs. M. E. Hinman

street & number 2615 Confederate Avenue

city, town Vicksburg N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk

street & number Warren County Courthouse

city, town Vicksburg state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Davis-Mitchell House is a two-story townhouse located on the northeast corner of Crawford and Monroe Streets near the central business district of Vicksburg, Mississippi. The facade, or south elevation, is sheltered by a double gallery designed with slender columns on the lower level supporting chamfered posts and a paneled frieze above. Sawn pendants and brackets decorate each of the gallery's six bays. Reconstructed from historic photographs, the present double gallery replaced one which had been installed in ca. 1920 and, with its square masonry piers and sleeping porch, greatly intruded upon the architectural character of the original design. Fortunately, the ca. 1920 "improvements" went no further, leaving intact most of the exterior and all of the interior fabric. The principal section of the house is based on the three-bay, side-hall plan. Segmentally-arched six-over-eight windows and a recessed entrance with a glazed and paneled door surrounded by sidelights and an arched transom are major features of the original facade. A single-run staircase, designed with a large octagonal newel and similar ballusters typical of the period, is located in the main passage. Double parlors separated by sliding doors and decorated with Rococo Revival centerpieces, pilastered mantels, and wide architraves, open onto the passage. Behind the parlors is a two-story dining room wing and double gallery which provides additional access to the chamber story by means of a sheltered staircase. A two-room, one-story kitchen wing is attached to the rear, or north, elevation.

There are no extant outbuildings associated with the Davis-Mitchell House.

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 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 1872 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Davis-Mitchell House is significant to the architectural history of Vicksburg, Mississippi (Criteria C). It is a fine example of the Italianate taste which dominated Vicksburg architecture during the Reconstruction period when much of the city was being repaired or rebuilt following the Civil War. Of all Italianate townhouses which have survived, the Davis-Mitchell House is particularly noteworthy for its high degree of architectural and structural integrity seen most readily on the interior which boasts of all its original floors, mantels, doors, windows, staircases and decorative plasterwork. While the facade was altered in ca. 1920, historic photographs have allowed for the recreation in 1981 of the original double gallery which contributes significantly to the quality of the Italianate design. The Davis-Mitchell House was constructed in 1872 for Lucy Bradford Mitchell (1831-1919), a niece of Jefferson Davis and the wife of a locally prominent physician, Charles Jouett Mitchell. In the late nineteenth century, the property was leased to the United States Corps of Engineers which used the house for office space. In 1919, Alice Bradfield paid \$6,000 for the property and retained title until 1978. The present owners purchased the property in 1980 and have since undertaken a sympathetic rehabilitation program.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Allen, William C., Chief Architectural Historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Inspection of Davis-Mitchell House, October 8, 1980.
Chapman, H. P. and J. F. Battaile. Picturesque Vicksburg. Vicksburg (Miss.): Vicksburg Printing and Publishing Co., 1895.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one
Quadrangle name Vicksburg West Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>699560</u> | <u>3580920</u> | B | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| C | | | | D | | | |
| E | | | | F | | | |
| G | | | | H | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

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

| | | | | |
|-------|------------|------|--------|------|
| state | <u>N/A</u> | code | county | code |
| state | | code | county | code |

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William C. Allen, Chief Architectural Historian

organization Department of Archives and History date December 7, 1981

street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson state Mississippi

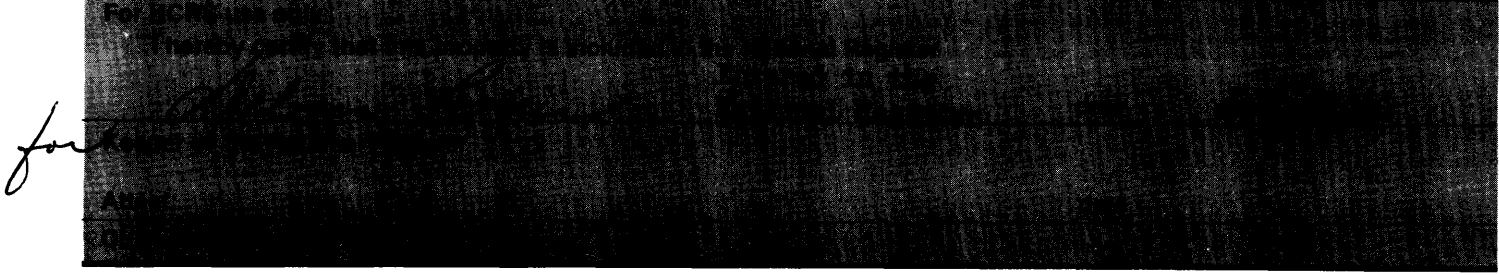
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Robert J. Bailey*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date April 20, 1982



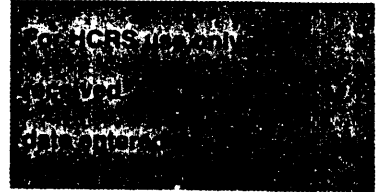
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Continuation sheet Warren County, Mississippi Item number 9, 10

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9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Warren County. Vicksburg. John Lane House Folder.

Vicksburg (Miss.) Evening Post. April 10, 1977.

Warren County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book MM.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal boundary description and justification)

That part of Lot 239 in Square 39 of the original plat of the City of Vicksburg known as Vicksburg Proper described as beginning at the Southwest corner of said lot and Square, which is the intersection of the North line of Crawford Street with the East line of Monroe Street, and running thence East along the North line of Crawford Street a distance of 60 feet to the middle of the brick wall dividing said lot from the former Owens lot; thence Northwardly along the middle line of said wall and the same line extended a distance of 147-1/2 feet; thence West parallel with Crawford Street a distance of 60 feet, more or less, to the East line of Monroe Street; thence South along the East line of Monroe Street a distance of 147-1/2 feet to the point of beginning.