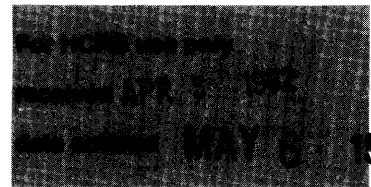


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



1982

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic John Lane House

and/or common same as above

## 2. Location

street & number 905 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N/A not for publication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

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 Dr. and Mrs. M. E. Hinman

street & number 2615 Confederate Avenue

city, town Vicksburg

N/A vicinity of

state Mississippi 39180

## 5. Location of Legal Description

Office of the Chancery Clerk  
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Warren County Courthouse

street & number Cherry Street

city, town Vicksburg

state Mississippi

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Building Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1936  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington

state D.C.

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>N/A</u>

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Two-and-one-half-frame/brick residential structure; undercut double-gallery; rectangular columns inset with sawn decoration; gable roof covered with cypress shingles; hall-parlor plan with enclosed rear gallery between cabinets; simple Federal interior woodwork; remodelled ca. 1872; restored 1981.

The John Lane House is a two-and-one-half-story brick and frame residence located in a mixed use neighborhood in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Close observation has revealed that the structure has undergone at least two phases of development dating to ca. 1833 and ca. 1872. The original appearance of the house was typical of many vernacular dwellings in the Lower Mississippi Valley. It was a one-and-one-half-story frame structure set above an unfinished brick basement. A four-bay undercut gallery was supported by classical columns of either round or square section approximating the Doric order. Two twelve-over-twelve windows and two paneled doors with simple beaded casings were set into the facade covered with flush boards. Opening directly onto the gallery were the two principal rooms served by exterior chimneys. Behind these rooms were unheated cabinets flanking a narrow, recessed rear gallery. A closet stair with winders led to the chamber story lit only by windows in the gable ends. The woodwork was exceedingly simple except for two fine Federal mantels designed with engaged Tuscan columns, a molded frieze and shelf.

During the early 1870s, the John Lane House was altered to update its appearance, possibly in response to the fine Italianate townhouses which were then under construction on either side of it. The classical columns were replaced with rectangular ones inlaid with decoratively sawn panels - a popular Vicksburg idiom of the period. Simple pilastered frontispieces around the fenestration of the facade and spandrel panels were fitted below the two window sills. The most ambitious aspect of this remodeling effort involved conversion of the basement into usable living space. This was accomplished by either raising the frame upper portion of the house to accommodate a higher story below or, as it seems more likely, by excavation and reworking the brick facade wall. Evidence to support both theories exists. The four rooms which resulted were fitted with simple pilastered woodwork similar to that used to update the wooden facade above. A crude winding staircase was installed to give interior access to the principal story.

In the 1930s, the eastern half of the dwelling was converted for use as rental units. The interior spaces were awkwardly divided and the eastern chimney was removed to accommodate the apartments. A recent rehabilitation project has removed these nonhistoric intrusions to reveal the original plan. Using physical evidence and historic photographs, the exterior has been restored and the interior rehabilitation into rental units. This project was undertaken with the professional assistance of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** ca. 1833      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The John Lane House is a distinctive example of the modest dwellings built in the Lower Mississippi Valley in the first third of the nineteenth century (criteria C). It is a hall-parlor house with an undercut gallery along the full width of the facade. A pair of unheated cabinets flank a narrow recessed gallery on the rear. Bed chambers in the upper story are reached by a small enclosed stairs which climb from the rear gallery. The interior was fitted with Federal mantels, molded and paneled doors, plaster walls and ceilings, cypress flooring, and simple baseboards. This house type was ideally suited to the warm Mississippi climate and was adopted throughout Mississippi in the territorial and early statehood periods. While not architect designed or crafted by masters, the relative sophistication of the trim does confirm that skilled craftsmen were at work in Vicksburg during its earliest period. The John Lane House, constructed in ca. 1833, is the only example to have survived in Vicksburg, which was not settled until 1821. While the house form, plan and most interior trim survives intact, a face lift (ca. 1872) replaced the original Tuscan columns on the facade with Vicksburg's favored rectangular columns with sawn inset decoration. It is possible that this project was inspired by the two flanking Italianate townhouses which were under construction at the time or simply was meant to repair the damage suffered during the forty-seven day siege of Vicksburg which occurred nine years earlier. During a recent restoration project, the decision was made to retain these alterations which had gained significance over time. The restoration also assured the continuing architectural and structural integrity of one of Vicksburg's earliest and most unique residential structures.

The John Lane House was constructed ca. 1833 when the town of Vicksburg was in its earliest settlement period. Tradition states that it was the home of Rev. John Lane who, as the son-in-law and executor of the estate of Newitt Vick, is considered the "co-founder" of Vicksburg. It is known, however, that the house was owned by Lane's nephew, also named John, and it is more likely that he was responsible for the construction of the residence. He paid \$700 for the property in 1833 and sold it for \$10,000 three years later (Warren County Deed Books G-59; J-173). The list of subsequent owners is undistinguished until 1980, when the current owners rescued the house from condemnation. With the assistance of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the structure underwent a thorough and highly sympathetic restoration.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Allen, William C., Chief Architectural Historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Inspection of the John Lane House, October 8, 1980.

Cotton, Gordon, "City's Oldest House Faces Uncertain Future," Vicksburg (Miss.) Evening Post, November 20, 1977.

# 10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED  
UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Vicksburg West, Miss.-La.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

A 

1	5	6	9	9	5	9	0	3	5	8	0	9	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

C 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

D 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

## Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state	N/A	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 22, 1981

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

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. Daily*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date March 24, 1982

For HCPS use only

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

*William C. Allen*  
Keeper of the National Register

date 5/6/82

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Register \_\_\_\_\_

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

John Lane House  
Warren County, Mississippi

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

### 9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Malone, Dumas, ed., Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. 10. New York: Scribner and Sons, 1933.
- Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Subject File. John Lane.
- Roland, Dunbar, ed., Mississippi, Vol. II. Atlanta: Southern Historical Publishing Association, 1907.
- Vicksburg Weekly Whig. October 17, 1855.
- Warren County, Mississippi Chancery Clerk. Deed books F, G, J, S, X, AA, MM. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Microfilm.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

John Lane House  
Warren County, Mississippi

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

### 10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 a point on the South line of said lot and Square (in North line of Crawford Street) a distance of 60 feet East of the Southwest corner of said Lot and Square (said Southwest corner being the intersection of the East line of Monroe Street with the North line of Crawford Street), said point of beginning being at the middle of a brick wall; and running thence East along the North line of Crawford Street a distance of 50 feet; thence North 147-1/2 feet; thence West on a line parallel with Crawford Street a distance of 50 feet; thence South on a line parallel with Monroe Street and along said brick wall and the line of same extended a distance of 147-1/2 feet to the point of beginning.