

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100004504


Date Listed: 10/4/2019

Property Name: Southwest Midtown Historic District

County: Hinds

State: MS

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

10.4.2019
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Criteria

Criterion C is hereby checked

The architectural significance of the district is noted in the narrative for Section 8, but the box was inadvertently left unmarked. The primary architectural significance of the district lies in the Modernist designs of institutional buildings, notably the schools and the Catholic church.

The Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

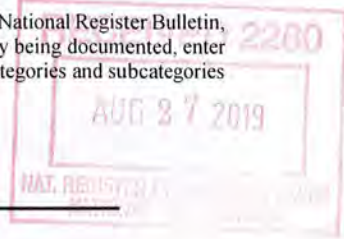
National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Southwest Midtown Historic District
Other names/site number: _____
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Roughly bounded by Whitfield Street, Blair Street, East Bell Street, and North Mill Street
City or town: Jackson State: Mississippi County: Hinds
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

<u>Kate Blant</u> Signature of certifying official/Title: SHPO	<u>7-29-19</u> Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ Signature of commenting official:	_____ Date
_____ Title :	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

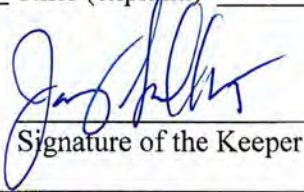
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)


Signature of the Keeper

10.4.2019
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>75</u>	<u>18</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>79</u>	<u>18</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/ specialty store
- DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/ multiple dwelling
- DOMESTIC/ secondary structure
- EDUCATION/ school
- LANDSCAPE/ park
- OTHER/
- RELIGION/ religious facility
- RELIGION/ church school
- RELIGION/ church-related residence
- TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/ specialty store
- DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/ secondary structure
- EDUCATION/ school
- LANDSCAPE/ park
- OTHER/
- RELIGION/ religious facility
- RELIGION/ church school
- RELIGION/ church-related residence
- TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related
- VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Queen Anne Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Bungalow/ Craftsman

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Commercial Style

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Minimal Traditional

MODERN MOVEMENT/ Mid-Century Modern

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: foundations: BRICK, CONCRETE; walls: ASBESTOS, WOOD Weatherboard, Shingle, Plywood/particle board, OTHER-Synthetic Siding. BRICK, STUCCO, METAL, aluminum, steel; roofs: ASPHALT, ASBESTOS, METAL, aluminum, steel.

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Southwest Midtown Historic District covers approximately 35 acres in a neighborhood less than a mile north of downtown Jackson. Historically occupied by African Americans, the neighborhood grew north from Jackson's older African American community, the Farish Street Historic District. Of the 97 total surveyed resources, 79 are contributing, 0 resources have been previously listed, and 18 resources are non-contributing. The majority of resources in the district are residential centered around a core of educational and religious structures. No structures within the proposed district boundaries predate c.1900, and the majority were built between 1920 and 1965.

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Narrative Description

The City of Jackson is located on the west side of the Pearl River at the current junction of Interstates 20 and 55.

Southwest Midtown's rectangular block grid sits just east of the Illinois Central (now Canadian National) rail yard. The rail line was completed through Jackson in the late 1850s, but it was not until the turn of the twentieth century when the rail yard was established, corresponding with the growth of commerce and industry in the area. Due to its location adjacent to Jackson's historically African-American district, the neighborhood developed as a black working- and middle-class community in the early twentieth century. Light industry lined N. Mill Street, while housing filled the interior streets.

No structures within the proposed district boundaries predate c.1900. The majority of the structures were built between c.1920 and 1965 when the neighborhood grew along with the City of Jackson, which experienced a population boom. Later, structures and infrastructure were built or improved upon as the neighborhood emerged from the long struggle for African-American civil rights. The district slopes very slightly downhill from east to west. The streets are laid out in a slightly irregular grid pattern with rectangular blocks. The thoroughfares average thirty feet wide. In the residential portion of the district, concrete sidewalks are throughout, except on Taft Street, on both sides of the street, separated from the road by a devil strip and a concrete curb. Uniform setbacks allow for small front lawns with the lots shaded by mature trees. Housing lots are typically uniform averaging thirty-five, to forty feet wide and one hundred feet deep. Some lots feature a driveway to the side of the house; however, this is not a usual feature. The houses are typically one-story, wood-frame shotgun houses, double shotgun duplexes, and bungalows. At the center of the district are large educational and religious complexes that fill the blocks they occupy. These buildings have no setbacks and sit close to the sidewalks but have large associated grassy playing fields and parking areas.

The architectural styles represented in the district follow a typical pattern of development common to Mississippi's black working-class urban neighborhoods. The residential structures are wood-frame, one-story, in vernacular Craftsman, some of which were remodeled after WWII with materials and details reflective of the twenty-year period after the war. The institutional building stock in Southwest Midtown is represented by early and mid-20th-century popular styles, nearly all of which are masonry construction.

The Southwest Midtown Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The basic designs of the resources within the district are largely unaltered from the district's period of significance and 79 of the resources in the inventory are classified as contributing. Only 18 resources within the boundaries were either built after the end of the period of significance or though constructed prior to 1980 have been altered to the degree where they no longer retain integrity and have been classified as noncontributing. Resources within the district typically retain their historic materials and workmanship. Given the

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overall retention of its historic appearance and character, the district also retains integrity of feeling and association. Typical alterations include the application of artificial siding and the replacement of windows. Several buildings within the district have been significantly altered from their original appearance, however, these alterations took place within the period of significance and are therefore considered contributing.

Inventory of Resources:

The inventory is arranged alphabetically by street name in ascending numerical order. Buildings are classified as "contributing" (C) or "non-contributing" (NC) to the historic character of the district. To determine contributing status, these resources were evaluated based on age and degree of integrity. Residential structures that were built fifty or more years ago and generally retain their historic appearance were considered contributing.

Ash Street, East

1 C. 110 Ash St., East c.1935

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in metal siding. Structure sits on masonry chain wall foundation. Front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. Gable has a rectangle, louvered vent. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by three battered columns, sitting atop brick piers with concrete caps. Porch as concrete deck on CMU foundation. Metal railings on either side of concrete front steps. Openings; D,WW. The door and one-over-one wood windows are protected by metal security bars. Undersized decorative shutters flank the windows.

2 C. 111 Ash St., East c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in Masonite siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Gable-on-hip roof, with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingles. Gable has a triangular, perforated vent. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by three concrete block columns. Porch as concrete deck on stucco foundation and concrete steps with stucco wing walls with concrete caps. Openings; W,D,W. A six-panel door flanked on either side by two light, sliding metal windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank the windows.

3 NC. 121 Ash St., East c.1920

Ruin. Concrete porch atop brick chain wall remains. As per Google Street View, demolished after 2014. House was identical to 123 Ash Street, East.

4 C. 123 Ash St., East c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in Masonite siding (atop wood double lap siding). Structure sits on masonry chain wall foundation. Hip roof, with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingles. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by three metal columns with repeated S motif. Porch has a metal rail with decorative twisted balusters. Concrete

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porch atop brick chain wall and concrete steps. Openings; D,W. The door has been removed and the window is covered with plywood.

5 C. 127 Ash St., East c.1947

One-story, wood-frame, shotgun house clad in Masonite siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Hip roof, in corrugated metal roof. Small projecting front gable porch is centered and supported by two metal columns with repeated S motif. Openings; W,D,W. The door the windows are covered with plywood.

6 C. 129 Ash St., East c.1940

One-story, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on raised masonry foundation. The front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in sheet metal. A front porch, offset to the right, covers two-thirds of the front elevation. Two battered brick columns support a projecting gabled porch roof. Each gable contains a square louvered vent. Concrete porch atop brick chain wall and concrete steps. Openings; W,W,D,W. A six panel door is flanked on either side by windows that have been covered over. A projecting bay window has three windows. A single fixed sash flanked by a ten light vinyl window.

7a C. 131 Ash St., East c.1945

One-story, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding atop double drop wood siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Hip roof clad in asphalt shingle. An undercut front porch, offset to the left, covers just more than half of the front elevation. A single metal post, with repeated S motif, supports undercut porch roof. Metal brackets at porch corner soffits have a scroll motif. Metal railing with repeated S motif on either side of the front. Concrete porch atop brick chain wall and concrete steps. A bay to the right features a brick wainscot and a fifteen light metal window with two, four light casements. Openings; W,D,W. The front door is protected by metal security bars. The remaining metal window ten light metal window has two, four light casements.

7b C. 131 Ash St., East c.1950

Outbuilding

One-story, wood-frame, on-grade outbuilding, clad in wood siding. Structure is oriented east-west. Gable end roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Northside contains two, wooden, four-over-four DHS. East elevation contains a single door.

8 NC. 133 Ash St., East c.2016

One-story, wood-frame, prefabricated shed. Front gable roof clad in metal has a metal vent in gable end. Undercut, L shaped porch runs down the right side leads to a doorway. Porch is supported by four-by-fours with two by four brackets. Wooden porch rail. Wood porch deck. Vinyl four-over-four windows.

9 C. 135 Ash St., East c.1935

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in wood drop siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Hip roof, with gable above entrance bay, clad in asphalt shingles. Undercut porch

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across the front of the building is supported by round, fluted columns. Wooden porch and concrete steps. Openings; D,DD. A slab door is the primary entry with paired one light wood doors.

10 C. 136 Ash St., East 1963
L.J. Rowan Junior High School (Negro)

Large, two-story, L-shaped, mid-20th-century school building. Concrete frame, with brick laid in running bond and precast panel cladding. Two wings come together at the main entrance, facing Ash street. The first floor features a recessed entryway with two double doors, each with an offset single light, and a glass storefront. The second story has a precast-concrete X-motif repeated pattern that shade windows. On the X pattern brise-soleils are letters that spell out L. J. Rowan School. The front elevation wing running E-W has a flat roof and contains classrooms. Sixteen bays, grouped in ganged units of four: horizontal, with five light awning casement metal windows above a precast concrete panel with an alternating U shape. The north-south wing consists of three massive bays, the southern most of which has a folded plate roof that is oriented north-south, with five projecting bays clad in brick and no fenestration. The central bay of the N-S wing is similar to the east-west wing: Six bays, grouped in ganged units of four with horizontal, five light awning casement metal windows, above a precast concrete panel with an alternating U shape. On the west elevation of this central bay are a precast concrete brise-soleils with a repeated X-motif. On the northernmost bay of the N-S wing has a folded plate roof that is oriented E-W and the three lower bays on the east elevation of the central bay are recessed allowing for a sheltered space that runs the length of the elevation. The first floor has four-light hopper casement windows ganged in units of three and four. The second story has repeated, metal, rectangular louvered vents in almost every bay. The L shape of the building contains an open schoolyard, two tennis courts, and a thirty-four space, parking lot accessed from Whitfield Street. All of this is enclosed by a chain link fence.

11 C. 137 Ash St., East c.1900

One-story, wood-frame, Queen Anne Style house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on a brick pier foundation, with brick lattice infill. Hipped roof, with lower cross-gables, clad with asphalt shingle. Gable with decorative wood shingles above entrance. A hipped roof porch with five Tuscan columns. Wooden porch deck and concrete steps. The porch shelters four openings, with one window just beyond the porch to the right in a projecting wing; WW,D,W,W. Two horizontal two-over-two windows. One light, over four panels, wood door with a single light transom. Door is protected a two light, metal storm door. Metal two light sliding casement window. Rightmost window is a two horizontal two-over-two window. Low porch rail constructed with dimensional lumber.

12 C. 139 Ash St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front-gable roof clad in asphalt shingle. A front gable porch with two square louvered vents. Porch is supported by three square posts atop brick pedestals. Concrete porch deck and concrete steps. The porch shelters three openings, with one window just beyond the porch to the right protected by a wood awning; WW,D,W,W. Horizontal two-over-two windows. Paired windows have decorative shutters. Four-panel metal door with a fanlight is

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protected a metal security door. Porch rail constructed with dimensional lumber and diagonal lattice.

13 C. 141 Ash St., East c.1930

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in double drop, wood siding. Structure sits on masonry chain wall foundation. Cross-gable roof clad in asphalt shingle. The two front gables are clad in half-timbering and contain ganged six-light windows. Gable above entrance bay. Porch is supported by three square posts atop brick pedestals. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and concrete steps with brick wing walls with concrete caps. The porch shelters five openings; WW,D,W,W. One-over-one windows. Six-panel metal door is protected a metal security door. Porch rail constructed with dimensional lumber.

14 C. 146 Ash St., East 1962
Deva L. Brown Elementary School (Negro)

Large, one and two-story, U-shaped, mid-20th-century school building. Post and beam, with brick laid in running bond and precast panel cladding. Beams extend beyond the exterior walls providing a deep overhang. Where the two wings come together at the main entrance, facing Ash street, is a recessed entryway with two double doors, each with an offset single light, and a glass storefront of two and two side light. The front east-west wing is one-story, with a flat roof, on a raised concrete slab foundation. Six bays, each with six, metal four light windows above a single panel. Each of the six bays contains a projecting triangular bay clad in concrete.

The rear E-W wing is two-stories with a concrete frame first floor and is composed of five bays separated by paired panels, each with metal four light windows above a single panel. The north-south oriented wing that connects the front and rear wings is divided into two bays. The southern bay has a low pitch, front gable is clad in brick and bears a projecting flag pole along with signage stating Deva L. Brown School. The northern bay of the N-S wing has a flat roof and four light metal windows above panels. To the north of the structure is a large, seventy space parking lot. To the east of the structure is an extensive, grassy, play area. All of this is enclosed by a chain link fence.

15 C. 227 Ash St., East c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in wood siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Gable-on-hip roof, clad in asphalt shingles. Gable has a triangular, louvered vent. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by three metal columns with vine motif. Concrete porch deck on a brick foundation and concrete steps with concrete wing walls. Brick wainscot under porch. Openings; WW,D,W. A pair of horizontal two-over-two metal windows. A six-panel door topped with single light transom. A single fixed pane, flanked on either side by of horizontal two-over-two metal windows.

16 C. 229 Ash St., East c.1910

One-story, three-bay, wood-frame, house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Hipped roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingles. Shed porch in

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center bay is supported by two slim metal poles. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and concrete steps. Porch protects a door and a window. Openings; W,W,D,W,W. A pair of horizontal two-over-two metal windows. A one light over three-panel door is topped with simple broken pediment. Front door is protected by metal security door. Windows are vertical two-over-two wood DHS. Undersized decorative shutters flank the windows.

17 C. 230-232 Ash St, East c.1938/c.1950

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, duplex house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on CMU piers with a concrete block chain wall for the front elevation foundation. Front gable roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in metal. A square, louvered vent is centered in the gable. Two separate front gable porches are each supported by square columns. Each porch shelters a door protected by a two-panel, wooden screen door. Concrete porch deck on concrete foundation and concrete steps. Openings; D,W,W,D. Two four-over-four wood DHS windows are between each porch. Structure was likely moved to this location c.1950.

18 C. 237 Ash St, East c.1963

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Hipped roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The right bay contains a projecting porch with hipped roof, supported by to metal porch posts with repeated S-motif. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and a wood ramp. The porch shelters a door and a window. The door protected by a metal security door to the right and to the left is a window opening. Left bay contains one single window opening. Window openings are currently covered with plywood. AS per Google Street View, prior to being boarded, the left window was a 3-sash awning casement, the right had a central picture window with flanking 3-sash awning casement.

19 C. 238 Ash St, East c.1955

One-story, three-bay, wood-frame, house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on stucco chain wall foundation. Side gable roof, with exposed rafter tails is clad in R-panel metal roofing. The center bay contains a projecting porch with front gable roof, supported by to metal porch posts with repeated S-motif. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and concrete steps. A triangle louvered vent is in the porch gable peak. The porch shelters an off-centered four panel below a single fanlight door. Door protected by a metal security door. Left bay contains one single window opening: an eight-over-eight, wood, DHS, protected by metal security bars. The right bay contains one single window opening: a sixteen light metal casement window that contains two, four light sash.

20 C. 239 Ash St, East c.1915

One-story, wood-frame, shotgun house clad in Masonite siding. Structure sits on brick pier foundation. Hipped roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The undercut porch roof is supported by two metal posts with a vine motif. Concrete porch deck on pier foundation. The porch shelters a window (left) and a door (right). The door is protected by a metal security door. The window is a two light, sliding casement, replacement window. Metal handrails on either side of concrete step.

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21 NC. 241 Ash St, East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front gable roof clad in asphalt shingle. Gable contains a rectangular louvered vent. A undercut front porch, offset to the left, covers two thirds of the front elevation. Turned posts support undercut porch roof. Wooden porch deck on brick foundation and brick steps. Openings; WW,D,W. Six-over-six vinyl windows, and a door protected by a six-over-six, witch storm door. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

22 C. 244 Ash St, East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house. Cross gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles, with triangular knee brackets supporting the eaves. Siding is Transite shingle. Brick chain wall foundation. Front gable projecting porch has a centered louvered vent and is supported by two battered brick columns at each corner, and in the center by two wood posts. Wood porch rail constructed from two-by-fours. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and brick steps with brick wing walls with concrete cap. Porch shelters the following: W,D,W. One-over-one replacement windows flank a six-panel metal door.

23 C. 248 Ash St, East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, house. Cross gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Siding is Masonite. Brick chain wall foundation. Front gable projecting porch is supported by four Tuscan columns. Concrete porch deck on brick foundation and brick steps with brick wing walls with brick caps. Porch shelters the following: W,D,W. Horizontal two-over-two replacement windows flank a door. Windows and door are protected by metal security bars. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

24 C. 251 Ash St, East c.1930/c.1960

One story, two-bay, wood-frame house. Front facing gable with asphalt roof. Clad in Masonite siding, with a brick wainscot across the front facade. Centered gable louvered vent. Front gable entry porch set to left side of front elevation shelters a six-panel door, protected by a single light over two-panel storm door, and a horizontal two-over-two aluminum window. Porch supported two wood posts atop brick piers with a concrete cap. Concrete slab porch and steps. Brick pier foundation. In the right bay are paired horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank the pair of windows. Building was likely a double house converted to a single residence (see 230-232 Ash Street, East.)

25 NC. 252 Ash St, East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front gable roof clad in asphalt shingle. Gable contains a rectangular louvered vent. An undercut front porch, offset to the right, covers two-thirds of the front elevation. Turned posts support undercut porch roof. Wooden porch deck on brick foundation and brick steps. Openings; W,D,WW. Six-over-six vinyl windows with metal security bars, and a six-panel door protected by metal security door. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

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26 C. 255 Ash St, East c.1930/c.1960

One story, two-bay, wood-frame house. Front facing gable with asphalt roof. Clad in Masonite siding, with a brick wainscot across the front facade. Centered gable louvered vent. Front gable entry porch set to right side of front elevation shelters a door, protected by a storm door, and a horizontal two-over-two aluminum window. Porch supported two wood posts atop brick piers with a concrete cap. Concrete slab porch and steps. Brick pier foundation. In the left bay are paired horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank the pair of windows. Building was likely a double house converted to a single residence (see 230-232 Ash Street, East.)

27 C. 256 Ash St, East c.1900

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, vernacular Victorian Style house. Gable-on-wing roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Brick pier foundation. Clad in Transite shingle siding. Right bay is a projecting L-front wing, with one nine-over-six replacement window protected by security bars. Projecting gable has returns and a centered metal, louvered vent. Left bay has a shed roof porch supported by three metal columns. Concrete slab porch on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps. The porch shelters a nine-over-six replacement window protected by security bars, and a door protected by security door.

28 C. 257 Ash St, East c.1930/1960

One story, two-bay, wood-frame house. Front facing gable with asphalt roof. Clad in Masonite siding, with a brick wainscot across the front facade. Centered gable louvered vent. Front gable entry porch set to left side of front elevation shelters a door, protected by a metal security door, and a horizontal two-over-two aluminum window. Porch supported two wood posts atop brick piers with a concrete cap. Concrete slab porch and steps. Brick pier foundation. In the right bay are paired horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows centered in the middle of the front elevation. Undersized decorative shutters flank the pair of windows. Building was likely a double house converted to a single residence (see 230-232 Ash Street, East.)

29 C. 261 Ash St, East c.1930/1960

One story, two-bay, wood-frame house. Front facing gable with asphalt roof. Clad in Masonite siding, with a brick wainscot across the front facade. Centered gable louvered vent. Front gable entry porch set to right side of front elevation shelters a door, protected by a security door, and a horizontal two-over-two aluminum window, with metal security bars. Porch supported two wood posts atop brick piers with a concrete cap. Concrete slab porch and steps. Brick pier foundation. In the left bay are paired horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows with metal security bars. Undersized decorative shutters flank the pair of windows. Building was likely a double house converted to a single residence (see 230-232 Ash Street, East.)

30 C. 272 Ash St, East c.1950

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, Minimal Traditional Style house. Brick pier foundation. Cross gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Siding is Transite shingle. Left bay contains paired

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horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows with metal security bars. Undersized decorative shutters flank the windows. Right bay contains projecting front gable porch, supported by two square columns. A single metal rail at the steps, diagonal lattice used for porch rail. Concrete porch on a brick chainwall foundation and concrete steps. Porch shelters a six panel door protected by metal security door, and a single fixed light window, flanked by undersized decorative shutters, and protected by metal security bars.

Bell Street, East

31 C. 117 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house, that is clad in vinyl siding. Structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Hipped roof that is clad in asphalt shingle, has a single forward facing, hipped dormer that contains a rectangle louvered vent. The louvered vent is flanked on either side by four light windows. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four battered columns, that sit atop brick piers with concrete caps. Wooden step railings. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps with brick wing walls with concrete caps. Openings: WW,D,WW. Fenestration is covered with plywood currently. A front door is flanked by on either side by a three-panel sidelight. Sidelight glass is protected by metal security bars. The entryway is topped with a transom single light transom.

32 C. 130 Bell St., East c.1904/c.1950

One-story, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding. The structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Front gable roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingle roofing. The projecting porch gable contains a square louvered vent. A front porch, offset to the right is supported by two metal columns with a repeated S-motif. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps with brick wing walls with concrete caps. Openings; WW,D. Sheltered by the porch are a five light fanlight-over-four panel door, protected by a metal security door, and a horizontal two-over-two metal window. To the left of the porch is a single horizontal two-over-two metal window. Wood porch rail is constructed from the diagonal lattice. The porch has been screened.

33 C. 132 Bell St., East c.1920

One story, wood frame double shotgun house clad in grooved plywood siding. The structure sits on a brick chain wall foundation. Hipped roof clad in asphalt shingle roof. Four posts, support the undercut porch. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps. Two openings: to the left is a door, protected by a metal security door; to the right is a fixed picture window flanked by two operable casements. The front porch has a knee wall with screen above.

34 C. 134 Bell St., East c.1920

One story, wood frame double shotgun house clad in Masonite siding. Structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Hipped roof clad in asphalt shingle roof. Three metal columns with a repeated curl-motif, support the undercut porch. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and

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concrete steps. Two openings: to the left is a door, boarded over; to the right is a horizontal two-over-two metal window protected by security bars.

35 C. 138 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in Transite shingle siding (atop wood, double drop siding.) Structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Front gable roof with exposed rafters is clad in asphalt shingle roofing. Triangle knee brackets support the eaves. The projecting porch gable contains a rectangular, wood, louvered vent. An undercut front porch, supported by two battered wood columns sit atop brick piers with a concrete cap. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps with brick wing walls with concrete caps. Centered under the gable is a half-height brick pier with concrete cap. Openings: D,W,W. Sheltered by the porch are an oval light door, protected by a metal security door, and six-over-six vinyl windows.

36 C. 140 Bell St., East c.1920/c.1960

One story, wood frame shotgun house clad in Transite shingle siding. Structure sits on a concrete slab foundation. Front gable roof clad in asphalt shingle roof. Gable contains a triangle louvered vent at the gable peak. Three metal columns with a repeated S-motif, support the undercut porch. Concrete slab on grade porch. Two openings: to the left is a two panel, louvered storm door; to the right is a horizontal two-over-two metal window.

37 C. 142 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in wood siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Cross-gable-on-hip roof is clad in asphalt shingle roofing. The front-facing gable-on-hip contains a rectangular louvered vent. An L-shaped undercut front porch is supported by battered wood columns sit atop brick piers with concrete caps. A wooden porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps with concrete wing walls. Openings: D,WWW. Sheltered by the porch are a five-panel door, protected by a metal security door, and three ganged four-over-four wood DHA window. Metal porch handrails flank the front steps.

38 NC. 144 Bell St., East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front gable roof clad in metal roofing. The projecting porch gable contains a round louvered vent. A front porch, offset to the left is supported by two Tuscan columns. A wooden porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and brick steps. Openings; W,D,W. Sheltered by the porch are a door protected by a metal security door, and a six-over-six vinyl window. To the right of the porch is a single six-over-six vinyl window. Wood porch rail. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

39 NC. 158 Bell St., East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Hipped roof clad in asphalt shingle, has a single forward facing hipped roof dormer that contains a rectangle louvered vent. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four Tuscan columns. Wooden porch railing. A wooden porch deck on brick chain wall

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foundation and brick steps. Openings: WW,D,WW. A door protected by metal security door, and six-over-six vinyl windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank each pair of windows.

40 NC. 164 Bell St., East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front gable roof clad in asphalt shingle. Gable contains a rectangle louvered vent. An undercut front porch, offset to the right. Above the porch, in the same plane as the front facing gable is a faux gable. Two Tuscan columns support the undercut porch roof. A wooden porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and brick steps. Openings; WW,D,W. Sheltered by the porch are a door that enters into the side of the projecting bay, and four-over-four vinyl windows, and a door protected by a storm door. Wood porch rail. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

41 C. 172 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in wood double drop siding. Structure sits on brick pier foundation. Hipped roof with exposed rafters is clad in metal R-panel roofing. An undercut front porch, supported by two square wood columns sit atop brick piers with concrete cap. Centered is a brick pier with concrete cap. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps. Openings: D,W,W. Door, and paired six-over-six windows. A plywood knee wall is made from plywood, above knee wall has been screened.

42 C. 176 Bell St., East c.1900

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, vernacular Victorian Style house is clad in vinyl siding. Hipped roof, with projecting front gables, is clad in asphalt shingles. Brick pier foundation. The left bay is a projecting L front gable wing with a pent roof. Bay contains two, paired, horizontal two-over-two, metal window protected by security bars. The center and right bays are sheltered by a shed roof porch, supported by a wood post and two metal posts with a vine motif. A concrete porch deck on concrete chain wall foundation and concrete steps with concrete wing walls. The central bay contains a paired door and a horizontal two-over-two, metal window. Both are protected by metal security bars. The right bay contains a single horizontal two-over-two, metal window, protected by metal security bars. Metal hand rails flank either side of the front steps.

43 C. 181 Bell St., East c.1965

One-story, wood-frame, Ranch Style house. Gable-and-wing roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Brick chain wall foundation. Brock wainscot with Transite shingle above. To the left, a projecting gable contains one, metal sixteen light casement window (center eight fixed, with a four light casement on each side.) A slab front door was protected by a porch supported by a two metal posts with repeated S-motif. Metal porch baluster. Porch roof has been removed. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps and ramp. To the right of the front elevation are two metal sixteen light windows (center eight fixed, with a four light casement on each side.)

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44 C. 199 Bell St., East c.1910

One-story, wood-frame, three-bay, vernacular Victorian Style house, clad in vinyl siding. Brick pier foundation. A pyramid roof, with projecting hipped roofs to the rear, is clad with asphalt shingles. Two internal brick chimneys. A shed roof front porch is supported by four metal posts with repeated S-motif. A concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and concrete steps, with brick wing walls. The right and left bays contain a single, horizontal two-over-two, metal window. Windows are flanked on either side by decorative shutters. The center bay has a single door protected by a metal security door. Door is flanked on either side by two light over vinyl sided panels. Sidelight windows are protected by metal security bars. Metal handrails flank either side of the front steps.

45 NC. 200 Bell St., East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits at grade, on a concrete slab foundation. The front gable roof is clad in asphalt shingle. A projecting front porch with a front gable roof is offset to the right, and covers two-thirds of the front elevation. Concrete slab on grade porch. The house's main gable contains a round louvered vent. Two turned columns support the porch roof. Openings; W,D,W. A smaller six-over-six window, a six-panel metal door, and a six-over-six vinyl window. Undersized decorative shutters flank each window.

46 NC. 204 Bell St., East c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Hipped roof clad in asphalt shingle, has a single forward facing front gable dormer that contains an octagonal louvered vent. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four Tuscan columns. Wooden porch railing. A wooden porch deck on brick chain wall foundation and brick steps. Openings: WW,D,WW. A door with a single oval light is protected by single light storm door, and six-over-six vinyl windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank each pair of windows.

47 C. 223 Bell St., East 1961

True Light M. B. Church Leatha Walls Educational Complex

One-story, brick-clad building. Brick is laid in running bond. Front gables roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The roof has three dormers, containing triangle shaped, louvered vents. Two of these gable dormers face west, one faces east. Front facing gables themselves are clad in board and batten siding. A projecting, front gable porch is supported by two metal posts, with X-motifs, at each corner. Metal handrails flank steps up to the porch. A concrete porch and steps. Porch shelters a recessed double entry door. Recessed entry is protected by metal security bars. Side elevations contain multiple, paired, three-light, metal, casement windows. To the east is a parking lot, surrounded by a chain link fence. In the parking lot are several large metal carports.

48 C. 224 Bell St., East 1953

True Light M.B. Church

One-story, masonry, church. Red, comb face brick, laid in running bond. Cross gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Brick chain wall foundation. A projecting narthex, clad in stucco, with a gable

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roof, sits between two buttressed towers. Broad concrete front steps. Narthex has a recessed entry with a slab, double door. The double door is capped by a fanlight with a sunburst motif. The towers each contain a single arched window, with stucco infill around a rectangular stained glass panel. The brick buttresses step in twice where the towers meet the gable roofline. Above that, the towers are laid in common bond and each contain a single, rectangular, louvered vent. The towers are capped with stepped crenellation at each corner and two centered piers. A round, louvered vent is in the narthex gable peak. A diamond pattern of buff brick is in the main front facing gable. The side elevations contain stepped buttresses and arched windows, with stucco infill around a rectangular stained glass panel. At the rear of the building is a two-story educational wing running east-west. Laid up in common bond. clapboard gable ends contain a triangle, louvered vent at the gable peak.

To the west of the building is a chain link fenced parking lot. In front of the church building is a red, comb-face brick, chevroned signboard. Peaks between brick piers, mimic the building silhouette. Two signboards list information about the Church.

49 C. 227 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, wood-frame, two-bay, house clad in vinyl siding. House sits on pier foundation. Hipped roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Gable end addition to the rear. Shed roof porch across the front facade, is supported by three metal posts with a repeated S-motif. A concrete porch deck and steps. Left bay contains a horizontal two-over-two window flanked by two decorative shutters, and protected by security bars and a door protected by security bars. The right bay contains a horizontal two-over-two window flanked by two decorative shutters and protected by security bars.

50 C. 229 Bell St., East c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house, clad in double drop wood siding. Structure sits on masonry pier foundation. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingle, and has a rectangular, three light, wood frame window in the gable. Gable eaves are supported by triangular knee brackets. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four metal, vine-motif columns that sit atop brick piers with concrete caps. Wooden porch deck is covered in carpet. Steps with brick wing walls with concrete caps. Openings: D, WW. A door protected by a single panel, louvered storm door, and two paired vertical light four-over-one wood, DHS, window. The right half of porch contains a metal awning.

51 C. 237 Bell St., East c.1920/c.1965

One-story, wood-frame, double shotgun house, clad in Masonite siding. Hipped roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in metal R-panel roofing. Masonry chain wall foundation. A concrete porch deck and steps. Brick wainscot laid in a common bond. Undercut front porch shelters a slab door, with a single diamond light, that is protected by a metal security door and two, metal, two light, sliding windows. Undercut porch across the front facade is supported by three metal posts with a repeated S-motif.

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52 C. 239 Bell St., East c.1920/c.1965

One-story, wood-frame, double shotgun house, clad in vinyl siding. Hipped roof, is clad in asphalt shingle roofing. Masonry pier foundation. Undercut front porch shelters a door, that is protected by a metal storm door and a single, horizontal two-over-two window. Undercut porch across the front facade is supported by three metal posts with a repeated S-motif. A concrete porch deck and steps.

53a C. 242 Bell St., East c.1940

Magnolia Court bldg 1

One-story, wood-frame, three-bay, U-shaped, duplex clad in drop siding. One of four units that face a center courtyard. Brick chain wall foundation has been stuccoed over. Side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The left and right bays contain a single window and an undercut porch supported by a single battered column atop a brick pier with a concrete cap. The central bay is a recessed hyphen that connects the two duplex units. All windows are horizontal, two-over-two, metal windows. Porch has a two-by-four porch rail. A concrete porch deck and steps.

53b C. 242 Bell St., East c.1940

Magnolia Court bldg 2

One-story, wood-frame, three-bay, U-shaped, duplex clad in drop siding. One of four units that face a center courtyard. Brick chain wall foundation has been stuccoed over. Side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The left and right bays contain a single window and an undercut porch supported by a single battered column atop a brick pier with a concrete cap. The central bay is a recessed hyphen that connects the two duplex units. All windows are horizontal, two-over-two, metal windows. Porch has a two-by-four porch rail. A concrete porch deck and steps.

53c C. 242 Bell St., East c.1940

Magnolia Court bldg 3

One-story, wood-frame, three-bay, U-shaped, duplex clad in drop siding. One of four units that face a center courtyard. Brick chain wall foundation has been stuccoed over. Side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The left and right bays contain a single window and an undercut porch supported by a single battered column atop a brick pier with a concrete cap. The central bay is a recessed hyphen that connects the two duplex units. All windows are horizontal, two-over-two, metal windows. Porch has a two-by-four porch rail. A concrete porch deck and steps.

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53d C. 242 Bell St., East c.1940
Magnolia Court bldg 4

One-story, wood-frame, three-bay, U-shaped, duplex clad in drop siding. One of four units that face a center courtyard. Brick chain wall foundation has been stuccoed over. Side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The left and right bays contain a single window and an undercut porch supported by a single battered column atop a brick pier with a concrete cap. The central bay is a recessed hyphen that connects the two duplex units. All windows are horizontal, two-over-two, metal windows. Porch has a two-by-four porch rail. A concrete porch deck and steps.

Browns Alley

54 C. 1210 Browns Alley c.1938

One-story, wood frame house clad in wood drop siding. The structure sits on brick chain wall foundation with a hipped roof clad in asphalt shingle roof. Six four-by-four posts support an undercut porch with a porch rail constructed from two-by-four lumber. Wooden porch deck and wooden stairs. Two openings; to the right is a one-over-one metal window; to the left is a metal four-panel door with a five light fanlight. The door is protected by metal bars.

Cloister Street

55a C. 1133 Cloister St. 1911/1916
Holy Ghost Convent

Brick, two-story five-bay building. Asphalt shingle clad hipped roof with hipped roof dormers containing horizontal two-over-two windows. Dormers are clad in vinyl siding. Four light aluminum frame replacement windows. Arched openings. The original portion of the building uses running brick-bond, with red tinted mortar and has brick window sills. Rear addition uses common brick-bond and stone window sills. A centered entryway is recessed behind an arched opening. Concrete steps with stepped concrete wing walls lead to single wood door flanked by three light over one-panel sidelights. The door is one light over three panels and topped with a single light transom. Door, transom, and sidelights are protected by metal security bars.

55b C. 1133 Cloister St. c.1965
Shrine

The shrine is centered on a 5'6" concrete block topped with brick fence line that spans the lot between the fmr Sisters House and the new Parish Hall. Two metal decorative gates are on either side of the shrine. The pillars on either side of the gates are topped with round finials. Shrine has a red roman brick base with a metal background of a repeating rectangle pattern. Statues of an angel, and Joseph with the Christ Child flank the Virgin Mary.

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56 C. 1145 Cloister St. 1940/1945

St. Anthony Hall, Holy Ghost Catholic High School (Negro)

One-story, wood-frame, asymmetrical, U-shaped educational building clad in Transite shingle siding. The building is oriented north-south, with front entrances facing away from the street. Brick chain wall foundation. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Gable end peaks contain triangularly shaped vents. The west wing has a projecting front gable porch, supported by metal posts with a repeated, vegetative motif, atop brick piers. Porch shelters a pair of the slab, single light, doors each with a wood, six-light transom. The east wing has a projecting front gable porch, supported by brick columns. The porch shelters slab, double doors, topped with a single light transom. Flanking the porch are three grouped windows. Both east and west wing porch gables are topped with a cross. Concrete porch deck on brick chain wall and concrete steps. On the side and rear elevations are nine-over-six replacement windows that are paired or grouped according to interior programming.

57 NC. 1147 Cloister St. 2012

Fr. George Artis, S.V.D. Parish Life Center

One-story, three-bay wide, gable front, brick-clad building. Slab on grade foundation. Brick laid up in common bond, with soldier brick belt course at the eave. Metal standing seam roof. Center bay had project gable porch supported by two 6x6 posts protecting 2 panel double doors with metal bars, topped by a single light arched transom. Centered in the gable is a circular window with four simulated lights. Each side bays contain two openings with brick lintels and soldier arched openings all containing vinyl two-over-two windows.

58a C. 1151 Cloister St. 1970

Holy Ghost Catholic Church

Brick, one-story, three-bay church. A pyramid roof crescendos to a central tower, topped with a cross, is clad in asphalt shingles. The foundation is slab on grade. The comb face brick is laid in running bond. The left and right bays are blank brick walls. The center bay contains two, recessed openings, flanking either side of a curved, projecting wall that contains six, narrow, vertical window openings. Windows are dalle de verre stained glass. This same technique is used for five narrow windows on the north and south side elevations. The wood, double doors flanking either side of this curved wall resemble a single panel of wood board and batten.

In the grass lot surrounding the church is the cornerstone of a previous church building that reads "Erected in the honor of the Holy Ghost the comforter. A.D. 1909." A brick welcome sign, consisting of two brick piers on either side of a brick wall where the welcome text is mounted. Above this sign, on a metal frame, is a large bell. A plaque on the frame states that the bell is from the previous church.

58b NC. 1151 Cloister St. c.1985

Holy Ghost Catholic Church Rectory

One-story, brick veneer, three-bay ranch house. Slab on grade foundation. Brick laid in running bond. Hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles. The right bay contains a two-vehicle garage. Rollup

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garage door is made up of four sections with eight panels each. Central bay contains two, nine-over-six windows. Left bay contains a recessed entryway with a single door, protected by a metal security door, and a single light sidelight. To the left of the entryway are two, paired, nine-over-six windows. Windows on front elevation are flanked by decorative shutters. Behind the rectory is a playground with plastic play equipment. In front of the rectory has been paved for parking.

Convent Street

(while completely within the district, there are no buildings with Convent Street addresses)

Mill Street, North

59a C. 1030 Mill St., North 1967

J. W. Underwood & Company offices /Midtown Community Center

A one-story, masonry, three-bay building clad in tan brick laid up in common bond. The building has a slab-on-grade foundation and a flat roof, with a wide, metal fascia that slightly overhangs. The left and right bays each contain three piers and two recessed panels. The piers are three brick wythes thick, with the center wythe being recessed. each panel has a centered light facing downward from the soffit. The center bay is recessed and clad in wood, board-and-batten siding. A centered slab, double doors, are topped with a single light transom and protected by metal security doors. on either side of the door are cylindrical light fixtures. To the left of the door is a wood sign with "Midtown Center" spelled out in Helvetica font. A small parking area is between the building. Adjacent to the building is a sign on brick piers, with a board-and-batten signboard and a metal overhanging fascia.

59b NC. 1030 Mill St., North 2013

Fortification Street Elevated Water Tank

An elevated welded carbon-steel water storage tank supported by a large diameter steel-reinforced concrete support tower that extends vertically from the steel-reinforced concrete foundation as a circular concrete support structure/wall and has special horizontal, and vertical rustication patterns formed into the exterior of the tower. At the base of the tower, facing Fortification Street is a single man-door, and a roll-up, overhead, vehicle door. A concrete apron surrounds the tower, beyond this the site is grass. A fence surrounds the site.

60 NC. 1120 Mill St., North c.1940

One-story, wood-frame building. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Masonry pier foundation. The structure is clad in a mix of Masonite and fiber cement-fiber siding. No windows or doors on the front elevation. At the northwest corner is a small, brick and concrete stoop.

61 C. 1126 Mill St., North c.1900

One-story, wood-frame, two-bay, Victorian Style house, clad in wood clapboard siding. The structure has a brick pier foundation, and a gable-on-wing roof clad in asphalt shingles. The left

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bay is a projecting, three bay, L-front wing, with the remains of three wood, four-over-four, DHS windows. Projecting gable has a pent roof return, clad in asphalt shingles and the gable is clad in a patterned mix of regular, and diamond cut wood shingles. The right bay had a hipped roof porch, collapsed. The porch sheltered two, wood windows, and a single door topped by a transom. Window sash and the door are not present.

62 C. 1126 1/2 Mill St., North c.1940

One-story, wood-frame building. Gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Gable has a rectangular, louvered vent. Masonry pier foundation. The structure is clad in wood siding. Windows and doors are boarded over.

63 C. 1134 Mill St., North c.1930

Taft Street Grocery

Two-story, masonry and frame, mixed-use building. The structure has a Mill Street address, but it is oriented running north-south, towards Taft Street. The first floor is constructed of brick, laid in common bond. The second story is frame, clad in plywood. The hipped roof, with a projecting gable and exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingles. The first floor is sheltered by a metal awning that spans the facade. This awning shelters a fifteen-light door, a one-over-one, metal, replacement window, and a through-wall air conditioner. The second story has two, paired, vertical four-over-one, wood, DHS windows. The west facade has a projecting, gable roof, porch with a brick base. This porch is reached by a concrete stair, with a wooden handrail. The east facade has an exterior wooden, stair leading to a second story landing, sheltered by a shed roof.

64 C. 1154 Mill St., North c.1930

Two-story, masonry, mixed-use building. The building is brown-red brick laid up in running bond. The flat roof has a centered stepped parapet, above a stucco signboard on the front facade. Towards the rear of the building is an internal chimney integrated to the parapet. The first floor is sheltered by a metal awning that spans the facade. This awning shelters a single six-panel door to the far left, and to the right side of the building is a metal frame, glass door protected by metal security bars, and a large, single pane picture window, protected by bars. On the second floor are four, wood, six-over-one, DHS windows, in pairs of two, separated by a wide brick mullion. The left pair is sheltered by a metal awning. The rear of the building has a small, two-story, red brick addition that is laid up in common bond. The rear addition has a wood-frame, shed roof porch on the second story that is reached by a wood-frame staircase. The structure has a small amount of paved parking directly in front of the building.

65 C. 1306 Mill St., North c.1920/c.1940

One-story, wood-frame, two-bay house clad in Masonite siding. The building has a pier foundation, and a hipped roof, clad in asphalt shingles. An undercut front porch, supported by stucco piers with a concrete cap, has been enclosed with wood siding. The left bay has a small, metal, two-light window, and a six-panel metal door reached by concrete steps, with a concrete block knee wall. The right bay has a projecting, shed roof, stucco-clad, addition. The slab-on-

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grade addition has an asphalt shingle roof. A metal awning spans the facade. The addition facade has three piers, framing two panels. The left contains a single four-over-four vinyl window, the right contains a six-panel door, protected by a metal security door.

66 C. 1226 Mill St., North c.1969

One-story, two-bay, concrete block building. Concrete slab foundation. Flat roof. each bay contains paired windows and a doorway. Left bay contains paired one-over-one windows protected by metal bars and a metal, slab door. The right bay contains paired one-over-one windows protected by metal bars and a six-panel door.

67a C. 1320 Mill St., North c.1974/1995

Benjamin Brown Park

An approximately two-acre, U-shaped, treeless park with concrete paths winding through grass lawns, a basketball court, and several circular play areas with slides, swings, and various climbing apparatus. A raised concrete embankment overlooks the basketball court and the Mill Street Pool. At the east end of the park is an octagonal pavilion, made of wood with a metal, standing seam roof.

67b C. 1320 Mill St., North c.1974/c.1990

Mill Street Pool

A conical-shaped, concrete, in-ground pool, surrounded by a concrete apron, and a chain link fence. The deep end of the pool, at the narrow end of the shape, is accessed by four separate, metal ladders. This pool is watched over by two metal lifeguard chairs. Within the fence, to the east of the pool, is a small C-shaped Kiddie Pool. To the northeast of the pool are three, ganged, one-story, C-shaped building with a flat roof, that serves as the entryway to the pool. The center building is slightly taller than the other two. The buildings consist of a rough face concrete block wainscot, and red brick walls with a concrete belt course, all laid in stack bond. The flat roof has a metal fascia, and steps in slightly. To the south of the pool is a single, one-story, C-shaped building with a flat roof. Constructed of concrete block, laid in stack bond, the structure has vent blocks at both the starting and top courses.

67c C. 1320 Mill St., North 1980

Charles H. Tillman pedestrian overpass.

A concrete and steel bridge structure that passes over the Illinois Central Railyard. A helical, concrete, ramp structure, caged in chain link fencing, raises three stories before a steel, through truss bridge, caged in chain link fencing, with a concrete deck, spans over Mill Street and the rail yard. On the west side of the yard, the bridge turns north, to a ramp making a straight run down. The steel bridge is supported by metal square tubes, with cross bracing, that sit atop concrete piers.

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68 C. 1326 Mill St., North 1947

Bailey Lumber and Supply building

One-story, masonry, commercial building, clad in painted brick, laid up in common bond. A parapet wall topped with a concrete cap hides a hipped roof. To the left of Mill Street facade is a large, round, window opening, protected by metal bars. To the right of this window is a shallow concrete overhang, supported by brick, laid up in an inverted triangle shape at each end. The overhang spans the front facade and turns the corner on the Fairbanks Street elevation. Sheltered by the overhang was a large storefront opening. The long opening has a partial concrete block knee wall, and is completely protected by metal security bars.

Noel Street

69 NC. 106 Noel St. c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. The structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front-gable-on-hip roof clad in asphalt shingle and has a rectangular, louvered vent in the gable. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four turned columns. Wooden porch railing, with diagonal lattice and wooden porch deck, steps are brick. Openings: WW,D,WW. A single arched light-over-two panel metal door, and six-over-six vinyl windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank each pair of windows.

70 C. 115 Noel St. c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame duplex house clad in double drop wood siding. Cross hipped & gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Front facing hipped roof has an undercut porch, supported by three wood posts atop brick piers with concrete caps. The right bay contains a horizontal two-over-two window, and a slab door with a single diamond light, protected by a storm door. The left bay has a door with security bars. Concrete porch deck and steps.

71 NC. 117 Noel St. c.1920/c.2012

One-story, wood-frame shotgun house clad in plywood siding above a brick wainscot. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. A front porch is slightly set to the left. A projecting, front-facing gable porch roof, supported by two metal posts with a repeated S-motif, that sits atop brick piers with concrete caps. Concrete porch deck and steps. The porch shelters a horizontal two-over-two window flanked by decorative shutters, and a door, protected by security bars. The porch roof gable contains a round, louvered vent. As per Google Street View, this house was extensively rehabbed as of 2012. Paired windows were replaced by the single 1/1 windows with decorative shutters. A new door, and new plywood siding with brick wainscoting was installed. These images also reveal the building had a brick pier foundation.

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72 C. 118 Noel St. c.1940

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. Gable contains a rectangle, louvered vent. The right bay contains two paired, horizontal two-over-two windows, protected with metal security bars. The left bay features a projecting, front gable porch, supported by two metal posts. The porch shelters a door with security bars. Concrete porch deck and front steps.

73 NC. 120 Noel St. c.1995

One-story, wood-frame house clad in cement-fiber siding. Structure sits on brick chain wall foundation. Front-gable-on-hip roof clad in asphalt shingle, and has an octagonal, louvered vent in the gable. Undercut porch across the front of the building is supported by four turned columns. Wooden porch railing, with diagonal lattice. Wooden porch deck and entry ramp. Openings: WW,D,WW. A door protected by a metal security door, and six-over-six vinyl windows. Undersized decorative shutters flank the right pair of windows.

74 NC. 122 Noel St. c.1938

Wood-frame, house. Fire ruins. As per Google Street View, appears to have burned sometime after 2014. Concrete porch deck on brick chain wall. Steps are concrete with brick wing walls with concrete caps.

75 C. 124 Noel St. c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, double shotgun house clad in Transite shingle siding. The structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Front gable roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingle. A rectangle opening is centered in the gable. The undercut porch spans the entire front facade and is supported by metal columns with repeated S-motif that are atop brick piers with concrete caps. Concrete porch deck and steps. The porch has been enclosed with wire screen and plywood. The left bay contains a door. The right bay contained a window. Doors and windows have been removed and/or boarded over.

76 C. 125 Noel St. c.1940

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. The right bay contains a boarded over window opening. The left bay features a projecting, front gable porch, supported by two sets of three ganged square posts. Wooden porch deck and concrete entry steps. The porch shelters a door and a window that have been boarded over. Each front gable contains a rectangle, louvered vent.

77 C. 126 Noel St. c.1920

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, Craftsman Style house clad in wood double drop siding. Structure sits on brick pier foundation. Front gable roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingle. The eaves in the gable end are supported by triangular brackets. A rectangle opening is centered in the gable. The undercut porch spans the entire front facade and is supported by battered wood columns with decorative banding, that sit atop brick piers with concrete caps. Wooden porch

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deck and concrete steps. The right bay contains a door. The left bay contained a window. Doors and windows have been removed and/or boarded over.

78 C. 130-132 Noel St. c.1935

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame, house clad in wood siding. The structure sits on a brick pier foundation. Front jerkinhead gable roof with exposed rafter tails is clad in asphalt shingle. A rectangle opening is centered in the gable. Two separate front jerkinhead gable porches are each supported by square columns, atop brick piers with concrete caps. Each porch shelters a door. Wooden porch deck on pier foundation. No steps. Openings; D,W,W,D. Doors and windows have been removed and/or boarded over. Significant fire damage to the roof.

79 C. 134 Noel St. c.1936

One-story, wood-frame shotgun house, clad in wood siding. Significant fire damage. Brick pier foundation. Front jerkinhead gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. Gable contains a square opening. Undercut porch is supported by three, four-by-four wood posts. Wooden porch deck and steps. Openings: W,D. Sashes and door have been removed. Porch handrail constructed from two-by-fours. As per Google Street View, appears to have burned sometime after 2014.

80 C. 145 Noel St. c.1940

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame house. Structure is clad with wood siding, above a brick wainscot. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingles. The gable contains a rectangle, louvered vent. The left bay contains a stout brick chimney. The right bay features a projecting, front gable porch, supported by four brick posts, with an integrated brick knee wall. Brick steps and concrete porch deck. The porch shelters a single six-panel door.

81 NC. 1110 Noel St. c.1985

One-story, commercial building. Concrete slab foundation. A side gable roof is hidden behind a massive, metal clad, parapet. Parapet slightly overhangs the front of the front facade. The front facade is clad in stucco, above brick wainscot. Sides and rear of the building are clad in metal. Openings: W,D,W,W,W. Windows are narrow, single light, metal frame windows. At the corners and flanking the door are engaged fluted columns.

Taft Street

82 C. 157 Taft St. c.1940

One-story, wood-frame, house, clad in Transite shingle siding. Front facing gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Brick pier foundation. Projecting front gable porch is slightly offset, and supported by two metal poles. Concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation. Concrete steps. Porch partially shelters a single fixed pane picture window, that is protected by metal security bars. Porch fully shelters a slab door with three descending lights, protected by a metal security door, and a horizontal two-over-two aluminum window, with security bars.

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83 C. 215-214 Taft St. c.1920

A one-story, wood-frame, three-bay, symmetrical, duplex house, clad in wood, drop siding. The house sits on a brick pier foundation, infilled with CMU, and has a hipped roof with projecting gables, exposed rafter tails, two interior brick chimneys, and is clad in corrugated metal. The right and left bays are identical: projecting, front gable, porches, supported by two, wood posts, and have diagonal lattice balustrades and a centered, rectangular, wood, louvered vent. The porches shelter a six-panel door, protected by a metal storm door. Wooden porch deck and concrete steps. The center bay contains two, metal, horizontal two-over-two windows, with undersized decorative windows.

84 C. 217 Taft St. c.1930

A one-story, wood-frame, two-bay, Shotgun house, clad in wood clapboard and plywood siding. The structure sits on a pier foundation. Projecting from each bay is a shed roof awning, with corrugated metal roofing, and supported by four-by-four posts. The right bay is a front-facing gable, clad in asphalt shingles. The gable contains a centered, square, vent of diagonal lattice. An undercut porch is supported by a wood frame, screen enclosure, with a diagonal lattice rail and stucco piers with concrete caps. Concrete steps with brick wing walls. The left bay is a shed roof lean-to, clad in plywood siding. This addition has a single door and a small window.

85 C. 225 Taft St. c.1940

A one-story, wood-frame, house clad in wood drop siding. The house sits on a pier foundation, and has a front-facing gable roof, with exposed rafter tails clad in asphalt shingles. The gable peak contains a triangle, louvered vent. Centered on the front facade are two, paired, six-over-six, wood DHS. To the right of the paired windows is a projecting, front gable, porch supported by two, four-by-four posts. Concrete porch deck on pier foundation. Concrete steps. The porch shelters a single door, protected by a metal security door.

86 C. 226 Taft St. c.1940

One-story, wood-frame, house, clad in Masonite siding. Front facing gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and has a centered, rectangular, gable vent. Brick pier foundation. Undercut porch is supported by three metal columns with repeated S-motif. Concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation. Concrete steps. Porch shelters a slab door, protected by a metal security door, flanked on either side of the door are horizontal two-over-two aluminum windows.

87 C. 227 Taft St. c.1940

One-story, wood-frame, house, clad in Transite shingle siding. Front facing gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and has exposed rafter tails. Brick pier foundation. Projecting hipped roof porch is supported by two square columns atop brick piers with concrete caps. Concrete porch deck pier foundation. Concrete steps. Porch shelters a door, protected by a single light-over-two panel storm door. It is flanked on either side of the door are six-over-six DHS.

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88 C.

235 Taft St.

c.1920/c.1965

One-story, two-bay, wood-frame house clad in Transite shingle siding. Front gable roof, with exposed rafter tails, is clad in asphalt shingle. Rectangle, metal, louvered vent is centered in the gable. The right bay contains a projecting front gable porch, which is supported by two wood posts. Concrete porch deck on brick chain wall foundation. Concrete steps. Porch shelters a single three-light-over-three-panel door, protected by a three vertical-light-over-one-panel storm door. Left bay contains three grouped windows. Horizontal two-over-two, wood, DHS flank either side of a large single light window. The single light window is sheltered by a metal awning and protected by metal bars.

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Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE/ black

SOCIAL HISTORY

Architecture

Period of Significance

1900-1980

Significant Dates

1909

1961

1963

1970

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Habitat for Humanity

Godfrey, Bassett & Pitts

Allen, William Ray, Jr.

Barlow & Plunkett

Playworld Systems

Key Constructors Inc.

J W Underwood & Co.

Fr. John Hoenderop, S.V.D.

Canizaro, Robert

Brumfield, Harold

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The proposed Southwest Midtown Historic District located in Jackson, Mississippi, is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage/Black and Social History as an example of a Jim Crow-era African-American community of working and middle-class housing centered on religious and educational institutions. In a race-based segregated culture which created a climate of uncertainty often accompanied by violence, urban pockets like Southwest Midtown served as a safe haven to live and raise families. The Southwest Midtown Historic District is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its good examples of modernist institutional and religious buildings as well as some vernacular residential types. The period of significance extends from 1900 to 1980, encompassing the establishment of important African American institutions, their transition into the era of desegregation, and the resources of extraordinary significance that came about during the 1970s as a result of decades-long struggles for racial equality.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

In 1821 the Mississippi legislature chose the location for the capital, naming it for then General Andrew Jackson. The city was first laid out in a grid plan by Peter Aaron Van Dorn in 1822.

When this grid plan for Jackson was adopted in 1822, it did not extend to the area that would later become Southwest Midtown. In 1852 the Mississippi Central Railroad (MCRR) was chartered and began construction of a north-south rail line along what is now Mill Street, creating the western boundary of the district. As indicated by a September 1863, Union Army siege map of Jackson, the MCRR is shown to have tracks along the approximate western boundary of the Midtown Neighborhood.² This map also indicates that the Confederate fortifications were built just north of current day Fortification Street. Outside of this, the maps show that there was little in the way of development in the area that would one day become Southwest Midtown. While the majority of the city was destroyed by Union forces in 1863, one of the few structures to survive the fighting stands just east of the survey area; the 1857 Manship House (NR 1972).

² C. B. Comstock, U.S. Army Chief Engineer "Map of the Siege of Jackson, Miss. by the forces under command of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman 9th to 17th July 1863" created September 1863. Based on the Sept. 1863 map it appears that the fortification lines ran just north of the Manship House. No visible remains of fortifications were observed during field survey for this nomination.

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For much of the 19th Century, the northern boundary of the City of Jackson was Fortification Street, with the Midtown neighborhood developing slowly until the twentieth century. Between 1872 and 1878, the MCRR was acquired by the Illinois Central Railroad (ICRR), which would continue to grow the rail yard that serves as the western boundary for Southwest Midtown. While the western boundary of the proposed district has long been delineated by the rail line, by October 1901 that the ICRR yard had grown significantly enough that separating the yard into northern and southern divisions was necessary. The creation of the two separate yards corresponded with Jackson's rapid growth in the early 20th century. At this time, sites along N. Mill Street became increasingly desirable for manufacturing concerns. One of the earliest industrial concerns located along this corridor was the Wm. H Coleman & Company (non-extant), a regional tight barrel concern headquartered in Jackson, TN, that made barrel heads in a factory site on the corner of Mill and Bell Streets. Other early concerns that inhabited the area along Mill Street are businesses that would contribute to Jackson's early 20th-century boom, such as brickyards, wholesale lumber yards and lay down yards for construction companies. Oil companies would establish bulk storage facilities along N. Mill Street during this time period. As the industrial footprint of the neighborhood grew, residential subdivision developments restricted themselves to no further west than Grayson Street, which would later become N. Lamar Street. To meet the need for local workforce housing, narrow shotgun type houses were built in the areas west of N. Lamar Street, adjacent to the industrial concerns. The areas adjacent to the railroad and industry had until this point remained sparsely developed, likely due to their proximity to the rail and industrial sites that rendered them noisy and dirty.

During the Jim Crow Era (1877-1965) in the American South, African-Americans' lives were regulated by a system of institutional racism. This period started with the end of the post-Civil War Reconstruction period with legalized segregation and disenfranchisement of recently freed slaves; effectively barring them from virtually all local and state governance. Jim Crow laws established a system that insured blacks were second-class citizens. Schools and services for African-Americans were low priorities for southern states, and local governments consistently underfunded black neighborhoods. Under these laws, African-Americans had no representation on juries or in law enforcement and received bias in other legislation.³ American culture and values began to shift following the Second World War, which had provided many black citizens with opportunities previously unavailable to them. Nonviolent protests and United States Supreme Court decisions led to the end of the Jim Crow era, with Congress passing the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The Civil Rights Act declared that it is against federal law to discriminate or segregate "on the ground of race, color, religion, or national origin."⁴

In the immediate wake of the Civil War, many African-American families left rural communities across the south in search of social and economic opportunities in southern cities, leading to the

³ "The Reconstruction Era" from <https://www.britannica.com/event/Reconstruction-United-States-history> accessed 15 April 2019.

⁴ Civil Rights Act (1964) from <https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false&doc=97> accessed 13 April 2019.

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development of large African-American sections in southern cities.⁵ While these communities prospered on their own, they lacked municipal amenities that were typically afforded to white residents. Historically significant as an economically independent black community, Jackson's Farish Street neighborhood was subdivided in the 1870s and by the 1890s had become a segregated area for African-Americans. The success of Farish Street drew more African-Americans to the section. Farish Street was bound by the White downtown of Jackson to its south and a White residential section to the east. With the southern rail yard of the Illinois Central to its west, the only available area for the black community to grow was north of Fortification Street, into the area that would become Southwest Midtown.

By 1907, the Catholic Society of the Divine Word, an international order of missionaries, believed Jackson had enough of a population to warrant the creation of a Catholic mission to serve the city's African-American community. Father Aloysius Heick, S.V.D. was transferred from Vicksburg, MS to Jackson, MS to establish the mission. Holy Ghost Catholic Mission school (non-extant) was dedicated on Oct. 3, 1909, providing grammar school educational facilities within Midtown for the first time. Ten years later in 1918, the mission expanded to include a high school, the first for African-American students in Jackson. In 1925 the public William H. Lanier School (non-extant) was completed on East Ash Street. At its inception, Jackson public school system was segregated by race, and the Lanier School would serve as the city's first full twelfth-grade program for African-Americans.⁶

During the 1930s, southwest Midtown was fully developed. The 1938 *Mississippi: The WPA Guide to the Magnolia State* identifies the built environment of Farish and Midtown, briefly describing its industries and residents. Regarding the industrial influence, the guide describes the area,

*"Strung along the railroad tracks northwest of the business district are the "heavy" industries, lumber, oil, and cotton."*⁷

Of the residential portion of Midtown, the book states,

"Approximately 40 percent of the population [of Jackson] are the Negroes who furnish the bulk of the city's unskilled labor. A majority of their families live in the northwest section, in three- and four-room frame houses. Crowded together, these houses are in clean-swept yards; a few have garden patches at the rear. More familiar than the garden, however, is the clothes line upon which hangs the week's washing of some white family. For Jackson has not yet abandoned its

⁵ Jacqueline Jones, *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work, and the Family, from Slavery to the Present*. New York: Basic Books, 2010. p. 72.

⁶ William Moore Dalehite, *A History of the Public School in Jackson, Mississippi, 1832-1972* TJM Corporation, Baton Rouge, LA 1974. Page 151.

⁷ Federal Writers Project. *Mississippi: a Guide to the Magnolia State*. New York, NY: Viking, 1938, Page 209.

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*washerwomen in preference to laundries, and many Negro women, who often are employed as cooks and nursemaids, take in washing on the side."*⁸

After World War II, industrial concerns that occupied the Midtown area included photo processing, supply warehouses, hardware and lumber firms, bottling plants. The Lanier High School would eventually be renamed L. J. Rowan Junior High School in 1954 after Lanier High School moved to its present location (833 Maple Street).⁹ Two equalization schools were built in the community at this time; Deva L. Brown Elementary School (built 1962, Inv. 14) [Photo 11] and L.J. Rowan Junior High School (built 1963, Inv. 10) [Photo 8,9,10]. These buildings served African-American students in Midtown as part of a statewide push to "equalize" segregated education. Built statewide from the late 1940s into the 1960s, equalization schools were often modern in appearance, but typically did not receive the funding and lacked many of the resources that were afforded to schools for white students. Mississippi's equalization schools did not come about due to altruism and beneficence; rather, they were a last-ditch effort by the state's white power structure to forestall desegregation by offering seemingly adequate facilities to African-Americans for the first time.

From 1971 to 1972 the Fortification Street Overpass was constructed, forever changing the flow of both rail and vehicular traffic through the city. In 1976 Baptist Medical Center established its current campus between N. State and N. West Streets, contributing substantially to defining a boundary to the east of the survey area.

Midtown experienced a downturn in the 1980s as homeownership in the neighborhood dropped. In 1992 partnerships between Leadership Jackson, Habitat for Humanity, the City of Jackson, and Midtown residents began a period of reinvestment in Midtown. Between 1993 and 1997, Habitat For Humanity constructed seventy-five new homes in Midtown. These houses, though unmistakably modern, draw styling cues from historic Craftsman Style bungalows within the neighborhood. Habitat For Humanity, an international organization, has a long-standing avowal that their home designs are to reflect the local climate and culture in which they are building homes. In the instance of the Midtown Habitat houses, this appears to have been taken quite literally as the neo-bungalows draw stylistic cues from their historic neighbors. Generally, Habitat built housing does not take such a nuanced approach to blend with the existing fabric of a neighborhood unless it has been required by a local building department mandate, something which Midtown does not have. To date, Habitat For Humanity has continued to build houses in Midtown, with the current number of homes built at over two-hundred.

⁸ *ibid.* Page 209.

⁹ The present location of Lanier High School, (construction completed in 1954) is 833 Maple St, Jackson, MS 39203, far outside of the boundaries of the Southwest Midtown Historic District.

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Holy Ghost Catholic School

The Holy Ghost Catholic Church is an example of a Catholic mission that was established in the early 20th century and has continued to serve the needs of the community. Underserved areas were prime locations for establishing missions. Based on the needs of the community in which they served, missions could provide any combination of the following services based on the needs of the community; medical, primary and secondary education, or nourishment. Services were provided with the overall goal of converting members of the community to Catholicism, but the specific purpose of the Holy Ghost Mission was to provide educational opportunities to the African-American populace of Jackson.

Many African-Americans in the late 19th and early 20th centuries held education as among their highest priorities as they tried to establish themselves as full citizens. But the Jim Crow system made progress in public education almost impossible, leaving private institutions, especially churches, to try to fill the void. In 1917, the U.S. Bureau of Education documented the disparity of support for schools between whites and blacks.¹⁰ In Hinds County, Mississippi, with Jackson as its county seat, the per capita expenditures for white students was \$23.01, while only \$2.35 was expended on black students.

In 1907, Father Aloysius Heck (1864-1929) left Vicksburg, Mississippi, where he had successfully founded St. Mary's Catholic Church, that city's first to specifically serve the needs of its African-American community.¹¹ Arriving in Jackson, he sought to establish a mission that would support the spiritual and educational needs of the African-American community. At the time Smith Robertson School (NR 1978) was the only public school for black children in the city.¹² St. Peter's Catholic Church (NR 1976) had long operated the St. Joseph's Academy school in downtown Jackson but it was open to white students only. In 1909, the enrollment for the Academy was 150, which included a number of Protestant students.¹³ Private educational opportunities for Jackson's African-American residents were on a much smaller scale, limited to the occasional church-sponsored classes or private tutor afforded by only the few wealthy black residents. Sixteen thousand dollars of funding for the mission was provided by Mother Catherine Drexel, the founder of the Blessed Sacrament Sisters of Philadelphia, PA. Heck initially purchased a lot on the northeast corner of Fortification and N. Lamar Streets, intending to build a school that would open in the fall of 1908.¹⁴ However, by October of that year, the Jackson *Daily News*

¹⁰ Thomas Jesse Jones, "NEGRO EDUCATION: A STUDY OF THE PRIVATE AND HIGHER SCHOOLS FOR COLORED PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES" *Department of the Interior Bureau Of Education Bulletin*, 1916 No. 39

¹¹ "Negro Catholic Church" *Vicksburg Herald* [Vicksburg, Miss.], 15 May 1906, page 6.

¹² Charlotte Graham, "Mission Accomplished: With integrated schools Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters' work complete" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 1 November 1907, page 1D,3D.

¹³ "St. Joseph's Academy" *Jackson Daily News* [Jackson, Miss.], 12 September 1909, page 6.

¹⁴ "Catholic Negro School: Will Be Established Here at Once." *Jackson Daily News* [Jackson, Miss.], 4 July 1908, page 5.

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reported that Heick had abandoned plans for the site after organized objections by white citizens living near the location, and was looking for a new location. In January 1909, Smith-Robertson School was intentionally burned, leaving Jackson's estimated 1,100 African-American students with no educational facilities at all.¹⁵ The 1,100 students were taught by eighteen teachers, a 60:1 ratio. Total enrollment for the 1909-1910 was expected to be over three thousand.¹⁶

In 1909, Heick identified a new location a few blocks north of his previous proposed site, two acres bound by current-day East Ash, Cloister, East Bell, and Convent Streets. This site was described as "adjacent to the principle negro section of the city," on the northern boundary of Jackson's established African-American neighborhood core of Farish Street.¹⁷ Ground for a two-story brick school (non-extant) was broken on June 29, 1909. The school opened on October 4, 1909, with a grammar school enrollment of one hundred eleven, however only one of these students identified as Catholic.¹⁸ Three white nuns, Sisters Syrilla, Severlina, and Marcellina, all from the Servants of the Holy Spirit in Techny, IL served as the first teachers.¹⁹ White opposition to the school grew more vigorous when it became known that white Catholic nuns would serve as the teachers, as whites teaching blacks was nearly unheard of in the South at that time.

"They walked the classrooms of African-American institutions when no one else would teach us. They walked the community streets to offer compassion, direction and healing when no one else would." -Donna M. Williams, parishioner, Holy Ghost Catholic Church.²⁰

A two-story brick convent (Inv. 55a) [Photo 13] was built adjacent to the school in 1911 and a wood frame church (non-extant) was constructed in 1913.²¹ By 1913 the mission established a high school program, creating the first high school in the city for black students. The 1913 annual report of the Mission reported that there were 81 Catholic and 207 non-Catholic students taught by ten sisters and one priest.²²

While the school charged tuition, many students attended at little or no cost. For the 1916-1917 school year, the Jackson *Daily News* reported tuition rates:

¹⁵ "A \$20,000 Fire This Morning: Blaze of Incendiary Origin Destroyed the Smith Robinson [sic] School Building." Jackson *Daily News* [Jackson, Miss.], 4 January 1909, page 3.

¹⁶ "School Opening Date" Jackson *Daily News* [Jackson, Miss.], 10 August 1909, page 1.

¹⁷ "Catholic Negro School" *ibid.*

¹⁸ *Fifty-Year History of Holy Ghost Parish: Jackson, Mississippi 1909-1959* n/d

¹⁹ LaReeca Rucker, "Holy Ghost Milestone: 100 years later, Catholic church still on a mission." *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 3 October 2009, page 6B, 7B.

²⁰ Charlotte Graham, "Mission Accomplished: With integrated schools, Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters' work completed" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 1 November 1997, page 1D, 3D.

²¹ Per *Fifty-Year History of Holy Ghost Parish: Jackson, Mississippi 1909-1959*, the convent was designed by Fr. John Hoenderop, S.V.D.

²² Richard Oliver Gerow, *Catholicity In Mississippi Natchez*, MS 1939 page 152.

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*"Kindergarten, 10 cents a week; first, second, third and fourth grades, 50 cents a month; fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades, 75 cents a month; high school, \$1 a month."*²³

Newspapers reported that the school was experiencing full enrollment with 300 pupils a year. The school welcomed both Catholic and Protestant students since the main purpose of the mission was to serve the African-American community of Jackson, which was primarily Protestant. The school quickly outgrew its facilities. In 1915, a one-story wood frame parish hall (non-extant) was constructed, facing East Bell Street.²⁴ While this structure was intended to allow the chapel on the second story of the original school building to be converted into classrooms, the parish hall was soon converted into classroom space itself.

The Convent received a two-story brick addition in 1916 that doubled the size of the building. Recognition of all the work to provide a high-quality campus was recognized by the US Bureau of Education which stated that "The grades are well taught, the discipline is good. The grounds and building are well kept." This same report stated that in Hinds County, on the basis of teacher salaries, the per capita expenditures for white students was \$23.01 while only \$2.35 was expended on black students.²⁵ During this period, the Holy Ghost High School was advertised as preparatory for college education, a stark contrast to the Jackson public schools which would not even offer high school courses until the 1925-1926 school year. Even then, the new Lanier High School was advertised as to teach "Negro Boys and Girls . . . to Do Better Their Natural Work," listing courses in industrial and domestic arts, with no mention of college as an option for the pupils.²⁶

By 1930, the enrollment at Holy Ghost was reported steady at 300.²⁷ In 1940, St. Anthony Hall (Inv. 56) [Photo 14] was built across Cloister Street from the main campus to serve as a dedicated building for the Holy Ghost High School. In 1944, the church was rehabilitated, and in 1945 the high school building was expanded to its current configuration. It was about this time that the 1915 parish hall was demolished.²⁹

In 1956, the Archbishop of New Orleans wrote a pastoral letter to all the clergy and members of his diocese stating "Segregation is morally wrong and sinful." The letter was in response to the increased enrollment in Catholic schools by whites looking to avoid integrated public schools

²³ "Catholic Institute Opens. Holy Ghost School for Colored Students Will Begin Tomorrow." *Jackson Daily News* [Jackson, Miss.], 17 September 1916, page 6.

²⁴ *Fifty-Year History of Holy Ghost Parish: Jackson, Mississippi 1909-1959* n/d

²⁵ Thomas Jesse Jones, "NEGRO EDUCATION: A STUDY OF THE PRIVATE AND HIGHER SCHOOLS FOR COLORED PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES" *Department of the Interior Bureau Of Education Bulletin*, 1916 No. 39

²⁶ "Lanier High For Negroes Is Finished" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 28 August 1925, page 2.

²⁷ Gerow *ibid.* page 151.

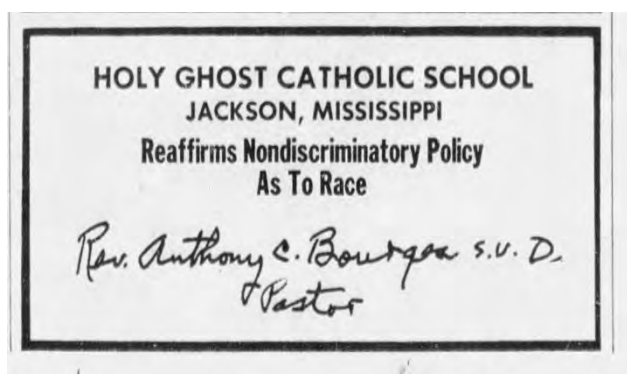
²⁹ "Holy Ghost School to Build \$8000 Addition." *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 14 March 1945, page 5.

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mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education* (1954). However, private schools were not subject to the Supreme Court's ruling, and local bishops had the responsibility for making the integration decisions for their diocese. Typically each diocese would integrate its schools at the same time that public schools were integrated.

The 1950s-1960s were the peak of student attendance at Holy Ghost School. During the 1960s the school claimed an enrollment of more than three hundred pupils.³⁰ In 1969, Holy Ghost's high school program merged with the historically white St. Joseph's Catholic High School as part of integration efforts.



Clarion-Ledger [Jackson, Miss.] 15 September 1971, page 7.

By 1970, Catholic schools across the South were open to children of any race.³¹ That same year Holy Ghost opened a new one-story, brick, modernist church building (Inv. 58a.) [Photo 12] across the street from the original church. At the start of the 1971-1972 school year, the pastor of Holy Ghost placed an ad in the *Clarion-Ledger* newspaper reaffirming its nondiscriminatory policy regarding race. The ad was signed by Rev. Anthony C. Bourges, the parish's first African-American pastor, who served at Holy Ghost from 1968 to 1972. However the following year the diocese announced that Holy Ghost School was slated to close due to "inadequacy of the school buildings."³² At the time, the enrollment was 250, with only 67 of the students identifying as Catholic. The decision to close the school caught the parishioners off guard as they were unaware of the stated poor conditions of the building. However, the diocese compromised by renovating the buildings, and reopening classes for kindergarten through third grade on August 28, 1972. In the fall of that year, several churches and the schools of Midtown organized a community council focused on working towards solutions to problems facing Midtown such as delinquency, inadequate recreational facilities, lack of parental interest in children's schooling, and lack of

³⁰ Michael Culbreth, "Passing Mourned: Holy Ghost school played important role in many lives," *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 15 August 1987, page 1C.

³¹ "Dixie Catholics Issue Race Report," *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 4 October 1970, page 15.

³² "City's Holy Ghost School To Be Closed," *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 22 April 1972, page 2.

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community pride.³³ Rev. Malcolm O'Leary was part of this group, when he was transferred by the Order of the Society of the Divine Word, O'Leary's religious order, to assume duties at the Immaculate Conception parish in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Rowan High School principal Charles Tillman stated that during O'Leary's period at Holy Ghost, O'Leary was instrumental in getting the pedestrian crosswalk constructed over the Illinois Central Railroad yard, starting a city housing rehabilitation program in Midtown, and getting the Underwood Community Center (now the Midtown Community Center, Inv. 59a) [Photo 16] opened on North Mill Street.³⁴

By 1982, enrollment was only 175 and would drop to just 102 in 1986-1987 in the school's final year. By 1992, the 1909 school building was demolished, and in 1996, the 1913 church was demolished. The following year, the last nun, Sister Marie Angela Risi left the Holy Ghost parish. Today, the church still serves the Midtown neighborhood. While a school is no longer operated by the church, the parish has leased the former high school building to the Hinds County Head Start program.

Establishing L.J. Rowan Junior High School and Deva L. Brown Elementary School

In 1924, at a spot between Ash Street, East, and Whitfield Avenue, across Ash Street from the Holy Ghost parish property, the Jackson school district chose a site for the first public high school for African-Americans in Jackson. The construction of Lanier High School (non-extant) had a significant impact on the neighborhood. This would be the first time African-Americans could receive a K-12 education in Jackson. The school represented a significant municipal investment in a community that was not accustomed to receiving such. The school had indoor plumbing and showers for the students, amenities not typical in the community's housing stock.

On January 3, 1949, a *Clarion-Ledger* article touted the headline, "Additional School Facilities For Jackson Plan of New Mayor."³⁵ No doubt anticipating the influx of new students as part of the post-war baby boom, mayor-elect Allen C. Thompson plan called for two new high schools and at least two elementary schools. These schools were for the white population, adding to the City's nine elementary schools, two junior high, and one high school.³⁶ The article also noted that Jackson's African-American population was served by four elementary schools, one junior high, and Lanier High School.³⁷

³³ "Rowan Group, Brown Unit To Organize" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 13 September 1972, page 9.

³⁴ "Priest transfer final despite congregation's best efforts" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 20 July 1980, page 19.

³⁵ "Additional Schools Facilities For Jackson Plan of New Mayor" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 3 January 1954, page 17.

³⁶ White Schools: Elementary; Barr, Davis, Duling, Galloway, George, Lee, Poindexter, Power, and Whitfield. Junior High; Bailey, and Enochs. Senior High School; Central.

³⁷ Black Schools: Elementary; Jones, Martin, Reynolds, and Robertson. Junior High; Jim Hill. Senior High; Lanier.

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Around the same time, the Jackson school board decided that the former Lanier School, built in 1925, was due to be replaced. In 1950, Jackson Public Schools board of trustees announced that they would rename the former Lanier High School after Dr. L.J. Rowan (1871-1934).³⁸ The article announcing the decision described Rowan's accomplishments:

*"After graduating from Alcorn College, Dr. Rowan was elected to teach English in the college from which he had graduated. From this position he was promoted to the presidency of the college where he served as president for twenty-five years"*³⁹

The new Lanier High School opened in a different neighborhood on the west side of the Illinois Central railroad in 1952, and the old school on Ash Street was shuttered until 1954 when it was announced that the building would be reactivated as an elementary and junior high school for African-American students. In a June 15, 1954, *Clarion-Ledger* article, school authorities announced that the work was underway on the building to convert it to L.J. Rowan Junior High School, and it would house approximately 70 students for the upcoming school year.⁴⁰ On Thursday, November 10, 1955, the former Lanier High School, modernized by Ware & Associates, was dedicated as "Rowan Elementary-Junior High School." The building would now serve first through sixth-grade students, all African American.⁴¹



Figure 1: Image of L. J. Rowan, from "The Alcornite" 1928 Alcorn A&M College Yearbook

³⁸ Levi John Rowan was born in Rodney, Mississippi on August 7, 1871. At the age of 16 he began attending Alcorn A&M College part-time. He worked his way through school graduating with his B.S. degree in 1893, and he would continue his studies, taking summer courses at the Chautauqua Institute of New York. In 1905, Rowan was elected to serve his first stint as president of Alcorn A&M College from 1905 until the 1911-1912 school year. For the 1914-1915 school year, Rowan would return to the College and remain as president until his death in 1934. Dr. Rowan died of Bright's Diseses at an infirmary in Vicksburg, MS on June 28, 1934. Rowan had been successful in growing the College in the darkest days of the Jim Crow era, continually pressing forward the schools goals of self-respect and attainment at a time when white politicians who denounced the school and its mission found a wave of support.

³⁹ "New Jackson Schools Given Names of Deceased Leaders And Teachers as Memorials" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 12 November 1950, page 1.

⁴⁰ "School Authorities have awarded a contract to convert the Old Lanier High School building for use as an elementary and junior high school for Negroes. The building to be called L.J. Rowan Junior High School" "City Schools Expand Program Of Building" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 15 June 1954, page 1.

⁴¹ "Rowan School's Dedication Set for Thursday at 7 p.m." *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 6 November 1955, page 49.

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In August of 1961, the school board announced their approval of plans for a new elementary school to be built next to Rowan, which would become solely a junior high school.⁴³ The Jackson School System Board of Trustees announced in October of 1961 its decision to name one of Jackson's new elementary schools after former JPS teacher Deva Brown (1881-1952).⁴⁴



Figure 2: Brown Elementary groundbreaking, 1961.⁴⁵

Less than two months later, the *Clarion-Ledger* reported on the groundbreaking at a site adjacent to Rowan Junior High School located on East Ash Street.⁴⁶ The article briefly describes Brown's contributions to Jackson:

"Deva Lincoln Brown taught in the Jackson Public Schools for 31 years, from 1921 until her death in April 1952. She served as first grade teacher in the Jim Hill and Salle Reynolds schools

⁴³ "Approve Plans For Two Schools" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 10 August 1961, page 6.

⁴⁴ Lois N. Alford, "Names Chosen For Two City Negro Schools" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 19 October 1961, page 16.

⁴⁵ *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 1 December 1961, page 14.

⁴⁶ Lois N. Alford, "Work Begins On Schools For Negros" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 7 December 1961, page 2.

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*respectively. She received her A. B. Degree from Jackson State College.*⁴⁷

Groundbreaking ceremonies for Deva L. Brown Elementary (Inv. 14) [Photo 11] were held on November 30, 1961. The school was designed by architects Harold Brumfield, and William R. Allen, Jr. The work was estimated to cost \$491,758 based on the winning bid of Harvey Construction Company.⁴⁸ The school was dedicated on April 7, 1963, and was described as a brick structure with 25 "teaching stations" (or classrooms), a library, auditorium, cafeteria, an administrative suite consisting of office, clinic and teachers lounge, and spacious outdoor play area.

Enrollment for the entire Jackson Municipal Separate School District at the start of the 1962-1963 school year was greater than what the District had anticipated. On the first day of that school year, the enrollment at Brown was 706 and at Rowan 485. With the enrollment numbers announced, the school board decided to proceed with plans for the replacement of the Rowan school.⁴⁹

On Sunday, April 28, 1963, the *Clarion-Ledger* reported that construction was progressing rapidly on the new L. J. Rowan School (Inv. 10) [Photos 8,9,10]. The Ash Street school was described as constructed of a reinforced concrete frame with masonry and precast concrete panels on the exterior. The interior was to be of brick, painted masonry units, and structural glazed tile. With a reported capacity of 750 pupils, the school was planned to include seventeen general classrooms, four science rooms, art, general arts, clothing and food laboratories, choral, band, shop, gymnasium, library, auditorium, lunchroom and kitchen. Occupation was expected by February 1964.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ *ibid.* Deva Brown was born Deva Lincoln Montgomery in Lexington, Mississippi on May 16, 1881. Her first instructing experience was as a 3rd grade teacher in Holmes County, near her birthplace in Lexington. She was married in 1908 to the Rev. Joseph W. Brown with whom she had two sons; Joseph Jr. (c.1910) and D. L. (c.1912). In 1920 the Brown family was living in Jackson, MS at 1320 Lynch Street. Her Jackson teaching career began at Jim Hill Elementary in 1921. Brown attended Jackson State College, graduating with a B. A. Degree in 1935. In 1937, Brown would transfer to the new Sallie Reynolds Elementary School. She would continue to teach at Sallie Reynolds for the rest of her life. She continued teaching until her passing on Saturday April 12, 1952.

⁴⁸ "Groundbreaking Ceremonies" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 1 December 1961, page 14.

⁴⁹ "School Enrolment Total At Top Forecast Figure" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 11 September 1962, pages 1,6.

⁵⁰ Photo and caption *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 28 April 1963, section F, page 8.

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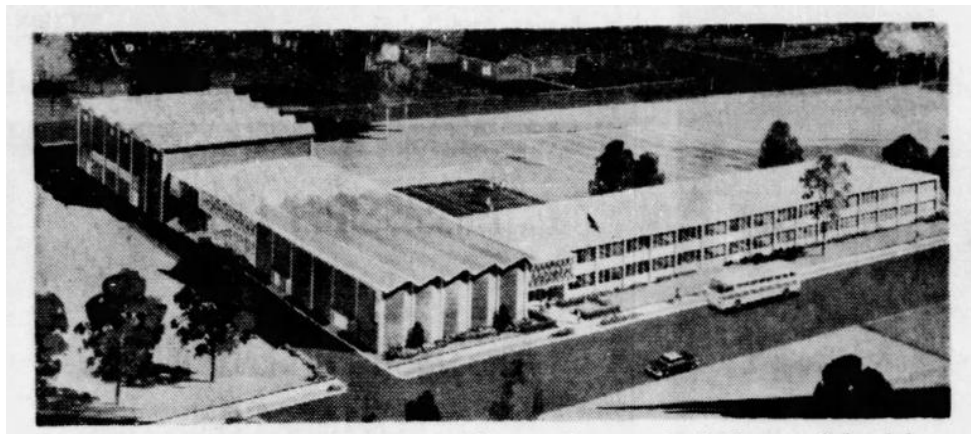


Figure 3: Architects rendering of Rowan Junior High School from *The Clarion-Ledger*, 1963.⁵¹

Rowan Junior High was touted as a million dollar school when the re-dedication assembly was held on May 17, 1964.⁵² When L.J. Rowan Junior High School was completed in 1964, it was one of Jackson's three junior and senior high schools for African Americans that included Samuel M. Brinkley, and Jim Hill schools. African-American schools in Jackson had an average of 918 students per school, nearly twice the number of white students per public school in Jackson.

In 1968, a planned six-classroom addition estimated to cost \$117,499 was put on hold after a federal injunction sponsored by the NAACP, which claimed that the school district's larger construction program, which included four elementary schools, would violate an existing court order about maintaining segregated school systems.⁵³ The injunction stated that the proposed addition would reduce playground space and would make more pronounced the already apparent inequalities in the school system.⁵⁴ In 1969, a bond issue to make Lanier High School, which was black, also a junior high school and to convert Callaway, a white school, into a senior high school failed. This was the first time a bond issue failed. White and black taxpayers in Jackson suddenly were not willing to increase funding for their public schools in the face of the uncertainty that came with impending integration.⁵⁵

On January 1, 1970, schools across Mississippi became desegregated. As this was mid-school year there was not a significant change to enrollments. Integration was more noticeable in the

⁵¹ *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 28 April, 1963 Section F Page 8.

⁵² "Million Dollar School's Open House Today at 4" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 17 May 1964, page 21.

⁵³ Two White; Dawson, and Morrison and Two Black; Brown, and Reynolds.

⁵⁴ Billy Sheldon, "School Construction Project Delayed By Court Injunction" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 3 October 1968, page 9.

⁵⁵ Arielle Dreher, "How Integration Failed in Jackson's Public Schools from 1969 to 2017" *Jackson Free Press* [Jackson, MS], 15 November 2017. Digital <http://www.jacksonfreepress.com/news/2017/nov/15/how-integration-failed-jacksons-public-schools-196/> Accessed 4/1/2019.

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enrollment starting at the beginning of the 1971-1972 school year. A 1972 photograph shows the Brown Elementary School was integrated by race.



Brown Elementary School Choir "To sing Thursday night" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 17 February 1972, page A17.

Equal access to municipal amenities: Benjamin Brown Park, Midtown Community Center, and Charles Tillman Pedestrian Overpass.

The struggle for equality of municipal amenities succeeded the desegregation of Jackson public schools in 1970. The long struggles for civil right proved that through proper organizing communities could fruitfully petition for equal resources. The amenities from the 1970s within the Southwest Midtown Historic District have extraordinary local significance since they represent the evolution of the civil rights movement in the decade after the 1960s and show how national gains translated to the neighborhood level.

After de-segregation, African-Americans began working out their newly won civil rights in a variety of ways, including negotiating for public amenities and safety measures. In Southwest Midtown, religious and educational leaders would organize the community in the quest for equal access. In 1972, a community council was organized by the residents of the integrated Rowan and Brown School districts. This group was led by F.D. Casher, principal of Brown School; Charles Tillman, principal of Rowan School; Rev. C.F. Jordan, pastor New Stranger Home Baptist Church (outside boundaries of district⁵⁶); Rev. R.H. Walls, pastor True Light Baptist Church (Inv. 48) [Photo 26]; and Rev. Malcolm O'Leary, both pastor Holy Ghost Catholic Church and principal of Holy Ghost School. The issues facing the community included delinquency, inadequate recreational facilities, lack of parental interest in children's school work, and a lack of community pride. The leadership of the council thought that the problems could best be addressed if the community churches, schools, and homes worked together.⁵⁷ While education was a primary focus

⁵⁶ New Stranger Home Baptist Church stands at 143 Sidway Street Jackson, MS 39203, two blocks north of the district.

⁵⁷ "Rowan Group, Brown Unit To Organize" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 13 September 1972, page 9.

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of the civil rights struggle, all amenities afforded to the taxpaying public were sought by African-Americans, as areas where they had historically been allowed to live were significantly lacking municipal amenities when compared to white neighborhoods. As early as 1931, the City proposed a park at the northwest corner of Blair and Sidway Streets, but this was one of a number of empty promises.⁵⁹ In the first half of the 20th-century Jackson's White residents had access to a variety of publicly owned parks and pools located throughout the city. Established in 1927, Battlefield Park was the nearest city park to the Midtown neighborhood, however, it was several miles away and even so was off limits to African-Americans. Jackson's African American children often swam instead at a swimming hole known to the community as "bowlegged weed," accessed only by a dangerously steep bank.⁶⁰ It was not until 1939 that African-Americans in the city had a public pool; a small wading pool paid for with community donations and WPA funding was constructed at the William Johnson Community Center on Farish Street.⁶¹ Newspapers described these amenities in starkly different terms and reflect the White ruling class's attitudes and justifications toward providing municipal amenities to African-American residents. While pools and parks for the white community were "greatly enjoyed by young people"⁶² and "particularly attractive for kiddies"⁶³, the first wading pool for the African-American community was described as having been created to prevent black youth from "growing up to become criminals, and worthless laggards."⁶⁴ In the summer of 1950, the *Clarion Ledger* reported that the city would have twenty supervised playgrounds available to citizens, thirteen for whites and seven for negroes.⁶⁵ A review of the listed playgrounds available reveals that only one of the African-American "parks" was an actual park as opposed to a school playground. Not until 1971 did the the city begin a neighborhood park program that was intended to provide the heavily populated sections of the city with playground facilities.⁶⁶ Among the parks planned was one at the intersection of North Mill and Fairbanks Street, now known as Benjamin Brown Park (Inv. 67a). Work began in late 1974, one of the last parks of the city's so-called "Minipark" program, but one of its largest: the park was

⁵⁹ "Playground opened to large crowds" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 10 June 1931, page 9. City announced that two playgrounds were to be provided for colored people, one of these being located on the corner of Blair and Sidway streets. However, there is no evidence that this park was ever constructed. this intersection is located just north of the Southwest Midtown Historic District boundary.

⁶⁰ Gilbert R. Mason & James Patterson Smith "*Beaches, Blood, and Ballots A Black Doctor's Civil Rights Struggle*" Jackson, MS University of Mississippi Press 2000 page. 3 Both Battlefield Park and "bowlegged weed" are outside the boundaries of the Southwest Midtown Historic District.

⁶¹ "Negro Pool Opens Sunday" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.] 4 June 1938, page 5.

⁶² "Canton Completes New Swimming Pool For Opening In Two Weeks" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 20 April 1947, page 23.

⁶³ "Kiddies To Get 'Break' At Lake" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 28 April 1934, page 7.

⁶⁴ "Jackson Negroes Receive Benefits" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 5 October 1939, page 2.

⁶⁵ "20 SUpervised Playpounds To Open In City On Monday" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.] 11 June 1950, page 21.

⁶⁶ "Progress Report to the People of Jackson... from Mayor Russell C. Davis." *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 8 April 1973, page 16C.

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expected to have five basketball courts, a picnic area, and a swimming pool.⁶⁷ The latter of these is significant because less than ten years before, the city chose to close their municipal pools rather than integrate them. Robert Canizaro served as architect for the city's project to build ten swimming pools. Work on the pool at Benjamin Brown Park (Inv. 67b.) [Photo 18] was completed by 1975. In 1995, the city named the Mill Street park in honor of Benjamin Brown, an African-American Jacksonian who was killed on May 11, 1967 when Jackson Police fired into a crowd of black students who were demonstrating on J.R. Lynch Street.⁶⁸ No one was ever prosecuted for Brown's death.⁶⁹

Since the construction of the Holy Ghost Catholic School in 1909, students had risked life and limb to cross the very active Illinois Central rail yard on the west side of Mill Street to attend school. Older residents often had to cross the rail yard to work in the businesses located along North Mill Street.



Woman climbing over a railcar coupling in the railyard west of N. Mill Street. *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, MS], 7 September 1976, page 8.

By 1976, half of the Rowan School's students lived west of the railyard. While the railroad did not keep records of the number of deaths or injuries, community members could document four injuries between 1969 and 1976 and believed there were many more that went unreported. In

⁶⁷ "Miniparks Nearing Completion" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 2 October 1974, page 3B

⁶⁸ "Benjamin Brown was a twenty-one year old truck driver and civil rights activist living in Jackson, Mississippi, when he was shot in the back, on the evening of May 11, 1967, by local police officers during a student protest near Jackson State College. Brown, a reported by-stander in the protest, died the following day. Brown's death prompted criticism from civil rights leaders and set off a series of protests and demonstrations in the Jackson area." From http://crdl.usg.edu/people/b/brown_benjamin_d_1967/ accessed 25 April 2019

⁶⁹ Grace Simmons, "Park named for man police killed in JSU shooting" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 31 May 1995, page 4B.

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1974, Rowan principal Charles H. Tillman asked the city council to include funding for an overpass to be among federal Housing and Community Development grants.

"It was frightening to see kids crossing under rail cars as they were moving... About half of the student body had to cross the tracks each day to get to and from school. The children had to jeopardize their life at least twice everyday, just to get an education." - Charles Tillman⁷⁰

Plans for the crosswalk were first completed in 1976, but the neighborhood demanded that the design of the ramp be something the neighborhood could be proud of. Several other setbacks delayed the project another year, but in 1978, the city approved preliminary plans to build the pedestrian crosswalk over the rail yard. The pedestrian bridge (Inv. 67c.) [Photo 7] was completed in the fall of 1980 and was named at an April 15, 1981 dedication ceremony for Midtown Neighborhood Development Group president and former Rowan School principal Charles H. Tillman.

Another amenity the Midtown neighborhood had long been denied was a community center. In the 1970s many of Jackson's African-American communities were seeking the construction of community centers, an amenity long available to Jackson's white citizens for social gatherings, business or club meetings, and other special events.⁷¹ In Jackson, facilities constructed during this post-civil rights period with a mixture of federal and local funding, such as the Golden Key Center (built 1976) and the Tougaloo Community Center (built 1977), offered previously underserved African-American areas with nutrition programs and free senior health clinics, as well as structured recreational activities.⁷² Thanks to the work of the Midtown Neighborhood Development Group,⁷³ the former J.W. Underwood Company office building at 1030 Mill Street, North (Inv. 59a) [Photo 16] was purchased by the City of Jackson in 1979 for \$245,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.⁷⁴ Construction to convert the former office building to a community

⁷⁰ Charlotte Graham, "Pedestrian crosswalk aids students. Hazardous times remembered" Clarion-Ledger [Jackson, Miss.], 25 April 1985, page 1.

⁷¹ Both terms "Community Center" and "Community House" are used colloquially in Mississippi to describe the same building type used for a community's educational and recreational activities.

⁷² Both the Golden Key and Tougaloo Community Centers are located outside the boundaries of the Southwest Midtown National Register Historic District. The Golden Key Community Center was listed as a Mississippi Landmark in early 2016, deemed historically significant for its association with Government, Social History, and Ethnic Heritage: Black. Bill Gatlin, *Golden Key Community Center Mississippi Landmark Significance Report* MDAH, 2016.

⁷³ The Midtown Neighborhood Development Group was organized in the mid-1970s to rally neighborhood support for the construction of a pedestrian overpass for the ICRR yard. The group disbanded c.1985. In print the group was sometimes referred to as the Midtown Development Association. It is not clear if this group arose out of the 1972 community council.

⁷⁴ Enacted in 1974, the CDBG program was established for the purpose of allowing local communities better choice with use of federal funds to meet

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center were covered by a second CDBG grant of \$100,000. The completed community center opened in 1981 and contained a welfare and food stamp office, education, counseling and employment services available to Midtown and surrounding area residents.⁷⁵ The establishment of a community center that allowed for the grouping of these services, previously scattered and not easily accessible to Midtown residents, reflects the neighborhood's effort to move from a segregated society to a more equitable community.

Midtown Housing

The housing of the Southwest Midtown Historic District contains a cross-section of working-class housing that retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of the district's working-class roots. Part of Jackson's African-American community, this area of Midtown served as a refuge from Jim Crow laws that African-Americans were subject to in the predominantly white areas of Jackson, and throughout the South.⁷⁶ Within Midtown were African-American schools and churches, and the area was adjacent to the African-American business district on Farish Street.

The earliest extant housing in Southwest Midtown Historic District consists of one-story, wood-frame, folk house forms in the L-front and Pyramidal families.⁷⁷ Both plans are typical of folk housing forms that appear nationwide in the period after the development of a national railroad network. These buildings in the district date to between c.1900 to c.1920. Examples of the L-front form are 256 E. Ash Street (Inv. 27) [Photo 30]. An example of the Pyramidal form is 199 E. Bell Street (Inv. 44). An apparent combination of the two forms is 176 E. Bell Street (Inv. 42) [Photo 25].

The housing of the 1930s and 1940s consist of one-story, wood-frame, one- and two-family cottages. The 1938 *Mississippi: The WPA Guide to the Magnolia State* identifies the housing stock of Midtown, briefly describing it as

" three- and four-room frame houses. Crowded together, these houses are in clean-swept yards; a few have garden patches at the rear.

unique needs of local communities. Some legislators viewed the program as a way of extinguishing poverty and "urban blight."

⁷⁵ "Underwood Building bought for center," *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, MS], 12 July 1979, page 78. "Underwood Center gets final council OK" *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, MS], 9 September 1981, page 47.

⁷⁶ Jim Crow law, in U.S. history, any of the laws that enforced racial segregation in the South between the end of Reconstruction in 1877 and the beginning of the civil rights movement in the 1950s. Melvin I. Urofsky "Jim Crow law," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2018.

⁷⁷ Virginia S. McAlester, "Field Guide to American Houses" New York, NY Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, pages 138, 146.

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Examples of permit notifications for construction of workforce housing in Midtown. Left: *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 4 January 1938, page 12. Right: *Clarion-Ledger* [Jackson, Miss.], 14 January 1939, page 10.

Many of these three- and four-room frame houses are either of the shotgun, duplex or bungalow form (examples of each form; shotgun (Inv. 20) [Photo 28], duplex (Inv. 78) [Photo 19], or bungalow (Inv. 85) [Photo 21]). The majority of the houses have Craftsman detailing. The duplexes found within the district were at one time ubiquitous in Jackson and can still be found in many neighborhoods originally built for the working class throughout the city. Duplexes in the district were targeted specifically towards African-Americans for both purchase and for rent.⁷⁸



Left: Example of a typical duplex in Jackson, MS working-class neighborhood. Built c.1938 currently located at 230-232 Ash St., East (Inv.17). Right: Example of c. 1930 duplex modified to a single family home c.1963 at 251 Ash St., East (Inv.24) Photographs by author, December 2017.

⁷⁸ Many of these homes were built by the contractors M. A. Lewis Jr., John Hart Lewis, and J. H. Howie. Newspaper records identify these contractors as having built residences on East Bell, and North Mill, Streets. Unfortunately, specific structures constructed by these builders have not been positively identified.

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Following World War II, the district experienced very little new house construction. As the national trend of personal vehicle ownership⁷⁹ became more prevalent among Jacksonians, the population density previously seen in the neighborhood began to diminish, because there was less reliance on traveling by foot or by public transport. As a result of the reduction in density, by the mid-1960s many of the duplex houses had been remodeled and converted into single-family homes. These conversions reduced the density of the Midtown neighborhood. A significant number of these buildings were duplexes in a double shotgun form. A well intact example of this housing type exists at 230-232 E. Ash Street (Inv. 17). Beginning in the 1960s many of these duplexes were renovated and updated into single-family homes. Work often included the removal of a front door and entry porch, the addition of Masonite siding, a brick wainscot, metal frame windows, and sometimes, metal porch posts. The remodeling was part of a larger national trend to provide an "updated" appearance to an older building. Many of the materials and techniques being utilized on these homes could be found on new homes being built in Jackson's suburbs. These updates indicated a significant level of improvement in the housing quality of the African-American residents of Midtown. Several examples of the duplexes converted to single-family housing exist in a row at the addresses 251, 255, 257, 261 E. Ash Street (Inv. 24, 26, 28, 29) [Photo 5].

Modern Architecture in Midtown

The Deva L. Brown Elementary School (1962) (Inv. 14), L.J. Rowan Junior High School (1963) (Inv. 10), and Holy Ghost Catholic Church (1970) (Inv. 58a) are examples of institutional and religious buildings built in the modernist mode. The Modern movement in architecture began as a rejection of classical ornament and traditional forms and drew inspiration from the machine age in the early twentieth century. In Europe, modernism was strongly embraced after World War I when classical and traditional ways were viewed as what had led to the war. Many of those practiced in the modern styles were driven from Europe in the decade before World War II and found employment opportunities in architecture departments of American universities. By the early 1960s, a generation of American architects had sat under their instruction.

Stylistically the modern designs projected the educational progressivism that was taking place in the mid-twentieth century. For school districts, the Modernist approach was not only often cheaper than more traditional styles, but also provided more flexibility for expansion, over the Neoclassical and Colonial Revival styles popular in the previous decades.⁸⁰ The ability to expand or modify a school was something that the ever-growing 20th-century Jackson school district would have found particularly appealing. Buildings constructed in the post-war period typically featured wings of classrooms, arranged along transom lit, double-loaded corridors, with large banks of

⁷⁹ The Federal Highway Administration figures report that during the 1930's & 1940's that vehicle ownership was steady at 0.2 vehicles per capita, by 1960 that had doubled.

⁸⁰ Jennifer V.O. Baughn, "Education, Segregation and Modernism: Mississippi's School Equalization Building Program, 1946-1961." *ARRIS* Vol. 16, 2005, pages 49-50.

Southwest Midtown Historic District
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windows or window walls on the exterior. The variation of wall cladding, window grouping, and rooflines give an exterior expression of the activities taking place on the interior.

The Holy Ghost Catholic Church is an example of a late modern building. The tall, sloped roof, previously had been verboten under the strict adherence to the ideal modernistic cube. However, this roofline does adhere to the functionality tenet of modernism of every part of the building serves a purpose, as the steep pitch of the roof doubles as a steeple. Square in plan, the church has double entry doors on either side of a curved wall. The architect and builder are unknown. The Diocese of Natchez-Jackson building program had embraced modern design for its African-American parishes in Jackson as early as 1947 with the construction of Christ the King Catholic Church on J.R. Lynch Street. In the 1960s, during the Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican, more commonly known as Vatican II, the Church laid out changes to church doctrines and activities. While none of these specifically related to architectural style choices for constructing new churches, changes in certain liturgical activities did require modifications of existing churches and guided the design of new construction. One of the more notable of these was the moving of the altar away from the apse and having the priest face the congregation from behind the altar.

Comparison to other Jackson, Mississippi National Register Districts:

The nearest National Register historic districts in Jackson are the Belhaven Historic District (NR, 2012) and the Farish Street Neighborhood Historic District (NR, 1980). The Southwest Midtown Historic District is significantly smaller, as these two districts have 1538 and 698 resources respectively. The Belhaven Historic District is primarily residential, historically white, and has a significant number of architect-designed house that are generally larger and older, dating to the late 19th and early 20th-century than those in the Southwest Midtown district. The Farish Street Neighborhood Historic District comprises a wide range of building types and periods, ranging from houses to religious, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings that were the center of Jackson's African-American community, with a Period of Significance from c.1890 to c.1930. The resources in the Southwest Midtown district are largely residential, but with significant religious and educational buildings as the largest anchors. While both the Southwest Midtown and Farish Street districts contain commercial and residential, Southwest Midtown's commercial resources are significantly smaller and are scattered compared to the cohesive blocks of Farish Street businesses which served as the commercial core for Jackson's African-American community.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

9. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 35

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 32.190086 | Longitude: 90.112163 |
| 2. Latitude: 32.190093 | Longitude: 90.112053 |
| 3. Latitude: 32.185958 | Longitude: 90.112081 |
| 4. Latitude: 32.185937 | Longitude: 90.111611 |
| 5. Latitude: 32.185850 | Longitude: 90.111607 |
| 6. Latitude: 32.185846 | Longitude: 90.111899 |
| 7. Latitude: 32.185701 | Longitude: 90.111894 |

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- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
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| 10.Latitude: 32.185460 | Longitude:90.111105 |
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| 21.Latitude: 32.184628 | Longitude: 90.111307 |
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| 24.Latitude: 32.184714 | Longitude: 90.111551 |
| 25.Latitude: 32.184626 | Longitude: 90.111556 |
| 26.Latitude: 32.184631 | Longitude: 90.111629 |
| 27.Latitude: 32.184721 | Longitude: 90.111625 |
| 28.Latitude: 32.184723 | Longitude: 90.112232 |
| 29.Latitude: 32.184626 | Longitude: 90.112239 |

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31.Latitude: 32.184447	Longitude: 90.112364
32.Latitude: 32.184440	Longitude: 90.112570
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34.Latitude: 32.185778	Longitude: 90.112563
35.Latitude: 32.180428	Longitude: 90.112556
36.Latitude: 32.180432	Longitude: 90.112528
37.Latitude: 32.185805	Longitude: 90.112536
38.Latitude: 32.185757	Longitude: 90.112256

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the Southwest Midtown Historic District is shown on the accompanying map entitled 'Southwest Midtown Historic District.'

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the resources in the Southwest Midtown Historic District which best illustrate the development of the Jackson neighborhood of Midtown during the early 20th century. The district also centers on the places associated with the African-American struggle for Civil Rights related to Education and Religion.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jeff R. Rosenberg
organization: Consultant
street & number: 1164 Lafayette Street
city or town: Biloxi state: MS zip code: 39530
e-mail: jeff.r.rosenberg@gmail.com
telephone: (401).440.4491
date: June 28, 2019

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Name of Property

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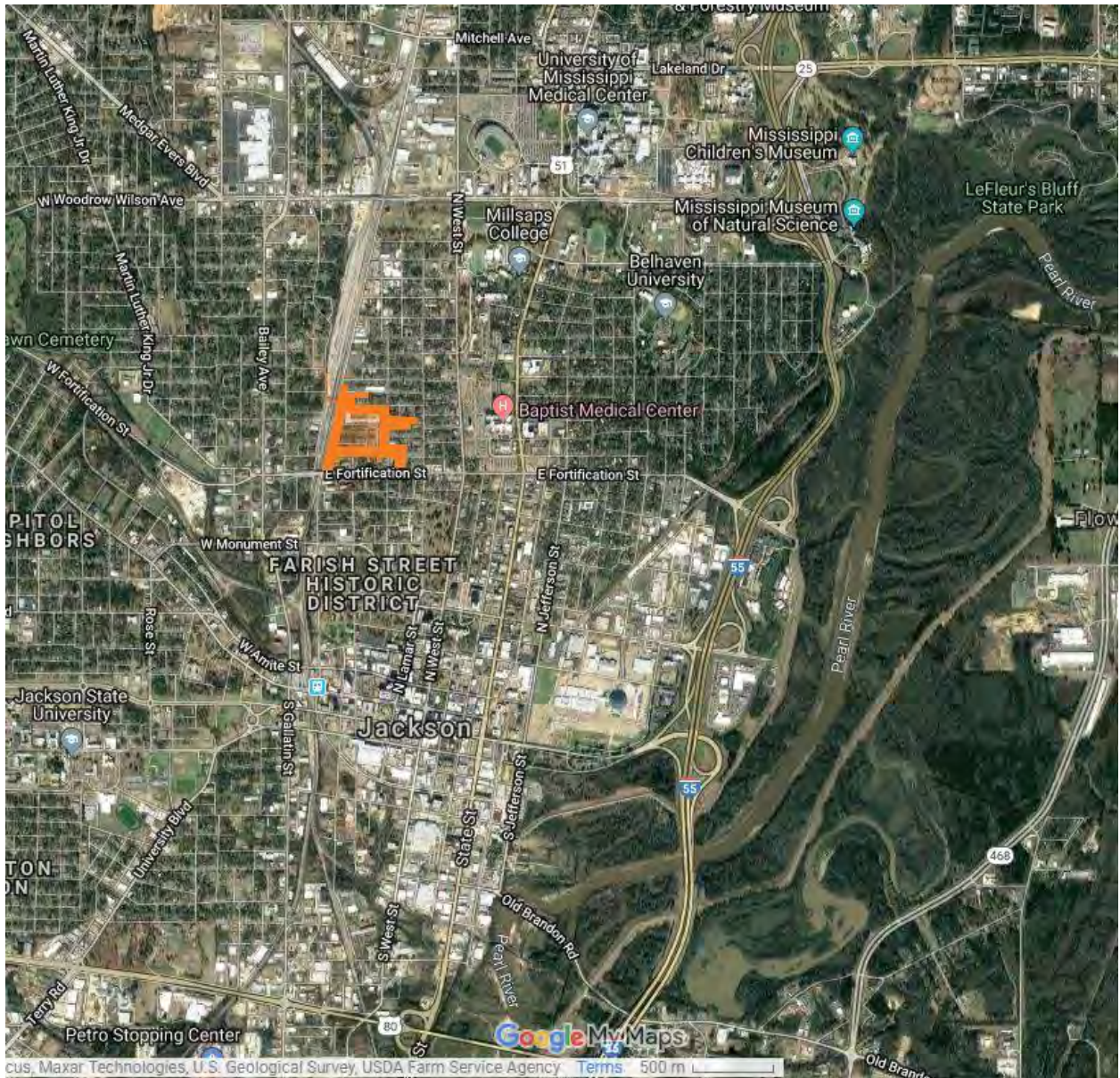
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:



Southwest Midtown Historic District
Name of Property

Hinds, MS
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- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Southwest Midtown Historic District
Name of Property

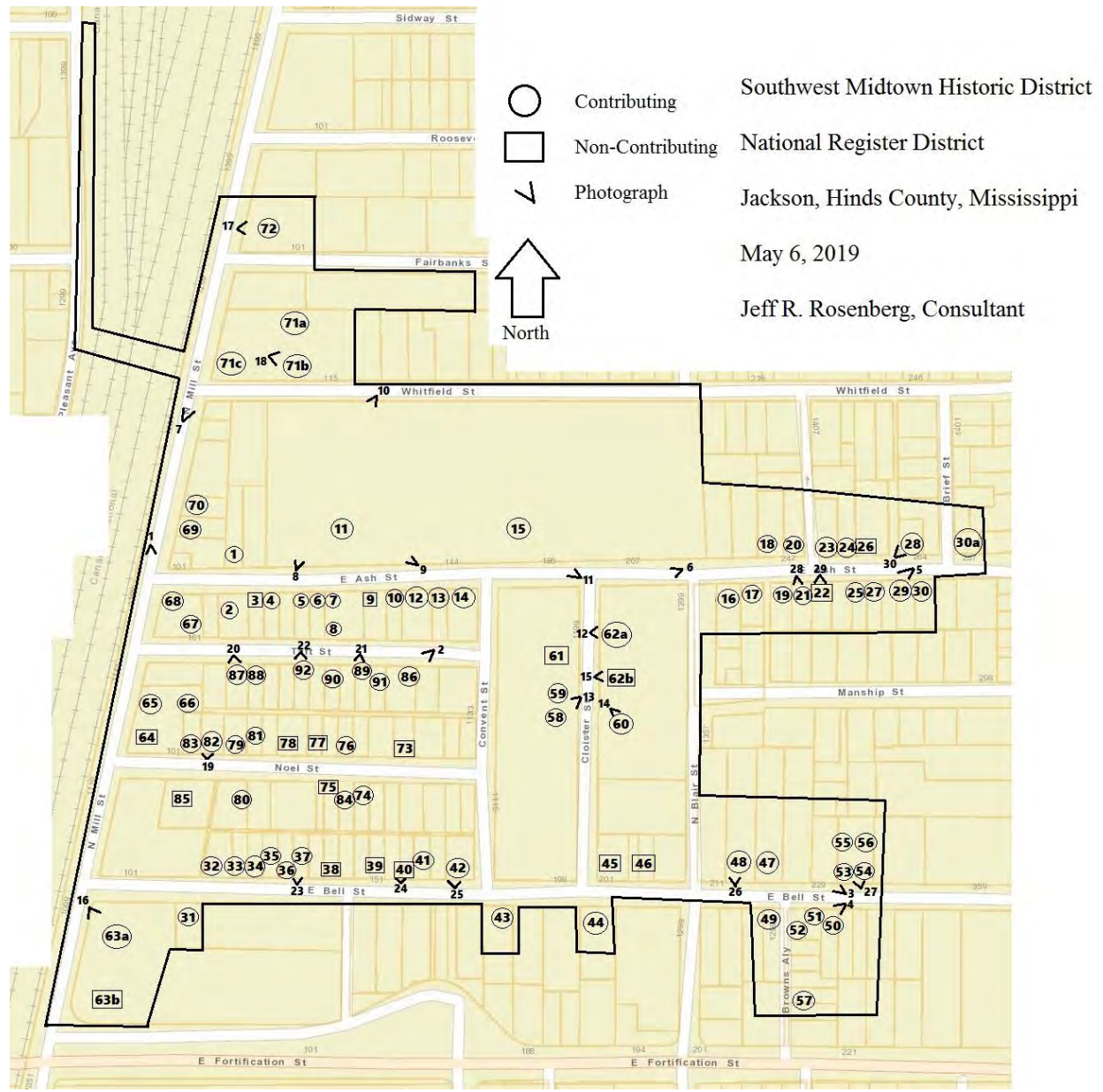
Hinds, MS
County and State



- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Southwest Midtown Historic District
 Name of Property

Hinds, MS
 County and State



- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Southwest Midtown Historic District
Name of Property

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County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Southwest Midtown Historic District

City or Vicinity: Jackson

County: Hinds

State: MS

Photographer: Jeff R. Rosenberg

Date Photographed: December 16-17, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 30. N. Mill Street. Camera facing south from 1200 block of N. Mill St.
- 2 of 30. Taft Street. Camera facing southwest from 200 block of Taft St.
- 3 of 30. E. Bell Street. Camera facing northwest from 200 block of E. Bell St.
- 4 of 30. E. Bell Street. Camera facing southwest from 200 block of E. Bell St.
- 5 of 30. E. Ash Street. Camera facing southwest from 200 block of E. Ash St.
- 6 of 30. E. Ash Street. Camera facing southwest from 100 block of E. Ash St.
- 7 of 30. N. Mill Street. Camera facing north from 1200 block of N. Mill St.
- 8 of 30. Rowan School, 136 E. Ash Street (Inv. #10). Camera facing northeast from E. Ash St.
- 9 of 30. Rowan School, 136 E. Ash Street (Inv. #10). Camera facing northwest from E. Ash St.
- 10 of 30. Rowan School, 136 E. Ash Street (Inv. #10). Camera facing southwest from Whitfield St.
- 11 of 30. Rowan School, 136 E. Ash Street (Inv. #10). Camera facing northwest from E. Ash St.
- 12 of 30. Holy Ghost Catholic Church, 1151 Cloister Street (Inv. #58a). Camera facing east from Cloister St.
- 13 of 30. Holy Ghost Convent, 1133 Cloister Street (Inv. #55a). Camera facing southwest from Cloister St.
- 14 of 30. St. Anthony Hall, 1145 Cloister Street (Inv. #56). Camera facing southeast from Cloister St.
- 15 of 30. Holy Ghost Rectory, 1151 Cloister Street (Inv. #58b). Camera facing northeast from Cloister St.

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- 16 of 30. Midtown Community Center, 1030 N. Mill Street (Inv. #59a). Camera facing southeast from N. Mill St.
- 17 of 30. 1326 N. Mill Street (Inv. #68). Camera facing northeast from N. Mill St.
- 18 of 30. Benjamin Brown Park, 1320 N. Mill Street (Inv. #67a). Camera facing northeast from N. Mill St.
- 19 of 30. 130-132 Noel Street (Inv. #78). Camera facing north from Noel St.
- 20 of 30. 215-214 Taft Street (Inv. #83). Camera facing south from Taft St.
- 21 of 30. 225 Taft Street (Inv. #85). Camera facing southwest from Taft St.
- 22 of 30. 235 Taft Street (Inv. #88). Camera facing south from Taft St.
- 23 of 30. 142 E. Bell Street (Inv. #37). Camera facing northeast from E. Bell St.
- 24 of 30. 164 E. Bell Street (Inv. #40). Camera facing north from E. Bell St.
- 25 of 30. 176 E. Bell Street (Inv. #42). Camera facing north from E. Bell St.
- 26 of 30. True Light M.B. Church, 224 E. Bell Street (Inv. #48). Camera facing north from E. Bell St.
- 27 of 30. Magnolia Court, 242 E. Bell Street (Inv. # 53a, 53b, 53c). Camera facing northwest from E. Bell St.
- 28 of 30. 239 E. Ash Street (Inv. #20). Camera facing south from E. Ash St.
- 29 of 30. 241 E. Ash Street (Inv. #21). Camera facing south from E. Ash St.
- 30 of 30. 256 E. Ash Street (Inv. #27). Camera facing south from E. Ash St.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.





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CHARLES H. TILLMAN
PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS

CSX

Charles H. Tillman
Pedestrian
Overpass



L.J. ROWAN
MIDDLE SCHOOL

ACCESSIBLE
ENTRANCE

ENTRANCE

ROWAN
Middle School
WILDCATS
READY. SUCCESS STARTS HERE!
606.618.5100



ROWAN
LEAP INTO THE FUTURE



0170



DEVA L. BROWN SCHOOL

146

BROWN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CENTRAL
CALLOWAY

2016 Toyota Foundation STEM Grant Recipient

MODEL SITE



Holy Ghost Catholic Church
1131 Clouston Street



1133
County
Street







own Center



MANR FORTE BKS







FOR RENT
URGENT - NOW

215

214



225



2
3
5





164





FOR
RENT



True Light
M.B. Church
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Services 10:00 am
Worship Services 11:00 am
Worship Services 7:00 pm
Marvin E. Cheeks, Pastor









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DT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Southwest Midtown Historic District

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: MISSISSIPPI, Hinds

Date Received: 8/27/2019 Date of Pending List: 9/18/2019 Date of 16th Day: 10/3/2019 Date of 45th Day: 10/11/2019 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: SG100004504

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 10/4/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Locally significant African American neighborhood, whose period of significance reflects the exceptionally significant efforts by citizens to gain equal accommodation from the city in terms of facilities. Park resources, a community center, and new schools were introduced into the area in the 1960s and 1970s, culminating with the construction of a pedestrian overpass that provided a safe pathway across the railyard..

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Marlin King Jr., director
PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6850 • Fax 601-576-6955
mdah.ms.gov



August 9, 2019

Joy Beasley
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Keeper Beasley:

We are pleased to enclose the nomination form and supporting documents to nominate the following property to the National Register of Historic Places:

Southwest Midtown Historic District, Jackson, Hinds County

The property was approved for nomination by the Mississippi National Register Review Board at its meeting on July 18, 2019

We trust you will find the enclosed materials in order and will let us hear from you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Bridgforth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie Blount
State Historic Preservation Officer

By: James Bridgforth
Architectural Historian