

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

P

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89000171
Walker-Critz House
Property Name

Date Listed: 03/22/89
Oktibbeha MS
County State

N/A
Multiple Name

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.

Amy Schlager
Signature of the Keeper

March 22, 1989
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Period of significance should be limited to 1876, the date of construction for this property.

Discussed and concurred in by Mississippi SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FEB 07 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Walker/Critz House
other names/site number Van Cleve House

2. Location

street & number 414 Chapin St. N/A not for publication
city, town Starkville N/A vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Oktibbeha code 105 zip code 39759

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>N/A</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Verneth H. P. Pool February 2, 1989
Signature of certifying official Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Mississippi
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Amy Sealager 3/22/89

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification**(enter categories from instructions)**Late Victorian

Other: I-House

Materials (enter categories from instructions)foundation brick

walls frame/weatherboard

roof composition shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Walker/Critz House is a two story, I-frame residence with one story wing additions and a wide, central, enclosed hall at the rear. The house sits on a knoll, facing east, on the eastern edge of Starkville, MS. The remains of a lane of oak trees survive between the house and Old West Point Road. The sites of former buildings and structures associated with the late 19th century urban farmstead -- a dairy barn, a kitchen, a schoolhouse, a cold frame -- have largely disappeared under neighboring commercial and residential development. (See attachment # 1, site map.)

The facade is five bays. Centered single leaf doors on both levels are surrounded by sidelights and transom lights within milled frames. Lights on the main entry surround are red flashed glass. The entry is defined by a two story portico, a historically-based replacement for a mid-20th century attempt at "Tara-ization." The replacement is designed around cutwork elements remaining on the upper section of the portico and on chamfered porch posts and cutwork baluster pieces found under the house. (See Photos # 1 and 2.) I-House forms with similar porticoes are relatively rare, but extant, in northeastern Mississippi, according to Richard Cawthon, MDAH Chief Architectural Historian. A photocopy of a 19th century photograph of the White/Westbrook House in West Point, MS, attached as an example. (See attachment # 2.)

Original features remaining in and on the house include: 6/6 double hung windows in frames with pedimented surrounds (Photo # 8), simple wood mantles with chamfered corners, coal grates, and evidence of graining and faux marble (photo #7); milled woodwork; and a surviving set of mahogany-grained, arched folding doors between the parlor and the dining room. (Photos # 4,5) Remnants of graining on some of the mantles and millwork show that interior detail has been lost through mishandling. Plans have been made to restore graining and marbling where evidence of it is found. (Photo # 6)

Physical evidence indicates that the original building consisted of the two story section and the one story wing that now houses the dining room and kitchen. (Photo # 8) The northern wing was apparently an outbuilding which was moved up and attached to the house. Board and batten siding was found on interior walls facing the wide rear hallway and on what used to be a narrow cross hall.

Mrs. Adele Critz Magruder, born in the house in 1895, remembers that when she left at about age 11, the northern one story wing was attached, but the space that now serves as a rear central hall had not been enclosed, and was used as a porch.

Changes made to the house within the last year include the removal of a badly-built northern bathroom addition, the rebuilding and enlargement of a northern screened porch, and the reconstruction of the portico. Exterior end chimneys, removed sometime in the early 1980s, will eventually be replaced. A dangerously unstable interior chimney between the dining room and kitchen collapsed during the recent renovation and will not be replaced.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1876-1911

Significant Dates
1876

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Walker/Critz House is significant as a rare example of the I-House form in northeast Mississippi and as an early post-bellum home surviving in Starkville, MS.

The house was built as the center of an urban homestead by the Abram Walker family about 1876, when Martha A. Walker purchased the land from T. G. Sellers, the local Baptist minister. (Okt. Cty. Deed Book 24, P. 419) Martha was the wife of Abram Walker, a planter and early land speculator in Oktibbeha County. Census records indicate that Abram suffered severe financial losses between 1860 and 1870 -- Martha had to pay a \$6,750.00 promissory note in 1875 to hold onto the land Abram had amassed and the ante-bellum house they had built in the southern part of the county. (Okt. Cty. Deed Book 24, pp. 285-286)

No family records survive to explain the Walkers' move into Starkville -- the younger children were 18 and 20 at the time, past schooling age, but Abram, at 67, may have been unable to manage what remained of his plantation. (U.S. Census Records, 1860-70) Martha Walker died in November of 1880, about three months after her youngest child, Adele, married John White Critz, a Starkville hardware merchant. Adele paid her brother, Rives, \$5,000 for the house and town property in 1882, after her father died. (Okt. Cty. Deed Book 43, p. 373) At least five of the Critz's six children were probably born in the house. The youngest child, Adele Critz Magruder, remembers the house as of about 1906, when the family moved to Main Street. John White Critz died in 1896, but by 1906, all of the children but Adele, 11, would have been 18 or older and probably away from home. In 1911, the house and grounds were bought by John M. White, a farmer, who ran the dairy on the property and farmlands outside the city limits until his death in 1937. His family subdivided the land over the years until 1983, when only the house, on its present lot, was left. (White interview) White Street and Critz Street in Starkville were named for the two families. Critz Street formed the northern boundary of the homestead during the Walker and Critz eras.

The I-house was a widespread house form throughout Mississippi in the mid-nineteenth century, although surviving examples which retain a substantial degree of integrity have become relatively rare. Porticos or two-story gabled porches (as on this house) are more typical of the I-house of northern Mississippi, while single or double-story full-width galleries are more characteristic of the southern part of the State.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Magruder, Adele Critz, daughter of Adele Walker and John White Critz. Interviewed in Starkville by John Van Cleve, homeowner, on July 4, 1988.
Mississippi Collection, Mitchell Memorial Library, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS. Critz Family Papers, 1955-1962, Box #2, #183.
Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books 24, 43, 123, Oktibbeha County Courthouse, Starkville, MS.
Starkville. Oktibbeha County Geneological Society members. Mississippi Collection, Mitchell Memorial Library, Mississippi State University. Cemetery Records of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, April, 1969.
United States, Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, 1850, 1860 1870.
Williams, Adele Smith, niece of Adele Critz Magruder. Interviewed by telephone, by Joan Embree, preservation consultant, Sept. 19, 1988.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	6	3	3	1	9	8	0	3	7	0	4	3	2	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D

Zone		Easting						Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

All of Lot 17, Lot 17-P, and Lot 4-A of Block 24 as shown on the Official Michael Baker Map adopted in 1974 by the City of Starkville, MS.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are established to take in the house and its immediate grounds -- all that remains of the original urban farmstead established by the Abram Walker family.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Embree
organization Preservation Consultant date Dec. 10, 1988
street & number 20 Lake Valley Road telephone (601) 324-0410
city or town Starkville state MS zip code 39759

Owners: John and Judith Van Cleve, 414 Chapin St., Starkville, MS 39759

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Walker/Critz House, Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi

Section number 8,9 **Page** 2

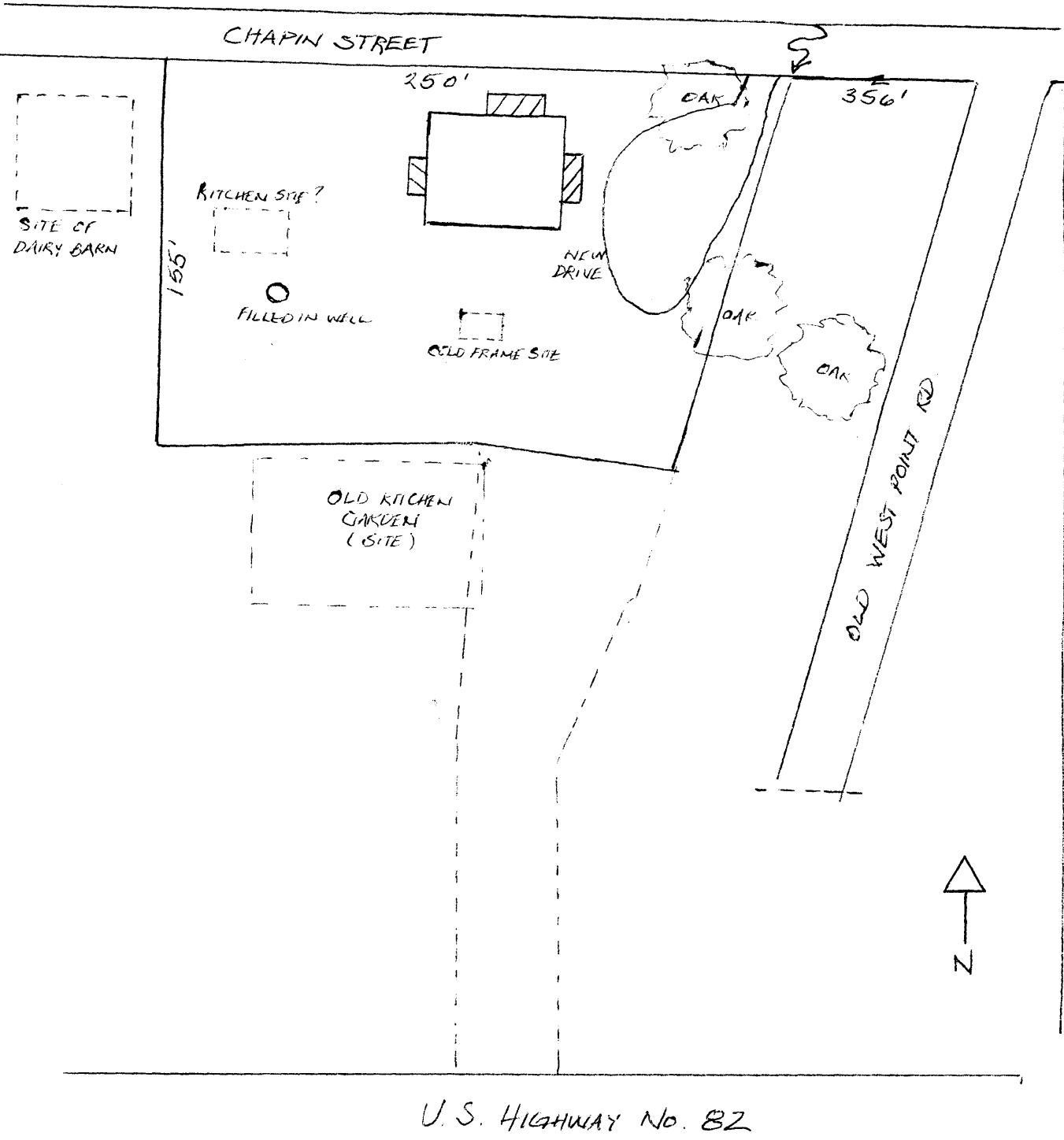
8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Features which are significant (and, in Starkville, rare) survivors from the early post-bellum housebuilding arts include: old glass panes; heart pine floors; wooden mantles with chamfered facings, cast iron grates, milled moldings, and evidence of graining or marbling; and grained doors -- the most spectacular of which are the hinged, paired, folding doors that fit in the segmentally-arched opening between the parlor and the dining room. Exterior features are the pedimented hoods over window and door openings, original weatherboarding, and portions of original cutwork.

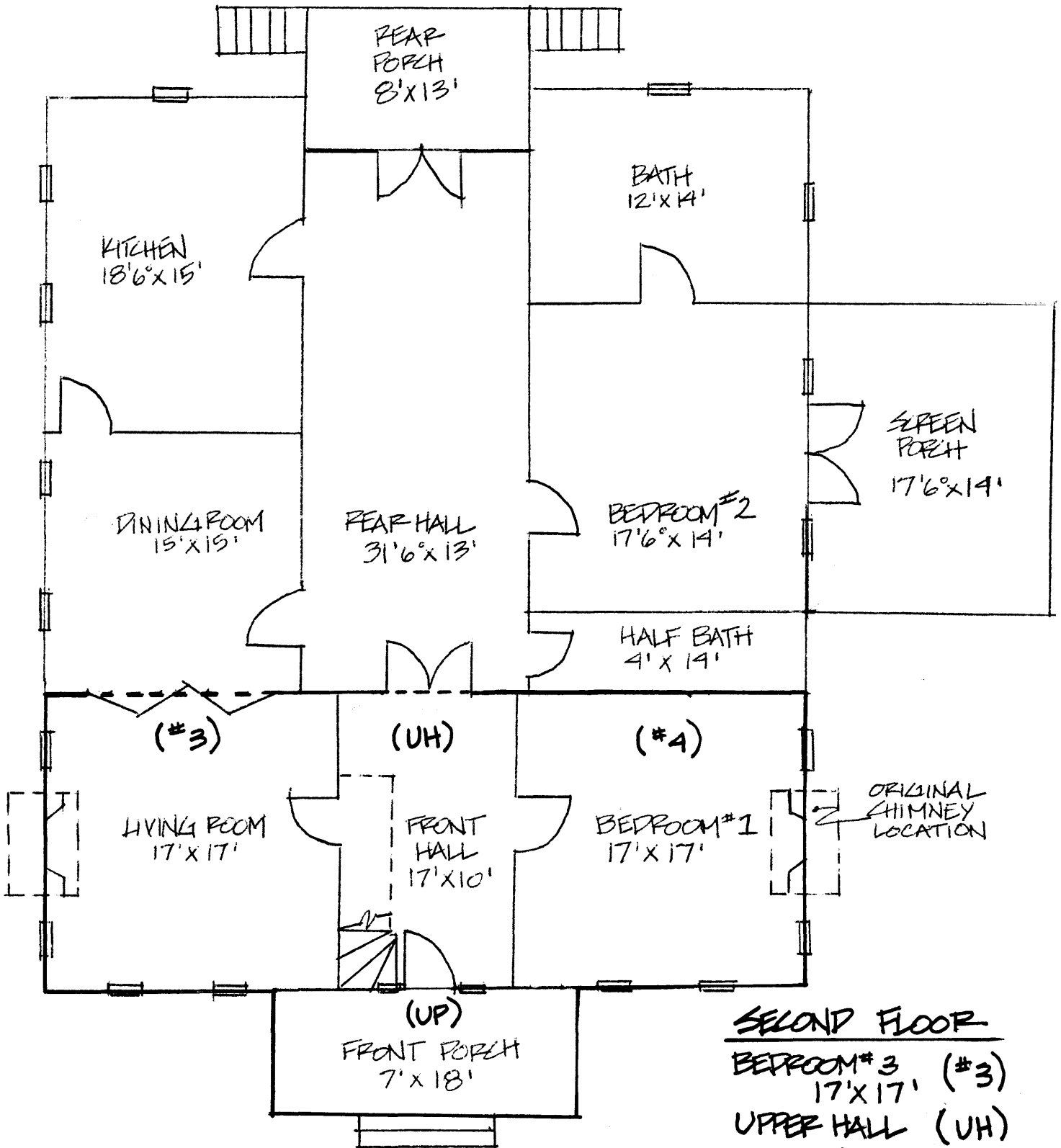
9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

White, William, son of John M. White. Interviewed by telephone by Joan Embree, preservation consultant, Nov. 21, 1988.

WALKER/CRITZ HOUSE
414 CHAPIN
STARKVILLE, MS 39759



WALKER-CRITZ HOUSE
 414 CHAFIN STREET
 STARBUVILLE, MS



SECOND FLOOR

- BEDROOM #3 (#3)
17'x17'
- UPPER HALL (UH)
17'x10'
- BEDROOM #4 (#4)
17'x17'
- UPPER PORCH (UP)
7'x18'

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Walker/Critz House, Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi
Section number Photos Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) Walker/Critz House
- (2) Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi
- (3) Joan Embree
- (4) November, 1988
- (6) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1 -- View of front (east) elevation, view to west

Photo 2 -- Front (east) entry/portico detail, view to west

Photo 3 -- Front door (interior) and sidelights, view to east

Photo 4 -- Grained folding doors, view to west

Photo 5 -- Grained doors and archway, view into living room, to east

Photo 6 -- Close-up of mahogany graining on bathroom door, view to south

Photo 7 -- View toward mantle in dining room, view to west

Photo 8 -- Original one and two story sections, pedimented window hoods,
view to north