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National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. 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. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi (Part I: Architectural Resources)

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Historic Development of Vicksburg, 1825-1940

C. Geographical Data

Corporate limits of Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

See continuation sheet

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Kenneth H. P. Pool

JUNE 12, 1992

Signature of certifying official

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Mal M. [Signature]

7/30/92

Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

Date

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 1

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

INTRODUCTION AND ORGANIZATION

The multiple property nomination for Vicksburg, Mississippi, is organized with relation to the historical development of the town from 1825 to 1940 and in reference to four property types: residential resources, commercial resources, public/governmental resources, and religious resources.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Vicksburg, Mississippi, the county seat of Warren County, is the seventh largest city in Mississippi with a population of 35,000 (1990 estimated). Vicksburg is located in the central part of the state on the Mississippi River, which forms the boundary between Mississippi and Louisiana. Two United States highways intersect in Warren County: U.S. 80, running east and west, and U.S. 61, which runs north and south. Interstate Highway 20 connecting the east coast with the west coast intersects with U.S. Highway 61. The only four lane interstate bridge between Memphis, Tennessee, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, crosses the Mississippi River at Vicksburg. MidSouth Rail Corporation serves Vicksburg with a mainline from Meridian to Shreveport. Vicksburg has the only rail crossing on the Mississippi River between Memphis and Baton Rouge.

Vicksburg is situated on loess bluffs high above the Mississippi River, which makes its topography steep hills and valleys. This topography has to some degree shaped the nature of the built environment by dictating where certain types of housing were constructed. The more prominent residences were constructed on the rises while the lower income dwellings were relegated to the valleys, which were more prone to flood.

EARLY EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

In February 1682 the French arrived in the vicinity of Vicksburg under the leadership of De La Salle. He came down the river from France's northern possessions and laid claim to the whole region on both sides of the Mississippi from its source to the mouth, naming it Louisiana in honor of Louis XIV. He also named the river St. Louis although the Indians had already named it Mitch-isipi, meaning great river.

In 1698 three Jesuit priests established Fort St. Pierre, which was the first white settlement in the Vicksburg area. The priests concentrated their efforts on converting the Tunica Indians which was the largest tribe of Indians (2,450) in the area at the time. The Indians were friendly until the priests destroyed their idols, and the mission was abandoned in 1706. In 1719 the French established a garrison at Fort St. Pierre, which reached its zenith of 290 people in 1722. The Fort was destroyed in December 1729 by Yazoo Indians.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 2

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

The French held the lower Mississippi valley for eighty years until it lost all possessions in North America in 1763 by the Treaty of Paris, and this area became the possession of Great Britain. Spain established Fort Nogales in 1790 in the area, and a small settlement called Walnut Hills developed around the fort by settlers who came here because of land grants offered by the King of England. The Spanish left Fort Nogales in 1798 after a treaty with the United States and Congress created the territory of Mississippi. In 1809 the Mississippi Territorial Legislature created Warren County, named in honor of Joseph Warren, a soldier of the American Revolution who was killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

VICKSBURG BECOMES A TOWN

Reverend Newit Vick, a Methodist minister, came to Walnut Hills in 1812 with his family, having purchased a tract of land from the Federal government. He laid out the town of Vicksburg in the area bounded by First East Street on the north, First North Street on the east, South Street on the south, and the Mississippi River on the west. Vick died of yellow fever in 1819 and his son-in-law, John Lane, carried out his plans for the town. Lane laid out nine square blocks and began to sell lots to pay off Vick's debts. In 1824 Joseph Templeton surveyed this area called Vicksburg Proper. The squares contained two acres, except the squares on the eastern boundary that were slightly larger. On January 29, 1825, Vicksburg was incorporated under the name of the President and Selectmen of the Town of Vicksburg with an estimated population of 180.

Vicksburg thrived in the following years because of its location on the Mississippi River, and by 1835 its population had grown to 2,500. The increase in population encouraged officials to begin laying railroad track from Vicksburg to Jackson. Horse drawn railroad cars were using part of the track by 1836 and the line, the Clinton and Vicksburg, was completed by 1842. This line is today a part of the Illinois Central Railroad.

The central business district during the early years was located on Main Street until 1839. In this year a fire destroyed nearly all of the buildings from Adams Street to the Mississippi River. Thereafter, Washington Street became the center for trade.

By 1849 the "Official Map of Vicksburg" defined the city limits as bounded on the north by Watkins, Glass or Winn's Bayou; on the east by the east side of 1st North Street, extended north to the Bayou and south to the railroad; on the south by the railroad; and on the west by the Mississippi River. The map noted public buildings and churches in the city as the court house, jail, African M. E. Church, Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church, Methodist Church, Baptist Church, Catholic Church, public school, city hospital, three firehouses, theater, two hotels, and a market house/city hall.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 3

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

By the Civil War, Vicksburg's economy was the most complex and diverse of any city in the state and was second in total manufactured products. Clark's Vicksburg Directory, 1860, noted that the population of Vicksburg was estimated to be 4,500 and that the city boasted huge cotton receipts, grew fine vegetables, supported five churches, a public school with 500 students, several private schools, a new court house, a U.S. Marine Hospital, and a city hospital. In addition, there were two soap factories, a number of carriage and wagon factories, saw mills, a fire department with four companies, two volunteer military companies, three newspapers, and two railroads.

"There are many fine brick and other buildings, such as hotels, commission and produce houses, saloons, and also beautiful dwellings, ornamented with garden shubbery, etc. which placed upon the lofty heights, of our 'City of a hundred hills' make it picturesque and unsurpassed in attractiveness," hailed the editors of the Directory. The editors extended an invitation to "the worthy citizens of other states, who are seeking to build new homes in the 'Sunny South', 'the terraced City of the hill' as ex-president Fillmore felicitously styled it, on the occasion of his southern tour, Vicksburg offers fine inducements for settlement. No cloud of any kind whatsoever, now darkens its horizon, but the sunshine of a prosperous present, and the clear light of a golden future irradiates, and blesses." The editors of the City Directory could not foresee that a cloud did darken Vicksburg's horizon and that the Civil War was just a year away.

THE CIVIL WAR

Vicksburg is perhaps best known for its Civil War history. Heralded as the "Gibraltar of the Confederacy," Vicksburg's location on the Mississippi River made her the key to control of the Mississippi, which was used to transport food, supplies and soldiers. Union forces laid siege to Vicksburg on May 18, 1863, and continued to bombard the city until the Confederate forces surrendered on July 4, 1863.

The siege took its toll on the buildings in the city, many of which were destroyed by the shelling or were damaged and later demolished. In one instance, the Union forces occupying Vicksburg following the surrender dismantled "the Castle", a stone residence built by an Englishman in the 1850s on the top of Castle Hill overlooking the river. Other residences that have survived to the present bear reminders of the war with cannon balls lodged in floors, walls and rafters. A form of residence created during the siege was the adaption of caves in the bluffs and in some cases the excavation of caves in the soft loess soil of the bluffs when natural caves could not be secured. These caves were sealed by the occupying Union forces following the siege as it was feared that they bred diseases. This battlefield is today preserved as the Vicksburg National Military Park, which includes 1900 acres and sixteen miles of roads.

RECONSTRUCTION

Reconstruction was a trying period for the City, as it was for the entire South. Civic progress was slow. The city/county debt had risen from \$13,000 in 1869 to \$1,400,000 in 1874 due to the corruption of government officials. By 1874 the populace of Vicksburg was rallied to action, as evidenced by an editorial in the Vicksburg Herald on July 4th that proclaimed "the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 4

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

intelligence of the community can no longer afford to be ruled by ignorance." This awakening helped the People's Party win the August 4th election to which the Herald reported "to God be the praise, we met the enemy and the hordes of ignorance and vice were overpowered" (Vicksburg Evening Post, 1963). The election did not solve problems for long and Federal troops were dispatched by President U.S. Grant to quell rioting in the city in December. Despite these problems, Vicksburg was the largest city in the state by 1870, an honor it would hold until the 1910 census when it fell to third place behind Jackson and Meridian.

GROWTH PERIOD- 1880-1910

In the period from 1880 to 1910 Vicksburg experienced tremendous growth. It was the heyday of the steamboat, the completion of railroad construction, and the establishment of a comprehensive local streetcar system. With the completion of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad in 1884, plantation trade along the river began to shift from New Orleans to Vicksburg. Not only were supplies bought in Vicksburg, but cotton from river points began to move in large volume to Vicksburg (Vicksburg Evening Post, 1963). It was stated in In and About Vicksburg that "since the construction of the Louisville, New Orleans and Texas Railway the growth and development of the city has been phenominally great. A steady advance in real estate has set in and being based on no fictitious 'boom' but on the laws of supply and demand, shows no sign of cessation."

The railroad industry further enhanced the development of Vicksburg when about 1885 the Louisville, New Orleans, and Texas Railroad offered to locate its principal shops in Vicksburg in consideration of \$100,000 in city bonds and the grant of certain tracts of land. The bonds were issued, and the railroad built shops from Depot Street to Fairgrounds Street and became Vicksburg's largest employer with upwards of 500 people (Picturesque Vicksburg, p.19). The railroad industry grew, and by 1903 twenty-two passenger trains, plus freight trains, pulled into or out of Vicksburg each day. This activity equalled a growth in population that meant a demand for houses.

Commercial and Historic Vicksburg, published in 1907, reported that "two new houses have been built in the city every three days for five years." Many of these homes were being constructed along the path of the street cars that began in the late 1880s as horse-drawn cars and were later electrified in 1899. The street car, with 10-13 miles of track, made it possible to live in the "suburbs" that developed along South Drummond Street, South Washington Street, and the area east of 1st North Street.

One of these suburbs was developed in 1881 when Lonewood Plantation, located at the corner of Drummond and Speed Streets, was purchased by Judge Frederic Speed and Thomas R. Foster and divided into lots of approximately 50' x 150' and sold for about \$600. During the planning of the subdivision, Foster was serving in the state legislature and secured a municipal charter for the area (containing about 210 acres). The City of Vicksburg attempted to annex the area but failed, and Speed's Addition became a town. Mr. Foster stated that Judge Speed wanted to name the village Fostoria, but Foster insisted that it be named after Judge Speed. According to Foster one day he suggested that a 50-cent piece be flipped to determine which of the two partners would select the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number E Page 5

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

name. Foster won the toss and picked the name Speed. The partners graded the streets for a number of years, but in 1905 when the City of Vicksburg promised to give the citizens light and water and other municipal conveniences, the town of Speed's Addition gave up its charter and permitted annexation.

An advertisement in Commercial and Historic Vicksburg by the Vicksburg Wharf and Land Co. stated that the company owned a "splendid plateau nearly a mile long on Washington Street which furnishes an admirable location for those desiring to build homes. The City has lately been growing and Washington Street and the street railway will soon be extended to this property." This area experienced tremendous growth in the first two decades of the century, with the majority of residences being constructed as bungalows.

Adding to the boom period at the turn-of-the-century was the restoration of a harbor at Vicksburg in 1903 with the completion of the Yazoo Diversion Canal. This project undertaken by the United States Army Corps of Engineers became necessary when the Mississippi River cut itself off from Vicksburg in 1876.

The growth during this period significantly changed the skyline of Vicksburg. Many of the large two-story Greek Revival residences that once dotted the downtown area were replaced with commercial and governmental buildings. Sky Parlor Hill, from whose lofty heights many had watched the bombardment of Vicksburg, was leveled to erect the Federal Building in 1894.

Cotton played a significant role in the development of Vicksburg, especially from the 1880s to the turn-of-the-century. Vicksburg was located in the center of the most productive cotton-growing region of the country and was renowned for the quality of its cotton. Cotton producers and manufacturers and their representatives, factors and brokers, benefited from the heyday of cotton and built large homes in the popular styles of the day. Many of the homes on Chambers Street were constructed with "cotton money."

In the later years of the nineteenth century Vicksburg was among the most progressive of Mississippi cities. By 1884 Vicksburg had the first telephone exchange (Southern Telephone) in the state. Other amenities came in this period: electricity (1886); waterworks (1886); and gravel roads (1885). Two large hotels were constructed: the New Pacific House (1893) and the Carroll (1890), about which Commercial and Historic Vicksburg heralded that "probably in the entire Southland there is not a hotel that has a wider popularity among the travelling public than the Carroll." The Federal government constructed a post office and customs house in 1894 and set up the Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899. By 1903 city officials had constructed a new city hall on the corner of Walnut and Crawford Streets in the newest style of the period. The county followed in 1906 with a new jail built on the location of the antebellum jail and reportedly with some of the same bricks. In 1906 First National Bank completed its Neoclassical building, which was at the time the tallest building in Mississippi. The Civic League, with the financial backing of the Carnegie Foundation, constructed a new library in 1916, designed by New York architect Edward L. Tilton.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 6

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

VICKSBURG- 1910 TO THE PRESENT

In the decades following 1910, Vicksburg began to lose its place of importance in the state. The era of the steamboat was over, and Jackson had secured its place as the commercial center of the state. Vicksburg's population had increased from 20,814 in 1910 to only 22,493 in 1930 and fifty years later in 1980 was only 25,478, while Meridian's population increased from 14,050 in 1910 to 31,954 in 1930 and 46,577 in 1980.

The built environment of Vicksburg has been affected by natural disasters as well as by growth periods of the city. Many of the earliest residential and commercial buildings were of frame construction and have not survived. This is evidenced by records of a fire in 1839 that destroyed the commercial center of the city then located on Main Street between Adams Street and the river. Following the fire the commercial center moved to Washington Street where it remains today. Four other large fires in 1846, 1885, 1910, and 1939 destroyed blocks of commercial buildings in the downtown area. Smaller fires have destroyed important residential and religious buildings as well.

On December 5, 1953, nature again destroyed historic sections of the city when a tornado etched a path of destruction from the riverfront diagonally through the heart of the central business district, then hit its final punch on sections of Farmer and Adams Streets and adjacent streets in the northeast sector. Four blocks along Washington Street from Veto to China were damaged or destroyed as were other buildings on the connecting streets along its path. Many historic buildings, while not destroyed, were later razed for fear of structural damage and eventual collapse.

A shift in population from the city to the county in the 1960s and 1970s lead to the development of outlying shopping areas and to a decrease in the commercial activity in the central business district. As a result, a number of downtown retail and commercial buildings were virtually abandoned and many others began to suffer from neglect. With the availability of Federal funds in the late 1960s and 1970s, city officials proposed an Urban Renewal Project to rid the city of "the blighting influence of a number of deteriorating and delapidated buildings" by razing nearly every structure between Mulberry and Levee Streets, every building in the 1000 block of Washington Street, every building on the west side of the 900 block of Washington Street, and buildings in the 1500 block of Washington Street. Selected buildings on other blocks, such as the Washington Hotel (c. 1849) and the Piazza-Botto Building (c. 1898) were also destroyed. At this time Federal money was also available to business owners who wanted to "renovate" their buildings. A false appearance was created in the downtown area with insensitive reworkings of the facades of these buildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number E Page 7

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

In more recent years other downtown landmarks have been lost, including the Jewish Synagogue (c.1869) demolished in 1983, the Joy Theater (c. 1946) demolished in 1988 for a parking lot, the Birchett Home (c. 1865) demolished in 1968 for a parking lot, the Sam Brown Home (c. 1900) was demolished in the 1970s for a commercial building, the Carroll Hotel (c. 1893) was demolished in 1967 for a parking lot, the New Piazza Hotel (c. 1890) was demolished in the 1970s during Urban Renewal, and the Vick-Marshall Home (c. 1840) was demolished in 1963 for a grocery store and parking lot.

The history of Vicksburg can be traced through the surviving pieces of its historic built environment. Examples of residential, commercial, religious and governmental/public buildings from all periods of Vicksburg's history remain. A survey of Vicksburg's buildings shows that the majority of the building stock is of the styles that were prevalent throughout the nation during Vicksburg's boom period from 1880-1910. The survey also reveals that examples of all major architectural styles of residential architecture beginning with Greek Revival and ending with Art Deco occur in Vicksburg, with the exception of the Second Empire style. While at least one example of Second Empire is known to have been built, none have survived.

Many of Vicksburg's premiere examples of commercial architecture have been lost. However, examples from all periods remain to yield an insight into the historic streetscape. Vicksburg's governmental/public buildings are a textbook lesson in stylistic change over a one hundred-year period. The old Warren County Court House is one of the best examples of the Greek Revival style in Mississippi, while its replacement, the new court house, is said to be one of the state's best Art Deco buildings. Vicksburg also boasts impressive examples of religious buildings constructed in the Gothic Revival, Romanesque Revival, and Neoclassical styles.

RELATED PROPERTY TYPES

All resources can be interpreted in the context of the historical development of Vicksburg, 1825-1940. Related property types are residential, commercial, public/governmental, and resources associated with religious life.

The variety of residential forms in Vicksburg presents a continuum of architectural forms from c. 1825 to 1940 and can be used to describe the changing way of life through the history of the city. Significant residential buildings in Vicksburg range from the modest cottage to the elegant manor house and are representative of all periods of Vicksburg's history and of all socio-economic groups.

The Greek Revival style was clearly the most dominant residential style from the early beginnings of Vicksburg in the 1830s to the Civil War. Early photographs illustrate the importance of this style. The downtown landscape was covered with one and two story frame or brick Greek Revival residences with two tiered porticos or two-tiered full length front galleries. The majority of these buildings were destroyed during the Civil War or were replaced with commercial buildings during the boom period. Many that survived this period were lost in the 1960s and 1970s because of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 8

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

need for parking lots in the downtown area. This preponderance and subsequent widespread destruction make the extant examples of the Greek Revival Style especially significant. Because of the importance of the Greek Revival style to Vicksburg, it is imperative to preserve those examples that survive; therefore, a greater degree of alteration can be tolerated for National Register eligibility than for other architectural styles.

In Mississippi, Vicksburg was the city where the Italianate style was most widely and diversely employed (Miller, 1981). Early examples of the influence of the Italianate style are found following the Civil War, with the majority of these buildings being built in the late 1870s and 1880s. The Italianate influence is also found on the galleried cottage and the galleried townhouse, both of which appear more frequently in Vicksburg than in any other Mississippi town (Miller, 1981).

An architectural feature that appears in this period and in Vicksburg in greater occurrence than in any other city in Mississippi is the "Vicksburg pierced column." This feature is generally associated with the Italianate style, but is also widely seen on modest vernacular buildings. The "pierced column" is found in nine designs, but all are comprised of the same elements: a simple capital, two 2"x 4" studs for main support, applied molding (usually quarter-round molding), a jigsaw design for the middle of the column, cross members, a simple undecorated base. A survey conducted in 1987 recorded fifty buildings in Vicksburg with pierced columns. These buildings are galleried cottages, galleried townhouses, and shotgun houses. Houses with pierced columns appear in Natchez, Mississippi; New Orleans, Louisiana; Pensacola, Florida; and elsewhere. However, they do not appear in these cities in concentration as they do in Vicksburg.

The Queen Anne style greatly influenced residential design from the 1880s to as late as 1905 as evidenced by an elevation drawn in 1905 by Vicksburg architect M.J. Donovan of a Queen Anne style cottage with a spindle frieze and jigsaw ornamentation. Many of the areas that developed just outside of the central business district are lined with a common vernacular adaptation of the Queen Anne style: a one-story cottage with a hip roof and a three-sided projecting room to the front covered by a gable roof with a porch to the side.

Because of the great amount of wealth found in Vicksburg during the boom period 1880 to 1910, large residences of the affluent were constructed in the styles most popular in the nation at the time, including Romanesque Revival, Shingle, Stick, Tudor Revival and later Colonial Revival, Mission Revival, Spanish Revival, Italian Renaissance, Prairie and Neoclassical. The Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival styles continued to be popular into the 1930s and 1940s. Many of the middle class homes were influenced by the Craftsman/Bungalow and the American Foursquare.

The shotgun form, while considered by many to be unimportant in the architectural history of Vicksburg, is a significant building type in the city's built environment. Historically, shotgun residences have housed slaves and the working class of Vicksburg from 1825 to the present. Architecturally, Vicksburg's shotguns have the same basic form with ornament influenced by the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 9

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

most popular style of the period in which the shotgun was constructed. Shotgun buildings add significantly to the architectural character of the streetscape of nearly every neighborhood developed before 1900. They are found adjoining antebellum mansions as well as in lower income areas.

The Bird's Eye View of the City of Vicksburg (1871) shows shotgun-type residences dotting the city. Sanborn Insurance maps of 1902, 1907, 1913, and 1925 attest to the abundance of shotgun houses in Vicksburg during the early 20th century. Shotgun houses are generally associated with Blacks in that they were housing for slaves and later servants and other low income residents.

Vicksburg's extant commercial buildings range from the earliest beginnings of Vicksburg through the era when this city had the largest population in the state of Mississippi (at the turn of the century). Vicksburg has lost nearly one-half of its historic commercial buildings, which makes those remaining highly significant to the architectural integrity of the city.

The earliest public buildings in Vicksburg were of frame construction and were replaced with more substantial brick buildings as the town progressed. The earliest existing building is the (Old) Warren County Court House built in 1858, while the majority of the surviving public buildings were constructed during Vicksburg's boom period from 1880 to 1910 and on into the 1920s and 1930s. These public/governmental buildings are significant because they are some of the best examples of architectural styles that were employed in Vicksburg. Architectural styles represented are Romanesque Revival, Mission Revival, Neoclassical, Art Deco, and Victorian Eclectic.

Religious architecture from the earliest beginnings of Vicksburg to 1940 remain in the city. Vicksburg's religious buildings were greatly influenced, as were religious buildings in most other communities in the nation, by the Gothic style. This style was used to design Vicksburg's earliest surviving church, Christ Episcopal, and was used as late as 1925 in the Crawford Street Methodist Church. The Romanesque Revival style, previously discussed with regard to residential and public/governmental buildings, also played a significant role in influencing religious buildings.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

It is noted that the scope of this context document is related specifically to the architectural development of the city. It is possible that additional contextual statements will be prepared to address the roles of ethnic minorities in the historical development of Vicksburg, as well as other topics.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 1

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

I. Name of Property Type: Residential Buildings

II. Description

Residential buildings in Vicksburg reflect a variety of architectural forms from the early settlement of 1825 to 1940. Examples from all socio-economic groups have survived yielding residences of varying sizes, materials, styles and forms.

Greek Revival style residential buildings, clearly the most dominant residential style in early Vicksburg (see Section E, page 7), generally have one of two basic forms categorized by the number of stories: one-story and two-story. The one-story Greek Revival residence is generally constructed of brick, but frame examples also exist. The gable roof is occasionally capped on the gable ends by a parapet wall that incorporates the flues. There are generally five bays: four containing double-hung sash with six-over-six or floor-length six-over-nine lights and a central bay containing a single-leaf paneled door with sidelights and a transom. The entry is usually flanked by pilasters supporting an entablature. Porches vary from a full-length front gallery supported by columns of a Greek order to a portico covering the entrance. Example: the Martha Vick House, 1300 Grove Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983).

The two-story Greek Revival residence is generally constructed of brick, but frame examples also exist. The gable roof is occasionally capped on the gable ends by a parapet wall that incorporates the flues. There are generally five bays: four containing double-hung sash with six-over-six or floor-length six-over-nine lights and a central bay containing single- or double-leaf paneled door(s) with sidelights and a transom. The entry is usually flanked by pilasters supporting an entablature. Porches are of three types: a one-story portico, a two-tiered portico, and a two-tiered full-length, front gallery with two-story classical columns. In several examples the entrances are recessed with columns enhancing the opening. Example: Anchuca, 1010 First East Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982). Greek Revival residences are located in Vicksburg Proper. While historic documentation reveals that this style was widely employed in antebellum Vicksburg, very few examples have survived.

The Italianate style was very popular in Vicksburg in the 1870s and 1880s and is found in two types: asymmetrical or ell-shaped and townhouse. The asymmetrical house is a two-story masonry or clapboard building with a gable or hipped roof with a cross gable over the ell or projecting bay. The cornice is bracketed and often has applied moldings or panels. In a number of cases there are cornice returns. Cresting is also occasionally found. There is generally a one-story porch to the side of the ell which is covered by a hip roof supported typically by chamfered posts and completed with a jigsaw balustrade and bracketed cornice. The windows generally have one-over-one or two-over-two, floor-length double-hung sash, and the entrance is usually a single- or double-leaf door with sidelights and transom with elaborate surrounds. Typically a three-part, one-story bay window is found on the front facade of the ell. Example: the Beck House, 1101 South Street (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 2

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

The Italianate townhouse is a two-story, narrow-fronted rectangular building typically constructed of brick with a slate-covered hipped roof. The cornice is bracketed. There are examples without porches and others with a one-story, full-length front porch with a flat or hipped roof supported by chamfered posts and completed with a bracketed cornice and occasional pierced balustrade. The bays are of the same configuration as the asymmetrical type. Example: the Isaac House, Grove Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980).

The Italianate influence is also found on the galleried cottage and the galleried townhouse, both of which appear more frequently in Vicksburg than in any other Mississippi town. The galleried townhouse form is a two-story, narrow-fronted rectangular building with a hipped roof and a two-tiered, full-length front gallery recessed under the main roof. Most examples are wood with clapboard siding, although several brick examples also survive. Generally the porch is supported by chamfered posts or the Vicksburg "pierced columns"; however, turned posts are also used. A pierced balustrade often completes both the first and second tier of the porch. The original roofing appears to have generally been slate. There are always three bays: two containing sash windows and one containing an entrance, with the entrance always on the end, not in the center. A majority of the windows are floor-length with double-hung, six-over-nine sash; however, two-over-two and six-over-six double-hung sash are also found. The windows on the second floor also fall into these types. Doors are generally single-leaf and paneled, with sidelights and transoms; however, glazed examples with fanlights also occur. More elaborate entries maintain a full entablature supported by pilasters. Cornices are generally bracketed and often friezes are paneled. The majority of examples of the galleried townhouse incorporate elements from the Italianate style; however, Queen Anne elements are occasionally found. Example: The Magnolias, 1617 Monroe St. (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987).

The galleried cottage house form is a one-story, clapboard-sided, rectangular building with a hipped roof and a full-length front gallery recessed under the main roof. There are three variations of the galleried cottage delineated by the number of bays, those being three, four and five bays. The porch is enhanced by a variety of supports: chamfered posts, turned posts and Vicksburg pierced columns making up the majority. A pierced balustrade often completes the porch. The original roofing appears to have generally been slate. A majority of the windows are floor-length, with double-hung, six-over-nine sash; however, two-over-two and six-over-six double-hung sash are also found. Doors are generally single-leaf paneled with sidelights and transoms; however, glazed examples with fanlights also occur. More elaborate entries maintain a full entablature supported by pilasters. Cornices are often bracketed with wide frieze bands. The three-bay configuration is generally two windows and a door. The four-bay configuration is generally two center entrances flanked on either end by a window. The five-bay is configured as a center entrance flanked by two windows on either side. The majority of examples of the galleried cottage incorporate elements from the Italianate style; however, Queen Anne elements are also found. Example: 1009 First East Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number F Page 3

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

Heavy concentrations of Italianate-influenced residences were constructed in Vicksburg Proper, as well as in early outlying neighborhoods of Bridge Street and West Speed Street. Many have been lost in Vicksburg Proper because of increased commercialization, and others in the Bridge and Speed Street areas face demolition by neglect because these areas have become low income neighborhoods.

The design of the majority of middle class homes constructed from the 1880s into the early 1900s were influenced by the Queen Anne style. The Queen Anne style in Vicksburg is found in two variations: a classic two-story Queen Anne house and a one-story cottage with Queen Anne detailing. The first variation is a two-story, frame building with a steeply hipped roof with one or more lower gables, generally of slate or pressed metal. There is commonly a tower placed at the corner of the front facade. Porch configuration is generally one-story set to the side of a tower or projecting bay; a two-tiered porch set in that same location; or a wrap-around one-story porch. Chimneys have a variety of locations and are typically tall and corbelled. The sash vary but are generally one-over-one or two-over-two or stained- or leaded-over-one and are occasionally floor-length. Doors are single or double-leaf glazed with a variety of ornamentation such as sidelights, transom, and elaborate surrounds. Two subtypes can be distinguished on the basis of decorative detailing: spindlework and free classic. These decorative elements are the same in Vicksburg as elsewhere across the country. Example: 2300 Drummond Street.

The Queen Anne cottage, the second form, is a one-story building constructed almost exclusively of frame; however, a few brick examples exist. This form is generally a square with a hip roof with a three-sided projecting room to the front with a gable roof. Roofing material is of slate or pressed metal. The gable end is typically enhanced with decorative shingles, vergeboards, finials and other Victorian ornamentation. To the side of this projection is a porch with a flat or low hipped roof supported by turned posts, round or square columns, and completed with a spindle or jigsaw balustrade and frieze. The sash vary but are generally one-over-one or two-over-two or stained- or leaded-over-one and are occasionally floor-length off of the gallery. Doors are single- or double-leaf glazed with a variety of ornamentation. Example: 705 Farmer Street.

Queen Anne style residences are found in nearly every neighborhood, including a few in the central business district. Heavy concentrations are found throughout Vicksburg. Rates of loss vary by neighborhood, with the most intact area being the South Cherry Street neighborhood.

There are several late Victorian styles that did not have a broad impact on the architecture of Vicksburg, but that are important to the architectural character of this city because they illustrate the degree of architectural variety and sophistication which characterized Vicksburg during the boom years of 1880-1910. These styles are Shingle, Romanesque Revival and Stick.

There are two Shingle style residences in Vicksburg: the Lum-Johnston Home at 1333 Chambers Street, which has a rusticated stone first story and a shingled second story; and the Rose House at 1414 Cherry Street, which is perhaps the best example of this style in Mississippi. The Rose House is a three-story building with a steep, slate-covered gable roof. The front facade is

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number F Page 4

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

essentially the gable end of the roof set on a rusticated stone base with a recessed full-length front porch supported by Doric columns. There is no documentation to suggest that other Shingle style residences were constructed in Vicksburg.

The Romanesque Revival style is reflected in residential architecture in 1338 Chambers Street (for example), a two-story cast-concrete (to imitate rusticated stone) building with a slate-covered hip roof, a deeply recessed main entry, and a full-length front porch with round arches supported by heavy piers. The Sam Brown House built on the corner of Cherry and South Streets in the Romanesque Revival Style was demolished in the 1970s.

The Stick style in Vicksburg is found in the form of a two-story clapboard building with a hipped roof and a cross gable. To the side is a two-tiered gallery with a flat roof. Detailing on the galleries and gable ends is of the characteristic Stick design. The number of bays varies as do the configuration of lights. The doors also vary. The roof material is slate or pressed metal. Example: 916 Grove Street.

The period from 1900 to 1940 saw an influx of styles that were popular across the country. The affluent built large residences in the Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, Mission Revival, Italian Renaissance, Prairie, and Neoclassical Styles, while the American Foursquare and the Craftsman/Bungalow were more popular in the middle class neighborhoods. The majority of these residences were constructed in the "suburbs" of Speed's Addition (see Section E, page 4), in the South Cherry Street neighborhood, and along South Washington Street. Several of the larger residences designed in these styles were constructed on the main thoroughfare as infill or in place of "aging" antebellum residences. Examples: Levy House and the Craig Flowers House, both built on Cherry Street. Because most of these residences were located in residential neighborhoods, which remain residential today, very few have been lost. Several have lost integrity due to insensitive alterations, but the majority retain their architectural integrity.

There are four landmark residences constructed in the Tudor Revival style in Vicksburg and many more smaller houses built in the 1920s and 30s that were influenced by this style. Three of these landmark buildings, the Harding-Johnston Home at 1402 Chambers Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986); the Craig-Flowers Home at 2011 Cherry Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984); and the house at #1 Cowan Place, were constructed in the more classical eclectic mode. This mode exhibits the traditional Tudor characteristics such as multiple front steeply-pitched gables, half-timbering, round-arched entries, multi-light casement windows, and Tudor-arched entry porches; however, they also exhibit classical columns, balustrades and cornices that are more likely found on contemporary Colonial Revival buildings. The Knox House, 2823 Confederate Avenue (listed on the National Register in 1990) is a more academic Tudor Revival with its parapeted gables; massive patterned-brick, front facade chimney with decorative chimney pots; use of multiple materials; Tudor-arched porch; and an absence of classical ornamentation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 5

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

During the 1920s and 1930s many smaller residences made use of the Tudor Revival style. These buildings are generally one-story masonry residences with round-arched entries, steeply-pitched cross gables which are typically half-timbered, diamond-paned double-hung or casement sash, and enhanced with stone trim. Many residences of this style were constructed in the Chambers Street Extension, an intact 1920s and 1930s neighborhood. Example: 710 National Street.

The Colonial Revival style is typically found in the form of a two-story, clapboard building with a hipped roof, generally of slate. Typically, there is a one-story portico supported by classical columns and topped with a balustrade. Dormers are often found on the front elevation. The primary entrance is generally a single leaf, glazed door with sidelights and a transom. Windows are generally one-over-one double-hung or multi-light-over-one. Example: 1407 Chambers Street.

The Mission Revival style is found in Vicksburg in the form of a one or two-story brick or stucco building with a tiled hip roof with widely overhanging eaves, usually with exposed rafter ends. Porches and porticos are generally supported by large, square posts, arched above and capped with a Mission shaped parapet. Mission-shaped dormers are also prevalent. Example: Fannie Willis Johhson Home, 2430 Drummond Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988).

The Italian Renaissance style in Vicksburg generally is in the form of a two-story brick or stucco residence with a tiled hip roof with a one-story wing on one side or on either side. More elaborate forms have varying story heights and projecting rooms and porches. Windows and doors vary within the nationally accepted examples of this style. There are also a few examples of this style in one-story forms. Example: 1211 Mulvihill. The city's most prominent example is the Feld House, 2108 Cherry Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982).

Neoclassical residential architecture in Vicksburg normally has the form of a two-story frame or masonry building with a hipped roof that is generally tile. There are often dormers on one or more elevations. There is typically a two-story portico supported by two-story classical columns with a balcony on the second floor. The sash are generally one-over-one double hung and the entry is generally double doors with a fanlight or transom and sidelights. Classical elements adorn the cornice and balconies. Example: 1420 Cherry Street.

The Prairie style is typically found in the form of a two-story stucco or brick building with a hip roof, generally of tile, with widely-overhanging eaves. There are usually horizontal bands of casement windows and occasionally French doors. Massive square brick piers support the porch roof. Ornamentation is generally confined to massive brackets at the eaves and stucco insets into the brick piers. Example: The Shlenker House, 2212 Cherry Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number F Page 6

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

The American Foursquare in Vicksburg is similar to pattern book types found nationally. The American Foursquare is a two-story, square box-shaped building constructed of masonry or frame with a hipped roof with widely overhanging eaves. The roofing material varies, and there is often a dormer on one or more elevations. There is generally a full length one-story front porch covered with a shed or hip roof supported by wood columns or brick piers. The primary entrance is often offset to one side, and the double-hung sash have a variety of light patterns. Elements from the Colonial Revival style are often found on these houses. These residences are located in the South Cherry Street neighborhood, and the majority retain their integrity. Example: 2309 Drummond Street.

The Bungalow in Vicksburg is similar to pattern book types found nationally, in that it is a one-story residence, generally of frame construction with a gable roof of a variety of materials. Hipped roofs with cross gables are also found, sometimes enhanced by a dormer window or vent. The eaves are generally widely overhanging with exposed rafter ends. There is typically a front porch offset on the facade covered by a gable roof supported by tapered wooden, stuccoed or brick columns, generally resting on brick or stuccoed piers; or fat square piers of wood, stucco or brick. In other examples the gable roof of the main house extends over a full length front porch, and typically there is a vent or window as well as decorative knee braces in the gable end, and the eaves are widely overhanging. Fenestration is variable. Vicksburg Bungalows are found with Craftsman-style as well as classical detailing. Vicksburg bungalows are concentrated in the South Drummond Street and South Washington Street neighborhoods. Several are located as infill buildings in Vicksburg Proper. Example: 3507 Washington Street.

A residential form employed extensively as low income housing was the shotgun. The shotgun form is a very narrow-fronted, rectangular, one-story building of frame construction, nearly always clapboard sided. The roof is generally hipped with a full-length, recessed front porch supported by a variety of columns, turned posts and in later years, brick piers. In Vicksburg there are several examples of the Vicksburg pierced columns with pierced balustrades completing the porch. The roofing material is generally raised seam tin, but other materials are also found. There are two bays: windows vary from the earlier examples with six-over-six double-hung sash to later examples with four-over-four or one-over-one double-hung sash. The entry varies also. The moldings and cornice are generally plain but some examples exhibit bracketed cornices, decorative moldings, or gingerbread. Example: 2306 Pearl Street.

Individual shotgun residences are scattered throughout Vicksburg Proper with clusters extant in the Speed Street neighborhood. Because of generally poor construction and the density of buildings (often with only five feet separating each residence), "shotgun neighborhoods" have been systematically demolished. These neighborhoods include: Green Street, Bowman Street, Openwood Street, Jabour's Quarters, Pine Street, Cedar Grove Subdivision, Glass Street, and North Cherry Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 7

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

III. Significance of Residential Resources

Vicksburg's residential buildings represent a wide range of architectural styles. These buildings trace the history of the city from its early beginnings through its most prosperous days at the turn of the century and then on into the mid-twentieth century. These buildings also show that the residents of Vicksburg were keenly aware of current national trends in style and architectural/building developments.

Vicksburg's extant Greek Revival residences reveal the great amount of wealth that was centered in this community prior to the Civil War. The large number of these buildings that have been lost make these examples even more significant in relating the historic development of the community.

The wealth of sophisticated examples of residential buildings designed in the Italianate, Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, Shingle, Stick, Mission Revival, Spanish Revival, Tudor Revival and other styles shows the importance of Vicksburg as the largest city in the state during the 1880s to the first decades of the twentieth century. The abundance of extant examples of residential buildings from this period is evidence of the prosperity and growth of Vicksburg during this era.

IV. Registration Requirements for Residential Resources

Registration requirements for residential resources are broken down into criteria for those buildings of primary importance that are eligible for individual listing and those buildings that are of secondary importance that should be eligible within historic districts. This document only addresses architectural significance. The criteria for listing of buildings eligible under other areas is not discussed in this document.

Individually Eligible

A residential building should be considered to be individually eligible for listing if it is either a significant example of an architectural style or the work of a major architect. The following factors should be considered:

- (a) the degree to which the building embodies the essential characteristics of one of the above defined styles
- (b) the degree of workmanship displayed in the building as compared to other examples within the community
- (c) the degree to which the building retains its physical integrity- materials, workmanship and design, i.e. these resources should have original materials intact in an unaltered state of workmanship
- (d) the degree to which a resource retains its setting and location

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 8

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

(e) the degree to which a resource retains integrity of its interior details

Elements Within Historic Districts

Residential resources that should be considered eligible as contributing elements within historic districts either meet the above criteria or have those characteristics listed below:

(a) less sophisticated examples of the above defined styles, but that embody the characteristics of the style.

(b) resources to which some minor changes have occurred, but which are still recognizable to their period of significance and which retain their integrity. Acceptable changes and alterations would include rear additions and the additions of artificial siding to frame buildings if significant architectural details are not obscured.

(c) resources moved to new locations in the early part of the twentieth century or that have been moved in recent years as an alternative to demolition should be eligible if they maintain a high degree of integrity with regard to design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

(d) for purposes of determining whether a resource contributes to a district, the character of the interior need not be considered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 9

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

I. Name of Property Type: Commercial Buildings

II. Description

While storefront commercial buildings were constructed as early as the 1840s, there are few commercial buildings remaining from the period of 1840 to 1870. The earliest buildings were of frame construction and were replaced during the period of rapid growth from the 1880s to 1910. Those few that exist have been extensively remodeled and altered and do not retain any clues to their original appearance.

The majority of Vicksburg's storefront commercial buildings were constructed between 1870 and 1910, and are two, three, or four story narrow-fronted, brick buildings with flat roofs. Many of the storefronts have been altered; however, the upper stories (generally three, sometimes four bay) retain their original sash, cast iron lintels and sills, and cast iron bracketed cornice (on earlier examples) and corbelled brick cornices (on later examples). The windows are double-hung and have a variety of sash, and many retain original shutters. While alterations to storefronts have been made, cast iron columns and pilasters have survived on most examples as have original entrances (single-leaf paneled doors) on the front facade leading to the second story. Example: Biedenham Candy Company, 1107 Washington Street (1890) (Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977), the Adolph Rose Building, 717 Clay Street.

Storefront commercial buildings constructed between 1910 and 1940 are one or two story narrow-fronted, brick buildings with flat roofs. There is little ornamentation and the fenestration varies. Many of the storefronts have been altered, as have the second story elevations, with applied artificial siding.

While Vicksburg could boast that it had four major hotels in the downtown area by 1930, today only one of these remains, the Hotel Vicksburg, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. The Washington Hotel (c. 1849), the New Pacific House (1893) and the Carroll Hotel (1890) were demolished in the 1960s and 1970s.

Banks have occupied buildings of many descriptions in Vicksburg; however, there is only one historic building constructed as a bank that remains in the city-- First National Bank, 1301 Washington Street. This Neoclassical, eight-story, brick building was constructed in 1903. The building is beautifully detailed in stucco and terra cotta ornamentation and retains two, two-story concrete Ionic columns.

While the railroad industry was very important in Vicksburg throughout its history (see Section E, page 4), only two railroad stations remain in Vicksburg. The Illinois Central Railroad Depot on Levee Street at the foot of Grove Street was built in 1907 by the Illinois Central and Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroads and was designed by D.H. Burnham in the Georgian Revival style. It was listed in the National Register in 1979. The Louisville, New Orleans & Texas Railroad Station on Levee Street (c. 1890) is a rectangular, brick building with an asphalt gable roof with

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 10

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

paired brackets and round-arched, one-over-one double-hung windows.

III. Significance of Commercial Resources

These buildings are significant because, while they have been extensively altered in most cases, they are all that exists to represent the commercial architecture from the earliest beginnings of Vicksburg through the era when this city had the largest population in the state of Mississippi (at the turn of the century). Vicksburg has lost nearly one-half of its historic commercial buildings which makes those remaining highly significant to the architectural integrity of the city.

IV. Registration Requirements for Commercial Resources

Registration requirements for commercial resources are broken down into criteria for those buildings of primary importance that are eligible for individual listing and those buildings that are of secondary importance that should be eligible within historic districts. This document only addresses architectural significance. The criteria for listing of buildings eligible under other areas is not discussed in this document.

Individually Eligible

A commercial building should be considered to be individually eligible for listing if it is either (1) a significant example of an architectural style or the work of a major architect or (2) it is an exceptionally intact example of a commercial building of its type and period. The following factors should be considered:

- (a) the degree to which the building embodies the essential characteristics of the commercial architecture of Vicksburg as described above
- (b) the degree of workmanship displayed in the building as compared to other examples within the community
- (c) the degree to which the building retains its physical integrity- materials, workmanship and design, i.e. these resources should have original materials intact in an unaltered state of workmanship
- (d) the degree to which a resource retains its setting and location
- (e) the degree to which a resource retains integrity of its interior details

Elements Within Historic Districts

Commercial resources that should be considered eligible as contributing elements within historic districts either meet the above criteria or have those characteristics listed below:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 11

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

- (a) less sophisticated examples of the above defined styles, but that embody the characteristics of the style.
- (b) resources to which some minor changes have occurred, but which are still recognizable to their period of significance and which retain their integrity. Acceptable changes and alterations would include rear additions and the additions of artificial siding to frame buildings if significant architectural details are not obscured.
- (c) resources moved to new locations in the early part of the twentieth century or that have been moved in recent years as an alternative to demolition should be eligible if they maintain a high degree of integrity with regard to design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.
- (d) for purposes of determining whether a resource contributes to a district, the character of the interior need not be considered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number F Page 12

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

I. Name of Property Type: Resources Associated with Religious Life

II. Description

The Gothic Revival style influenced the majority of religious buildings constructed in Vicksburg from the 1830s to the 1930s. The Gothic Revival church is generally constructed of brick and is a one- or two- story building with a gable roof with one or two square towers which are typically a story or two higher than the main body of the church. The towers are usually crenellated and have a flat or conical roof. Windows and doors are Gothic arched and vary in configuration. The Gothic style in Vicksburg exhibits similar characteristics as elsewhere in the country. Example: Christ Church, 1115 Main Street (listed as a contributing building within the Main Street National Register Historic District) and Jackson Street Missionary Baptist Church, 1416 Jackson Street.

The only religious building constructed in this style that is not a church is the St. Francis Xavier Convent (c. 1868) designed by Reverend Jean Baptist Mouton (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977).

The importance of the Romanesque Revival style in influencing the design of religious buildings in Vicksburg is second only to that of the Gothic Revival style. The Romanesque Revival church in Vicksburg is generally a two-story brick (with the exception of First Presbyterian Church which is rough-cut limestone) building with one or two rectangular towers that vary in height from two to four stories which are topped with a pyramidal roof. Large rose windows are found in several examples as are arcaded entry porches. Windows and doors are round arched and vary in configuration. The Romanesque style in Vicksburg exhibits similar characteristics as elsewhere in the country. Example: Church of the Holy Trinity, 900 South Street (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978), Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 805 Monroe Street and First Presbyterian Church, 1501 Cherry Street, which is considered to be the only Richardsonian Romanesque church as yet identified in Mississippi.

The influence of the Neoclassical style is found in the Gibson Memorial Methodist Church, 2200 Washington Street, which was designed by M.J. Donovan and constructed in 1914. It is a one-story brick building with a flat roof and a gabled portico supported by heavy Ionic columns. Another religious building constructed in the Neoclassical style is the main building, William Mercer Green Hall, at All Saints Episcopal School. Built in 1908, Green Hall is a very large, two-story, brick building with a low-pitched hip roof with gabled dormers. The full-length one-story front porch is supported by paired Doric columns. A two-story portico projects from the center of the facade with a gable roof supported by two-story Corinthian columns.

Another important Vicksburg building associated with religious life is the B'nai B'rith Literary Stock Club, constructed in 1917 at 721 Clay Street. Built in the Second Italian Renaissance Revival style, this building is particularly notable for its semicircular, arcaded porch with stone

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 13

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

balustrade and for such rich detailing as the second floor carved cornice, the French doors surmounted by semicircular heads, and the painted hexagonal columns on the first floor. In addition, the bank of carved, corbelled pointed arches in its principal cornice suggests the influence of the Venetian architectural tradition of the Italian Renaissance. This building is perhaps the most elaborate Italian Renaissance Revival building in the State (Beard, 1988).

III. Significance of Religious Resources

Although religious properties are not ordinarily considered eligible for the National Register, Vicksburg has among its religious buildings some that are architecturally noteworthy for their style and period of construction. Vicksburg's religious buildings were greatly influenced, as were religious buildings in most other communities in the nation, by the Gothic style. This style was used to design Vicksburg's earliest surviving church, Christ Episcopal, and was used as late as 1925 in the Crawford Street United Methodist Church. The Romanesque Revival style, previously discussed with regard to residential and public/governmental buildings, also played a significant role in influencing religious buildings.

IV. Registration Requirements for Religious Resources

Registration requirements for religious resources are broken down into criteria for those buildings of primary importance that are eligible for individual listing and those buildings that are of secondary importance that should be eligible within historic districts. This document only addresses architectural significance. The criteria for listing of buildings eligible under other areas is not discussed in this document.

Individually Eligible

A religious building should be considered to be individually eligible for listing if it is either a significant example of an architectural style or the work of a major architect. The following factors should be considered:

- (a) the degree to which the building embodies the essential characteristics of one of the above defined styles
- (b) the degree of workmanship displayed in the building as compared to other examples within the community
- (c) the degree to which the building retains its physical integrity- materials, workmanship and design, i.e. these resources should have original materials intact in an unaltered state of workmanship
- (d) the degree to which a resource retains its setting and location
- (e) the degree to which a resource retains integrity of its interior details

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 14

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

Elements Within Historic Districts

Religious resources that should be considered eligible as contributing elements within historic districts either meet the above criteria or have those characteristics listed below:

- (a) less sophisticated examples of the above defined styles, but that embody the characteristics of the style.
- (b) resources to which some minor changes have occurred, but which are still recognizable to their period of significance and which retain their integrity. Acceptable changes and alterations would include rear additions and the additions of artificial siding to frame buildings if significant architectural details are not obscured.
- (c) resources moved to new locations in the early part of the twentieth century or that have been moved in recent years as an alternative to demolition should be eligible if they maintain a high degree of integrity with regard to design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.
- (d) for purposes of determining whether a resource contributes to a district, the character of the interior need not be considered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 15

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

I. Name of Property Type: Public/Governmental Buildings

II. Description

Public/governmental buildings were constructed between 1858 and 1940. Government buildings are located in the central business district, while fire stations and schools are also located in outlying neighborhoods.

Prior to the Civil War Vicksburg was growing tremendously and was one of the most important cities in the state. The Warren County Court House (designated a National Historic Landmark in 1968), constructed on land given to the County by the family of the city's founder, Newit Vick, is one of the most impressive buildings in the state because of its size and giant proportions. It is also considered to be one of the best examples of a Greek Revival public building in the state. In addition, it is the oldest public building in Vicksburg and the only one constructed in the Greek Revival style. This building has sheltered Presidents Zachary Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt, Ulysses S. Grant, William McKinley and Jefferson Davis and men of prominence such as Booker T. Washington and William Jennings Bryan. During the Civil War, Confederate Generals John C. Breckinridge, Earl Van Dorn, and Stephen D. Lee watched from the cupola as the ironclad Arkansas took on the Federal fleet. A year later, Union prisoners were housed in the second-story court room to make sure that guns from boats on the Mississippi avoided shelling the prominent structure. It was from the cupola, which had been used as a Confederate signal station, that Union troops raised the Stars and Stripes when Vicksburg surrendered on July 4, 1863, and a few hours later General U.S. Grant reviewed his victorious troops as they marched past Court Square.

Many of Vicksburg's public buildings were constructed during the Victorian era. Extant examples of these buildings are two fire stations and a school. The earliest is the Constitution Firehouse, which was built in 1870 and is a two-story, brick building topped with a cupola taken from an earlier firehouse, c. 1837. The three-bay facade has large round-arched double doors in the center for fire wagon entry, flanked by a single-leaf, paneled door with fanlight on either side. This building is listed on the National Register as a contributing building within the Main Street Historic District. Only the left half of the Phoenix Firehouse remains on Walnut Street. It was constructed in 1876 and maintains three of its six original bays. Of six firehouses constructed prior to 1903, these are the only two still standing.

Other Victorian Eclectic buildings are the Speed Street School (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986) and the Warren County Jail, c. 1906 (listed Mississippi Landmark). Another public building which was influenced by the Victorian period is the No. 7 Firehouse on Washington Street built in 1910. This two-story, brick building has three round-arched bays on the first story and a pointed parapet.

The former Vicksburg Post Office and Customs House (commonly known today as the Mississippi River Commission Building) was built in 1894 in the Queen Anne style. The structure exhibits lavish attention to detail and an outstanding precision of workmanship as exhibited in the high-relief, terra-cotta panels, round windows with radiating voussoirs, elaborately molded parapet and raking cornice.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 16

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

The Vicksburg Public Library, 819 South Street, was completed in 1916 and is the only public building constructed in the Mission Revival style. Designed by Edward L. Tilton, an architect from New York, it is a two-story, stucco building with a flat roof, tiled overhangs, and Mission-shaped parapeted end walls.

Beginning in 1848 city business was conducted in the frame "city hall and market" building built in the esplanade in the middle of Monroe Street between Jackson and Main Streets. By 1902 this building was not adequate for the needs of the city and a new city hall was begun in the most up-to-date style of the day : Neoclassical. City Hall, completed in 1903, is a three-story brick building with a metal gable roof with intersecting hips. The front facade has a rounded two-tiered gallery, with a heavy cornice supported by two-story Corinthian columns on a raised base. The gallery has been sensitively enclosed with brick and windows. The gallery is flanked by a square three-story tower on either end capped with a small dome. The entrance is in this north tower and there are glazed double-leaf doors with a leaded transom and an entablature with consoles. Above this door is a round window with terra cotta molding. The north facade is also a semicircle highlighted with two-story Corinthian pilasters and a heavy cornice.

In addition to City Hall, there are two other Neoclassical public buildings: the Vicksburg Post Office and Federal Building and the Central Fire Station. The Vicksburg Post Office and Federal Building, built in 1937, is a five-story stucco building with a flat roof. The first floor facade is scored to look like stone and is pierced by three sets of double bronze doors with fanlights and elaborate bronze entablatures and eight casement windows with transoms. The three entrances are recessed behind large arches. The second, third and fourth floors are separated from the other floors by heavy cornices. The facade of these floors is broken by two recesses dominated by three-story Ionic columns and pilasters. The interior has an intact Neoclassical post office lobby.

Central Fire Station was built in 1925 on Walnut Street and is a two-story, brick building with a flat roof with a slightly stepped parapet on the front facade. There are five bays on the first floor, which include three large doors for fire truck access and two pair of double-leaf, glazed doors with transoms; and on the second floor there are two pair of casement windows with a transom over each of the three truck entrances and a pair of casement windows with a transom over each of the other two entrances. There is a stuccoed, flattened arch lintel over each bay on the second floor. Stuccoed pilasters flank the center window.

There is one exemplary Art Deco style building in Vicksburg, the New Warren County Court House, and there are several with Art Deco detailing. The Court House, built in 1940, is a three-story marble-veneered building with nine bays which include eight casement windows and a set of three glazed doors. Decorative details include panels of floral designs and geometric designs, tall rectangular panels of marble, geometric banding on the parapet, and elaborate octagonal lights. This building retains its Art Deco lobby as well. Other public buildings with Art Deco detailing are Carr Junior High School on Cherry Street (c. 1925) and Magnolia School, (c. 1925). Bowmar Elementary School, built in 1940, has elements more characteristic of the International style, with little Art Deco detailing.

Bowmar is the only example of the International style, and is characterized by its smooth stucco walls, flat roof and large expanse of windows.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 17

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

III. Significance

The earliest public buildings in Vicksburg were constructed of frame and were replaced with more substantial brick buildings as the town progressed. The earliest existing building is the (Old) Warren County Court House built in 1858, while the majority of the surviving public buildings were constructed during Vicksburg's boom period from 1880 to 1910 and on into the 1920s. These public/governmental buildings are significant because they are some of the best examples of architectural styles that were employed in Vicksburg.

IV. Registration Requirements for Public/Governmental Buildings

Registration requirements for public/governmental resources are broken down into criteria for those buildings of primary importance that are eligible for individual listing and those buildings that are of secondary importance that should be eligible within historic districts. This document only addresses architectural significance. The criteria for listing of buildings eligible under other areas is not discussed in this document.

Individually Eligible

A public/governmental building should be considered to be individually eligible for listing if it is either (1) a significant example of an architectural style or the work of a major architect, or (2) a notable or rare surviving example of a type of public or institutional building for its period (e.g. a late Victorian fire station) that retains a relatively high degree of physical integrity. The following factors should be considered:

- (a) the degree to which the building embodies the essential characteristics of one of the above defined styles
- (b) the degree of workmanship displayed in the building as compared to other examples within the community
- (c) the degree to which the building retains its physical integrity- materials, workmanship and design, i.e. these resources should have original materials intact in an unaltered state of workmanship
- (d) the degree to which a resource retains its setting and location
- (e) the degree to which a resource retains integrity of its interior details

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number F Page 18

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

Elements Within Historic Districts

Residential resources that should be considered eligible as contributing elements within historic districts either meet the above criteria or have those characteristics listed below:

- (a) less sophisticated examples of the above defined styles, but that embody the characteristics of the style.
- (b) resources to which some minor changes have occurred, but which are still recognizable to their period of significance and which retain their integrity. Acceptable changes and alterations would include rear additions and the additions of artificial siding to frame buildings if significant architectural details are not obscured.
- (c) resources moved to new locations in the early part of the twentieth century or that have been moved in recent years as an alternative to demolition should be eligible if they maintain a high degree of integrity with regard to design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.
- (d) for purposes of determining whether a resource contributes to a district, the character of the interior need not be considered.

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

See Continuation Sheet G-1

See continuation sheet

H. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets H-1 Through H-2

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State historic preservation office | <input type="checkbox"/> Local government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency | <input type="checkbox"/> University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |

Specify repository: Vicksburg Foundation for Historic Preservation

I. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy H. Bell, Executive Director
 organization Vicksburg Foundation for Historic Preservation date April 1992
 street & number P. O. Box 254 telephone (601) 636-5010
 city or town Vicksburg, state MS zip code 39181

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number G Page 1 Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

Section G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Properties in Vicksburg were surveyed in 1987, 1989, and 1990 by the Vicksburg Foundation for Historic Preservation with Certified Local Government grants-in-aid from the City of Vicksburg, Mississippi, through the Historic Preservation Division of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Over 1500 sites were surveyed using the "State of Mississippi Historic Resources Inventory" form. Recorded on this form is a description of the building and location; and historical information if known for each site. Photographs were also taken of the primary elevation for each site. Where it was possible, the homeowner or tenant was interviewed during the survey process. It should be noted that very few homeowners or tenants knew any information about the buildings in which they live and what information they gave was often erroneous. Additional survey work is planned for several more years.

This context document, containing a brief history of the City of Vicksburg, was compiled in order to determine periods of significance and to establish the reason for concentrations and absence of particular styles. This was done by the Vicksburg Foundation for Historic Preservation for the City of Vicksburg.

Four property types (residential architecture, commercial architecture, public/governmental architecture, and religious architecture) were defined in the contextual statement. These were chosen as the best way to classify the large number of resources within the multiple property area. Within each property type, subtypes were identified by architectural style, type or form except in the commercial grouping. Commercial buildings fell more appropriately into functional categories.

Registration requirements were developed with regard to the condition of existing properties and their significance to the property type, i.e. the relative condition and scarcity of each property type was used to determine the degree to which allowances should be made for alteration, deterioration, and relocation. These requirements were separated into two applications: individual buildings and districts/district elements.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number H Page 1 Historic Resources of Vicksburg, MississippiSection H. Major Bibliographical References

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number H Page 2

Historic Resources of Vicksburg, Mississippi

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