UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

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X_ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Duff Green House is a three-story red-painted brick residence situated on a hillside street corner near the center of downtown Vicksburg. Part of a locally designated historic district, the property overlooks the Mississippi River to the west and the obelisk and battlefield at the Vicksburg National Military Park to the northeast. Located approximately fifteen feet from the southwest corner of the house is the original cistern with a circular brick shaft extending two feet above the ground. A smokehouse with stuccoed brick walls and a wood-shingle gable roof is located on the northwest corner of the property.

The low-pitch hip roof of the Duff Green House is defined by a bracketed cornice and frieze and pierced by five stuccoed and painted interior-end chimneys, formerly with corbeled caps. Two are placed along the east and three along the west elevation. The five-bay facade (north elevation) of the house is faced in common bond and features a two-tiered gallery supported on a stuccoed brick base pierced by arched openings, resulting in a piano nobile effect. The decorative cast-iron of the gallery, said to have been manufactured in Cincinnati, is composed of balustrades, upright panels, soffit grilles and brackets, and an anthemion and palmette cresting. Fenestration on the facade consists of double-hung nine-over-nine sash, trabeated and with cornice caps. These windows replaced original nine-over-six windows with jib doors. The northeast second-floor chamber has two windows on the facade with French doors and horizontal transom lights. A central stair with sawn balustrade rises from the ground level to the first-floor entrance set within a frontispiece which features flat-faced pilasters and a deeply recessed door flanked by pilastered antae and tri-partite transom. The second-floor entrance is trimmed with eared architraves.

The four-bay east and five-bay west elevations of the house have trabeated six-over-six double-hung windows on the ground level and nine-over-six windows on the two main floors; original jib-door sections are now bricked. On both elevations, bracing supports between the window bays are evidence of the former existence of two-tiered galleries, thus accounting for the job doors. The south (rear) elevations has an inset three-bay two-story wooden gallery with square columns and balustrades, aligned with the extended southwest corner bay of the house. The gallery is supported on a base of square stuccoed brick columns, with a stair on the west side rising to the main floor, where there are two entrances on the southeast and a frontispiece center entrance. The floor above has two nine-over-nine windows to the right of the hallway entrance, with a narrow door in the southwest bay, perpendicular to the rear facade and adjacent to the gallery stair.

The typical center-hall double-parlor plan of the interior is varied by the placement of a spiral stair in the southwest (rear) corner of the hall. There are two ornamental niches on the stair wall. Ceilings on the main floor are embellished with medallions and heavy cornices and, in the former ballroom space on the east side, with paneled coffers as well. Sliding doors dividing the former ballroom have been eliminated and the area is now used as a sanctuary. The two mantelpieces on the east wall have been removed and those in the two west parlors have been substantially altered. A wood-paneled dumbwaiter decorated with sawn cresting is located in the southeast corner of the southwest parlor, indicating the room was probably used originally as the dining room. The dumbwaiter originated from the former service floor on the ground level, now partitioned for office and recreation space. The uppermost floor retains the center-hall plan with flanking chambers (now divided by partitions), and a bathroom as well on the east side. Also on the east are marble mantelpieces featuring round arches with keystones; those on the west side are wooden Greek Revival models with pilasters and entablature.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW __PREHISTORIC _ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __COMMUNITY PLANNING __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __RELIGION _1400-1499 __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION __LAW __SCIENCE --1500-1599 __AGRICULTURE __LITERATURE __ECONOMICS _SCULPTURE _1600-1699 X_ARCHITECTURE __EDUCATION __MILITARY XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _1700-1799 __ART __ENGINEERING __MUSIC THEATER X_commerce X1800-1899 __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY __TRANSPORTATION X1900-__COMMUNICATIONS **XINDUSTRY** __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _OTHER (SPECIFY) __INVENTION m II ray during

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Well-proportioned scale, integrity of design, and the incorporation of appropriate decorative elements constitute the architectural significance of the Duff Green House. Constructed ca. 1856-1866 by the prosperous entrepreneur Duff Green, the house has served the City of Vicksburg for the past forty-six years as a Salvation Army facility.

Duff Green was born in Virginia in 1824, moved to Vicksburg in 1847, and married Mary Lake in 1855. During the years prior to the Civil War, he amassed a considerable fortune as owner of Duff Green and Co., purchasing \$90,000 in "goods, wares and merchandise" in 1859 (Assessment of Personal Property and Persons, FY 1859). Soon after his marriage, Green began construction of a residence on lots 125 and 126 at the corner of Locust and First East streets (Terry interview, June 26, 1978). The property was owned by his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Lake (Deed Book W:136; CC:184). In 1860 W. A. Lake and his wife, "in consideration of the love and affection which they entertain for their daughter," conveyed lots 125 and 126 to Mary L. Green (Deed Book BB:670). Construction of the house was not completed until after the Civil War.

During the Civil War the residence was used as a Confederate hospital, with Union wounded strategically placed in the second floor to discourage enemy bombardment. Duff Green, known locally as a "Yankee sympathizer" (Crowder interview, June 21, 1978; Terry interview, June 26, 1978), changed businesses after the war and assumed more prominent civic responsibilities. In 1866 he was a United States marshall, on the Board of Trustees of Schools and School Lands, an officer of the City Bank of Vicksburg, and president of the Vicksburg Gas Company (1866 City Directory pp. 27, 82). Green was also involved with river shipping interests as principal owner of the steam boat Gray Eagle and superintendent of the Merchant Wharfboat Association in 1867 (Vicksburg Herald, April 30, 1880). Green died of gastritis in 1880.

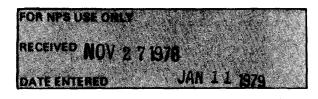
In 1930 the Duff Green House was sold to the Young Men's Christian Association (Deed Book 186:142), and in 1932 it was purchased by the Salvation Army (Deed Book 188:16), which spent \$3,000 on remodeling the structure for use as a half-way house, learning and rehabilitation center, and chapel. The preservation and stabilization of the by-then deteriorating building was undertaken in 1974 by Major Sam Crowder of the Salvation Army and is continuing under the direction of Lieutenant John Queener.

Architecturally, the Duff Green House exhibits the academic influence of the Greek and Renaissance Revival modes with the enrichment provided by picturesque

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 & 9 PAGE

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8 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Italianate detail. Frontispiece entrances and interior millwork have their origin in the Greek Revival, while the smooth wall surfaces "serving as a neutral background for windows, doorways, and (in many cases) balustraded balconies" (Whiffen, p. 75); symmetrical chimney placement; well-proportioned trabeated windows; and the classically inspired arched base of the north gallery are derived from the Renaissance Revival. Italianate detail expressed by the extended roof cornice and heavy brackets is juxtaposed with the astylar and symmetrical form of the building. Expressing the transition from the Greek Revival to more romantically inspired forms, the house also, in the use of cast iron on the north gallery, reflects the emerging popularity of industrial materials applied to American buildings after 1850.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10PAGE

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LO - VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

appurtenances thereunto appertaining and belonging.