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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name \_\_\_\_\_

other names/site number West Historic District

2. Location

street & number roughly bounded by Emory, Anderson & Cross Streets & the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad tracks N/A not for publication

city or town West N/A vicinity

state Mississippi code Ms county Holmes code 051 zip code 39192

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Pool JUNE 8, 1993  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Delores Byers

Date of Action

9/14/93

West Historic District  
Name of Property

Holmes, Mississippi  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
61	14	buildings
1	4	sites
1	1	structures
		objects
63	19	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC:

single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE:

department store

financial institution

RELIGION:

religious facility

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC:

single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE:

department store

financial institution

RELIGION:

religious facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Other: Commercial Minimalist

Bungalow/Craftsman

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick; concrete

walls weatherboard; brick; vinyl

roof asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

West Historic District  
West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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The physical arrangement of the town of West clearly shows the prominence of the railroad. The Illinois Central line serves as the eastern edge of the community. Highway 51, which runs to the west of and parallel to the railroad, serves as the main commercial street of West and is called Front Street. Aligned along the western side of Front Street is the downtown commercial area of West. This area is two blocks long and is bounded on the north by Carrollton Street and on the south by Emory Street. Dividing the community roughly in half is Green Street which runs parallel to Emory Street and Carrollton Street. With the exception of one small building on Green Street, the entire commercial area of West faces east towards the railroad.

There is no grid or regular plan to West. Streets apparently were laid out when and where they were needed. At least two streets, Emory and Carrollton, were part of the old roads that lead through the village to those respective communities. The residences, churches, and educational buildings of West were constructed behind the commercial area and away from the railroad and all its activity. Houses were built on large open lots. Many of the houses originally had barns, chicken houses, and other attendant outbuildings. As a result of this arrangement, the early citizens had the convenience of town life with the advantages of country life. One residence even has a silo.

The West Historic District includes 75 buildings, 5 sites and 2 structures of which 61 buildings, 1 site and 1 structure are contributing to the character of the district. The district encompasses commercial, public, religious and residential buildings. The area's terrain is basically flat in the commercial areas while there are slight hills in the residential areas. The facades of most of the buildings, both commercial and residential, are set back from the street. Represented in the district are examples of mid- to late-19th and early 20th century vernacular commercial and residential buildings. Most of the commercial buildings are of brick construction while most of the residences are of frame construction.

Most of the contributing buildings, 21, date from the 1920s, 15 date from the first decade of the 20th century, 8 from the 1910s, 5 each from the 1880s and 1930s, 4 from the 1870s and 2 from the 1890s. Of the total number of elements in the district (82), the majority are houses and associated outbuildings (54). The second greatest number of buildings are commercial structures (13). The district also contains three church buildings (one of which is non-contributing), a cemetery, a watertower (non-contributing), a silo, a Masonic Hall, a combination town hall and fire station (non-contributing), and two non-contributing post offices, the older of which (1965) is no longer used.

An architectural survey of the area covered by this nomination was conducted in January and February 1993 as part of a community-wide survey of historic resources in West by Todd Sanders, architectural historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Research was done in the Department Library, the West Public Library and the Holmes County Tax Assessors Office to determine the boundaries and significance of the district.

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**Anderson Avenue**

- 1.a C Lena Browning House  
One story frame house with hipped roof and porch across the front. House has certain bungalow characteristics such as tapered square columns, wide porch roof overhang, and exposed rafter tails. South side of porch has been enclosed with a door and a single 6/6 DH window located between the original low, brick porch piers. The floor of the porch is a later poured concrete floor, somewhat lower than the original. The front half-glass door is flanked by 6/6 DH double windows, one set on each side of the door. The house was built in 1924.
- 1.b C Garage  
One story, brick, gable-roofed building with a wide overhang and exposed rafter tails. The front of the building has two sets of double doors with diagonal braces. The garage was built around 1924.
- 1.c C Barn  
Frame, gable-roofed barn probably built with the house in 1924.
- 1.d C Well house  
Brick, gable-roofed well house probably built with the house in 1924.
- 2.a C Murff House  
One story, frame house with attached gallery across entire facade. The gallery is supported by six square columns with jigsaw brackets. Between the columns is a jigsaw balustrade. The floor of the gallery and the gallery steps are brick. There is a cast iron handrail on the steps. The front door is a center double-leaf entrance with sidelights and transom. There are two 6/6 DH windows each side of the front door. There are no visible chimneys. The house was built in 1873 and is one of the oldest extant houses in the community.
- 2.b C Barn  
A one story, frame barn with loft built circa 1900.

**Brown Street**

3. NC Residence  
One story, brick veneer, gable-roofed ranch style house, circa 1980.

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- 4.a C 106 Tate House  
One story, gable front brick house. The front entrance is a single-leaf French door which is sheltered by a projecting gable-roofed porch with a broad archway and exposed rafter tails. The porch roof is supported by two square, brick columns. There are two large brackets which visually support the gable overhang of the porch. To the left of the entrance is a 9/1 DH double window which is set beneath its own bracketed, gabled overhang. To the right of the entrance is a 9/1 triple window. On the right end of the house is a screened porch. Located above the triple window and the window opening to the screened porch is a third bracketed gable. In the attic gable is centered a 9/1 DH window flanked by louvered attic vents which are approximately two feet shorter than the window. House was built around 1930.
- 4.b C Garage  
One story, brick, gable-roofed two car garage. Roof has broad overhang and exposed rafter tails. The garage was built circa 1930.
- 4.c C Outbuilding  
One story with loft, frame, gable-roofed building with undercut gallery across facade. Entrance is a single leaf, four panel door located to the left of the center of the front. There is a 2/2 DH window to the right of the center. The house is raised on concrete blocks. This building is similar to three other outbuildings in town, nos. 20.c, 31.c, and 55.d. This building appears to date to the turn of the century.
5. NC Residence  
Low, rambling, one-story, frame, gable-roofed house. Projecting wing on south end of house has a clipped gable roof. The house has little architectural character remaining and appears to date to 1940.
6. C Residence  
One story, frame house with hipped roof. Hipped roof porch across facade. Beaded board siding covers the wall sheltered by the porch. Engaged turned porch posts remain across porch wall but porch posts themselves have been replaced with rough logs. Centered single-leaf, panelled door is flanked on each side by two 2/2 DH windows. Chimney on south end of house is on the exterior while the chimney on the north end is on the interior. There is an ell attached to the rear of the house. The house dates to circa 1880.
7. C Brock-Foster House  
One story, frame, gable-roofed Italianate house. Roof is covered with original metal shingles. Double-leaf entrance doors are located slightly to the left of the center of the building. Doorway has an elaborate surround. To the left of the door is a five-sided bay window with 6/6 DH arched top windows. Between the windows are pilasters. Some of the original, arched, louvered shutters remain. The remainder of the facade is sheltered by a porch which is supported by elaborate, pierced columns, connected by a sawnwork balustrade. Over the

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entrance is a pediment with decorative vergeboard that extends out from the porch. The windows under the porch are 6/6 DH windows. The porch continues around the right-hand, front corner then across a set-back wing which is parallel to the main block of the house. The house was built circa 1870 and is one of West's most architecturally significant buildings.

**Carrollton Street**

- 8.a C Residence  
One story frame gable-and-wing house. The house has bungaloid details such as clipped gables, short square columns on brick piers and exposed rafter tails. The house also has a wrap-around porch. The gable end has a 6/1 DH double window. Shed roof dormer has three windows of four lights each. The front door is a six light half-glass door with sidelights and a transom. To the left of the front door is another 6/1 DH double window. This house was built circa 1915.
- 8.b C Garage  
The garage is a brick building with a corrugated metal roof. There is a later addition to the rear of the garage which doubles its size. The garage was built circa 1925.
- 9.a C 209 *The Magnolias*  
One story Queen Anne Free Classic house with a projecting gable wing containing a cutaway bay window. There is a wrap-around porch which shelters the remainder of the facade. Tuscan columns support the porch roof. The house has two large pocket windows with elaborate transoms. Both front gables have diamond-shaped windows and gable ornaments. The front door is a single leaf casement door. The brick walls between the foundation piers are laid in a lattice pattern. The walls are covered with asbestos shingles. The house was built circa 1880.
- 9.b C Garage  
Brick two car garage with heavy brackets under eaves, built circa 1925.
10. C W. A. Brock House  
One story frame house with a hipped roof. There is a hipped roof porch across the facade which shelters the half-glass front door and two 1/1 DH floor length windows which flank the door. The raised wooden porch is reached by a set of precast concrete steps. The house was built circa 1900.
11. C Larkin Browning House  
One story Queen Anne frame house with projecting gable wing on front. Roof is hipped with lower projecting gables. Projecting gables have cutaway bay windows. Wrap-around porch is supported by turned wooden columns. Front door is a half glass door. Windows are 1/1 DH

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and are grouped in pairs. The brick foundation piers have been infilled with brick. The raised wooden porch is reached by a set of precast concrete steps. The original brick chimneys are in good repair. The house also retains old window screens and the front screen door. The house was built circa 1900.

12. C Campbell House  
One story frame house with a small porch at the front casement door. There is an attached carport at the eastern end of the house. The windows are 9/1 DH windows. The house was built in 1935.
13. NC South Central Bell Building  
One story gable-ended building housing telephone switching equipment. Built circa 1980.
14. C West Presbyterian Church  
One story, 3 x 5 Bay, gable front, brick veneered, vernacular church building. On the front of the building is a recessed entrance porch, with an arched entrance. The pedimented gable is stuccoed. To each side of the entrance is a single large 12/12 DH window. The entrance doors are double-leaf panelled doors. There is a pair of cast iron gates across the entrance to the recessed porch. The corners of the front of the building are buttressed. At the center of the rear of the building is a double casement stained glass window surmounted by a segmental-arched fanlight. According to tradition, the building that previously occupied this site was rolled into West from Old Wheeling where it had been used as a church building. In West it was used as a Union church by the Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians. As West grew and prospered, two of the three denominations withdrew and built their own buildings, the Methodists in 1885 and the Baptists in 1890, leaving the Presbyterians as the sole occupants of this building. Around 1920 the old building was torn down and this brick veneer building was erected.
15. C West Cemetery  
Located to the north and east of the West Presbyterian Church. Although certain plots are fenced, the cemetery as a whole is not. The oldest monument is that of Dr. George Anderson dated February 10, 1877. The cemetery continues to be used for burials.
16. NC U. S. Post Office  
One story, brick, hipped-roof building. Built circa 1985.

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## Church Street

17. C Masonic Hall  
Two story, asymmetrical, rectangular Craftsman style building. The first floor of the building is brick while the second story is finished with stucco. The roof is a standing seam metal roof with wide overhangs and exposed rafter tails. The main entrance, which leads into the first floor, is sheltered by an enclosed, gable-roofed porch with a bracketed hood over the entrance. The second entrance, which opens into a stair hall which leads to the second floor, is located at the northern end of the building. This entrance has no porch but has a bracketed hood. Located on the wall over the porch of the main entrance is the Masonic symbol. The windows on the front of the first floor have been boarded up. The windows on the second floor are placed on either side of the Masonic symbol and are 9/9 DH double windows. This building was constructed in 1925.
18. NC Vacant Lot (Old High School Site)  
The West High School Building was built in 1925 and served as the High School for West until 1957 when the West school was closed and the students went to Durant Consolidated School. The building was finally demolished in 1977.
- 19.a C 105 Perry Melton House  
One story frame gable-and-wing house. Gable end of house has a cutaway bay window. Porch across front of house is supported by turned columns and decorative jigsaw brackets. The front door, which is framed by sidelights and a transom, is centered on the wall sheltered by the porch. To each side of the door there are two 4/2 DH windows. Each unit of the double window in the projecting gable is also 4/2 DH. Located on the roof over the front door is a single dormer window which has been boarded up. Around 1925 a screened porch and carport were added to the south end of the house. These additions show typical bungalow details such as square columns on brick piers and broad roof overhangs with exposed rafter tails. The main part of the house appears to have been built circa 1900.
- 19.b C Garage  
Brick, gable-ended two car garage. The roof has broad overhangs and exposed rafter tails. Each door in the two sets of double doors has a single four pane window in the top half. The garage was built circa 1925.
- 19.c C Outbuilding  
Possibly old kitchen. Small frame, gable-roofed building with gallery across front. On the facade is a single leaf, six panel door and a single 4/4 DH window. There is a chimney on the north end. There is a window on the south end which is shuttered with its original shutters. The building appears to have been built circa 1900. Similar to element nos. 4.c, 31.c, and 55.c.



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20. NC Watertower  
Circa 1950.
21. C Harvey House  
Frame I-house with two-tiered porch on the front. The porch is supported by turned porch columns and decorated with turned brackets and balusters. The two chimneys, one on each gable end, are completely enclosed within the wooden framework of the house. When a new roof was added several years ago, the chimneys were lowered and the new roof covered their openings. The first floor originally contained an open dog-trot that was enclosed around 1910. The doors on both floors are half glass doors. There are two 2/2 DH windows on each side of each door. The gable ends of the house are decorated with gable ornaments. The house was built in 1883.
22. C West Methodist Church  
One story, 3 x 4 Bay, frame, gable-fronted Church Building. The facade is asymmetrically massed with the entrance vestibule located to one side. In the center of the facade is a 2/2 DH double window with a round-arched fanlight. On the side opposite the entrance vestibule is a single stained glass 1/1 DH window with jigsaw lintel. The roof has a broad overhang with bracketed cornice. In the gable there is a decorative pierced wood circular vent. The door into the entrance vestibule is a double leaf door surmounted by a pointed arch transom. Located to the rear of the building is a two story classroom addition built circa 1920. The main, original part of this building was constructed in 1885.

## Emory Street

- 23.a C W. L. Bowie House  
Two story, frame, gable-roofed house. Second story is a later addition. The roof has wide overhangs with exposed rafter tails. The front porch extends across most of the house and is supported by square wooden columns atop low brick piers. Located between the piers is a simple wooden balustrade. The windows on the first floor are 2/2 DH windows. The door has simple sidelights. The windows on the second floor are 6/6 DH and are arranged in pairs. The overhanging gable on the northwest end of the house is supported by curved brackets. This house appears to have begun as a one story, Queen Anne, gable-and-wing cottage built circa 1900 that was extensively enlarged and remodeled into its present configuration circa 1925
- 23.b C Garage  
Gable-roofed, frame, one car garage, circa 1925.

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24. C Cade Home  
The main block of this house is a one story, frame, gable-roofed structure with an attached carport to the east side and a porch across the entire facade or north front. The porch and carport are supported by square, tapered columns on a low, brick wall. The porch has been screened in. The main entrance is an off-center, half-glass door. To the left of the door is a triple window - each unit 1/1 DH windows with margin lights in the top sash. This part of the house was built in 1932. To the west is a large, two story wing built in 1957.
25. NC West Primary Health Care Clinic  
Double-wide house trailer, circa 1980. Intrusive to the character of the district.
- 26.a C Bowie House  
One-and-a-half story, frame house with a gable-on-hip roof. Hipped roof porch with broad overhang extends across the front of the house and is supported by Tuscan columns on brick bases. Central entrance has a simple transom and is flanked on each side by two 1/1 DH floor length windows. There is a single 1/1 DHW dormer centered on the front of the roof. This house was built in 1910 by William H. Andrews who built the house immediately to the west some forty years earlier. Unfortunately, this house has had some very unsympathetic alterations in recent years such as the addition of vinyl siding and the installation of security bars over the windows.
- 26.b NC Garage  
One story, brick, gable-roofed two car garage, circa 1970.
27. NC Vacant Lot (Site of Old High School Gymnasium)  
This was a World War II surplus building from Camp Van Dorn, Centreville, Mississippi, probably moved here in 1948-1949. Demolished in 1984.
- 28.a C Andrews House  
One story, frame, gable-roofed house. Small portico on the center of the facade shelters the entrance which is a single leaf, french door surmounted by an eight-light transom and flanked by three-light sidelights. The front door was changed circa 1925. The roof of the portico is supported by simple, vaguely Italianate, pierced columns. The door surround is in a simple Greek Revival mode. There is one 6/6 DHW on each side of the portico. This house has unfortunately undergone unsympathetic repairs since it was built circa 1870. The chimney on the east side of the house has been partially taken down and capped with sheet metal. The house has also been covered with vinyl siding.
- 28.b C Garage  
Simple, frame two car garage built circa 1930.

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- 29.a C Rogers-Aldridge House  
One story, frame, Queen Anne Free Classic house with wrap-around porch and a corner turret. The porch is supported by Roman Ionic columns. The walls under the porch are clad with beaded board. The front door has a large, oval window surrounded by applied carving. Large pocket windows with stained leaded glass transoms appear to the left of the front door under the porch and in the center of the projecting gable end to the right of the entrance. The roof is basically pyramid-shaped. The chimneys have been covered with cement and the openings between the brick foundation piers have been filled with brick. The house was built in 1909 by Dr. Larkin Rogers for his son, Marion Rogers as a wedding gift.
- 29.b C Barn  
Small frame, transverse crib barn with vertical board siding and a corrugated metal gable roof. Small double doors in the gable end open into a loft. The barn was probably built about 1909.
- 29.c C Outbuilding  
Small, one story, frame building with a standard seam metal gable roof. There is an undercut gallery across the front and a lean-to addition on the rear. Double leaf doors are centered on the wall under the gallery. The gallery is supported by a single turned post at each corner. The building sits on brick foundation piers. On the south end of the building is evidence of a chimney. This building was apparently used as a kitchen, then later as a carriage house or garage and was probably built about 1909. Similar to elements no. 4.c, 20.c, and 54.d.
- 29.d C Chicken house  
Old, wooden chicken house located behind the outbuilding. It is in very bad condition and probably dates from the same time as the other outbuildings.
- 30.a C Campbell-Dinstel House *Christmas Cottage*  
One story, frame, gable-and-wing Queen Anne cottage with the original wooden trimwork in the gable ends. The wrap-around, bungalow style porch was added in a major renovation in 1926-1927. This porch is supported by tapered, wooden columns resting on brick piers. The wide, overhanging porch roof originally had exposed rafter tails but these were covered up in recent renovations. Windows on the main floor are 1/1 DH, while the window in the attic level of the gable end is a fixed six-light window. The roof also has a single shed dormer with three windows of six lights each. The brick foundation piers have been infilled in brick. The house was built in 1907.
- 30.b C Barn  
One story frame barn with gable-roofed center section with a loft flanked by shed-roofed additions. Built circa 1925, converted to a garage.
- 30.c C Chicken house  
Small frame chicken house with shed roof. Circa 1925.

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Front Street

- 31. NC Commercial Building  
One story brick commercial Minimalist building with a gable roof behind a stepped parapet. The front of the building originally had two large windows with a double leaf door between these, but this configuration has been altered in recent years. This change is apparent due to the different color of the later brick infill. This building was built circa 1935. Although the building dates to the period of significance of the district, it is rated non-contributing because extensive alterations have caused a substantial loss of its historic character. At the time this nomination was being prepared, the building was being extensively remodeled.
- 32. C Former Drug Store  
One story brick commercial building which still retains its original store front with recessed entrance and plate glass display windows with transoms. Double leaf entrance doors are roughly 3/4 plate glass with remaining 1/4 consisting of a single, horizontal wooden panel. The parapet has a recessed panel where the word "Drugs" is painted. There is a corrugated metal awning which covers the raised concrete sidewalk in the front of the building. The building dates from circa 1910.
- 33. C Commercial Building (formerly West Fruit and Vegetable Store)  
One story brick commercial building constructed circa 1910. The front of the building is flush with the sidewalk. Two plate glass display windows with a panelled bulkhead flank a double leaf entrance. The parapet has a recessed panel. Raised concrete sidewalk is covered by a corrugated metal awning.
- 34. C Commercial Building (formerly Boo's Laundry)  
One story brick commercial building. Facade has three segmental arches which divide it into three bays which contain a central, double leaf, arched entrance flanked by windows, both of which have arched panelled shutters. The shutters appear to have their original hardware. Doors are eight panel doors, the top four of which have what appears to be replacement plate glass. The high brick parapet contains two elaborate metal vents. The raised concrete sidewalk in front of the building is covered by a corrugated metal awning. The building appears to date to circa 1890.
- 35. NC Vacant Lot
- 36. C Alexander-Brock Store  
One story brick, double-front commercial building with a stepped parapet with arched centerpiece where the company name and date are located. Identical double store fronts both have recessed entries with double leaf glazed wooden doors topped by transoms. There are large plate glass display windows surmounted by transoms. There is an exposed metal I-beam

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which runs across the entire front of the building just below the corrugated metal awning. This beam is decorated with applied metal rosettes. There is a raised concrete sidewalk in front of the building covered by a corrugated metal awning. The building was constructed in 1911. This building was donated to the Town of West Historical and Preservation Society in 1992.

37. C Commercial Building  
One story frame gable-fronted building. Recessed single leaf entrance door centered between large plate glass display windows. This building is reputed to be one of the oldest buildings in West possibly dating to the 1870s. Later alterations such as the addition of asbestos siding makes it difficult to tell, however.
38. C Commercial Building  
One story brick commercial building with parapet. Recessed double leaf aluminum doors are replacements. Doors are flanked by plate glass display windows. The standing seam metal awning over the raised concrete sidewalk in front of the building is supported from the sidewalk with metal posts. Original transom above awning. Recessed panel in parapet has decorative basket-weave brickwork. Three stabilizing rods are visible in the parapet. Building appears to date to circa 1925.
39. C Commercial Building (now West Public Library)  
One story brick commercial building with a simple brick parapet with center panel outlined by brick headers. Original metal standing seam awning supported from building with metal rods. Above the awning, an eight-light transom spans the facade. Recessed entrance has glazed wooden double-leaf doors flanked by plate glass display windows with replacement yellow brick at the bottom. This building appears to date to circa 1925. In 1975 the building was rehabilitated for use as a public library for West. Approximately ten to fifteen years later the building was reworked a second time.
40. NC Holmes County Bank  
One story brick building that originally was three separate storefronts. Around 1980, the building was severely altered when the facades of the two northern-most storefronts were bricked up. The storefront on the southern end was also veneered and a new single leaf glass and aluminum door sheltered by a cast iron porch was added. Although the building dates to the period of significance of the district, it is rated non-contributing because extensive alterations have caused a substantial loss of its historic character.
41. NC Vacant Lot. (Site of old livery stable and two more commercial buildings. Torn down circa 1990.)
42. NC Car Wash  
Circa 1985.

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43. NC West Station Package Store  
One story brick building, circa 1935. Facade has been greatly altered. Although the building dates to the period of significance of the district, it is rated non-contributing because extensive alterations have caused a substantial loss of its historic character.
44. NC Corner Quick Stop  
One story brick commercial building. Facade has been greatly altered but panelled parapet is still visible. Built circa 1935. When originally constructed, this building had two storefronts. Although the building dates to the period of significance of the district, it is rated non-contributing because extensive alterations have caused a substantial loss of its historic character.

**Green Street**

45. C Commercial Building (formerly L. J. Hand Hardware)  
One story brick commercial building. The parapet has a recessed panel that is topped by decorative brickwork. The front has a single 1/1 DHW and narrow double leaf entrance doors. An aluminum awning shelters the front of the building. The building was constructed circa 1925.
46. NC Old Post Office  
One story brick building. Plate glass window and aluminum and glass single leaf door have been covered up with corrugated metal. Building was constructed in 1965.
47. NC West Baptist Church  
Small vernacular Gothic Revival Church building. The facade of the building is fronted by a tetrastyle portico. The double leaf panelled entrance doors are located in the center of the facade and flanked by DH Gothic Revival stained glass windows. The walls of the building are brick veneer, the original walls being clapboard. The building was built in 1900-1901 but received its present appearance in a major remodeling of 1957.
- 48.a C Kelly House  
One story, frame, gable-and-wing Queen Anne cottage with a transverse gable roof. The porch across the transverse wing of the house has turned porch columns, corner brackets, and jigsaw balustrade. There is also a decorative gable ornament in the gable end. Windows are 1/1 DHW. The front entrance is a half glass single leaf door. The house appears to have been built circa 1900.

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- 48.b C Outbuilding  
Frame, gable-roofed 2 x 2 bay shotgun house with porch, circa 1900.
- 48.c C Barn/Garage  
Frame, gable-roofed barn/garage built circa 1900.
- 49.a C Rogers-McLellan House  
Two story frame Queen Anne Free Classic house. Porch across the front of the house is supported by unfluted Ionic columns. The front door is a single-leaf casement door with a transom. The part of the porch that surrounds the southwest part of the house is screened in and sheltered by a large aluminum awning. To the left of the front door are two 1/1 DH floor to ceiling windows. To the right of the door and sheltered by the screened porch is a single pocket window. The large, clipped gable dormer on the second floor was added in 1940. In this gable are four sets of double-hung windows, all sheltered by a large awning. This house was built in 1897 by Dr. Larkin Rogers who also built the Rogers-Aldridge House as a wedding present for his son in 1909 (Element no. 22).
- 49.b C Garage  
One car, gable front, frame garage with double leaf doors with four light windows in the top half. Built circa 1925.
- 49.c C Shotgun house  
Frame, gable front, shotgun house with porch, circa 1920.
- 49.d C Shotgun house  
Frame, gable front, shotgun house with porch, circa 1920.
- 49.e C Silo  
Circa 1920.
50. NC 205 West Town Hall and Fire Station  
One story brick building with hipped roof. Central, double leaf aluminum and glass entrance doors. Large floor to ceiling plate glass double windows on each side of door. Porte cochere on east side of building with garage on west side, both used to store fire department trucks and equipment. Building was constructed in 1978.
51. C Abandoned Residence  
Small, one-story, frame, single-pile house with shed rooms. There is an off center recessed porch on the facade. Brick chimneys in the gable ends. House is abandoned and the vegetation has grown up so that the house is difficult to see. House apparently was built around the turn of the century.

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- 52.a C Roy Melton House  
One story, clipped gable-roofed, frame bungalow. Porch across the front if supported by square columns on brick piers. The porch has an overhang with exposed rafter tails. The front door, centered on the facade, is a single leaf French door. There is one double window on each side of the entrance, each unit of which is a 6/2 DH window. There is a square attic vent in the gable. The house was built in 1928.
- 52.b C Garage  
Frame, one-story, clipped gable-roofed two car garage. Vent in gable end. Roof has broad overhang and exposed rafter tails. Probably built with the house in 1928.
53. C R. C. Mason House *Teacher's House*  
One-and-a-half story frame house set on a high brick foundation. Porch wraps around the north and east sides. The columns on the eastern side are tapered box columns while the columns on the northern side are Tuscan columns. There is a double-leaf entrance with sidelights in the center of the eastern side. There are two 1/1 DH windows on each side of this entrance. The roof is hipped. There are two hipped roof dormers with 1/1 DH double windows on the eastern side with one dormer on each of the other sides of the house. New wing on the west side of the house. The house was built in the 1870s and originally faced east. In 1912, it was remodeled and the entrance changed to the north side and the second story added.
- 54.a C Lottie Woods House  
Two story frame I-house with two, two-story projecting gable wings on the facade. Between the two wings is a recessed one-story entrance porch, with a single 2/2 DH window on the second floor. The two projecting wings have 2/2 DH double windows on both floors. The house appears to have been built as a standard I-house (much like the Harvey House, element no. 14) probably in the 1880s. Around the turn of the century, the two gable wings were added.
- 54.b C Garage  
Frame, two car garage with clipped gable roof and exposed rafter tails. Two sets of double leaf batten doors cover entrances to the garage. The garage was built circa 1925.
- 54.c C Barn  
Frame, gable-roofed barn from circa 1900 overgrown with vegetation and in deteriorated condition.
- 54.d C Outbuilding  
One-and-a-half story frame building with undercut gallery across front and steep gable roof. There are two brick chimneys on the north side, so the building is apparently two rooms deep. This building is very similar to three other buildings in town (Elements no. 4.c, 20.c, and 30.c). Built circa 1890.



8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1859-1935

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

West Public Library

West Historic District  
Name of Property

Holmes, Mississippi  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 61.8 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A1	1 6	2 4 0 6 2 0	3 6 7 7 1 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
B2	1 6	2 4 1 3 2 0	3 6 7 6 7 1 0

C3	1 6	2 4 1 0 2 0	3 6 7 6 1 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D4	1 6	2 4 0 5 0 0	3 6 7 6 1 3 0

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Todd Sanders, Architectural Historian

organization Mississippi Department of Archives and History date March 16, 1993

street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (601) 359-6940

city or town Jackson state Ms zip code 39205-0571

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

West Historic District  
West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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The Town of West, Mississippi, is locally significant (under Criterion A, in the area of community planning and development) because it is a relatively intact surviving example of the small railroad-oriented communities that were important elements of Mississippi's settlement pattern from the 1850s until the automobile began to dominate transportation in rural Mississippi in the 1930s. The period of significance for West extends from 1859, when West Station was established, to 1935, the year U. S. Highway 51 through West was paved.

West was the transportation and commercial center for northeastern Holmes and west central Attala counties and as such is a relic community of the time when railroad stops served as trading sites for dispersed rural communities. Other than the railroad, however, West had none of the economic stimulus that enabled other nearby communities to grow during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The basis of West's economic activity consisted of supplying nearby rural residents with manufactured goods brought into the town by the railroad. Durant, located approximately ten miles south of West, developed into a considerably larger trade center rather early on, presumably in large part because its railroad junction made it more active commercially. In 1880, for example, West had a population of 200 while Durant's population was 724. By 1900, West's population had declined to 196 while Durant's had more than doubled to 1776. Vaiden, located ten miles to the north of West, was founded the same year as West on the same railroad. Vaiden was, like Durant, more successful than West, but its growth was due to increased prominence of the community following its designation as 2nd district county seat of Carroll County in 1874. In 1900, Vaiden had a population of 474, well over the 196 of West.

Because West lacked the economic advantages of communities like Durant and Vaiden, its fortunes rose and fell with the railroad. As traffic on the Mississippi Central, later the Illinois Central Railroad, prospered, so did West. But by the mid-1930s, railroad travel was beginning to decline in favor of the automobile. In the 1930s, U. S. Highway 51, which was the state's main north-south thoroughfare, was paved. The section of this highway that went through West as Front Street was paved in 1935. With improved roads, people could now travel quickly and easily by automobile to larger communities to shop and transact business. West's importance steadily declined while communities such as Durant and Vaiden, which had a broader economic base, became increasingly important.

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Situated on the west bank of the Big Black River in the northeast corner of Holmes County, the community of West was founded as West Station in 1859 as a stop on the Mississippi Central Railroad. It was named for General Absolom Madden West who was at that time superintendent of the Mississippi Central Railroad. The land for the town was donated by Mr. Alex Martin and Mr. William Francis Green (*History of West, Mississippi, 1975, p. 5*).

The first settlers of West came primarily from the now extinct rural community of Wheeling. This settlement, located four miles east of the present day community of West, is now referred to as Old Wheeling. These settlers were joined by others from east of the Big Black River who had moved to the

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boomtown (Ibid, p. 9). West's first depot was built in 1859 but was burned in 1863 during one of Grierson's Raids. The rest of the village was saved by some sick Confederate soldiers who were recuperating there. These Confederates "went down to the river shooting their guns and so frightened the raiders that they hurriedly left" (Ibid, p. 5).

On May 9, 1871, West Station was officially incorporated (Ibid, p. 9). The town site, as described in the charter, lay within section 34, Township 16, Range 5 East. This charter also provided for the election of a Mayor, two aldermen and a town constable. The first amendment to the charter, approved March 5, 1880, expanded the corporation limits. Also in 1880, the first bridge was built across the Big Black River at West thus making it much easier to travel to West from Attala County. The improved transportation, made possible by the railroads and the new bridge, combined with the improvements being made in farming methods and the continued popularity of cotton as a cash crop, made West a locally prominent cotton market. West continued to grow and on May 16, 1893, Governor J. M. Stone notified the town authorities that the municipality of West would thereafter be known as the Village of West (in accordance with the provisions concerning municipalities in the 1890 Constitution). A survey ordered by the Board of Aldermen in 1913 showed the population of the town to be 321. This increase took the municipality out of the class of village. On July 12, 1913 Governor Earl Brewer issued a proclamation changing the name of the Village of West to the Town of West (Ibid, p. 10). While this growth seemed promising it would not continue uninterrupted. The census of 1920 showed West to have a population of 236. Governor Lee M. Russell issued a proclamation that year taking West back to its earlier status of village (Ibid, p. 11).

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, West was a thriving little town with industries to provide work for its people (Ibid, p. 8). A small creamery had operated in West for a number of years before it was made into a cheese plant in 1926. This plant continued to produce until the local milk supply dropped and it was forced to close. In 1920, the A. J. Stevens Insurance Company was formed. In August 1924, Hand Motor Company began selling Model T Fords (this business moved to Durant in 1949). In 1928, a Chevrolet dealership opened in West and operated for several years. In 1927 there was a planing mill in town which operated until the Great Depression forced its closure in 1935 (Ibid, p. 8). Around 1928 or 1929, electricity was made available to residents. Street lights were also installed at this time.

Mississippi communities historically have had a large proportion of African Americans in their populations, though the proportions have varied considerably depending on the area of the state and the period. West has always had and continues to have a minority population of African Americans, but none of the properties in the historic district have any particular association with African Americans. The two shotgun houses associated with the Rogers-McLellan House (inventory numbers 49.c and 49.d) may well have had Black tenants from time to time, but there is no physical or documentary record of this. These two houses are not currently occupied.

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Johnson, Marion (Compiler). *A Pictorial History of the Homes of West*. Unpublished document. Assembled 1984-1985. Copy at West Public Library.

West Garden Club. *History of West, Mississippi*. Florence, Mississippi: The Messenger Press, Second Edition, revised, 1975.

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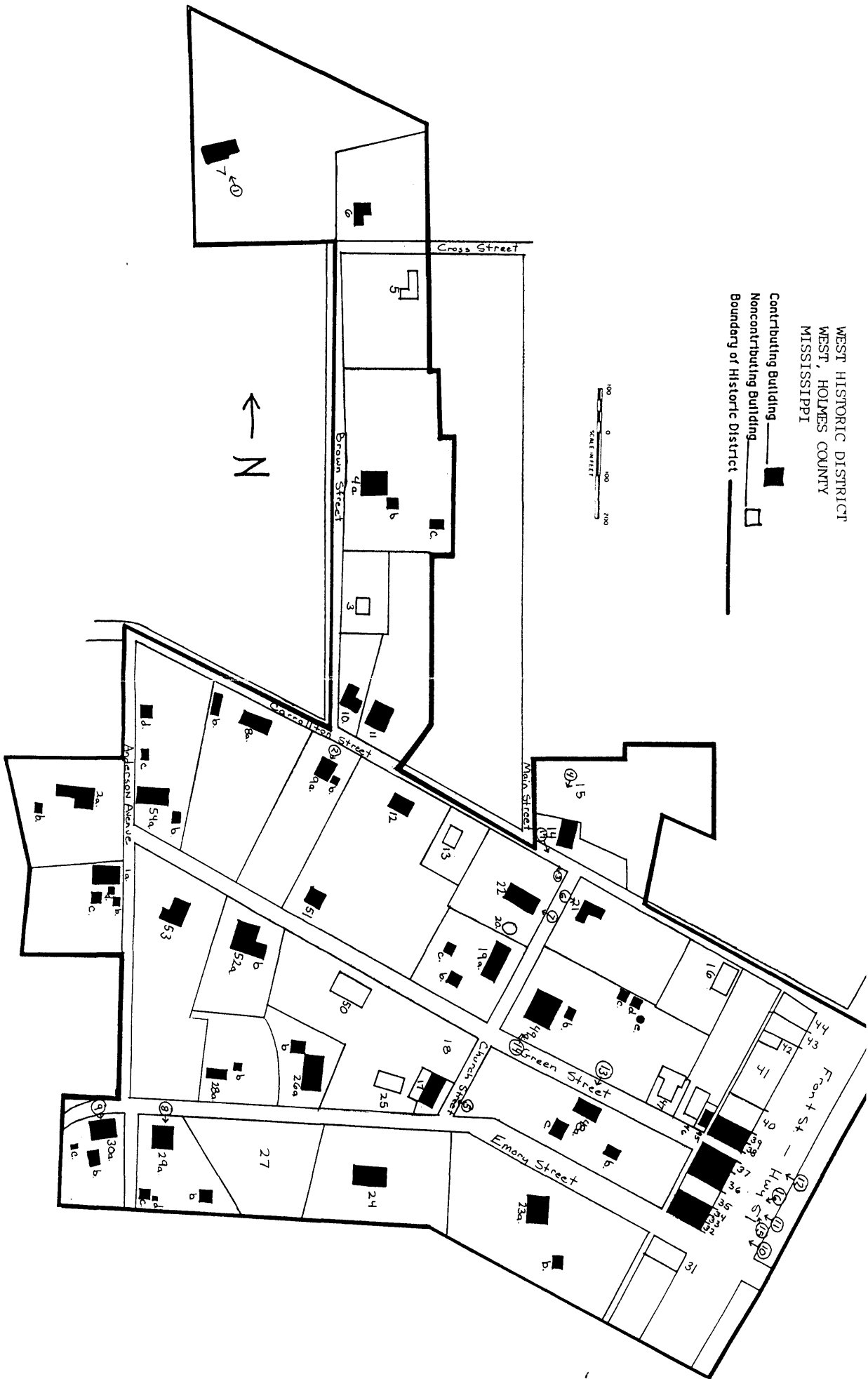
Verbal Boundary Description  
See accompanying scale map.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the district are drawn so as to include as many elements as possible of significance and integrity that define the district's character. Although boundaries appear irregular, they encompass the contiguous concentration of significant properties while excluding the greater number of adjacent non-contributing resources.

WEST HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 WEST, HOLMES COUNTY  
 MISSISSIPPI

Contributing Building   
 Noncontributing Building   
 Boundary of Historic District 



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West Historic District  
West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) West Historic District
- (2) West, Holmes County, Mississippi
- (3) Todd Sanders
- (4) January - February 1993
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1 -- (6) Brock-Foster House, Brown Street (#7)  
Front (south) facade, view to north

Photo 2 -- (6) The Magnolias, 209 Carrollton Street (#9.a)  
Front (north) facade, view to south

Photo 3 -- (6) West Presbyterian Church, Carrollton Street (#14)  
Front (south) facade, view to north

Photo 4 -- (6) West Presbyterian Church and West Cemetery (#14 & 15)  
Rear (north) facade of church, view to south and general view of cemetery

Photo 5 -- (6) Masonic Hall, Church Street (#17)  
Front (east) facade, view to west

Photo 6 -- (6) Harvey House, Church Street (#21)  
Front (west) facade, view to east

Photo 7 -- (6) West Methodist Church, Church Street (#22)  
Front (east) facade, view to west

Photo 8 -- (6) Rogers-Aldridge House, Emory Street (#29.a)  
Front (north) facade, view to south

Photo 9 -- (6) Campbell-Dinstel House, Emory Street (#30.a)  
Front (north) facade, view to south

Photo 10 -- (6) Commercial building, Front Street (#34)  
Front (east) facade, view to west

Photo 11 -- (6) Alexander-Brock Store, Front Street (#36)  
Front (east) facade, view to west

Photo 12 -- (6) Commercial building, Front Street (#39)  
Front (east) facade, view to west



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Photo 13 -- (6) Kelly House, Green Street (#48.a)  
Front (north) facade, view to south

Photo 14 -- (6) Rogers-McLellan House, Green Street (#49.a)  
Front (south) facade, view to north

Photo 15 -- (6) Front Street at Green Street  
General view to northwest

Photo 16 -- (6) Front Street at Emory Street  
General view to southwest

Photo 17 -- (6) Intersection of Church and Carrollton Street  
General view to southeast



West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

Photo # 1 of 17



West Historic District  
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West Historic District

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MASON  
JOHN L.  
BORN 22 1890  
DIED 21 1970



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West Historic District

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West Historic District

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West Historic District

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West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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BOO'S LAUNDRY

Coca-Cola

Coca-Cola

West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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HOLA

PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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West Historic District

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West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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DRY GOODS

191  
BROOKWOOD G.

GR. SERIES

WELLS

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Photo # 15 of 17





West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

Photo # 16 of 17



West Historic District

West, Holmes County, Mississippi

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