

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Mississippi
COUNTY:
Adams
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
70.8.23.0012 DATE
8/25

1. NAME
COMMON:
Jefferson College
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Jefferson College

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
North Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE
Mississippi CODE
23 COUNTY:
Adams CODE
001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☒ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

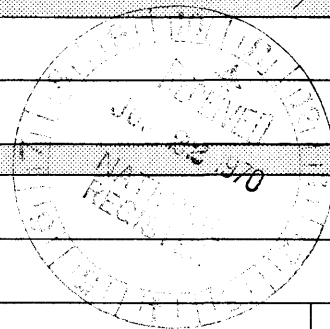
☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious	Only two buildings used as residences	
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Public ownership
STREET AND NUMBER:
State of Mississippi
CITY OR TOWN:
Jackson STATE:
Mississippi CODE
23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Adams County Chancery Court
STREET AND NUMBER:
Market Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Natchez STATE:
Mississippi CODE
23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: **1936** ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Division of Prints and Photographs
STREET AND NUMBER:
Library of Congress
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington STATE:
District of Columbia CODE
08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: **Mississippi** COUNTY: **Adams** FOR NPS USE ONLY
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☒ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Jefferson College is located on a campus consisting of approximately 78.5 acres. Two original brick buildings, three stories in height, were joined by a third building a few years after their erection, giving the appearance of one large building constructed of three different types of bricks in the federal style of architecture.

The east wing was probably built in the 1820s, while the west wing was built in 1838-39. Each wing consists of three and a half stories, and each wing has three dormer windows and a hipped roof. The center section was built some time after 1851, and consists of three stories with a flat roof and a small wooden bell tower.

Located behind the main buildings are two smaller out buildings of similar construction and architecture. These buildings consist of two stories and a basement or ground floor.

Also located on the campus is the President's House, a wooden two story structure built in the early 19th century.

It is not known what alterations from the original design may have been made in the interior of the buildings.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

AMENDMENT: PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
JEFFERSON COLLEGE
WASHINGTON, ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

7. In 1972, as part of the effort to restore the Jefferson College Campus as nearly as possible to its 1840 appearance, a structurally unsound, three-story gymnasium building which had been constructed in 1894-95 between the two primary original school buildings was removed (see attached photographs).



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1802-1964

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal

☒ Education

☒ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Jefferson College, named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson, was incorporated by the Mississippi Territorial Legislature on May 13, 1802. This was the first act of incorporation passed by the Legislature. The college was established on land donated by John Foster, James Foster, and Randal Gibson. Because of lack of funds, the college could not open its doors to students until January 1, 1811. The school first operated in the frame buildings of Washington Academy, previously located on the campus site.

Mississippi's first constitution was written and signed in the Old Methodist Church established by Lorenzo Dow on the Jefferson College campus, in the summer of 1817. Jefferson College is the birthplace of Mississippi's statehood.

Distinguished members of the College's Board of Trustees were Governors W. C. C. Claiborne, Robert Williams, David Holmes, Walter Leake, and George Poindexter, Senator Thomas Reed, and General Thomas Hinds. Among the noted faculty members were John James Audubon and Leonard Hale, who assisted Samuel F. B. Morse in the development of the telegraph. Jefferson Davis was a student at Jefferson College in 1818. Other outstanding Mississippians who were students there included Congressman J. F. H. Claiborne, Senator and Governor Albert G. Brown, and distinguished geologist B. L. C. Wailes.

It was the desire of the founders that Jefferson College should become a southern West Point. In 1829 military science was added to the course of study. The school, however, never became more than a preparatory school for boys.

On February 4, 1807, Aaron Burr was arraigned for treason in a court building which once stood near the giant oak trees that still stand on the Jefferson College campus. In 1815 General Andrew Jackson visited the college, on his way to Nashville after the Battle of New Orleans. The Marquis de Lafayette may have visited the college when he was a visitor in nearby Natchez in 1825.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. James, D. Clayton, Antebellum Natchez. (Baton Rouge, La., LSU Press: 1968), 235-236.
2. Jefferson College papers, Mississippi Department of Archives and History collections.
3. Marshall, Thomas, They Found It in Natchez. (Baton Rouge, La., Pelican Press: 1939), 156.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
NW	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NE	31	35	17	91	18	08		
SE	31	35	18	91	17	49		
SW	31	34	48	91	17	46		
	31	34	47	91	18	05		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 78.5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Elbert Hilliard, Director, Div. of Hist. Sites and Archaeology

ORGANIZATION
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:
120 North State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Jackson,

STATE
Mississippi

DATE
23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☒ Local ☒

Name

R. G. McNamee

Title **Director, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History**

Date **June 16, 1970**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

AUG 25 1970

Date

ATTEST:

William J. Montague
Keeper of The National Register

Date

JUL 31 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

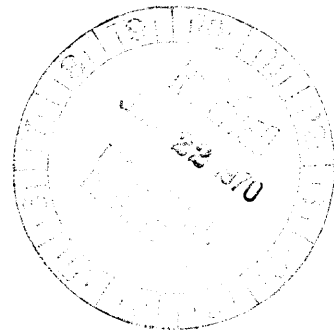
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-F-23-00/2	8/65

(Number all entries)

Jefferson College

8. Following the 1963-64 session, Jefferson College, which had been a military high school for many years, closed its doors. The State of Mississippi acquired the Jefferson College property in 1965, by purchase authorized by the 1964 Mississippi Legislature.
9. 4. Swearingen, Mack, Life of George Poindexter. (New Orleans, La., Tulane University Press: 1934), 45-47.
5. Sydnor, Charles S., A Gentleman of the Old Natchez Region Benjamin L. C. Wailes. (Durham, N. C., Duke University Press: 1938), 48-233, passim.



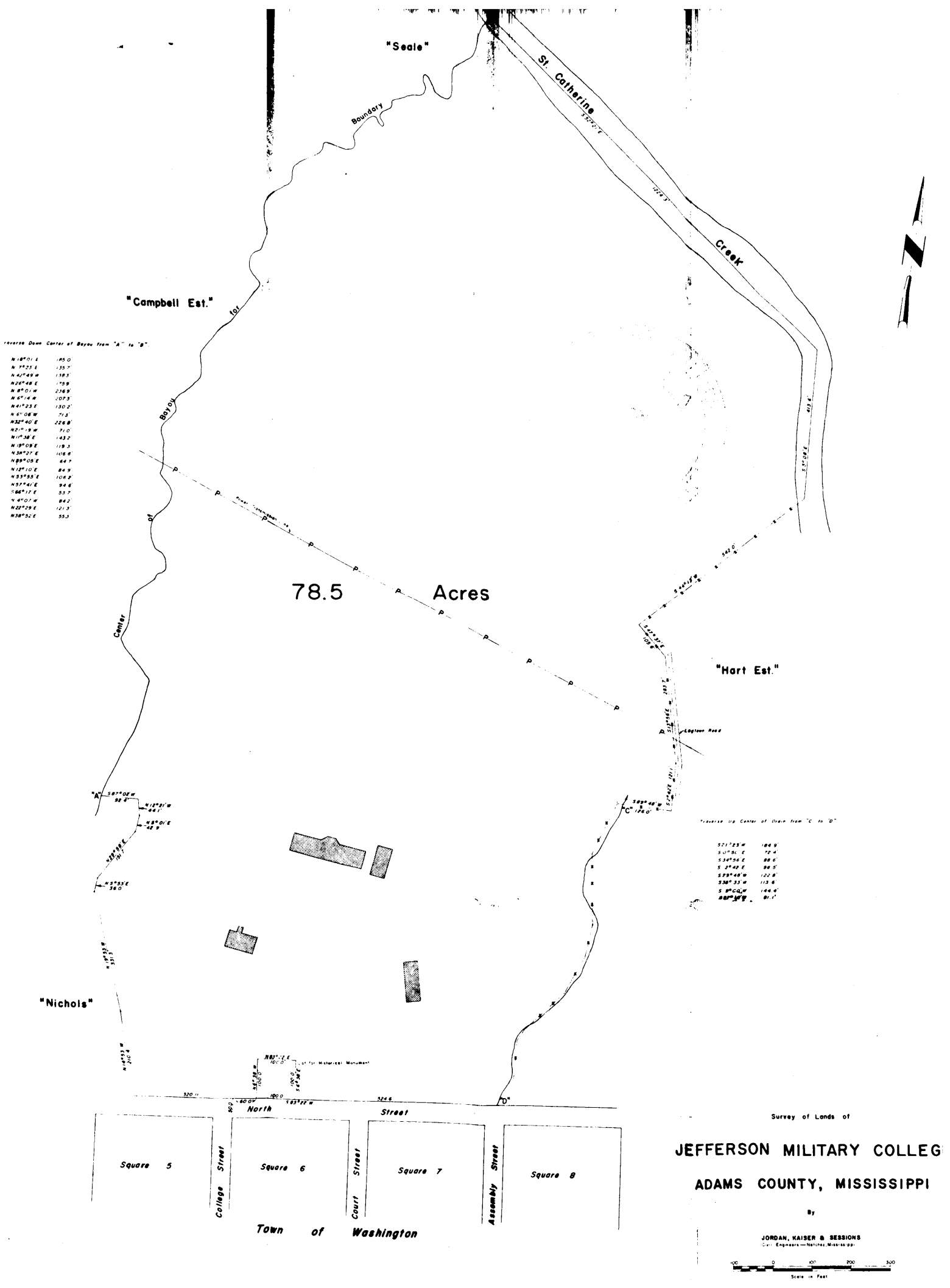


Photo By
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY
Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

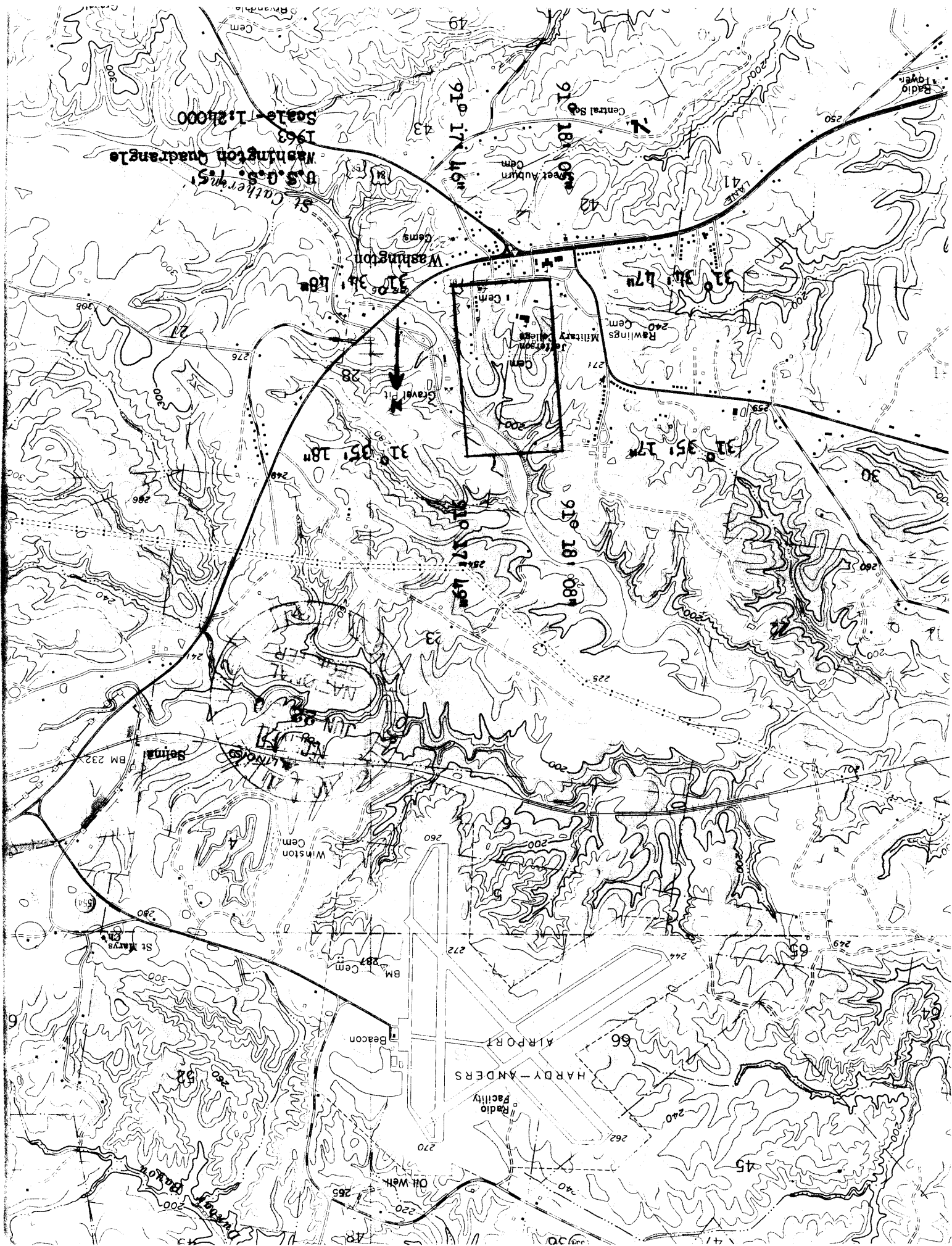
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

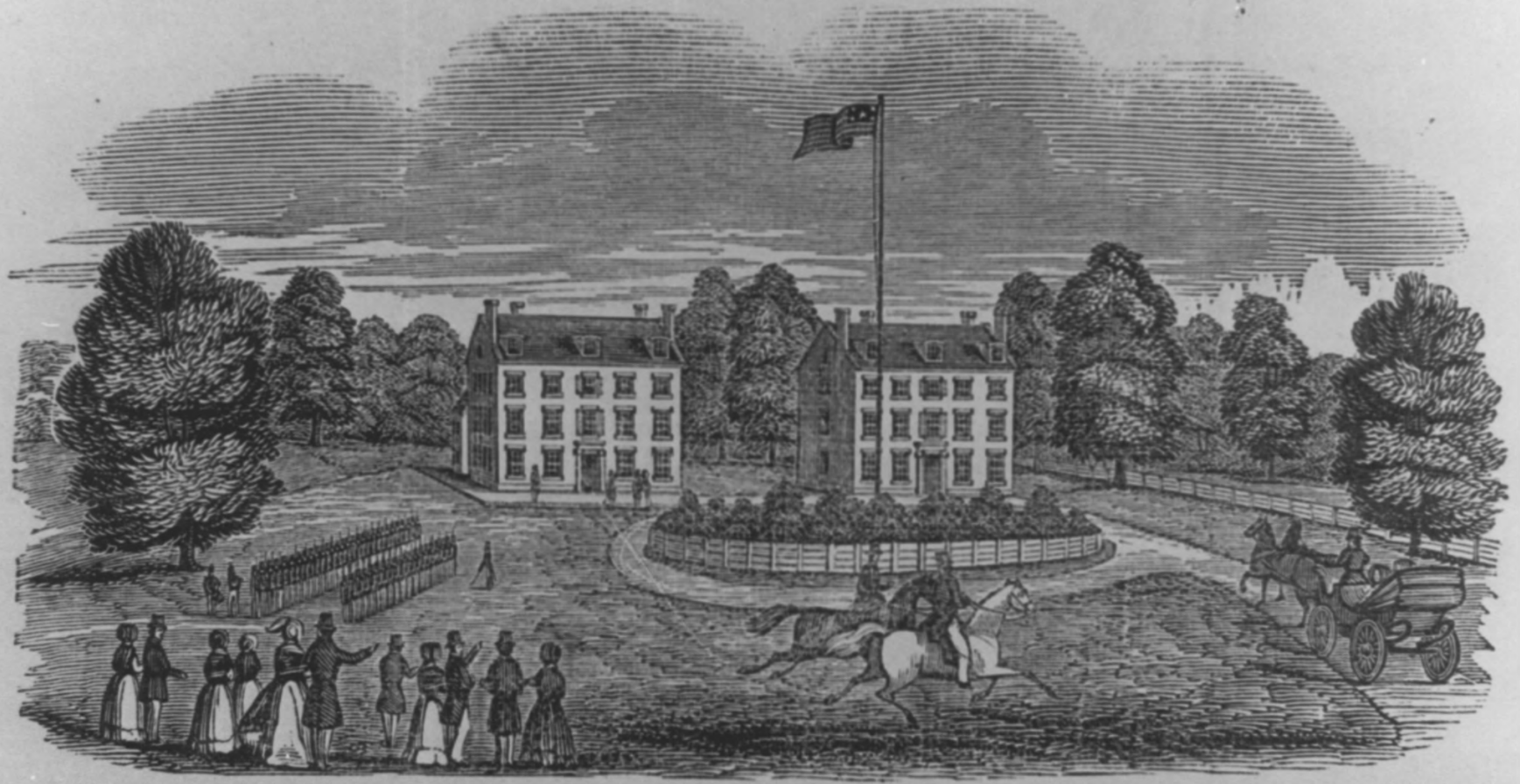
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-8-23-0012	8/05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Jefferson College			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Jefferson College			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: North Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions, Civil Engineers, Natchez, Miss.			
SCALE: 1:1200			
DATE: 1956			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





JEFFERSON COLLEGE AND MILITARY INSTITUTE,
WASHINGTON, SIX MILES FROM NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI.
CHARTERED IN 1803.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON

Jefferson College

AND/OR HISTORIC

NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

2. LOCATION

STATE

Mississippi

COUNTY

Adams

TOWN

Washington

STREET AND NUMBER

North Street

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

DATE

1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Woodcut, ca. 1851, depicting east and west wings with a dependency partially visible behind the west wing.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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CODE

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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Mississippi

DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

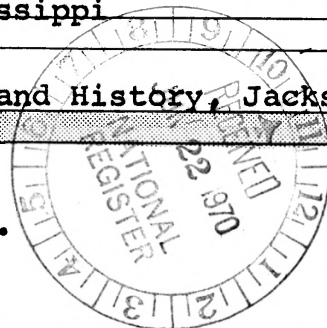
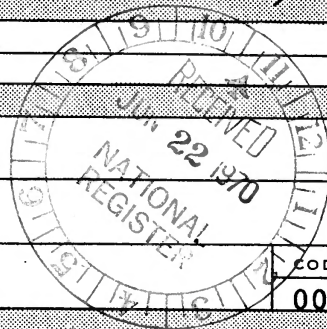
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

President's house from North Street.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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COUNTY:

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001

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.

DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

East Wing, main building - from the south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Mississippi, Jefferson College Adams Co., WA



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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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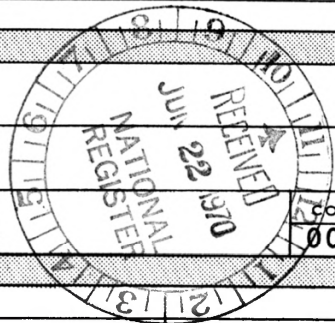
STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
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1. NAME		
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AND/OR HISTORIC: Jefferson College		
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STREET AND NUMBER: North Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.		
DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970		
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.		
4. IDENTIFICATION		

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Center section, main building from the south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

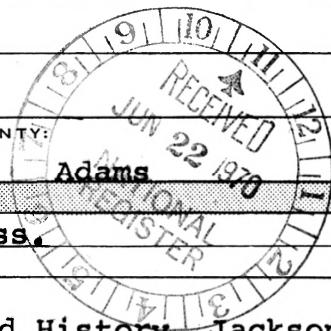
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North Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Washington			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	23	Adams	001
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.			
DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
West wing, main building from the south.			





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

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STREET AND NUMBER

North Street

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

DATE

1974

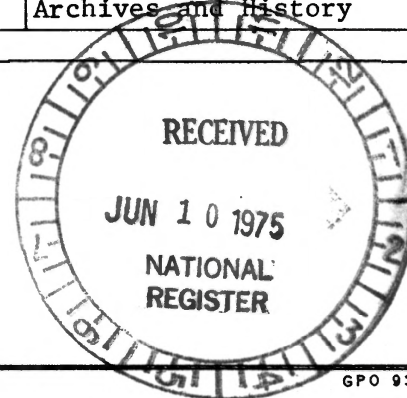
NEGATIVE FILED AT

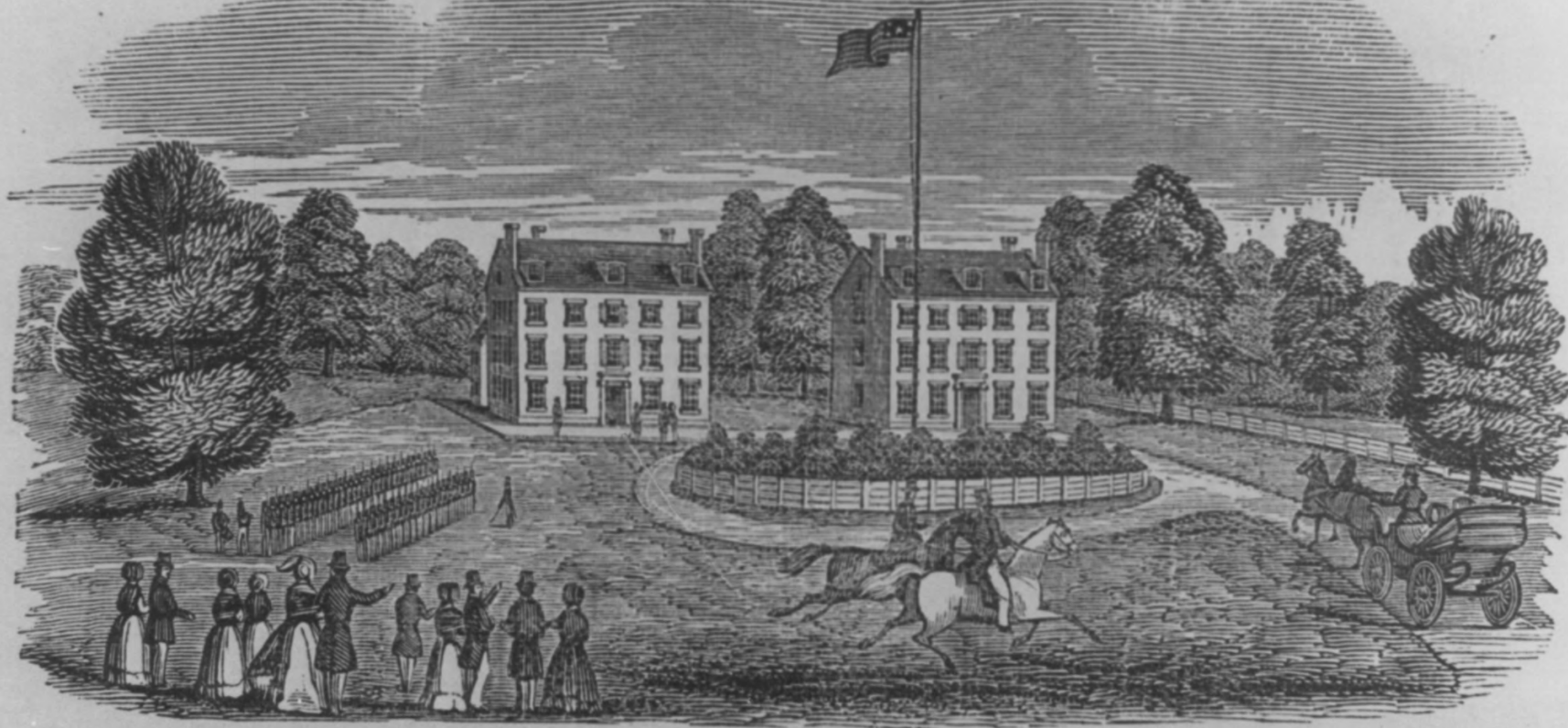
Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

East and west wings, facade view from the south.





JEFFERSON COLLEGE AND MILITARY INSTITUTE,
WASHINGTON, SIX MILES FROM NATCHEEZ, MISSISSIPPI.
CHARTERED IN 1803.

Mississippi, Jefferson College, Adams Co., Washington Vicinity MISS.

8-25-70 d.o.e.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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AND/OR HISTORIC: **Jefferson College**

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STATE:

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COUNTY:

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001

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.

DATE OF PHOTO:

June, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

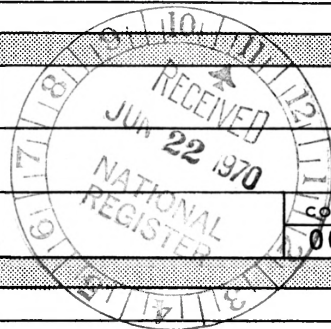
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Main building, from the south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

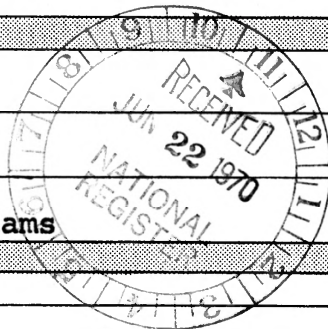
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-8-23-001a	DATE 8/25

1. NAME			
COMMON: Jefferson College			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Jefferson College			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: North Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.			
DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

Outbuilding behind west wing of main building, from the west.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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COUNTY	
Adams FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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CITY OR TOWN: Washington			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 23	COUNTY: Adams	CODE 001
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David Peabody, Natchez, Miss.			
DATE OF PHOTO: June, 1970			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Outbuilding, behind east wing of main building, from the east.			

