

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Adams	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Only two buildings used as residences</u>

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> 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

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)  
 Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)  
 Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)  
 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.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | losophy                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itorian                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> 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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Adams	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(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 1964, 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.

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			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	31 ° 35 ' 17 "	91 ° 18 ' 08 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	31 ° 35 ' 18 "	91 ° 17 ' 49 "				
SE	31 ° 34 ' 48 "	91 ° 17 ' 46 "				
SW	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 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER:  
120 North State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson, STATE: Mississippi CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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. M. [Signature]*

Title: Director, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History

Date: June 16, 1970

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

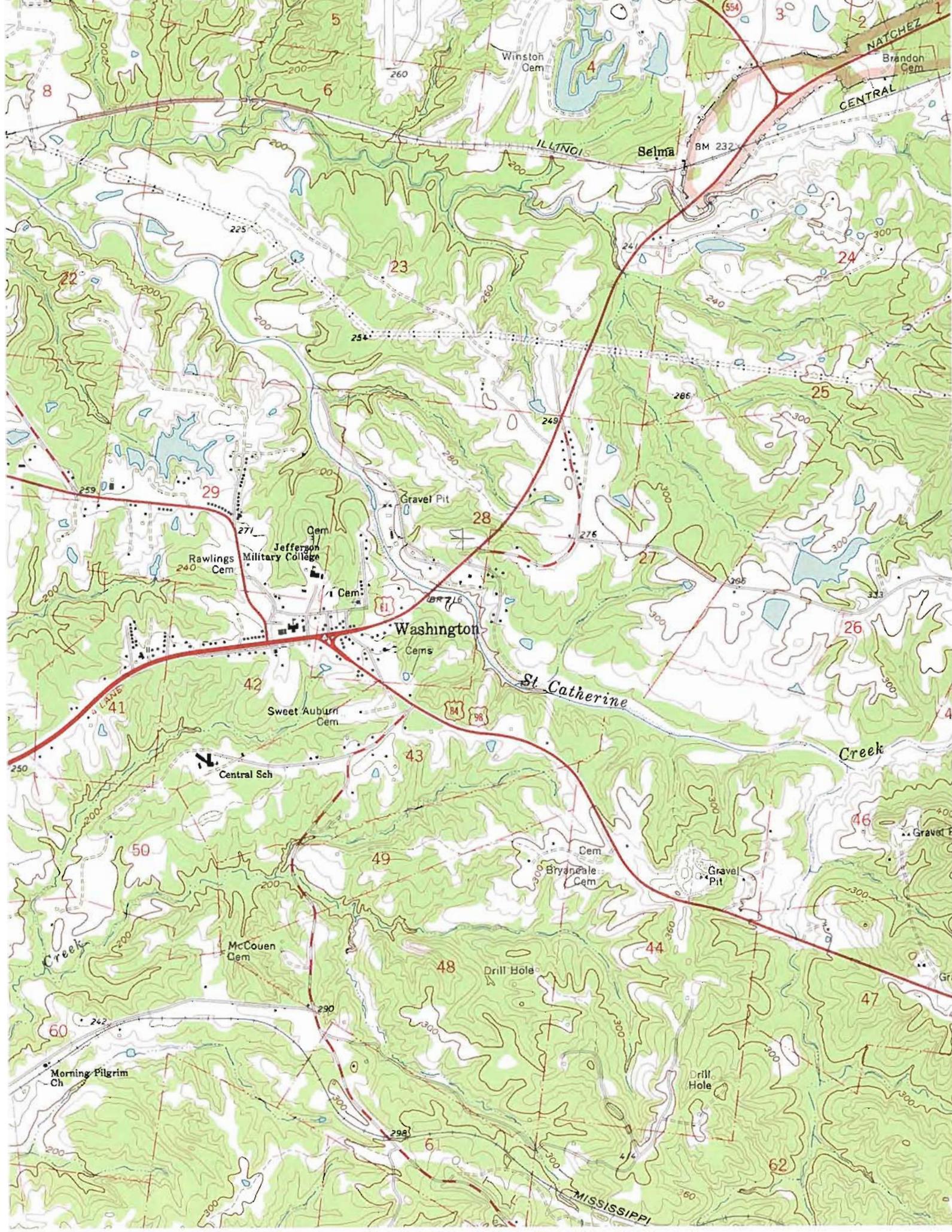
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

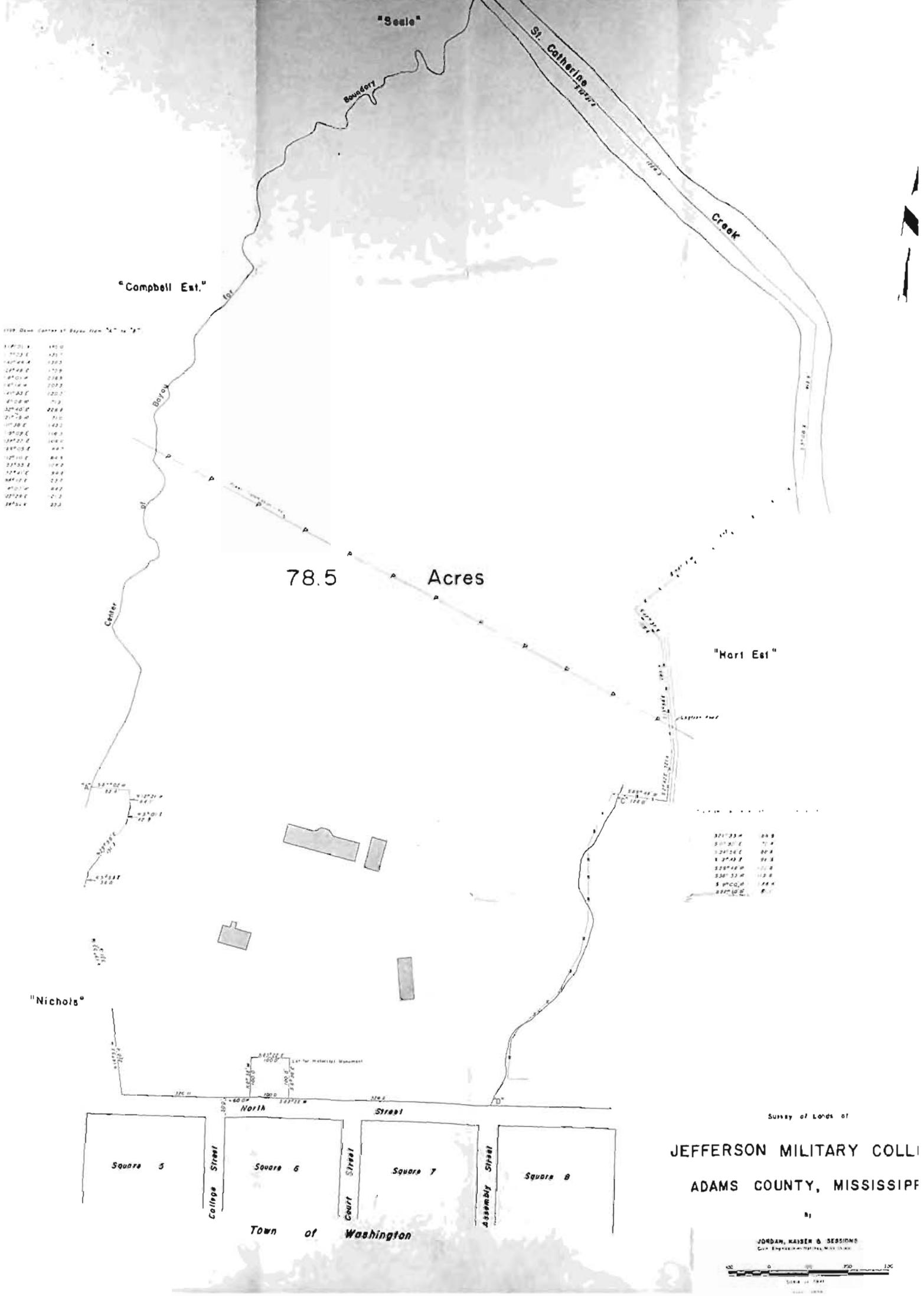
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





1189. Down Center of Bayou from "A" to "B"

1189.00	140.0
1189.10	125.7
1189.20	120.5
1189.30	115.3
1189.40	110.1
1189.50	104.9
1189.60	99.7
1189.70	94.5
1189.80	89.3
1189.90	84.1
1190.00	78.9
1190.10	73.7
1190.20	68.5
1190.30	63.3
1190.40	58.1
1190.50	52.9
1190.60	47.7
1190.70	42.5
1190.80	37.3
1190.90	32.1
1191.00	26.9

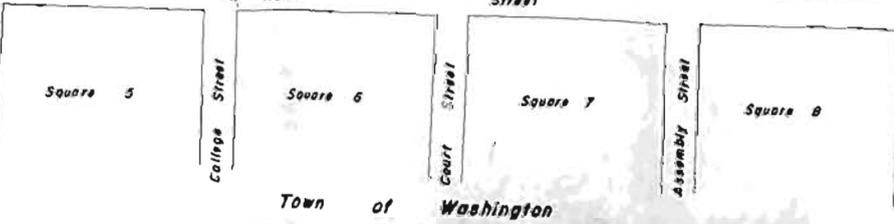
78.5 Acres

"Hart Est"

321723	24.8
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321800	24.8

Survey of Lots of  
**JEFFERSON MILITARY COLLEGE**  
 ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

JORDAN, KAISER & BESSING  
 Civil Engineers - MEMPHIS, MISSISSIPPI



Town of Washington