

HB No 47m

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Mississippi</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Warren</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>107.23.0011</b>	DATE <b>7/23/70</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Pemberton House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Willis-Cowan Home**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1020 Crawford Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Vicksburg**

STATE <b>Mississippi</b>	CODE <b>39180</b>	COUNTY: <b>Warren</b>	CODE <b>149</b>
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**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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Unoccupied</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Sisters of Mercy**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1021 Crawford Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Vicksburg**

STATE: <b>Mississippi</b>	CODE <b>23</b>
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Warren County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P. O. Box 351**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Vicksburg**

STATE: <b>Mississippi</b>	CODE <b>23</b>
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mississippi  
COUNTY: Warren  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

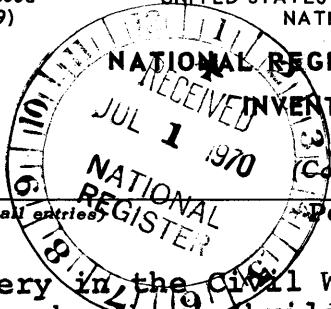
The Pemberton House is a combination of Federal and Greek Revival architecture. The rooms of the two story home are large and spacious with numerous windows affording a splendid view of downtown Vicksburg. Several of the windows in the house have twenty-four panes, with some of the original glass remaining. The lintels are Greek Revival in detail.

The walls of the house are solid brick and are approximately one foot thick. The house, which sits well above the street on a solid terrace, is bordered on three sides by an iron fence, which was added some years later.

Originally, the brick kitchen was separated from the house; however, it was later joined to the house by a wooden structure, probably built around 1920-1930. Two large galleries on the first and second floors are located on the front of the house. The original fireplaces, mantels and massive door locks remain in good condition, as is the handsome woodwork.

A plaque, designating the house as Pemberton's Headquarters during the Siege of Vicksburg in 1863, is mounted on the front of the building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
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Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-7-23-0011	7/23/70

(Number all entries)

Pemberton House

8. battery in the Civil War and was assigned to assist one of the Weldon brothers (builders of the Vicksburg and Raymond court-houses) in a project to devise, construct and plant torpedoes in the Yazoo River. They developed an electric spark torpedo, the first ever used against a United States warship, which sank the Union gunboat Cairo on December 12, 1862. Remnants, thought to be parts of the torpedo, were obtained by Lieutenant Cowan. The remnants have been exhibited in the Old Courthouse Museum in Vicksburg and are now in the possession of Dr. Harry Pierce of Vicksburg.

The home, presently unoccupied, was bought many years ago by the Sisters of Mercy and used by them until recently as a kindergarten.

9. 4. Goodspeed's Memoirs of Mississippi (Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1891), I, 596-597.
5. Hoehling, A. A., Vicksburg: 47 Days of Siege. (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1969) 20, 43, 71, 73, 340.
6. Land records, Book J 17, p. 5, Lot 242, Warren County Chancery Court, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
7. Mississippi: A Guide To The Magnolia State, Federal Writer's Project of the Works Progress Administration. (New York: Viking Press, 1938), 280.
8. Mulvihill, M. J., Sr., Vicksburg, Fort St. Peter, Fort Snyder. (Vicksburg: Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg, 1931), 44-45.
9. Pemberton, John C., Pemberton: Defender of Vicksburg. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1942), 239.
10. Record of Commissioned Officers, 1848-1861, Series K, Vol. B, p. 40, MDAH.
11. Rowland, Dunbar, Mississippi. (Atlanta: Southern Historical Publishing Association, 1907), III, 193-194.
12. Vicksburg City Directory, 1860-61.
13. Vicksburg City Directory, 1877-78.
14. Vicksburg Evening Post, May 24, 1892, and January 17, 1906.

## 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)

ca. 1836-1892

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This large and impressive antebellum home has been known since the Civil War as the Willis-Cowan Home or Pemberton House. During the Civil War, it was selected by Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton as one of his headquarters during the forty-seven day Siege of Vicksburg. During this time, it withstood heavy shelling. Emma Balfour, wife of Dr. William T. Balfour, lived next door and kept a detailed diary of the siege. She described the heavy shelling of May 30 as follows: "I never saw anything like it. People were running in every direction to find a place of safety. The shells fell literally like hail. Mrs. Willis' house was struck twice and two horses in front of her door were killed. General Pemberton and staff had to quit it."

The ownership of the property on which the Pemberton House is located dates back to the Reverend Newet Vick, founder of Vicksburg, who acquired the property sometime between 1814 and 1819. After the death of Mr. Vick in 1819, his estate was divided among his heirs, and his daughter Martha acquired this property.

The house was probably built between 1834 and 1836 by William Bobb. In 1836 he sold the property to Mrs. Martha P. Willis, daughter of Burwell Vick and the mother of John Willis, who distinguished himself as a soldier in the Mexican War and was a successful planter at Panther Burn Plantation in the Mississippi Delta. At the outbreak of war in 1846, he organized the Vicksburg Southrons in Warren County and served with the First Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Jefferson Davis, in the battles of Vera Cruz, Monterey, and Buena Vista. After the war, he returned to live in his mother's home. Willis mortgaged the property in 1874, and the courts subsequently sold it to Alice B. Crutcher in 1888. Two years later, Mrs. M. F. Cowan, wife of Ludwell Blackstone Cowan, purchased the home.

Cowan, who lived in the home from 1890 until his death in 1892, was a lieutenant in Captain J. J. Cowan's

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. Bearss, Edwin C., Decision in Mississippi. (Jackson, Mississippi: Mississippi Commission on the War Between the States, 1962), 441.
2. Census Population Schedule for Mississippi, Warren County, 1860, 1870.
3. Diary of Mrs. Emma Balfour, typescript copy. MDAH, May 16 - June 2, 1863, 1 vol.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

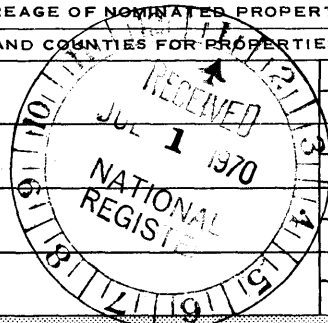
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		32 20 09	90 52 48	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Approximately .4 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

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

ORGANIZATION: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History** DATE: **6/24/70**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**120 North State Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jackson** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **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 *S. G. Moore*

Title Director, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History

Date 6/24/70

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Ernest Allen Connally*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUL 23 1970

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
*William J. Schutts*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date JUL 20 1970

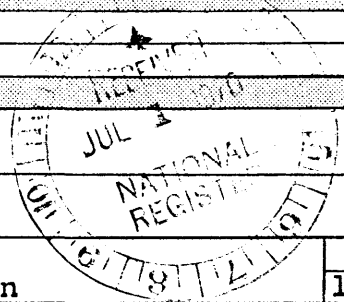
STATE	Mississippi	
COUNTY	Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	70.7.23.0011	DATE
		7/23/70

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

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

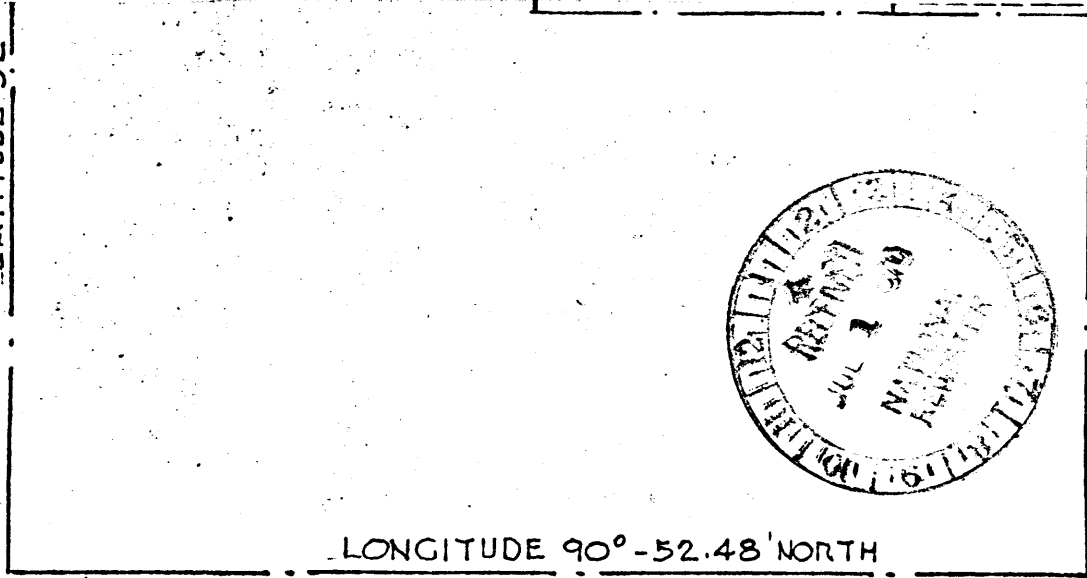
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Pemberton House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Willis-Cowan Home			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1020 Crawford Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Vicksburg			
STATE: Mississippi	CODE 39180	COUNTY: Warren	CODE 149
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: Sanborn Map Company, New York, New York			
SCALE: 1:600			
DATE: 1960			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



C H E R R

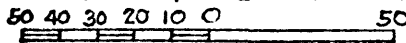
LATITUDE 32°



LONGITUDE 90°-52.48' NORTH

PLOT

SCALE 1" = 50 FEET



PUBLISHED BY  
SANBORN MAP COMPANY, NEW YORK N.Y. 1925 REV. 1960

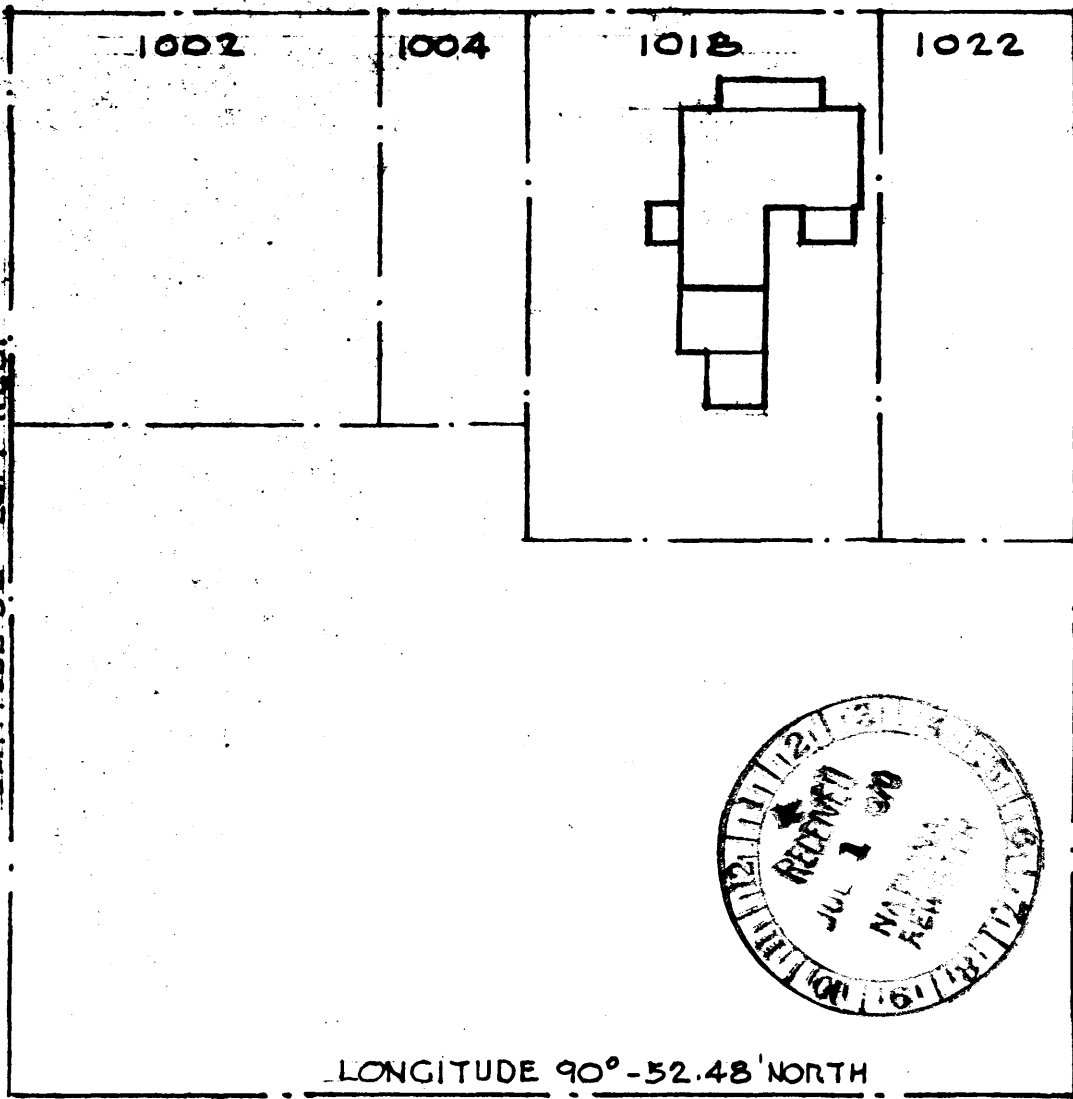
COWAN PLACE  
VICKSBURG, MISS.



CRAWFORD ST.

C H E R R Y S T

LATITUDE 32° - 20.9' WEST



LONGITUDE 90° - 52.48' NORTH

PLOT

SCALE 1" = 50 FEET



PUBLISHED BY  
SANBORN MAP COMPANY, NEW YORK N.Y. 1925 REV. 1960

COWAN PLACE  
VICKSBURG, MISS.

VICKSBURG WEST QUADRANGLE  
MISSISSIPPI—LOUISIANA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 VICKSBURG 15' QUADRANGLE

2848 IV NE  
(REDWOOD)

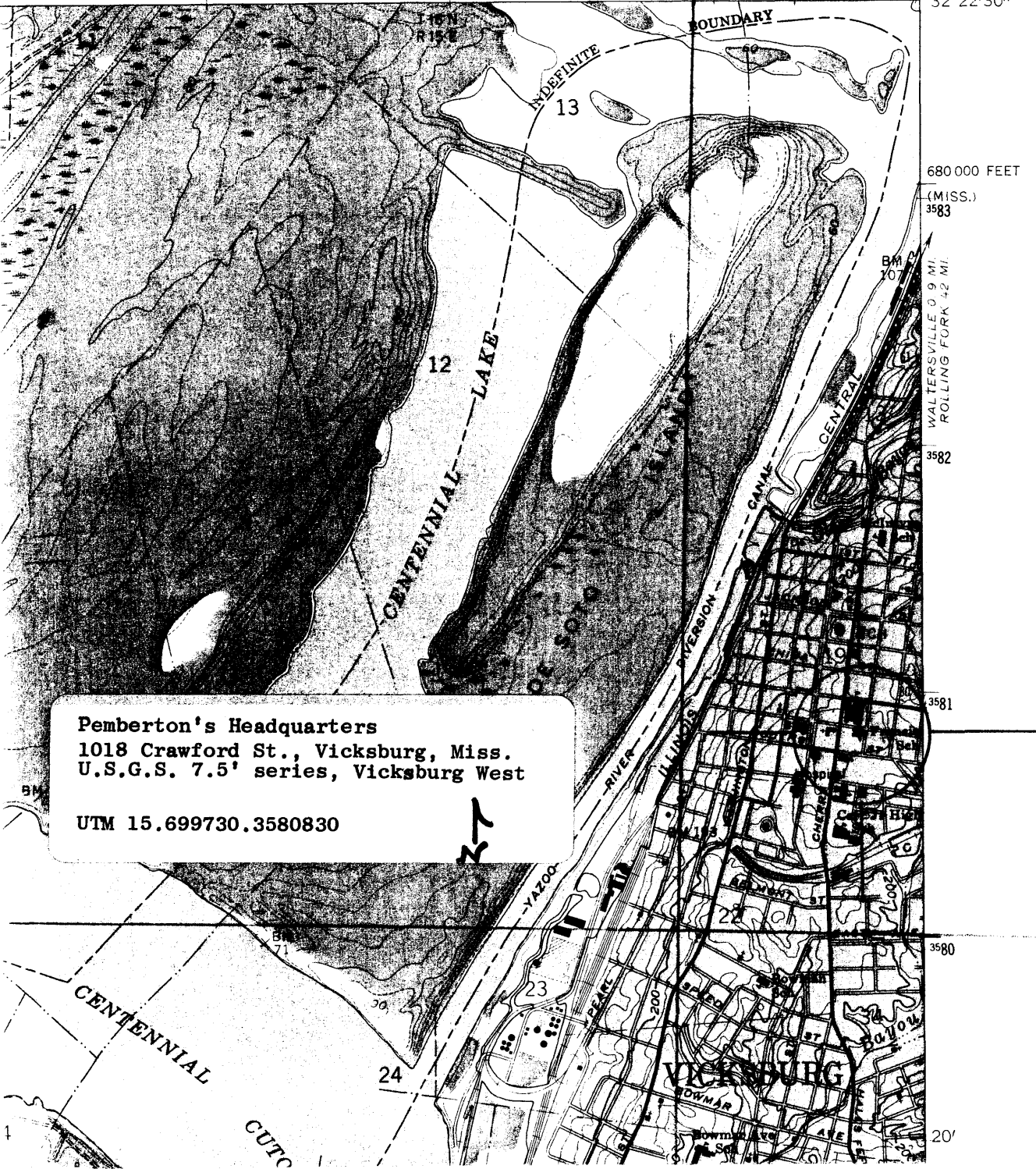
697

698

330 000 FEET (MISS.)

90°52'30"

32°22'30"



**Pemberton's Headquarters**  
1018 Crawford St., Vicksburg, Miss.  
U.S.G.S. 7.5' series, Vicksburg West  
UTM 15.699730.3580830

27



ZEARING'S MERCANTILE  
AMERICANA

GUNS-RELICS-GIFTS

C&W

SHEET METAL



2 FAR IN 155'S MERE ANTI CE

1



2 ~~YEAR~~ RINGS UNDER CURRENT TITLE

2



CLEAN  
BEDS  
25¢



OPEN

NO SHOES  
SHIRT  
SERVICE

NO  
SMOKING

NO FOOD OR  
DRINK

2 FARRINIA'S MERCANTILE

33



2020 ZARLING'S MERCAANTILE

4





~~20~~ RARZING'S MERCANTILE

5



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)

STATE	
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70-7-23-0011	7/23/70

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Mississippi 39180

CODE

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COUNTY:

Warren

CODE

149

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: David Watts

DATE OF PHOTO: June 11, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

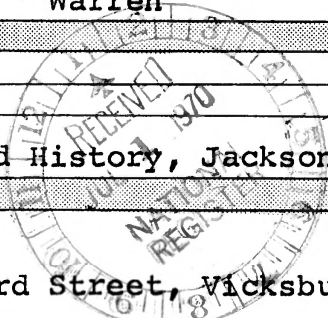
4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg.

Connecting section between house and kitchen, from the southwest.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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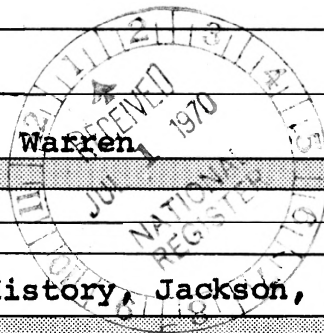
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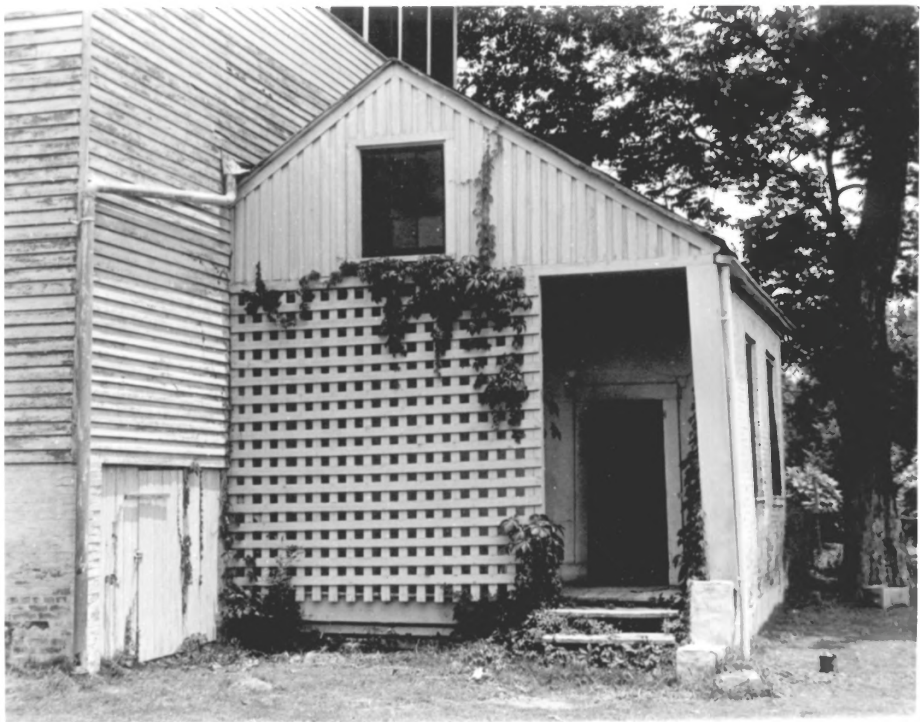
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg.

Kitchen from the south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





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**149**

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **David Watts**

DATE OF PHOTO: **June 11, 1970**

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

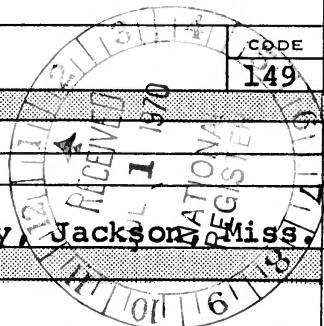
**Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

**The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg,  
Rear portion of house, kitchen from the west.**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **David Watts**

DATE OF PHOTO: **June 11, 1970**

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

**Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

**The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg.**

**Supporting embankment from the east.**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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CODE  
**23**

COUNTY:  
**Warren**

CODE  
**149**

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **Bette Barber Hammer**

DATE OF PHOTO: **ca. 1951**

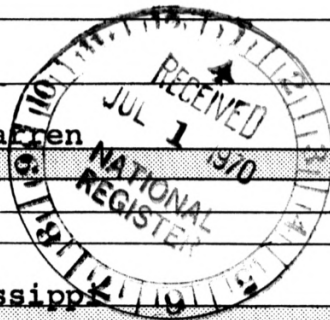
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

**Old Courthouse Museum, Vicksburg, Mississippi**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

**The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg,  
exterior from northeast.**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Bette Barber Hammer

DATE OF PHOTO: ca. 1951

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

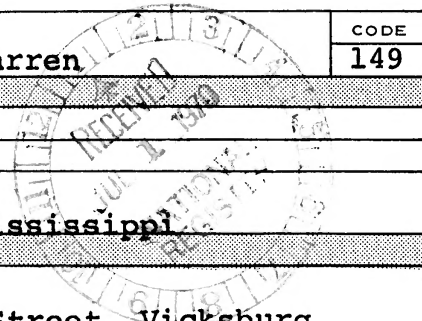
Old Courthouse Museum, Vicksburg, Mississippi

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

The Pemberton House, 1020 Crawford Street, Vicksburg  
from the north

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





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Vicksburg  
STATE: Mississippi  
CODE: 23 COUNTY: Warren  
CODE: 149

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: F. B. Gautier, Vicksburg, Miss.  
DATE OF PHOTO: July, 1970  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Miss. Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  
Pemberton House - Front exterior, from the northeast.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS