Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

DATE ENTERED SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS** NAME HISTORIC Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot AND/OR COMMON Levee Street Station **2 LOCATION** STREET & NUMBER 500 Grove Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Vicksburg Fourth VICINITY OF CODE STATE CODE COUNTY Mississippi Warren 149 CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE DISTRICT PUBLIC X\_OCCUPIED AGRICULTURE \_\_MUSEUM X BUILDING(S) X\_PRIVATE \_UNOCCUPIED XCOMMERCIAL PARK \_\_STRUCTURE BOTH \_WORK IN PROGRESS \_\_EDUCATIONAL \_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE \_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_\_RELIGIOUS \_\_OBJECT \_IN PROCESS X YES: RESTRICTED XGOVERNMENT \_\_SCIENTIFIC \_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED \_YES: UNRESTRICTED \_INDUSTRIAL \_\_TRANSPORTATION \_\_NO \_\_\_\_MILITARY \_\_OTHER **OWNER OF PROPERTY** NAME K. D. & J. Real Estate STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 1093 STATE CITY, TOWN Vicksburg VICINITY OF Mississippi 39180 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION Office of the Chancery Clerk COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Warren County Courthouse STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 351 CITY, TOWN STATE Vicksburg Mississippi 39180 **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** TITLE Statewide Survey of Historic Sites DATE 1976 \_\_FEDERAL X\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Mississippi Department of Archives and History CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE Mississippi

























## 7 DESCRIPTION

XGOOD

\_\_FAIR

CONDITION CHECK ONE

\_\_RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE XORIGINAL SITE \_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

XALTERED

The Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot is located in downtown Vicksburg overlooking the Yazoo River Diversion Canal, a tributary of the Mississippi River. The exterior brick walls of the two-and-a-half-story Georgian Revival structure are laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers repeated on every fourth course. The steep-pitch gambrel roof, with gable dormers along the east (facade) and west elevation, is accentuated by a promient frame belltower composed of a two-stage cupola surmounted by a dome on an octagonal base. On the facade, a central free-standing portico and balustrade is carried by modified Tuscan columns. The five-bay portico separates two projecting and pedimented single-bay pavilions with a stylized modillioned cornice and semi-circular window in the tympanum of each. Double-hung sash on the two main floors have multiple lights in the upper sash and a single pane in the lower sash, with radiating stone voussoirs and keystone above each. The inset central section of the facade is articulated on the first floor by round-arched windows with keystones and archivolt trim. The three-bay north and south (side) walls are carried up as a parapet between the two end chimneys, and topped by a geometrically patterned jigsawn balustrade. A one-story circular frame portico on the south elevation is supported by Tuscan columns. The frieze of the portico entablature is enriched with triglyphs and guttae. The west (rear) elevation faces the railroad track and a shed-roof passenger waiting platform extends the full length of the building. The shed is supported by castiron Tuscan columns.

The original interior plan of the depot consisted of a white waiting room south of the central entrance and a black waiting room and baggage room north. Identical chimney mantelpieces in the north and south waiting rooms feature simple molded architraves supporting a paneled frieze, denticulated cornice, and shelf. The second floor was used for railroad company offices and the unfinished third floor served as storage space.

Rehabilitation of the depot in 1977 remedied serious structural damage to the foundation caused by flooding in 1919, 1927, and 1973 (Karl Jabour, owner of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley depot, interviewed by Jack A. Gold, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Vicksburg, Miss., May 12, 1979). The north and south waiting rooms were made into a bar and restaurant. Enclosure of the passenger waiting porch provided additional dining and kitchen space. The second floor was renovated for General Services Administration offices, and the third floor for retail use. An elevator was installed at the center of the structure adjacent to the original four-run stair to the third floor.

SPECIFIC DATES 1907		BUILDER/ARCHITECT D. H. Burnham and Co.				
		EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT 	XTRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIFY)		
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PERIOD	AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**8** SIGNIFICANCE

Designed by the firm of D. H. Burnham & Co. of Chicago, the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot is an architecturally significant example of the influence of the Georgian Revival style on public buildings in America after 1900. The structure is also representative of the increased economic prosperity of the region facilitated by improved rail service routes along the Mississippi corridor of the Illinois Central (Gulf) railroad system. More recently the rehabilitation of the structure as a restaurant and office facility has provided the former depot a suitable adaptive use.

The Yazoo and Mississippi Valley railroad was incorporated in 1882 and consolidated with the Louisville, New Orleans, and Texas railroad as a part of the Illinois Central Railroad Company in 1892 (Carlton J. Corliss, <u>Main Line of Mid-America</u> [New York: Creative Age Press, 1950], p. 240). The Louisville, New Orleans, Texas name was changed to Yazoo and Mississippi Valley and the line's passenger and freight services prospered. Increased demand for railroad service here resulted in the construction in 1907 of a new depot to replace the modest frame structure used formerly by the Louisville, New Orleans and Texas. Passenger service was discontinued in 1932. Illinois Central Gulf Railroad company offices were located here until the sale of the building in 1977.

Classical proportion and detail and the emphasis on symmetrical form relates the eighteenthcentury Palladian influence characteristic of Georgian architecture in America to the revival-style depot in Vicksburg. Derivative in form and scale of public buildings in colonial Williamsburg such as the Capitol (1701-05) and Governor's Palace (1706-20), the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot presents a startling academic contrast to neighboring mid-nineteenth century commercial buildings. Marcus Whiffen addresses this contrast: "Many of the public and educational buildings of the Georgian Revival have a special sort of unreality that is increased rather than diminished by the 'correctness' of their detail" (Marcus Whiffen, <u>American Architecture since 1790</u> [Cambridge: The M. I. T. Press, 1969], p. 164). The structure displays the sophisticated application of such typically Georgian details as balustrades, quoins, stylized cornices, and voussoirs, coupled with the formal arrangement of building parts. The successful integration of these building elements by D. H. Burnham and Co. is complemented by the high-quality masonry work of contractor George B. Swift and Co., Vicksburg.

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## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alexander, Edwin P. Down at the Depot. New York: Bramhall House, 1970.

Corliss, Carlton J. Main Line of Mid-America. New York: Creative Age Press, 1950.

Gold, Jack A., architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Inspection of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot, May 12, 1979.

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FHR-8-300A (11/78)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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DATE ENTERED.

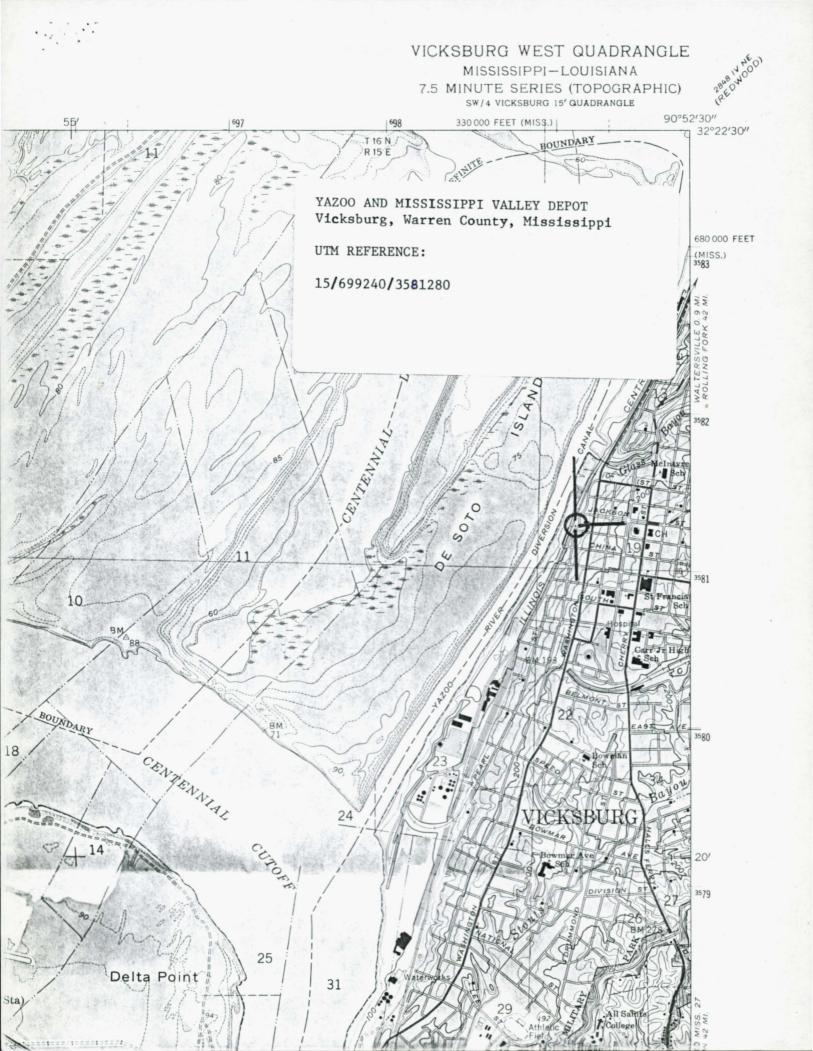
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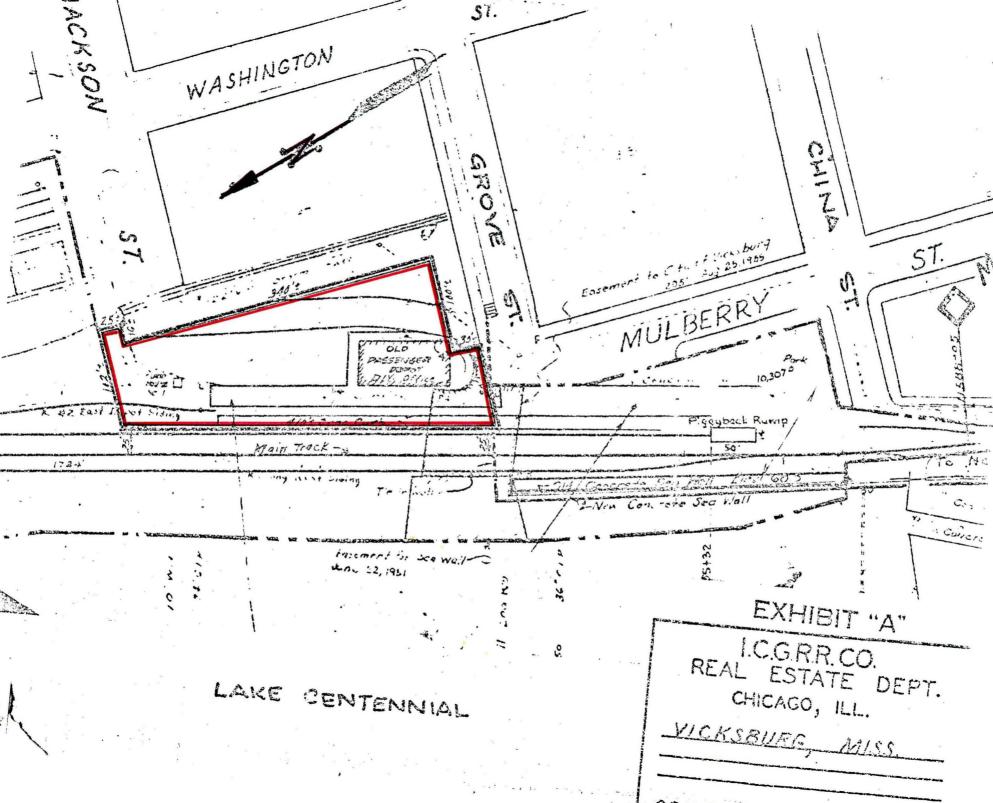
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9 - MAJOR BIBLIPGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Jabour, Karl, owner of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley depot. Interviewed by Jack A. Gold, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Vicksburg, Miss., May 12, 1979.
- Warren Co., Miss. Chancery Clerk, Deed Book 118:191. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Microfilm.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture since 1780. Cambridge: The M. I. T. Press, 1969.







YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DEPOT Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi Jack A. Gold March. 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Facade: view to west. Photo No. 1



- YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DEPOT Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi Jack A. Gold March, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History South elevation; view to north.
- Photo No. 2



- YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DEPOT Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi Jack A. Gold
- March, 1979
- Mississippi Department of Archives and History North and west (rear) elevations; view to
- southeast.
- Photo No. 3



YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DEPOT	
Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi	
Jack A. Gold	
March, 1979	
Mississippi Department of Archives and Histor	ry
Photo No. 4	



YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DEPOT Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi Jack A. Gold March, 1979 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Mantlepiece, black waiting room; view to north. Photo No. 5