

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0688011

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 20 1978

DATE ENTERED JAN 8 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bobb House

AND/OR COMMON

McRaven

**LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1503 Harrison Street

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Vicksburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Mississippi

CODE

28

COUNTY

Warren

CODE

149

**CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ SITE

\_\_\_ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_\_ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_ NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_ AGRICULTURE

☒ MUSEUM

\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ PARK

\_\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

O. E. Bradway, Jr.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1433 Harrison Street

CITY, TOWN

Vicksburg

STATE

Mississippi 39180

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE.  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Office of the Chancery Clerk  
Warren County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P. O. Box 351

CITY, TOWN

Vicksburg

STATE

Mississippi 39180

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1978

\_\_\_ FEDERAL ☒ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

Mississippi STATE 39205

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bobb House is located on a luxuriantly and casually landscaped lot on the north side of Harrison Street where it intersects an east-west line of the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad track in Vicksburg. While no outbuildings are extant, the cisterns on the south side of the house survive, and the shaded grounds are crisscrossed by brick-paved walkways and terraces.

The earliest portion of the brick two-story house is the westward-facing rear ell constructed in two stages ca. 1836 in the conservative vernacular of the late Federal tradition. The common-bond single-pile ell is built on two levels to accommodate the natural slope of the land. The slightly smaller rear portion of the structure is recessed on the rear or east elevation. Typical of the late Federal style are the corbeled brickwork cornice and the low capped parapets terminating the chimney ends of the gable roofs. The west elevation with its irregular fenestration is partially sheltered by a frame double-tiered gallery set with square columns with simple Grecian molded caps and a plain balustrade. To accommodate the level change between the two sections, a curious false wall and gabled parapet were added over the southernmost bay. The gallery provides the only second-level access between the old and new sections of the house.

A squarish two-story wing with a nearly flat roof added at the north end of the original section in the 1850s reoriented the house to the north. A full-length double-tiered gallery dominates the facade of the three-bay-by-three-bay addition, which is much grander in both its proportioning and its Italianate detailing than the original ell. The rectangular gallery piers inlaid with decorative millwork panels, a popular Vicksburg idiom, carry a stylized bracketed entablature. A handsome frontispiece accented with consoles carrying a projecting cornice frames the single-leaf entrance door, and the full-length four-over-six double-hung sash windows that open onto the gallery are styled to imitate casement windows. The east and west elevations feature casement-style four-over-four windows and a corbeled brick cornice.

The interior of the 1850s wing has a side hall plan and is lavishly detailed with handsome Grecian woodwork and plasterwork. In the first-level parlor, paneled pilasters flanking each window carry a full plasterwork entablature with a delicate anthemion motif enriching the frieze. The simpler plasterwork cornice of the second-level parlor is composed of rolled moldings. Each room features a handsome mantel in grey variegated marble and a plaster centerpiece. Pilastered frontispieces surrounding the four-panel doors are used throughout.

The principal rooms of the rear section are simply finished in the Grecian mode with plain full-length pedimented architraves surrounding the windows and corresponding spandrels and the doors. Shallow closets closed by double-leaf doors flank the fireplace with its simple post-and-lintel style mantel.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1896, 1890's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Possessing some of the finest and most distinctive Greek Revival decorative plasterwork in the Vicksburg area, the Bobb House survives as one of the most complete and well-preserved residences from the city's antebellum period. It consists of a ca. 1836 late Federal block and an 1850s wing, the latter reflecting both the conservative Greek Revival idiom and a more flamboyant and whimsical regional interpretation of the Italianate. The 1850s portion of the house is also unusual in that the major second-level chamber is enriched with a handsome plasterwork cornice and centerpiece. Planter John H. Bobb (1808-1864) (Population Schedule, Warren County, 1860), who owned the property from 1844, was the first Vicksburg civilian killed as a result of tensions arising between residents and the occupying black Union forces (McNeily, pp. 51, 52).

The land on which the Bobb House stands was originally part of the extensive holdings of Anthony Glass, an early settler in the area. As the riverport of Vicksburg grew, Glass's holdings near the eastern boundary of the original town were subdivided. William Bobb purchased the 6.3-acre house lot in 1837 (Deed Book J:479) and may well have constructed the rear portion of the house before selling the property, enlarged to nearly eleven acres, to his brother John H. Bobb in 1844 for \$5,000 (Deed Book U:598). Family tradition holds that John H. Bobb added the Italianate front section to the house (Critchler interview, June 1, 1978). Bobb's widow, Selina, sold the property in 1869, and William Murray, a local machinist and inventor, acquired it in the early 1870s. Murray's unmarried daughters occupied the house until 1960, when it was sold to the present owner, O. E. Bradway, Jr. So overgrown that it was long forgotten, the property has undergone a careful restoration and preservation of house and grounds that continues under the owner's direction.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

McNeily, J. S. "From Organization to Overthrow of Mississippi's Provisional Government."  
Publication of the Mississippi Historical Society. Centenary Series, Vol. I:9-403.

Shoemaker, Mary McCahon, architectural historian. Personal interview with Lucy Critchler  
(great-niece of John H. Bobb), Vicksburg, Mississippi, June 1, 1978.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.93 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Vicksburg East

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 700230 3580570

B         

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

457 foot by 184 foot lot on the north side of Harrison Street where it intersects an east/  
west line of the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

November 6, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

P. O. Box 571

601-354-7326

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Jackson

Mississippi 39205

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elmer A. Hilliard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

November 6, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
ATTEST: Ann H. Gilmore

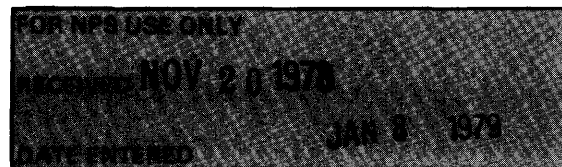
DATE 1-8-79

DATE 1/5/78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

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9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

United States. Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules. Warren County, Mississippi, 1850, 1860.

Warren County, Mississippi. Deed Books J:479; U:598.



BOBB HOUSE

Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

**JAN 8 1979**

May, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and  
History

Facade or north elevation of 1850s section,  
from the north.

Photo 1 of 5

**NOV 20 1978**



BOBB HOUSE

Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

May, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

West elevation of original section of house

(now rear ell), from the southwest.

Photo 2 of 5

JAN 8 1979

NOV 20 1978



BOBB HOUSE

Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

May, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

First-level parlor in 1850s section, looking  
east.

Photo 3 of 5

NOV 20 1978

JAN 8 1979



BOBB HOUSE

Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

May, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Second-level chamber in 1850s section, looking  
east.

Photo 4 of 5

JAN 8 1979

NOV 20 1978



BOBB HOUSE

Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi

Mary McCahon Shoemaker

May, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

First-level chamber in original section,  
looking south.

Photo 5 of 5

NOV 20 1978

JAN 8 1979