

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Carroll	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 13 1972

1. NAME

COMMON: Merrill's Store
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Corner of Jackson and Lexington Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Carrollton			
STATE Mississippi	CODE 38917	COUNTY: Carroll	CODE 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☒ Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) Restoration	☒ Comments as museum in pro- cess.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

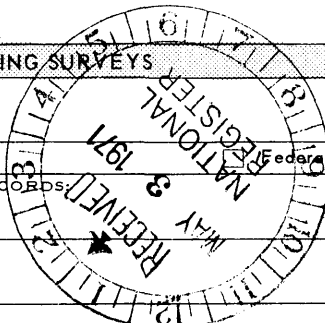
OWNER'S NAME: The Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Carrollton	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 38917 28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of the Chancery Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: Lexington Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Carrollton	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 38917 28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:		
DATE OF SURVEY:		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:



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7. DESCRIPTION

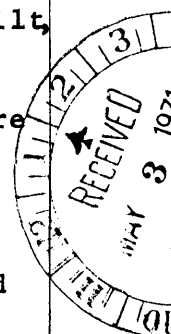
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☒ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Merrill's Store is a two-story, common-bond brick structure with a frontage of approximately 24 feet and a depth of approximately 90 feet. On the façade, surrounded by wide framing and set within one-foot jambs, are three sets of double doorways, only the central one of which is approached by steps from the street level. A tin roof over the sidewalk is supported by four chamfered wooden posts. Openings on the east elevation consist of a single window and a doorway, formerly with transom, on the first floor, and originally five windows on the second, although the rear two have been bricked up. On the west elevation, two single windows and a double window flank a large transomed doorway through which furniture and coffins once made in the rear-room workshop were loaded onto wagons. On the second floor are five symmetrically placed windows of equal size, 9 over 6. The south (rear) elevation has a doorway on each level, although there is no evidence of a stairway having been constructed to the second floor. These doorways, the two windows flanking the door on the second floor, and the pair of windows on the second floor of the façade all feature, instead of lintels, a voussoir effect produced by arched double rows of headers. On the façade there is additional decorative detail in the corbels, molding, recessed panels and dentiled band (all executed in brick) of the cornice line, raised in the manner common in the last century to render a building more imposing as viewed from the street. Anchor irons on the side elevations are in the form of reverse S's, while those on the rear are star-shaped. There is also on the rear, at the attic level, an ornamental iron grille vent. The two chimneys, simple stacks with molded caps, are placed one on each side elevation, although that on the west no longer has fireplaces.

The front room of the first-floor interior was the original store area and will eventually house a museum maintained by the Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, for which purpose shelving obtained from the Ware Building, a nineteenth-century commercial establishment in Vaiden, Mississippi, has been installed. The shelves are built with almost architectural effect, into a frame of millwork approximations of pilasters, frieze, consoles, and heavily molded cornices. Also in the room are long counters on square columns, based in turn on trestles, and a series of wooden storage bins. The brick walls and ceiling beams of the rear room are exposed, and on the east wall are a brick fireplace with raised hearth and a run of wooden steps leading to the second floor. The front portion of the latter is partitioned into an apartment of six rooms which the Society anticipates renovating as living quarters for a museum attendant. The single large rear room has brick walls and fireplace.

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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☒ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) _____ |
| ☐ Historic | ☒ Industry | ☐ Science | _____ |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | _____ |
| ☐ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☒ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☒ Communications | ☐ Military | | |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Merrill's Store is the sole survivor of Tobin Row, a block of nineteenth-century commercial buildings, including a millinery shop and a bakery, on the south side of Jackson Street between Lexington and Green Streets. If the store dates from 1834, as local tradition maintains, it is the oldest brick structure in Carrollton. Deed records show that a building was on the site as early as 1839, but the first positive identification of the present structure is in an 1858 deed to M. S. Stansbury: "the store room and lot in Carrollton now used as the post office." In 1876 the first floor was rented by the Carroll County Board of Commissioners for a courtroom during construction of the present courthouse. The Stansbury family retained ownership of the store until 1901, at which time it was rented by the Carrollton Coffin Company. In addition to selling coffins, the company provided a horse-drawn hearse for hire, and the barn in which the equipage was stored stood on the adjoining lot to the east. Ca. 1915, Robert Gray and his partner H. E. Merrill, by whose name the store has since been known, operated the Carrollton Coffin and Furniture Company in the building (their sign, painted on the west elevation, is still faintly legible). At least a century of commercial enterprise on the premises ended in the early 1950s with the closing of the dry-cleaning establishment owned by Ben Browning. Merrill's Store stood vacant until 1969, when Mr. Browning sold the property to the Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities.

The feasibility of zoning the central business area of Carrollton as an historic district is presently under study by the Society. The future integrity of the courthouse square, with its nineteenth-century appearance still virtually intact, would thus be assured. Merrill's Store, across the street from the courthouse and the first building approached by northbound traffic on the main artery through Carrollton, is an essential part of that image.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Carrollton" Subject File. Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.
 Hamilton, William Franklin, A History of Carroll County. The Carrollton Conservative, n.d.

Interviews:

Mrs. Percy Bryan and Miss Joy Bryan, Carrollton, Mississippi, February 15, 1971.

Mrs. Mina Gee, Chancery Clerk, Carroll County, Mississippi, February 15, 1971.

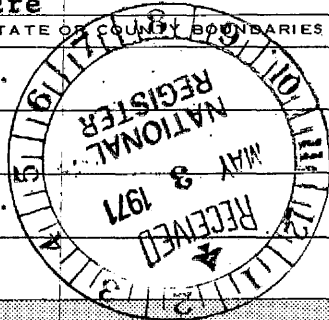
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		33° 30' 26"	89° 55' 09"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1/10 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Dawn Maddox, Historian**

ORGANIZATION **Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History** DATE **April 28, 1971**
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology

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

CITY OR TOWN: **Jackson** STATE: **Mississippi 39205** CODE: **28**

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. A. McLemore
R. A. McLemore

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

Date **April 28, 1971**

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

Ernest A. Gannally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JAN 13 1972

Date

ATTEST:

William J. Minter
 Keeper of The National Register

Date

JAN 3 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Carroll	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 13 1972

(Number all entries)

9.

Mrs. B. F. Johnston, President, Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, Carrollton, Mississippi, April 13, 1971.

Minutes of the Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, Mrs. Mina Gee, Secretary, Carrollton, Mississippi.

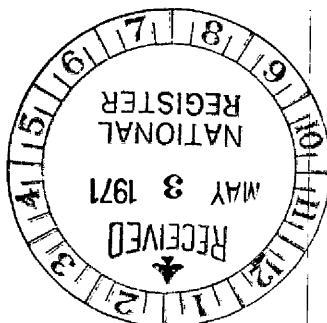
Office of the Chancery Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse, Carrollton, Mississippi:

A. Board of Supervisors' Minutes. Book A, 1876-1877, 554-55.

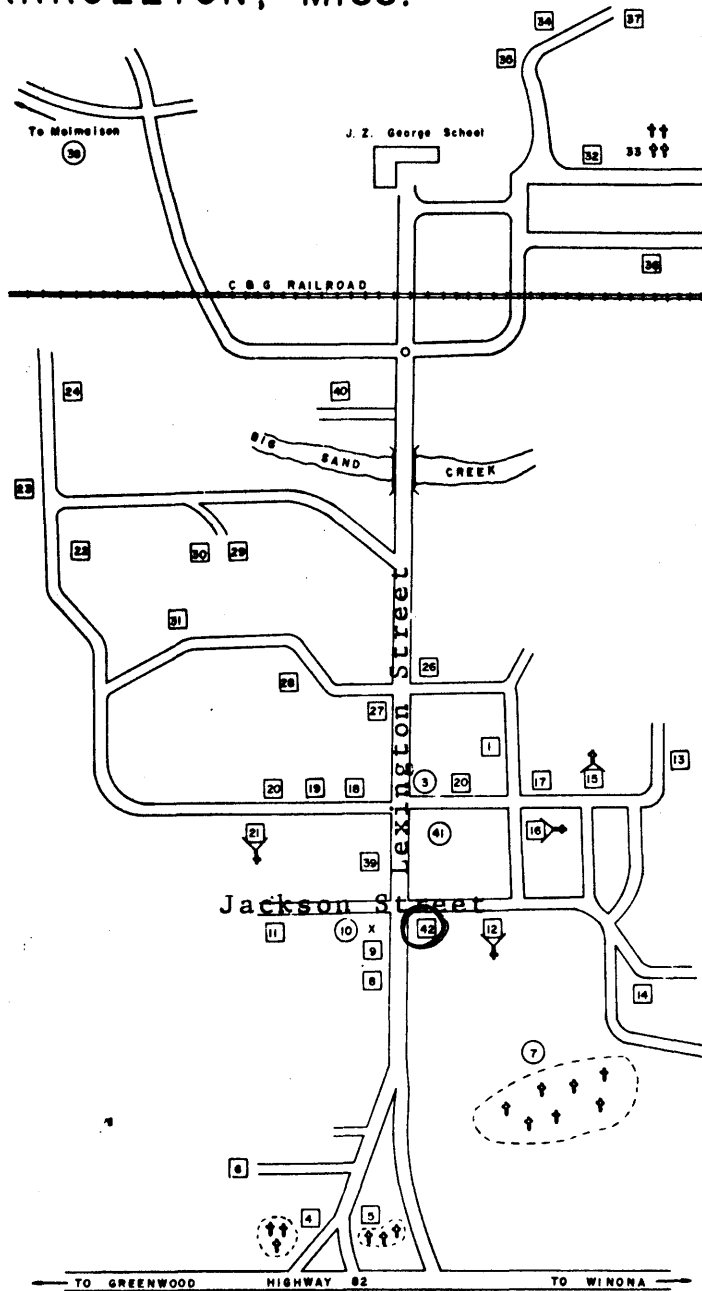
B. Land Deed Records. Book C, 163; Book K, 537; Book N, 229; Book 21, 273-77.

C. Tax Assessment Map, n.d.

Picture Post Cards, 1905, of Carrollton Business District (in possession of Mrs. Percy Bryan, Carrollton, Mississippi).



CARROLLTON, MISS.



26

42-Merrill's Store



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

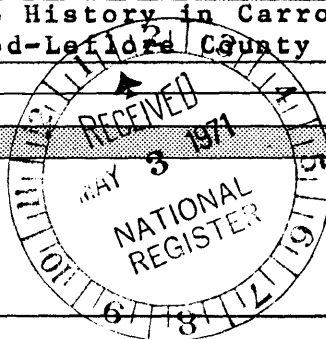
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

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Corner of Jackson and Lexington Streets			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Carrollton			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi 38917	28	Carroll	015
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: "A Tourist Guide to History in Carroll & Leflore Counties, Mississippi." Greenwood-Leflore County Chamber of Commerce, Greenwood, Mississippi			
SCALE: Not given			
DATE: 1969			
38917			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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Carrollton

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Mississippi 38917

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Carroll

CODE

015

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **Sam N. Pitner, Carrollton, Mississippi 38917**

DATE OF PHOTO: **April, 1971**

NEGATIVE FILED AT: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Jackson, Mississippi 39205**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Façade and east elevation, looking southwest

