Historic Sites Survey Inventory No. 8

State of Mississippi
Department of Archives & History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS. 39205

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Scherer House is a two-story, four-by-three-bay, brick residential building with stepped gables. A narrow cast-iron balcony supported by simple wood braces extends across the facade. It was revealed intact when late-nineteenth-century galleries were removed during restoration. The two front entrances in the central bays have double-leaf doors each with six lights above and paneled below. Transoms have four lights. Windows and doors on the facade only are capped with cornice-type stone lintels. Windows are double-hung and in a six-over-six glazing configuration. The stucco walls of the building are scored to emulate ashlar masonry. Interior end chimneys with their corbeled caps are an especially rare feature in Biloxi. The interior trim,including mantels and medallions, is basically Greek Revival.

ALTERATIONS:

A double gallery with sawn millwork balustrades and spool-and-spindle friezes which was added in the late-nineteenth century was removed when the building was restored. Two-story rear addition.

OUTBUILDINGS:

None

LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

None

NAME: Scherer House (Spanish House)

STREET NO: 206 West Water Street

TOWN/VIC: Biloxi

COUNTY: Harrison

BLOCK/LOT:

PRESENT OWNER: Gulf South Engineers

ADDRESS 206 West Water Street, Biloxi 39530

PRESENT USE: Office

FORMER USE: Residential

DATE: Ca. 1845

STYLE: Greek Revival Influence

ARCH/BUILDER:

SOURCE OF DATE: The Buildings of Biloxi

ENVIRONMENT: Residential/commercial

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
NEIGHBORHOOD
LOCAL X
STATE
NATIONAL

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Built in the mid-1840s the Scherer House is one of only four early brick buildings in Biloxi and among the first to have been finished with scored stucco. Its stepped gables are a unique feature not otherwise found on the Gulf Coast, and its facade is the first fully-developed example of the four-bay, double-entrance plan which became popular in the city.

PHOTOS

NEG. #

SITE OR AREA PLAN WITH NORTH ARROW AND SHAPE OF STRUCTURE:

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

N/A

THREATS:

N/A

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nominated property, contains less than one acre. Identified on the enclosed map entitled "Individually Listed Properties," it includes the area within the red line as delineated on the Official Property Map of Biloxi, Mississippi, adopted by the city in 1976.

ACREAGE: less than 1 acre

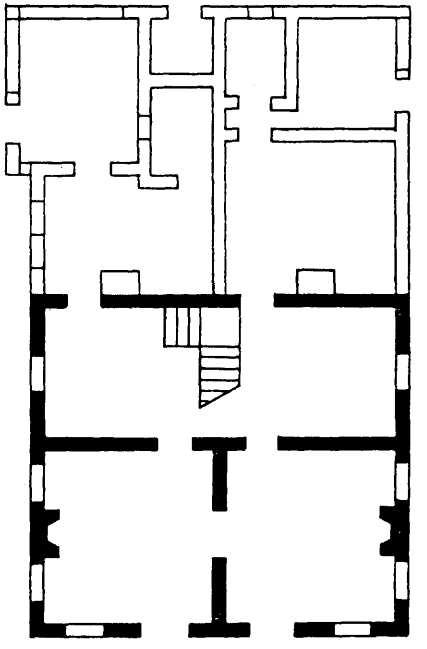
UTM REF:

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	16	318600	3363850
C			
B			
D			

FORM PREPARED BY: DATE

Ken P'Pool April 20, 1983

CONTINUATION:



91c. Scherer House, plan, north at top.

Scherer House (Spanish House)
206 West Water Street, view to north
Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Pam Guren
April, 1981
Biloxi MRA