

WASHINGTON

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

1. Name

historic Robert W. Hamilton House

and/or common Vuille House

2. Location

street & number 203 South 13th N/A not for publication

city, town Murphysboro N/A vicinity of congressional district 24th

state Illinois code 012 county Jackson code 077

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name JAL Land Trust

street & number P.O. BOX A E

city, town Murphysboro N/A vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson County Court House, County Clerk & Recorder

street & number Walnut Street

city, town Murphysboro state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1974 federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Historic Sites Division

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hamilton house is a two story frame structure resting on a stone foundation, facing east. The basic form of the house is an "L" shape; however, the detailing and trim on the gables, balcony, and porches combine to exhibit a fine example of the carpenter gothic mode. Of clapboard siding rather than the board and batten popular for this style, the house nevertheless contains many picturesque features of its style. Most interesting is that the prolific decorative wood trim is in no two places the same. The barge boards on two gables, the gabled dormer, and the hipped dormer, for example, each exhibit a distinctively different type of carpenter gothic pattern.

The entrance to the house is under a steep gabled dormer with graceful foliated scroll bargeboards joined by a pendant at the peak. A porch extends the length of the wing under the gabled dormer, supported by four posts with chamfered shafts and cushioned capitals, from which spring open, decorative trefoil arches. These are further ornamented with pointed trefoil cut-outs. Above that, small brackets set under the cornice of the porch roof. The east facing gable end of the house features a small balcony under barge boards which in this case exhibit cut out trefoils forming a delicate tracery pattern. This theme is repeated on the balcony railing, consisting of quatrefoils, and through the multi-foils which surround an ogee arch under the hooded canopy surmounting the balcony. The sides of the balcony are a simplified version of this with lancet arches.

On the north side of the house there are double windows on both the first and second stories under the exaggerated drip and pendant bargeboards of the gable, which are joined at the peak by an imposing ornamental pendant. The first story double window is topped with a hood on decorative scroll brackets. A small hipped roof dormer on the south side of the house displays yet a fourth pattern of ornamental bargeboards, this time an exaggerated loop, or swag.

On the northwest rear of the house is an extension which appears on an 1878 sketch of the house as a separate summer kitchen, with a roof that extends to the main structure forming an open breezeway. The roof also overhangs somewhat to the north, being supported by turned posts and decorative scroll brackets. This remains, though the breezeway area is now enclosed with a door.

From the entrance a central hall runs east to west through the house. Just inside the entrance, doorways open to rooms on the south and north. A third room is on the southwest, a plan that is repeated on the second floor. The southeast room on the first floor was probably the parlor and has a three foot plaster medallion on the center of the ceiling.

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Continuation sheet Hamilton House

Item number 7

Page 2

Alterations to the house include three small additions on the rear, all clapboard with shed roofs. One of these was an early addition, the most recent is a garage. The only other difference in the house from the 1878 sketch is a chimney removed from the central part of the wing, and the finials which are missing from the gable pendants. All of the other ornamental woodwork is original and remains intact.

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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1867

Builder/Architect UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hamilton house is one of two remaining carpenter gothic houses in Jackson county, and is definitely the finer of the two. The completeness of its detailing, as evidenced by the exuberance of the bargeboards, the delicacy of the tiny balcony, the porches, hood and brackets, attest to the level of sophistication achieved through pattern books and executed by carpenters and builders in small, rural midwestern towns such as this in the 1860's. All of these details remain intact on the house, leaving an original and vivid artifact for southern Illinois, and one that is associated with the early growth of Murphysboro, being the first home built in the city's first addition.

The town of Murphysboro was established in 1843, but grew little until the coal mines brought the town's first growth in 1865, when the first addition was platted. The Hamilton house was built in this addition by 1867, according to deeds and assessments. The lot was purchased by J.O. Cummings in 1866 and sold to Robert W. Hamilton in 1875, so Cummings was probably the builder. The structure's value has also been enhanced by its surviving the tornado of 1925 in which 1200 homes were destroyed and countless others stripped of their character and subsequently modernized.

Robert W. Hamilton, the house's most prominent occupant, served in the Civil War, was discharged in 1865 and by 1867 was Postmaster of Carbondale until 1872 when he was sworn in as Circuit Clerk in Jackson county. He held this post until 1880, when he retired.

9. Major Bibliographical References

History of Jackson County 1878, Brinks and McDonough and Co., Philadelphia
 1867 Assossors Book
 1879 Collectors Book

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name MURPHYSBORO

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A

1	6	2	9	4	1	4	0	4	1	8	1	8	7	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone		Easting				Northing			

C

Zone		Easting				Northing			

D

Zone		Easting				Northing			

E

Zone		Easting				Northing			

F

Zone		Easting				Northing			

G

Zone		Easting				Northing			

H

Zone		Easting				Northing			

Verbal boundary description and justification

80 feet parallel in width of the East end of Lot 1 in Block 26 in Thomas M. Logan's Addition to the Town, now City, of Murphysboro, Illinois as shown by the recorded Plat thereof in Book R of Deeds, page 639.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
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state		code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. P. Michael Jones
2. Susan M. Seibert

organization 2. Il. Dept. of Conservation date 1. 10/5/1978
2. 10/30/1980

street & number 1. 415 N. Ninth St. telephone 1. 618-684-3556
2. 405 E. Washington St. 2. 217-782-3340

city or town 1. Murphysboro state Illinois
2. Springfield

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *David Perry*

title Director, Ill. Dept. of Conservation date 4/13/81

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered MARCH 5, 1982

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jacoby, Lysander, House	Rockford Winnebago County
✓ Hamilton, Robert W., House	Murphysboro Jackson County
Peoria Mineral Springs (Spring Hill)	Peoria Peoria County
Hickox, Virgil, House	Springfield Sangamon County

Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Alan Dixon
Honorable Lynn Martin
Honorable Paul Simon
Honorable Robert H. Michel
Honorable Paul Findley

✓ State Historic Preservation Officer
Dr. David Kenney
Director, Department of Conservation
State Office Building
400 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Midwest Regional Office, NPS