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

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 697 494

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RECEIVED FEB 14 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 28 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Symons House

AND/OR COMMON
Corner Cottage

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
304 Fourth Avenue South — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Columbus — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE
Mississippi

CODE
28

COUNTY
Lowndes

CODE
87

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Edward Andrews

STREET & NUMBER
404 Ninth Street South

CITY, TOWN
Columbus — VICINITY OF

STATE
Mississippi 39701

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Office of the Chancery Clerk
Lowndes County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Second Avenue North

CITY, TOWN
Columbus

STATE
Mississippi 39701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE
1978 — __FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN
Jackson

STATE
Mississippi 39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Symons House, also known as Corner Cottage, is located at the intersection of Fourth Avenue South and Seventh Street South in Columbus, Mississippi. The two-story frame residence, built ca. 1835 and representative of the transition from the late Federal to the Greek Revival style, is supported by a brick-pier foundation and crowned with a hip roof. An interior end chimney is centered on the east elevation and an exterior end chimney on the west elevation. A box cornice is underneath the overhanging eaves. The clapboarded five-bay facade (north elevation) features nine-over-nine-light windows on the first floor and six-over-nine-light windows on the second floor. A verticle four-panel double-leaf door with transom provides access to the center hall. The hip-roof front porch, added ca. 1885 and now deteriorated, formerly had turned posts. A two-bay hip-roof kitchen adjoining the house along the east elevation projects five feet from the main structure. A three-bay gable-roof ell is situated along the west elevation. A double-leaf entrance door enframed by side lights and transom is located in the first bay of the ell, providing access to a side hall. The rear facade (south elevation) consists of the two-bay kitchen wall projecting south from the main house and the three-bay gable-roof end of the ell, centered with an exterior end chimney.

The two-room center-hall plan of both floors of the main block is varied through the use of an enclosed single-run stairway in the center hall. A bathroom,added ca. 1930, is located on the south side of the second-floor center hall. The side hall in the ell runs perpendicular to the center hall along the southwestern side of the house. Mantelpieces in the four main rooms feature attenuated pilasters surmounted by entablature and stacked shelf. In the ell and kitchen sections the two mantelpieces are simpler, with flat-faced pilasters and plain shelf. Doors are eight-paneled, and door and window frames have flat-faced architraves with molded backbands.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
_PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	_RELIGION
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	_CONSERVATION	_LAW	_SCIENCE
_1500-1599	_AGRICULTURE	_ECONOMICS	_LITERATURE	_SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	_EDUCATION	_MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	_ART	_ENGINEERING	_MUSIC	_THEATER
X 1800-1899	_COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	_PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	_COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1835 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed ca. 1835 and exemplary of the late-Federal stylistic influence associated with the settlement period of Mississippi, the Symons House is among the earliest extant residences in Columbus. Although recently neglected, the house nonetheless retains its significant architectural features.

The property upon which the house was later built was purchased in 1833 from land-surveyor Daniel W. Wright et al. by Armstrong J. Hadge (Lowndes Co., Miss., Deed Book 14:424). The house was constructed some time between that sale and a subsequent sale of the property in 1837 to J. J. Puller (Deed Book 9:286). The residence thereafter underwent a succession of ownerships until its purchase in 1851 by Napoleon B. Askew (Deed Book 27:704), who in turn sold the house in 1875 to John M. Symons (Deed Book 53:202), whose family occupied the dwelling for over fifty years. Anna D. Neilson Symons, wife of J. M. Symons, was the sister of Capt. Charles A. Neilson, one of the earliest settlers of Lowndes County (Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi, 2 vols. [Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891], II, 498). The property was sold to Llewellyn Hatchett in 1937, upon the death of Minnie Symons Carothers, daughter of J. M. Symons (Deed Book 163:543). Dr. Frank Herndon, a professor at Mississippi State College for Women, owned the house from 1956 to 1962 and was responsible for giving it the name Corner Cottage.

The Symons House is architecturally significant for its preservation of the single-pile center-hall plan with ell and kitchen appendages intact, and for its late-Federal millwork features, such as the six pilastered mantelpieces and flat-faced architraves with molded backbands. Now threatened by neglect and disuse, the house would benefit from inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in order to promote its resale and future preservation. Loss of the Symons House, the oldest property in an area planned for inclusion in a historic district nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, would adversely affect the historical character and scale of the area. Preservation and restoration of the house would significantly enhance the overall architectural quality of the planned district and prevent possible encroachment by unsympathetic development should the site be cleared before the district nomination can be submitted.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. 2 vols. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891.

Columbus [Miss.]-Lowndes County Public Library. Local history file. Corner Cottage.

Columbus Pilgrimage. Columbus, Miss.: The Columbus Pilgrimage Club, 1941.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Columbus, Miss.-Ala. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	16	367175	3706520	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Square No. One (1) of Moore's Survey in and to said City of Columbus, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Square No. One (1) of said Moore's Survey, and running thence East

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Jack A. Gold, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE
January, 1979

STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 571

TELEPHONE
601-354-7326

CITY OR TOWN
Jackson

STATE
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 Elbert R. Hilliard

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE February 9, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

for KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3-28-79

ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 3/27/79

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gold, Jack A., architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Inspection of the Symons House, Columbus, Miss., Nov. 16, 1978.

Lowndes Co., Miss. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books 9, 14, 27, 53, 163, 330.

United States. Works Progress Administration. Lowndes County, Miss. Source Material for Mississippi History. Statewide Historical Research Project. Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

along the North boundary line of said Square, being the South boundary line of Fourth Avenue South, a distance of 95 feet; thence South parallel with the West boundary line of said Square, a distance of 90 feet; thence West parallel with the North boundary line of said Square a distance of 95 feet to the West boundary line of said Square; thence North along said West boundary line 90 feet to the point of beginning; being the same property conveyed to the Grantors herein by Cecilia W. Marshall be deed dated August 13, 1974, and recorded in Book 503 at Pages 573-574 of the land records of Lowndes County, Mississippi.

SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Facade (north elevation); view to the southeast.
Photo 1 of 6

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SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Facade (north elevation) and adjoining
kitchen, view to the southwest.
Photo 2 of 6

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SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
West elevation; view to the east.
Photo 3 of 6

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SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
South elevation (rear facade); view to the northeast.
Photo 4 of 6

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SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mantelpiece in west chamber; view to the west.
Photo 5 of 6

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MAR 28 1979

SYMONS HOUSE
Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi
Jack A. Gold
November, 1978
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mantelpiece in east parlor; view to the east.
Photo 6 of 6

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