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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY DATA SHEET
RECEIVED JUN 27 1978
DATE ENTERED SEP 1 1978

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Linden

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1 Linden Place

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Natchez

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fourth

STATE
Mississippi

CODE
28

COUNTY
Adams

CODE
001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Richard C. Feltus, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Feltus, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER
1 Linden Place

CITY, TOWN
Natchez

__ VICINITY OF

STATE
Mississippi 39120

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN
Natchez

STATE
Mississippi 39120

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE
1934; 1936

X_FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN
Washington

STATE
D.C. 20540

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Linden is a large frame and brick structure facing north in a park-like setting at 1 Linden Place, Natchez, Mississippi. The principal block, which is the oldest section of the house, is five bays wide and two stories high with a three-bay, two-tiered portico placed on the center axis. Although the portico bears some relation to the two-tiered porticoes popular in the Palladian phase of Georgian architecture, the absence of a well-defined entablature and the steep rake of the pediment illustrate a misunderstanding of classical architecture typical of vernacular building. Flanking this block are one-story wings with hipped roofs behind wide colonnades topped with balustrades. The most notable and ambitious feature of the exterior is the elaborately carved entrance frontispiece. Engaged columns flank the side lights and door and support a frieze with geometric guilloche carvings and a returned cornice. From this springs an elliptical arch containing a glazed fanlight with radiating mullions. Flanking the entrance in the principal block are double-hung, twelve-over-twelve windows, while the one-story wings are treated with six-over-six jib windows. The entire wall area sheltered by the colonnade is stuccoed and scored to give a more finished appearance than clapboard.

The rear (south) elevation is formed into a U-shaped courtyard by a two-story brick dependency behind the west wing and the turning of the east wing to form an east rear wing. As is typical of many Natchez dwellings, verandas run along the three faces of the courtyard and are equipped with secondary staircases and, more interestingly, with fixed blinds as a measure of protection against inclement weather.

The principal block is arranged in a simple single-pile plan with an open-well staircase rising from the center passage. Mantels in the east (library) and west (parlor) chambers are designed with paneled pilasters, friezes decorated with the chevron motif, and shelves. Window aprons in the library repeat the chevron design but are missing in the parlor, due, most likely, to the installation of a Colonial Revival window on the south wall and the general "improvements" made to the room in the early twentieth century. Federal woodwork is also preserved in the east wing, believed to be the earliest addition, and in the two-story brick dependency. Greek Revival woodwork, typical of the 1830s, is apparent in the west wing, which houses the dining room. Hanging from the dining room ceiling is a large punkah, a wooden fan manually operated by a system of ropes and pulleys. Although there are other punkahs in the Natchez region, the one at Linden is considered one of the finest and most graceful. The fan is designed with two curved stiles framing a paneled area below an open comb-like set of vertical spindles. This apparatus pivots from a ceiling mount which is treated with S-shaped brackets and a shallow, paneled soffit.

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	X __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Long considered one of the great Natchez mansions, Linden is a significant example of vernacular Federal architecture, noted particularly for its rare two-tiered portico and its splendid entrance frontispiece. With the additions made during the Greek Revival period, Linden reached its present picturesque form. Several features installed with the additions, such as the extensive galleries, some protected by fixed blinds, the jib windows, and the punkah, are important examples of the domestic architecture characteristic of antebellum Natchez. In addition to its architectural interest, Linden is significant as the residence of Thomas Buck Reed (1787-1829), an important figure in the early political history of Mississippi.

Tradition maintains that the central two-story section of Linden dates from the 1780s, when the land was owned by Alexander Moore. The contention is in conflict with the 1803 document (Deed Book C:181) which divides Moore's holdings among his three surviving sons. Interestingly, no mention is made in the document of "messuages" or "tenements" located on the 161 acres containing the site of Linden, while other such references, often detailed, are included in several other property descriptions. From the division of Moore's estate, the 161-acre tract became the property of James Moore, who named it "Oaklands" and moved there from "the settled part of Natchez" some time before 1818. In that year, Moore sold off ten acres to Thomas B. Reed, who had been residing there "for sometime past" (Deed Book K:138). Although it is difficult to determine if the existing center section of Linden was Reed's residence in 1818, an analysis of its Federal woodwork supports the hypothesis. In 1823, Moore sold off from "Oaklands" an additional eight-and-one-half acres to Reed, who by that time had named his residence "Reedland" (Deed Book N:275).

A native of Kentucky, Reed migrated to the Mississippi Territory in 1809 and began his career in law and politics. He was elected city clerk of Natchez in 1811 but lost his bid for the U.S. Congress two years later. From 1821 to 1826 he served as attorney general of Mississippi. Elected to the state house of representatives in 1825, he refused to take his seat, preferring instead to seek election by the state legislature to the U.S. Senate seat vacated by the resignation of David Holmes, who resigned to become governor. This maneuver proved successful, and Reed served a brief term from January 28, 1826, to March 3, 1827. Defeated for a full term in 1827, Reed regained his senate seat in 1829 but died en route to Washington (Rowland Vol. II:532-534).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Adams County, Mississippi. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books C:181; K:138; N:275; R:225. Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Microfilm.

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. 2 vols. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891, 1:1073-74.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 1.5

QUADRANGLE NAME Natchez, Miss.-La. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	15	653420	3491620	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Linden is situated on a circular plot surrounded by Buena Vista Circle, a public street which is partially undedicated.

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

William C. Allen, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE: April, 1978

STREET & NUMBER: P. O. Box 571

TELEPHONE: (601) 354-6218

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 X 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Dave Maddox

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE June 22, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 9.1.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Charles Adams

DATE 9/1/78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

6 - REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites
1973 X State
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Jackson Mississippi 39205

8 - SIGNIFICANCE

A few months before his death, Reed sold his Natchez residence to Dr. John Ker, a prominent physician and planter, who renamed it "Linden." During the Ker ownership (1829-1849), the front galleries were constructed, and the dining room was added to match the existing east wing built by Reed. With these improvements Linden reached its present form.

In 1849, Linden was sold to Jane E. Connor, whose descendants continue to occupy the residence. Although much of the surrounding land has been subdivided into building lots, a spacious park-like setting was reserved for Linden.

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Subject File. Thomas Buck Reed.

Rowland, Dunbar. Mississippi: Comprising Sketches of Counties, Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, in Cyclopedia Form. 3 vols. Atlanta: Southern Historical Publishing Association, 1907.

Photo No. 1 - Linden 3
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
William C. Allen
December, 1977
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Facade (north) elevation.

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Photo No. 2 - Linden 8 3
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
William C. Allen
December, 1977
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Rear elevation, looking north.

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Photo No. 3 - Linden 3
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
William C. Allen
December, 1977
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Dining room, looking northeast.

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