

**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

1. Name

historic Hampton Lea House

and/or common same as above

2. Location

Located on Lea Road about one mile south of the intersection of
street & number Lea Road and the Peoria to I-55 Road NA not for publication

city, town Magnolia X vicinity of ~~Lea Road and the Peoria to I-55 Road~~

state Mississippi code 28 county Amite code 5

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Carey Lea

street & number Rt. 2

city, town Magnolia X vicinity of state Mississippi 39652

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Amite County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Liberty state Mississippi 39652

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date 1983 federal X state county local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date NA

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on a 200-acre plantation on Lea Road in rural Amite County, the Hampton Lea House is a two-story, frame, I-type, Greek Revival residence set upon brick foundation piers with gable roof and an outside-end brick chimney with stepped base at each gable end. The westerly facade is fronted by a one-story shed-roof gallery with wooden posts that were once linked by a railing of rectangular-sectioned balusters with molded handrail. The southern end of the gallery features a lattice enclosed shelf that once held the water bucket and dipper and is regionally referred to as a water shelf or water closet. The second-story facade is divided into three bays, but the first-story facade is a seven-bay composition that is finished in horizontal matched boards with a wide unmolded base. All door and window openings of the first-story facade feature unmolded surrounds with diminutive corner blocks. The windows are filled with nine-over-six, double-hung sash and are closed by original shutter blinds. Access to the interior is provided through a center-bay main entrance doorway and through two secondary doorways, each occupying the center bay of each flanking three-bay section. The main entrance features molded, two-panel, double-leaf doors with original glazed upper panels that are framed by transom and sidelights over molded panels. Each secondary entrance consists of a transomed doorway with molded, two-panel, single-leaf door.

The interior plan of the house is basically a double-pile plan with the central passage having been originally left open to the weather at the rear, or what might be described as a "dog-trot" enclosed only on the facade. Interior millwork consists of unmolded door and window surrounds with diminutive corner blocks, wide unmolded bases, doors that are two-paneled and molded, and wooden pilastered mantel pieces. The two-flight stairway with intermediate landing is entered on the northern wall of the central passage and features a square newel and rectangular-sectioned balusters. The doorways leading to the rooms from the hallway are transomed. The walls of the hallway are finished in matched boards, but the walls of the rooms are finished in plaster. The hallway retains an early decorative scheme that consists of a green mottled wall treatment and crudely marbled baseboards. The painted decoration was apparently applied in 1869, a stenciled date above the entrance doorway, at which time the name of the owner of the house, Hampton Lea, was stenciled on the inside face of the gallery plate. A late nineteenth or early twentieth-century photograph of the house shows an unusual decorative scheme on the first-story facade, remnants of which still survive. The matched board facade was painted to resemble blocks of stone which were tinted in sharply contrasting stone colors.

Alterations consist of a one-story, frame, non-intrusive addition to the rear of the house that encloses the rear passage that was once open to the weather. No original outbuildings have survived.

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	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1859 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hampton Lea House is a very significant example of vernacular, Mississippi, Greek Revival plantation architecture. The significance of the house is based on the rarity of I-style residences in the state, on the unusual original "dog-trot" enclosed at the front, on the outstanding architectural integrity, and on the long history of family ownership. Although fairly common in the North and South Carolina Piedmont region, from where many of the early Amite County settlers came, the I-style house is relatively rare in Mississippi with Amite County possibly possessing the greatest number of extant examples. The unmolded window and door surrounds with their diminutive corner blocks may be unique in Amite County to the Hampton Lea House. The unusual "dog-trot" passage that was originally open to the weather on only the rear elevation is seen also at the neighboring Felder-Richmond House and may be unique to these two houses, which possibly share a common builder. The architectural integrity of the Hampton Lea House is outstanding and includes the survival of the early interior painting scheme. According to family tradition, the house was constructed in 1859 for Hampton Lea, whose descendant Carey Lea presently owns the house. The house exhibits features that are considered to be typical of Amite County pre-Civil War architecture including wooden gallery posts rather than box columns, outside-end brick chimneys with stepped bases, and a water shelf that encloses one end of the front gallery.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Miller, Mary Warren, preservation consultant with the Historic Natchez Foundation. Inspection of Felder-Richmond House, August 25, 1982

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 7.23

Quadrangle name Terry's Creek, Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property forms a four-sided figure with the northerly and southerly boundary lines parallel and forming right angle corners with the easterly boundary line. The northerly, southerly, and easterly boundary lines are located 350 feet from their center points to the center point of the roof ridge of the

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

state	code	county	code
NA			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Warren Miller/preservation consultant

organization Historic Natchez Foundation

date April 3, 1984

street & number P. O. Box 1761

telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez

state Mississippi 39120

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

Kenneth H. P. Pool

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 28, 1984

For HCPS use only

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

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

[Signature]
National Register

date

7/2/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Hampton Lea House

Magnolia, Amite Co., Miss.

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

For NPS use only

received

date entered

house and the westerly boundary line is formed by the easterly edge of Lea Road which is approximately 100 feet from the house. The westerly and easterly boundary lines are approximately 700 feet long, the northerly and southerly lines are approximately 450 feet long. The property is located in section 28, Township 2N, Range 6E and comprises roughly 7.23 acres. This 7.23 acres is part of a larger 200-acre plantation but is considered sufficient to protect the historic setting of the house.

2846 II NW
(PEORIA)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

90° 37' 30"
31° 07' 30"

727,000m E

728

729

730

35'

732

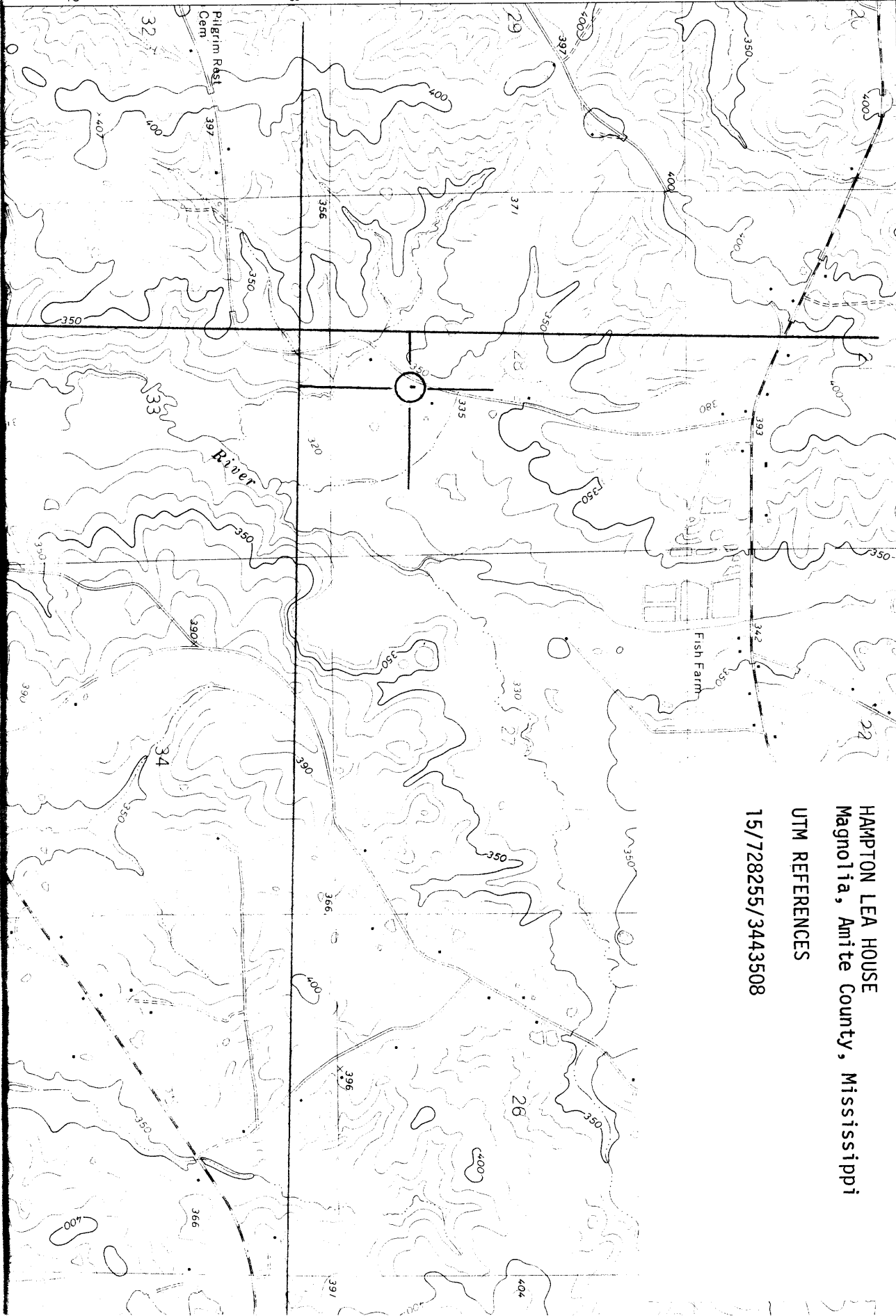
2846
LAKE TAN

3443000m N

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HAMPTON LEA HOUSE
Magnolia, Amite County, Mississippi

UTM REFERENCES

15/728255/3443508



HAMPTON LEA HOUSE

Magnolia, Amite County, Mississippi

Looking northeasterly, the westerly facade and southerly side elevation, showing the original lattice-enclosed water shelf on the end of the gallery.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation, August 1982.

Photo 1 of 4



HAMPTON LEA HOUSE

Magnolia, Amite County, Mississippi

Looking southeasterly, the northerly gable
end and westerly facade.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Founda-
tion, August 1982.

Photo 2 of 4



HAMPTON LEA HOUSE

Magnolia, Amite County, Mississippi

Looking northeasterly, an old photograph of the Hampton Lea House, showing the unusual mid-19th century facade treatment.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Foundation,
August 1982.

Photo 3 of 4



HAMPTON LEA HOUSE

Magnolia, Amite County, Mississippi

Looking northeasterly, the stairhall
showing the mid-19th-century decorative
painting of the walls and bases.

Mary W. Miller, Historic Natchez Founda-
tion, August 1982.

Photo 4 of 4