

## DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY ONLY



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

# Historic Sites Survey

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:** Elmwood Manor is a 5x4 bay, two-and-one-half story, brick building with a hip roof and front and rear, two tier, undercut galleries. The first story galleries have brick pillars while the second story galleries have wooden columns resting on slender, wooden pedestals. A simple wooden balustrade adorns the second story, front gallery. The three central bays of the front facade contain doors with multi-light transoms on both the first and second stories. The predominant window form is 12/12 double hung sash. The hip roof is pierced by gabled dormers with recessed, round-arched windows and engaged colonettes.

**ALTERATIONS:**

- rear galleries partially enclosed
- rear, one story, brick addition
- small brick addition on north (side) facade

**OUTBUILDINGS:**

barn and small cottage - both dating from 20th century and not included as contributing elements

**LANDSCAPE FEATURES:**

The house faces the bay. Several mature trees in front yard and scattered around the property.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:** One of the earliest, extant buildings in Bay St. Louis, Elmwood Manor is a significant example of the French Colonial style of architecture in the community. No other buildings remaining from the early 19th century are as architecturally intact as this house.

It is believed that the construction of the house was begun before 1812, but was not completed until 1828. One significant feature of the house is the infrastructure of the roof which is an important example of early 19th century timber frame construction with its large beams held together by wooden pegs.

Louis Alexis Lassassier acquired this property through a Spanish land grant. The land passed into the possession of his widow, Melite Macarty Lassassier, in 1823 and she sold it to Jesse Cowand in 1826-1829. Cowand died in 1852 and his widow, Elizabeth, resided at Elmwood Manor until the Civil War.

As far as can be determined, there is no record as to when or why the name Elmwood Manor was attached to this building.

**NAME:** Elmwood Manor

**STREET NO:** 902 North Beach Blvd.

**TOWN/VIC:** Bay St. Louis

**COUNTY:** Hancock

**BLOCK/LOT:** see verbal boundary description

**PRESENT OWNER:** M/M John A. McComiskey

**ADDRESS** 902 N. Beach Blvd.

**PRESENT USE:** residence

**FORMER USE:** residence

**DATE:** Before 1812, 1828 (see Statement of Sign)

**STYLE:** French Colonial

**ARCH/BUILDER:**

**SOURCE OF DATE:** Deed search conducted by Helene Cowand Price, great granddaughter of Jesse Cowand  
**ENVIRONMENT:** and verified by Susan Enzweiler

Residential

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**

NEIGHBORHOOD

LOCAL

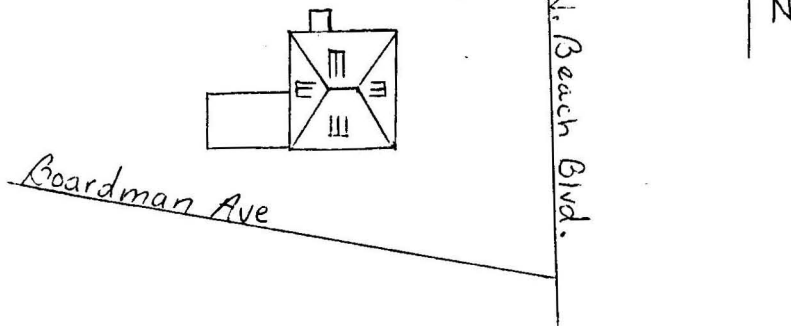
STATE X

NATIONAL

**PHOTOS**

**NEG. #**

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



CONTINUATION:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Enzweiler, Susan M., historian with the Miss. Dept. of Archives & History. Inspection of Elmwood Manor, 4/17/86

Hancock Co., Miss. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books A (pp. 298-303, 307-312, 314-315) and G (pp. 339-364). Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Microfilm.

Price, Helene Cowand, great granddaughter of Jesse Cowand interviewed by Susan M. Enzweiler, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Bay St. Louis, Miss., April 17, 1986.

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

Very good. The building is currently undergoing a sensitive rehabilitation in which such problems as rising damp are being corrected.

THREATS:

None

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Lots 3A, 4A, 32B and Part 2 & 33 of Block 2 of Leonard Subdivision (Parcel ## 19535-000) as recorded in Hancock County Land Roll in the Reappraisal Office in Bay St. Louis.

ACREAGE: 2.5 acres

UTM REF:

A	116	27158510	33576110
	ZONE EASTING		NORTHING
C			
B			
	ZONE EASTING		NORTHING
D			

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE

Susan M. Enzweiler

July 1986



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

PROCESSED

DEC 1 1986

Department of Archives & History

The Department of the Interior is pleased to inform you that the historic property listed on the enclosed sheet has been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The property was nominated for listing in the National Register by the State Historic Preservation Officer but cannot be listed at this time. The National Historic Preservation Act and Federal regulations 36 CFR 60 provide that owners of private properties nominated to the National Register must be given an opportunity to concur in or object to listing. If the owner of an individually nominated property, or the majority of owners in the case of a nomination which includes multiple ownership, object to the listing, the nomination cannot be entered in the National Register. Such objection has occurred in this case. Federal agencies are required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment before the agency may fund, license, or assist a project which will affect properties determined eligible for the National Register.



Elmwood Manor, 902 N. Beach Blvd., front  
(east) and side (south) elevations,  
view to northwest

Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi  
Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History  
Susan M. Enzweiler

April 1986

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Elmwood Manor, 902 N. Beach Blvd., side  
(north) and rear (west) elevations,  
view to southeast

Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi

Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History

Susan M. Enzweiler

April 1986

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