

Linden , Feltus Home
Natchez, Miss.

H.A.B.S. No. ~~17-10~~
17-10

HABS
MISS.
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Mississippi

Historic American Building Survey
A. Hays Town, District Officer
Jackson, Miss.

HABS

LINDEN
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Owner (Or Custodian)

A.M. Feltus

Date of Erection

1789

Architect

Builder

Present Condition

Good

Number of Stories

Two

Materials of Construction

Foundation

Wood frame

Floors

Exterior Walls

Interior Walls

Roof

Composition shingle pitched

Other Existing Records

This was once the home of United States
Senator Reed 1826-1829.

Additional Data

DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED
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L I N D E N

Natchez Adams County Mississippi

"Linden" is a Spanish colonial home, and is known to have been in existence in the 1790's, but the exact date of its erection is not known. 1789 (?)

.Extracts of early legal documents indicate that "Linden" and its twenty acres of land - more or less - were purchased by Thomas B. Reed in 1818. Reed lived at "Linden" only eleven years, but it was in this period that he rose to the height of his career. He married a Mrs. Margaret Archer, daughter of Isaac Ross, an influential citizen of Jefferson County, through which influence he was elected to State Attorney General, in spite of formidable enemies, and later to the United States Senate. Little is known of Mrs. Reed except that a former husband, Archer, was killed in a duel near Rodney.

.In 1829 Dr. Ker purchased the estate from Senator Reed. Dr. Ker was the first executive officer of Chapel Hill, which afterwards became the University of North Carolina. Dr. Ker was appointed Judge of Mississippi Territory by Thomas Jefferson in the early part of the century.

.From the Kers "Linden" passed into the hands of Mrs. Jane Gustine Conner, of Second Creek, who moved there in 1840.

.The present mistress of "Linden" is Mrs. Ann Felders, descendant of the Conners. Mrs. Felders is a member of the "Order of the Crown," and a member of the "Ancient Order of the Barons, of Runnymede," to which only descendants of the Barons who obtained the Magna Charta are eligible.

Compiled from data of
Stuart Cuthbertson
Mrs. Edith Wyatt Moore

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L I N D E N
Natchez Adams County Mississippi

The old Spanish colonial homes were more livable than the larger and more pretentious houses which were built following the evacuation. Of this class, "Linden" stands to remind us of "Concord" and others of the finer Spanish homes which have passed.

.The front of the house, seen through the moss covered cedars, is composed of a long low one-story gallery, covered by a flat deck terrace bounded by turned wood bannisters. Across the gallery are ten slender wood Doric columns, Superimposed upon the four central columns are four similar columns supporting a wood pediment, creating a small covered porch at the central unit of the second story. The second story is not as long as the one below, extending over an area equivalent to five of the column bays. The upper story roof is gabled on the ends, and the gables are broken by central stuccoed brick chimneys. The portion of the lower story not covered by the second floor is roofed with a hip roof. The roofs of the main house are composition shingles, but were once slate. The slate roof of the slave quarters still remains. .The wall of the front gallery is white stucco, on hand split wood lath, scored to represent stone joints. The wall of the upper story is sided. The remainder of the main house is all sided with cypress. The whole house is painted white. All of the windows have dark green blinds. The most important details of the house are the entrance from the gallery and the doorway on the second story porch, both of which are Palladian

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in mass, but the detailed carving and mouldings are very much of the same as other Spanish examples; and recall "Gilreath's Hill Tavern," "The Evans Home," "313 Market Street," "Springfield," and others. An interesting feature found here and on other houses of the Dominion is that, instead of flutes being concave surfaces, they are raised beads.

.The two-story slave quarters on one side and an added one-story wing on the other, form a court at the rear. Across the main house on this elevation are two full length galleries; the main roof covering the upper one. The lower doorway is quite as interesting as the ones on the front. The slaves house to the left is brick, with two stories of galleries across the court front, the upper gallery is covered by the slate roof, which covers the body of these quarters. There is an open porch stair to the second gallery. The columns of these galleries are solid one-piece 8 x 8 wood posts beveled on the edges and running the full height of the building.

.The plan is simple and open. The true galleries give the only access to various sections without going through one room to the other.

.The interior is simple and refined, finished in plaster, but some rooms have been papered in recent years.

."Linden" is in good condition, and is well kept. It should be a land mark for many years to come.

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Reviewed 1936, H.C.F.