THEME: WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Georgetown	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Hopsewee, (Thomas Lynch, Jr., Birthplace)

AND/OR HISTORIC: Hopsewee-on-the-Santee

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: About 13 miles south of Georgetown via U.S. 17 south, then west via a dirt road 0.6 miles, located on the north bank of the North Fork of the Santee River. (Also see Continuation Sheet)

CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
South Carolina		Georgetown	

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☒ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. James T. Maynard

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 2, Box 197-B

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Georgetown 29440	South Carolina	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Georgetown County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Georgetown	South Carolina	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey (14 photos)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Washington	D.C.	

STATE: COUNTY: FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered		☐ Moved	☒ Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(If known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in the 1740's, Hopsewee is a two-and-one-half story frame structure on a brick foundation covered by scored tabby, with a hipped roof, dormers, and two interior chimneys. A broad two-story porch or piazza with square columns extends across the front of the house. The frame, comprised of black cypress, is of mortise and tenon construction and the walls are clapboarded. First and second story windows are adorned by exterior paneled shutters. The present roof is metal and the front porches have been screened in, except for these changes the exterior of the house has been little-altered.

The farmhouse, five-bays wide and three-bays deep, has a central hall plan. The center hall extends through the house from front to rear and divides the four rooms on each of the first two floors into pairs. Each of these eight rooms has its individual fireplace. The mantels, wainscoting, cornice mold, and heart pine floors are all original and of excellent craftsmanship. The full cellar is brick and divided into rooms. The two one-story cypress shingled out-buildings located to the northeast and northwest of the main house, were probably originally used as kitchens. The main house was repaired and put into excellent condition around 1948 and its garden also restored at that time. Used as a private residence, the house is open to visitors as a historic house museum Tuesday through Friday of each week.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [X] 18th Century
- [ ] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* 1749-1763

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - [ ] Prehistoric
  - [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [X] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Hopsewee" was the birthplace and boyhood home of Thomas Lynch, Jr., a Signer of the Declaration of Independence for South Carolina, planter, soldier, and politician, from 1749 to 1763. It is the only extant house closely related with Thomas Lynch, Jr.

Brief Sketch of the Life of Thomas Lynch, Jr., 1749-1779

Thomas Lynch, Jr., was born in Prince Georges Parish, Winyaw (now Georgetown County), South Carolina, on August 5, 1749, the only son of a wealthy rice planter. He attended the Indigo Society School in Georgetown, South Carolina; from 1764 to 1772 he was at Eton, Cambridge, in England, and then studying law at the Middle Temple, London. He returned to South Carolina in 1772 and having acquired a distaste for law, his father permitted him to abandon this profession and become a planter. Toward this end his father presented him with the Peach Tree Plantation in St. James Parish on the North Santee, Charleston County, South Carolina. In May 1772 Thomas Lynch, Jr., married Elizabeth Shubrick.

Thomas Lynch, Jr., entered public life in 1774. He was a member of the first and second provincial congress (1774-1776), of the constitutional committee for South Carolina (1776), and of the first state General Assembly (1776). In June 1775 he was appointed a captain in the First South Carolina Regiment and in July he went into North Carolina to recruit his company. On this trip he contracted bilious fever which made him a partial invalid for the remainder of his life.

On March 23, 1776, the South Carolina General Assembly appointed Thomas Lynch, Jr., as sixth delegate to the Second Continental Congress, so that he might care for his father, also a delegate, who had suffered a stroke and was in very poor health. The son's health was too feeble to permit continued activity in public life, but Thomas Lynch, Jr., was present and voted when the Declaration of Independence was adopted and shortly afterward signed the document. He did not remain long in Congress, however, for his health began to decline with alarming rapidity. Father and son began the journey homeward by easy stages, but his father, Thomas Lynch, Sr., died at Annapolis, Maryland, in December 1776 and was buried in St. Ann's churchyard. The son reached South Carolina but failed

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. XI, 523-24. Article by John G. VanDeusen.

Elizabeth Fields and Dr. C.E. Fields, "The Signers Lived Here," Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine, May 1951, 10.

South Carolina, A Guide to the Palmetto State (American Guide Series) (New York, 1946), 280.

Alberta Lachicotte, Georgetown Rice Plantations.

A.S. Salley, Delegates to the Continental Congress from South Carolina, Pamphlet No. 9.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	33 ° 12 ' 42 "	79 ° 23 ' 08 "
NE	33 ° 12 ' 37 "	79 ° 23 ' 00 "
SE	33 ° 12 ' 34 "	79 ° 23 ' 02 "
SW	33 ° 12 ' 39 "	79 ° 23 ' 11 "

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds
33 ° 12 ' 36 "	79 ° 23 ' 03 "
Location of House	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 35 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles W. Snell, Survey Historian

ORGANIZATION: Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service

DATE: 6/4/71

STREET AND NUMBER: 801 - 19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

_____
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

_____
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
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2. Boundaries for the Historic Site Hopsewee-on-the Santee:

Approximately 35 acres in the shape of a rectangle, including the Hopsewee Plantation House and its two dependencies, starting at the northwest corner at latitude 33°12'42" N.--longitude 79°23'08" W., proceeding to the southeast in a straight line about 900 feet to the west edge of U.S. Route 17 at latitude 33°12'37" N.--longitude 79°23'00" W., then continuing to the southwest along the west shoulder of U.S. 17 for about 400 feet to the north bank of the North Fork of the Santee River at the southeast corner, latitude 33°12'34" N.--longitude 79°23'02" W., then going northwest along the north bank of the North Fork of the Santee River for about 900 feet to the southwest corner at latitude 33°12'39"N.--longitude 79°23'11" W., then returning to the northeast in a straight line for about 400 feet to the beginning, the northwest corner. Precise boundaries, as described above, are recorded in black ink on a copy of U.S. Geological Survey Map: Santee Quadrangle, South Carolina, 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic), 1943, on file with the Branch of Historical Surveys, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service.

Total acreage in the Hopsewee Plantation site (May 1971) is 35 acres.

to regain his health. Late in 1779 he and his wife sailed for the West Indies in the hope of improving his health. The ship and all on board, were lost at sea in 1779.

History of the House

Built by Thomas Lynch, Sr., in the 1740's, Thomas Lynch, Jr., was born in the plantation house on August 5, 1749. His father sold the farmhouse about 1763, when his son was 13 years old. "Hopsewee" had fallen into decay and the garden was much overgrown with weeds and bushes when the present owner purchased the property around 1948.