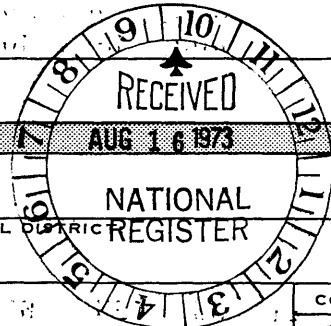


HB NO UTM

STATE: Mississippi
 COUNTY: Wilkinson
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: JAN 11 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME
 COMMON: Fort Adams
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: South of Fort Adams
 CITY OR TOWN: Fort Adams community
 STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39636
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third
 COUNTY: Wilkinson CODE: 157

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. H. B. Curry
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Woodville STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39669 28

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Chancery Clerk Office
 STREET AND NUMBER: Wilkinson County Courthouse
 CITY OR TOWN: Woodville STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39669 28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Works Progress Administration
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1930's Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Mississippi Department of Archives and History
 STREET AND NUMBER: Post Office Box 571
 CITY OR TOWN: Jackson STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39205 28

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mississippi
 COUNTY: Wilkinson
 ENTRY NUMBER: JAN 11 1974
 DATE: JAN 11 1974
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

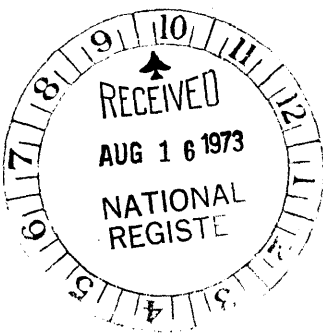
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

At the time of Fort Adams' occupancy, there were extensive buildings on the site. These structures consisted of a blockhouse and a watchtower situated upon the summit of the bluff almost three hundred feet above and overlooking the Mississippi River. The magazine was located at the foot of the bluff, and nearer the river was the battery. A road connected the three principal locations by descending the bluff on the east side and spiraling onto the glacis below and to the magazine and battery west of the bluff. This road also served the landing on the bank of the river near the battery.

With the exception of brick rubble, no visible evidence of the fort remains today. However, a team of archaeologists from the Smithsonian Institute visited the site in 1960 and discovered the inground remains of the foundations. At this time, the archaeologists were able to establish and verify the extent of the structures at the fort.

The fort site is on the south edge of the present day community of Fort Adams, which is named, of course, for the nineteenth century fort. The glacis of the fort which encompassed the battery and magazine is in cultivation, but the summit where the blockhouse and watchtower stood is overgrown by forests. If one climbs to the summit and overlooks the broad Mississippi and into the flat lands of Louisiana, it is readily apparent why Captain Isaac Guion chose this spot for America's frontier picket.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Wilkinson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 11 1974

(Number all entries)

8.

While commander of Fort Adams, Wilkinson performed valuable services to the United States. He was instrumental in securing treaties with the Indians for post roads, land, and an overland route to the Yazoo River. He also obtained permission from the Spanish for passage and deposit of American goods at the port of New Orleans.

Fort Adams served as a port of entry, with collection agents stationed at the garrison to collect duties for all goods entering the territory by way of the Mississippi River. Before the duty was abolished June 30, 1802, \$59,029.29 was collected on tonnage shipped into the Mississippi District.

The village of Wilkinsonburgh, with a saw mill, several stores and dwellings for the families of the garrison, grew up immediately adjoining the lands of Fort Adams proper. Fort Adams was also the setting of Edward Everett Hale's story The Man Without a Country (1863).

The existence of the fort as a military outpost was short lived because of the Louisiana Purchase. When the United States purchased the whole of France's American territory from Napoleon in 1802, the garrison reached its peak in strength. Since opposition was expected from the Spanish, who were still in possession of New Orleans, troops were sent to bolster the small garrison and to accompany the commissioners to New Orleans for the transfer ceremony. The Spanish, however, although offering little cooperation, did not actively resist. The movement of troops to New Orleans left the fort with a complement of only twelve men and a lieutenant, but it continued as a military establishment until 1810.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Wilkinson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 11 1974

(Number all entries)

9.

Rowland, Eron, com., Life, Letters and Papers of William Dunbar, Pioneer Scientist of the Southern United States. Jackson, Mississippi: Press of the Mississippi Historical Society, 1930, pp. 149, 150, 184, 186, 216.

Rowland, Dunbar, ed., Executive Journals of Governor Winthrop Sargent and Governor William Charles Cole Claiborne. The Mississippi Territorial Archives, 1798-1803, Vol. I. Nashville, Tennessee: Press of Brandon Printing Co., 1905, pp. 365, 378, 420, 443, 480, 583, 586, 587, 591.

Rowland, Dunbar, ed., Mississippi: Comprising Sketches of Counties, Towns, Events, Institution, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form. Vol. I. Atlanta, 1907, p. 728.

Warren, Harry, "Chickasaw Traditions, Customs, Etc." Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. 8 (1904), p. 574.



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1798-1810

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site of Fort Adams, twenty miles west of Woodville on the Mississippi River, was strategically important to the American frontier during the Mississippi territorial period. The fort, closer to the Spanish territory than any other army post, controlled all traffic up or down the Mississippi. The ground chosen for the fortifications by Captain Isaac Guion was situated high enough to offer prospects of reasonable health and to afford an excellent defensive position. The fort was also in close proximity to the new national boundary of 31° latitude.

In 1798 following the expedition of Guion, President John Adams ordered Brigadier General James Wilkinson to move a body of troops to the site and to investigate the possibilities of constructing fortifications. Wilkinson arrived at Natchez on September 27, 1798, with a flotilla of twenty-seven barges containing soldiers and their equipment and moved on to the site shortly thereafter.

By late 1799, eighty thousand dollars had been expended in the construction of the fort, which contained a battery of cannon, a magazine and barracks for the garrison. This new fort, named in honor of President John Adams, occupied the point of land previously known by the French as Roche à Davion ("Davion's Rock") and more recently as "Loftus Heights" by the British.

The first commander of Fort Adams was General James Wilkinson, a man of much intrigue and mystery. He had been involved in an unsuccessful scheme to overthrow George Washington during the Revolutionary War and had later conspired with Spain for the control of the Southwest territory, even to the point of swearing allegiance to the Spanish government. General Wilkinson was also investigated in Aaron Burr's alleged conspiracy to establish an empire in Mexico or the Southwest. During his stormy military career, Wilkinson received two court-martials.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fort Adams Subject File, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

Jacobs, James Ripley, Major, U.S. Army, Ret., Tarnished Warrior, Major-General James Wilkinson. New York: The Macmillian Company, 1938, pp. 47-50, 149, 150, 172, 186, 192, 194, 196, 200, 201, 202, 209-215, 231-234, 237-239, 257, 260.

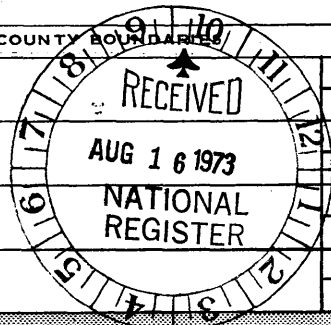
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	31° 04' 53"	91° 33' 01"				
NE	31° 04' 53"	91° 32' 41"				
SE	31° 04' 39"	91° 32' 41"				
SW	31° 04' 39"	91° 33' 01"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **58 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William C. Wright, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Mississippi Department of Archives and History DATE: 7/31/73

STREET AND NUMBER: Post Office Box 571

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39205 28

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 Elbert R. Hilliard

Title Director, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History

Date July 31, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

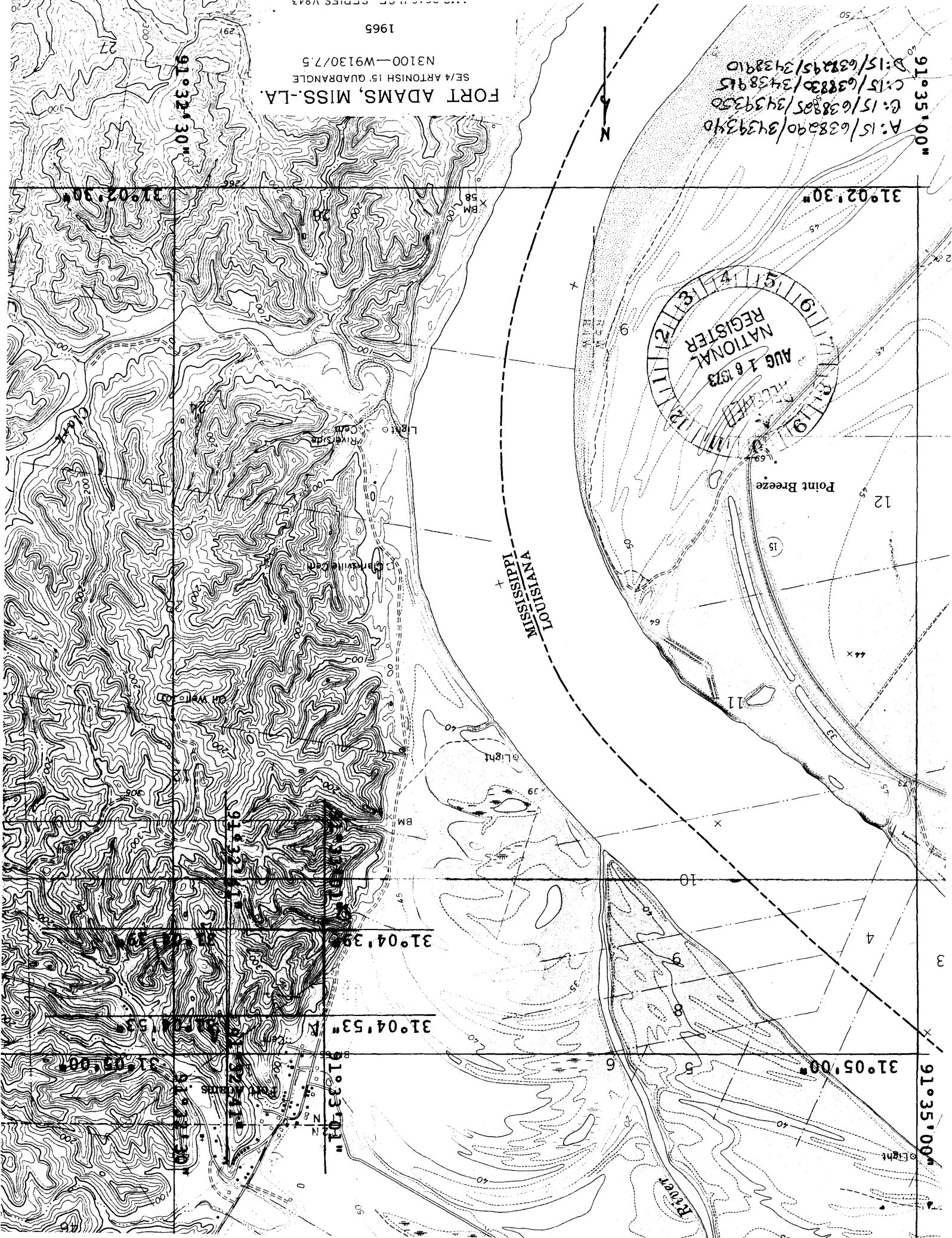
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. P. Martens
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/11/74

ATTEST: Charles R. Henry
Keeper of The National Register

Date 1-7-74



FORT ADAMS, MISS.-LA.

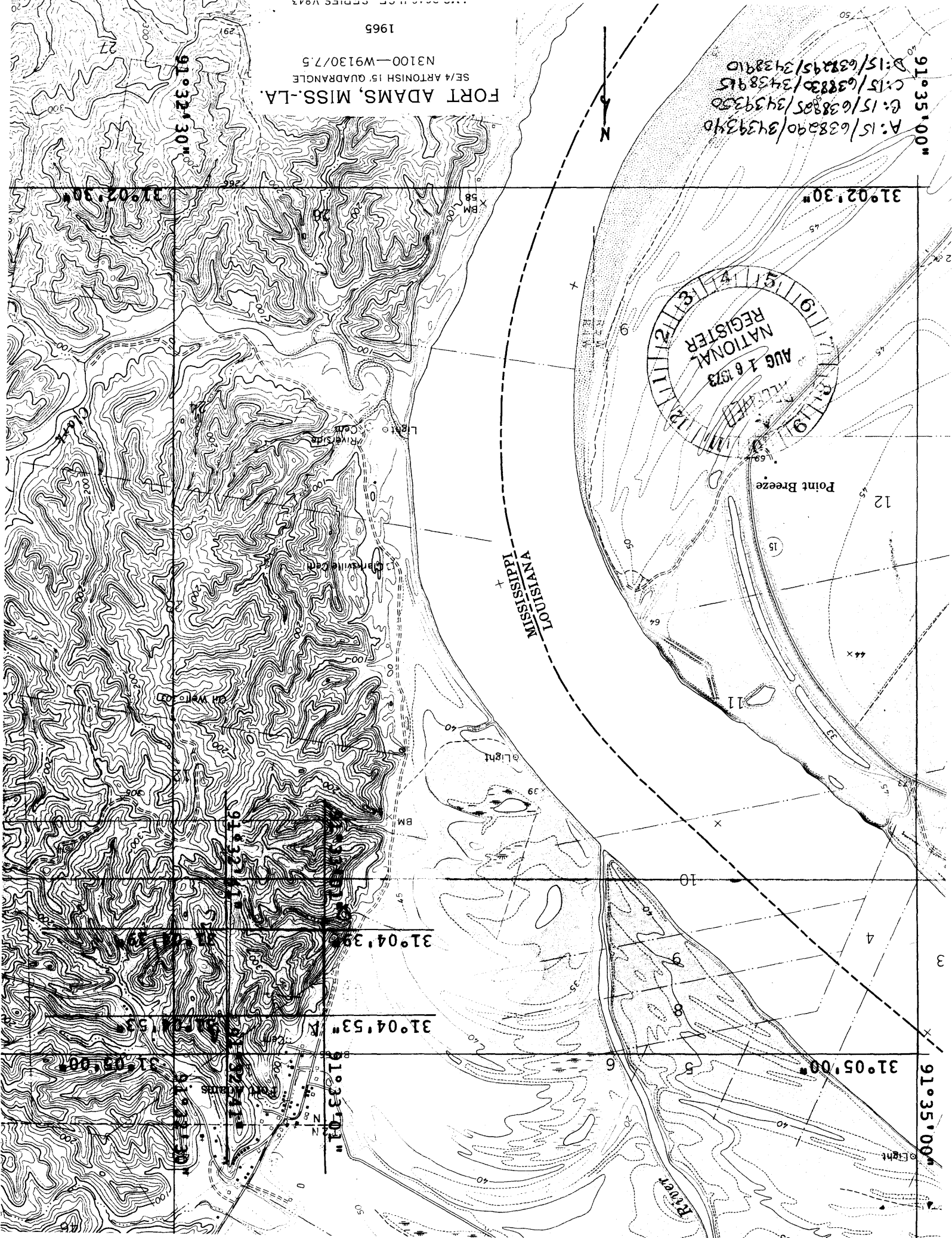
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N3100—W9130/7.5

1965

A: 15/638290/3439340
B: 15/638805/3439350
C: 15/638830/3438915
D: 15/638295/3438910

NATIONAL REGISTER
AUG 16 1973
RECEIVED

MISSISSIPPI
LOUISIANA



FORT ADAMS, MISS.-LA.

SE/4 ARTONISH 15 QUADRANGLE
N3100—W9130/7.5

1965

A: 15/638290/3439340
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D: 15/638295/3438910

NATIONAL REGISTER
AUG 16 1973
RECEIVED

MISSISSIPPI
LOUISIANA

Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

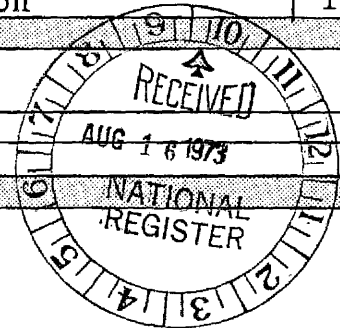
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Wilkinson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 11 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Fort Adams Site			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
South of Fort Adams			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Fort Adams Community			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	39636	28 Wilkinson	157
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Fort Adams, Miss.-La.			
SCALE: 1:62500 1:24000			
DATE: 1965			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



INT: 155-72

58 acres