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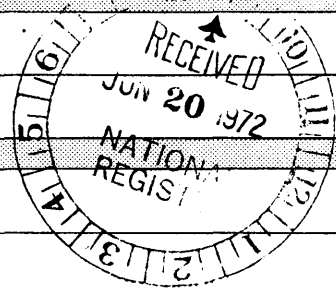
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Louisiana	
COUNTY: East Feliciana	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 29 1972	DATE



#### 1. NAME

COMMON: The Marston House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Clinton

STATE: Louisiana CODE: 70722 COUNTY: East Feliciana CODE: 037

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Parish of East Feliciana

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Clinton STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Clerk of Court

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Clinton STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUN 29 1972

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Ruins  Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marston House is of purely classical design. It is built of brick, plastered over inside and outside. Originally the outside plaster was scored to appear as stone.

The building is 50 feet wide and 56 feet deep, including front porch. There were originally double galleries and a kitchen on the back. Six massive round columns two stories high with clear and beautiful Ionic capitals are across the front of the building. The Greek influence is noted in the interior wood work (facings and mantels).

The four bedrooms downstairs are 20 ft. x 24 ft., ceilings are 13 ft. Upstairs rooms were the same until a dividing partition was removed from the north room, sometimes in the late 40's.

The two downstairs rooms on the north side of the building were used for the bank, housed in the structure from its construction in 1837, to about 1888. It is for this reason that the downstairs front room on the north has a walk-in bank vault in the southeast corner of the room.

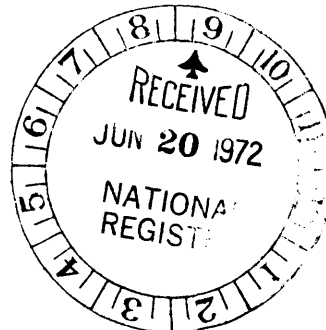
Records of July 3, 1837, indicate a bill for "laying 37538 bricks in partition walls, extra of amount contract \$187.68 at \$5.00 per thousand". Time for taking down columns at the bank and rebuilding the same after the late storm. 20 days for brick layers at \$3.50 per day. 20 days laboring work at \$1.50 per day. Partitions walls carried up two stories instead of one as originally intended. June 29, 1838. Plastering 6 columns @ \$25.00 each.

Front door measures 54" x 110" and weighs 500 pounds.

Locks on front and back doors are original and are signed Carpenter's locks.

The four chimneys are concealed within the walls.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

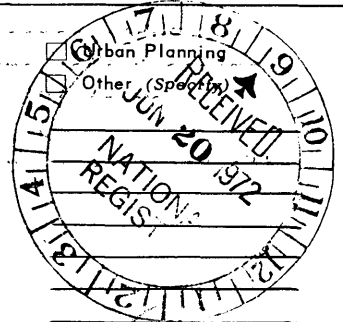
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Marston House derives its name from its close ties with Henry Marston, born in Boston, Mass. Sept. 1, 1794 and died Nov. 15, 1884 at age 90. He was one of seven children.

He was the son and grandson of American patriots. His grandfather, John Marston, owned and operated taverns and was closely associated with such revolutionary incendiaries as Samuel Adams and Paul Revere. He is said to have been proprietor of the tavern "Bunch of Grapes" in which some of the meetings of the sons of Liberty were held. A large silver bowl, made by Paul Revere, housed in the Metropolitan Museum bears the names of 15 revolutionary patriots, among which is John Marston.

Henry's father, John Marston, served in the Revolutionary war under George Washington. He lived to be 90 years of age and died in Boston in 1846, revered and respected by his family and friends and was the possessor of wealth and land holdings.

Henry was exposed at an early age to the intense Martson family patriotism and named his plantation in East Feliciana "Washington Place" in honor of "the Father of my Country".

Henry moved to East Feliciana in 1822 and purchased a 640 acre plantation near the bank of Pretty Creek. With little money, high hopes the New Englander, without plantation experience and fresh from an environment of good schooling, refinement and eastern culture sought to carve out his destiny just outside the budding community of Clinton.

Mr. Marston kept very complete diaries, records and papers which are now housed in the archives at Louisiana State University. In 1955 Jacob Edward Pulwers wrote a thesis "Henry Marston, Ante-bellum Planter and Business Man of East Feliciana".

In February 1828 he married Miss Abigail Fowler Johnson who was 17, (he was 32) and with the marriage her dowry brought more lands to Marston. This land was on Sandy Creek and was named Fowler's Heath after his mother-in-law. This is where they lived until he completed the Marston House and moved there.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Reeves-Meriam G., The Felicianas of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, La. Claitor's Bookstore 1967 - pp. 80,86,99  
 Cooper, J. Wesley - A Treasure of Louisiana Plantation Homes - Philadelphia Penn. Edward Stern and Co. Ind., 1961  
 Thesis - Pulwers, Henry Jacob, "Henry Marston, Ante-Bellum Planter and Businessman of East Feliciana", La. State University June 1955  
 American Guide Series, Louisiana, A Guide to the State (New York, Hastings House) 1941, P. 460 P. 453  
 Shreveport Journal "Showcase", March 10, 1967 Page 10 and 11  
 Life Magazine - Nov. 22, 1936 Page 48

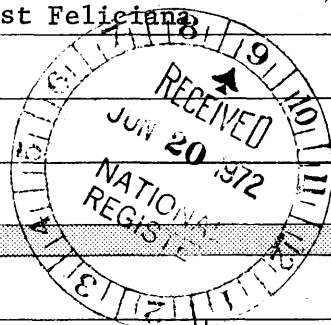
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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
NW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		30°	52'	2"
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		91°	1'	8"
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Louisiana	22	East Feliciana	037
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Joseph T. Long, Treasurer

ORGANIZATION: East Feliciana Pilgrimage and Garden Club DATE: 5/29/72

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 560

CITY OR TOWN: Clinton STATE: Louisiana 70722 CODE: 22

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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: Joseph W. Parks Title: Chairman, Louisiana Historical Preservation & Cultural Commission Date: June 10, 1972

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/29/72

ATTEST: William J. ...  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

15/68400/296000

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 29 1972	

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of significance (cont'd)

The property where Marston House stands was sold to the Union Bank of New Orleans by Lee Hardesty and his wife Eliza for \$425.00 on June 30, 1836. Franklin Hardesty, President of the Union Bank of Clinton, represented the purchaser at the sale. A small additional plot of land was sold by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hardesty to the Union Bank of Clinton, January 11, 1837.

During the 1840's the Union Bank of New Orleans suffered extremely during a wide-spread depression and feared it would be unable to complete the building for the branch bank. Henry Marston offered to complete the structure at his own expense, providing he was made cashier of the bank and that he could have the entire upstairs as a residence. The bank accepted his offer.

Official records show that the land on which the Marston House stands was sold to Henry Marston by the Union Bank of Clinton, along with several other pieces of property on November 28, 1851, with all improvements, buildings, constructions and appurtenances on the properties. Thus, did Mr. Marston become owner of the Marston House, home of the family for nearly a century.

The will of Mrs. Henry W. Marston, whose husband preceded her in death, left all her property, which included the Marston House, to Miss Abigail Marston, her daughter. This document is dated February 10, 1888.

Upon her death, it was willed to the Bulow W. Marston Estate. The will of Miss Marston was dated August 6, 1935.

The Estate gave the Marston House to the Parish of East Feliciana in 1941 and the Police Jury in turn leased it to the East Feliciana Pilgrimage and Garden Club in 1958 for 99 years. The club has undertaken its restoration and in 13 years has invested approximately \$20,000 in restoring the house.

Because of its solidity and strength, Marston House was used as an emergency hospital during the war between the states.

Today, 134 years after it was started, the Marston House stands strong and classic atop a Bank Street hill between Clinton's Courthouse Square and Old Silliman College.

