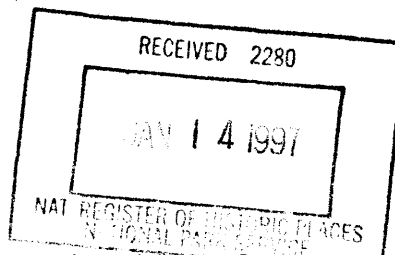


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Holly Grove

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 10929 Rouchon Lane N/A not for publication

city or town Clinton vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county East Feliciana code 037 zip code 70722

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jonathan Fricker 1/7/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Deputy SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Ball
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
2-14-97

Holly Grove
Name of Property

East Feliciana Parish, LA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

Holly Grove (c. 1850) is a large two story, brick plantation house in the Greek Revival style. It stands on a hill amid rolling countryside in rural East Feliciana Parish. Although it has experienced some alteration since its construction, it remains eligible for National Register listing.

Holly Grove is very unusual when compared to other examples of the Greek Revival style commonly found in Louisiana. It appears to be in the tradition of a domestic architectural type found in Regency England and in the eastern United States, i.e., a brick, five bay, squarish, multi-story house with classical decorative elements, including a central entrance encompassed by a single bay, single story porch. As such, it lacks the broad columnar galleries and pedimented porticoes normally found in Louisiana examples of the Greek Revival style.

The house is constructed in brick laid up in common bond. Its main block is capped by a heavily constructed pitched roof with a massive brick gable on each side. The first floor contains a wide central hall with a double parlor separated by pocket doors on the west side and two additional rooms on the east side. With the exception of the pocket doors, this plan is echoed on the second story. The house has four interior brick chimneys, set against the side walls of the house, which service a total of eight fireplaces, upstairs and down. A moderate slope staircase ascends from front to rear in the central hall in a single flight.

The front and rear elevations are each articulated with a set of four colossal pilasters, with molded brick capitals, which rise to a brick entablature. The pilasters are placed to set off the central bay and mark the ends of the facade. Articulating a Greek Revival residence with pilasters in this manner is extremely rare in Louisiana and, indeed, in the Deep South. The only precedents seem to be institutional buildings.

Architectural evidence indicates that the previously mentioned single bay entrance porch is original to the house. This evidence includes the fact that the cornice molding on the porch entablature matches the cornice molding set under the eave of the main roof. Secondly, the upper hall has a French door which opens onto a small balustraded balcony atop the porch. The configuration of this opening has not been altered, and its moldings match those of the other upstairs openings. Inasmuch as this opening was always a door, it had to allow the occupants to step out onto something.

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Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

Finally, the engaged columns which flank the door and partially support the porch roof are of solid wood, indicating an early date. These were evidently created by turning a massive piece of lumber on a lathe and then sawing the resulting fully round column in half.

Other Greek Revival features found in Holly Grove include:

- 1) the use of an egg and dart motif in the woodwork of the entrance and on the cornices of the double parlors,
- 2) simple Greek Revival mantels with aedicule styling,
- 3) two acanthus leaf ceiling medallions in the double parlors, and
- 4) aedicule motifs encompassing the front and rear doors of the central hall.

Other architectural features of interest include the transoms and sidelights which ornament the main doors, the paneling found around the front entrance and beneath the windows of the double parlors, the transoms above the interior doors, an arched opening within the west gable end of the roof, and a small c. 1880 plaster ceiling medallion in the central hall.

The present staircase appears to be original, but its balustrade appears to be constructed from salvaged parts of approximately the same period as the house. Finally, the small enclosed closet under the staircase, with its Greek Revival door consisting of two vertical panels, appears to be very old, if not original.

Alterations

Behind the east end of the rear elevation is a single story, one room brick building under a pitched roof. Oral tradition indicates that this building was originally a kitchen. This assertion is contradicted by the architectural evidence. The interior of the brick walls is finished with smooth plaster and the openings feature moldings which

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**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 3

match those in the main house. In addition, its wide tongue and groove floorboards match those of the main house. In short, this building is too finely made to have been a utilitarian building such as a kitchen. Moreover, there is no massive utilitarian cooking fireplace, which one would expect in a plantation kitchen of this period.

At some point a one story "L" shaped porch was attached to the rear of the home and the front wall of the dependency. In the 1950s the porch and dependency were incorporated into a single story rear frame addition to the house, which provided for a massive rear carport. The dependency received a tiny concrete rear extension, which was evidently intended to provide for cold storage. Finally, the interior of the dependency has been remodeled as a modern kitchen. The original walls have been covered by paneling, the floor has been covered by plywood and vinyl, and the original wooden windows have been partially bricked in beneath new aluminum windows.

The house has also been fitted with two modern bathrooms. On the lower floor, the bath is located in a small single story frame addition on the east side which abuts the now enclosed space between the main house and the dependency. The second story bathroom is behind a rear bedroom which has been subdivided. As part of the subdivision process, the bedroom's mantel has been removed.

At present the entrance porch features a pair of coupled Tuscan columns. According to the present owner, these were installed in the 1950s to replace earlier columns that had rotted. It seems certain that originally the columns were solid turned members like the half round columns which still exist at the rear of the porch. Whether these were single or coupled is not discernible from the accessible architectural evidence, although single seems more likely. As previously mentioned, the west gable of the roofline features a glazed arched opening. In all likelihood, the corresponding east gable once featured a similar opening. This has evidently been removed and replaced by brick infill laid so as to provide gaps for attic ventilation. Finally, some of the wooden window sills have been replaced with brick ledges, the roof has been repaired where damaged by a tornado, and all of the exterior brick walls (with the exception of the pilasters) have been painted.

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Continuation Sheet

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 4

Assessment of Integrity

The most serious change has been the previously described pattern of alterations to the rear of the house, which engulfs the once free-standing brick dependency. It should be stressed, however, that vital character defining elements, such as the rear elevation pilasters, have been partially covered and not removed. Thus, the alterations are entirely reversible. In addition, the impact of these alterations is minimal because they are at the rear.

The second most serious alteration is the replacement of the original front porch columns with the present paired Tuscan columns. However, the current columns are similar to the surviving original half-round engaged columns which flank the door, and their classical styling reinforces the Greek Revival character of the main block. Other alterations should be considered minor. Most importantly, the house retains the vast majority of its original character-defining features. Hence it still conveys its importance as a significant and unusual example of the Greek Revival style.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1850

Significant Dates

c. 1850

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Holly Grove
Name of Property

East Feliciana Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property @ 9.5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	5	6	9	5	9	2	0	3	4	2	3	2	9	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

3

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date October 1996

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name W. Lee and Sandra P. Overton

street & number P. O. Box 807 telephone (504) 683-3257 home
(504) 344-0071 office

city or town Clinton state LA zip code 70722

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA
Section number 8 Page 1

Holly Grove is locally significant in the area of architecture because it contributes to the distinctly Greek Revival architectural heritage of East Feliciana Parish.

Despite its proximity to the French Creole region of Louisiana, East Feliciana was settled primarily by Anglo-Americans from the eastern United States. These settlers brought with them the architectural styles popular in their former homes. And, during the mid-nineteenth century, this meant the extremely popular Greek Revival style which came to dominate the area. As a result of this settlement pattern and design preference, East Feliciana Parish stands as one of three rural areas considered to be major centers of Greek Revival architecture in the state. The East Feliciana collection consists of approximately two dozen buildings, many of which are two-story homes.

In the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office, all surviving examples of the Greek Revival style in East Feliciana Parish are significant because they contribute to the area's architectural identity as a center of Greek Revival architecture. Taken among this group Holly Grove is conspicuous because it is in the tradition of a distinctive Greek Revival prototype found in the East and not often found in the Deep South. Thus, its appearance adds significantly to East Feliciana Parish's Anglo-American architectural identity.

Historical Note:

Holly Grove was built for planter William Woodward. He purchased the land on which the house now stands in 1826 but did not construct the present dwelling until c. 1850, during his third marriage. After his death in 1860, the children of his second marriage (the first marriage was childless) contested his will in an attempt to disinherit the third wife, Amanda Woodward. In the meantime, the Civil War intervened and financial reverses caused the property to be sold at a sheriff's sale in 1872. Amanda Woodward was the purchaser; she then lived at Holly Grove until 1917. After her death in 1921 at the age of 92, she was buried in the Woodward Cemetery on the property.

Between 1917 and 1934 the property changed hands several times. In the latter

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Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA

Section number $\frac{8}{9}$ Page $\frac{2}{1}$

year it was purchased by Cyrus F. Rouchon, who lived there with his wife until his death in 1991. The current owners, W. Lee and Sandra Overton, recently purchased the property from Rouchon's heirs. The Overtons plan to complete an authentic restoration and make Holly Grove their home.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Historical sketch of Holly Grove Plantation furnished by owner; copy in National Register file.

Site inspection by National Register staff.

Staff knowledge of the architectural patrimony of East Feliciana Parish.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Holly Grove, East Feliciana Parish, LA
Section number 10 Page 1

LEGAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A certain piece or parcel of land being situated in the Parish of East Feliciana, State of Louisiana, with all the improvements thereon, being more particularly described on a map showing a survey of a parcel being removed from the Mrs. Lois Rouchon, et al property located in Section 45, T-1-S R-3-E, East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana for Mrs. Lois S. Rouchon, et al by Wallace J. Hargrave, registered land surveyor dated March 21, 1995 and described:

Begin at the northern most point and corner on the Rouchon Road, shown on said survey and being the northern most point of existing Lot A, as a point of beginning, thence south 56°, 7', 12" east, 223.06 feet to a point, thence south 58°, 02', 41" east, 301.12 feet to a point and corner, thence south 17°, 23', 24" west, 797.32 feet to a point and corner, thence north, 72°, 55', 00" west, 505.33 feet to a point and corner, thence north 17°, 23', 24" east, 939.07 feet to the point of beginning, all as more particularly described as existing Lot A and Lot B.

JUSTIFICATION

Boundaries follow property lines of parcel of land upon which nominated resource is located.