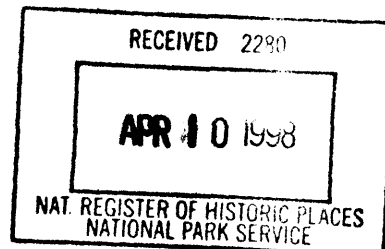


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 any 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 Adams House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 421 South Seventh NA not for publication

city or town Baton Rouge NA vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county East Baton Rouge code 033 zip code 70802

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Genri Hobdy 4/1/98
Signature of certifying official/Title Genri Hobdy, Date
LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

State or 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 certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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. Beall Signature of Keeper Date of Action 5.8.98

Adams House
Name of property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			objects
			Total

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
<u>NA</u>	<u>0</u>

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	
Cat. <u>Domestic</u>	Sub. <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	
Cat. <u>Work in Progress</u>	Sub. <u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>Italianate</u>	foundation <u>brick</u>
<u> </u>	walls <u>weatherboard</u>
<u> </u>	roof <u>metal</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	other <u> </u>
	<u> </u>

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

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CONTINUATION SHEETSection 7 Page 1

Built in 1891, the Adams House is a one story frame cottage located in a largely commercial area of downtown Baton Rouge. The house should be viewed within the context of the Italianate taste, due principally to its boldly articulated moldings and other details. Although it has received some alteration and is currently undergoing restoration, its National Register eligibility has not been compromised.

The Adams House is a traditional galleried residence with a hall-less main block containing four rooms and front and rear galleries. This block has a gable end roof (with gable end returns), while the front gallery features solid boxed columns with heavily molded capitals and an entablature with lacks a frieze. The latter features paired brackets (in the Italianate manner), a two-part cornice, and a narrow band of molding between the cornice and the architrave. (This molding appears on the facade but not on the gable end returns.) The cornice is composed of a simple wooden base-like element surmounted by a molded metal gutter. Because the upper portion of the downspout is cast as an integral part of the gutter, it is believed that this gutter is original to the home and was intended as part of the design. Other details of the three-bay facade include a balustrade composed of decoratively cut members, floor-length windows, and two entrances with three light transoms. Original shutters survive on all windows. The house also has its original metal shingle roof.

The cottage has a two-room ell wing. The room directly connecting to the house is original; the second room was added in the 1920s. It appears that part of the original metal gutter was relocated to the rear of the ell when this addition was made.

Four Italianate mantels are located within the home. All feature reeded pilasters with bases highlighted by bull's eye ornamentation, entablatures decorated by unusually shaped panels and a central roundel with bas relief ornament, and undulating mantel shelves. The date 2/25/91 is visible carved into the rear of one of these mantels. Other interior features of note include tall molded baseboards, four panel doors surmounted by three light transoms, and original wooden floors.

In addition to the expansion of the ell noted above, the following alterations have occurred:

- 1) during the historic period:
 - A) One end of the rear gallery was enclosed in the 1920s to create a bath. An exterior window was enclosed as a result of this change. The rest of the rear gallery was screened.
 - B) Screen doors were added to the entrances.
- 2) during the post-1948 period:
 - A) Iron bars were placed over the doors and lower portions of the front windows.

CONTINUED

Adams House

Name of property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

County and State

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- B) The rear (added) ell room received paneling and a dropped tile ceiling.
 - C) Some interior hardware was stolen.
 - D) New concrete steps were added to reach the front and rear galleries.
- 3) during the current restoration:
- A) the removal of the plaster (damaged beyond repair) on the main block's walls. (This material will be replaced as accurately as possible.)

Despite these changes, the Adams House remains a viable National Register candidate because all of its original character-defining details remain intact.

Non-Contributing Element

A one-story, metal, two-car garage stands on the southwest rear corner of the property. It is non-historic.

Adams House

Name of property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" next to 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

(Mark "X" next to all that apply.)

NA

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a 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

1891

Significant Dates

1891

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

NA

- ☐ 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: _____

Adams House
Name of property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 15 674420 3369940

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

___ 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 February 1998

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Michael W. and Lori J. Manning

street & number 17092 Planchet Road telephone (504) 261-9470

city or town Greenwell Springs state LA zip code 70739

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Adams House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is one of very few Italianate style residences remaining in the City of Baton Rouge. It also illustrates very well the Italianate tradition as it is more typically found in Louisiana--a galleried cottage much like one in the earlier Greek Revival style but with boldly articulated moldings, capitals, brackets, etc.

Although the founding of the community dates to the early eighteenth century, Baton Rouge is in reality a twentieth century city with relatively few historic houses which pre-date the Colonial Revival taste. This situation is due largely to a thriving petro-chemical industry which was established in the city early in the twentieth century and (with the exception of the Depression years) kept local citizens prosperous well into the 1970s. As a result of this prosperity, the community's early homes suffered considerable alteration and demolition. In addition, the area which now forms the Central Business District also contains a number of new buildings, parking lots, and vacant lots where older commercial buildings or houses once stood. The extent of this loss is documented by old photographs, oral accounts, Sanborn maps, a 1984 architectural survey of the CBD, and a recent windshield survey of the city's pre-1900 neighborhoods. This survey revealed that, although the community does have some Italianate style commercial buildings, only seven surviving houses display Italianate motifs. Of this number, three have been remodeled in an insensitive manner, leaving the Adams House as one of only four rare Baton Rouge buildings which reflect the Louisiana residential interpretation of the Italianate style.

This status as a rare example of the way in which the Italianate was commonly found in Louisiana also contributes to the significance of the Adams House. Unlike typical examples of the style found in other regions of the country, characterized by picturesque asymmetry, Louisiana examples are by far rigidly symmetrical. As noted above, and as can be seen in the Adams House, they closely resemble an earlier generation of Greek Revival residences. The difference is in the more lavish details -- for example, elaborate, boldly formed molding profiles and pronounced elements such as column capitals. The Adams House is a textbook example of this version of the Italianate taste.

Historical Note

The property upon which the Adams House stands first appears in legal records in 1875, when it was sold by Antoine L. Gusman of New York to William Holmes of Baton Rouge. Holmes sold the plot to Mary Phillips Adams in January 1891. The previously mentioned date carved into the rear of one of the home's mantels indicates that the dwelling was built shortly after Mrs. Adams assumed ownership. The property changed hands many times over the years until its purchase by Michael and Lori Manning in October 1997. The Mannings are currently restoring the house and plan to rent it as commercial space.

Adams House
Name of property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
County and State

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Architectural and Historical Survey of Downtown Baton Rouge. Foundation for Historical Louisiana and City of Baton Rouge - Parish of East Baton Rouge, July, 1984.

Deeds recording transfer of property; copies in National Register file.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1885, 1891.

Windshield survey of Baton Rouge pre-1900 historic neighborhoods by National Register staff, February 17, 1998.

Legal Property Description:

A certain fractional lot of ground, together with buildings and improvements thereon, situated in that part of the city of Baton Rouge known as Devall Town, and designated on a map of the city of Baton Rouge as Lot Seven (7), Square Twelve (12) of said Devall Town, the portion herein conveyed being the northern portion of said lot and having a front of fifty (50) feet on North 7th Street (formerly known as St. Anthony Street) by a depth between parallel lines of 84 feet, five inches, being the same property originally acquired by John Caston Denham from Martin P. Miranda on February 19, 1919, as per act of record in Book 74, page 457 of the conveyance records of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Justification: Boundaries follow property lines.