

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Bullock, General Robert House *B on map*

other names/site number 8MR1484

2. Location

street & number S.E. 119th Court n/a not for publication

city or town Oklawaha n/a vicinity

state Florida code FL county Marion code 083 zip code 32637

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.)
Suzanne P. Walker / Deputy SHPO 5/26/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Florida Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
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 certifying 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:)

Signature of the Keeper *Nelore Byers* Date of Action 7/13/93

Bullock, General Robert House
Name of Property

Marion Co., FL
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 |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 2 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 2 | Total |

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

Early Residences of Rural Marion Co., FL

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)

Other: Frame Vernacular

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood: Weatherboard

roof Synthetics: Fiberglass

other Wood

Narrative Description

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

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

(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.

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):

- 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Exploration & Settlement

Architecture

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1885-1895

Significant Dates

1885

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Bullock, General Robert

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown/

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Bullock, General Robert House
Name of Property

Marion Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approx. 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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 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 Paul Weaver/Barbara E. Mattick, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date May 1993

street & number R.A. Gray Blg., 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

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 Bennett & Noel H. Yell

street & number 910 N.E. 8th Avenue telephone (904) 622-9355

city or town Ocala state FL zip code 32670

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.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

SUMMARY

The General Robert Bullock House is an 1885, two and a half story, balloon frame residence located west of the community of Oklawaha, on the northeast shore of Lake Weir. It is a vernacular building, with decorative detailing in the eaves and gables. Its integrity, particularly that of the main block, is good. The most conspicuous alteration has been the mid-1980s remodeling of the kitchen wing. There are also two small, noncontributing sheds on the property. The house contributes to the **Early Residences of Rural Marion County, Florida Multiple Property Listing** under Associated Property Type F.1 Residential Buildings, c1870-c1940.

SETTING

The General Bullock House is located on the north side of Lake Weir near Oklawaha which was first settled in 1884 upon the arrival of the Florida Southern Railway during the early 1880s. Once the original stands of pine timber were removed, the land on which the Bullock House was constructed was planted in orange grove. The surrounding area remained sparsely populated; buildings were limited to several scattered houses and outbuildings and a few lakeside cottages. Several of the more substantial houses in rural Marion County were constructed near the Bullock House. A meeting house of the Chautauqua Society bordered the property to the west, but it has since been demolished.

The Bullock House is located on a prominent bluff, twenty to thirty feet above Lake Weir. It borders S.E. 119th Court (the Old Lake Weir Road) on its northwest side. The lot on which the building is sited is rectangular and covers two acres (Photo 1). Until the mid-1980s it was planted in citrus grove. The grove was decimated by harsh freezes at that time and has since been cleared.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The General Robert Bullock House is two and a half stories in height. The ground plan of the main block is T-shaped, formed by a gable front and wing, with a one story kitchen wing on its west side (Photos 1 & 2). It has a balloon frame structural system resting on brick piers. The exterior finish is horizontal, wood, weatherboard siding. The building has an

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Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

intersecting gabled roof, with cornice returns. Secondary roof types include a gable roof over the kitchen wing, a hipped roof over the main entrance, and a shed roof on the rear porch and the dormer on the kitchen wing. Both primary and secondary roof surfaces are covered by fiberglass shingles. The main roof is pierced by two brick, corbelled chimneys. A third brick chimney is located on the kitchen wing. Significant details are a date plate on the central chimney, jig-sawn gable brackets, and attic vents (Photo 4).

There are two porches, the larger of which is located on the rear (south) elevation (Photo 3). It shelters the rear entrance to the building and overlooks Lake Weir. The second is the hip roofed entrance porch that shelters the unusual recessed main entrance located on the north (main) elevation (Photo 2).

The fenestration of the building is slightly irregular. Windows are singly placed, paired, or grouped. Nearly all of the windows are 2/2 double hung sash. A twelve-light, bay window is located at the second story on the rear elevation, above the porch.

INTERIOR

The Bullock House has an expansive interior. The interior space of the building covers 3307 square feet. The first floor includes a parlor, family room, dining room, kitchen, and bath organized around a central hall which runs from front to rear of the building. The downstairs contains two fireplaces with decorative mantels, picture rails, baseboards, and a number of original ceiling features (Photo 5). The centrally placed stairway with a turned newel post and delicate balusters is one of the most distinctive interior features of the house (Photo 6).

The second floor is 1300 square feet and contains three large bedrooms, a smaller bedroom above the kitchen wing, and two bathrooms. Like the first floor, it is organized around a central hall which contains a continuation of the stair rail system from below. It also contains original ceiling features and three fireplaces with mantels.

Throughout most of the house is four inch wide heart pine, tongue and groove flooring. This has been covered with wall-to-wall carpeting or refinished. Bathrooms and kitchens have vinyl flooring.

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Section number 7 Page 3 General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

ALTERATIONS

The exterior of the main block of the building is largely unchanged, the only major alteration being the replacement of an original, second, double window with a modern bow window on the south side of the east wing. The windows on the south side of the kitchen wing have also been changed and a deck has been added (Photo 3). Other than these individual features, no substantial alterations or additions have been made to the exterior.

Likewise, the interior of the main block is largely unchanged. Cedar paneling has been placed over the original plaster finish in the family room. The kitchen has been largely remodeled. Bathrooms were also obviously added early in the century. The dining room, parlor, halls, and bedrooms, and interior detailing, are, however, little changed and in excellent condition.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 4 **General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL**

SUMMARY:

The General Robert Bullock House, in the vicinity of Oklawaha, Marion County, Florida, is locally significant under **Criterion A** in the area of **Exploration & Settlement** for its association with the early settlement of Oklawaha in Marion County. The house is locally significant under **Criterion C** as a fine example of the Folk Victorian architectural style popular in Marion County during the last two decades of the nineteenth century. The house is also significant under **Criterion B** as the home of Robert Bullock, one of Marion County's most prominent citizens in the nineteenth century, when he was a representative in the United State House of Representatives, 1889-1893. Because of this association, the house has significance in the area of **Politics/Government**.

The General Robert Bullock House contributes to the **Early Residences of Rural Marion County, Florida Multiple Property Listing** under Associated Context: **Marion County, 1847-1900** and Associated Property Type **F.1, Residential Buildings, c1870-c1940**.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The General Robert Bullock House is one of a group of private residences surrounding Lake Weir that are good local examples of late Victorian period architecture. The Bullock House embodies the Folk Victorian style through its overall design and detailing. It is also one of the best surviving examples in the county of the houses constructed around Lake Weir and Orange Lake during the latter two decades of the nineteenth century, when Marion County experienced a citrus boom.

It has further significance for its association with General Robert Bullock (1828-1905), who was probably Marion County's most prominent resident during the nineteenth century. Bullock arrived in Ocala from North Carolina in 1844, shortly after the conclusion of the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). Within five years of his arrival, he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court at the age of twenty-one. He served six years in that position.

Bullock's military career began in 1856, when the Governor of Florida appointed him to organize a volunteer cavalry unit during the Third Seminole War (1856-1858). He commanded the unit for eighteen months. Upon his return to Ocala, he studied law and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1861.

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Section number 8 Page 5 **General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL**

Bullock resumed his military career at the outset of the Civil War. In 1862 he was commissioned as a colonel and given command of the Florida Seventh Regiment. His distinguished career earned him the rank of Brigadier General. After the War, Bullock returned to Ocala, where he served as Judge of the Circuit Court. He also served as the first officer of the local Freedmen's Bureau, postmaster, Mayor of Ocala, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ocala Academy, the local public school. In 1880, General Bullock came within one vote of being elected United States Senator by the Florida Legislature. In 1888 he was elected to the United States Congress and was re-elected two years later.

Bullock constructed his home at Lake Weir in 1885. In addition to all his other activities, he cultivated orange and lemon groves there until 1895, when the "Great Freeze" of that year devastated the citrus industry throughout North Florida. He was elected Judge in Marion County in 1903 and served until death in Ocala July 27, 1905.

The General Robert Bullock House is an example of the Folk Victorian style which is defined by Victorian period decorative detailing on simple vernacular houses. The detailing is much less elaborate than the styles it mimics. The Italianate, the Queen Anne, and the Gothic styles were the principal models for Folk Victorian. In the case of the Bullock House, the principal decorative details are gable returns, jig-sawn or lathe turned woodwork, brackets, and Gothic arched attic vents in the gable ends (Photo 4).

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Section number 9 Page 6 General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Section number _____ Photos _____ 8 Page _____ General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

- 1 1) General Robert Bullock House, S.E. 119th Court
 2) Oklawaha, Marion County, Florida
 3) Paul Weaver, Historic Property Associates
 4) August 1990
 5) Historic Property Associates, St. Augustine, FL
 6) Contextual view of main (N) elevation, facing S
 7) 1 of 6

Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

- 2 6) N elevation, facing SE
 7) 2 of 6
- 3 6) S & W elevations, facing NE
 7) 3 of 6
- 4 6) Detail of gable end, N elevation
 7) 4 of 6
- 5 6) Parlor, showing mantel and woodwork, facing SW
 7) 5 of 6
- 6 6) Interior of entrance, central hallway, facing S
 7) 6 of 6

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Section number 10 Page 7 General Robert Bullock House,
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

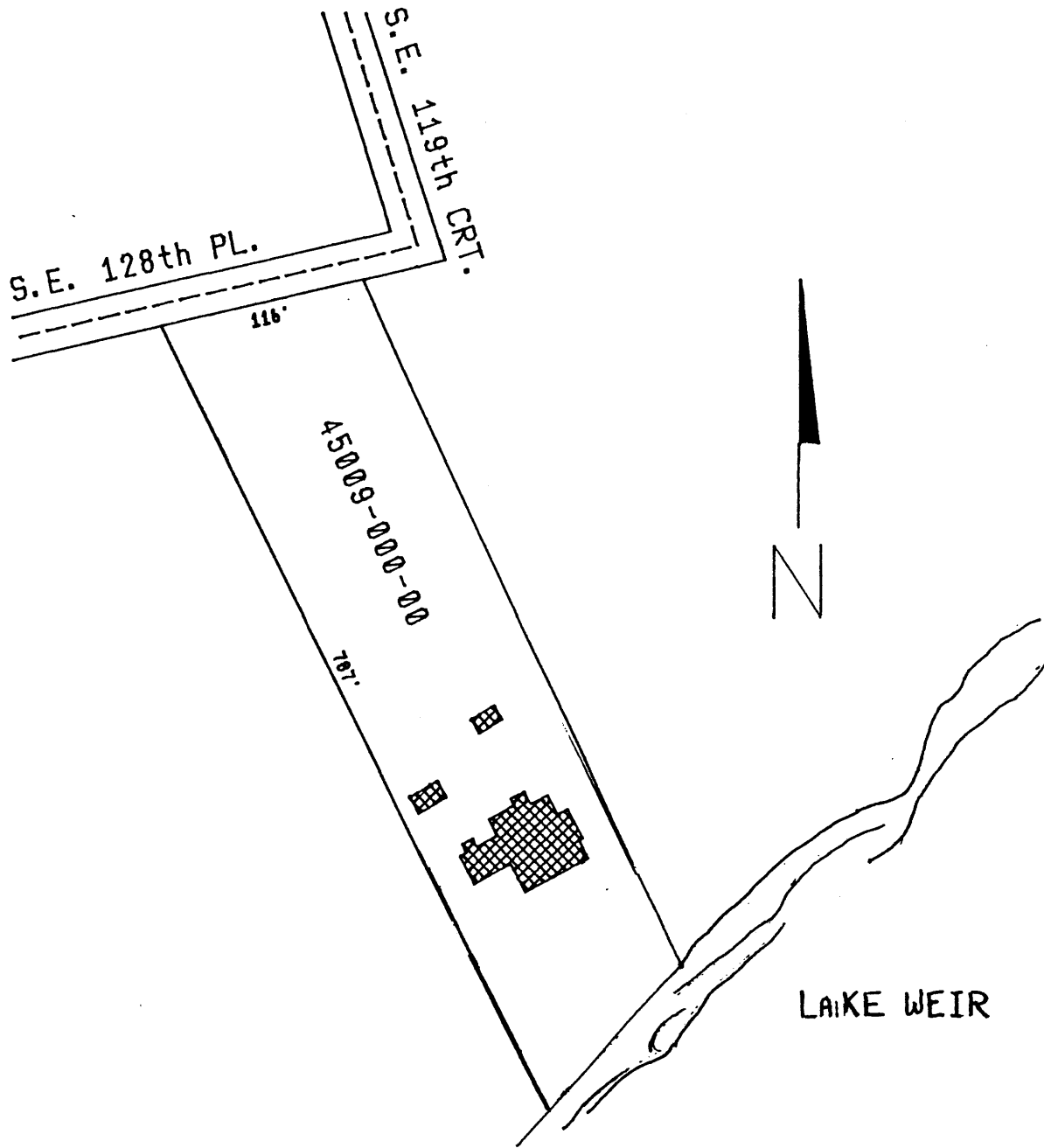
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at a point at the NW corner of Lot 2 of Neely's Subdivision as recorded in Plat book "A", page 151, of the public records of Marion County, Florida; thence North 56 degrees East along the Northerly line of Neely's Subdivision 116 feet; thence South 36 degrees East to the water's edge of Lake Weir; thence along with the waters of Lake Weir in a Southwesterly direction 116 feet more or less to the SW corner of Lot 6 of said Neely's Subdivision; thence North 36 degrees West along this westerly line of Lot 6 and Lot 2, Neely's Subdivision, to the point of beginning; the same being otherwise described as the West 116 feet of Lots 2 and 6, Neely's Subdivision. Said strip lying between the waters of Lake Weir and the Northerly boundary of Neely's Subdivision, lying and being in Marion County, Florida.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The north, east, and west boundaries of the property are clearly defined by historic property lines which conform to the west 116 feet of Lots 2 and 6, Neely's Subdivision. The south boundary is generally defined by the shore of Lake Weir. The boundaries contain all significant resources associated with the property.

BULLOCK HOUSE LOCATION MAP



NOTES:

GENERAL ROBERT BULLOCK HOUSE
Oklawaha, Marion Co., FL

MARION COUNTY, DIVISION OF PLANNING

DATE: 9-17-90

DR. BY: M. A. S.