

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Bittersweet

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number 301 Main St. \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 3rd-seat vacant

state La code 22 county St. Mary Parish code 101

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mrs. Betty Blanchard

street & number 301 Main

city, town Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state La 70538

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary Parish Courthouse

street & number

city, town Franklin state La 70538

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title La. Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records La. State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state La

---

## 7. Description

---

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Bittersweet is set in the pretentious section of Main Street in Franklin. The house is constructed of pitsawn lumber and has clapboard siding. It has a two-story temple form with four square Doric pillars and a side hall plan with a front and rear parlor on each side. There is also a modern rear wing with a large bedroom upstairs and a family room downstairs. Details include shoulder molded fenestration, six over six windows, drip molded cornices over the doors, aedicule motif mantels with layered entablatures, and a newel post in the hall in the shape of a great "S" curved volute. The present owner has added cornices in the downstairs parlors and small plaster garlands to the downstairs mantels. However, these additions are clearly discernable from the original fabric and have had minor visual impact. Other changes have included the installation of bathrooms and closets.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates**      c. 1840                      **Builder/Architect**

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**      Criterion C

Bittersweet is significant in the area of architecture as an unusual example of a Greek Revival residence in Louisiana. The use of a side hall double parlor plan set within a temple inspired form such as at Bittersweet was common for pretentious residences in the eastern states. But it was seldom seen in Louisiana where galleried houses without pediments overwhelmingly predominated. Bittersweet, taken within its context, can therefore be said to have achieved an extremely high level of sophistication.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Title Search, St. Mary Parish Courthouse

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property approx. 1/3 acre

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References

A 

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

B 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

See enclosed sketch map

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Betty Blanchard

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date April 1980

street & number 301 Main telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Franklin state La 70538

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. Bernard Lavin*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/23/80

For HCRS use only

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

*Beth Garrison* date 10/28/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Registration

AUG 13 1980

