

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED 11 SEP 1979

DATE ENTERED

NOV 15 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1** NAME

HISTORIC

James Wade Bolton House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

## LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1330 Main Street

-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Alexandria

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

8th - Gillis Long

STATE

Louisiana

CODE

022

COUNTY

Rapides

CODE

079

## CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Bolton

STREET &amp; NUMBER

3200 Parkway Drive

CITY, TOWN

Alexandria

VICINITY OF

STATE

Louisiana 71301

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rapides Parish Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Alexandria

STATE

Louisiana

**6** REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Louisiana State Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1979

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Baton Rouge

STATE

Louisiana

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bolton House and its two dependencies occupy half a block at the corner of St. James and Main Streets. It is the only residential property in that part of downtown Alexandria, which is immediately behind the Red River levee. The surrounding blocks are characterized by low-scale commercial buildings which vary in age from approximately five to fifty years.

Almost a fifth of the Bolton House property is taken up by an asphalt parking lot. Several large live oaks serve to shade the parking lot and obscure much of the house. The property is partially encompassed by a cast-iron fence of simple design.

All three of the buildings are long leaf yellow pine frame clapboard structures, raised about three and a half feet above the ground on brick piers.

The Bolton House itself consists of thirteen large rooms on one floor under a large unfinished attic. The plan is a greatly enlarged version of the conventional Louisiana Queen Anne house plan. The house is entered through a long central hall with two rooms on each side. At the end of the hall is a large square room with a simple, newel-posted staircase on one side, and a fireplace on the other. Although this room makes the pretense of being a living hall, it is merely a closed off box, which does not serve to create spatial effects, either within itself or in conjunction with any of the surrounding rooms.

At the rear of the house is a kitchen wing, which appends to the large dining room, and a second wing containing two bedrooms.

The house contains five semi-octagonal bays, three of which are set below full gables in the usual Queen Anne fashion. There are four chimneys which serve a total of six fireplaces. There is a solarium on the side and an all-encompassing, fifteen-bay Ionic porch which curves and wraps its way around the entire front half of the house. The partial screening was added later.

The exterior is an extended assemblage of different sized gables, semi-octagonal bays, hip-roof dormers, tall chimneys, Colonial Revival columns, and large plate glass windows, many of which have movable shutters. The composition is irregular, though not dynamic.

The interiors are large and plain, with fifteen-foot ceilings and molded doorways, window frames, and skirting boards. The central hall, the two parlors, and the dining room have five denticular cornices and paneled wainscotting. These rooms communicate by means of large oak paneled sliding doors. Floors in these more formal areas are veneered to give the appearance of rectangular patterns of floorboards.

The house is in need of repair. Some of the veneering is peeling off, about 40% of the wainscotting has been removed, and the mantels have been taken out and stored by the owners. However, the city of Alexandria intends to acquire the house, and repair it, and convert it to a crafts center. At such time the mantels will be replaced.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

PREHISTORIC  
 1400-1499  
 1500-1599  
 1600-1699  
 1700-1799  
 1800-1899  
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
 AGRICULTURE  
 ARCHITECTURE  
 ART  
 COMMERCE  
 COMMUNICATIONS

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING  
 CONSERVATION  
 ECONOMICS  
 EDUCATION  
 ENGINEERING  
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  
 INDUSTRY  
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
 LAW  
 LITERATURE  
 MILITARY  
 MUSIC  
 PHILOSOPHY  
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION  
 SCIENCE  
 SCULPTURE  
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
 THEATER  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1899

BUILDER/ARCHITECT James W. Bolton, Builder

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bolton House is significant as a work of architecture and as a home of members of the Bolton family, who were locally prominent in the banking field.

The Bolton House, which dates from 1899, is architecturally significant as an extremely large and pretentious example of the way in which the Queen Anne style was generally assimilated into Louisiana residential architecture. As a rule, the finer Louisiana Queen Anne residences were designed as follows. The traditional Louisiana central hall plan, raised house, with one principal floor and a wing in the rear, was made asymmetrical and irregular through the use of applied gables, dormers, semi-octagonal bays, and curving verandas. The interiors were connected through the use of large sliding doors. The design of Bolton House was achieved just this way. But beyond that, Bolton House is one of the largest examples of this kind of hesitant inculcation of Queen Anne in the state. For example, finer residences of this sort usually have four to six rooms on the principal floor. Bolton House has thirteen. Houses of this sort typically have one or two semi-octagonal bays. Bolton House has five. Finally, at Bolton House the characteristic curving front veranda extends to an immense length of 15 bays.

Bolton House is also significant by its association with the Bolton family, several of whom have been prominent bankers in the Alexandria area. James W. Bolton, builder of Bolton House, was president of the Rapides Bank and Trust Company from 1912 to 1936 and was also president of the Louisiana Bankers' Association in 1916 - 1917. James Calderwood Bolton served as president of the Rapides Bank from 1936 to 1956. He also held the offices of vice president of the American Bankers' Association and president of the LSU Foundation. The accomplishments of other members of the family have been along these same lines, but are too numerous to mention.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research Reports on James Wade Bolton, James Calderwood Bolton, and other members of the Bolton family compiled by Mrs. Peg Bolton on basis of interviews with relatives and local residents. Copies of these reports are located in National Register file for Bolton House, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx 3/4 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 5 | 5, 5, 3, 1, 0, 0 | 3, 4, 6, 3, 8, 0

B    |    |   

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C    |    |   

D    |    |   

E    |    |   

F    |    |   

G    |    |   

H    |    |   

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See sketch map) Boundaries were drawn to encompass the entire property. The parking lot was included so that all the live oaks could be included. The boundaries encompass a 160 ft. by 200 ft. rectangle on the corner of Main and St. James Streets.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Peg Bolton

ORGANIZATION

DATE

May 30, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3200 Parkway Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Alexandria

STATE

Louisiana 71301

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*J. Bernard Lamar*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

8/16/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles D. Skell*

DATE

11-15-79

ATTEST:

*Beth Brodeur*

DATE

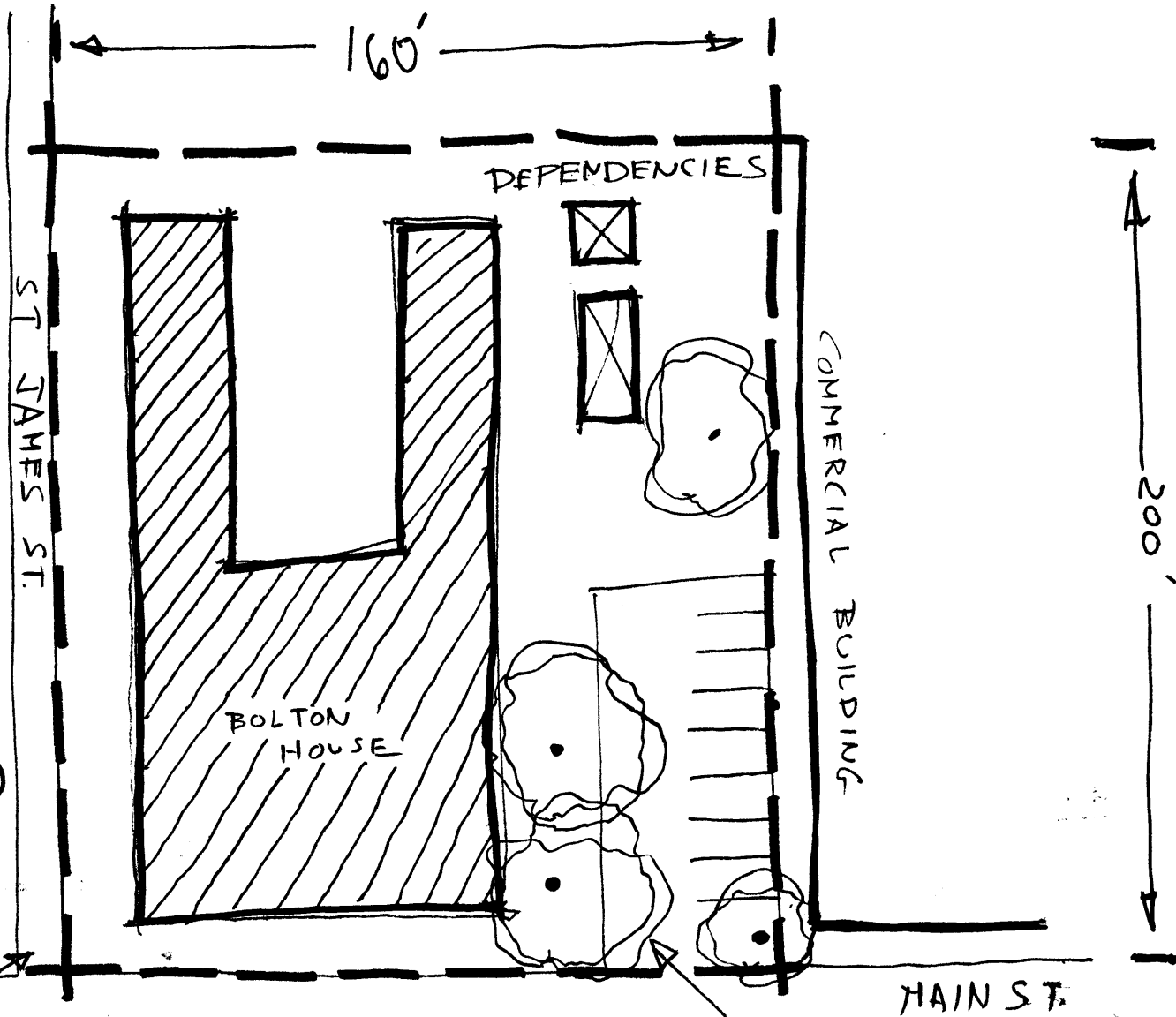
1/15/79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



BOLTON HOUSE  
SKETCH  
MAP

(NOT TO SCALE)



③ PHOTO

② PHOTO

① PHOTO

RED RIVER LEVEE

RED RIVER

