

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 20 1985

date entered JUL 18 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections**1. Name**

historic Senator John H. Overton House

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 1128 8th Street N/A not for publication

city, town Alexandria N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish ~~county~~ Rapides code 079**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 type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | N/A in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | N/A being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Overton Brazelton (318) 442-5967

street & number 1128 8th Street

city, town Alexandria N/A vicinity of state LA 71301

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rapides Parish Courthouse

street & number 701 Murray Street P. O. Box 952

city, town Alexandria state LA 71301

6. Representation in Existing Surveystitle LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate July 1982 ☐ 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 N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Overton House (1907) is a two story, wood frame, Queen Anne-Colonial Revival residence located near the Alexandria central business district. Despite a few alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

The Overton House is two rooms wide and three rooms deep. The main front room is articulated as a living hall with a large staircase, a fireplace, and a round alcove formed by a turret. The staircase is set off by a paneled columnar screen and an archway formed of "carpenter's lace." There are pocket doors between the living hall and the other front room. Most of the mantels are of the "golden oak" catalogue order type.

The exterior is squarish with a hip roof and a corner turret set between the two principal facades. Each facade features a projecting bay surmounted by a gable. The massing is further enlivened by two dormers and a long Ionic gallery which curves boldly to follow the turret. The entablature of the turret is ornamented with garlands. A photograph taken shortly after construction was completed reveals that there was never a conical turret top as one might expect, though at one time there was a low balustrade. This only encompassed the turret, not the entire roofline.

Since construction the following changes have been made in the house;

1. A few interior doors have been replaced,
2. Sleeping porches have been added in the rear,
3. A porte-cochère with a room above was added on the northwest side,
4. The exterior has been partially aluminum sided, (The entire under gallery and all areas with decorative details remain untouched,)

Assessment of Integrity;

None of these changes have adversely affected the Overton House's important aspects. For example, the aluminum siding covers only clapboarding and presents essentially the same exterior appearance. In addition, the house still retains the features mentioned in Item 8 that contribute to its architectural significance.

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/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1907

Builder/Architect

Builder: Sen. John H. Overton

Architect: Roy Yeager, Sr.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Contractor: Mr. Banks (1st name unknown)

Criterion C

The Overton House is locally significant in the area of architecture as one of the finest Queen Anne Revival residences in Rapides Parish.

The Queen Anne Revival is well represented in the parish, at least in terms of numbers. The soon to be completed Rapides Parish Comprehensive Historic Structures Survey reveals hundreds of Queen Anne Revival residences. (This, of course, includes Colonial Revival houses with Queen Anne Revival massing.) Most of the houses from this period are fairly plain single story cottages with a gallery across half the front and a projecting bay under a gable.

By contrast, the Overton House is one of only a handful of landmarks from this group. For example, it is one of a very small percentage of two story examples. Moreover, it is one of only four turreted examples and one of very few with a living hall. The two latter features are particularly important because they represent hallmarks of the American Queen Anne Revival movement.

Historical Note:

Senator John H. Overton served in the United States Senate from March 4, 1933 until his death May 14, 1948. National Register significance cannot be claimed for Overton because his important contributions while in the Senate date from a period less than fifty years old.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Structures Survey, Rapides Parish.

Historical information supplied by Mary Elizabeth Overton Brazelton, daughter of Senator John H. Overton.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1/4th of an acre

Quadrangle name Alexandria, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed property plat map. Boundaries follow the property lines of the lot on which the house stands.

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

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
Division of Historic Preservation

ASSISTED BY OWNER

organization State of Louisiana

date April 1985

street & number P. O. Box 44247

telephone (504) 922-0358

city or town Baton Rouge

state LA 70804

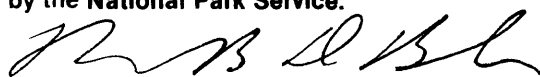
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



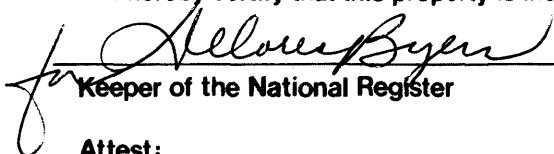
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 22, 1985

For NPS use only

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



Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date

7-18-85

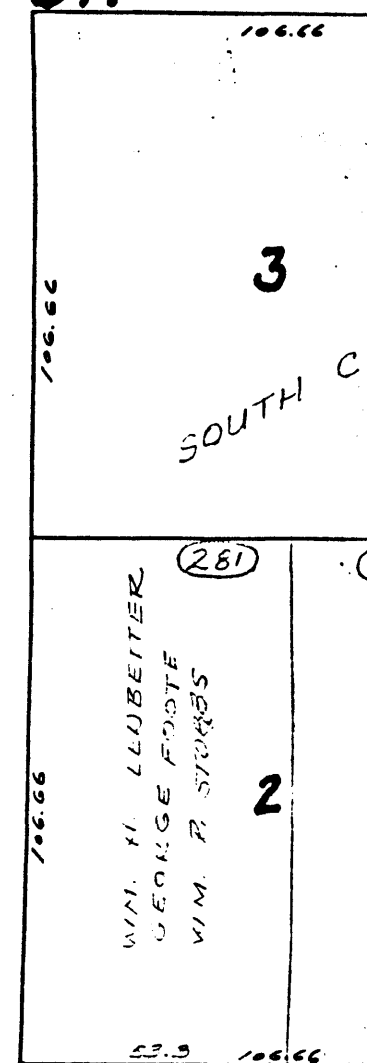
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

(24-7-180)

57.



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EIGHTH

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HYSON

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