

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: **MAY 22 1973**

1. NAME

COMMON:
Brame-Bennett House
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Brame-Bennett House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
227 South Baton Rouge Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
STATE:
Louisiana
CODE:
22
COUNTY:
East Feliciana
CODE:
037

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

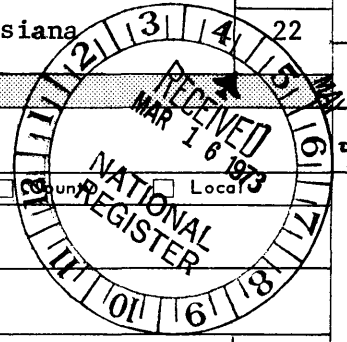
OWNER'S NAME:
Judge William T. Bennett
STREET AND NUMBER:
227 South Baton Rouge Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton
STATE:
Louisiana
CODE:
22

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Listed in records of E. Feliciana Parish Courthouse, Clinton
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton
STATE:
Louisiana
CODE:
22

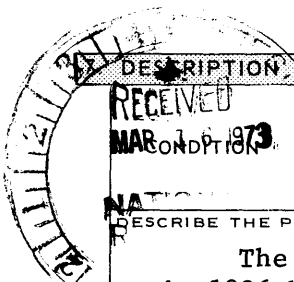
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE OF SURVEY:
1941
 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
D. C.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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DESCRIPTION	(Check One)					
RECEIVED MAR 10 1933 CONDITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
NATIONAL ARCHIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original physical appearance is set forth in detailed plans made in 1936 by Richard Koch, Architect. Copies of these plans comprising 15 sheets and accompanying photographs are in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

The Brame-Bennett house is situated on lots one and two in square 15 in the town of Clinton, Louisiana. It is located two blocks south of St. Helena on Baton Rouge Street (Highway 67). Approximately six feet to the left rear of the main building is an outbuilding which was originally used as a kitchen and office. A well covering is located ten feet directly behind the house within one foot of the kitchen building. The house is constructed of stucco covered brick and is a Greek Revival style with a front portico.

The pediment of the house is supported by six columns which are Greek Doric in style. The frieze is composed of triglyphs which are placed one foot apart. Small wooded dowels were used to achieve this effect. The pediment is also of Greek Doric style. The gable of the pediment is constructed of five-inch flush joint boards and contains a sliding fan light window which is composed of 22 lights or panes. Exterior decoration of the fan light consists of ten rosettes and one center honeysuckle motif.

Four eight-foot windows are distributed along the front portico. Each has a total of 18 lights. The front windows and four jambs and lintels are constructed in the original Greek Revival style. They feature cross-ettes (shoulders) which were previously used in the Classical Revival period. A pediment-like ban, which carries out the rosette motif, was placed above each window on both the front and back of the house. Above the door is a rectangular transom which was popular before the Revolution and in common use during the Greek Revival period. An entablature which is similar to those found over the sliding doors between the parlors inside the house surmounts the transom. Along the base of the entablature is an additional band of egg-and-dart molding complete with bead-and-reel and acanthus leaves. This strip is identical to that in the entablatures located over the sliding doors.

Shutters are used on all windows except those on the back second story, where the three windows there are protected by Victorian hoods. Along the north side of the house are four windows which are lacking entablatures. Doors replace two of the windows in the symmetrical placement on the south side. The back of the house originally had a raised pedimented porch with two Doric columns which has been removed.

The main house consists of two stories. The first floor plan is comprised of a central hall with two rooms on either side. Rooms to the right of the hall measure 15' 11 1/4" x 18' 2 1/2". Each contains a fireplace, but neither has an exterior door. Two sliding doors separate the two rooms. Each of these doors has four vertical panels over which extends a large entablature in each room. The Greek motifs which are visible in the entablatures are: the acanthus leaf, bead-and-reel, and egg-and-dart. An interior door in each room opens into the hallway. Each of these doors has two vertical panels. Doorjambs and lintels meet in a Greek crossett or key design.

Heavy plaster cornices encircle each room to the right of the hall. A plain twelve-inch baseboard molding encircles each room.

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7. Description (cont'd)

Rooms to the left of the hall measure 15' 11½" x 18' 4½". Each of these rooms contains a fireplace and an exterior door.

The central hall measures 37' x 7' 10½". It has two circular center-pieces of simple plaster molding on the ceiling. The four coorways, which enter into the adjoining rooms on either side of the hall, are placed directly opposite each other. Each door has the crossette motif and pediment-like bands which extend over the lintel.

Certain features are common to all rooms on the first floor. A ceiling height of 13' 11" is maintained throughout with walls of plaster which exhibit no paneling. Windows are placed 2' 6" from the floor and contain a total of 18 panes each. The window moldings and wall baseboards are plain. Floors are of random width pine planking.

The stairway to the second floor has a gradual ascent with no landing and is composed of straight runs that curve gradually at the turn, forming wedge-shaped treads. The ends of the steps carry out the rosette motif found elsewhere in the house. The newel post is topped by a flatted half-ball.

The upstairs of the house also has a central hall, at the end of which is a bedroom measuring 15' 2½" x 18' 4½". Two other bedrooms are located at each side of the hall. They each measure 21' 6" x 9' 6½". These rooms have 8' 4" ceilings.

There is an outbuilding to the rear of the house which is also constructed of brick. It was probably used as an office and kitchen. It has a cypress clapboard pediment, supported by two Greek Doric columns.

There is also a conical shaped well covering in the rear of the house. It is supported by eight chamfered posts and has an architrave of Greek triglyphs similar to those found on the main house.

Although the original structure has been altered little, there has been added on the south side a wing consisting of three rooms. During a period, possibly at the turn of the century, reconstructed porch shown on Library of Congress plans was removed and a two room wing added. Other alterations include replacement of the original front door and three of original mantels.

In January, 1973 the structure is in excellent condition.



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

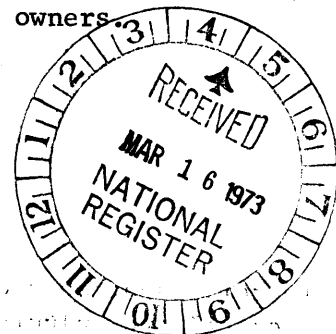
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brame-Bennett House was chosen to be included in Historic Buildings Survey. Richard Koch and Samuel Wilson, Jr. drew the plans for the Library of Congress. Architecturally the house is considered to be a fine example of Greek Revival Architecture. It is accessible to students of architecture and to preservationists groups such as Louisiana Landmarks Society, etc.

On April 8, 1839, two lots from square 15 were sold to Dr. Dana D. Davis of Amite County, Mississippi for \$1,000.02 who began construction of a home. The property passed from Dr. Davis to William Langfitt in 1842 and from Langfitt to Mrs. Sarah Wheat on November 16, 1849. Mrs. Wheat sold to Owen F. Langworthy on December 2, 1858. Langworthy sold the house on November 24, 1860 to Michael Frank. On February 3, 1863 Frank sold to William H. Jewell and his wife. The property passed to Col. D. C. Hardee on September 7, 1865. An unknown purchaser acquired the property from him and sold it to Thomas J. Kernan before December 28, 1886 and Kernan sold the property to Judge Franklin D. Brame on that date. It was the home of Judge Franklin D. Brame who was a member of Scotts cavalry during the Civil War, having been captured at Port Hudson in 1864. In 1878 he was elected Judge of the Felicianas and in 1888 was elected Judge of the 16th Judicial District. On July 26, 1895 Judge Brame transferred the title to his daughters Mrs. William Hays Bennett (nee Brame) and Miss Cora Brame. It was the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Hays Bennett. Mr. William Hayes Bennett was prominent in Feliciana political circles having served as a member of the legislature, State of Louisiana. In 1898, Mrs. Bennett acquired her sister's share of the property. William Thomas Bennett received the house for a cash sale from Mary Irwin Bennett and Jeanne Marie Elissalde on August 14, 1947. Judge and Mrs. William T. Bennett are present owners.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey. Catalog of the Measured drawings and photographs of the survey in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.: March 1, 1941.

Morgan, Elemore and Ed Kerr. The Lower Mississippi Valley. Baton Rouge: Claitor's Bookstore, 1962.

Smith, Joseph Frazer. White Pillars. New York: W. Helburn, Inc., 1941.

Reeves, Miriam G. Felicianas of Louisiana. Baton Rouge: Claitor's Bookstore, 1967.

Saxon, Lyle. Old Louisiana. New York: The Century Co., 1929.

Skipwith, Henry. East Feliciana, Louisiana, Past and Present. New Orleans: Hopkins Printing Office, 1892. Reprinted by Claitor's Bookstore,

15/689710/3100000

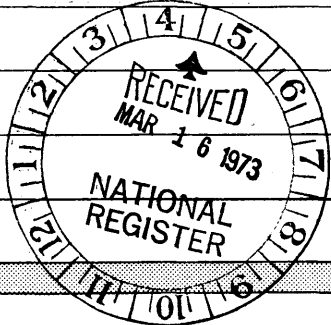
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		30° 51' 49"	91° 0' 57"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than 1**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mrs. William T. Bennett**

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: **Feb. 19, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **227 South Baton Rouge Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Clinton** STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **22**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Jayll Brunel*
 Title: **Director, Department of Art, Historical and Cultural Preservation**

Date: **March 9, 1973**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert W. Utley
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *5/22/73*

ATTEST:
M. Woolford
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date: *5/12/73*

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COUNTY	
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(Number all entries)

9. Bibliographical References (cont'd)

Baton Rouge, 1957.

Van Rickets, Debra. The Brame-Bennett House of Clinton Louisiana: A Study of Greek Revival Domestic Architecture. Unpublished thesis, University of Tennessee.

Pelican Guide to Plantation Homes of Louisiana. Gretna, La.: Pelican Publishing Co., 1971.

Arthur, Stanley C. Louisiana Tours. New Orleans: Harmanson, 1950.

Pratt, Dorothy and Richard. A Guide to Early American Homes - South. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1956.

