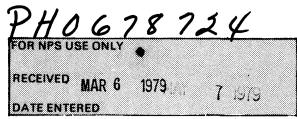
Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Baton Rouge



Louisiana 70804

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The home built by Louisiana Governor Luther E. Hall at 1515 Jackson Street in Monroe, Louisiana is an eclectic building composed of features that were inspired by the turn-of-the-century Georgian Revival. Some of the detail also shows a decided Queen Anne influence.

Four fluted Ionic wooden columns support a dentiled and modillioned heavy entablature, bracketed eaves and a pediment which features in addition to a fanlighted central window, a dentiled modillioned cornice which encircles the entire house.

The pediment effect is repeated in greatly modified form to the rear and on each side of the roofline forming a truncated pedimented pyramidal roof. The side pediments top louvered dormers.

One-story three-window bays extend on either side of the first floor dining room and rear double parlor.

The main portico is reached by four concrete steps placed between the extended plinths of the two central columns. All four columns rest on a concrete (circa 1948) deck which extends to the right and around the side of the house to the bay forming a smaller side porch and entranceway off of the first of the double parlors. The separate dentiled and bracketed roof of this smaller porch is supported by four small fluted Ionic columns which rest on three-foot paneled bases.

The original deck was of wood and featured a wood balustrade; an eight-foot section of which remains at the end of the aforementioned small, side porch.

The entranceway is recessed behind three arches (a large central arch supported by square fluted columns and two identical smaller arches support an extended upper wood balustered balcony, the base of which is also supported by five elaborately carved fanshaped brackets).

The central doorway is on axis with the central arch. The central entrance is topped by an elaborate elliptical fanlight. Sidelights extend from the fanlight three quarters down to recessed paneled wooden bases. On either side of the central doorway directly behind the two smaller flanking arches are curved windows which extend the three-quarters length to similar paneled bases.

On the front of the house, all windows and doors are framed by pilasters and the two on the lower floor are topped by a pedimented entablature.

An interesting feature of the clapboard structure is the corner boards which are articulated in the manner of pilasters.

There are four rooms, a large central stair hall with stairway center rear, a screened porch, a bath, three closets, a kitchen and butler's pantry on the CONTINUATION SHEET

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first floor. On the second floor: five bedrooms, six closets, three baths, an enclosed sleeping porch, and a large stair hall. The attic is small and unfinished. There are seven Victorian fireplaces and overmantels with tiled facings and two stained glass windows. Two rooms and the central hallway feature extensive wainscotting.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS		X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hall house is a classic example of a turn-of-the-century Neo-Georgian residence of the more pretentious sort. It exhibits vestiges of the old Queen Anne Revival, notably in the overly vertical pediments, and the use of bay windows. But the house is mainly a large, boxey, symmetrical mass, vigorously articulated with flashy and slightly heavily proportioned colonial features. It can be seen from this that the Hall house embodies the character of Georgian Revival, in its turn-of-the-century stage of development. Had the house been built just a few years later the composition would have been much more sedate. Particularly noteworthy is the impressive Ionic portico, which allows the house to dominate the surrounding area and makes it probably the most impressive early twentieth century Colonial Revival residence in the city of Monroe.

The Hall house is also significant in the area of politics by reason of its association with its owner, Luther E. Hall, a prominent polititian of northeastern Louisiana during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and Governor of the state from 1912 to 1916.

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Luther Hall began his career practicing law in Alexandria. He later moved to Bastrop to join the law firm of his uncle, Churubusco Newton. From 1898 to 1900 he filled an unexpired term in the State Senate. He served as judge in the sixth congressional district from 1900 to 1906, at the end of which time he moved to Monroe 1. He had previously bought nine lots in Monroe in 1903, which had been subdivided from a 10-acre plot. He retained lots number three, four, and five, on Jackson Street, on which the present house stands.²

It is probable that he built the house when he moved to Monroe in 1906. Hall and his family lived in the house until 1912, when he was inaugurated Governor. Just prior to this, he had been elected to the State Supreme Court, but resigned without serving in order to run for the governorship. Hall served as Governor from 1912 to 1916. Improved levees, port development in New Orleans, a Conservation Commission, reduced patronage, and a bonding of the state debt were some of the accomplishments of his administration. Governor Hall's main battle was over the reassessment of taxation to increase the state's revenue without adding to the tax burden on the small property owner. On the whole, Hall's administration is not considered a pivotal one in the history of the state.⁴

In 1916 Governor Hall left office and moved to New Orleans, where he lived the remaining five years of his life, dying in 1921. Despite his move to

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, Edwin Adams,	Louisiana:	A Narrative	History,	2nd edition.	Baton Rouge
Clai t or's Book	Store, 1965.		,		bacon Kouge:

"Hall, Luther Egbert," in Miriam G. Reeves, The Governors of Louisiana. Published 1972. (continued)

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New Orleans, he did not sell his house in Monroe until 1919.⁵ After that time, the house had a succession of owners and uses, coming into the hands of the present owner, the Young Women's Christian Organization of Monroe, in 1946.⁶

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NOTES

¹"Luther Egbert Hall," in Miriam G. Reeves, <u>The Governors of Louisiana</u> (1972), hereinafter cited as Reeves.

²Letter from Rebecca Harrod to North Delta Regional Planning and Action League giving abstract of title, 31 October 1978, hereinafter cited as abstract of title.

3Reeves.

⁴Edwin Adams Davis, <u>Louisiana: A Narrative History</u>, 2nd edition (Baton Rouge: Claitor's Book Store, 1965), p. 286.

⁵Abstract of title.

⁶Abstract of title.

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Letter from Rebecca Harrod to North Delta Regional Planning and Action League, 31 October 1978.