

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received **SEP 18 1984**
date entered **OCT 18 1984**

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

1. Name

historic T. L. James House

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number 504 North Vienna Street N/A not for publication

city, town Ruston N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish Lincoln code 061

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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> 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 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 T. L. James and Company, Inc. (318) 255-7912

street & number P. O. Box 0

city, town Ruston N/A vicinity of state LA 71270

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lincoln Parish Courthouse

street & number Trenton Street (no specific address) ; P. O. Box 924

city, town Ruston state LA 71270

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The T. L. James House is a two-story wood frame residence which reflects the late Italianate and Colonial Revival tastes. Built in 1884 and remodeled in 1926, the house has a central hall plan, two rooms deep, with a rear kitchen "L" wing. It is located in the old residential section of Ruston a few blocks from the downtown area and has been altered very little since the 1926 remodeling.

The following features date from the original 1884 period of construction:

1. The basic plan and configuration of the house, including the polygonal bay on the north side.
2. Most of the windows with their molded surrounds and pediment shaped tops.
3. The rear gallery columns.
4. The two remaining chimneys.
5. All but one of the mantels. The original mantels are heavy in proportion and feature boldly molded panels and deeply cut flutes.
6. Most of the interior moldings, doors, door surrounds, etc.
7. The paneled wainscotting in the hall.
8. The staircase with its heavy balusters and faceted, paneled newel.

The following features date from the 1926 remodeling:

1. The present facade treatment with its Palladian looking combination of a colossal Tuscan pedimented portico surmounting a wide single story gallery.
2. The denticular entablature which surmounts the building.
3. A few of the windows.
4. The present front doorway with its fanlight and side lights.
5. The fluted pillars in the central hall.
6. The Adamesque mantel in the north parlor.
7. The wide columnar opening in the dining room.
8. The denticular frieze in the north parlor.
9. It appears that the rear porte-cochere dates from 1926, but this is not certain. If it was built after 1926, it certainly was not much afterwards.

CONTINUED

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Continuation sheet T. L. James House

Item number 7

Page 1

7. Description (continued)

Recent changes include the loss of the upper half of one of the north chimneys, the replacement of a set of pocket doors with a vinyl accordian style door, and the installation of a rear fire escape. In our opinion these changes should be regarded as minor given the total scope of the house's historic architectural fabric.

To the rear of the house is a five bay garage which is contemporaneous with the 1926 remodeling. It is listed as a contributing element because it dates from the period of significance and because it illustrates the type of outbuildings pretentious 1920's residences had.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1926 remodeling **Builder/Architect** Builder for 1926 remodeling:
T. L. James

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion C

The T. L. James House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is the finest example of the Colonial Revival style in the city of Ruston.

The Louisiana Historic Structures Survey has identified 718 50+ year old buildings in Lincoln Parish, most of which are in the city of Ruston. Virtually all of Ruston's older structures date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The majority of Ruston's older residences represent the Queen Anne Revival or bungalow styles. The James House is one of about fifty residences which show some Colonial Revival influence. Most of these, however, are merely irregularly massed Queen Anne Revival houses with Colonial columns or else plain cottages.

The T. L. James House is conspicuous among this group because it is the only one which features a colossal pedimented portico. This marks it as the apogee of the Colonial Revival style in the city. The house has a handsome distinctive neo-Georgian articulation which links it with high style tendencies of the day in larger cities. This cannot be said of many of Ruston's other period houses, most of which are neither stylistically advanced nor architecturally pretentious.

Historical Note:

The home now called the James House was built by Colonel Thomas Cunningham Standifer. He purchased the land from Robert E. Russ for \$450 on January 3, 1884, and proceeded soon thereafter to build the house. It remained in the Standifer family until 1913. T. L. James purchased the property in 1921 and remodeled the home in the Colonial Revival style in 1926.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Standing Structures Survey, Lincoln Parish,
Conveyance Records, Lincoln Parish,
Historical sketch submitted by owner. Copy in Register file,

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @2/3rds of an acre

Quadrangle name Ruston, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A

1	5	5	3	4	0	5	0	3	5	9	9	2	5	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

The boundaries were chosen to encompass the lot on which the house and garage stand--
Lot 1, Block 6, City of Ruston. See attached plat map. Nominated acreage is highlighted.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNERS
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State Of Louisiana date July 1984

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-6682

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 September 12, 1984

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

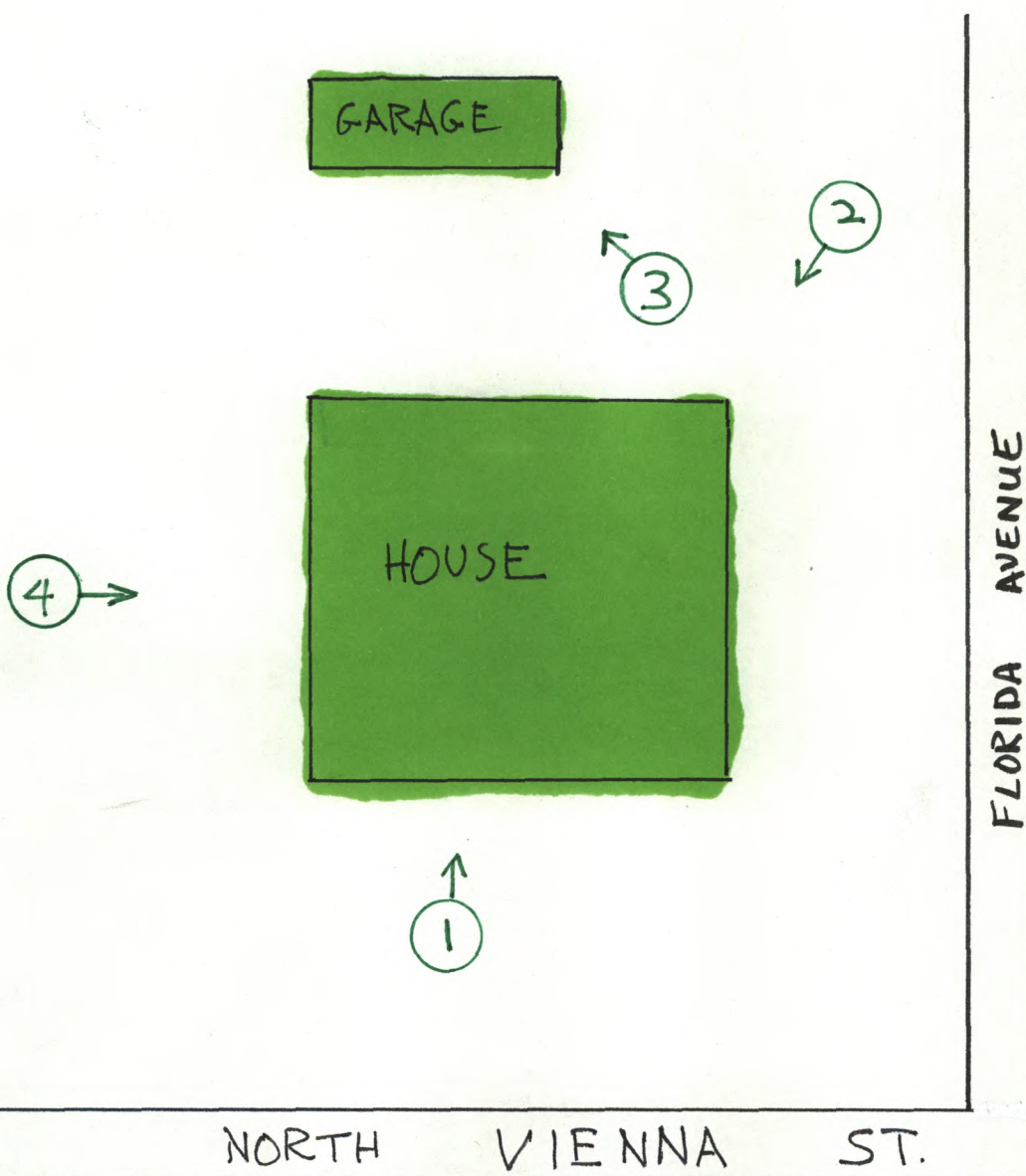
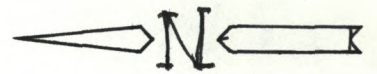
date 10-18-84

for 
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



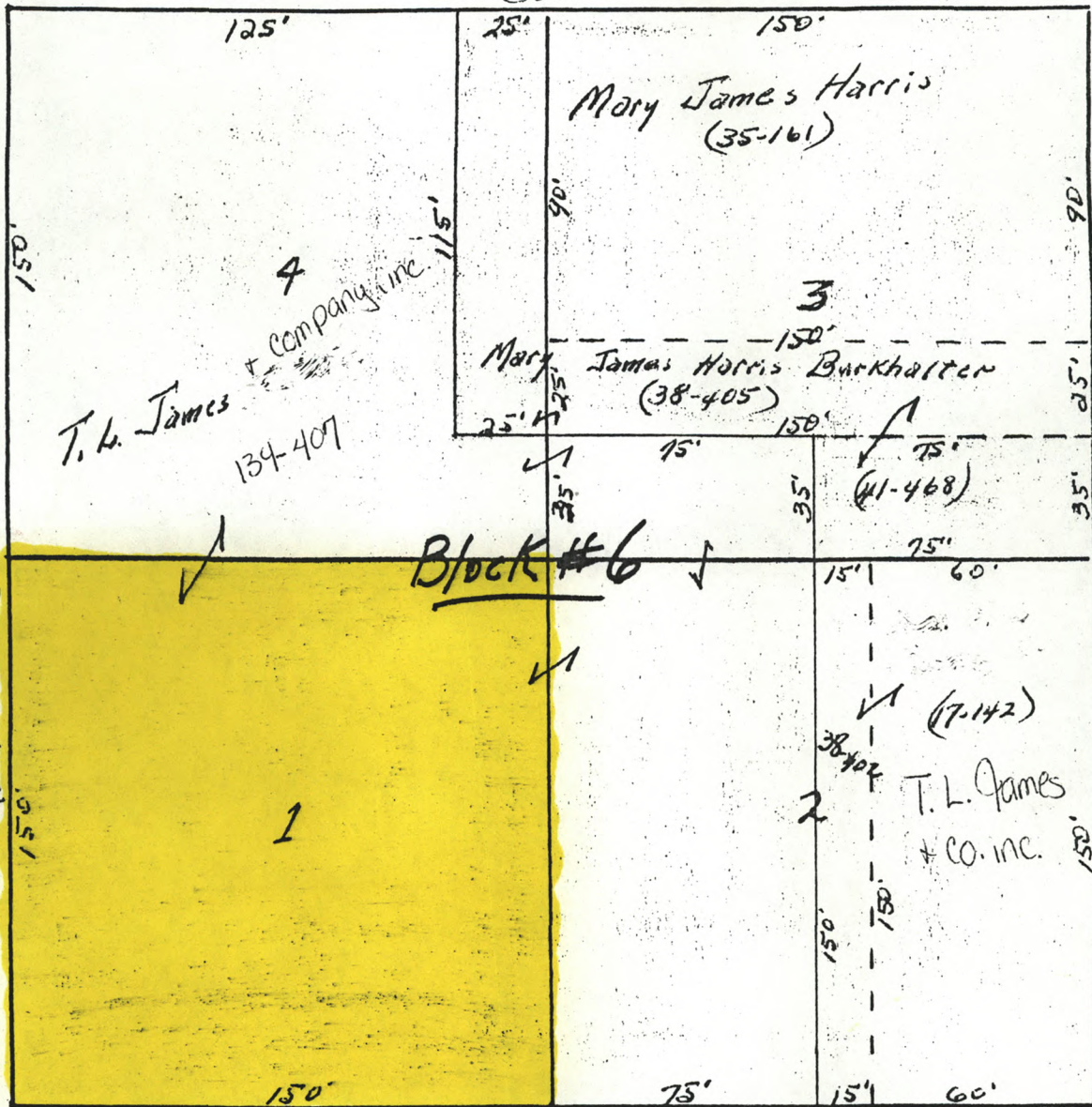
I. L. JAMES HOUSE, LINCOLN PARISH,
PHOTO DIRECTION MAP LA.

NOT TO SCALE

Carolina Ave.

60' wide

300'



Vienna St.

Bonner St.

60' wide

Florida Ave.

Scale 1" = 50'

HOUSE IS LOCATED IN THE CENTER OF LOT 1 — THE HIGH LIGHTED AREA

T. L. JAMES HOUSE

LINCOLN PARISH, LA.

