

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 17 1986
date entered MAY 15 1986

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

1. Name

historic Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 918 Jackson Street N/A not for publication

city, town Monroe N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish Ouachita code 073

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 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	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: law office

4. Owner of Property

name William A. Hargiss

street & number 918 Jackson Street

city, town Monroe N/A vicinity of state LA 71201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ouachita Parish Courthouse

street & number 300 St. John Street P. O. Box 1862

city, town Monroe state LA 71201

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1986 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 Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House (1890) is a two story frame Queen Anne Revival residence located near downtown Monroe in the city's old residential area. The house has been little altered since construction.

The asymmetrical plan consists of four major rooms upstairs and down. The house is entered via a foyer which features the principal staircase and a corner fireplace. If the room were larger, it could be considered a living hall. The foyer connects with the front parlor via paneled pocket doors. At the rear of the parlor is another set of pocket doors opening into the library. This yields a somewhat open floor plan. The dining room is set to the rear of the foyer, and further to the rear is a kitchen wing with a porch and servant's staircase. The foyer is encompassed on the exterior by an Eastlake porch with arched trellises.

The exterior design is similar to prototypes published in Pallister's New Cottage Homes (1887). Although no specific plate was used, one must admit that the Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House is closer to the high style East Coast Queen Anne Revival than one usually finds in Louisiana. This is due mainly to the two story vertical mass and the relatively small verandas. The massing is enlivened by two small balconies, two polygonal bays, three imbricated shingle gables (one of which also features panels), three Elizabethan chimneys, two dormers, and a cast-iron rooftop balustrade.

The interior details are fairly conventional for the period except for the five painted slate mantels (three downstairs, two upstairs). These are designed in various versions of the basic aedicule shape. The painterly treatment consists of contrasting panels of different decorative marbles, stylized plant and star forms, and panels depicting natural scenes.

Alterations:

In about 1920 the rear porch was glazed in for a sun room. More recently a set of French doors was installed in the principal bedroom in the opening leading to the side balcony. Finally, one chimney in the rear has been removed. (There were four; now there are three.) In our opinion, these changes should be regarded as minor.

To the rear of the house is a contemporaneous servant's cottage which, of course, is listed as a contributing element.

Immediately behind the house is a tiny frame shed of indeterminate date which is listed as a non-contributing element.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 1890 **Builder/Architect** Builder; William A. Bright

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House is of state significance in the area of art and of local significance in the area of architecture. It is significant in the area of art because of its painted slate mantels, which are rare examples within the context of the state. It is significant in the area of architecture as Monroe's finest Queen Anne Revival-Eastlake residence.

Art - State Level:

The Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House is one of a number of large Victorian residences found across the state. Its painted slate mantels are what makes it important among period homes. During the late nineteenth century manufactured cast-iron and slate mantels were sometimes given a marble treatment. This work was done by hand, but at the factory rather than on-site as it might have been done in earlier times. No survey exists as to how many examples remain in Louisiana or how many there were at one time. However, one assumes that there must have been a fair number of them in better class houses across the state. But, as far as the State Historic Preservation Office can determine, there are probably less than ten surviving period buildings in Louisiana with mantels of this type.

The mantels at the Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House are important as examples of Victorian art because they show the Victorian fondness for elaborately contrived effects. In all cases the veining is more pronounced and intricate than real marble. Moreover, in addition to the marbling treatment, the mantels feature panels depicting natural scenes, stylized plant and star forms, and other decorative motifs.

Architecture - Local Level:

The Easterling House is locally significant as Monroe's finest Queen Anne Revival-Eastlake residence. For the most part, Monroe's older residences are confined to the Colonial Revival, Mission, and Bungalow styles. There are, however, a dozen or so examples of the earlier Queen Anne -Eastlake style, most of which are cottages. The Easterling House is one of three exceptions - i.e., not cottages but full two story residences. The other two examples are inferior to the Easterling House in one respect or another. One is very plain and the other has suffered considerable loss of integrity (aluminum siding and modern aluminum windows throughout).

Historical Note:

Melinda T. Layton sold the property on which the house is located to William A. Bright on February 26, 1890. The deed required that Bright construct a residence on the property by September 1, 1890 or automatically forfeit it back to Mrs. Layton. Bright held the property until May 31, 1894. By deed dated December 6, 1898, E. Tyler

CONTINUED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Conveyance Records, Ouachita Parish Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 3/4ths of an acre

Quadrangle name Monroe South, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary lines follow property lines of the parcel of land on which the house and servant's cottage stand, said property being a rectangle measuring 200 feet along Bright St. by 150 feet along Jackson St.

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 Division of Historic Preservation	ASSISTED BY OWNER
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organization	State of Louisiana	date	February 1986
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street & number	P. O. Box 44247	telephone	(504) 922-0358
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city or town	Baton Rouge	state	LA 70804
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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

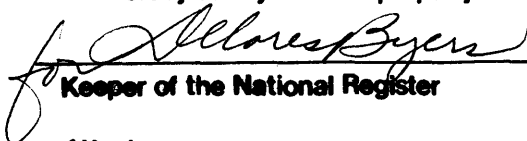


Robert B. DeBlieux

title	State Historic Preservation Officer	date	March 27, 1986
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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 5-15-86

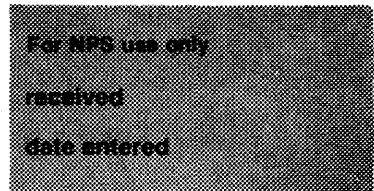
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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



Continuation sheet Bright-Lamkin-Easterling House Item number 8

Page 1

Ouachita Parish, LA
8. Significance (cont'd)

Lamkin acquired the property, and it remained in the Lamkin family until August 8, 1979. Mrs. Marguerite Lamkin Easterling owned the house from May 13, 1927 until August 9, 1973.

Photo Direction MAP

NOT TO SCALE

Bright - Lamkin - Easterling House
Monroe, LA
Ouachita Parish

