



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Meadows House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 508 N. Bonner N/A not for publication

city or town Ruston N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Lincoln code 061 zip code 71270

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Gerri Hobdy September 4, 1992
 Signature of certifying official/Title Gerri Hobdy, Date
LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation & Tourism
 State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 Signature of certifying official/Title Date

 State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper *Belouise Byers* **entered in the National Register** Date of Action 10/8/92

Meadows House
Name of Property

Lincoln Parish, LA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne Revival

Eastlake

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Meadows House, Ruston, Lincoln Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The Meadows House (c.1900) is a one-and-a-half story frame residence reflecting the Queen Anne Revival and Eastlake styles. It is located on a spacious lot in an old residential section of Ruston. Although there have been numerous alterations since construction, they have not impacted the house's Eastlake detailing, which is the source of its architectural significance within Ruston.

The house has a steep hip roof with a front gallery culminating in two prominent forward projecting gabled entrance porches, one on each side. While this symmetrical articulation is certainly not a Queen Anne Revival trait, the complex massing does reflect the style. In addition to the two front gables, there are gabled projections from the hip roof on the sides and rear. A polygonal bay and sawtooth shingles in the two front gables and one side gable are the house's other Queen Anne features.

According to local tradition, the Meadows House is an earlier small house that was greatly enlarged and remodeled shortly after its purchase in 1900 by T. D. Meadows. The Meadows had eight children at the time, which explains the need for a larger house. This scenario is supported by the architectural evidence. Three of the rooms have different door and window surrounds on the interior, and the front door opening into one of these rooms (the northernmost door) has a different surround. (Its top has a pediment shape.) One suspects the earlier house dates to c.1890.

The house's most distinctive feature is its Eastlake front gallery. The gallery extends around and connects the two projecting entrance porches. It has elaborately turned columns with brackets, an elaborate spindlework frieze accented with decoratively cut woodwork as well as hanging pendants, and a balustrade reflecting the Italianate taste. Because the gallery follows the projecting entrance porches, it has more visual interest than a gallery extended in a straight line across the front of a house.

Most of the windows are four over four. The front and side gables feature a three-part window treatment. The southernmost front door has a transom and side lights.

The floor plan consists of four rooms across the front with a range of three rooms behind and a rear one room wing. As explained below, there have been numerous interior modifications. Surviving historic features (besides the plan) include beaded board ceilings in some rooms and the door and window surrounds. Those in the older portion have heavy molding, while those in the other rooms have bull's eye corner blocks and transoms.

CONTINUED

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Meadows House, Ruston, Lincoln Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

Alterations Since Construction:

- (1) It appears that the house was clapboarded originally. Most exterior surfaces today are sheathed in drop siding, which must be a later addition because it encompasses a shed roof extension on the rear wing. The southern side gable and a rear gable retain their clapboarding. One suspects that the drop siding alteration is over fifty years old.
- (2) The side porch on the rear wing was enclosed using board and batten siding. Part of the rear elevation was resheathed in board and batten as well. This work also appears to be over fifty years old.
- (3) A pent dormer was added to the front roofline in the 1920s or '30s.
- (4) A window on the northern side gable has been enclosed.
- (5) The polygonal bay on the southern side gable has been altered. Its original windows were removed, and multi-pane windows were inserted that encompass almost the entire bay.
- (6) There have been numerous alterations on the interior, many associated with work done by the present owners when they acquired the house. The original mantels were gone, and salvaged mantels were installed in two rooms. One room has a modern brick fireplace. In addition, the walls were sheetrocked and wallpapered, some ceilings were sheetrocked, crown molding was installed in most rooms, the kitchen was modernized, and a chair rail and built-in bookcase were added to the southernmost front room.
- (7) A deck has been added at the rear.

Assessment of Integrity:

Although numerous, the above described changes have not had much of an impact upon the frontal views of the house. The house's elaborate Eastlake gallery, the source of its local architectural significance, is completely intact.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

architecture

Period of Significance

c.1900

Significant Dates

c.1900

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Meadows House
Name of Property

Lincoln Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property @ 1.5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	5	5	3	4	1	8	0	3	5	9	9	3	6	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

3

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date June 1992

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Ms. Margaret Nolan

318-254-8279 (work)

street & number 508 N. Bonner telephone 318-255-1359 (home)

city or town Ruston state Louisiana zip code 71270

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Meadows House, Ruston, Lincoln Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

The Meadows House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is easily Ruston's most elaborate example of the Eastlake style.

The parish seat of Ruston was founded in 1883 when the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific railroad came through the area. It developed in the late nineteenth century when Queen Anne Revival/Eastlake houses were in their heyday. Today the town retains about two dozen examples. Almost all of these are simple one or one-and-a-half story cottages with Queen Anne massing and a gallery that is either Colonial Revival or a replacement. A few houses have imbricated shingle gables.

Against this background, the Meadows House is quite a landmark because of its elaborate, richly three dimensional Eastlake gallery. The Division of Historic Preservation's Historic Structures Survey shows that it is one of only five Eastlake galleries in Ruston, and among these, it is far and away the most elaborate. The four other examples feature only simple turned columns with brackets. One has an Italianate balustrade, two have no balustrade, and one has simple straight balusters. In comparison, the Meadows House gallery has elaborately turned columns with brackets and an intricately detailed spindlework frieze featuring prominent bulbous spindles, scrollsawn ornamentation and hanging pendants. The gallery is particularly eye-catching because it advances and recedes to follow and connect the two forward projecting gabled entrance porches.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Meadows House, Ruston, Lincoln Parish, LA

Section number 9 Page 1

Historic Structures Survey, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, Division of Historic Preservation.

Conveyance Records, Lincoln Parish.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Meadows House, Ruston, Lincoln Parish, LA

Section number 10 Page 1

Legal Boundary Description

From the point of intersection of the centerline of Carolina Avenue and the east boundary line of Bonner Street, run thence S 3° 10' W along the east line of Bonner Street for 178.6 feet to an iron pipe, thence S 86° 50' E for 383 feet to an iron pipe, thence N 2° 08' W along an old fence row and hedge for 179.4 feet to an iron pipe, thence N 86° 50' W to an iron pipe as starting point, a distance of 366.3 feet.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries follow property lines of the lot upon which the nominated resource is located.