

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Jones, Roland, House

Other name/site number:

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 141 N. Church Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Nacogdoches

State: TX County: Nacogdoches

Code: 347

Zip Code: 75961

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
1	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
1	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Nacogdoches Multiple-Property Nominatic

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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 Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic Sub: Single dwelling
Current : Commerce/Trade Sub: Office building

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation Brick; Wood
walls Wood: Weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: _____

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _____

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1897

Significant Dates: 1897

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: Not Applicable

Architect/Builder: Rulfs, Dietrich A. W.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Historic Context List of References.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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:

- x State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	—	_____	_____	B	—	_____	_____
C	—	_____	_____	D	—	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:

Addition: City of Nacogdoches
 Block: 8
 Lot: 8

Boundary Justification:

Property includes area historically associated with building being nominated.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Ed Galloway/Research Assistant

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore

Date: June 1990

Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande

Telephone: 512-478-8014

City or Town: Austin

State: TX Zip: 78705

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The Roland Jones House is an opulent 2 1/2-story domestic building with Queen Anne-styled detailing. The dwelling, which has an asymmetrical plan, utilizes wood-frame construction and rests on a pier-and-beam foundation. Its walls are sheathed with weatherboard siding or wood singles. The residence has a 3-story corner tower with a conical roof and a 2-story front porch with a three-part gabled portico. The Jones House is about two blocks north of the public square in a transitional area between historic neighborhoods and the central business district. Formerly a private residence, the dwelling is now used as an office.

Situated at the southwest corner of brick-paved Church and E. Hospital streets, the Jones House occupies a large lot and faces east onto Church Street. The front has a two-tiered porch with turned-wood columns, and spindled friezes and balustrades on both floors. A gabled portico with carved and jigsawed wood detailing marks the primary entrance. To enter the house, however, one must go on either side of a curved bay in the middle of the entrance bay. The gabled end of the portico has an intricate spindled frieze with turned-wood spheres that appear as if they are suspended in air. Similar motifs are used in the second-floor portico. A third gable extends from the truncated hip roof and is set back directly behind the other porticoes. The tower, which extends from the northeast corner of the house, has a steeply pitched conical roof with eight sides. Wood-shingled pent roofs mark the first and second floors. The house is

detached and free standing, and no outbuildings are on the lot. The Jones House is in good conditions with few alterations.

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The Roland Jones House arguably is Nacogdoches' finest example of Queen Anne-styled architecture and is nominated to the National Register under Criterion C. Its asymmetrical and complex massing, intricate detailing and woodwork and unaltered condition distinguish it from other similarly detailed houses in the city. The Jones House reflects late 19th-century growth and prosperity in Nacogdoches and, therefore, is associated with *Community Planning and Development in Nacogdoches: 1830-1940*.

The late 19th century was a period of substantial growth and expansion in Nacogdoches. Much of this prosperity occurred after rail service first reached the town in 1883. As it did elsewhere, the railroad stimulated the local economy as an influx of new residents came seeking new opportunities. The downtown bustled with activity and construction boom ensued which dramatically changed the physical character of both the city's downtown and residential neighborhoods. Land north of the downtown became the more affluent part of town and many majestic homes were erected. The Roland Jones House is symbolic of that trend.

Completed in 1897, the Jones House featured Queen Anne-style detailing that was immensely popular both locally and statewide during the late 19th century. Although many similarly detailed residences were built in Nacogdoches, few displayed such noteworthy ornamentation and craftsmanship. Many of these homes subsequently been razed making the Jones House all the more significant in local architectural histo-

ry. It was designed by Dietrich A. W. Rulfs, a German-born architect, who was responsible for many commercial and residential buildings in Nacogdoches and nearby cities. The Jones House reportedly was Rulfs' second commission in the city and his successful interpretive style foreshadowed his long and distinguished career in the field.

Roland Jones, for whom the house was built, was one of Nacogdoches' most prominent and successful entrepreneurs of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Jones relocated from Shreveport, Louisiana, in about 1892 and helped establish a local cotton compress business. He married Lillie Esme Mathews Boleyn in 1893 and lived with the Henry P. Mathews family in a house that formerly stood at 141 N. Church. In about 1894, this structure burned and Roland Jones, Sr. and H. P. Mathews employed Dietrich Rulfs as architect and contractor. Rulfs reportedly persuaded Jones and Mathews to erect a Queen Anne-styled house with much embellishment instead of a colonial type house Nacogdoches Jaycees 1976:206). In order to satisfy differing personal and individual needs, Rulfs planned the house from the inside out.

When completed, the Jones House was one of several majestic residences immediately north of the central business district. This area remained predominantly residential until the 1950s and 1960s when many of the houses were destroyed or moved to new sites. The Jones House stands today relatively isolated and surrounded by parking lots. Although other Queen Anne-styled residences survive in the city (most of which are in the nominated Washington Square and Virginia Avenue Historic Districts), the Jones House is arguably the most outstanding and best preserved example.

