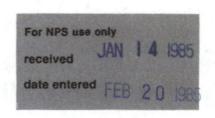
### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**



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See Verbal Boundary

#38, PHOTOS 4,5

NAME: J. R. Routt House

ADDRESS: Chestnut Street

PRESENT OWNER: Mrs. Thelma Crockett

P.O. Box 14

Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

ACREAGE: 1.173

BLOCK/LOT:

CURRENT USE: Residence

DATE: Ca. 1853, 1898

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/764610/3337660

Description

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1867--original part of hall enclosed to form new room: original cottage moved to form rear of new house ca. 1900; 1915, 1930s--rear porches enclosed; 1962--rear carport and modern bath added.

This large Victorian residence has an asymmetrical plan due to the numerous late-19th-century additions and structural changes. Although the original part of the house, built by local architect and builder Marcus P. Munyan, cannot be dated conclusively, it is supposed that it was constructed in the 1850s. This seems reasonable since Munyan bought the property in 1853, and adjacent houses which no longer exist were constructed in the early 1850s during the boom years of Chappell Hill. On May 18, 1866, a tract of land described as Munyan's homestead was sold to J. N. Thompsons, the original structure was a small, modest, four-room home of cedar.

After J. R. Routt purchased the small cottage in 1898, it was moved from the front of the lot to the rear and incorporated into the plan of a new and larger Victorian-style cottage. Between 1898 and 1900 large rooms were added, including a dining room, living room, a wide central hall, two large bedrooms, and large porches in the front and rear. The builder during this period was J. W. Heartfield, who built many local homes and commercial buildings around the turn-of-the-century. The two red-brick chimneys with corbeled caps, as well as the encircling front porch with late Victorian gingerbread trim, were added during this period.

The structure's south (front) facade is dominated by two projecting bays and an encircling porch featuring turned posts with knobs, scroll brackets, spindle- and spool-like balusters, and spindles along the porch frieze. The most distinguishing feature of the facade is the west champered bay (with clapboard and fish-scale siding) which displays a sunburst pattern and small vergeboard with cut-out patterns in the peak of its gable end. Exterior windows feature window heads with a jigsaw pattern. Composition shingles cover the entire gabled roof, while the encircling front gallery has a standingseam metal cover in an unusual ogee configuration.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Interior designs of the ornate mantelpieces, woodwork, and wainscoting in the hall and dining room reflect popular trends in the late 1890s. Ceilings throughout the house measure 11 feet in height, with the exception of the kitchen which is 12 feet. Cedar boards composing the floors of the original room are wide and irregular in size. Other notable features of the interior are wood-paneled double pocket doors, and windows with bull's-eye corner blocks.

Two carved front entrance doors of oak contain transoms, as do all the interior doors in the house. Above the front double window in the living room there is stained glass trim. Throughout the house, except in the kitchen, all windows are extra large with heavy plate glass in both sashes. The kitchen windows contain 6/6 lights; the door knobs and escutcheon key plates throughout the house are of ornamental metal, perhaps copper.

Early 20th-century alterations included the 1915 enclosure of one end of the back porch to accomodate a bathroom, and the enclosure in the 1930s of a latticed porch adjoining the kitchen to form a utility room. In 1962, Thelma R. Crockett, the current owner, added a covered patio or carport and a large bathroom at the rear of the house.

General repairs have been made to the house, which is in excellent condition. Its architectural integrity has not been affected by minor modern additions to the rear. The only outbuilding remaining on the property is a small board-and-batten garage. A cedar log corncrib, which was probably associated with the original structure, was recently torn down by the current owner. A cistern was originally associated with the first small structure.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

Period: 1800 - 1899

Areas of Significance: Architecture

The Routt House is Chappell Hill's major extant example of a once-popular late Victorian house form featuring a decorative encircling porch with gingerbread presentations of this late-19th-century type were constructed on a large scale in both the central residential section and on Main Street by the town's prominent businessmen and successful farmers. This house is another good example in the residential neighborhood of the structurally evolved residence, which grew from a small central section to a more comples form during the late 19th century. It also reflects a common practice in the Chappell Hill community in the 19th century of moving houses or parts of houses. Due to its location on a low rise at the end of a street, and its close proximity to the similarly sited Sterling Smith House, the Routt House has become a landmark in the residential section. The lawn is informally landscaped and several large native pecan trees remain.

Historically, the property upon which the structure is situated is worthy of archeological investigation. Buried evidence might well yield information pertaining to the location or outbuildings of the original structure and Munyan's early lumberyard, which was situated on a tract of land (1/7 acre) to the east of the present house. A cistern was also associated historically with the first structure.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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The Routt House is important, not only as the home of Marcus P. Munyon, one of Chappell Hill's earliest architects and builders, but also for its association with a prominent figure in the cotton industry, Jackson Roffe Routt. After attending school in Austin, Routt engaged in a profitable and widely-known cotton warehouse business at Chappell Hill with his partner William D. Crockett. In 1905, he was elected County Commissioner of Precinct No. 2, a position he held for many years. During this term he was instrumental in the promotion of road grading and bridge building. He was also an original stockholder of the bank. His brother, Joseph E., was one of the best-known figures in the ginning business in Washington County, and held a record for continuous service in this industry.

J. R. Routt's eldest daughter, Thelma R. Crockett, acquired the house in 1962 after the death of her parents and currently occupies the home.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

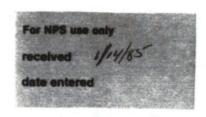
Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: House is set on a low rise at the end of Chestnut Street near its intersection with Church Street

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

A certain parcel of land lying in and situated in the town of Chappell Hill beginning at an iron pin in the north line of Chestnut Street in the southeast corner of the Mrs. Bessie Routt Thornhill lot; thence with the east line of said lot as fenced N 0°48' E, 324.20 feet to an iron pin and fence corner in the south line of the Harry Lesser tract; thence with said fenceline S 89° 18' E, 160.89 feet to an iron pin and fence corner at the northwest corner of the Toland Estate tract; thence with the west line of said tract as fenced S 1° 43' W, 319.71 feet to an iron pin in the north line of F. M. 1155; thence with said highway line S 89° 03' W, 156.66 feet to the point or place of beginning, containing 1.173 acres of land.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



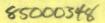
Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group dnr-11

Name State	Chappell Hill Multiple R Washington County, Tex		Cont	, arryst.
Nomi	nation/Type of Review			Date/Signature
1.	Main Street Historic Distr	ict Substantive Heview	Keeper	Leula h Cellard 5/15/85
.2.	Applewhite, Isaac, House	Ratered in the ~	Attest	Alondoyen 2/20/85
43.	Chappell Hill Circulating Library	Entered in the Mational Register	Keeper	Spelver Dyen 0/20/85
1.	Chappell Hill Methodist Episcopal Church	Mational Hegister	Attest	Helan Byen 2/20/85
¹¹5.	Chappell Hill Public Schoo and Chappell Hill Female College Bell	1 Substantive Heview	Keeper	Ludi mcClelland 2/20/85
ь.	Felder, E. King, House	Estered in the	Keeper	Aulaus Byen 4/10/15
7.	Rogers, William S., House	Entered in the National Register	Attest Keeper Attest	Shelver Byen 2/20/85
8.	Routt, J.R., House	Entered in the National Register	Keeper Attest	Alelan Byan 2/20/25
. 9.	Smith, John Sterling, Jr. House	Entered in the	Keeper Attest	Sulare Byen 2/25/85-
10.			Keeper	
			Attest	3



WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Routt, J. R., House (Chappell Hill M.	RA)	
Washington County		Working NoJAN   4   1985
TEXAS		Fed. Reg. Date: / 2,4 \$6
		Date Due: 2/14/85 - 2/28/85
		Action:ACCEPT 2-20-85
resubmission	Ratered in	RETURN
nomination by person or local government	National H	REJECT
owner objection		Federal Agency:
☐ appeal		
Substantive Review:  sample	request appeal	☐ NR decision
Reviewer's comments:		
		Recom./Criteria
		Reviewer
		Discipline
		Date
		see continuation sheet
Nomination returned for:technical correctsubstantive reaso		
1. Name		
2. Location		
3. Classification		
Category Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
4. Owner of Property	The state of the state of	The Burney of the control and the American property of the state of th
5. Location of Legal Description	and the second	AND THE PARTY OF T
6. Representation in Existing Surveys		
Has this property been determined eligible?	☐ yes ☐ no	
7. Description		
Condition	Check one	Check one
excellent deteriorated	unaltered	original site
good ruins	altered	moved date
☐ fair ☐ unexposed		
Describe the present and original (if known) phys	ical appearance	
summary paragraph		
completeness		
clarity		
alterations/integrity		
dates boundary selection		
boundary selection		

8. Significance	
The state of the s	
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below	
Specific dates Builder/Architect	
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)	
	Charles and the second of the second
summary paragraph	Routt, J Rouse (Chappell Hill MIA) Weshington County
completeness	VILLOUV TO HUREST
Clarity clarity	The state of the s
applicable criteria	
☐ justification of areas checked ☐ relating significance to the resource	
context	
relationship of integrity to significance	
☐ justification of exception	
other	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of nominated property	
Quadrangle name	
UTM References	
16 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	No. 20 April
Verbal boundary description and justification	
	La TELLET LA CONTRACTOR CONTRACTO
11. Form Prepared By	
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification	
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:	
nationalstatelocal	
Chata Historia Procomustion Officer signature	
State Historic Preservation Officer signature	
title date	
13. Other	
☐ Maps	
Photographs	
Other	
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to	
Signed Date	Phone:
Oigned Date	FIIOTIC.



IW. #38



Historic Resources of Chappell Hill Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas

#38 J. R. Routt House Chestnut Street

Photo by Julie Edwards, March 1984, neg on file at Texas Historical Commission

South facade camera facing north

photo 4 of 58



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Historic Resources of Chappell Hill Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas

#38 J. R. Routt House (Historic Photo) Chestnut Street

Photographer unknown, 1911, neg on file at Texas Historical Commission

Southeast elevation, camera facing northwest

photo 5 of 58

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# Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number:

64000834