

Theme 7b1a Theme 9b2a
Theme 9b1c

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Virginia
COUNTY:	Richmond (City)
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME				
COMMON: Maggie L. Walker House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 110A East Leigh Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third	
STATE Virginia		CODE 51	COUNTY: Richmond (City)	CODE 760
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object		☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both		☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered		Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments				
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☒ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify)				
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious				
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Dr. Maggie L. W. Lewis				
STREET AND NUMBER: 7415 S. Calumet Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago			STATE: Illinois	CODE 51
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: City Hall				
STREET AND NUMBER: 900 E. Broad Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond			STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None known				
DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	Virginia
COUNTY	Richmond
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Maggie L. Walker home at 110A East Leigh Street was built around 1909. It is a large two story brick residence with a quarter basement available for use. The walls of the home are painted dark red. The roof structure is modified mansard at the front of the residence. The remainder is flat with a slight slope for proper drainage. The roof is covered with slate on the mansard portion and heavy gauge tin on the remainder. A recent expert appraisal noted there were no leaks. Gutters and downspouts are galvanized with some in need of repairs. Double hung windows are features of the house except on the sun porch. The foundation is brick over poured concrete.

The residence has eighteen rooms with three and one-half baths. Interior floors are hardwood downstairs and solid pine upstairs. Bathroom floors and walls are of ceramic tile. Walls and ceilings of the interior are of plaster. The heating system is oil fired hot water. The boiler is located in the basement along with the gas fired hot water heater.

At the rear of the residence is a brick garage with four additional rooms above the garage. Between the garage and the residence is a two landing elevator shaft, with elevator (Mrs. Walker, a paraplegic, used this elevator). The residence and garage cover the entire 33 foot X 136 foot lot with the exception of a four foot side alley on the east side of the residence from the street to the garage.

The neighborhood is currently fifty percent residential, but is moving toward general business. The Walker home is within three blocks of the former Saint Luke Penny Savings Bank and both are near Broad Street, Richmond's main thoroughfare, and within six blocks of Richmond's (\$24,000,000) Coliseum.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1867-1934

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☒ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | <u>Afro-American History</u> |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | <u>Business</u> |
| ☐ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☒ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Military | | _____ |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Music | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Maggie Lena Walker was born July 15, 1867, in Richmond, Virginia. She was the daughter of an ex-house slave, Elizabeth Draper, and of a northern abolitionist author, Eccles Cuthbert. As a child she attended the public schools of Richmond and in 1883 she graduated from Richmond's Armstrong Normal School. Later she enrolled in post high school courses in accounting and in salesmanship. This part-time additional study was undertaken during the three years she was employed as a public school teacher.

Mrs. Walker became intensely active in church and fraternal work early in life. At the age of eleven she was a member of the First African Baptist Church. During her high school years she worked as an agent for an insurance company. She also joined the Grand United Order of Saint Luke which had been founded in 1867 as a fraternal, cooperative, and insurance venture for blacks.

Following her marriage in 1886, Mrs. Walker devoted her efforts to the rearing of two sons and to the promotion of the Independent Order of Saint Luke, whose executive secretary-treasurer she became in 1899.

Through capable and dynamic leadership Mrs. Walker moved the organization that was once near failure to a position of leadership among black fraternal orders. It was stated of Mrs. Walker's achievement in Notable American Women, 1607-1960:

In twenty-five years the organization grew from 57 local chapters to 1,500, from 3,400 members to over 50,000 from an indebtedness of some \$400.00 to assets of nearly \$400,000 from a single clerk working in antiquated quarters to a staff of fifty in a modern four story office building.

In 1903 Mrs. Walker led the order into the banking business with the establishment of the Saint Luke Penny Savings Bank, thus becoming the first American woman known to establish and head a bank. She was president of the bank until 1930 when she became chairman of the board of directors, serving in that capacity until her death, December 15, 1934.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dabney, Wendell P. Maggie L. Walker, Her Life and Deeds. Cincinnati: The Dabney Publishing Company, 1927.

Fleming, Jesse E. A History of Consolidated Bank and Trust Company: A Minority Bank. Thesis, Limited Publication by Consolidated Bank and Trust Company, Richmond, 1972.

Fiftieth Anniversary — Golden Jubilee, Historical Report of the R. W. G. Council, I. O. Saint Luke, 1867-1917, Everett Waddey Company, Richmond, 1917.

James, Edward T., ed. Notable American Women, 1607-1960. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University, Vol. 3, 1971.

(PARTIAL LISTING)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

UTM: 18.284620.4158260

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Marcia M. Greenlee, Historical Projects Director

ORGANIZATION: **Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation** DATE: **December 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1420 N Street, N. W., Suite 101

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington, D. C. 20005** STATE: _____ CODE: **11**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Richmond (City)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - page two

Through her direction the bank survived the stringent regulations imposed by the State of Virginia in 1910 and subsequent years. In 1931 the Saint Luke Bank and Trust Company, the Second Street Bank and Trust Company, and the Mechanics Bank and Trust Company merged to form the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company. The Saint Luke Bank, which was the most stable of the three, became the core of the new institution. It is significant that this bank was one of those that withstood the impact of the depression.

Despite the heavy demands made on her time by the bank, Mrs. Walker remained intensely active with the Independent Order of Saint Luke. She was founder and president of the Richmond Council of Colored Women, guiding this council in a drive to raise thousands of dollars to assist the Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls. Her fund-raising energies were also used on behalf of the black tuberculosis sanatorium at Burkeville, Virginia. In Richmond she worked for the establishment of a black community center and for better health care for blacks, while serving on the boards of civic and educational institutions.

Maggie Lena Walker is of national historical significance because she was the first woman known to be president of an American bank. Through her leadership and sound banking principles she made St. Luke a formidable black bank which survived new State banking regulations of 1910 and the Great Depression of the 1930s. She was also the founder of the Richmond Council of Colored Women.



Maggie Lena Walker House, Richmond, Virginia

Photo by ABC for NPS, 1974

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Richmond City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Maggie Lena Walker House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
110A East Leigh Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Richmond			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	51	Richmond City	760
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1974			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Front elevation			