

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

Name: Bolton Lodge No. 416

Location: 2324 Marietta Road, NW, Atlanta, Fulton County

Description: Bolton Lodge No. 416 is located at the intersection of Bolton and Marietta roads. The rectangular, two-story, brick masonry building was constructed in 1921. The four-bay front façade is symmetrical, with a centered entrance and windows on the first floor and a window in each bay on the second floor. The façade is topped by an entablature and a heavy cornice with classical molding attached below the parapet wall, which continues on all elevations. Attached exterior brick chases mark the location where flues for heating would have run historically. A secondary, single-door entrance on the northwest elevation features a surround similar to the main entrance. The rear entrance is a single flush door set in a punched opening. Windows are double-hung wood sash with a decorative vertical-paned upper sash except for the second-floor windows on the front half of the building, which are high, single-sash windows. The building was rehabilitated in 2021 - 2023 at which time missing first floor windows and interior finishes were restored to their historic appearance and an exterior fire escape stairway was added to the west side of building. Rear auxiliary rooms on each floor were minimally altered to accommodate restrooms and a kitchenette. The characteristic open space of the interior and circulation patterns relating to the stairwell were retained on the second floor, while the first floor was modified through consultation with the National Park Service to accommodate smaller offices to meet tenant needs.

Acres & Boundary Explanation: Less than one acre. The National Register boundary comprises the building footprint.

Period of Significance: 1921-1973

NR Criterion & Area of Significance: Criterion A, Social History and Criterion C, Architecture

Statement of Significance: Bolton Lodge No. 416 is significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History. The building is significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History at the local level for its association with Freemasonry, a fraternal organization which has been an integral part of communities in the United States since the Colonial Era. It is also significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level as an example of a locally interpreted Classical Revival-style building purpose built as a meeting hall for a Freemasonry organization. Classical features include the pedimented entryways and symmetrical front façade crowned by a large modillioned cornice and entablature. The building reflects the typical form and prescribed interior layout for a lodge associated with Freemasonry. The rectangular form is appropriately oriented to face roughly east, and the two-stories allow for a private second-floor assembly space. The interior of the meeting hall itself includes among other features, high windows, and auxiliary rooms to ensure privacy and raised daises for the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden at the eastern and western ends. The lodge retains sufficient integrity to be clearly recognizable for its historic association with Freemasonry.

Suggested Level of Significance: Local

Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by Bolton Masons, LLC, and nomination materials were prepared by Verity Works.

