



EPPS HOUSE

Solomon Northup's Gateway to Freedom

The Edwin Epps House is a single-story, wood-frame Creole cottage presently located on the campus of Louisiana State University of Alexandria. Though the Epps House has been moved from its original location and has lost a significant portion of its original building materials, the physical presence of the structure retains its historic significance in association with the famous slave narrative *Twelve Years a Slave*.

part of
**LOUISIANA'S
NORTHUP TRAIL**

Group visit available by appointment.

**LOCATED ON LSUA CAMPUS
8100 HWY 7100 SOUTH
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71302
(318) 445-3672
WEBSITE?**



EPPS HOUSE

Constructed in 1852 for the Edwin Epps' family, this single story Creole cottage was originally located on Bayou Boeuf near Helmesville in Avoyelles Parish. Relocated to Bunkie, LA in 1976, the house was moved to the LSUA campus in 1999 and reconstructed. Formerly an overseer for Oakland Plantation, where LSUA stands today, Epps established himself as a planter and slave owner. Epps bought Solomon Northup in 1843 and owned him for ten years. Northup helped build the house. Master Epps was informed inside this house that Northup was a kidnaped free man who would return to his family in Glens Falls, New York. Northup tells of his experiences in his 1853 book, *Twelve Years a Slave*, which inspired a 1984 documentary, *Solomon Northup's Odyssey*, and a 2013 movie *Twelve Years a Slave*.

**SOLOMON NORTHUP'S
GATEWAY TO FREEDOM**





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Had it not been for the construction of the Epps House, Solomon Northup may never have been rescued. The construction of this house played a significant role in ending Northup's twelve years as a slave, which in turn allowed Northup to publish his story.

Recognizing this connection, former LSUA history professor Sue Eakin twice acted to save the Epps House from demolition. It is only fitting that this story, which began long ago, be told today inside the structure that brings it to life.

Directions

FROM I-49 NORTH, TAKE EXIT 80 AND MERGE ONTO US-167 S / US-71 S TOWARDS MACARTHUR DRIVE. CONTINUE 5.2 MILES, AND TAKE A LEFT AT GREGG MARSHALL DRIVE, THEN ANOTHER LEFT AT ACORN DRIVE.

FROM I-49 SOUTH, TAKE EXIT 80 AND KEEP RIGHT AT THE FORK. FOLLOW THE SIGNS FOR US-71 S/US-167 S AND MERGE ONTO US-71 S / US-167 S. CONTINUE 4.8 MILES, AND TAKE A LEFT AT GREGG MARSHALL DRIVE, THEN ANOTHER LEFT AT ACORN DRIVE.

Explore
ALEXANDRIA
PINEVILLE

LOCATED ON THE CAMPUS OF

LSUA
LSU of ALEXANDRIA

AVOYELLES
CENTRE DE LA LOUISIANE

