

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received **JAN 12 1988**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bank of Grand Cane

and or common also Grand Cane Town Hall

2. Location

street & number U. S. Highway 171 N/A not for publication

city, town Grand Cane N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish ~~county~~ DeSoto code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Village of Grand Cane

street & number P. O. Box 82

city, town Grand Cane N/A vicinity of state LA 71032

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. DeSoto Parish Courthouse

street & number Corner of Adams & Texas (no specific address) P. O. Box 1206

city, town Mansfield state LA 71052

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1987 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moveddate N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bank of Grand Cane (1904) is a single story brick party-wall commercial building with Romanesque Revival features. It is located on U. S. Route 171, which is the commercial corridor of the small village of Grand Cane. The only alterations since construction have been fairly minor ones on the interior.

The plan consists of a single large room with a concrete vault in a rear corner. The vault doorway features fluted pilasters, a broken segmental pediment, and a central urn. The teller's area is divided off by means of an oak and brass screened counter which snakes its way diagonally across the banking space. The screen consists of a lower paneled area, a brass grille, and a crowning entablature. It has a total of six sides, including two forty-five degree angle cuts. The banking space also has an ornamental pressed metal ceiling and a low turned balustrade which divides a small office area from the main banking area.

The exterior features a heavy arched entrance and a larger arched front window which protrudes from the facade in the form of a curved bay. Both arches rest upon stocky engaged columns on pedestals. The shafts, bases, capitals, and necking are formed of battered brick which was presumably intended to resemble rock-face stone. The bay window features curved glass and ornamental mullions. Copious strips of rusticated brick add to the facade's sense of weight and massiveness. A shaped tablet atop the building bears the date 1904.

Alterations/Assessment of Integrity

In recent years sheetrock walls have been placed on top of the teller's screen, thus completely sealing off the teller's area from the rest of the bank. In addition, two new walls have been added in the teller's area behind the screen. It should be noted that despite these changes, the character of the interior remains largely intact. In addition, they have not affected the exterior, which is the source of the bank's architectural significance.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1904 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Bank of Grand Cane

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Bank of Grand Cane is locally significant in the area of architecture as a landmark commercial building in DeSoto Parish. This large rural parish is currently being comprehensively surveyed for historic structures, with 674 identified so far. In addition, the National Register staff is very familiar with all of the parish's central business districts. Virtually all of DeSoto's fifty or so historic commercial buildings date from the 1890-1930s period, and the vast majority are in a fairly plain commercial vernacular style. The Bank of Grand Cane is one of only three commercial buildings with sufficient architectural distinction to merit individual listing in the National Register. Its bold and distinctive Romanesque Revival articulation is in marked contrast to the rest of the parish's fairly typical historic commercial buildings. In fact, it is the only example of the Romanesque Revival style in the parish and is the only commercial building which is consistently treated with any recognizable historic style at all. Noteworthy Romanesque Revival features include the weighty effect of the brick banding, the boldy formed protruding bay, the heavy round head arches, and the battered rock-face columns.

Historical Note:

The building remained a bank until 1980 when it was donated to Grand Cane for use as a town hall.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Structures Survey, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office.
Historical sketch on Bank of Grand Cane prepared by Wilber Helen Lewis.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 1/20th of an acre

Quadrangle name Grand Cane, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A

1	5	4	2	3	5	0	0	3	5	5	0	0	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed to-scale sketch map. Boundaries were drawn to discretely encompass this party wall building. As noted, the north and south boundaries are party walls.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNER
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana date October 1987

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 922-0358

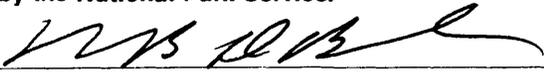
city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

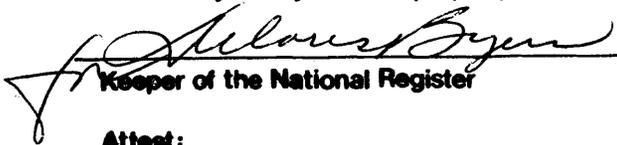
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date January 7, 1988

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


Keeper of the National Register

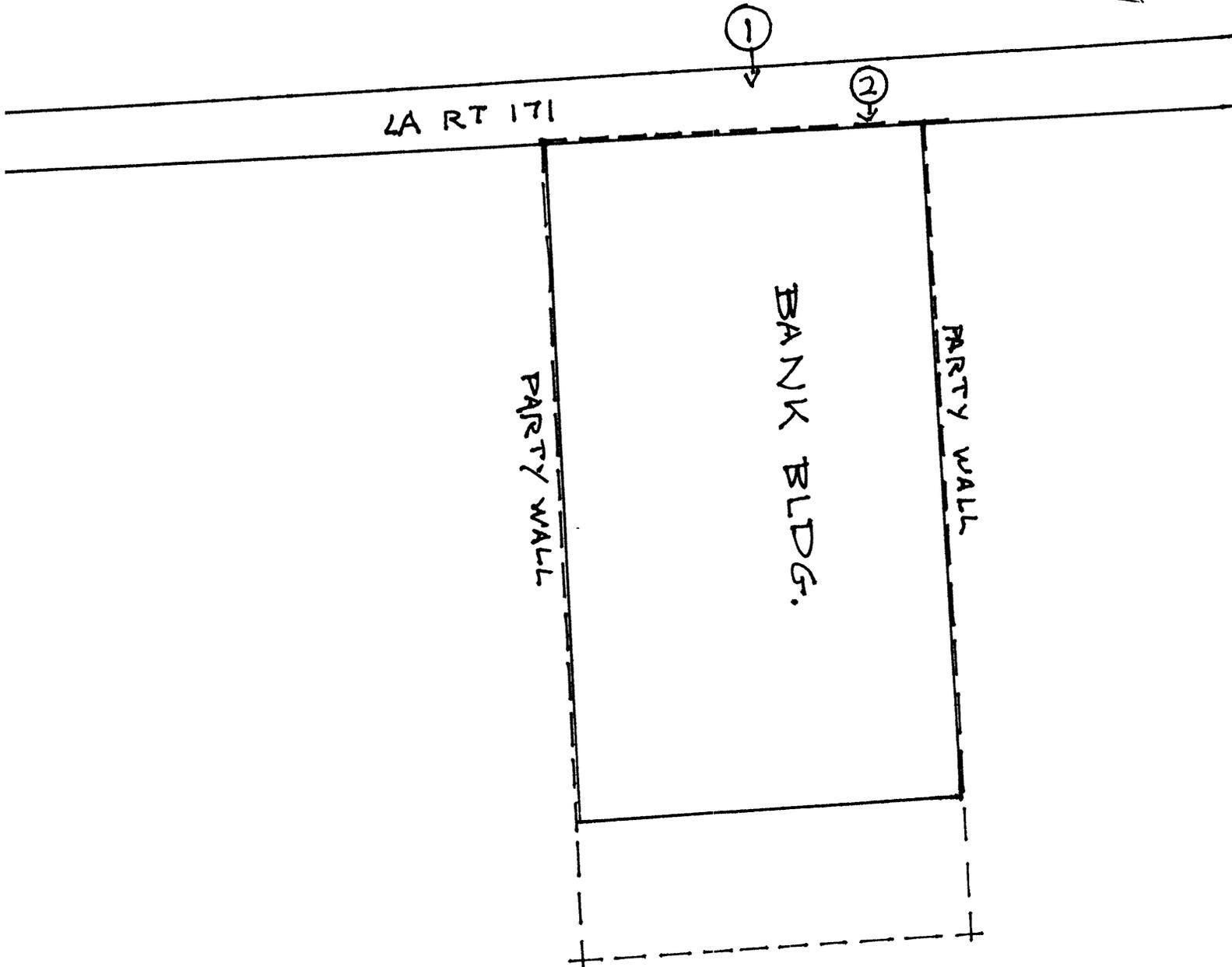
date 2-11-88

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

BANK OF GRAND CANE DESOTO PARISH, LA

BOUNDARY



SCALE 1" = 10'