

STANDING STRUCTURES SURVEY

Site Number #5

I. PARISH Rapides

MUNICIPALITY N/A

USGS QUAD Gardner, LA

Township 4N Range 3W Section 53

TYPE OF PROPERTY Residence

NAME (common) China Grove

NAME (historic) Same

ADDRESS Hwy. 496, east of intersection
 with Hwy. 121

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1857

II. 1. Condition Good

2. Style Greek Revival

3. Floor Plan See below

4. Building Material Wood frame

UTMs: 15/534720/3464210

Photos attached

III. Physical description of property and historic significance

China Grove has a central hall plan, two rooms deep. The entrance is unusual in that the side lights extend all the way to the top of the transom. Three of the original four downstairs aedicule style mantels remain. There is also a contemporaneous staircase and a Victorian Gothic mantel upstairs which probably dates from the 1870's.

China Grove is noted for its Greek Revival woodwork, which is unusually fine for Rapides Parish. It is one of only two examples in the parish which feature drip cornices and shoulder molded fenestration. Other examples have plainer woodwork. China Grove is also the only house along Bayou Rapides with pocket doors.

In recent decades the following changes have been made in the house: 1. A mantel has been lost. 2. The rear has been altered and extended. 3. A false gallery has been added in the front. 4. The bottoms of the original gallery columns have rotted and been replaced by brick pedestals. 5. Four dormers have been added.

Despite these changes, the original style of the house is easily discernible, even by the casual observer. The dormers are small and easily removable. The bottoms of the columns are easy to repair and the evidence exists to restore them exactly. Given China Grove's remaining Neo-Classical character and its locally impressive woodwork, we feel that

IV. Recorded by _____

Date n/a

For _____

V. Sources consulted _____

 n/a it can still legitimately
 stand as an example of
 the Neo-Classical taste
 along Bayou Rapides.

Bayou Rapides Thematic Nomination

Rapides Parish, LA

Boundary Justification: The total acreage under single ownership consists of a large amount of land. To nominate all of it would have entailed listing considerable unrelated acreage. One-and-one-half acres was considered sufficient to take in the house and its immediate setting. The boundaries cut more closely at the rear because the rear of the house has been altered considerably and hence there is no historic view to recognize and protect.

DEC 5 1997



← 50' →

← 50' →

↑ 10' ↓

THE NORTH, EAST, & WEST
BOUNDARIES PARALLEL
HOUSE FACADES AT
DISTANCES SHOWN.
THE SOUTH BOUNDARY
FOLLOWS LA. HWY 496.

APPROX 1 1/2
ACRES

NOT TO SCALE

① ↗

④ →

← ③

↖ ②



HWY 496