NPS Form 10-900 (3-82)		OMB No, 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service		For NPS use only
National Register of Historic	Places	received NOV 7 1983
Inventory-Nomination Form		date entered
See instructions in How to Complete National Register Form Type all entries—complete applicable sections	S	
1. Name		
historic N/A		
and/or common Houma Historic District		
2. Location Roughly bounded by	E. Park Ave., Ma Academy, His	" Canal Lasart
portions of East Park Avenue; Mainstreet & numberSchool Street, Belanger Street, ChStreet, Grinage Street, Lafayettecity, town Houma	urch Street, Verre	et N/Anot for publication
state LA code 22 count	yTerrebonne Parish	n code 109
3. Classification		
X district public X occupied building(s) private X unoccupied structure X both X work in progress site Public Acquisition Accessible object ht/A_ in process X yes: restricted N/A_ being considered yes: unrestricted	agriculture X_ commercial s educational entertainmen X_ government	nultiple museum park private residence t religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owner of Property		
name multiple ownership		
street & number		
city, town vicinity of	sta	ate
5. Location of Legal Descript		
5. Location of Legal Descript courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Terrebonne Parish	Courthouse	
		Box 1569
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Terrebonne Parish street & number Main Street (no specific addr		e al fair
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Terrebonne Parish street & number Main Street (no specific addr city, town Houma	ess) P.O. sta	a C Rickel
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Terrebonne Parish street & number Main Street (no specific addr city, town Houma 6. Representation in Existing	ess) P.O. sta	ate LA 70361
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Terrebonne Parish street & number Main Street (no specific addr city, town Houma 6. Representation in Existing	ess) P. O. sta Surveys	ate LA 70361 d eligible?yes _X_no

7. Description

Condition excellent good	deteriorated	Check one unaltered Xaltered	Check one _X_original site 	NAA	
X_fair	unexposed				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Houma Historic District consists of the city's central business district and two related residential areas. Most of the district's 118 buildings date from between 1890 and 1933, but most of the more impressive commercial buildings date from between 1915 and 1933. Very few of the contributing elements have been significantly altered. Intrusions number about 24%.

The district is centered around the Terrebonne Parish Courthouse Square, which is landscaped with live oak trees. (The courthouse itself dates from 1937.) Most of the commercial buildings are located along Main Street, which parallels Bayou Terrebonne. In its central portions, Main Street has a two story scale consisting mainly of typical early-twentieth century commercial buildings with commercial space downstairs and residential space above. The area around the courthouse square also has a two story commercial character. In addition to the one story commercial buildings to be found at either end of the Main Street corridor, there are also a few relatively humble commercial buildings intermixed with the residences along Lafayette Street. Most of the "outlying" commercial buildings along Lafayette are frame while all of the "in town" commercial buildings along Main Street and around the courthouse square are of brick.

In 1887 a fire destroyed much of the town; so the earliest commercial buildings date from the period 1890 to 1910. Most of these feature parapets with heavy corbell tables. Later commercial buildings tend to be plainer with simple trimmed parapets and brick cornices. However, in the central portion of Main Street is a collection of three banks, dating from the period 1911-1933, each of which is among the most high style buildings in the region. These include the Beaux Arts Peoples Bank, the Renaissance style Bank of Houma, and the Art Deco Bank of Terrebonne. The buildings attest to the prosperity of their period of construction (i.e., the boom in seafood production).

In addition to commercial buildings, the district retains one industrial structure associated with seafood harvest processing. It is a large frame building of little architectural character, but of great historical importance to the district.

For the most part the historic residences of the district are humble and unpretentious. Most are shotgun houses, bungalows, or cottages. The majority of these houses are associated with the workers in the seafood processing industry. Evidently owners and managers lived further out from the town center. Undoubtedly this reflects the growing importance of the automobile in the teens, '20's and '30's. It was possible for the middle and upper classes to live some distance from the work place. The only exceptions to this tendency are the Watkins House, a two story Queen Anne-Colonial Revival house (c.1910), and the Wurzlow House, an elaborate one story Eastlake-Queen Anne Revival galleried structure. Many of the shotgun houses have side galleries and small rear side wings, which raises them above the shotgun houses normally found in working class areas. On the whole, the later the house within the historic period, the less pretentious it is likely to be. This tends to support the notion that Houma's more affluent residents evacuated the in town area in the '20's and '30's, leaving it to the cannery workers, foremen and such.

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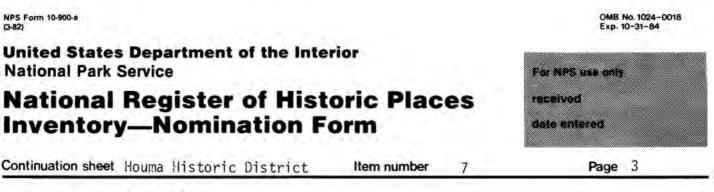
7. Description (cont'd)

The humble residences which remain in the district contribute more than a general association with the prosperity of the seafood industry. They form an interesting juxtaposition to the district's pretentious banks and other commercial buildings. This juxtaposition gives some insight into who was benefiting by the prosperity of the seafood industry and to what degree.

BREAKDOWN BY PERIODS:

pre-1865	1	building	1%
1865-1889	1	building	1%
1890-1910	23	buildings	19%
1911-1933	65	buildings	55%
non-contributing elements	28	buildings	24%

CONTINUED



7. Description (cont'd)

Intrusions:

The district's intrusions number about 24% of the overall building stock, which is within the normally acceptable range. In any case, the vast majority of intrusions are low scale innocuous post-1933 residences or commercial buildings which are dominated by the older structures. Many were built only a few years after 1933, and hence they are in keeping with the overall character of the district. In any case, there is no instance in which the intrusions are so numerous that the area exudes a modern feeling.

Contributing Elements:

The district's historic period was determined by the growth and boom in the local seafood industry (i.e., in the teens, '20's and '30's). After that time the industry began to move out of Houma and concentrate closer to the Gulf of Mexico. Hence any pre-1934 building which has not been altered beyond recognition is considered a contributing element for purposes of this application. Older structures which survived into the historic period are considered as contributing elements because they were part of the townscape during the boom and their occupants shared the commercial prosperity.

Alterations--Historic Buildings:

With very few exceptions, the only major alteration that the contributing commercial buildings have experienced is at the shopfront level. In a few cases the shopfront remains completely intact including the original plate glass. In many more cases the original fenestration remains, but the glass and the doors have been removed and replaced. In a few cases the new shopfront is in sharp contrast to the original architectural fabric. Despite these changes, it should be noted that in only a few cases does the renovated shopfront dominate the facade. Moreover, severely altered historic buildings have been counted as intrusions for purposes of this application. Hence those buildings which are counted as contributing elements are still easily recognizable as examples of their period. On the whole, the historic residences have experienced little in the way of alteration. A few have undergone minor alterations such as screened-in porches or the installation of aluminum awnings, but even these are relatively uncommon. NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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Description (continued)

HOUMA HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY

1. Indian Ridge Canning Company, Inc. (1917) 416 East Park Avenue

Structure was built by Armand St. Martin in 1917. Company founded in 1923. Originally built for an oyster shop. Upon completion of shrimp factory near Boudreaux Canal, structure was expanded to provide facilities and storage for shrimp. Tin gabled board and batten exterior; all cypress; central section has two stories; adjacent one-story wings; office space located in back warehouse; separate buildings joined by a small bridge.

12. 424 East Park Avenue (c.1970)

Non-contributing Element

One-story brick and concrete block commercial building with plate glass front.

3. Douthit Building (c.1880, c.1930) 432 East Park Avenue

> Creole house with an addition. The walls have bousillage; may have been moved from across the bayou c.1890. It has twelve-inch clapboarding on the side; six over six double hung windows; front structure made of concrete block was a store added c.1930.

4. C. P. Smith/Vogt Building (c.1900) 444 East Park Avenue

> Tin gabled Creole design, one and one-half stories; side addition recently added when the building was converted into a restaurant; open interior, wood and tin exterior, some portions of this structure filled with bousillage. Original front porch glazed in. Listed as a contributing element because its basic form and texture establish its architectural identity.

Contributing Element 5. The Music Store/Recording Studio (1931) 100-102 East Main Street

One-story commercial structure; plate glass windows.

Lewald/Sundberry Building (1929) 6. 104-120 East Main Street

> Structure built by Ignatius Lewald as a clothing and shoe store; portion of structure formerly used as a furniture store; brick rectangular structure; large commercial windows; pebble grain pressed tin interior ceiling; interior support posts; open interior; canopy over exterior entrances; gable parapet front.

Contributing Element

Contributing Element

Contributing Element

Contributing Element

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Inv	entory (continued)			
54.	Richard's Variety Store;Landry's Furniture Store 200-202 East Main Street	Non-contributing Element		
	Badly altered c.1910 structure. One-story brick concrete s aluminum and glass front windows; concrete exterior; rear o in 1954.	tructure; rectangular; f the building constructed		
8.	Saadi's Haberdashery (c.1930) 206 East Main Street	Contributing Element		
	One-story masonry construction with large plate glass windo	ws; gable parapet front.		
r9.	Stire Office Furniture and Supplies, Inc. (1947) 210 East Main Street	Non-contributing Element		
	One-story brick commercial structure with large plate glass	windows.		
10.	Rybiski Building/Johnny's Men's Shop (c.1930) 212 East Main Street	Contributing Element		
	One-story brick commercial structure with large plate glass	windows; stepped gable fron		
11.	Knights of Pythias/Fabregas Building (c.1900) 225 East Main Street	Contributing Element		
	Two-story brick commercial structure; open interior; aluminum and glass shopfront replacement. Building was always rather plain.			
12.	People's Bank/City Hall/Le Petit Theatre (1917) 305 East Main Street	Contributing Element		
	Two-story brick building; concrete front with Beaux Arts de windows set in front; steps from street to the building's f	corative style; small Front door.		
13.	Bonvillain Building/Bob's Cafe/Trahan's Barber Shop (c.1897 306-312 East Main Street			
	Two-story brick wedge shaped structure. First floor houses the second floor houses offices. Interior stairs, plate gl canopy.	commercial shops and ass windows, aluminum		
14.	Bank of Houma Building/Estate of Senator Allen J. Ellender 307 East Main Street	(c.1922) Contributing Elemer		
	Two-story brick and glazed brick structure, Beaux Arts wind chimneys, arched windows on the side, exterior staircase. cotta front.	low decorations, five side Only structure with terra		

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Inve	ntory (continued)	
15.	Clarence Wurzlow/Leopold Babin Building (c.1895) 309 East Main Street	Contributing Element
	One-story brick structure with brick curved parapet exteri six interior cast-iron pillars and pilasters.	or, open interior,
L ₁₆ .	Weyl's Jewelers (c.1979) 311 East Main Street	Non-contributing Element
	One-story brick commercial structure with rear extension.	
<i>с</i> 17.	Butler-Schwab Building (c.1978) 315 East Main Street	Non-contributing Element
	One-story brick commercial structure with two interior sho	ps.
- 18.	Terrebonne Parish Courthouse (1937) 400 East Main Street	Non-contributing Element
	Three-story Art Deco structure with covered walkway at rea	r connecting new addition.
19.	Old Houma Post Office (1934) 425 East Main Street	Contributing Element
	Two-story brick Georgian style structure with large ellipt Has pitched roof, Palladian type windows, and an interi five years the post office has been converted into a resta exterior effects. Listed as a contributing element becaus complements the district and it is nearly fifty years old.	or balcony. In the last urant with negligible e its eclectic styling
20.	Bank of Terrebonne/City Hall (1933) 500 East Main Street	Contributing Element
	The City Hall building is a two-story concrete structure a Deco style. Has limestone facade, marble floors, and marb	
21.	People's Drug Store (c.1930) 501 East Main Street	Contributing Element
	Two-story brick structure; first floor reserved for sales offices. Structure has several inlaid Art Deco plaques on exceptional streamlined turret.	
22.	Lee P. Lottinger Building/Earl Williams Clothing Store (c. 505 East Main Street	1930) Contributing Elemen
	One story rectangular structure, flat roof, brick walls, b large glass windows, remnants of much earlier structure un building.	rick front with entryway, doubtedly a part of this

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31.	Dr. H. P. St. Martin/Ellender, Wright & Wurzlow Office (c.188 625 East Main Street	35) Contributing Element				
	Creole structure adapted for office use; tin gabled roof; cla trim; front porch with single entrance; rear central chimney; pent dormer added c.1920.					
32.	A. V. Picone Building (1912) 653 East Main Street	Contributing Element				
	Plain one-story commercial building; large plate glass window over front walk; stepped parapet.	vs; aluminum awning				
33.	H. F. Belanger Company (1890-1900; remodeled in 1932) 655-657 East Main Street	Contributing Element				
	Large rectangular structure; gabled roof; glazed brick front; remodeled around 1932; formerly housed a drugstore, lounge and furniture store; gable parapet fronts.					
34.	Standard Furniture Company (1930) 300 Belanger Street	Contributing Element				
	One-story brick structure with large plate glass windows in t parapet front.	front and stepped				
35.	Montegut Insurance Company (c.1930) 310 Belanger Street	Contributing Element				
	One-story commercial building; brick and concrete exterior; ginterior; gable parapet front.	glass on front; open				
36.	Duval, Funderburk, Sundberry and Lovell Law Office (c.1975) 504 Belanger Street	Non-contributing Eleme				
	One-story brick commercial structure with small frosted windo					
37.	Theriot Home (c.1930) 622 Belanger Street	Contributing Element				
	Clapboard bungalow; hip roof with gable above; columned porch diamond decorations in transom.	n across front; wooden				
38.	Ferber Family Home (1932) 630 Belanger Street	Contributing Element				
	Bungalow with pillars, clapboarding, wrought iron, aluminum s moved from Barrow Street around 1952.	siding. House was				
39.	Dupont House (c.1930) 636 Belanger Street	Contributing Element				
	Clapboard bungalow;L-shaped front porch which is screened-in.	e (

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40.	Finance One (c.1970) 206 School Street	Non-contributing Eleme		
	One-story brick commercial structure with large plate glas	s windows.		
41.	Grinage/Elward Wright House (c.1840) 302 School Street	Contributing Element		
	Creole structure with later additions; built by one of the earlier settlers of Houma and occupied by two of Houma's mayors; probably Houma's oldest residence; Greek Revival is present on front of the structure; pillars; flatboards under front porch, rear dormers, one and one-half stories; glass fan shaped insert over front door; garage attachment to the rear.			
42.	Wallis House/ <u>Houma</u> <u>Courier</u> Building (c.1930) 312 School Street	Contributing Element		
	Original brick house was built prior to 1850's and a brick added to the original building c.1930. Old part has a gab of these buildings have been altered to accommodate the pr of the <u>Courier</u> . There are large plate glass windows in th staircase.	led roof. The interior esses of the news corps		
43.	First Methodist Church/Terrebonne Parish Public Works (192 500 School Street	1) Contributing Element		
	Two-story elegant brick classical style structure with fro staircase leading to second floor. Has a gable roof, with converted to offices; second floor more open but the expos leave no doubt about the building's original purpose.	interior first floor		
44.	Claude Duval Building (c.1930) 509 School Street	Contributing Element		
	Clapboard bungalow, gable roof, porch with 3 wood and bric	k columns, 2 front entrance		
45.	Clifford P. Smith/T. Baker Smith House (c.1880;1919) 510 School Street	Contribtuing Element		
	Bungalow, gabled, two central chimneys, two side dormers. which was added to and renovated in the bungalow style in			
46.	Kerwin/Albert C. Houtz Insurance Agencies, Inc. (c.1890) 518 School Street	Contributing Element		
	Creole structure, gabled, central dormer, central decorati exterior shutters, central end chimney, scroll brackets un trim, one end chimney.			

47. c. 1920 bungalow with plain details

Contributing Element

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57.	Ane/Bogan House (c.1895) 317 Canal Street	Contributing Element		
	Victorian structure; tin gabled; clapboarding; front porch one-story; asbestos siding; double front door; aluminum br	; addition on the rear; rows.		
58.	Lafayette Drug Store/Lee's Teacher Aids (c.1930) 210 Lafayette Street	Contributing Element		
	One-story plain brick commercial structure.			
- 59.	Henderson, Hanemann and Morris, Attorneys (c.1947) 300 Lafayette Street	Non-contributing Element		
	Two-story brick commercial structure.			
60.	Norbert Bonvillain/Eschete Credit Collection (c.1920) 310 Lafayette Street	Contributing Element		
	Creole structure; aluminum siding; bungalow bases but colu porch; one and one-half stories; dormers.	umns replaced on front		
61.	Mrs. Paul Adams' House (1920) 316 Lafayette Street	Contributing Element		
	Creole structure; asbestos siding; gabled roof; flush boar wooden pilasters on corner of structure.	rds under front porch;		
62.	St. Martin/J. Louis Watkins House (c.1890) 326 Lafayette Street	Contributing Element		
	Queen Anne Revival structure with gambrel roof; one exteri front room extension; rounded end corners on front porch; constructed on house c.1910; boards under house are pegged	dormers; rear addition		
63.	Alphonse Dupont/J. Washington Watkins House/Babin Real Est 400 Lafayette Street	tate (c.1910) Contributing Element		
	Victorian structure; two stories; semicircular porches on room on both levels; Victorian trim; decorative corners un interior remodeling; asbestos siding; hip gabled roof; rea columns; beveled room in rear of structure.	nder the eaves; some		
-64.	Residential (c.1950) 404 Lafayette Street	Non-contributing Element		
	Two-story residence with clapboard exterior and asbestos gabled roof.			

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83.	Charles Ledet House/Royce Pierce Arc 300 Grinage Street	hitects (c.1926)	Contributing Element		
	Spanish styled structure; two marble fireplaces; eight concrete Persian p on porch front; pyramidal capped roo	illars with acanthus	tiles in front of leaves; stucco exterior		
84.	Floyd Tidwell House (c.1915) 306 Grinage Street		Contributing Element		
	Shotgun with bungalow styling; clapb porch.	oarding; door with in	laid colored glass; front		
85.	Pipes and Pipes Attorneys (c.1938) 312 Grinage Street		Non-contributing Elemen		
	One-story clapboard structure covere	d with brick front.			
86.	Oscar Daspit/O'Neal Building (c.1930 300-306 Church Street)	Contributing Element		
	Two-story brick structure with decor the Art Deco style; large plate glas cast-iron recessed door.	ative brickwork indica s windows on the firs	ating the influence of t floor; decorative fluted		
87.	Latour's Jewelers/Funderburk Insuran 308-310 Church Street	ce Agency (c.1950)	Non-contributing Elemen		
	One-story brick commercial structure	with large plate glas	ss windows.		
88.	Terrebonne Motors (c.1926) 318 Church Street		Contributing Element		
	Rectangular commercial structure; br an X design around windows and doors story has a stucco exterior; steel f	; large windows with	aid cast-iron blocks with aluminum sashes; second		
89.	Percy Wallis/Donald L. Bergeron Hous 400 Church Street	e (c.1918)	Contributing Element		
	Late Queen Anne Revival residence; h clapboarding; curved front porch aro	ip gabled roof; press und forty percent of	ed tin "shingle" roof; the structure.		
90.	Calvin Wurzlow House (c.1897) 424 Church Street		Contributing Element		
	Large frame Queen Anne Revival cotta in gables.	Large frame Queen Anne Revival cottage with Eastlake gallery and imbricated shingles			

V

OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82) Exp. 10-31-84 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service For NPS use only National Register of Historic Places received Inventory—Nomination Form date entered Continuation sheet Houma Historic District 7 Item number Page 15 Inventory (continued) Non-contributing Element NC 91. Ledet Insurance Building (c.1950) 209 Goode Street Three-story brick commercial structure with large plate glass windows on first floor. Contributing Element 92. Thatcher Hotel/Executive Center (c.1930) 309 Goode Street Four-story & two story sections; vaguely classical commercial structure; flat roof; open interior on bottom floor: originally built as an apartment building. Nº 93. Duval-Whitney-Stevenson, Inc. Insurance (c.1965) Non-contributing Element 311 Goode Street One-story brick commercial structure. 94. James Fields/Foolkes House (c.1930) Contributing Element 317 Goode Street Present structure remodeled over the years from a Creole cottage; gambrel roof; clapboarding; beveled room on the side; large dormer; circular front porch; tin formed concrete blocks as pillars. Nº 95. H. C. Wurzlow Corporation (c.1970) Non-contributing Element 415 Goode Street One-story brick commercial structure. Nº 96. Waitz, Downer & Best Lawyers (c.1970) Non-contributing Element 423 Goode Street Half brick residential structure with asbestos gabled roof. Knights of Columbus Hall (c.1955) Non-contributing Element 197. 501 Goode Street One-story brick commercial structure with frosted glass windows. 98. Gibson J. Autin, Sr. House (1919) Contributing Element 521 Goode Street Bungalow; hip gabled roof; brick pillars on front; brick and wood on the side; clapboarding; glass panels in front door and over front windows; aluminum awnings added. 99. Jaccuzzo House/Gordon Hamner Lawyer (c.1928) Contributing Element 60 Goode Street Plain clapboard bungalow.

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Contin	uation sheet Houma Historic District Item number 7	Page 16
Inven	tory (continued)	
100.		Contributing Element
	Small bungalow; gabled roof; decorative bargeboards; for foundations; stucco pillars and brick posts under	brackets; brick pillars front porch.
101.	Jaccuzzo House (c.1930) 611 Goode Street	Contributing Element
	Bungalow; gabled roof; decorative bargeboards; bracke roof covering; double front door; bungalow pillars of	ts; tin designed pattern wood and stucco.
102,	Jaccuzzo House (c.1930) 613 Goode Street	Contributing Element
	Small bungalow; gabled roof; decorative bargeboards; of brick and wood.	brackets; bungalow posts
103.	Jaccuzzo House (c.1930) 623 Goode Street	Contributing Element
	Small bungalow; hip gabled roof; decorative bargeboar posts of brick and wood.	ds; brackets; bungalow
104.	Leopold Blum House (c.1900) 313 Roussell Street	Contributing Element
	Two stories; bungalow front added c.1925; pressed tir roof; double wood pillars; aluminum awnings.	n shingles on gabled
105.	de la Bretonne House (1924) 319 Roussell Street	Contributing Element
	Two-story clapboard Colonial Revival house; small fro four columns; side porch closed-in.	ont entrance porch with
106.	Dausset/Aitken's House (c.1920) 410 Roussell Street	Contributing Element
	Clapboard bungalow; brick under wood pillars; bracket	ts; central chimney.
107.	Terrebonne Parish Public Library (c.1942) 424 Roussell Street	Non-contributing Element
	One-story masonry construction with large iron framed	d windows.
108.	F. Percy Theriot House/Greenburg Law Offices (1919) 502 Roussell Street	Contributing Element

Bungalow; one and one-half stories; brackets.

Exp. 10-31-84 (3-82) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service For NPS use only National Register of Historic Places received Inventory—Nomination Form date entered 17 Continuation sheet Houma Historic District Page Item number 7 Inventory (continued) 109. LeBlanc House (c.1930) Contributing Element 510 Roussell Street Clapboard bungalow; brick and wood posts; gabled roof with one roof sloping to side. LeBlanc House (c.1930) 110. Contributing Element 514 Roussell Street Clapboard bungalow; gabled roof; posts made of brick with double wood posts on top; curving front porch. 111. Clay Chauvin/Troxler House (c.1890) Contributing Element 522 Roussell Street Small Creole house; gabled; asbestos siding; Victorian trim under front porch; rear shotgun added c.1929. 112. Albert Aucoin House (c.1890) Contributing Element Roussell Street Shotgun; front and side porch; porch closed to make apartments; Victorian trim. \$113. Non-contributing Element Roussell Street Badly remodeled older house--one story brick with asbestos residence. 114. Cenac House (c.1900) Contributing Element 622 Roussell Street Shotgun with L-shaped front porch; Victorian posts; clapboarding; hip gabled. 115. Scarlett Scoop (c.1930) Contributing Element 300 Barrow Street Spanish villa design with tile roof; formerly a service station. Contributing Element 116. Duplantis House (c.1925) 308 Barrow Street Bungalow; end chimney; dormer; stucco pillars with wooden dentils. U**117. Conoco Station (1940) Non-contributing Element 318 Barrow Street Art Deco with curved tile walls.

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**Because there is a building labeled 73A, there are actually 118 buildings in the district.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art X commerce communications		Iandscape architecture Iaw Iiterature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
---	--	--	---	---

Specific dates c,1910-1933 Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion A

N/A

The Houma Historic District is locally significant in the area of commerce because it represents the rise to preeminence in the teens, twenties and thirties of the Terrebonne Parish seafood industry and the resulting prosperity.

The Development of Houma's Seafood Industry:

Houma developed as a sugar processing and shipping center for Terrebonne Parish in the nineteenth century. This importance was recognized in 1872 when the Southern Pacific Railroad extended a branch line to the city. But in the beginning of the twentieth century the local sugar economy experienced a downturn. Disease, local floods, and inadequate tarrifs forced the closure of numerous sugar mills.

The town's economy, however, was sustained by local sawmills and the already well established seafood industry. Local commercial fishing seems to date back to the mid-nineteenth century. Canning began in 1867. The local lumber industry does not seem to have been of great importance in Terrebonne Parish. It received no mention in Louisiana: A Guide to the State, which gives the economic history of the parish. In any case, the progress of the lumber industry in Terrebonne Parish undoubtedly paralleled the overall course of lumbering in southern Louisiana (i.e., general prosperity around 1900 and decline in the 1920's as the available timber played out).

But in contrast to lumber, Houma's local seafood industry stood on the verge of spectacular growth as the teens ended. Terrebonne, the state's third largest parish, is nearly a third water. It also has the largest share of wetlands of any parish. Houma was ideally sited to exploit these wetlands, as well as the Gulf of Mexico, because of its proximity to Bayou Terrebonne and to several other bayous which fan out from Bayou Terrebonne. Shrimp and oystersbecame the mainstays of Houma's seafood industry. Shrimp canning in Houma grew almost fourfold between 1897 and 1918. Growth in the shrimp harvest was further accelerated by the improvement in the haul seine and by the introduction of the motorized trawler.

By 1880 the seine, a long horizontal net, had become standard gear in the shrimp industry. By 1915 Houma shrimpers used 268 seines. When boats with engines came into use, the seines increased in size. Two men in a rowboat handled the early seines which had one-half inch mesh and measured one hundred and twenty by ten feet. Seines grew to a maximum of eighteen hundred feet long with a width of fourteen feet in the center, tapering off to seven feet at the ends. Extremely longseines required crews of up to twenty men. Also, the mechanized trawler became commonplace and reduced the cost of manpower. These mechanized trawlers allowed shrimpers to travel farther from port, following schools of shrimp as they crisscrossed the Gulf of Mexico. The result of these new developments was that the shrimp harvest doubled in one year, from 16 million pounds in 1919 to over 32 million in 1920. As the 1920's progressed, fully a quarter of Louisiana's amnual shrimp yield was caught in the Terrebonne wetlands

CONTINUED

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

	al Data		
Acreage of nominated property@_: Quadrangle nameHouma,LA UTM References	30 acres		Quadrangle scale <u>1:24000</u>
A 115 7 210 31410 317 Zone Easting Northin	7 6 1 0 0	B 1 5 Zone	7 2 0 9 2 0 3 3 7 16 3 16 10 Easting Northing
c 115 721021610 313	7 5 4 0 0	D 115	721081810 3137581610
		F L H _	
Verbal boundary description and See map and continuation s			
List all states and counties for p state N/A	roperties over	rlapping state or co county	ounty boundaries
state	code	county	code
11. Form Prepar		county	code
Division of His organization State of Louisi street & number P. O. Box 44247	ana	da	ate July 1983 Iephone 504-342-6682
F. U. DUX 44247			
city or town Baton Rouge			ate LA 70804 Officer Certification
city or town Baton Rouge 12. State Histor The evaluated significance of this pro national As the designated State Historic Pres 665), I hereby nominate this property according to the criteria and procedure	ic Pres perty within the state ervation Officer for inclusion in res set forth by	ervation state is: <u>X</u> local for the National Histor the National Register	Officer Certification
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city or town Baton Rouge 12. State Histor The evaluated significance of this pro- national As the designated State Historic Press 665), I hereby nominate this property according to the criteria and procedur State Historic Preservation Officer significance title State Historic Preservation Officer significance For NPS use only I hereby certify that this propert Mathematican State Historic Preservation I hereby certify that this propert	ic Pres perty within the state ervation Officer for inclusion in res set forth by mature	ervation state is: <u>X</u> local for the National Histor the National Register the National Park Server Robert B. DeBli cer	oric Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- and certify that it has been evaluated vice.
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Continuation sheet Houma Historic District Item number 8

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Page 2

Significance (cont'd)

and was processed largely through Houma.

The shrimp were unloaded at Houma and the surrounding area and either dried or canned. The drying process was long and arduous. First, they were cooked in "salted water," which originally was heated by wood fires. The cooked shrimp were carried in wheelbarrows to a crude wooden platform and distributed in a thin layer. Two or three days of hot dry weather were required to sun dry shrimp. It was necessary every evening to sweep the shrimp into piles and cover them with tarpaulins at night as a protection from dew or when it rained. After the shrimp were dried the shells had to be removed. Canned or dried shrimp were then shipped to all parts of the United States. To this day, Terrebonne leads all other parishes in shrimp production.

In addition, Houma's residents claimed that they rivaled Baltimore, Maryland as the oyster capital of the world. The decision to use seeded oyster beds instead of natural reefs not only improved flavor, but also increased production to nearly 200,000,000 oysters annually. The oysters were dredged from the Gulf floor along the many inlets and bays of Terrebonne Parish and brought to the processing plants where they were subjected to blasts of steam that forced them to open. The meats were removed, washed and placed in tins for canning and marketing. To this day Houma is still a major producer of oysters.

Houma as the Center of Terrebonne's Seafood Industry:

Houma is, and has always been, the only incorporated town in Terrebonne Parish. The Statewide Comprehensive Historic Sites Survey also reveals that Houma is the only settlement in the parish which is more than merely a collection of a dozen or so residences. Undoubtedly none of the parish's other settlements could have rivaled Houma as an industrial shipping and packing center. None has a fish packingprocessing plant, while Houma retains one. Finally, in 1920 the vast majority of Terrebonne's fishing fleet (497 trawlers) operated out of Houma.

The District as Representative of the Seafood Industry:

As with many historic industrial operations, the actual apparatus associated with Houma's seafood industry during the teens, twenties and early thirties has largely dissappeared. This leaves the town center and associated residential area as the closest link with Houma's maritime economic growth.

The district retains one Seafood processing house. In addition, many of the district's major structures were built during the peak years of the seafood boom. These include the city hall (which was built as a bank), the Peoples City Bank, the Bank of Houma, the Woolworth Building, the Houma Courier Building, and the

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Continuation sheet Houma Historic District Item number 8

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3

Significance (cont'd)

First Methodist Church. Overall, more than half of the district's historic structures were built during these years (c.1910-1933). Moreover, the older structures which survived into this period were a part of the thriving townscape which was the focal point of the seafood industry.

The Importance of the Seafood Industry to Terrebonne Parish:

In Terrebonne Parish, as in much of Louisiana, agriculture was in a depressed state, for the most part, in the early-twentieth century. Terrebonne was one of relatively few parishes during this period with a prosperous economic base due, in large part, to phenomenal growth in the local seafood industry. The harvesting of shrimp and oysters transformed what would have been something of a backwater into a thriving production area. It created an economic force so strong that prosperity continued even after the Depression hit.

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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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10. Boundary Justification

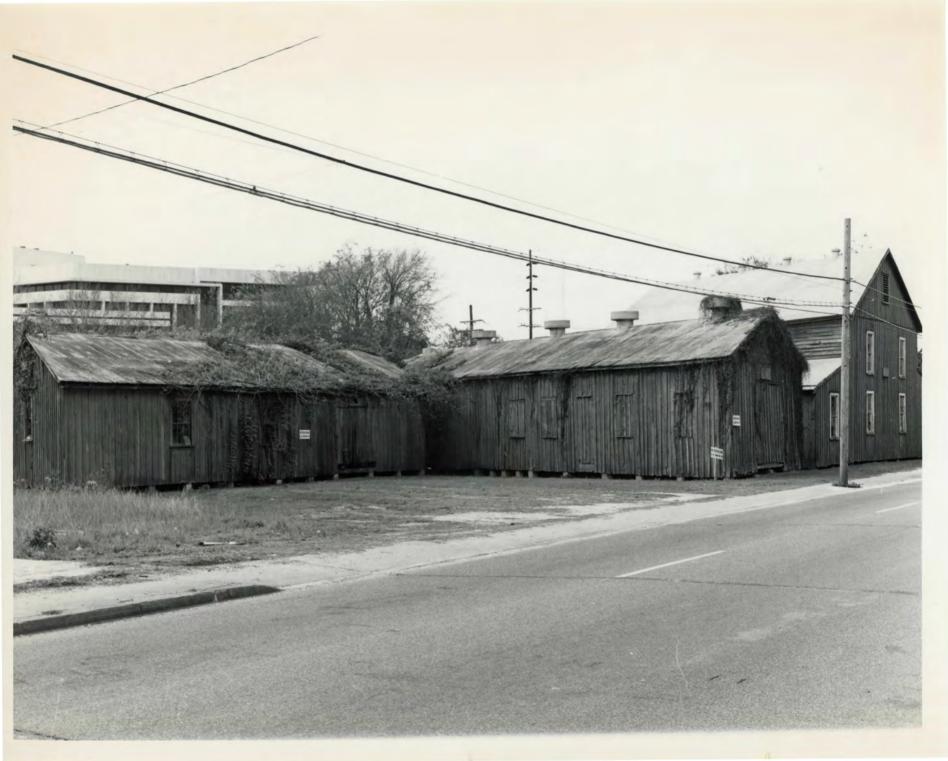
The Houma Historic District is a difficult resource to define and delineate. To some extent the area remained prosperous in the mid-twentieth century. So many buildings in the downtown area were modified beyond recognition. In other cases new buildings were built in the vicinity of the central business district.

Historic district boundaries were drawn to recognize the central concentration which contains most of Houma's pre-1934 structures. The Courthouse Square (Building #13) was included in the district because, despite the fact that the present courthouse dates from 1937, the landscaped square with its old live oaks dates back to the first half of the nineteenth century.

On the whole, the district was delineated on a block by block basis. If a block had at least fifty percent potential contributing elements, it was included in the district. The only area which was deleted was the west side of the blocks between Verret and Bond Streets along Canal. This area was excluded from the district because there is very little historic fabric remaining there.

Outside the Boundaries:

There are other small groupings of 50+ year old structures beyond the boundaries, but they are not contiguous and are not linked with the main downtown historic core. The district's continuous streetscape character terminates at the boundaries. Almost all of the structures west of the district are considerably less than fifty years old. Between Goode and Lafayette Streets there is a modern courthouse annex, a late 1930's neo-Gothic church, a modern church-school complex and a cemetery. East of the district is a 1940's and '50's residential area. The area between Main and Belanger Streets is occupied by a large modern bank. Some distance north of the district is a mixed older residential area, but it has no visual link with the historic commercial and industrial center which is the focus of this nomination.



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldg: #1 SOUTHWEST General View #1

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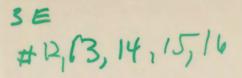


#5,6,58,59,60,61,62,63

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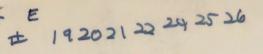
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 5, 6, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 West General View #2





Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 East General View #3





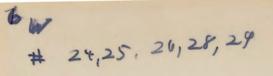
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26 EAST General View #4



W 20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 West General View #5





Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 West General View #6



8 E # 31, 32, 33

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #31, 32, 33 East

General View #7



8 w # 37, 38,39

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #37, 38, 39 West

General View # 8



48,49

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Blgs. # 48, 49 West General View #9



44,94

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 44, 94, 92 in background WEST General View # 10



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA

Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 54, 55 East General View #11



60,61,62,63

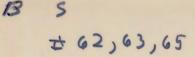


Lafaijette from School looking South

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. # 60, 61, 62, 63, 65 South

General View #12





Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB §&6, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #62, 63, 65 South General View # 13



14 5 # 70, 71, 72, 73, 74

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Houma Historic District
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Paul Leslie
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November 1982
Bldgs. # 70, 71, 72, 73 + 73 A , 74
South
General View #14
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S

72, 73, 74, 75

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. 73, 73 A, 74, 75 South General View # 15



16 N # 76,77,78,79,80

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Houma Historic District
Terrebonne Parish, LA
Paul Leslie
POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301
November 1982
Bldgs. # 78-80
North
General View # 16
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207 S ≠ 83,84,85

Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. 84 + 85 South General View # 17



18 S ≇41

> Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldg. # 41 South General View #18



19 5 # 89,90

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Houma Historic District
Terrebonne Parish, LA
Paul Leslie
POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301
November 1982
Bldgs. #89, 90
South General View #19
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NB: The church in the background dates from the late-1930's and is outside the district boundaries.



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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #95, 96 South General View #20

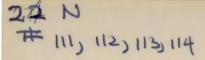
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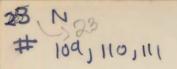
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Houma Historic District
Terrebonne Parish, LA
Paul Leslie
POB 946, Thibodaux, LA 70301
November 1982
Bldgs. # 99, 100, 101, 102, 103
North
General View #21
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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 November 1982 Bldgs. #111, 112, 113, 114 North General view #22





Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie POB 946, Thibodaux, LA 7030T November 1982 Bldgs. 109,110,111 North General View #23



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #8 South



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #10 South



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #12 North



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #13 South

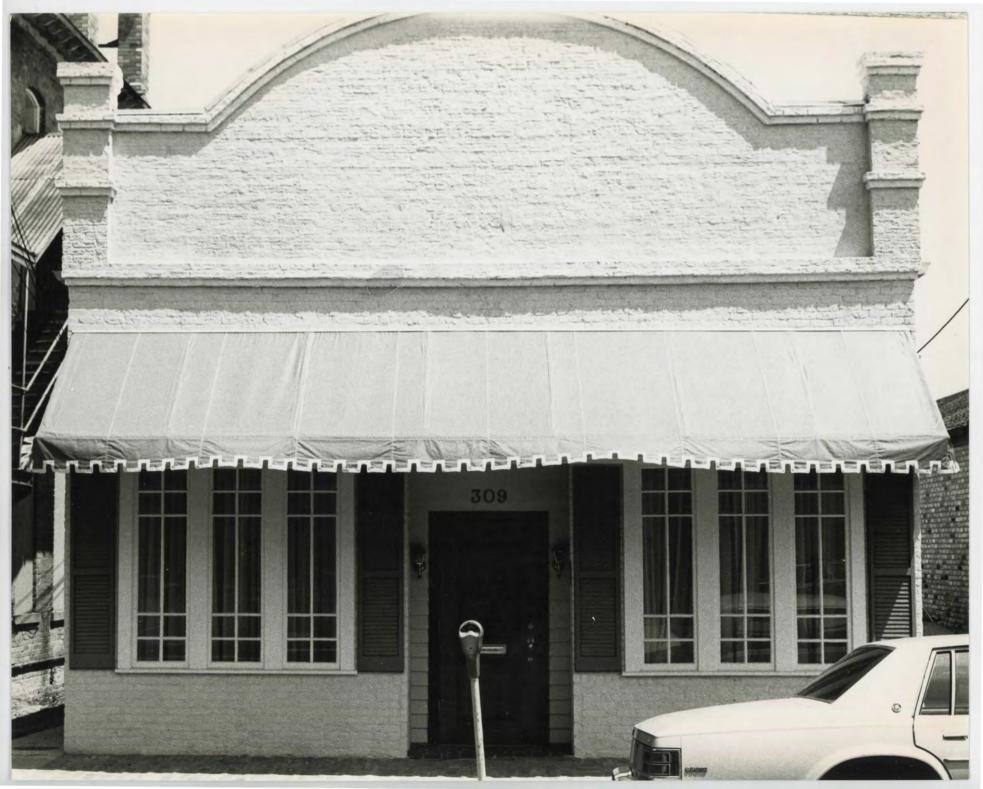
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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #14 North

14

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #15 North



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #19 Northwest



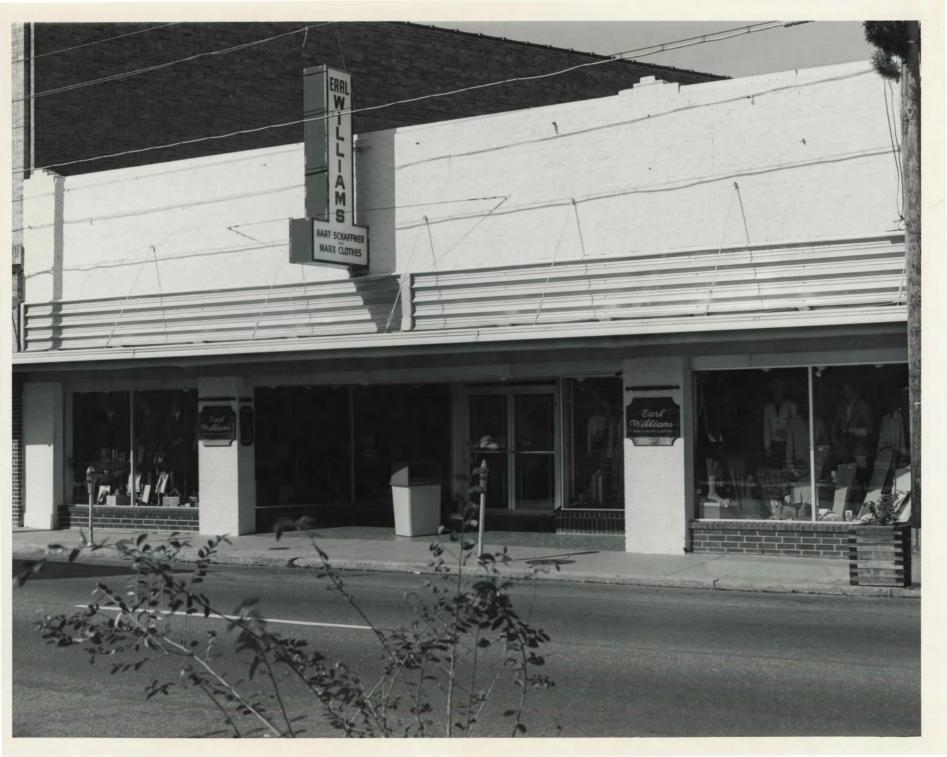
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #20 East

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 346, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #21 Northeast



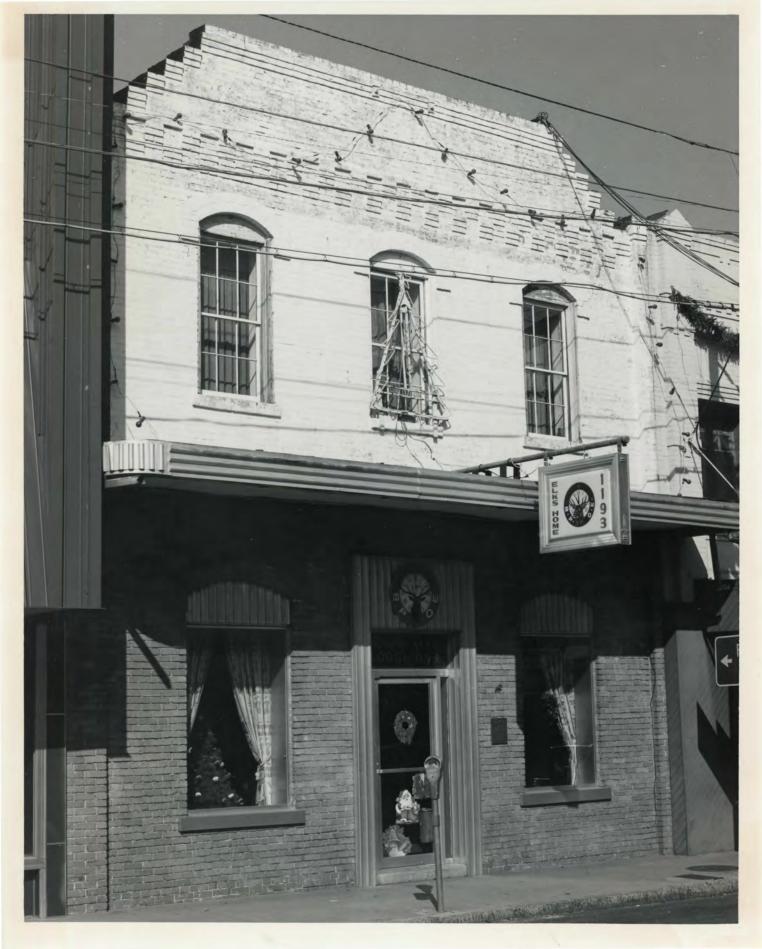
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22

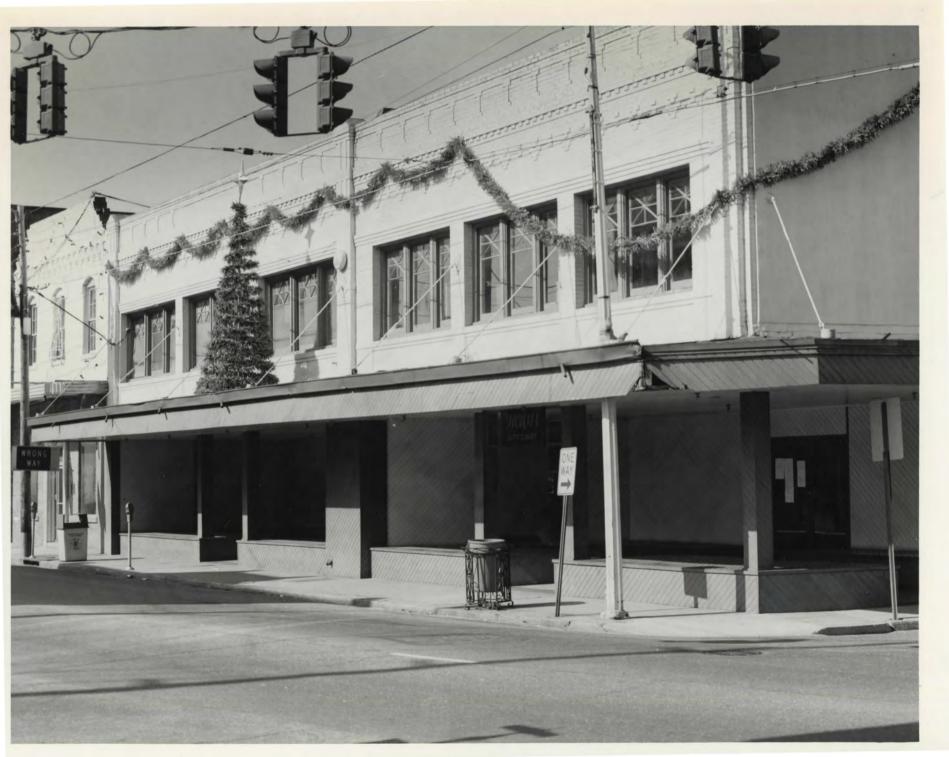


Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #23 Southeast

23 SE



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #25 North 2

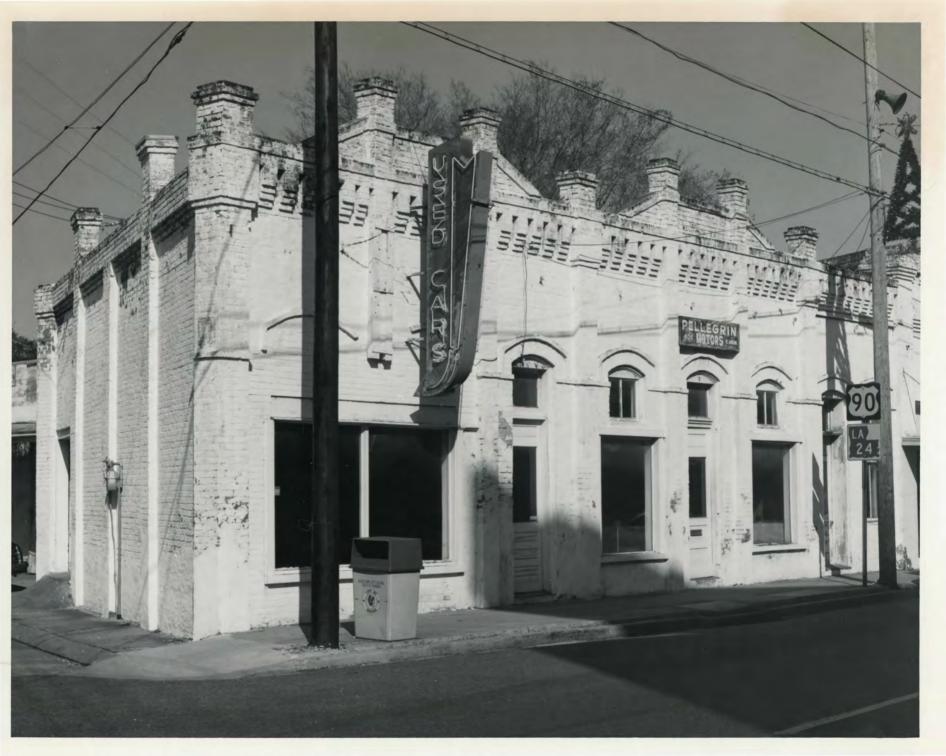


Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #26 Northwest

26 NW



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #27 Southwest



28 NE

> Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #28 Northeast



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #31 North

NOVEMBER 1982

HOUMA HISTORIC DISTRIC



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #33 North

33

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #37 South



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #39 South



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #41 Southeast

41 SE



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #43 Southwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #44 Northwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #46 Southeast

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SE



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #49 North

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #54 North

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #55 North

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #61 West

6



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #62 West



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #63 West



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #71 West



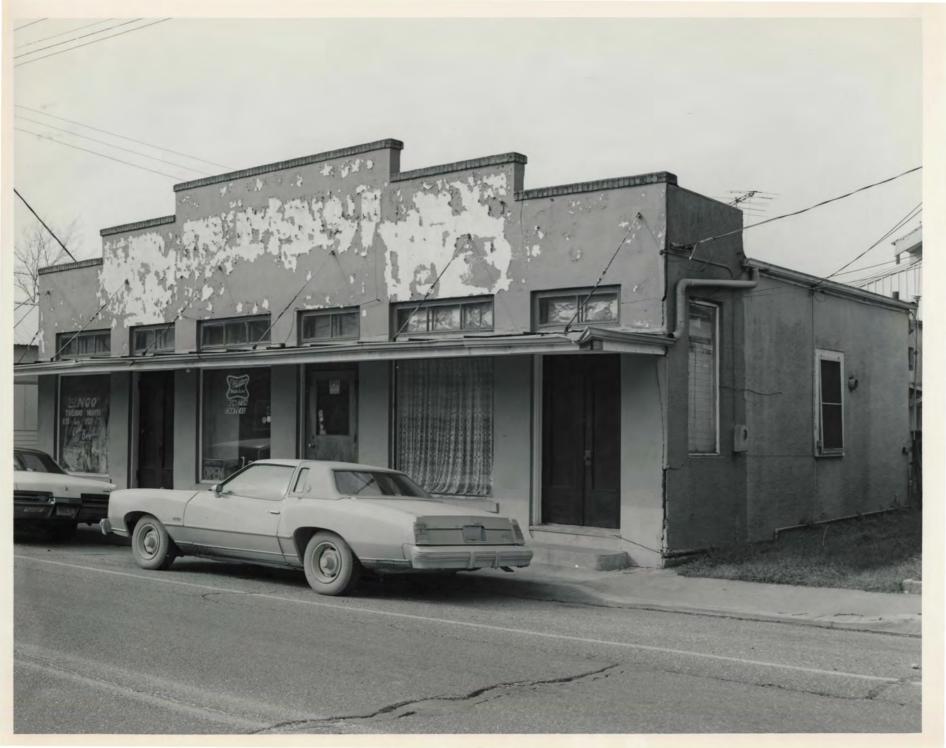
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #72 West

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #73A Southwest

7.3 &W



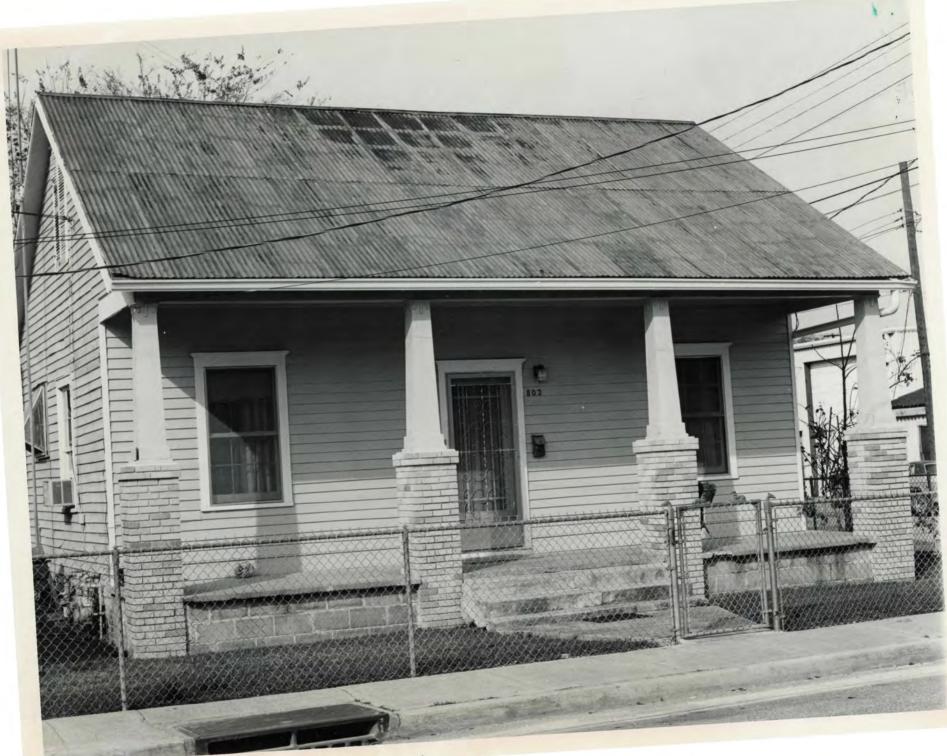
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #74 Southwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #76 Southwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #77 Southwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #79 West

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #82 Northeast

NE.



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #83 East

83 E



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #84 East

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #86 East



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #89 Southwest

89 5w



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #90 West

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #92 Southeast



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #100 Northeast

NE



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #101 Northeast

101 NE



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #102 East

107

E



103 NE

> Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #103 Northeast



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #104 East



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #106 West

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J



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #109 West

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #110 West

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Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #111 West



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #114 Northwest

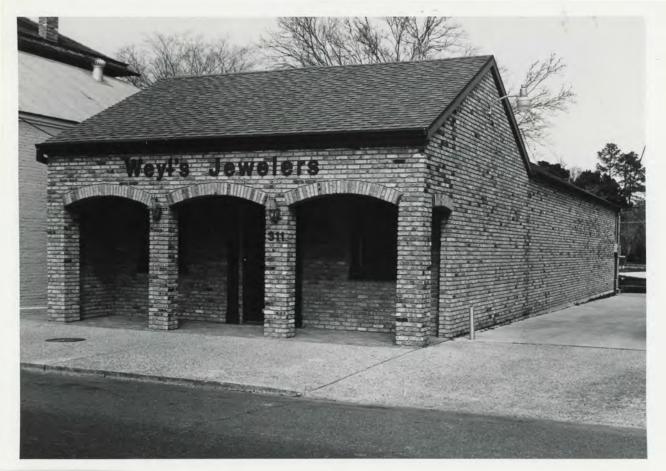
NW



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #115 Northwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #116 West



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #16 North



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #17 Northwest



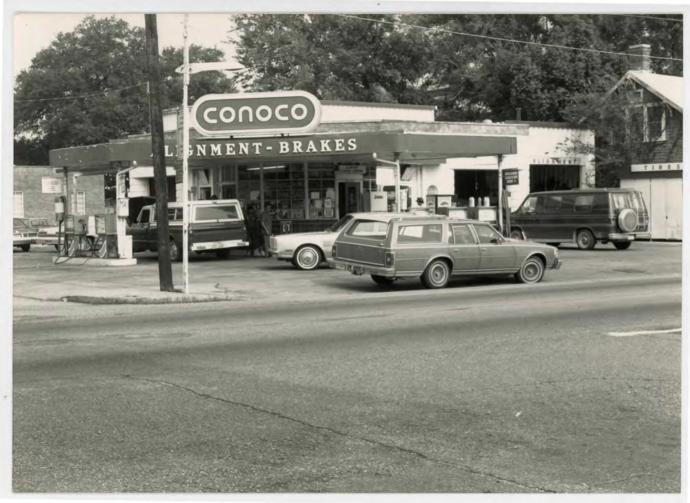
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #30 North



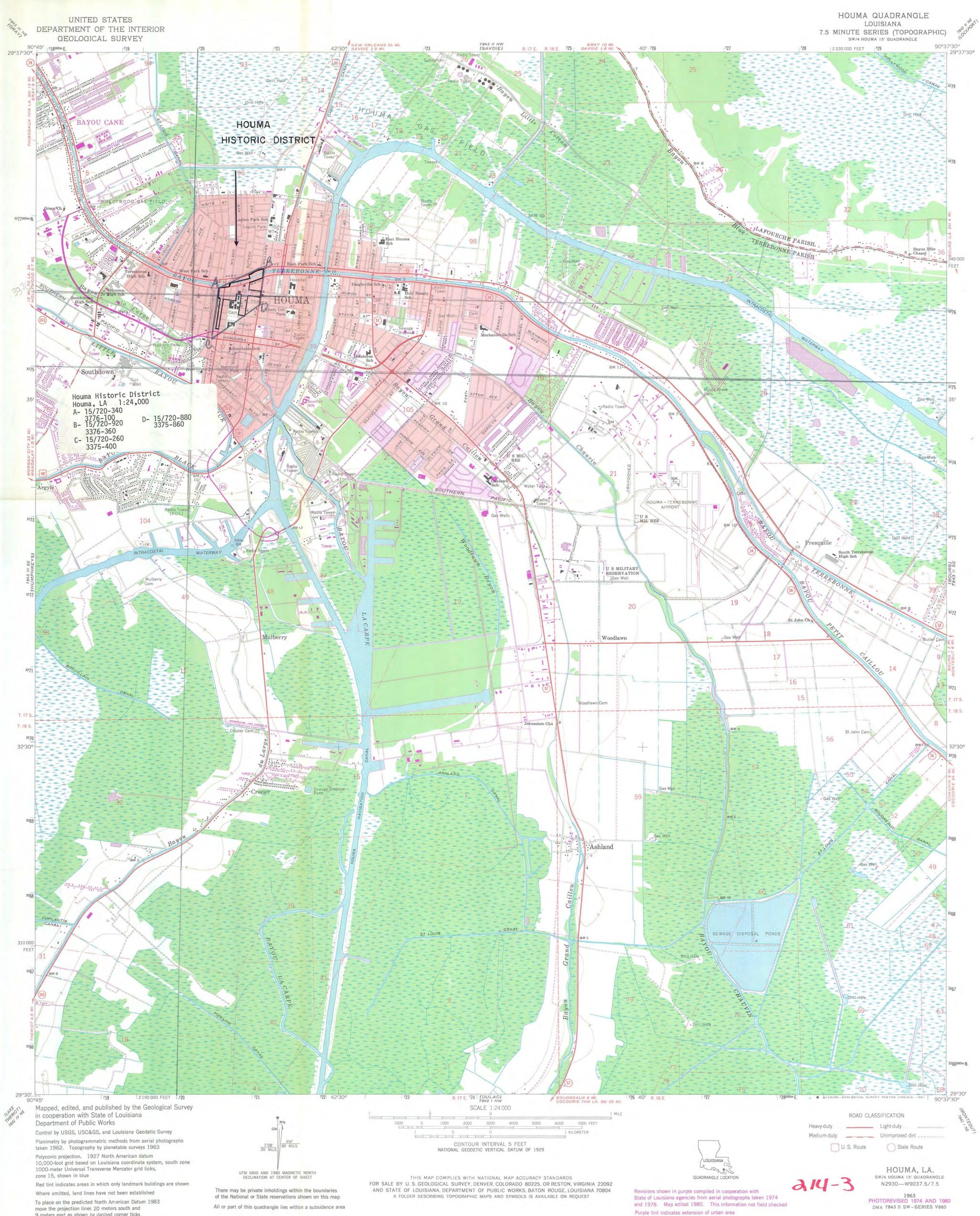
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #59 Southwest



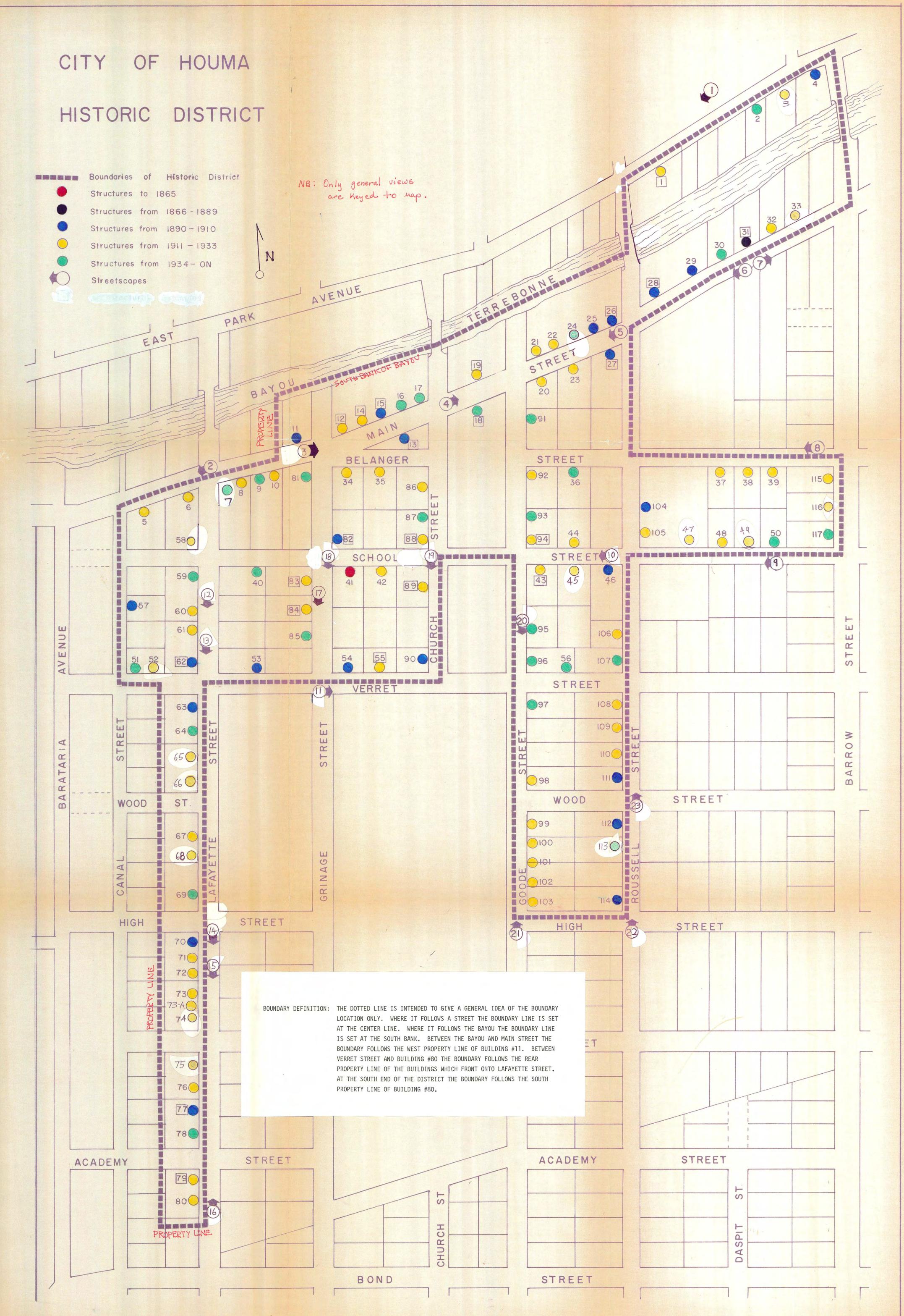
Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #107 Northwest



Houma Historic District Terrebonne Parish, LA Paul Leslie November 1982 POB 846, Thibodaux, LA 70301 Building #117 Northwest



9 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks



SCALE: 1'' = 100' + -

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2015

NPS Form 10-900-a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Section number 7 Page 1

- 1. Houma Historic District Additional Documentation
- 2. State/Federal Agency Certification
- 3. As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this is nomination request for determination of eligibility meets, meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of certifying official/Title: Phil Boggan, State Historic Preservation Officer

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

- 5. Number of Resources Within Property
- Contributing Buildings: 85
- Non-contributing buildings: 21
- · Buildings previously listed on National Register: 90 contributing buildings in original district
- Updating period of significance for existing district changes 15 buildings from non-contributing to contributing. 6 contributing buildings now change to non-contributing due to inappropriate alterations.

Section 7:

Summary Paragraph:

The purpose of this addendum is to update the period of significance for the Houma Historic District, which was listed on the National Register in 1983, and has not been evaluated since that time for Register purposes. The district includes commercial, institutional and residential buildings. The current period of significance ends in 1933, following the Register's then 50 year cutoff. The present submission will bring the period of significance up to the present 50 year cutoff – 1965. As part of the update, a new inventory is provided as well as a new district map.

The new non-contributing rate is 20%. By updating the period of significance to 1965, the contributing/non-contributing status of 27 buildings changes (6 from contributing to non-contributing and 19 from non-contributing to contributing – these are noted in the inventory). There were 118 buildings in the original district. Today, there are 106 due to the demolition of 21 buildings and the introduction of new construction post 1983 into the district.

Buildings Constructed Between 1933 and 1965:

The researcher is hampered in determining the exact date of various 1930s buildings by the lack of city directories for this period. The only extant 1930s city directory is dated 1938-39. Sanborn maps skip from 1931 to 1947. The preparers of the 1983 documentation optimistically used the date circa 1930 for many of the

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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buildings with an Art Deco or Art Moderne look and called them contributing. At that time, buildings were not researched in Sanborn maps or other sources. A date was given in the field based on the architectural style. But we now know that Art Deco or Art Moderne, at least in Louisiana, can be seen into the early 1940s (and occasionally as late as the early 1950s). Indeed, research for this update has demonstrated that a few 1930s buildings were actually not contributing at the time of the 1983 nomination. For example, the Art Deco Bank of Terrebonne (dated 1933 in the 1983 inventory) has now been documented to date to 1938.

The foregoing makes it challenging to agree upon which 1933-1965 buildings are within the scope of this update – due to errors in the old inventory. In consultation with the LA SHPO, only those buildings previously labeled non-contributing that are now contributing will be denoted in the inventory with Period of Significance Update in parenthesis at the end of the entry. For clarification, those buildings we now know to have been incorrectly dated, but counted as contributing in 1983, will bear the notation "counted as contributing in 1983."

The following is a brief overview, in broad strokes, of the buildings within the 1934 to 1965 period in the existing boundaries that are being changed from non-contributing to contributing because they are now 50 years old.

Two of the now contributing buildings exhibit the Art Deco and Streamlined Moderne styles. While predominately Classical Revival, the monumental Terrebonne Parish Courthouse (1937; #19; Photo 13) has notable Art Deco details. A bit removed from the heart of downtown, at the corner of Barrow and Main, is a fully developed c. 1940 Streamlined Moderne gas station (#52; Photos 14-15).

A few of the new contributing buildings have a decidedly modern look and feel to them, but they cannot be "pushed" into a style category. They are not architect designed, rather a shopkeeper wanting that up-to-date look, but on a budget. Landry's Furniture (#24; foreground of Photo 1) is an older building with a new (1940s) façade featuring pronounced linear bands in the upper façade (suggesting the Streamlined Moderne look) and a shopfront of brushed aluminum and sheet metal painted blue.

There are fourteen buildings in the district from the post-WWII period (specifically, built after the 1947 Sanborn map and before 1965). One, the former Terrebonne Parish Library (#55, Photo 23), is backward-looking for a building constructed in 1953 (having a stripped down Deco look). Two post-war buildings are small one story professional office buildings of a type quite common in post-war American small towns (#s 44 & 72, Photos 19, 21, 22). Another (#38, Photo 16), with its red brick "colonial" look, illustrates the historic revivalism that remained an undercurrent in the face of the dominant modernism of the period. Easily the largest of the post-war buildings is the three-story Ledet Building, built c.1960 across from the courthouse to house professional offices (#76, Photos 11-12). Four of the post-WWII buildings are residences.

INVENTORY

Dating buildings: Where possible, buildings were dated using Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. maps (1898, 1907, 1912, 1924, 1931 and 1947). City directories were of more limited value, for the earliest extant directory for Houma is 1938-39. Where primary sources were not available, buildings were given a circa date based upon their architectural style.

Non-contributing buildings are those less than 50 years old and 50 plus year old buildings that have been severely altered. Decisions on non-contributing due to alterations were made on a case-by-case basis based on the

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nature of the alterations and the visual strength of the surviving historic features. Typically, it is the storefront level that has been modified or totally replaced. To give an example: For two story buildings with replaced storefronts, it is easier for alterations to be visually dominant if they are notable and the upper façade is quite plain and does not have good integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. By contrast, if that same building had a strongly detailed upper façade or a simpler façade with good integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, then one could argue that it remained contributing.

West Main Street:

Note: Main Street buildings have been renumbered using 4 digits since the district was originally listed. Also, the street is now designated West Main (not East Main as it was when the district was listed). The former addresses are in parentheses following the current addresses.

- 7821 W. Main (formerly 225 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1950. A Knights of Pythias building with a three story tower was at this location as late as the 1947 Sanborn map. The present painted brick building, two stories in scale, is a circa 1950 renovation of an earlier building. (For example, the outline of windows can be seen faintly through the stuccoed façade.) The building is unadorned and ends in a full height brick shaft set at a 90 degree angle to the façade (a modern touch on a budget). The shop front is non-historic, but not out of character. Four three lite transoms, likely from the earlier building, remain above the storefront canopy. (Period of Significance Update)
- 2) 7829 W. Main (formerly 305 E. Main). People's Bank/City Hall/Le Petit Theatre. Contributing building. Circa 1910. Two story free-standing Beaux Arts brick building with limestone details. Built as People's Bank; became Houma City Hall in 1934; later home of Le Petit Theatre. Façade features paired colossal Doric columns framing a grand round arch entrance capped with a scroll volute keystone. Other details include a fixed metal canopy at the entrance; an entablature with triglyphs, metopes and a dentil cornice; a stepped parapet on each of the two public elevations; and a side elevation divided into bays by brick pilasters. Windows (original) on the two public elevations are tall and narrow.
- 3) 7833 W. Main (formerly 307 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1915 (built sometime between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). While this building bears the name Bank of Houma, the 1924 Sanborn map shows it as a store with a telephone exchange on the second story. Two story structural brick Italian Renaissance style commercial building. Glazed cream color brick façade features elaborate glazed brick and terra cotta details. Façade first story features three great round arches resting upon piers with heavy molded impost blocks surmounted by a full entablature. Second story façade features three square head openings, each framed by composite pilasters with intricate bas relief shafts. Each opening is surmounted by a panel featuring a lion's head accented with swags and ribbons.
- 4) 7837 W. Main (formerly 309 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1920. Small one story brick freestanding commercial building with prominent rounded top parapet with a pilaster-like element at each side and a short squared member at the center. Decorative bands of brick emphasize the parapet shape and accent the pilasters. Shop front appears to retain historic configuration, although windows have been replaced and a metal awning has been added.
- 5) 7839 W. Main (formerly 311 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Circa 1980. Small brick free-

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standing professional office building with a gable end roof and a three-bay arched brick porch.

- 6) 7845-47 W. Main (formerly 315 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Circa 1980. Wide one story brick plain commercial building with five evenly spaced domestic-looking openings along Main Street. Wooden pilasters define the building's edges.
- 7) 7861 W. Main (formerly 425 E. Main). Contributing building. Former U. S. Post Office. 1934. One story red brick gable end Georgian style building articulated in three parts: a wide central block flanked by lower and smaller end pavilions. Façade of main block features three round arch openings accented with contrasting limestone keystones and impost blocks. Openings retain their original casement multipane windows, multi-pane lunettes, and at the center what appears to be the original paneled door. End pavilions (on front and sides) feature square head openings with limestone jack arches and original multipane windows. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 8) 7869 W. Main (formerly 501 E. Main). People's Drugs. Contributing building Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). Two story corner brick commercial building in the Streamlined Moderne and Art Deco styles. Beige brick building features a corner curving "tower" that rises above the main roofline. Tower features an Art Deco bas relief panel near the top and a People's Drugs neon sign. Shop front (in medium brown brick) curves around the corner as well. Shallow pilasters divide the front and public side elevations into bays. Side elevation features asymmetrically placed entrance pavilion that rises slightly above the main roofline. Pavilion is ornamented with bas relief plaques depicting a stylized woman, stylized eagles, and a stylized floral design. Windows on front are two-over-two; those on the public side elevation are of multiple horizontal panes. The most notable alteration is a metal parapet cap. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 9) 7873 W. Main (formerly 505 E. Main). Earl Williams. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). One story fairly wide brick party wall commercial building with modest Art Deco styling. Repeating horizontal features (of brushed aluminum, now painted) are found where transom windows are typically located on older commercial buildings. At each edge, parapet level, are short stepped elements suggestive of cutaway massing. Retains original shop front configuration, although glass has been replaced. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 10) 7877-7881 W. Main (formerly 513-515 E. Main). Jaccuzzo Building/Palais Royale. Contributing building. Circa 1910 building with 1950s details at shop front level. Appears as Palais Royale in 1960 city directory. This two story masonry commercial building was listed in the 1983 documentation as non-contributing and described as having an aluminum façade. Today the building has an intact early twentieth century upper façade and important elements of its 1950s character at the shop front level. Plain upper façade (stucco over brick) has two-over-two wood sash windows with cast concrete sills and lintels. Above the windows is a continuous simple brick band, and centered above that, the name Jaccuzzo Building. Shop front is replaced, but retains some of its recessed configuration (right two bays), as seen in 1950s terrazzo tile floor designs, mainly in red and green, one bearing the name Palais Royale, the other, Man's Shop.
- 11) 7883 W. Main (formerly 517 E. Main). Elks Lodge. Circa 1900. Contributing building. Two story brick party wall fraternal hall with parapet stepped at the edges; two-over-two windows at the upper story with segmental heads; and a prominent corbelled treatment above the windows. Openings at ground level

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(3) appear to be original, but windows and door themselves are non-historic, as is low-key balcony.

- 12) 7887 W. Main (formerly 521 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1910. Wide two story corner commercial building with a mezzanine. While side elevation is plain, the upper story of façade features a notable amount of decorative brickwork, including recessed panels under the windows; a band of layered bricks above the windows; and most notably, a band of bricks laid in a sawtooth-like pattern, a dentil band, and decorative recessed panels. Original façade windows (grouped in threes) feature a large single pane capped by a smaller decorative pane with muntins placed in a sunburst pattern. Slender brick piers (with decorative brickwork) extending above the parapet divide the façade into two large asymmetrical bays. Upper floor windows on the long side elevation are replaced. Two of the openings have been lengthened and small balconies added as part of a tax credit rehabilitation project. Two loading door openings appear to be original.
- 13) 7905 W. Main (formerly 603 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900. Wide one story corner commercial building with notable brickwork and an elaborate roofline silhouette. Seven prominent pilasters (dividing the façade into bays) with corbelled caps rise notably above the parapet. They mark the location of two equal size portions of the façade that are capped by decoratively shaped parapets. To the right is a two bay section of the building without a decorative parapet. A heavily corbelled band of brickwork at the parapet extends the width of the building, providing an element of unity to the asymmetric composition. Doors and windows feature a decorative segmental head. Most of the original two-over-two windows have been replaced with larger plate glass windows topped by a two lite arched transom. On the far left side, this necessitated removing the lower portion of the pilaster. The abundance of decorative brickwork and other details visually outweigh the window alteration.
- 14) 7913 W. Main (formerly 611 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900. One story brick commercial building with corbelling at the parapet level and a layered brick band below. Slender brick piers with corbelled caps define each edge. Shop fronts retain transom openings but are otherwise replaced with modern storefront systems within the original openings. All in all, the historic fabric is visually dominant.
- 15) 7931 W. Main (formerly 625 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1850 one-and-a-half story wood frame residence with inset gallery spanning façade. With the notable exception of a large pent dormer from the early twentieth century, façade retains its mid-nineteenth century appearance, including pediment shaped openings; porch posts and pilasters with molded capitals; and a cutout balustrade. (Balustrade is most likely a generation later c.1875.) The pattern of openings on the side elevations dates from the early twentieth century. (A circa 1850 house would not have had paired windows.)
- 16) 7884-86 W. Main (formerly 524 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900 (not on 1898 Sanborn map; first appears on 1907 map). Blahut Building. Two story brick commercial building located on a corner. Main façade culminates in a prominent heavily worked decorative brick parapet. Corbelled pilasters framing the central upper story opening extend to frame a central decorative brick section that extends perhaps two feet above the parapet. Similar vertical members accent each edge and extend a few inches above the parapet. Other details include one-over-one windows with segmental heads, an original cast-iron and wood shop front, multiple bands of brickwork accenting the top of the side elevation, and chimney tops with decorative ventilators. Rear fairly plain lower section appears on 1907 Sanborn. It has a pyramidal roof wood frame ventilator, which appears to be 1910s or '20s. In 1983, the shop front level

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was completely modern in character. Presumably the present shop front remained behind the accretions, for it looks historic (rather than reproduced). The only alterations appear to be the addition of shutters to the upper story openings and the present gallery at the façade, all since the 1983 fieldwork. (The 1907 Sanborn map shows a one story gallery across the façade.)

- 17) 7880 W. Main (formerly 510 E. Main). Non-contributing building (due to alterations sustained since the district was listed in 1983). When the fieldwork was done for the original (1983) Register submission, this was a largely intact circa 1930s F. W. Woolworth store. The characteristic stepped parapet remains, but it has been painted out in a single color. (Originally the upper part of the façade was red brick with white trim reinforcing the shape of the parapet.) The original F. W. Woolworth Co. signage (black band with white lettering) has been removed (where Mardi Gras Hall signage is now located). Multi-pane dark glass shop front is not in keeping with the building and dominates the façade.
- 18) 7868 W. Main (formerly 500 E. Main). Bank of Terrebonne/later City Hall. 1938. Contributing building. An entry in the 1938-39 city directory notes that the "Bank of Terrebonne and Trust moved into its new building at the corner of Goode and E. Main November 1938." Two story Art Deco corner building with two limestone-faced public elevations styled in the same manner. Prominent pilasters with reeded panels at the top divide the two elevations into bays. Details include bands of sawtooth design superimposed over circles, located above most second floor windows; large repeating scallops over the second story windows of the two entrance pavilions; panels with superimposed diamonds; and various bands of reeding. Entrance pavilions culminate in a pediment shape. Recessed windows (original) are mainly paired. Bank of Terrebonne appears in block letters at the top of the Main Street elevation. Modern canvas awnings over the two entrances are the only exterior changes. (This building was labeled contributing in the old inventory.)
- 19) 7856 W. Main (formerly 400 E. Main). Terrebonne Parish Courthouse. 1937, Wogan & Bernard, Architects. Contributing building. Classical Revival monumental three story limestone courthouse with various applied Art Deco details. A colossal Greek Doric colonnade dominates the façade. Art Deco details include the front doorway, two panels of stylized scroll volutes, zigzag bands over the upper windows, and large lamp standards at the steps resting on bases with reeded panels. Each side elevation features a central slightly protruding pavilion with two fluted pilasters in antis. A pediment shaped parapet caps the pavilion. Rear elevation (fairly plain) has been marred by a walkway that crosses School Street to provide access for a modern courthouse annex (latter not within boundaries of NR district). (Period of Significance Update)
- 20) 7832-36 W. Main (formerly 306-312 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1910. Wedge-shaped two story brick building built between 1907 and 1912, per Sanborn maps. Original details include an emphatic cornice formed of brick bands and brick dentils; contrasting red and gray brick laid in decorative patterns; and round head entrances on Main Street emphasized by contrasting brickwork. Shop front level is original, although glass has been replaced, and upper story windows have been replaced within the original opening. Present two story gallery is of fairly recent vintage. A one story gallery is shown on the 1912 Sanborn map. Finally, a fire escape has been added to the narrow western side elevation. Despite the alterations, the building easily conveys a strong historic character and hence is being considered contributing. The gallery is fairly slight in its visual weight.
- 21) 7816 W. Main (formerly 212 E. Main). Rybiski Building. Contributing building. Circa 1920. Small one

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story party wall brick commercial building with a fairly elaborate decoratively shaped parapet; an inset panel with the name Rybiski; transom windows (now painted over); and a historic shop front configuration. (The shop front is not original to the building. It is most likely from the 1940s/1950s, but is within the updated period of significance.)

- 22) 7812-14 W. Main (formerly 210 E. Main). Non-contributing building. This one story party wall building may be a remodeled older building. The only visible historic element is a shop front configuration that appears to be from the 1950s.
- 23) 7808 W. Main (formerly 206 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Notably altered one story c.1920 party wall commercial building. While the building retains its decoratively shaped parapet with an applied lozenge, alterations are visually dominant. Most notably, a door has been cut into the upper façade to access a modern gallery spanning the façade. Gallery has a strong visual character and weight. Above the door added to the upper façade is an awning, and the current signage interrupts the diamond shape in the parapet.
- 24) 7802 W. Main (formerly 200-202 E. Main). Contributing building. 1940s. One story older structure that received a new stucco front, presumably in the 1940s. Upper façade is vaguely Deco or Moderne, featuring a series of repeating linear bands in the upper façade, and at what would be the transom level, decorative applied shapes with a reeded effect flanking Landry Furniture signage. (The sign itself is presumably non-historic, but does date at least to 1983, per photos from the original nomination) The period shop front features painted sheet metal (blue) at the kick plate level. (Period of Significance Update)
- 25) 7716-26 W. Main (formerly 104-120 E. Main). Contributing building. C. 1930. A building with this footprint first appears in this location on the 1931 Sanborn map. Wide and deep corner one story brick commercial building that occupies roughly one-fourth of a city block. Details include a pediment shaped parapet facing Main Street; shop front piers featuring contrasting red and cream brick, one of which curves at the corner; a contrasting brick band above the transom windows; and above that a red brick band formed of stretchers laid vertically. Shop fronts replaced, although transom window placement and size appear to be original. Shop front considerably altered in the far right bay of the Main Street façade, including painting some of the decorative brick, which disturbs the building's architectural rhythm). Despite these admittedly notable alterations, the building retains sufficient integrity to be considered contributing, given the amount of surviving historic material and the striking effects of contrasting brick on this quite large building. It reads as historic building, alterations notwithstanding.
- 26) 7712 W. Main (formerly 100-102 E. Main). Contributing building. C. 1950. Building assigned the date 1931 in the original inventory, but it is later. A two story building is shown at this corner on the 1947 Sanborn map. Wide and deep corner one story plain brick commercial building with period shop front shaded by fairly recent barrel shaped canvas awning. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)

Belanger Street:

27) 300-310 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). While this quite wide building with two stepped parapets looks like two buildings, it

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appears as one on Sanborn map. Other details include large transom windows, fixed awnings, and plate glass/carrara glass shop fronts. The only notable alteration is the far left shop front, which has been infilled with a smaller window, door, and glazed tile. (This building was identified as 2 buildings in the 1983 inventory; both were counted as contributing.)

- 28) 312 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). One story party wall brick commercial building with decoratively shaped parapet, transom windows (painted over) and non-historic shop front. Counted as contributing because of strong visual weight of upper façade. . (This building was identified as 2 buildings in the 1983 inventory; both were counted as contributing.)
- 29) 314 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). One story party wall brick commercial building identical to 312 Belanger, including the same alterations. (This building was identified as part of 312 Belanger in the 1983 inventory and counted as contributing.)
- 30) 504 Belanger. Non-contributing building. Circa 1970 one story masonry free-standing commercial building.
- 31) 622 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame gable-fronted house with shed roof porch spanning façade. Porch features simple wooden posts and balusters and exposed rafter tails. Façade pierced with central entrance (with transom and sidelights) and paired six-over-six windows. Main alteration is the addition of vinyl siding, but this is outweighed by the numerous original features that remain.
- 32) 630 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story wood frame house. Roof ridge is parallel to street with projecting gabled porch at one end. Porch columns presumably replaced, for porch floor is now brick at grade level, with columns resting on short bases and vinyl siding has been added. A modern handicapped ramp can be found wrapping to the right side elevation, but does not negatively detract from the building's other original features. These alterations are superseded by the other extant original features paired windows, entry with sidelights, and overall form.
- 33) 636 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame house with broad gable (with Bungalow style brackets) spanning façade. Inset porch (occupying about half of façade) wraps around corner. Porch features slightly splayed posts. Façade windows are six-over-six, appearing singly and paired. Front glass door appears to be original; it is topped by a two lite transom.

School Street:

- 34) 101 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1950 one story plain brick commercial building presumably used as a warehouse. (**Period of Significance Update**) (Note: This building was not included in the 1983 inventory.)
- 35) 613 School St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame one story residence with rear two story section. Façade features two front facing gables (in the manner of a bungalow) and brackets at the eaves (also a bungalow detail). Porch is screened in, making it difficult from the sidewalk to see the façade openings,

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but it does have two doors with one window located to the right of the left-hand door. The window is a 6 lite sash over a one lite sash and appears to be original.

- 36) 621 School St. Contributing building. 1920s one story white stucco house in the Spanish Revival style. Details include red tile roof; projecting front gable roof that curves downward to cover entrance porch; round arch entrance to porch outlined in decorative red brick pattern; three-part front window with hood mold; Baroque shaped small vent in front gable peak with sconce-like element below; and a set of French doors with four lite transom above.
- 37) 627 School St. Non-contributing building. 1970s two story brick free-standing commercial building.
- 38) 635 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1950 (not on 1947 Sanborn map). One story, small, red brick, free-standing professional office building in the "Colonial" style. Building features a brick denticular cornice and a central entrance with a pediment and pilasters flanked by single floor-length multi-pane windows. Below each window is a panel ornamented with a decorative grille. (Period of Significance Update)
- 39) 518 School St. Contributing building. Mid-nineteenth century wood frame house with inset gallery spanning façade. Large dormer added in early 20th century. Details include simple wooden gallery columns with molded capitals; plain corner boards (instead of pilasters matching columns); and a cutout balustrade. Façade window openings appear to be original, but central entrance surround does not appear to be mid-nineteenth century. Also, it has been filled in with inappropriate door and sidelight panels with large oval openings. Balustrades added at front steps.
- 40) 510 School St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow with two story section at rear corner. Because of dense vegetation, it is difficult to see all of the façade from the sidewalk. Visible details include a screened-in porch under a hipped roof; at least one set of French doors topped by a sidelight on façade; an original multi-pane window in the gable peak; and an original shed dormer on the side elevation. It is hard to determine from a public right of way if the original porch posts remain. The garage doors, under the two story portion also appear to be original.
- 41) 500 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1920 (built sometime between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). Former First Methodist Church. Red brick with limestone trim Classical Revival church. Two story worship space is set on a high brick above ground basement. At the center of the façade is a pedimented pavilion extending slightly beyond the main wall plane. The pavilion features a large round arch floor-length opening (with a keystone) flanked by shorter square head floor-length openings. To each side of the central pavilion is a double door accessed by a flight of steps. At each of the two side elevations is a central mass extending perhaps a foot from the main wall plane. It is dominated by three great round arch windows with keystones. Each of the flanking recessed bays contains a small square head window. Encircling the building is an entablature with a limestone architrave, a red brick frieze, and a limestone cornice. Above the entablature on each elevation is a stepped parapet.
- 42) 312 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. Houma Courier Building. As can be seen from the side elevation, this is an older residence set back on the lot that was almost completely absorbed in a much larger addition circa 1940. The older residence, per a historic photo, served as the newspaper plant prior to the expansion represented by today's building. One suspects the expansion was occasioned by

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the paper's shift from a weekly to a daily in 1939. The present building is two story beige brick with a vaguely Art Deco feel created by a brushed aluminum canopy with "The Houma Courier" in block letters above. Other façade details include horizontal pane windows (grouped in twos and threes) in the upper story; large plate glass windows flanking the entrance (with cast concrete surround) on lower story; and a stepped parapet. Side elevations feature glass block windows at the front and non-historic windows elsewhere. Front windows are boarded over and front entrance has been filled in. (Listed as contributing in the 1983 inventory.)

- 43) 302 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1830. One story wood frame house with five bay gallery spanning façade; round columns; Federal style central entrance with fanlight and side lights; and two floor-length openings to each side of entrance. Openings have original transoms, but windows have been replaced with storm windows and interior shutters. Central dormer looks to be made from salvaged parts. Despite façade window alterations, the building easily retains the bulk of its historic appearance and character-defining elements.
- 44) 206 School St. Contributing building. 1950s. One story small brick professional office building with wide recessed entrance at one end formed mainly of glass; low brick planter; door replaced. (Period of Significance Update)

Verret Street:

- 45) 107 Verret Street. Contributing building. 1950s brick veneer ranch house with low hipped roof that extends to shelter side carport and front grade level porch; front facing low pitch gable with weatherboards; traditional wooden porch posts; picture window. (**Period of Significance Update**)
- 46) 109 Verret St. Contributing building. 1950s. Plain two story house with drop siding. Windows are not visible due to very dark screens. Small entrance porch may not be original. (Period of Significance Update)
- 47) 211 Verret St. Contributing building. Circa 1915. One story residence with roof ridge perpendicular to street. Extending from main roof, at the edge of the house, is a gabled polygonal bay. Side shed roof section. Most windows are six over six wood sash.
- 48) 303 Verret St. Circa 1900 (not on 1898 Sanborn map; first appears on 1907 map). Contributing building. Well developed Queen Anne one-and-a-half story wood frame house. Busy roofline include cross gables, front and side dormers, tall chimneys, and at the front gallery, a turret-like projection. Gallery features Eastlake columns, brackets, and a spindle screen. Gables of projecting bays and gables of dormers feature fish scale shingles. Most windows are one-over-one. Those accessing the gallery are floor-length.
- 49) 303A Verret St. Non-contributing building. While this two story building is connected to 303 Verret above (via a one story connector), it reads as a free-standing building, and hence is being given its own inventory entry. Added since the district was listed and believed to have been built where a c. 1920 shotgun double was located in 1983 (305 Verret), it is a wide two-story, hipped roof building with a gallery spanning the upper façade.

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50) 537 Verret St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. One and two story asbestos-sided house with cross gable roofline and a small entrance porch with a wooden post at juncture of gabled masses. Windows are mainly six-over-six wood sash. Window at ground story of two story section replaced. Side carport is partially enclosed (may or may not be historic; does not appear on 1947 Sanborn map). (**Period of Significance Update**)

Barrow Street:

- 51) 300 Barrow St. Non-contributing building. Circa 1935 (not on 1931 Sanborn; appears first on 1947 Sanborn). While this former gas station retains its footprint, green tile roof, decoratively shaped parapets (front-facing section), and white stucco piers with green tile accents, its two once open bays (front and side) have been filled in for another commercial use. These open bays historically comprised 2/3rds of the footprint. Their enclosure has had a notable impact upon the building's appearance; hence the non-contributing designation.
- 52) 318 Barrow St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. Streamlined Moderne corner gas station with distinctive fan shape footprint. The edges of the station curve, curving piers define the garage bays (one facing Barrow and one facing School), and a boldly formed curve (almost a half circle) is at the corner. Horizontal lines are re-enforced by a green glazed tile base and various thin red tile horizontal strips. At the time of the 1947 Sanborn map, there was a single almost V-shaped overhang extending from the curving corner toward Barrow Street (to shelter gasoline pumps). This overhang has been incorporated into a larger covered gasoline pump overhang. Other original features include the copious glass windows in the large curving corner, original doors (with operable transoms), and porthole windows outlined in red. (**Period of Significance Update**)

Roussel Street:

- 53) 313 Roussel Street. Contributing building. Two story wood frame c.1900 Queen Anne house that received a Bungalow style façade in the 1920s. Northern side elevation retains original character, with gabled polygonal bay and six over six wood windows. Façade is completely Bungalow style, including a full width first story inset porch with coupled wood posts atop brick bases and brackets at the eaves. Upper façade is a sleeping porch.
- 54) 319 Roussel Street. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; first appears on 1947 map). Two story wood frame house with hip roof; small Colonial style entrance porch with round columns; entrance with sidelights; round arch multi-pane window above entrance; and one story sleeping porch on south side elevation. (This building was contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 55) 424 Roussel. Contributing building. Former Terrebonne Parish Library. 1953. While this one story limestone-faced building looks like it could be from the late 1930s, a different library is shown on the 1947 Sanborn map. The present building was dedicated August 2, 1953. Rather severely articulated (in the manner of late Art Deco), the former library features a central entrance pavilion that extends perhaps a foot from the main block. The edges of the pavilion feature a distinctive S curve. The central pavilion is flanked by horizontal pane windows grouped in threes. Side elevations also retain their original horizontal pane windows with brushed aluminum frames. (**Period of Significance Update**)

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- 56) 502 Roussel. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame bungalow with oriental-looking brackets at the eaves and screened porch with simple posts atop wood frame base. Metal awning (mid-20th century) at porch and side windows.
- 57) 510 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (no house on this lot on 1931 Sanborn map; house with this shape appears 1947 map). One story wood frame house. Front gable has asymmetrical roofline. Inset porch features Bungalow style short splayed wooden posts atop high brick bases. Façade's six-over-six windows are paired at the porch and tripled under the front gable. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 58) 514 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (no house on this lot on 1931 Sanborn map; house with this configuration appears on 1947 map). One story wood frame cottage with roof ridge parallel to street. Roof accented with forward-facing small gable (with a round vent) at about the midpoint. Façade pierced by a set of four two-over-one windows. Porch that extends through to the rear is at right hand side. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 59) 522 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1900. One story fairly wide wood frame house with roof ridge perpendicular to street. Full width gallery features plain wooden posts with decorative brackets and pierce-work balustrade. Windows covered with storm windows, vinyl siding added, and new front door.
- 60) 600 Roussel. Contributing building. Gable end one-and-a-half story house with roof ridge parallel to street. House has present configuration (boxy footprint with half of an inset porch) on 1924 Sanborn map, but its predominant exterior materials today are from the 1950s (lacey wrought iron porch posts and partial brick veneer). Original wood windows remain and include six over six and three over two configurations (This was labeled contributing in the 1983 nomination.)
- 61) 608 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1905. Wood frame double shotgun with hipped roof and full width Eastlake porch (turned columns, brackets and spindle screen). One façade opening has a single door; the other with a transom and sidelight configuration. Windows on side elevations boarded over likely for security.
- 62) 614 Roussel. Contributing building. 1950s L-shaped brick ranch house with forward-projecting main block under low slung roof ending in broad gable facing the street; period carport at rear. (**Period of Significance Update**)
- 63) 622 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1905 hipped roof shotgun with L-shaped porch (wrapping across front and down the side) and Eastlake porch posts. Home's exterior appears completely unaltered.

Goode Street:

64) 623 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow with similar details to others in 600 block of Goode, except that it features a jerkinhead front gable. Details include brackets at the eaves; paired three-over-one wood windows; a front entrance with sidelights; and a small porch with a vergeboard with linear cutouts, splayed posts above high brick piers; and a simple wooden balustrade. Front windows are covered with plywood.

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- 65) 613 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s. Virtually identical to 605 Goode St. Small wood frame bungalow with broad gables over main block and front porch; gable vergeboards with linear cutouts; brackets at eaves; and porch with splayed posts above stucco base. Windows (paired) are three vertical panes over one single pane. Multi-pane front door is likely not original; storm door added; balustrades added to sides of porch.
- 66) 609-611 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame double shotgun with a bungalow style front porch, under a low pitch gable, spanning façade. Porch features splayed wooden posts above high splayed stuccoed piers; vergeboard with linear cutouts, and brackets at the eaves. Windows on side elevation are original, with three vertical panes over one large single pane. Front doors replaced.
- 67) 605 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s small wood frame bungalow with broad gables over main block and front porch; gable vergeboards with linear cutouts; brackets at the eaves; and porch with splayed posts above stucco bases. Vergeboards are deteriorated; windows and door have been replaced within the original opening size.
- 68) 601 Goode St. Non-contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow that is being counted as noncontributing due to severe alterations -- quite noticeable substitute siding (including boxing in the eaves); extension of roofline to right to provide for an addition; new pattern of openings on façade; and new lowered front porch.
- 69) 521 Goode St. Contributing building. Circa 1920. One story wood frame residence with brick accents. Extending forward of the main hip roof is a hip roof sheltering a porch located at one side of the facade. Pinkish brick pillars with cream brick accents define each corner of the porch. Pinkish color brick is also found at the base of the house, base of the porch, and a short pier at the steps. Palladian style entrance features multi-pane glass door and multiple pane sidelights. Metal awnings have been added to porch and windows.
- 70) 501 Goode St. Knights of Columbus Hall. Contributing building. Circa 1955. One story brick freestanding corner building that extends almost through the block. Front section has a flat roof; rear section (slightly higher) has a hipped roof. Body of building is light tan; accent bands of finely cast concrete are salmon colored. Façade features a central recessed entrance (covered by a flat roof awning) with a band of four tall windows to one side and louvered windows (alteration) at the other side. The tall windows feature a distinctive glass block pattern accented with salmon-colored cast concrete. The salmon-colored cast concrete band at the top extends across the façade, uniting the fenestration. Side elevations feature louvered windows (alteration). While the louvered windows are indeed noticeable, the building still makes a pronounced mid-century modern statement. (**Period of Significance Update**)
- 71) 423 Goode St. Non-contributing building. Circa 1970. Brick hipped roof one story professional offices building with rear two story section.
- 72) 413-15 Goode St. Wurzlow Building. Contributing building. Circa 1955. One story free-standing midcentury modern professional office building that extends halfway through the block. The long public side elevation faces a parking lot (as when it was built). Orange brick façade is recessed about a foot from Goode St. Anchoring it at one end is a brick pillar. At the other end, where the recessed entrance is located, is a pillar with cutouts created in the brickwork (the latter a signature feature of the period). Also

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signature is the recessed entrance, skewed to one side, with a door flanked by a tall panel of multiple pane horizontal windows. Extending across the upper façade (between the pillars) is a white brick ledge. Immediately below it are two short windows (i.e., set high on the façade). Long public side elevation, also of orange brick, features a deep overhang and a rear entrance with a brick pillar with cutout designs (as at the façade). Windows on this elevation are original, consisting of three vertical panes. (**Period of Significance Update**)

- 73) 317 Goode St. Contributing building. Circa 1915. One-and-a-half story wood frame residence with gambrel roof; large pent roof dormer; wraparound Colonial Revival gallery (with paneled wood posts); paired two-over-two façade windows; a central entrance; and a gabled projecting bay at the rear of the southern side elevation.
- 74) 311 Goode St. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). One story hipped roof plain brick commercial building that is 50 years old (probably from the 1950s), but the alterations are visually dominant. They include the covering of the three windows with shutters, two new doors, and standing seam metal awnings on decorative brackets above the doors. Surviving from the original building is a low brick planter box.
- 75) 309 Goode St. Contributing building. Thatcher Hotel. Built sometime between 1931 and 1936. Not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map. 1936 WPA publication references it. The fairly plain brick building consists of a broad two story section facing Goode with a rear four story section. Details of the two story section include second story multi-pane windows (appearing in threes and singly); continuous cast stone bands above the second story windows; and three balconies. Regarding the latter, the balcony placements are original; the balconies themselves may be replacements and the doors accessing them are replacements. The shop front level (facing Goode) is largely non-historic. The deep four story section features numerous square head two-over-two windows; round arch openings near the corner at ground level; a paneled parapet facing Belanger; and added fire escapes on the Belanger façade. While the Thatcher Hotel has received the foregoing alterations, its abundance of original fabric and features easily outweighs the impact of alterations. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 76) 209 Goode St. Contributing building. Ledet Building. Circa 1960. Three story free-standing beige brick commercial building. Tall openings pierce upper floors on façade and long public side elevation. Each opening features a window-ceramic tile panel-window composition. Windows feature horizontal panes. Ceramic tile panels are predominantly white, with turquoise and pink accents. At the façade ground level is a plate glass shop front with a recessed entrance. (Period of Significance Update)

Church Street:

77) 300-304 Church St. Contributing building. Circa 1930 (between 1924 and 1931, per Sanborn maps). Haydel's Drugstore. Two story brick commercial building located at the corner of Church and Belanger. At the center of the main façade is a central mass with a decoratively shaped parapet and a single square head opening with a round ornamental arch above at the second story. At ground level is a deeply recessed entrance created with bands of brickwork (in a corbelled manner). Upper bays to each side of the central section feature windows with multiple horizontal panes (1940s replacements) capped by panels of superimposed vertical strips of brick. Shop front with its large plate glass windows, small transom windows, and kick plates appears to be historic (although some of its members have been

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stripped of paint). Façade treatment continues around the first bay of the side elevation. Remainder of side elevation is unadorned, featuring numerous windows with multiple horizontal panes at the upper level.

- 78) 308-310 Church Street. Non-contributing building. One story plain brick commercial building that appears to date from the 1950s or perhaps early '60s, but almost half of its façade has been reworked in a manner not in keeping with a building of this period and infilled with 6 modern (last ten years or so) doors and one large window.
- 79) 318 Church Street. Contributing building. Circa 1920 (between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). One and two story automotive facility located at the corner of Church and School. Labeled garage on 1924 and 1931 Sanborn maps and auto sales and service on 1947 map. One story section faces Church, with rear two story section fronting onto School. Wide one story section features a stepped parapet, three large display windows, and a decorative treatment created by various bands of cast stone Xs. Rear industrial-looking section retains its original multi-pane metal windows. Gunnite has been applied to its façade and one ground level opening has a new door treatment, but other elevations remain in their original brick state.
- 80) 402 Church Street. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). This one story wood frame residence has received notable alterations since the district was listed in 1983. Because the alterations are visually dominant, it is being counted as non-contributing. A 1982-83 photo shows a wraparound gallery with simple porch posts atop what appear to be wooden bases. Wraparound gallery has been enclosed (partially with a shingle treatment and partially with weatherboards); decorative panels have been added to the column bases; and faux Eastlake trim has been added to the gallery.

Grinage Street:

- 81) 300 blk odd side (no address). Contributing building. 1930s small wood frame plain house with gable facing the street. May have been a dependency to house facing School St.
- 82) 312 Grinage. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame cottage. Wood frame gable end main block with forward facing gable sheltering brick porch with three broad arches. Openings off the porch feature fanlights. Bay window opposite porch features three-over-one windows, the central one with a fanlight.
- 83) 306 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1905. Wood frame hipped roof shotgun with full width Eastlake porch (Eastlake columns, brackets, spindlework screen). Side elevations have original six-over-six wood sash windows, appearing singly and paired. Door and floor-length window pierce façade.
- 84) 300 Grinage St. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame house with stuccoed façade and porch; hipped roof main block with hipped roof porch; Mediterranean Revival style arcaded porch with twisted Persian posts; multi-pane façade windows with glazing bars forming a round arch; wide front entrance with transoms and sidelights.
- 85) 219 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1850. One story wood frame galleried cottage with simple square posts and central entrance with transom and sidelights. Alterations include modification of façade

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windows (paired 6 over 6 windows and openings that appear to be filled in); 6 over 6 windows grouped in twos and threes on side elevation done during the period of significance; and application of vinyl or aluminum siding in vertical strips to the entablature. The rear addition, sheathed in board and batten, is historic. The house's historic character easily visually outweighs the alterations. It retains its identity as a mid-nineteenth century galleried cottage.

86) 205 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947 Sanborn maps). Labeled furniture warehouse on 1947 map. Free-standing one story brick warehouse with stepped parapet and two wide bays. One of bays retains original beaded board doors (chain link fence added). The other has been replaced with a transom and garage roller door configuration. (This building was not included in the 1983 inventory) (**Period of Significance Update**)

Lafayette Street:

- 87) 202 Lafayette. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). One story brick commercial building that mimics the look of adjacent 7716-26 West Main. 1947 Sanborn map shows them separated by a very narrow space. They are now joined in brickwork that matches 202 Lafayette. The otherwise plain building features decoratively laid brickwork at the parapet. Shop front windows facing Lafayette have been replaced with a modern tinted glass treatment, as have windows on School Street elevation (which is mainly brick, with minimal openings). While the replacement windows are inappropriate for the building, when viewed from the corner, the building retains the bulk of its original appearance. (Period of Significance Update)
- 88) 300-302 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1950. (Building with a different footprint is on the 1947 Sanborn map. City directory for 1960 lists this address as Portier Furniture.) Two story plain brick free-standing commercial building located at corner of Lafayette and School. Main façade features at the upper story mainly paired six-over-six windows, and at the lower, large plate glass openings (one bricked in). Plate glass openings are fitted on interior with black blinds (making them appear dark in strong sunlight). (Period of Significance Update)
- 89) 308 Lafayette St. Non-contributing building. Set well back from the street, this two story asbestos sided building is a combination garage/residence. Of indeterminate date (does not appear on 1947 Sanborn). (This building was not included in the 1983 inventory)
- 90) 310 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. One-and-a-half story wood frame house in galleried cottage tradition with modest Bungalow style details (exposed rafter ends at the gallery, what were originally wooden posts atop high brick bases posts replaced with wrought iron). A large pent dormer with 6 window openings defines the roof. Façade features window-door-door-window pattern of openings (with multi-pane windows and doors).
- 91) 316 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1880 galleried cottage. Porch posts and pilasters have molded capitals. Alterations include asbestos siding and enclosure of the gallery with weatherboards (at the bottom) and tinted glass. (Due to tinted glass, it is not easy to see the façade openings from the sidewalk, but one can see that the fenestration is door-window-door-window. The dooro n the left has sidelights.) Because building still readily retains its identity as a historic galleried cottage, it is being counted as contributing, alterations notwithstanding.

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- 92) 326 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1910. One-and-a-half story wood frame residence with gambrel roof and a projecting polygonal bay on the façade and a projecting squared-off bay on one side elevation. Porch with simple wood posts wraps around corner from front bay to side bay (porch partially filled in as it meets the side bay). Single dormer pierces roofline. Windows are mainly two-over-two and six over two.
- 93) 400 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1910 (not on 1907 Sanborn map; first appears on 1912 map). Two story wood frame house located at corner of Lafayette and Verret combining Queen Anne Revival massing with Eastlake and Colonial Revival details. Two story polygonal bays on the façade and public side elevation extend from main hip roof. Two story gallery with Eastlake columns and a spindle screen at the upper story and Colonial Revival round columns on paneled wooden bases at the ground story. Original weatherboards covered by asbestos shingles.
- 94) 422 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1920. One-and-a-half story wood frame galleried cottage with a predominantly circa 1920 appearance (large pent dormer and Bungalow style porch treatment of paired wooden posts above high brick bases). Windows are paired six-over-six. Front doors feature multiple panes of glass.
- 95) 510 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1925. One story building with different footprint appears on 1924 map. Building with this footprint and detail (awning) appears on 1931 map (labeled auto storage). Free standing one story brick commercial building with gable end (with decoratively shaped parapet) spanning façade. 1983 inventory indicates that the gable at that time was covered in pressed metal. It now has an unfinished look, with exposed construction material (probably uncovered insulation). Lower façade (a little over one half) retains much of its original character, including multipane transoms; shop front with large plate glass windows; and brick piers with corbelled caps defining the edges. Because the lower façade retains most of its original character, the building is being counted as contributing.
- 96) 516 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story Bungalow style wood frame residence with asbestos siding. Front porch spanning façade features brick piers extending from the ground to the eaves; a brick balustrade; and low brick platforms defining the steps. Windows are paired.
- 97) 620 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story wood frame shotgun with gable spanning façade and sheltering a porch with Bungalow style columns (splayed wooden posts on brick piers). What was once presumably a double shotgun is now a single family residence. One of door openings on façade has been removed and the other door replaced within the original opening.
- 98) 628 Lafayette St. (also 107 Point St.) Non-contributing building. One story metal building with gable end roof that extends the depth of the block.
- 99) 700 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. One story modest wood frame gable end double shotgun (shown on Sanborn maps as commercial at the corner and the other side residential). Brick veneer accent on façade is presumably a historic alteration. Front overhang has non-historic thin metal poles. One door has been replaced, one is boarded over, and one four panel door exists on the side elevation. Windows are boarded over for security. Nonetheless, building retains its shotgun form,

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OMB No. 1024-0018

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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weatherboards and pattern of openings; hence it is being counted as contributing.

- 100) 724 Lafayette. Contributing building. 1950s. Clad in corrugated metal, this functional building dates from after the 1947 Sanborn map. The address is listed as a beer distributor in the 1960 city directory; presumably it is this building. One story (large volume space) gable end main block (with roof ridge perpendicular to Lafayette) and side shed roof section (running the depth of the main block). (Period of Significance Update)
- 101) 802 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. This appears to be an older one story wood frame galleried cottage that received a Bungalow style gallery treatment in the 1920s (splayed wooden posts atop high brick piers). Windows replaced (aluminum sash with horizontal panes) and vinyl siding added.

Canal Street:

102) 317 Canal St. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). One-and-a-half story midnineteenth century galleried cottage that has received notable alterations. One end of the gallery was enclosed with a forward-projecting gable sometime after the 1947 Sanborn map; asbestos siding has been applied; aluminum awnings have been added; and windows on side elevations have been either replaced or are covered by hurricane shutters. Surviving visible original details are limited to some of the porch posts and one pilaster and the front entrance configuration (with a transom and sidelights). All in all, alterations are visually dominant.

West Park Avenue:

Note: This block-face has been completely redeveloped since the district was listed in 1983. None of the descriptions in the 1983 inventory match with buildings presently there. It is assumed they are all post 1983 new construction. Present addresses are used. East Park Avenue is now West Park Avenue.

- 103) 7910 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame Indian Ridge Canning facility in this location at time of district listing was destroyed by fire. Present building on site (a wildlife museum) is a large one and two story wood frame traditional looking building.
- 104) 7932 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame galleried cottage built within last 32 years.
- 105) 7936 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame and concrete block building with roof ridge perpendicular to street.
- 106) 7942 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Traditional looking, one-and-a-half story, wood frame, gable end professional office building built within the last 32 years.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u>

<u>Part 8:</u>

New Period of Significance: 1910-1965

Summary Paragraph:

The Houma Historic District was listed on the National Register in 1983 based on local significance in the area of commerce – specifically because it represented the prosperity brought by the seafood industry in the early twentieth century. The period of significance was c.1910 to 1933.

This additional documentation proposal will add another case under Criterion A (commerce) for downtown Houma as the center of commerce for Terrebonne Parish (for goods and services). The end of downtown Houma's commercial preeminence corresponds roughly to the present fifty year cutoff of 1965, so that date will be used as the ending date of the period of significance under commerce.

Until supplanted by strip centers and later malls, downtown Houma was <u>the place</u> to shop for goods and services for the large parish of Terrebonne. It was and is the only town of any size in a geographically isolated and decidedly rural parish.

Houma Historical Background Summary:

Houma is the seat of government for Terrebonne Parish, one of Louisiana's southernmost parishes fronting onto the Gulf of Mexico. Roughly 40% of the parish's 2,080 square miles is water. During the historic period for this nomination, Houma was the only incorporated community in Terrebonne – the only town of any size. For perspective, the entire population of Terrebonne in 1940 was 35,880, with 9,052 of those people residing in Houma.

Terrebonne ("good earth" in French) was established as a parish in 1822. The town of Houma (named for the Houma Indians) was established to be the parish seat in 1834. In that year, Richard H. Grinage and Hubert M. Belanger donated one arpent of frontage on Bayou Terrebonne for the new governmental seat. In the nineteenth and early twentieth century, agriculture (sugarcane) and the seafood industry dominated the local economy.

A seismic shift in the economy occurred in 1929, when oil was first discovered in the parish. The Texas Company (Texaco) brought in wells at Lake Pelto and Lake Barre in that year. The major field of Caillou Island started producing in 1930. Subsequent fields were Four Isle Bay (1934), Gibson (1937), Bourg (1952), Mosquito Island (1955), and East Caillou Island (1956). By 1965, there were some three dozen oil and gas fields in the parish (inshore) as well as 17 offshore wells in production. There were numerous major oil companies operating in Terrebonne (Texaco was the largest), as well as various smaller concerns. (Oil prosperity continued unabated until a slump in the 1980s.)

With all of this activity, the City of Houma emerged as the parish's oil service center – the epicenter of oil related services. Like Shreveport in northwest Louisiana, Houma was able to ride out the worst of the Depression so-to-speak because of booming oil prosperity. Various indices illustrate growth in the city in the 1930s. Population surged from 6,531 (1930 census) to 9,052 (1940), an increase of 38.6%. Post office receipts were up 72%; telephone installations, 137%; and bank deposits, 180%.

Downtown Houma as Center of Commerce:

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Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>2</u>

During the historic period, downtown Houma was the only center of commerce in Terrebonne – the only central business district. Proprietors and shopkeepers dispensed a wide variety of goods and services from buildings within the district. Coming to downtown Houma must have been quite an occasion to the families of this geographically isolated and decidedly, rural area. Into the 1950s, across rural America, "going to town" was a much anticipated, sometimes day-long event. And, of course, going to town meant downtown. An ode to Baton Rouge's main shopping street written in 1954 is worth quoting, for it equally could apply to Houma's Main Street: "Up and down this old street you can 'window-shop' to your heart's desire So up and down this old street you can spend your hard-earned money both quickly and easily, because there is really something there for you to spend it for."

Extant contributing buildings in the district represent a good cross section of commerce in downtown Houma, per city directories and other sources. Palais Royale Ladies Clothing and Men's Shop (#10); Rybiski's (#21); and 7873 West Main (#9, Houma Haberdashery) housed men's and women's clothing stores. The ubiquitous drugstore is represented by Haydel's Drugstore (300-304 Church St., #77) and People's Drugstore (7869 West Main, #8). The circa 1900 Blahut Building (#16) housed a general mercantile in its early days; by 1960, Morgan and Lindsey Department Store was located there. Specialty stores include: a music store at 7821 W. Main (#1); a furniture store, photo shop and jewelry store in the various shop fronts at #27; a furniture store in 300-302 Lafayette (#88); and a Singer sewing machine store at 7913 W. Main (#14).

Services dispensed from extant contributing buildings include beauty shops and barber shops (building #s 8 and 20); photography studio (building #16); banking (#s 2, 3, 18); restaurants (the longtime Bob's Café in #20 and lunch counters in the drugstores); Thatcher Hotel, the largest hotel in town (#75); and auto-related (a garage at #13, a service station at #52, a garage and auto sales at #79). Also, there were various professional offices (dentists, attorneys, real estate agents) in the upper stories of historic buildings in the district.

At least four of the buildings added to the district in the 1950s and early '60s were purpose built for professional offices. All are free-standing (as is typical of post-war professional offices in downtowns) and some provided for adjacent parking (rather than street parking). The largest is the three-story early 1960s Ledet Building (#76), prominently located across from the courthouse. The 1964 city directory shows it housing insurance agents (among them C. A. Ledet), lawyers, realtors, and Humble Oil and Refining. The two small professional office buildings at 206 School (#44) and 635 School (#38) housed insurance agencies in the 1964 city directory. Finally, the mid-century modern Wurzlow Building at 413-415 Goode (#72) housed the offices of Kermit Wurzlow, a mineral lease broker.

Downtown Houma's last great decade as the mecca for goods and services within Terrebonne Parish was the 1950s (as is typical across America). The 1960s was a decade of transition, with downtown still a major player, but with competition from strip shopping centers. As late as 1964 (per city directory), downtown Houma was holding its own so-to-speak. The directory for that year shows the Thatcher Hotel still in business and very little vacancy in downtown commercial buildings. The arrival of enclosed shopping malls in the 1970s in or near small towns across Louisiana leveled the final blow to downtowns such as Houma.

9. Bibliography

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>3</u>

"Description, History, Industry and Points of Interest in Houma in 1936." Louisiana Digital Library.

Houma, Louisiana Classified Business Directory, 1946-1947.

Houma City Directories, 1938-39, 1960, 1964.

Houma Sanborn Insurance Co. Maps, 1885, 1892, 1898, 1907, 1912, 1924, 1931, 1947.

- Sell, James L. and McGuire, Tom. *History of the Offshore Oil and Gas Industry in South Louisiana, Volume IV: Terrebonne Parish.* U. S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, New Orleans, LA, 2008.
- Souvenir of Centennial Celebration, Houma, Louisiana, May 10-13, 1934, History Supplement, 1934-84. Houma, LA: Friends of the Terrebonne Public Library and the Terrebonne Historical and Cultural Society, 1984.

State Library of Louisiana Historic Photo Collection

Terrebonne Parish Development Board. Terrebonne Parish Resources and Facilities. Baton Rouge, LA: c.1953.

Photo Log Total of 26 photos

Photographer: Donna Fricker

Photo 1 Camera facing east 2/11/15

Photo 2 Camera facing east 2/11/15

Photo 3 Camera facing northwest 11/14/14

Photo 4 Camera facing northeast 11/14/14

Photo 5 Camera facing west 11/14/14 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>4</u>

Photo 6 Camera facing west/northwest 11/13/14

Photo 7 Camera facing southeast 11/13/14

Photo 8 Camera facing south 11/13/14

Photo 9 Camera facing northeast 2/11/15

Photo 10 Camera facing west 2/11/15

Photo 11 Camera facing north 11/14/14

Photo 12 Camera facing north 2/11/15

Photo 13 Camera facing south 11/13/14

Photo 14 Camera facing north 11/14/14

Photo 15 Camera facing north 11/14/14

Photo 16 Camera facing north 11/14/14

Photo 17

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>5</u>

Camera facing north/northwest 11/14/14

Photo 18 Camera facing south 11/13/14

Photo 19 Camera facing south 11/13/14

Photo 20 Camera facing north/northwest 11/14/14

Photo 21 Camera facing east 11/14/14

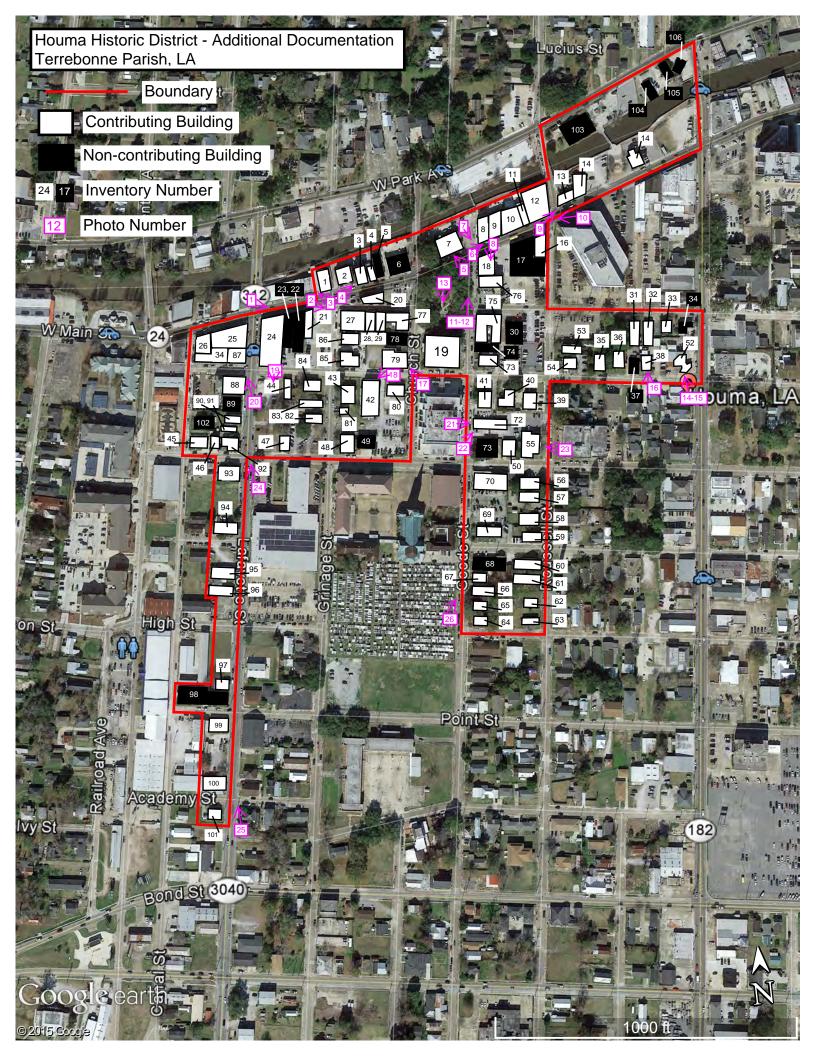
Photo 22 Camera facing northeast 2/11/15

Photo 23 Camera facing west 2/12/15

Photo 24 Camera facing north/northwest 2/12/15

Photo 25 Camera facing north/northwest 2/12/15

Photo 26 Camera facing northeast 2/11/15 Houma Historic District Additional Documentation Name of Property Terrebonne Parish, LA County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)















































TERREBONNE PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Houma Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: LOUISIANA, Terrebonne

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 83003640

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N COMMENT WAIVER: N 9. 29. 19DATE VACCEPT RETURN REJECT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

Apart	
RECOM./CRITERIA	NJ. 1 mil
REVIEWER Color Beall	DISCIPLINE / Story
TELEPHONE	DATE 9.29.15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

		Subst	87+1-
Houma Historic I	District		antive Review
Terrebonne Paris	h		
LOUISIANA			Working No. <u>NOV 7 1983</u>
			Fed, Reg, Date:
			Date Due: 12/8/83 - 12/22/83
			Action:ACCEPT2/8/83
resubmission			RETURN
the second se	on or local government		REJECT
owner objection			Federal Agency:
appeal	1		
Substantive Review:	sample 🗆 reque	st 🗌 appeal	NR decision
Reviewer's comments:	eafood industry	entral destru	it associated with boom
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			Date 13-18183
			see continuation sheet
Nomination returned for	: technical corrections cite substantive reasons discu		
1. Name			
2. Location			
3. Classification	1		1.26
Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
4. Owner of Property	14		
5. Location of Legal De	scription		
6. Representation in Ex	isting Surveys		
Has this property been d	etermined eligible? 🛛 🔲 yes	i 🗖 no	
7. Description			
Condition		Check one	Check one
a excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	original site
good	🔲 ruins	altered	moved date
🗖 fair	unexposed		
Describe the present and	l original (if known) physical app	earance	
summary paragraph			
completeness			
C clarity			
alterations/integrity			
dates			
boundary selection			

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify below
Summ comp clarit applic yustifi relation conte	nt of Significance <i>(in one paragraph)</i> nary paragraph oleteness y Logicable criteria ication of areas checked ng significance to the resource
other	ication of exception
10. Geog	graphical Data
	of nominated property gle name ferences

Verbal boundary description and justification

Good furtification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

date

-	national	

_____state _____local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

13. Other

Maps
Photographs
Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _

Signed.

_ Date

Phone:_



State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM

OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ROBERT B. DEBLIEUX ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DAVID C. TREEN GOVERNOR

MRS, LAWRENCE H. FOX SECRETARY

October 28, 1983

DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY KATHLEEN BYRD, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF THE ARTS ALBERT B. HEAD, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION ANN REILEY JONES, DIRECTOR

FOLKLIFE PROGRAM NICHOLAS R. SPITZER, PROGRAM MANAGER

Chief of Registration National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 1100 L Street N. W. Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the completed and signed nomination form for the Houma Historic District, Terrebonne Parish, along with the necessary maps and photographs.

If any additional information is needed, please advise our office.

Sincerel Robert B. DeBrieux

State Historic Preservation Officer

RBD/JF/bc

Enclosure

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AVI	NUA	7 1983	

P. O. BOX 44247 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804 (504) 342-6682 AND LINC 421-6682



JAY DARDENNE Lieutenant Governor State of Couisiana

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION PAM BREAUX Assistant Secretary

June 1, 2015

Anne Picou 317 Goode St Houma, LA 70631

Dear Ms. Picou:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic property listed will be considered by the State National Register Review Committee for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease Terrebonne Parish, LA

The National Register of Historic Places is the federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing on the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving our Nation's heritage. Listing of a property provides recognition of its historic significance and assures protective review of federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property. If the property is listed on the National Register, tax credits for rehabilitation and other beneficial provisions may apply. Listing in the National Register does not place limitations on the property by the federal or state government. Public visitation rights are not required of owners. The government will not attach restrictive covenants to the property or seek to acquire them. A draft copy of the nomination and attachment is included with this letter.

One of your responsibilities as a Certified Local Government (CLG) is to review pending National Register nominations of properties within your community. This is required, in part, to detect any errors in fact, but also to provide local insight or knowledge concerning the property. I hope that you will consider the nomination for this property at your next meeting. After providing a reasonable opportunity for public comment, the Bogalusa Historic District Commission shall fill out the attached CLG review form as to whether or not, in their opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. Within 60 calendar days of notice from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the chief elected official shall transmit their report to the SHPO. If the SHPO does not receive the report and recommendation within 60 calendar days, the nomination process will continue. All comments received will be forwarded to the SHPO Director and the National Register Review Committee for consideration along with the nomination.

We have scheduled the nomination for presentation to the National Register Review Committee on **Thursday, August 13, 2015**, and would like to receive your comments by that time in fulfillment of the comment period. This letter serves as notification initiating the sixty-day comment period.

You are invited to attend the National Register Review Committee meeting at which the nomination will be officially considered. The location and time have not been confirmed yet, but will be found on our website as the meeting date gets closer. Should you have any questions about this nomination before the meeting, please contact me at 225-219-4595 or at jrichardson@crt.la.gov.

Anne Picou June 1, 2015 Page 2

Thanks,

Pam Breaux State Historic Preservation Officer

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 1 4 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Pack Service. DAVIS DEPUTY SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

State of Couisiana

PHIL BOGGAN INTERIM ASSISTANT SECRETARY

August 12, 2015

 TO: Mr. James Gabbert National Park Service 2280, 8th Floor; National Register of Historic Places 1201 "I" Street, NW; Washington, DC 20005
 FROM: Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation

RE: Houma Historic District Additional Documentation, Terrebonne Parish, LA

Jim,

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for Houma Historic District Additional Documentation (Boundary Increase to be heard at August 13th meeting) to the National Register of Historic Places. The second disk contains the photographs of the property in TIF format. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 225-219-4595 or jrichardson@crt.la.gov.

Thanks,

Jessica (

Enclosures:

x CD with PDF of the National Register of Historic Places nomination form and Correspondence

- _____x CD with electronic images (tif format)
- x Physical Transmission Letter
 - x Physical Signature Page, with original signature
- _____ Other:

Comments:

Please ensure that this nomination receives substantive review
This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
The enclosed owner(s) objection(s) do_____ do not_____
constitute a majority of property owners.
Other:

JAY DARDENNE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR