

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received NOV 21 1983
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Davidson House

and/or common 654 Wichita

2. Location

street & number 654 Wichita Ave. N/A not for publication

city, town Shreveport N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Caddo Parish code 017

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name David Wayne Jackson 318-227-2628 (home)
318-674-5680 (work)

street & number 654 Wichita

city, town Shreveport N/A vicinity of state LA 71101

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Caddo Parish Courthouse

street & number 500 Texas Street

city, town Shreveport state LA 71101

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Davidson House (1900) is a relatively large, frame, Queen Anne Revival cottage located in Shreveport's oldest residential suburb (Highland). The house has been little altered since its c.1915 interior renovation. In our opinion, the renovation work added to the significance of the property.

The Davidson House began in 1900 as a central hall Queen Anne Revival cottage, three rooms deep, with a small rear wing.

Surviving features from this early period include:

- (1) Most of the exterior siding and most of the windows.
- (2) The three hip gables, two of which have scalloped shingles and one of which features a lunette.
- (3) The distinctive corner turret with its false clerestory and its octagonal flared spire.
- (4) The Colonial Revival gallery with its paired columns. The gallery wraps around the front and side of the house following the contours of the turret.
- (5) The two chimneys and two of the original four mantels. The two original mantels have quarter sawn oak veneer with pressed wood details. The unusually elaborate one in the parlor features fluted columns, large foliated capitals, and a sunburst motif surrounded by garlands.
- (6) Most of the fluted oak wainscotting.
- (7) Most of the interior doorways with their planed fascia boards, bull's eye corner blocks, transoms, and four panel doors.

In about 1915 the interior was redecorated in a style which seems to have been inspired by the Craftsman movement. In addition, the original side gallery was partially enclosed for bathrooms. The new walls were added behind the columns; so the gallery appearance remains essentially intact. Also, the front portion of the central hall was removed, thus enlarging the parlor. Most of the wall and ceiling canvas was replaced by a bagasse board treatment with elaborate molded strips. The front two rooms of the house were fitted with molded oak boards and beams so as to give a half timbered effect. The dining room was fitted with a high medieval looking paneled wainscot. In addition, the upper walls were paneled with double crisscrossing strips which give a vaguely oriental effect. The bedrooms were given a more conventional paneled treatment which can best be described as vaguely neo-Georgian. Other c.1915 changes include the installation of two sets of French doors, the removal of a bedroom commode, and the installation of two brick mantels.

Since the c.1915 renovation, there have been no significant changes in the house's architectural fabric.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1900;c.1915

Builder/Architect Builder: Fred Davidson (1900)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
Criterion C

Architect: D. P. Kaufman(1900)
Contractor: M. D. Gillespie (1900)

The Davidson House is locally significant in the area of architecture within the context of the Highland area. It stands as a neighborhood landmark because of both its interiors and exterior.

The Highland area is a late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century residential suburb of Shreveport which developed as streetcar lines were extended further and further from the original city. Today the neighborhood consists of several hundred houses on medium to large lots. Styles represented include Queen Anne Revival, Colonial Revival, Eastlake, and bungalow. The Davidson House is conspicuous among this group because of its relatively elaborate exterior. It is one of only three houses with a fully developed turret. Of these, it is the only one which features a continuous gallery which follows the contours of the turret. (The other galleries are straight.) Moreover, the Davidson House is the only turreted house with paired columns. Taken as a whole, its exterior is more intricate and complex than nearly all other houses in the Highland area.

The house is also significant because of its Craftsman style interiors. The half timber treatment in the two front rooms and the panel treatment in the dining room are much closer to designs presented in the Craftsman than the bungalow interiors normally found in the Highland area. Local bungalow style interiors are usually confined to the use of Craftsman style mantels and cabinets. They do not usually feature overall wall treatments such as those at the Davidson House.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical sketch of Davidson House prepared by owner. Based upon research in several primary and secondary sources. Copy in National Register file, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

Thomson, Bailey, editor. Historic Shreveport: A Guide. Shreveport Publishing Corporation,

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property @ 1/5 acre

Quadrangle name Shreveport East, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5
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 Zone

4	3	0	6	4	0
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 Easting

3	3	9	5	3	4	0
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 Northing

B

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

C

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

D

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

E

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

F

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

G

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

H

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed sketch map,

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

ASSISTED BY OWNER

name/title National Register Staff
Division of Historic Preservation
organization State of Louisiana

date September 1983

street & number P. O. Box 44247

telephone 504-342-6682

city or town Baton Rouge

state LA 70804

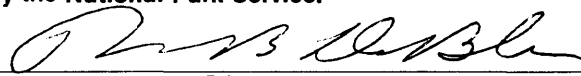
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature


Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date November 16, 1983

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register


Keeper of the National Register

date

12/22/83

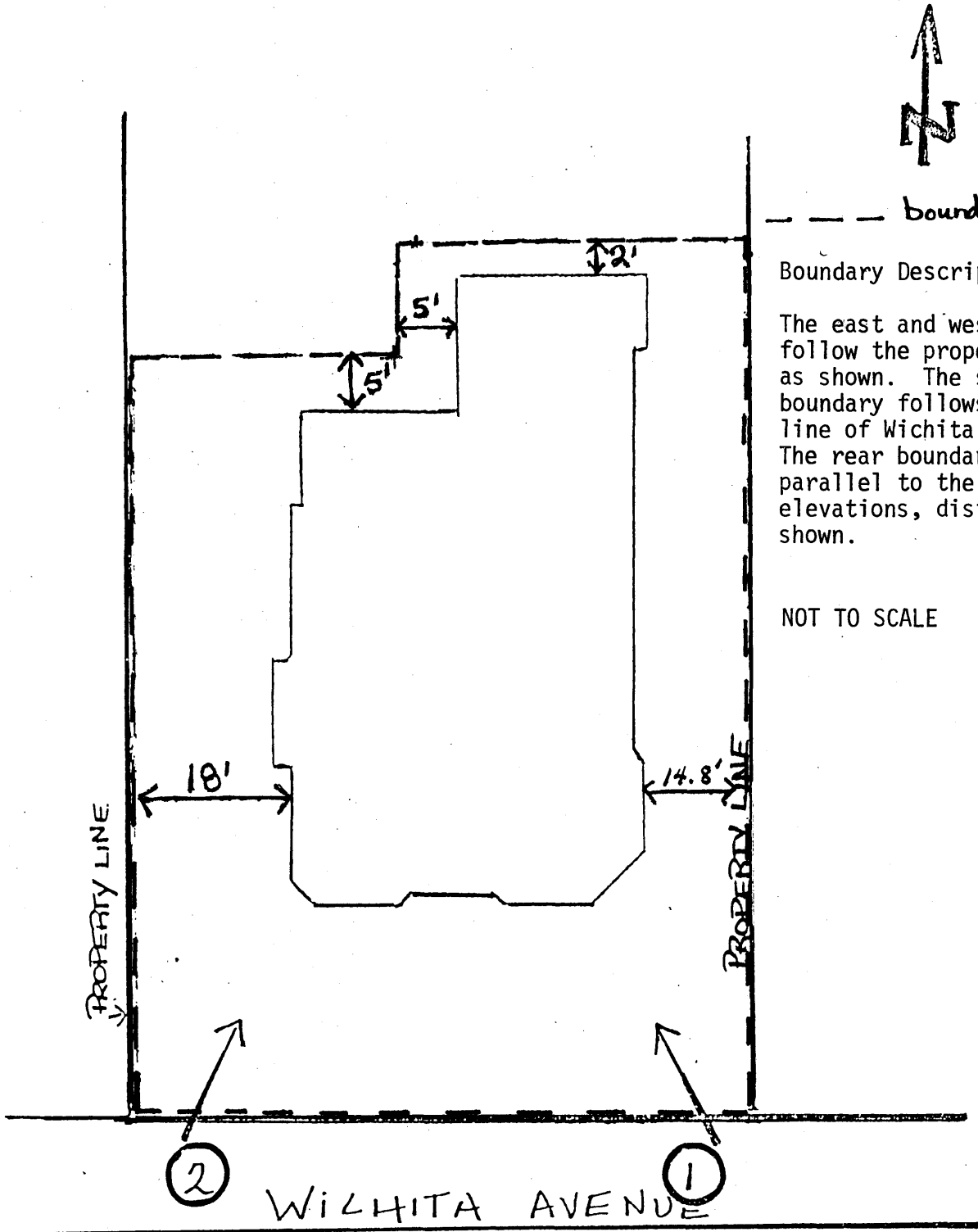
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

DAVIDSON HOUSE

654 WILHITA, SHREVE PORT, CADDOPARISH



--- boundary line

Boundary Description:

The east and west boundaries follow the property lines, as shown. The southern boundary follows the curb-line of Wichita, as shown. The rear boundaries are parallel to the building elevations, distances as shown.

NOT TO SCALE

654 WILHITA