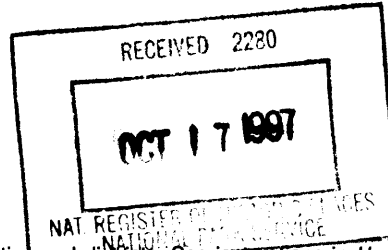


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1423

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Griffin's Bakery

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 301 Lafitte Street N/A  not for publication

city or town Mandeville N/A  vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county St. Tammany code 103 zip code 70448

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jonathan Fricker 10-7-97  
Signature of certifying official Title Deputy SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

for Signature of the Keeper 12/1/97  
Ma J. M. [Signature] Date of Action

Griffin's Bakery  
Name of Property

St. Tammany Parish, LA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/specialty store

Work in progress

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

No style

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt, tin

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 1

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Griffin's Bakery is a one story frame corner commercial building located in a late nineteenth/early twentieth century neighborhood known locally as "Old Mandeville." Because its styling is minimal, the term "no style" will be used for the purposes of this nomination. Located two blocks from Lake Pontchartrain in what was historically a resort community, the building began c.1900 and evolved into its present appearance by the mid-1930s. It has received relatively few alterations since that time.

The first known documentation on the building's appearance is a 1915 Sanborn map, the earliest available for Mandeville. The front portion with its gabled roof, corner entrance, and wraparound gallery extending over the sidewalk is clearly in place. It is labeled a general store. Extending from the side is a domestic galleried wing. In 1920 the Griffins bought the property from the E. H. Baudot family and soon added a bakery. The 1926 Sanborn map shows a small "bakehouse" a few feet to the rear of the main block. In the mid-1930s the Griffins removed the previously mentioned domestic wing and built a connecting room between the main block and the bakehouse.

The main block is two rooms wide and three rooms deep. The building's corner entrance opens into the largest of the rooms. The exact date of construction of the main block is not known. One assumes turn of the century given the architectural evidence. The building's two identical commercial bay windows are something of a mystery. Supported by decoratively worked brackets in the Italianate tradition and ornamented at the top with a scalloped band, they can be dated to c.1900 based on the stylistic details. However, they appear to have been added to the present building. Each is fitted over a smaller window and over the building's shiplap siding. If they had been intended in the original construction, one would expect a flush board surface behind. Seventy-nine year old Ernest Griffin, whose father owned the bakery, remembers them as always being there. Essentially there are three explanations. Firstly, the main block is an older building to which commercial bay windows were added c.1900; however, there is nothing in the architectural evidence to suggest that the main block dates from before c.1900. Secondly, perhaps the windows were an afterthought, being added soon after construction. Thirdly, one wonders if they were salvaged windows added by the Griffins when they purchased the building in 1920 and began their bakery. Ernest Griffin would have been a small child when his family started the bakery. His earliest vivid recollections appear to be from the early 1930s, by which time he was a teenager working there.

Perhaps the building's strongest character defining feature is its simple gallery extending over the sidewalk, a once common feature in Louisiana towns, as shown in old photos and

CONTINUED

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

documented on Sanborn maps. The shed roof gallery extends across the front, turns the corner, and extends down about half the side elevation. As noted previously, this configuration appears on the 1915 Sanborn map. Given the climate and out-of-control vehicles over the years, only two of the gallery posts appear to be historic. The corner entrance has French doors with a transom. Each leaf has two large panes and a molded panel below. An identical door (but without a transom) is found on each street elevation.

As noted previously, the main block is sheathed in shiplap, or drop, siding. The bakehouse is covered in weatherboards. The connector between the two was sheathed in shiplap siding when the present owner acquired the property in 1996. The deteriorated western side has been resheathed in board and batten. The connector and the bakehouse have a continuous low pitch roof with exposed rafter ends in the bungalow tradition.

The interior of the building is very simple and functional. A variety of sheathing materials are used on the walls of the main block -- board and batten, flush boards, and beaded boards -- sometimes in the same room. Ceilings are generally of beaded boards. Doors are of the raised four panel type. The connector between the main block and the bakehouse features flush board and beaded board sheathing mixed on the same wall. The concrete floored bakehouse retains its large 1920s wood fired oven sheathed in glazed bricks. It bears a patent date of 1921.

There have been the following non-historic alterations at Griffin's Bakery:

(1) A wainscot featuring a Lincrusta-like material has been added to two of the main block's easternmost rooms as part of an in-progress rehabilitation project. Originally these rooms were sheathed entirely in beaded board.

(2) The side elevation of the main block, facing the building's small yard, was badly rotted and has been reheathed in weatherboards.

(3) A small rooftop monitor on the bakehouse has been removed temporarily as part of the in-progress work. It is on site and will be reinstalled soon.

(4) As previously mentioned the connector has been resheathed on the western side in board and batten.

(5) A portion of one of the rear rooms on the main block has been subdivided for bathrooms.

CONTINUED

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 3

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Assessment of Integrity:

All in all, changes to Griffin's Bakery have been relatively minimal. It retains its distinctive character as a galleried frame corner commercial building and as such is a rare survivor to represent Mandeville's commercial history.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** N/A  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

**Period of Significance**

c. 1900, c. 1925, c. 1935

**Significant Dates**

c. 1900, c. 1925, c. 1935

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):** N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Griffin's Bakery  
Name of Property

St. Tammany Parish, LA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than an acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 5	7 8 1 8 8 0	3 3 6 1 7 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title National Register staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date May 1997

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Carolyn Fineran & Robert O. Lindig

street & number 386 Madison Street telephone 303-321-4059

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80206

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA  
Section number 8 Page 1

Griffin's Bakery is locally significant in the area of commerce because it is one of few buildings remaining to represent the commercial history of Mandeville. Additionally, it is particularly important because it personifies the look of old Mandeville, as explained below.

Located across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans, Mandeville is best known for its late nineteenth/early twentieth century history as a resort community. Founded in 1834 and incorporated in 1840, Mandeville from almost the beginning was a popular excursion destination from New Orleans. However, it was in the late nineteenth century when it and other towns in St. Tammany's "ozone belt" came into their own as health-restoring escapes, principally for New Orleanians. Transportation from the Crescent City was available via steamer and railroad, as detailed in a 1898 publication entitled "An Ideal Retreat: St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana." People flocked to the parish to breath the ozone laden and pine scented air and to "take the cure" at Abita Springs. The East Louisiana Railroad ran ads to lure people to "the immune region" -- where "no contagious diseases can exist." This resort boom resulted in the founding of the town of Abita Springs, and the existing small towns of Mandeville and Covington experienced considerable growth as hotels and businesses to accommodate visitors were built. An additional boost to the Mandeville economy was the location of the Poitevent and Favre sawmill there in 1913. The small town's greatest population growth during the historic period was from 1870 to 1900, when it virtually doubled (541 to 1,029). From 1900 into the post-World War II era, the town's population was roughly static.

While there are numerous residences remaining in Mandeville from the period in question, there are no known hotels surviving and very few historic commercial buildings. However, commerce in the town can be charted using Sanborn Insurance Company maps. The 1915 map, for example, shows some thirty-five commercial buildings plus rooming houses and a complex labeled the "Rest A While Charitable Summer Home for Women." Businesses included hotels, fruit vendors, barbers, confectioners, bakeries, general stores, meat markets, saloons, a laundry, a bank, etc. Unlike other towns across Louisiana, Mandeville never developed a brick party wall character. Free-standing commercial buildings were scattered freely amongst residences in an area along the lake about three blocks wide and two blocks deep, and interestingly, even as late as 1926, they were almost all of frame construction. This is in contrast to an identifiable chapter in early twentieth century commercial sector development across the state -- an early generation of frame buildings being replaced by more fire-resistant brick buildings. Mandeville, however, had only three brick commercial buildings even as late as 1926. Instead, the town's commercial character was defined by free-standing frame buildings of the type exemplified by Griffin's Bakery. Like Griffin's, many commercial buildings in

CONTINUED



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 2

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Mandeville, and indeed across Louisiana, featured galleries over the sidewalk.

Today's Mandeville is increasingly becoming a bedroom community of New Orleans. For the last decade or so it and other North Shore communities have been experiencing explosive growth. While "Old Mandeville" has managed to maintain a strong historic character and is one of the state's most attractive areas, there is relatively little remaining to represent the former resort town's commercial history. Indeed, the six or seven survivors (roughly 20% of the number in 1915) belie the bustling commercial activity that once took place there (per Sanborn maps and old photos). Griffin's is a particularly important survivor because it embodies the look of old commercial Mandeville, as noted above. As such, it is a significant "window" into the past.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Griffin's Bakery, St. Tammany Parish, LA

Section number  $\frac{9}{10}$  Page  $\frac{1}{1}$

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“The World Famous ‘Ozone Belt’, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.” New Orleans: American Printing Company, c. 1907.

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Historic Structures Survey, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

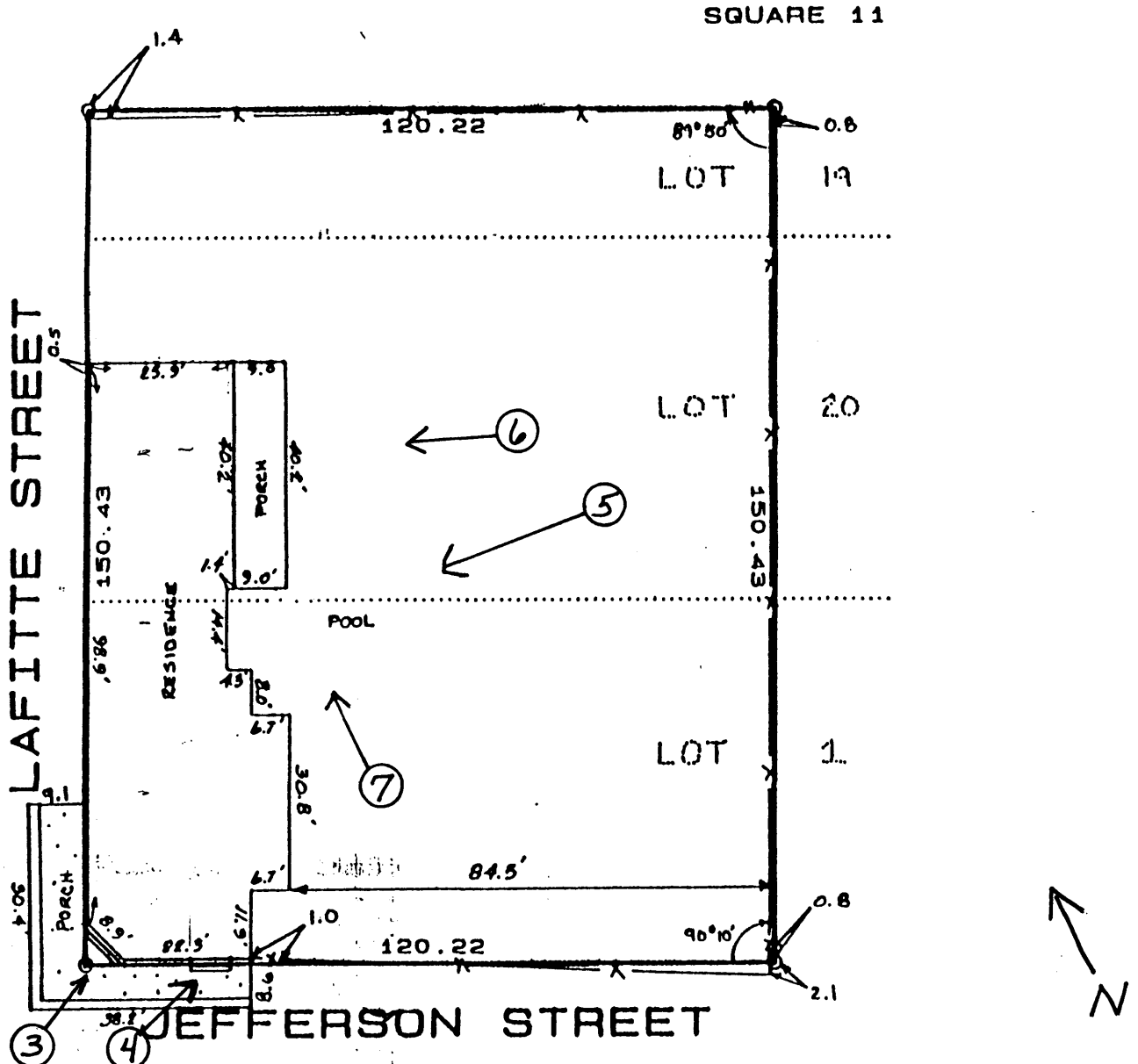
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Boundary Description: See enclosed property plat map.

Justification: Boundaries follow property lines.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:**

PORTIONS OF LOTS 1, 19, and 20, SQUARE 11, TOWN OF MANDEVILLE, as per survey by C.R. Schultz, dated 3 OCT 68, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.



1" = 30'

Griffin's Bakery  
Mandeville  
St. Tammany Parish, LA

CERTIFIED TO:

CAROLYN FINERAN  
PARISH NATIONAL BANK

wife of/and ROBERT O. LINDIG

**LEGEND:**

- SET 1/2" IRON ROD
- FOUND 1/2" IRON ROD
- FOUND OLD WOOD
- FENCE ---X---X---
- BEARINGS: MAGNETIC
- SETBACK LINES ---
- FRONT SIDES
- REAR STREET

SETBACK LINES ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROPRIATE ZONING

This survey is based upon the description furnished by the client. There may be other restrictions not shown on this plat that may exist in the public records. There are no visible encroachments existing except those shown hereon. If not otherwise noted, Elevations refer to NGVD 1929 datum.

I, hereby certify that this plat is based on a physical survey made on the ground and in accordance with the Minimum Standards of Accuracy for ALTA / ASCE Land Title Survey, and the applicable standards of practice cited in LAC 48:XXI. Signature must be in RED and sealed by the undersigned for this plat to be certified correct.

DRUCE W. POPE, R

REG. No. 4672

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL

**WILSON POPE, PLS**

LOUISIANA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS  
1990 BURGIE DRIVE  
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA 70448

TEL: (504) 626-5551 FAX: (504) 626-5525

LABS/TYPE	"C"	CPN: 220202 0002 C
BOUNDARY	14 AUG 80	FIRM DATE: 4 APR 83
FORMBOARDS		FIRM ZONE: "A10"
LAB TIE		BASE FLOOD: 12.0
8-BUILT		REVISED:
JOB NO.	4934	SCALE: 1 inch = 30 ft