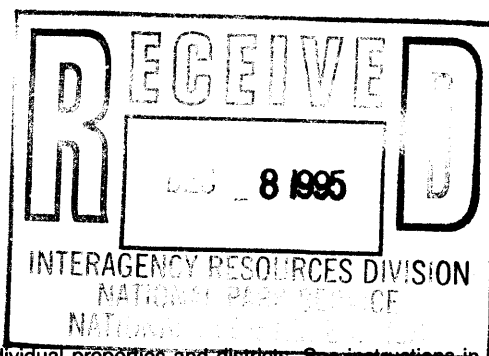


1563

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



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 Taylor, John R. Drugstore

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

2. Location

street & number 145 West Main Street N/A  not for publication

city or town New Iberia N/A  vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Iberia code 045 zip code 70560

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.)

Gerri Hobdy 12/4/95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Gerri Hobdy, Date  
LA SHPO, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism  
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 certifying 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:)

Edson H. Beal Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 1-22-96  
Entered in the National Register

John R. Taylor Drugstore  
Name of Property

Iberia Parish, LA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

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

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

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

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

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

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.)

N/A

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

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

Commercial Trade - Specialty Store  
Commercial Trade - Business

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

Other: communications

**7. Description**

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

Romanesque

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Tile

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**

Taylor, John, Drugstore, Iberia Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 1

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The John R. Taylor Drugstore (1906-1907) is a two-story Romanesque Revival style commercial building located on a corner lot within New Iberia's business district. The masonry structure retains two well preserved arcaded exterior faces, but its original interior features have been lost. It is for its two public faces, whose eligibility remains intact, that the store is being nominated to the National Register.

The drugstore's corner location provides an opportunity for a recessed corner entrance, as well as for two of the building's exterior walls to be styled. The resulting design is meant to be viewed from a three-quarter angle. The two styled walls are composed of glazed white brick, while the rear wall is of less expensive plain brick. The structure's fourth side consists of a party wall shared with the building next door (see below).

The drugstore's primary Romanesque feature is the treatment of the second floor windows on its two public faces. These openings are housed within heavy brick arcades, with each curving span emphasized by a narrow single raised brick band. The individual arches spring from the top of a corbeled and denticulated broken belt course which spans the structure's two street-side faces. A second, less elaborate belt course runs directly beneath the second story window sills, while a third belt course (this one both corbeled and denticulated) spans the facade above the storefront window and entrance. Another Romanesque feature is the treatment of the front corner at the second floor level. Because the walls in this area rise higher than the rest of the building, the visual effect is that of a tower. Segmentally arched windows and doors punctuate the first floor's side elevation. Although not in the Romanesque style, their arched shapes do reinforce the impact of the Romanesque arches above them.

On the facade, or storefront elevation, piers are used to divide the area into three bays. The piers themselves are divided vertically by the use of three types of surface ornament. At the first floor level they are rusticated; on the second level they are plain; and above the level of the upper broken belt course they are paneled. The corner pier protects a recessed entrance and accents the mock tower. A fourth identical pier marks the tower's terminating point on the side elevation.

Other architectural details of importance on the drugstore's exterior include its watertable composed of three courses of textured concrete block, a floor mosaic featuring "John R. Taylor" spelled out in tile beneath the corner tower, an original side entrance door leading to stairs rising

CONTINUED

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Taylor, John, Drugstore, Iberia Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 2

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to the second floor, a heavily corbeled parapet, and a paneled and crenelated tower parapet which hints loosely at the Gothic Revival style. Although not visible from the street, the building's original red tile roof survives. The drugstore's connection to its older party wall neighbor is somewhat unusual because the two buildings overlap slightly. A decorative pilaster from the older building is exposed on the first level.

Only one of three second floor mantels and a pressed metal ceiling in the same room remain to represent the original interior. Otherwise, the structure was gutted and its interior space reconfigured when it was rehabilitated in 1978. The former first floor drugstore now contains a lobby and offices, some of which have exposed brick walls and all of which have lowered tile ceilings. In addition, all of the openings on the first floor's side elevation have been covered on the interior. The party wall between the drugstore and its older neighbor has been opened in two places to connect the two structures, both of which are now owned by the same business. The second floor, historically consisting of doctors' offices, has also been reconfigured.

The only exterior changes of importance are the following:

- 1) the alteration of the storefront. This included the replacement of the shopfront's original large plate glass window with three smaller glass panels and accompanying transoms, the replacement of the wooden panels below the glass, the installation of transoms in the corner openings between the rusticated piers, and the covering of the glass which flanked the recessed corner doors.
- 2) the loss of the original front doors. These have been replaced by the original rear cypress and glass doors.

Less important exterior changes include the installation of a modern glass double door on the rear, the covering of the rear transom, and the installation of electrical conduit and plumbing pipes on the rear wall.

Because the new glass panes and transoms occupy the same space as the original plate glass window, the alteration of the storefront is not nearly as serious as it might otherwise seem. Although regrettable, the change in front doors is also insignificant because they are hidden behind the large corner pier. The building still retains the important architectural features which make it significant (see Part 8). For this reason, it is a prime candidate for National Register listing.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Taylor, John R., Drugstore, Iberia Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 3

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John R. Taylor Drugstore  
Name of Property

Iberia Parish, LA  
County and State

### 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.

#### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

#### Period of Significance

1906 - 1907

#### Significant Dates

1906 - 1907

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

#### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

John R. Taylor Drugstore  
Name of Property

Iberia Parish, LA  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .06 acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	5	6	1	3	8	8	0	3	3	1	9	9	0	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

3 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

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 Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation date October 1995

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 Donald Bonin

street & number 407 Parkview Drive telephone (318) 365-6651 - work  
(318) 364-5460 - home

city or town New Iberia state LA zip code 70560

**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**

John R. Taylor Drugstore, New Iberia, Iberia Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

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The John R. Taylor Drugstore is locally significant in the area of architecture as a landmark in the New Iberia Central Business District.

New Iberia, known as the "Queen City of the Teche," is among Louisiana's oldest towns, having been founded in 1779 by a band of Spanish settlers under the direction of Don Francisco Boulogny and originally named "Nueva Iberia." It was incorporated in 1839 as the "Town of Iberia," and in 1847 the charter was amended and the name changed to New Iberia. When Iberia Parish was created in 1868, New Iberia was selected to be the parish seat. During the antebellum period the town achieved importance as a port due to the flourishing steamboat trade on Bayou Teche. The railroad arrived in the town in 1879, and steamboating entered a period of decline. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, New Iberia's economy was based upon such industries as sawmills, a sash and blind factory, a shingle mill, brick factories, a foundry, and rice mills.

Despite the town's great age, little survives from before the late nineteenth century. New Iberia's CBD is one of the largest in Acadiana, but unfortunately the historic building stock has suffered over the years. Numerous historic buildings have been demolished to make way for new development. For example, in the 1970s a whole block was removed to make room for a bayou side park. Today, roughly 60 to 75 historic buildings survive. The majority of these are either significantly modified on the exterior or are very simple, featuring no recognizable architectural style.

The CBD, however, is noteworthy for the quality of its landmarks. The Taylor Drugstore is one of about 10 landmarks identified by the SHPO in downtown New Iberia as worthy of individual Register listing. The drugstore is one of the most important surviving buildings in the downtown because of its exterior's high degree of architectural integrity, its intensive styling, and its elaborate brickwork. For these reasons, the John R. Taylor Drugstore is a strong candidate for National Register listing.

Historical Note

As stated above, construction of the drugstore began in the winter of 1906, with the business opening in March 1907, as chronicled in the local newspaper. Taylor or his descendants ran the store until c. 1932, when it was purchased by Felix Mestayer and Armand Viator. In 1941 Mestayer purchased Viator's interest in the business, which he then continued to operate until

CONTINUED



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

John R. Taylor Drugstore, New Iberia, Iberia Parish, LA

Section number  $\frac{8}{9}$  Page  $\frac{2}{1}$

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1966. Viator sold the building to Donald Bonin c. 1975. Mr. Bonin has converted the interior for use as a radio station.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Division of Historic Preservation, Historic Standing Structures Survey of Iberia Parish, Louisiana, 1979.

Historic photograph of John R. Taylor Drugstore; copy in National Register file.

New Iberia Enterprise, 8 September 1906; 16 February 1907; 2 March 1907.

Site visit by National Register staff.

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

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

Taylor, John, Drugstore, Iberia Parish, LA  
Section number 10 Page 1

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## Boundary Description/Justification

Boundaries follow property lines of the parcel of land upon which the nominated building is located. Please refer to enclosed plat map. Property in question is marked as Tract A of Block 214, City of New Iberia.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, PARISH OF IBERIA

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, A REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT OF SURVEY IS A TRUE AND CORRECT EVIDENCE OF THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY:

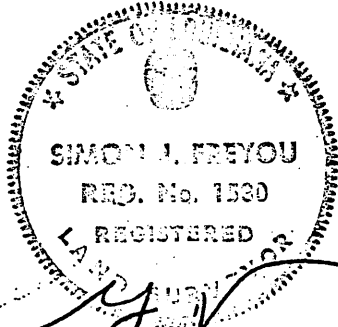
TRACT A - PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED BY SIGNAL COMPANIES OF LOUISIANA, INC. FROM DONALD BONNI LOCATED IN SEC. 43, T12S-R6E, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE SW CORNER OF THE WEST MAIN STREET - FRENCH STREET RIGHT-OF-WAYS, THENCE S 53° 24' 00" E - 27.50 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY 1/2" IRON PLUG, THENCE S 34° 13' 00" W - 89.27 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/4" IRON ROD, THENCE N 54° 53' 00" W - 0.64 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/2" IRON PLUG, THENCE N 54° 53' 00" W - 78 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/4" IRON ROD, THENCE N 55° 02' 12" E - 89.27 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE N 54° 53' 00" W - 0.35 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY THE BUILDING CORNER, THENCE N 34° 25' 00" E - 10.70 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THIS TRACT CONTAINS 0.06 ACRES. ALL BEARINGS ARE MAGNETIC AND ARE ROTATED TO MATCH THE BEARINGS OF REFERENCE PLAT NO. 1.

TRACT B - LEASE TO BE ASSIGNED TO SIGNAL COMPANIES OF LOUISIANA, INC. BY DONALD BONNI LOCATED IN SEC. 43, T12S-R6E, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT S 53° 24' 00" E - 27.50 FEET FROM THE SW CORNER OF THE WEST MAIN STREET - FRENCH STREET RIGHT-OF-WAYS, SAID POINT BEING MARKED BY A 1/2" IRON PLUG, THENCE S 53° 11' 58" E - 89.28 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/4" IRON ROD, THENCE S 34° 02' 13" W - 87.02 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/4" IRON ROD, THENCE N 54° 53' 00" W - 49.63 FEET TO A POINT MARKED BY A 1/4" IRON ROD, THENCE N 34° 13' 00" W - 89.27 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THIS TRACT CONTAINS 0.10 ACRES. ALL BEARINGS ARE MAGNETIC AND ARE ROTATED TO MATCH THE BEARINGS OF REFERENCE PLAT NO. 1. THE FEE OWNER OF THIS PROPERTY IS SLIMAN REALTY COMPANY.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT IS BASED ON A FIELD SURVEY MADE ON JANUARY 26, 1999 BY ME OR DIRECTLY UNDER MY SUPERVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD DETAIL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALTA/ACSM LAND TITLE SURVEYS, JOINTLY ESTABLISHED AND ADOPTED BY ALTA AND ACSM IN 1988, AND IT CORRECTLY REPRESENTS THE FACTS FOUND AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY THAT, EXCEPT AS SHOWN ON THE SURVEY PLAT, THERE ARE NO DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AS SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY PLAT AND AS DESCRIBED IN THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF RECORD; THAT THE BOUNDARY LINE DIMENSIONS AS SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY PLAT FORM A MATHEMATICALLY CLOSED FIGURE WITH 23.01 FEET; THAT, EXCEPT AS SHOWN ON THIS PLAT, THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY ARE CONTIGUOUS WITH THE BOUNDARY LINES OF ALL ADJOINING PARCELS, ROADS, HIGHWAYS, STREETS OR ALLEYS AS DESCRIBED IN THEIR MOST RECENT RESPECTIVE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF RECORD; THAT, EXCEPT AS SHOWN ON THIS PLAT, ALL IMPROVEMENTS NOW SITUATED ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY ARE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF SAME; THAT THERE ARE NO ENCROACHMENTS, RIGHT-OF-WAYS, EASEMENTS, OVERHANGS, SET-BACK LINES OR IMPROVEMENTS ON OR RELATED TO THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, EXCEPT AS SHOWN; THAT THERE IS ACCESS TO THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FROM A PUBLIC ROAD; THAT THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS NOT LOCATED IN A FLOOD HAZARD OR FLOOD-PRONE AREA; THAT THE CORRECT ADDRESS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS 145 WEST MAIN STREET, NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA AND THAT THE FIELD SURVEY MEETS THE ACCURACY REQUIREMENTS OF A CLASS A SURVEY AS DEFINED THEREIN.

THIS DONE THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1999

SIMON J. FREYOU  
REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1530



Taylor  
Drugstore

Tract A, Block 214  
City of New Iberia  
Iberia Parish, LA

REVISIONS		
DATE	DESCRIPTION	MADE

PLAT SHOWING PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED BY SIGNAL COMPANIES OF LOUISIANA, INC. FROM DONALD BONNI (TRACT "A") AND A LEASE TO BE ASSIGNED TO SIGNAL COMPANIES OF LOUISIANA, INC. FROM DONALD BONNI (TRACT "B") BEING LOCATED IN SEC. 43, T12S - R6E, BLOCK 214, NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA.

PROJECT NUMBER	89-01
SHEET	1 OF 2
DATE	FEB. 17, 1999

LEGEND

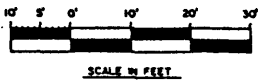
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- S 34°13'00" W - 89.27' - MEASURED BEARING & DIST.
- - - - - C - CABLE T.V. LINE
- - - - - T - TELEPHONE LINE
- - - - - E - ELECTRICAL LINE
- [ ] - BUILDING
- W.M. - WATER METER
- [ ] - ADJACENT BUILDINGS
- P.C. - PROPERTY CORNER

SURVEYOR

SIMON J. FREYOU  
1915 FREYOU ROAD  
NEW IBERIA, LA  
318-365-9335

REFERENCE PLATS

- 1) A PLAT OF SURVEY SHOWING PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED BY KODA STEREO, INC. PLAT BY J.R. MARE, DATED JUNE 9, 1977
- 2) PLAT OF SURVEY OF PROPERTIES IN A PORTION OF BLOCK 214, NEW IBERIA, LA. PLAT BY JOHN M. ROACHEL, C.E., DATED MARCH 1954



NOTE: THERE ARE FIVE LIGHT FIXTURES & ONE SIGN MOUNTED ON THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING WHICH ENCRACH INTO MAIN ST. RIGHT-OF-WAY

NORTH BASED ON THE SURVEY BY R.B. MARE, DATED JUNE 9, 1977

