

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0687863

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED NOV 15 1978  
DATE ENTERED JAN 23 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Knight Cabin

AND/OR COMMON

Knight Cabin

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Parish Fairgrounds

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Franklinton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th - Henson Moore

STATE

Louisiana

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CODE  
22

COUNTY

Washington Parish 117

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input 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

Washington Parish Police Jury

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Franklinton

\_\_ VICINITY OF

Louisiana 70438

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington Parish Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Franklinton

STATE  
Louisiana

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Louisiana Historic Sites Survey

DATE

April 1978

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Baton Rouge

STATE  
Louisiana

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1976</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Knight cabin is set in a wooded area on the Washington Parish fairgrounds. It was moved to that location when it was threatened with demolition by a highway project. Originally the cabin was just northwest of Enon on Route 16. Several other moved houses are within sight but they are not close enough to affect the Knight cabin's immediate setting.

The house itself consists of one large room with a sleeping loft in part of the attic. The porches are replaced as is the mud chimney and the roof.

The cabin is constructed of split half-round logs which are square-notched at the corners. The windows have much of the original glass but the mantel is relatively new.

Because the cabin has been moved from its original site, only the building itself is being nominated to the Register.

# 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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George Knight

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Knight cabin is significant as a surviving representative example of the smaller German log house, a vernacular house type which is rare in Washington Parish.

Because Washington Parish was settled relatively late, the Knight cabin is one of the oldest structures in the parish. Crudely built from found materials, it symbolizes the agricultural pioneer phase of the parish's development as few extant structures do. It is associated with the Knight family, who seem to have been typical of the farming families who lived in middle and late nineteenth-century Washington Parish.

According to local tradition, the Knight cabin was constructed in 1857 by George and Martha Knight.<sup>1</sup> (Since a courthouse fire in 1897 destroyed the local records of Washington Parish, most important early documents on the Knights and their land no longer exist.<sup>2</sup>)

The 1860 Census listed George Knight, a native of Louisiana, as a 28-year-old farmer with real estate valued at \$800 and personal estate at \$483. Living in the same household were his 19-year-old wife Martha Anne, who had been born in Mississippi, and their one-year-old daughter Margery.<sup>3</sup> In 1870, there were six children--four daughters and two sons. Knight owned about 175 acres of land and the estimated value of all his farm production for the previous year was \$760.<sup>4</sup>

The Census of 1880 found the parents and seven children living in the household. There were five sons and two daughters; five of the children were ten or under. By this time the four older daughters had apparently moved out.<sup>5</sup> The Agriculture Census for 1880 provides many details concerning George Knight's farm. By this time he owned 250 acres, of which twenty-five were under cultivation. The value of the farm, including land, fences, and buildings, was listed as \$750. Knight owned \$150 worth of implements and machinery and \$300 worth of livestock. The estimated value of all his farm productions for 1879 was \$300. The livestock included two horses, two oxen, sixteen milch cows, twenty other cows, sixteen calves, 75 swine, and thirty poultry. In 1879, the farm produced two hundred pounds of butter and 150 dozen eggs. In addition, ten acres of corn yielded 150 bushels, one-half acre of sugar yielded 120 gallons of molasses, 1½ acres of sweet potatoes yielded 125 bushels.<sup>6</sup>

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Census of 1880. Louisiana. Washington Parish. Population Schedule; Agriculture Census.

Census of 1870. Louisiana. Washington Parish. Population Schedule; Agriculture Census

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	7,7,0	9,7,0	3,4,1,6	7,8,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries include the exterior extent of the building.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dauntun Gibbs and Roy Bankston

August 25, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Executive Committee of Mile Branch Settlement

DATE

(504) 839-2239

STREET & NUMBER

1510 Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Franklinton

STATE

Louisiana 70438

# 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.

SIGNATURE

*Bernard Lamar*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

11 Oct 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*William Lebovich*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/23/79

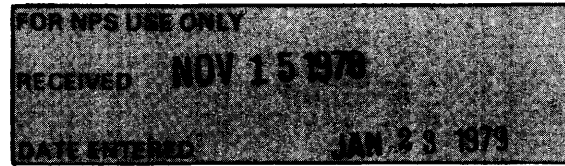
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1/16/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Mile Branch Settlement: 1977," pamphlet by Washington Parish Fair Executive Committee. Copy in National Register nomination file for Knight Cabin, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

<sup>2</sup>Amy Quick, The History of Bogalusa, the "Magic City" of Louisiana (Reprinted from Louisiana Historical Quarterly, Vol. 29, January 1946), p. 9.

<sup>3</sup>Census of 1860, Louisiana, Washington Parish, Population Schedule, p. 5.

<sup>4</sup>Census of 1870, Louisiana, Washington Parish, Population Schedule (Third Ward, Franklinton), p. 7; Agriculture Census, p. 13.

<sup>5</sup>Census of 1880, Louisiana, Washington Parish, Population Schedule (Fourth Ward), p. 26.

<sup>6</sup>Census of 1880, Louisiana, Washington Parish, Agriculture Census (Fourth Ward), p. 23.

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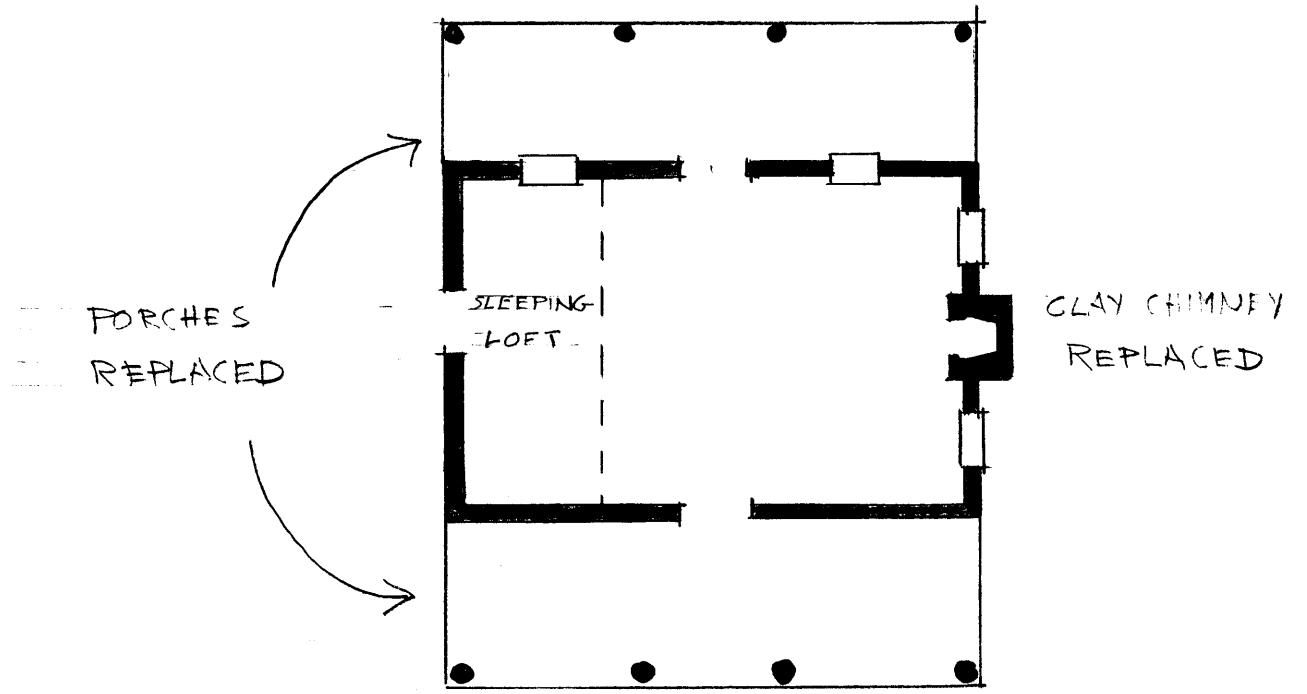
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Census of 1860. Louisiana. Washington Parish. Population Schedule.

"Mile Branch Settlement: 1977." Pamphlet by Washington Parish Fair Executive Committee. Copy in National Register nomination file for Knight Cabin, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Quick, Amy. The History of Bogalusa, the "Magic City" of Louisiana.  
Reprinted from Louisiana Historical Quarterly, Vol. 29 (January 1946).



KNIGHT CABIN

