

1043

JUL 03 1989

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ethridge House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 401 Louise Street N/A not for publication
city, town Colfax N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Grant code 043 zip code 71417

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Leslie P. Tassin June 28, 1989
Signature of certifying official Leslie P. Tassin, State Historic Preservation Officer, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:) _____

Alton Byers Entered in National Register 8/7/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brickwalls weatherboardroof asphalt

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Ethridge House is a retardataire Greek Revival residence built in 1900. The one-and-a-half story frame cottage is located adjacent to the Red River levee in an old residential section of Colfax. Despite various changes made in 1945, the house retains its late Greek Revival galleried cottage appearance.

The Ethridge House is a very backward-looking house from an architectural standpoint. Upon first glance, it looks like a fairly typical five bay galleried Greek Revival cottage of the mid-nineteenth century. The columns, with their molded capitals, necking, and base, are echoed by pilasters; the central entrance transom has small panes of glass; and the gallery wall is flushboarded. The latter is something usually seen on pre-Civil War houses in Louisiana, with later examples usually having a clapboarded surface. Certain other features, however, are clues to the house's late date. These include the large dormers front and rear, the two over two plate glass windows, and the narrow gauge clapboarding. In addition to these exterior clues, as well as those on the interior, the date of 1900 seems to be well established. The current owner's father purchased the house in 1907 from the man who had it built.

As originally built, the house had a central hall in the front portion which widened at the rear to form a central dining room. Two rooms flanked the central hall and two smaller rooms flanked the dining room. The only change in this plan has been the removal of the wall separating the central hall and the east front room. The capacious semi-finished attic is sheathed in natural wood beaded boards.

The transition between the front central hall and rear dining room is marked by a prominent staircase which turns the corner as it descends, culminating in the central hall. The staircase's turn-of-the-century date is evident in its massive turned newel post and boldly three-dimensional character.

In 1945 the house was turned ninety degrees because a recently completed levee virtually abutted the front gallery. At this time an original rear kitchen wing was severed at a point even with the eave line of the main roof. The small remaining space was reworked for use as a closet and bathroom. The chimney, which was located between the two eastern rooms, was lost as a result of the move, and the two mantels were removed. A final alteration made in 1945 was lowering the ceilings throughout the house.

 See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Ethridge House, Colfax, Grant Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

In 1969 the eastern corner of the rear gallery was enclosed. Two of the columns and part of the entablature remain.

Assessment of Integrity:

Fortunately, all alterations have occurred to the rear or on the interior. The house's significance rests upon its status as a late Greek Revival galleried cottage, an identity which is established by the frontal appearance, which remains entirely intact.

A non-contributing carport/garage is located to the immediate rear of the house.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G (turned on lot)

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
architecture

Period of Significance
1900

Significant Dates
1900

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Ethridge House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it represents the earliest style to be found in Colfax and hence is a significant component of the town's architectural heritage.

Both the parish of Grant and the parish seat of Colfax were created in 1869. Except for an old jail that may date from the Reconstruction era and an 1883 Italianate house, the town's earliest buildings are from the 1890 -1910 era. These include the nominated building, three Italianate commercial buildings, an Eastlake shotgun, a very plain Gothic Revival church, and a dozen or so Queen Anne Revival cottages, only two of which stand above the norm. Although the Ethridge House dates from the same period, it represents an earlier taste from a stylistic standpoint. Although it is a vernacular version of a style normally thought to have gone out of fashion some years before, it is nonetheless the town's only example of the Greek Revival. As such, it is significant in the architectural heritage of Colfax.

Historical Note:

The property in question was purchased in 1899 by T. Q. Long, and he had the house built in 1900. On February 4, 1907, Long sold the property to Emuel Allen Ethridge, the present owner's father.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Windshield survey of Colfax by National Register staff.

Conveyance Records.

Personal communication with the owner, Mrs. Nettie Bourg, whose father purchased the house in 1907.

- 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 15 52721010 3481721010
Zone Easting Northing

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Boundary lines follow the property lines of the lots on which the house stands, said lots being Lots 7, 10, & 11 of Block 20, each lot measuring 50.17 feet along Louise St. by 168.5' in depth. (The total dimensions are 150.51 along Louise by 168.5 feet in depth.)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification Boundary lines follow legally recorded property lines, as noted above.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
organization Division of Historic Preservation date May 1989
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city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804