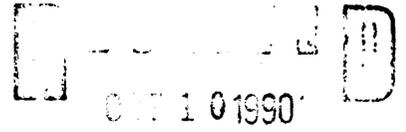


1741

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Madisonville Town Hall

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 203 Cedar N/A not for publication

city, town Madisonville N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county St. Tammany code 103 zip code 70447

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
[X] public-local
public-State
public-Federal

Category of Property

- [X] building(s)
district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows: buildings, sites, structures, objects, 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 [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official Leslie Tassin, LA State Historic Preservation Officer, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. Date October 4, 1990.

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:

- [X] 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):

Entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 11/8/90

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

no style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls brick

roof asphaltother concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Madisonville Town Hall (1911) is a two story brick and concrete building located in a small community (@800 population) on the Tchefuncte River in St. Tammany Parish. The building best fits the "no style" category. Because the town hall is unaltered, it easily conveys its historical significance as the center of Madisonville's governmental history.

The hipped roof building consists of a concrete bottom story with jail cells and a brick upper (main) story of one large room. The main floor is reached by means of a double staircase which is the facade's principal feature. The stairs ascend from either side turning 90 degrees half way up and culminating in a central landing which takes the form of a single bay entrance porch with a pronounced cornice and flat roof. The chamfered porch posts and stair balustrades (with chunky chamfered balusters and newel posts) appear to be of wood at first glance, but are actually cast concrete. The six over six windows as well as the French door entrance feature heavy brick surrounds capped by a concrete lintel. Additional texture is provided by wide corner pilasters of brick and a brick entablature in which the frieze is laid up in Flemish bond with battered headers. Certain parts of the building are of slightly darker brick than the walls (the pilasters, the door and windows surrounds, sections of the entablature and the water table surmounting the ground story).

The one room main floor interior is basically plain and functional. The only decorative touch is the wood ceiling, which is formed of two pronounced molded strips that cross in an "X" fashion with fairly wide beaded boards between.

The town hall is currently being restored for use as a museum.

(Note: The flimsy, deteriorated, half open shed to the rear of the old town hall was not counted because it is not "substantial in size and scale.")

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 N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
politics/government

Period of Significance
1911-1940

Significant Dates
1911-1940

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 Madisonville Town Hall is of local significance in the area of politics/government because it was by definition the focal point of the community's governmental history. The period of significance is from the building's construction as a town hall/jail in 1911 to 1940 (the required fifty year cutoff). The building continued to serve as a town hall until 1976.

Incorporated in 1817, the town of Madisonville has always been a small community. Due to its location on the Tchefuncte River two miles above its entrance into Lake Pontchartrain, the town developed as a shipbuilding center. During the period of significance for the town hall, the mayor and council presided over a period that has been termed the "high water mark" in Madisonville's history by local historian Frederick S. Ellis. This was the great expansion of shipbuilding during World War I that caused an artificial economic boom and population growth. According to Ellis, some estimates placed the population in excess of 4,000 as a result of high employment in the shipyards. (By way of comparison, the population in 1906 was about 1,200.) With the end of the war, the population dropped back to its normal level. Other than this boom, Madisonville's history during the period of significance seemed to have been "business as usual," with the town council meeting monthly to take care of the day-to-day functions of government in the small community.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Ellis, Frederick S. St. Tammany Parish: L'Autre Cote du Lac. Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Company, 1981.
Boagni, Ethel Haas. St. Tammany Historical Society Gazette, Madisonville Issue, 1980.

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

Acres of property less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	5
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7	7	2	9	6	0
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3	3	6	7	4	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Boundary lines follow the property lines of the lot upon which the building stands, said property being Lot 13 of Square 19 and measuring 55'10" X 120'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary lines follow property lines, as noted above.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
 organization Division of Historic Preservation date July 1990
 street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504/342-8160
 city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

Owner: Town of Madisonville
P. O. Box 160
Madisonville, LA 70447