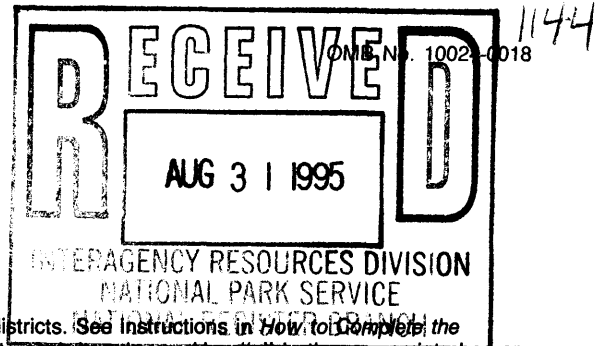


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Chauviere House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 108 North Louisiana N/A not for publication

city or town Abbeville N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Vermilion code 113 zip code 70510

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.)

Berri Hobdy August 28, 1995
 Signature of certifying official/Title Berri Hobdy, Date
LA SHPO, Dept 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): _____

 Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 9/29/95

 Entered in the National Register

Chauviere House
Name of Property

Vermilion 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)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne Revival

Eastlake

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

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**

Chauviere House, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The Chauviere House (c.1904) is a one-and-a-half story frame Queen Anne Revival residence located in an older residential neighborhood east of downtown Abbeville. Exterior alterations have been confined largely to additions at the rear. Also, although there have been modifications, the interior survives with its original character largely intact.

The house's Queen Anne character is evident in its complex, multi-plane roof. The hipped roof features a gabled projection in the front, one on each side, and one at the rear in addition to a large gabled dormer. The "busy" silhouette, as viewed from frontal or three-quarter views, is enhanced by two of the original three prominent chimneys. Queen Anne influence can also be seen in the house's two polygonal bays with forty-five degree corner cuts (one on the front and one on the side).

The Chauviere House's Eastlake gallery begins at the front projecting polygonal bay, extends across the facade, and sweeps around the corner to connect with the previously mentioned side gabled projection. It features turned columns and brackets pierced with a floral motif. The cutout work balustrade is of a type common at the time and should not be pigeonholed into a particular style category. Originally there was a small Eastlake porch on the side to shelter the entrance to a cross hall (see interior below). Only a remnant of it survives (see alterations below).

The house has a wide central hall with a narrower hall extending from it at the rear to form an L shape. On the northern side of the central hall are three rooms, the last of which, the kitchen, extends partly beyond the main building mass. On the southern side of the central hall are two rooms, the previously mentioned side hall, and a third room extending completely beyond the main building mass. Originally there was a porch between these two rear projections.

Although the attic was historically unfinished space, there is a prominent decorative staircase. It begins in the side hall and turns the corner to ascend via the central hall. The staircase is a striking visual element because of the three almost over-sized, turned posts with a ball ornament at the bottom marking the corner landing. The newel posts are similar in character. Other noteworthy interior features are window and door surrounds with bull's eye cornerblocks, movable transoms over doors, a window seat following the lines of the side polygonal bay, and three of the home's original five mantels. Fairly simple for the period, two feature fluting and a bull's eye motif, while the third has bull's eye motifs and incised stylized plant forms. The house retains some of its original four panel doors intact, although most have been cut in two to form double doors.

CONTINUED

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Chauviere House, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

The following alterations were made by the current owners when they acquired the house in 1973:

(1) A one room addition was made to the rear which engulfed and extended beyond the old rear porch. Off of it is a deck with a balustrade which replicates that of the front gallery. What was presumably a window or door off the southern rear room was changed to a large opening to provide access to the deck. Also affecting the rear elevation was the extension of the kitchen to provide for a utility room and the addition of a porch with a replicated balustrade.

(2) The southern rear room received a bathroom/closet extension on its side elevation. Extending off it is a carport. A portion of the old Eastlake side porch was incorporated into this addition (see photo).

(3) As previously mentioned, doors were cut in two to make double doors.

(4) The present kitchen space was originally a butler's pantry and kitchen. The wall between the two was partially removed to provide for more space in the kitchen.

(5) The previously unfinished attic was converted into bedrooms.

Changes occurring earlier in the house's history include the removal of 2 corner fireplaces and their chimney; the installation of the present beveled glass doorway with a transom and side lights (a historic alteration); and the addition of wide columnar openings between the hallway and parlor and the parlor and dining room. Given the look of the columns, one strongly suspects that this was a c.1920s alteration.

Assessment of Integrity:

Fortunately, the above mentioned exterior alterations have been confined largely to the extreme rear of the house. And the interior still has a strong historic character despite the modifications. Most importantly, the frontal and three-quarter views of the house are unchanged, with the exception of the side carport and the front door. In terms of the carport, it should be noted that it is located toward the rear, with the result that the original house is visually dominant. Most important, the house's character-defining features (its complex, multi-plane roofline and its wraparound Eastlake gallery) survive intact.

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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1904

Significant Dates

c. 1904

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:

Chauviere House
Name of Property

Vermilion 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
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5	8	3	6	4	0
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3	3	1	6	0	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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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 Division of Historic Preservation date July 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 Mr. & Mrs. J. Byron Hebert

street & number 108 North Louisiana telephone (318) 893-6473

city or town Abbeville state LA zip code 70510

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

Chauviere House, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, LA
Section number 8 Page 1

The Chauviere House is locally significant in the area of architecture as a superior example of the Queen Anne Revival style within the parish seat of Abbeville. It derives this distinction from its massing and wraparound gallery.

Located on the Vermilion River, the town of Abbeville is much older than its present historic building stock would indicate. It traces its founding to 1843, when Father Antoine Desire Megret purchased a tract of land on the river for construction of a chapel. The town that developed was incorporated in 1850, and in 1854 it became the parish seat of newly created Vermilion Parish. Apparently the town was very small and grew slowly until the coming of the Iberia and Vermilion Railroad (soon to be Southern Pacific) in 1892. With the coming of the railroad, Abbeville emerged as a major rice processing center. Like other southwestern Louisiana towns such as Crowley and Jennings, Abbeville benefitted enormously from the "Great Louisiana Rice Boom" of the turn of the century in which mechanized agricultural techniques previously used in the Midwest for wheat production were brought to the prairies of Acadiana for the large-scale production of rice.

Because of the railroad and the rice boom it made possible, Abbeville grew rapidly (from a population of 1200 in 1895 to 2500 in 1907) and prospered greatly, as can be seen in its historic building stock. Despite its early founding, there are believed to be no buildings in the town which predate c. 1890. Queen Anne Revival residences such as the Chauviere House reflect the frenzy of building that occurred in Abbeville at the height of the rice boom (c. 1895-c. 1910). In fact, from the standpoint of residences, the town has a strong Queen Anne heritage. Based upon an almost comprehensive survey and extensive SHPO staff knowledge, it is estimated that there are 50 to 60 houses in the town which reflect the Queen Anne/Eastlake style, ranging from the extremely plain to the very elaborate. Put in perspective, these 50 to 60 houses represent about one-fourth to one-fifth of the town's overall historic building stock.

A review of these 50-60 examples by the State Historic Preservation Office revealed that roughly 18 were of sufficient quality to merit Register consideration. These 18 emerged as superior examples within Abbeville because of their massing and/or ornamentation, both of which are hallmarks of the style. The Chauviere House is noteworthy because it exhibits the elaborate massing characteristic of the Queen Anne style -- in this case, a complex, multi-plane roof with various projections, two of which take the form of polygonal bays with forty five degree corner cuts, and a wraparound gallery. This is in contrast to the more typical example in Abbeville, a simply massed cottage with a front projecting polygonal bay and a three bay Eastlake porch to the side. The Chauviere's gallery is particularly noteworthy when compared to other examples in town. It is among the most visually prominent because it is seven bays in length, extending across the front, curving around the corner, and extending down the side. Of the 50-60 examples of the Queen Anne style in Abbeville, only about 10 feature wraparound galleries.

Historical Note:

The Chauviere House is named for the family who owned and occupied it from the 1920s until 1973, when it was acquired by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. J. Byron Hebert. It is believed to have been built in 1904 when Eugenie Young, married to William R. McHenry, mortgaged her family property for \$3000. It is not on the 1899 Sanborn map for Abbeville but is on the 1907 map.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Chauviere House, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, LA
Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Historic Structures Survey, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

Sanborn Insurance Company Maps, Abbeville, 1899, 1907.

Title research conducted by owner, Vermilion Parish Conveyance Records.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chauviere House, Vermilion Parish, LA

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 78 and the southern nine feet of Lot 77, Megret's Portion, City of Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana

Boundary Justification: Boundaries follow property lines of the parcel of land historically associated with the nominated resource.