

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Funk House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 523 Cary Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Jennings N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Jefferson Davis code 053 zip code 70546

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.)

Geri Hobdy 3/1/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Geri Hobdy, LA Date
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 William Byrum Date of Action 4/1/93
 Entered in the National Register

Funk House
Name of Property

Jefferson Davis 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	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	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)

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 shingles

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Funk House, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The Funk House (c.1895) is a two story frame house with Queen Anne and Eastlake details. It is located in an old residential section of Jennings near the downtown. The exterior is virtually unaltered.

The massing and overall architectural character of the house are reminiscent of the work of Andrew Jackson Downing. This can be seen in its crisp, vertical proportions with a prominent, steeply pitched gabled projection at the center of the facade. On either side of the gabled projection is a small entrance porch. The porches are identical except that the one to the south is recessed, being intended as a secondary entrance. Behind the forward facing gabled projection is the two room wide main block. There is also a steeply pitched one story kitchen wing at the rear with a shed roof side porch that has since been enclosed.

The Funk House is intricately detailed. The Queen Anne Revival love of surfaces with varying textures can be seen in the elaborate shingle patterns found in the front and side gables. There are three or four patterns, depending upon the gable, with no two gables being the same. Designs include scallops, diamonds, and a shape resembling blind arcading. In the center of each gable is an attic vent with a pointed top. The ground story window on the front gabled projection has a flared shingled hood, a heavily molded cornice above a sawtooth band, and elaborate ornamentation cut on a jigsaw, including scroll brackets with ball drops. Each porch has a flared roof, a heavily molded cornice with a sawtooth band, and curved brackets with ball drops and cut out designs in the spandrels. Between the brackets is a scalloped band. There is a turned column at the corner and matching pilasters. The flared hood over the front window and the flared roofs over the porches are reminiscent of the Second Empire style, albeit in a watered down vernacular version. The detailing on the porches and the decorative work around the front window reflect the Eastlake taste.

The floorplan consists of an entrance vestibule, three rooms (one in the gabled front projection and two in the main block) and the rear kitchen wing. The utilitarian staircase was not meant to be a major architectural feature, being located at the rear of the main block. It begins its rise to the second story off an enclosed porch to the kitchen wing. (Because the kitchen wing is so steeply pitched, it is possible for a stair to ascend to the second floor.) Apparently there was originally a walled off stair landing, because otherwise the stair would have been accessed from an open porch.

The interiors are relatively plain, considering the elaborate detailing on the exterior. Noteworthy original features include richly molded baseboards, door and window frames with bull's eye cornerblocks, and a set of pocket doors. The house's chimney had been cut off and the fireplace removed when the present

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Funk House, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, LA

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owners acquired the house. The simple cornices and picture moldings were installed by the present owners when the house was sheetrocked. The ceilings have been covered with acoustical tiles.

Assessment of Integrity:

With the exception of an enclosed rear porch and the lack of a chimney, the house's exterior, the source of its architectural significance, is unaltered.

Non-contributing Element:

At the rear of the property is a deteriorated garage that is not contemporaneous with the house. It is being considered a non-contributing element.

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.1895

Significant Dates

c.1895

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:

Funk House
Name of Property

Jefferson Davis Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 1 | 5 | | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 0 | | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
Zone Easting Northing
2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (see sketch map)
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification Boundaries follow the property lines of the parcel of land upon which
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) the nominated resource is located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date January 1993

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana 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. and Mrs. D. Keith Wall

street & number 523 Cary Avenue telephone 318-824-7198

city or town Jennings state LA zip code 70546

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.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Funk House, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

The Funk House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a landmark in the late nineteenth century residential architectural heritage of Jennings. It achieves this distinction chiefly because of its unusual massing and overall articulation. With crisp, vertical proportions and minimal porches, it best reflects the Midwestern origins of the town. Secondly, its porches and front window exhibit some of the very finest Eastlake ornamentation to survive in Jennings.

Jennings was just a stop on the recently completed Southern Pacific Railroad when S. L. Cary, who is regarded as its founder, migrated there in 1883 from Iowa. At that time, there were only four buildings, including the depot. Due to Cary's promotional efforts, what was once a mere spot on the southwestern prairies became a thriving rice boom town of transplanted Midwesterners. Employed by the railroad as an immigration agent, Cary had attracted about one hundred fellow Iowans to Jennings by the end of 1883. The town had sufficient population to be incorporated as a village in 1888. By 1890, the population was 412, and by 1900, it had increased almost fourfold. The settlers came from various states in the Midwest, but the majority were from Iowa. Midwestern migration continued in the very early years of this century, spurred by the discovery of oil in 1901.

Because of its Midwestern origins, Jennings has a collection of late nineteenth century houses that are rather atypical for Louisiana, being more vertical in proportion than the rambling one and one-and-a-half story cottages with generous galleries being built elsewhere in the state at the time. The Funk House is particularly conspicuous in this regard. With its crisp, strikingly vertical massing, symmetrical articulation, prominent front facing gable, and minimal entrance porches, it more closely resembles conventional Midwestern "Victorian" architecture than virtually any other period house in Jennings. From an architectural standpoint, it is the "signature" of the town's Midwestern origins.

In addition, the Funk House features some of the most elaborate Eastlake detailing in town. Historic photos show that exuberant Eastlake ornamentation was once quite common in Jennings. However, the town has lost most of its finest Victorian residential architecture, and the examples that survive tend to have either Colonial Revival details or simple Eastlake features such as turned columns. Only a very few even have Eastlake ornamentation in the gable peaks or perhaps some spindlework. By contrast, the porches and front window at the Funk House feature richly three dimensional ornamentation, including scroll and curved brackets, ball drops, cut out designs, and scallops. Although small elements, these make quite an architectural statement.

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Funk House, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, LA

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Historical Note:

The nominated house is identified in a collection of photos dated 1900-1905 as the home of Reverend G. N. Funk. Reverend Funk was the pastor of the First Congregational Church in the early years of this century.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Funk House, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, LA

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Morse, Walter D. "The Birth of Jennings." This 1960s compilation contains numerous photographs of early Jennings residences. Available at Jennings Public Library.

Riser, Henry LeRoy. "The History of Jennings, Louisiana." M.A. thesis, Louisiana State University, 1948.

Souvenir: Jennings, Louisiana, Products and Industries. Published by Walter D. Morse, 1907. This promotional piece contains numerous photographs of Jennings residences.