National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	е			
historic	N/A			
XXXXXX common	St. Francisvil	le Historic Distri	ct Addendum	
2. Loca	tion		,	
street & number	Ferdinand and Sewe		map) n/a n	ot for publication
city, town St.	Francisville	n/a_ vicinity of	congressional district 8th-	Gillis Long
state LA	code	22 county	West Feliciana Parish	code 125
3. Class	sification			
-	OwnershippublicprivateX_both Public Acquisition /a_ in process /a being considered	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X_ yes: unrestricted no	educational entertainment government	Le USE museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
street & number	tiple ownership	(more than 50)		
5. Loca	tion of Lega	vicinity of	state	
courthouse, regis	try of deeds, etc. West Fe	eliciana Parish Co	urthouse	`
street & number	Ferdinand Street	(no specific add	iress) P. O. Box 71	
city, town	St. Francisville			A 70775
<u>6. Repr</u>	esentation i	n Existing	Surveys	
title La. Histo	ric Sites Survey	has this pro	perty been determined elegible	? yes _X_ no
date 1982			federal _X_ state	county local
depository for sur	vey records La. Stat	e Historic Preser	vation Office	
city town B	aton Rouge		state T.∆	

7. Description Condition Check one Check one ___ excellent deteriorated ___ unaltered X original site n/a _x_ good ruins _X_ altered ____ moved date ____ fair _ unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The eighty-one (81) buildings in the proposed St. Francisville Historic District addendum are located on Ferdinand and Sewell Streets. This linear area will be appended to the present "U" shaped district (see map). Although land in the area is rolling, almost hilly, Ferdinand Street undulates only slightly in its course from east to west. The only major change in elevation in the addendum area is at Sewell Street, which rises sharply as it forks off Ferdinand. Most of the buildings are residences, however, they are interspersed with a significant complement of commercial, religious, and public buildings. Like the present district, the addendum area is characterized mainly by late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures. The difference is that in the present district the historic buildings are somewhat more concentrated, and there are slightly more pre-1890 structures. The addendum area has a predominantly one-story scale, and the vast majority of the buildings are of frame and clapboard construction. It has a 27% intrusion rate; however, as will be shown, this should not be considered an integrity problem.

The east end of Ferdinand has a low-scale commercial character with buildings set close to the street. The rest of the street has a more open residential character with houses set back from the street and well treed lots. Sewell Street is more rural still, with large lots, irregularly placed houses, and a semi-forested environment. It should be noted that non-residential buildings are not confined to the east end of Ferdinand Street. There are also several set at the midpoint of Ferdinand (Photo #1). Others include Grace Episcopal Church, the West Feliciana Parish Courthouse (Photo #2), and the Masonic Hall. This blending of public, commercial, and residential architecture helps establish the identity of St. Francisville as a rural town center. It shows that there was no distinctly "commercial zone" as one might find in a larger town. Even at the "commercial" east end of Ferdinand Street, there are residences present (Photo #3). The only significant difference between St. Francisville and many other comparable rural towns is that, in St. Francisville, the buildings are somewhat closer together with less vegetation massing. Hence the buildings tend to read in groups (Photo #11), which gives the addendum area a cohesiveness many rural towns lack.

Aside from the handful of landmarks in the addendum, the contributing buildings fall into four categories. These include:

1. The late raised cottage. These represent almost the last generation of a traditional Louisiana house type. Some have simple details which might lead the casual observer to mistake them for Greek Revival period houses (Photos 4&5). Most, however, have Renaissance Revival or Eastlake details (Photos 6&7). The Renaissance Revival influence is seen not only in the use of bracketed cornices, but also frequently in the use of knobs or diamonds set at the midpoints of the columnar shafts (Photo 8). A number of the buildings have this detail, which is unexpected in a rural community. The Eastlake influence was manifested in a more standard way (Photo 7).

A majority of the area's raised cottages have central hall plans, although by no means all. Most have some sort of rear wing-usually a kitchen.

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7. Description (Continued)

- 2. Houses with pyramid roofs. These houses are similar to raised cottages in plan except that they have narrow hip roofs which present the facade of a pyramid when seen from the street front (Photo 9). All have interior halls, and like the raised cottages, they have rear kitchen wings. Stylistically each can be categorized as either Eastlake or Renaissance Revival. There are no plain examples. Indeed, the area's most noteworthy example actually has the pretention of round arch windows and a full bracketed entablature (Photo 10).
- 3. Bungalows (Photo 11). About 22% of the 81 buildings in the addendum are bungalows. All are no more than ordinary examples taken within the context of the state. However, they are a part of the architectural history of St. Francisville during its historic period. Moreover, they are part of the overall unmonumental mixture of archetypes which gives the town its distinctive character.
- 4. Commercial or Public Buildings. Throughout the area are small frame commercial-public buildings which date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Early examples are similar to shotgun houses (Photo 12). Later examples have similar plans, but with false fronts (Photo 27).

Intrusions:

The district has a 27% intrusion rate. However, most intrusions are small, innocuous 1930's and '40's frame buildings (mainly residential) which do not significantly disturb the streetscape (Photo 14). There are also some larger brick intrusions (Photo 15), but these are isolated and they maintain the area's one-story scale.

Contributing and Non-contributing Buildings:

Because the district and the addendum are known for their mixed character (as previously described), any 50+ year old structure which has not been seriously modified is considered to be a contributing element. Non-contributing elements, or intrusions, are structures which are not 50 years old and historic buildings which have been seriously altered.

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Description (Continued)

Inventory Breakdown by Periods:

	81 buildings (79)	
Non-contributing	22 buildings	27%
1911-c.1930	28 buildings (27)	35%
1890-1910	19 buildings(17)	23%
pre-1890	12 buildings	15%

NB: ONLY THOSE PHOTOS SHOWING GENERAL VIEWS ARE KEYED TO ACCOMPANYING MAP.

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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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ST. FRANCISVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT ADDENDUM INVENTORY

- 1. 130 Ferdinand St. Marian Morris House. 1890. Contributing element. Frame, one-story, hip roof, five bay cottage with elaborate Eastlake front gallery.
- 2. Ferdinand St. Morris Building. c.1920. Contributing element. Commercial building with gable front. Front windows replaced.
- 3. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. One-story stucco over frame commercial building with stepped parapet.
- 4. Ferdinand St. c.1940. Non-contributing element. Frame one-story commercial building.
- 5. Ferdinand St. c.1900. Contributing element. Simple frame commercial building with pyramid roof and front gallery.
- 6. Ferdinand St. J. Kenneth Woods Cottage. c.1850. Contributing element. Five-bay raised frame cottage with two front doors.
- 7. Ferdinand St. J. Kenneth Woods Store. c.1900. Contributing element. Three-bay frame store with front gallery and stepped parapet.
- 8. Ferdinand St. J. Kenneth Woods House (with garage). c.1890. Contributing element. Frame raised cottage with paneled post columns on front gallery, small cornice brackets, and pyramid roof.
- 9. Ferdinand St. c.1935. Non-contributing element. Frame cottage.
- 10. Ferdinand St. c.1925. Contributing element. Commercial frame building with original shopfront and stucco fake parapet.
- 11. Ferdinand St. c.1957. Non-contributing element. One-story commercial building.
- 12. Ferdinand St. Ovide Miller House. c.1900. Classical style cottage with Italianate details. Front gallery with Doric posts and full entablature, arched windows, and attenuated Classical side gallery. Contributing element.
- 13. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow with pitched roof.
- 14. Ferdinand St. c.1930. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 15. Ferdinand St. U.S. Post Office. c.1970. Non-contributing element. One-story brick building with flat roof.
- 16. Ferdinand St. Charles Bennet Home. c.1890. Contributing element. Side hall plan cottage with pyramid roof and Eastlake details on front gallery.

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- 17. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 18. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow with dormer, double pitched roof, and slightly arched porch.
- 19. Ferdinand St. c. 1900. Contributing element. Raised three-bay cottage with pitched roof. Windows replaced.
- 20. Ferdinand St. Ernest Welch Home. c.1880. Contributing element. Frame four-bay raised cottage with Classical details and six over six windows.
- 21. Ferdinand St. c.1910. Contributing element. Raised cottage.
- 22. Ferdinand St. Emma Brasseaux Home. c.1895. Contributing element. Five-bay frame cottage with elaborate Victorian Renaissance Revival details.
- 23. Ferdinand St. c.1940. Non-contributing element. Sympathetic modern Colonial style residence.
- 24. Ferdinand St. Jane Ware Home. c.1880. Contributing element. Three-bay frame cottage with severe Classical style gallery and hip roof.
- 25. Ferdinand St. c.1880. Contributing element. Four-bay frame cottage with severe Classical style gallery and hip roof. Presently in commercial use.
- 26. Ferdinand St. Magearl House. c.1850. Contributing element. Four-bay raised cottage with two front doors and six over six windows. Roof replaced in 20th century.
- 27. Ferdinand St. David Cassidy House. c.1900. Contributing element. Five-bay frame cottage with unusual chamfered columns with diamond knots in the center of each column.
- 28. Ferdinand St. c.1895. Contributing element. Five-bay frame raised cottage with chamfered columns the same as on building #27. Renaissance Revival decorative work on porch.
- 29. Ferdinand St. c.1850. Contributing element. Frame three-bay raised cottage with double pitched roof.
- 30. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 31. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 32. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 33. Ferdinad St. c.1935. Non-contributing element. Small frame residence with garage.

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- 34. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Brick commercial building with raised parapet and original plate glass shopfront.
- 35. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Double frame bungalow.
- 36. Ferdinand St. 1940's. Non-contributing element. Old brick commercial building with innocuous brick 1940's facade.
- 37. Ferdinand St. Library/Historical Society Building. c.1890. Contributing element. Two-story frame commercial building with three bays, Eastlake porch, and original shopfront.
- 38. Ferdinand St. c.1920. Contributing element. Frame cottage.
- 39. Ferdinand St. c.1965. Non-contributing element. Small brick ranch style office.
- 40. Ferdinand St. Old Benevolent Society Lodge. Founded 1883. Oldest black burial insurance lodge in parish. Contributing element. Enlarged c.1885 shotgun with simple details and large double front door.
- 41. Ferdinand St. c.1890. Contributing element. Four-bay frame raised cottage with round arch windows set in doors, and Classical style galleries with chamfered columns.
- 42. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 43. Ferdinand St. c.1935. Non-contributing element. Frame cottage.
- 44. Ferdinand St. c.1890. Contributing element. Four-bay frame cottage with Eastlake gallery and shoulder molded fenestration.
- 45. Ferdinand St. Police Jury. 1950's. Non-contributing element. Small modern frame building.
- 46. Ferdinand St. c.1960. Non-contributing element. Small tin shed.
- 47. Ferdinand St. c.1950. Non-contributing element. Cape Cod style modern residence.
- 48. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 49. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 50. Ferdinand St. 1940's. Non-contributing element. Frame cottage.
- 51. Ferdinand St. 1940's. Non-contributing element. Frame cottage.

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- 52. Ferdinand St. Widow Ross House. Appears to be mid-19th century. Frame cottage. Oldest features are wide flush boards around gallery and six over six windows. Sometime during 20th century, Colonial style detailing was added. Contributing element.
- 53. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 54. Ferdinand St. 1940's. Non-contributing element. Frame cottage.
- 55. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 56. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow.
- 57. Ferdinand St. Grace Church Rectory. c.1965. Non-contributing element.
 Sympathetic brick residence with gabled parapets and shallow arch fenestration.
- * 58. Ferdinand St. Grace Church Hall. Built in 1896 for Knights of Phythias. Contributing element. Large frame hall with side wing. Main entrance has three-bay portico with massive panelled piers and full entablature.
 - 59. Ferdinand St. c.1900. Contributing element. Five-bay frame raised cottage with chamfered columns.
 - 60. Ferdinand St. c.1900. Contributing element. Raised four-bay cottage with two front doors. Bottom of columns replaced.
 - 61. Ferdinand St. Mt. Carmel Cemetery. 1950's. Non-contributing element.
 - 62. Ferdinand St. Mid-19th century. Contributing element. Five-bay raised cottage with central hall plan. 1920's alterations include shed dormers, columns with posts, and brick piers.
 - 63. Ferdinand St. c.1900. Contributing element. Frame raised cottage with five bays.
 - 64. Ferdinand St. c.1930. Contributing element. Concrete block bungalow styled residence.
 - 65. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow with asbestos sided residence.
 - 66. Ferdinand St. c.1960. Non-contributing element. Small brick and asbestos sided residence.
 - 67. Sewell St. Norwood Hooper Estate. Early to mid 19th century. Contributing element. Four-bay raised frame cottage with two front doors.
 - 68. Sewell St. 1913-1915. Contributing element. Five-bay frame cottage built of salvaged materials, featuring late 19th century style details such as a Queen Anne bay.

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- 69. Sewell St. Mt. Carmel Rectory. c.1960. Non-contributing element. Modern residence.
- 70. Sewell St. c.1915. Contributing element. Large frame bungalow with Colonial Revival details.
- 71. Sewell St. c.1960. Non-contributing element. Small wooden garage.
- 72. Sewell St. c.1960. Non-contributing element. One-story brick residence.
- 73. Sewell St. St. Simmon's Stock Hall. 1920's. Contributing element. Frame bungalow with unusually thin square columns in pairs.
- 74. Sewell St. Mt. Carmel Catholic Church. 1871. Seven-bay basilican plan frame church with Renaissance Revival styling and a small belfry. Contributing element.
- 75. Sewell St. Parish Hall. c.1960. Non-contributing element. One-story concrete hall.
- * 76. Ferdinand St. Grace Episcopal Church. 1860. Contributing element. Five-bay red brick church with small tower at west end of transept, buttresses, lancets, and fine stained-glass windows. (Listed individually on National Register.)
- * 77. Ferdinand St. Masonic Hall. 1927. Contributing element. Two-story frame building with two-story portico.
- * 78. Ferdinand St. Courthouse. 1905. Contributing element. Attenuated Georgian Revival brick courthouse with composite order portico on each facade and central Baroque dormer. Wing added 1963 through west portico.
 - 79. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. One-story commercial building with shaped parapet. Shopfront replaced.
 - 80. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. One-story frame commercial building with shaped parapet and pressed tin facade.
 - 81. Ferdinand St. 1920's. Contributing element. One-story frame commercial building with stepped parapet. Shopfront replaced.

NOTE: Buildings marked with * are included in both existing district and the addendum.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799X 1800–1899 _X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	landscape architectur law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Buildi Specific dates	ngs in addendum date from c.1810 to c.1930	Builder/Architect n/	/a	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criteria A & C

The St: Francisville Historic District addendum contributes to the architectural and commercial significance of the St. Francisville district because it is a continuation of the special visual character for which that original district was listed. Because the district is already listed on the Register at the local level of significance, the addendum is being nominated at that same level.

Like the district, the addendum area conveys the character of a rural town center and of a nineteenth century river port. It does this in the following ways:

- 1. It contains a 73% concentration of building types and styles which would have characterized a small prosperous town of the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These include a good number of modest but elaborately styled residences, two meeting halls, a pretentious frame church, and several old commercial buildings, one of which is a full two stories.
- It retains an open and somewhat pastoral townscape which would have characterized a rural town center of the period.
- 3. Finally, it conveys this character by its disposition of buildings, with public, commercial, and residential structures freely mixed with out any regard to a commercial or residential zone.

In addition, the addendum area contributes to the district by adding to the district's already impressive collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture. It contains three first-rate local examples of the Eastlake style and six first-rate local examples of the Renaissance Revival style.

9. Major Bibliographical References

St. Francisville Historic District National Register Nomination Form

Survey of St. Francisville Conducted by National Register Staff, Louisiana State Historic

Preservation Office		Macronar Regrater	Starr, Louisrana State mistorn
10. Geogra	phical Data		
Acreage of nominated pro	perty approx. 32 acr	es	
Quadrangle name St. F	rancisville,La.		Quadrangle scale <u>1=24000</u>
UMT References			
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c 1,5 6 5,4 1,0 0	1 3 4 9 5 3 7 9	p [1 5] [6]	5 4 0 0 0 1 3 4 0 5 5 9 0
	<u> </u>	F L L_	
G L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L		H	
Verbal boundary descri	ption and justification		
Please refer to	sketch map and cont	inuation sheet.	
List all states and coun	ities for properties overl	apping state or count	y boundaries
state n/a	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
11. Form Pi	repared By	•	
name/title City of St	. Francisville T	he Honorable Mari	e Wenger. Mavor
		The Honor abre har i	
organization see a	bove	date	February 1982
street & number P. 0.	Drawer 400	teleph	one 504-635-3688
city or town St. F	rancisville	state	LA 70775
12. State H	istoric Prese	ervation Of	ficer Certification
The evaluated significance	of this property within the s	tate is:	
nationa	state _	X_ local	
665), I hereby nominate this	storic Preservation Officer for s property for inclusion in the d procedures set forth by the	e National Register and	reservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– certify that it has been evaluated and Recreation Service.
State Historic Preservation	Officer signature	The 3 A	Blei
4iala	Robe	rt B. DeBlieux	4-6-
title State Historic P For HCRS use only	reservation Officer	·	date - August 6, 1982
I hereby certify that the	nis property is included in th	e National Register	
Bruce han D	rigel		date 10/1/92
Keeper of the National Re	gister		date 10/1/82 date 9/27/82
Attest: Patrick And	lus		date 9/21/82
Chief of Registration			<i>v</i> (

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St. Francisville Historic
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10. Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the addendum were drawn to encompass those areas of the town which contribute to the overall character and significance of the St. Francisville Historic District, but which were not included in the original nomination. (See attached copy of district nomination.) This includes the extant concentration of residences, public buildings, and commercial structures which date from the time when St. Francisville was a Mississippi River port and a railroad shipping center (c.1810-c.1930). (See original nomination.)

The boundaries of the addendum recognize pre-c.1930 buildings in concentration. Although there are a few scattered pre-c.1930 structures outside these boundaries, they are isolated and are not found in groups of more than two. Hence the general areas around them cannot be said to have a pre-c.1930 character.

The only portion of the boundary which should need specific explanation is at the eastern end of Ferdinand Street. The addendum does not extend all the way to the end of the street because the first few buildings would be non-contributing elements (either because they are modern or because they are older structures which have been significantly modified).

NB: It will be noted that the enclosed district nomination refers to the ancillary areas around the present district (i.e., the addendum currently under consideration) as containing exclusively late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century structures. In preparing the addendum application, the State Historic Preservation Office found that this assessment was not entirely accurate. It is true that the vast majority of the buildings in the addendum area date from the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. However, closer examination by the staff revealed that seven of the eighty-one buildings in the addendum date from prior to 1870. (This figure includes Grace Episcopal Church, which is in both the original district and the addendum.)

In addition, please be advised that the overlap of the original district and the addendum was per Beth Grosvenor's instructions. It was felt that to recognize two smaller addendum areas would have been artificial given the nature of the resource.

ST. FRANCISVILLE HISTOPIC DISTRICT