

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 10 1985
date entered MAY 9 1985

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

1. Name

historic Dr. Thomas A. Roy, Sr. House

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number L'Eglise Street (no number) N/A not for publication

city, town Mansura N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Avoyelles Parish code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Avoyelles Parish Courthouse

street & number Main Street (no specific address)

city, town Marksville state LA 71351

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dr. Thomas A. Roy, Sr. House (1901) is a frame, story-and-a-half, Queen Anne Revival-Eastlake residence set on a town lot near the center of the small community of Mansura. The nominated property also includes a contemporaneous doctor's office and a small c.1920 electric power house. The house and its dependencies are virtually unaltered.

The House (1901):

Because the Roy House is narrow and deep, it looks much smaller than it really is, at least when viewed from the front. It has the standard projecting bay under a gable on one side and an Eastlake gallery on the other. In this case the gallery wraps around the side of the house to connect with a projecting room to the rear. The gallery is fairly elaborate with turned columns, scroll brackets, and a row of spindles above the brackets. The gable over the bay features a Palladian window motif, which is a hesitant Colonial Revival touch. Most of the windows have single plate glass sashes and relatively simple surrounds.

The interior consists of twelve rooms, transomed doorways, a central hall, and an elaborate staircase. Most of the interior doorways have decoratively planed surrounds and cornerblocks with bull's eyes. Doors are heavily paneled and feature decorative hardware.

By far the largest room in the house is the front living hall with its "L" shaped plan, Eastlake mantel, and staircase set in an alcove. The hall also has a diagonally placed doorway which leads to a secondary parlor. The living hall walls are totally covered with decorative beaded board set in three different patterns. The ceiling is also beaded. The staircase ascends with three flights and three landings in a complex spatial arrangement. The staircase itself is ornamented with fluting, bull's eyes, turned and square balusters, decorative cut out panels, and chamfered newel posts.

All of the major rooms in the house have very elaborate Eastlake mantel-overmantel combinations of similar design. They feature deeply cut panels, heavy consoles which run from the floor to the mantel shelf, and colonnettes, as well as numerous spindles, cabinets, multiple shelves, and mirrors.

The Doctor's Office (1901)

This shotgun style office building features a pedimented front and four square columns without a frieze. Door surrounds are similar to those in the house. It is listed as a contributing element.

The Power House (c.1920)

The simple hip roofed frame power house is also listed as a contributing element. It helps establish the historical identity of the Roy House by demonstrating that like plantation houses, early twentieth century town properties also had outbuildings.

Alterations:

The only alteration discernible to the State Historic Preservation Office is the loss of the chimney top on the house.

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Continuation sheet Dr. Thomas A. Roy, Sr. Item number 4 Page 1
House

4. Owners

Clarence A. Roy
Rt. 2, Box 67
Cottonport, LA 71327
318-876-2523

Isma Roy Escude
P. O. Box 387
Mansura, LA 71350
318-964-2889 (home) 318-964-2334 (office)

Thomas A. Roy
12424 Sheraton Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70815
504-275-2296

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1901 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Dr. Thomas A. Roy, Sr.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Dr. Thomas A. Roy, Sr. House is locally significant in the area of architecture as an outstanding example of the Queen Anne Revival and Eastlake styles within the context of Avoyelles Parish.

There are some 812 50+ year old buildings in Avoyelles Parish recorded in the Louisiana Historic Standing Structures Survey. Of these, 649 are residences dating from the period c.1880 to c.1935. About half (320) of these are unpretentious vernacular types such as shotgun houses, late Creole cottages, single and double pen houses, or bluffland houses. There are also 152 examples of the bungalow influence, virtually all of which are fairly ordinary. Finally, there are 177 residences in the parish which reflect the Queen Anne-Eastlake or Colonial Revival influences. On the whole, this last group contains the parish's largest and most elaborately styled houses, although most are merely cottages with applied features.

The Roy House is conspicuous among the Queen Anne Revival houses of Avoyelles Parish because it has a living hall. The convention of the living hall is one of the hallmarks of the "high style" Queen Anne Revival as it was practiced in the northeastern states. Yet the living hall is very rare in Avoyelles Parish, and indeed in Louisiana as a whole. The existence of one at the Roy House qualifies it as a landmark among period residences in the parish.

The Roy House is also important because of its intricate Eastlake interior detailing (mantels, staircase, decorative beaded board treatment, etc.) There are very few period houses in the parish which match it in terms of sheer elaborateness.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Standing Structures Survey, Avoyelles Parish
 La Commission des Avoyelles. Avoyelles: Crossroads of Louisiana, Baton Rouge: Moran Publishing Company, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1 acre
 Quadrangle name Marksville, LA Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A	1 5	5 9 0 7 0 0	3 4 3 6 3 5 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary lines follow property lines. Please refer to enclosed plat map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

Assisted by Carlos Mayeux,
 President, La Commission des
 Avoyelles, POB 26, Hamburg,
 LA 71339 (318-253-5982, ext. 233)

name/title National Register Staff
 Division of Historic Preservation
 organization State of Louisiana date January 1985

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-922-0358

city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Robert B. DeBlieux*
 Robert B. DeBlieux
 title State Historic Preservation Officer date March 29, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for *Shelvest Byers* Entered in the date 5-9-85
 Keeper of the National Register National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

NOT TO SCALE

PROPERTY LINE

LINE

50'

C. 1920
power
house

Roy House

(1901)

MANSURA

Avoyelles Parish

LA

51'

378'

PROPERTY LINE

PROPERTY LINE

③

②

1901
Doctor's
Office

N

↑

117'

PROPERTY LINE

L'Eglise St.

①

⑤

