

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received **AUG 23 1983**
date entered **SEP 22 1983**

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

1. Name

historic Kansas City Southern Depot (DeQuincy)
and/or common DeQuincy Railroad Museum

2. Location

street & number Lake Charles Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town DeQuincy N/A vicinity of
state LA code 22 county Calcasieu Parish code 019

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name City of DeQuincy 318-786-8211
street & number 300 Holly Street
city, town DeQuincy N/A vicinity of state LA 70633

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calcasieu Parish Courthouse
street & number P. O. Box 1030 Kirby at Ryan Street
city, town Lake Charles state LA 70601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1983 federal state county local
depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office
city, town Baton Rouge state LA 70601

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Kansas City Southern Railroad Depot (1923) in DeQuincy, Calcasieu Parish is an outstanding example of Mission Revival architecture and is one of the most architecturally significant railroad depots in the state. Now used as the DeQuincy Railroad Museum, it retains its characteristic Mission Revival features and has undergone only minor interior renovation.

The two-story building, which is practically a textbook example of its style, is characterized by the following elements:

- (1) stuccoed walls,
- (2) red Spanish tile roof,
- (3) round arched windows and arcade,
- (4) curvilinear gable parapets with copings of red tile, and
- (5) wide overhanging eaves with exposed rafters and heavy brackets.

Other original exterior features include brick wainscotting, "medallions" and urns with finial tops on the two major parapets.

The interior consists of an office flanked on one side by a waiting room and an arcaded patio and on the other by a second waiting room and a baggage room. Both waiting rooms retain their tile floors, plaster walls, brick wainscotting and ticket windows. The open patio area is completely original with its cement floor and brick string course forming the top of the built-in cement benches. The two upstairs rooms are indistinguishable.

The only alterations appear to be the installation of carpet and asbestos ceiling tile in the office and the conversion of a restroom to a kitchen. None of these changes seriously detract from the building's significance as one of the most architecturally distinguished railroad depots in the state.

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 1923 **Builder/Architect** Kansas City Southern Railroad

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The DeQuincy Railroad Depot is important in the area of architecture on the state level as one of the largest and most architecturally pretentious railroad depots remaining in Louisiana.

In the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century, the major means of transportation in the nation was by train. Besides being the link between an individual town and the outside world, it was integral to the very economic existence of a community. Therefore, besides the seat of the government and the churches, the train depot was probably the most important building in any town through which the railroad passed. The architecture of the railroad stations reflected that importance and they ranged from grand neo-classical and Beaux Arts piles in the major cities to modest board and batten structures in smaller towns, many of which were literally created by the coming of the railroad.

Today a fair number of railroad depots remain in Louisiana. Most of these, however, are architecturally indistinguished village depots and are only locally important as reminders of the importance of the railroad in a particular town's history. Urban depots of the period were much larger buildings and had more than just a single story. Moreover, they were not just random collections of standard decorative features placed on a frame shed. They were consistently articulated with the vocabulary of a recognized historical style of architecture.

The DeQuincy depot is one of only three urban depots (as defined above) known to be extant in Louisiana. It is further distinguished by its superior Mission Revival styling, which makes it one of the most architecturally pretentious depots in the state. Noteworthy features in this regard include its numerous arches, its four shaped gable pavilions (two of which are two stories), and its finial urns. Moreover, each of the two story pavilions has a recessed facade with its own curvilinear top which echoes the shaped gable. This gives the building a rich sculptural effect. Based upon the foregoing, it is clear that the DeQuincy depot is one of the most architecturally important depots in the state.

Historical Sketch:

About 1897, the Kansas City Southern (KCS) Railroad completed its track through DeQuincy and the first depot was built on this site. The line came down through Leesville and DeRidder and forked at DeQuincy with one route going south to Lake Charles and the other toward Beaumont and Port Arthur. It was this rail line that made possible the lumber boom in Calcasieu, Beauregard and Vernon Parishes.

In the early 1920's, the railroad company began a building campaign during which several stations along the KCS line in western Louisiana were either rebuilt or remodeled with varying degrees of Mission Revival features. This is the only one that is a full blown example of the style.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Research report compiled by the City of DeQuincy, on file at the Division of Historic Preservation.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name DeQuincy, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

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

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed sketch 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

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNER

organization Division of Historic Preservation State of Louisiana date June 1983

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-6682

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

title State Historic Preservation Officer date August 18, 1983

For NPS use only

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

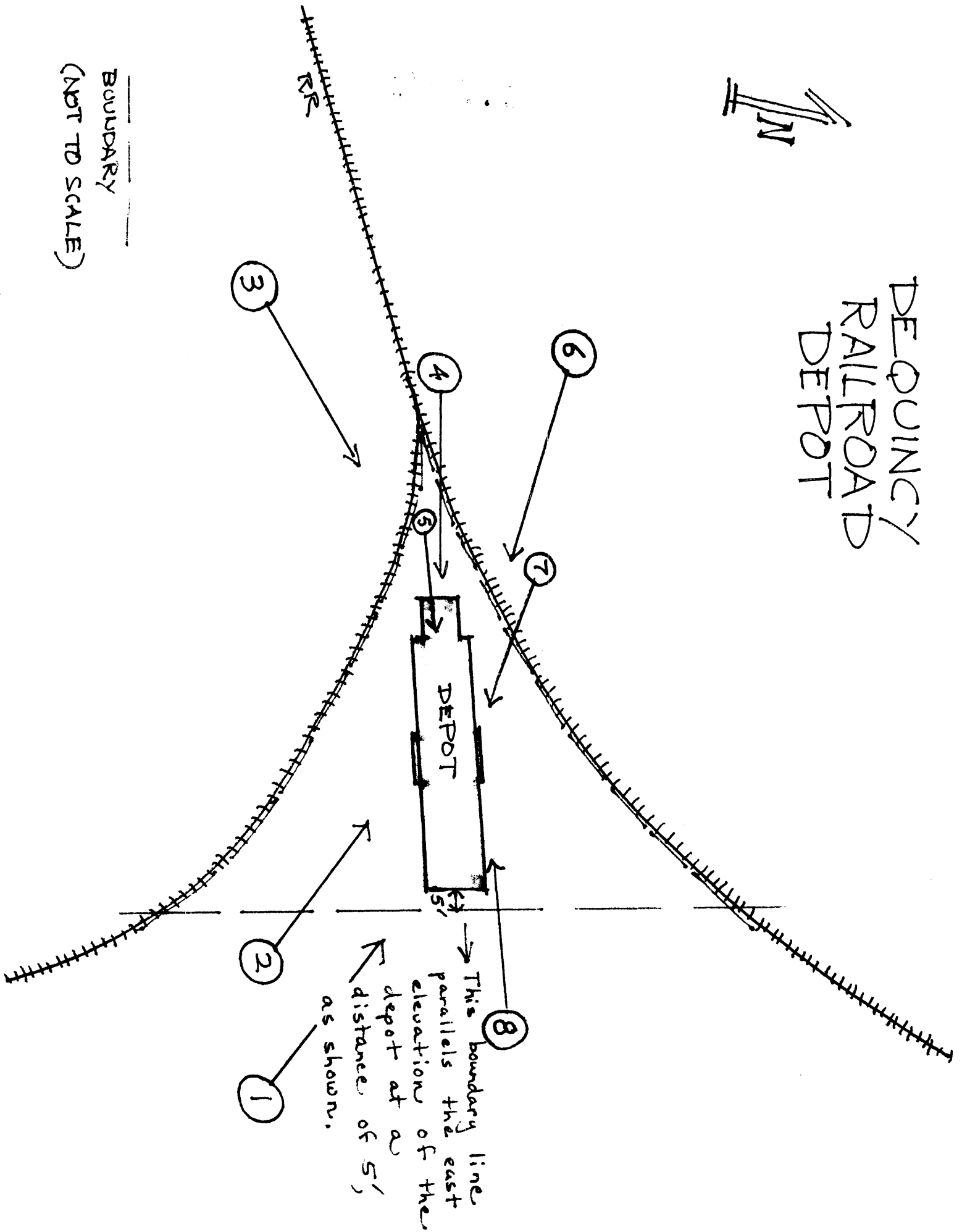
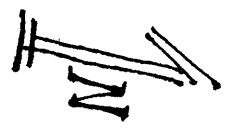
J. Dolores Byers date 9/22/83
Keeper of the National Register

Included in the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

DEQUINCY RAILROAD DEPOT



BOUNDARY
(NOT TO SCALE)