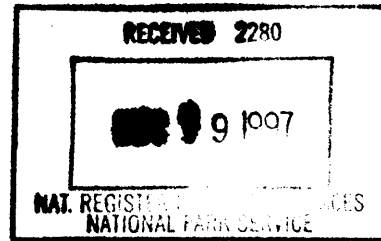


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1651

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 Shadow House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number La. Hwy. 531 N/A not for publication

city or town Dubberly vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Webster code 119 zip code 71024

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.)

Jonathan Fricker 12/11/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date
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 commenting 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:)

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 1/15/98

Shadow House
Name of Property

Webster 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	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	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)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic / single dwelling
Agriculture / animal facility

Vacant / not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: log dogtrot
Greek Revival

foundation wood
walls weatherboard

roof metal

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**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The Shadow House (c. 1838) is a large log dogtrot which received a Greek Revival frame wing c.1850. It is visible from Louisiana Highway 531 in the piney woods of rural Webster Parish. Despite various twentieth century alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility as a rare survivor within North Louisiana.

Regarding the house's date of construction, the documentation on the property indicates that the land was first homesteaded in 1838 and then sold to a new owner in 1850. The well detailed Greek Revival wing makes extensive use of a molding profile that is very typical of the 1830s and 40s. This wing is also obviously newer than the original log house. Thus the notion that the log house was built shortly after the land was homesteaded in 1838, and that the wing was added shortly after the property was sold in 1850, is perfectly plausible. Of course, it is also possible that the wing was added before 1850.

The house is raised approximately three feet above grade on a variety of supports ranging from concrete blocks, to brick piers, to wooden blocks. At the core of the dogtrot are two unusually large, well finished log rooms wider than they are deep. The logs are planed smooth on the interior with battens nailed over the gaps and vertical planks placed at the corners. This creates an overall paneled effect. Both rooms feature tongue and groove plank ceilings and large fireplaces with massive brick chimneys placed on the exterior end walls of the house. A very unusual aspect of the house's log construction is that it features huge pegged angle braces at the top to secure the front and rear walls.

The capacious roofline, with its skinned pole rafters, has a slight broken pitch. The roof incorporates three enclosed frame rooms. One is located on the front and the other two are on the rear, one on each side of a frame extension of the dogtrot. Although one might suspect that these are gallery enclosures, all the evidence indicates that they are original. Their floors do not slope as one would expect in an enclosed gallery. Also the various visible woodwork details are similar to those in the log rooms. The enclosed rooms found on the front and rear of the south end of the house are particularly unusual, extending as they do beyond the side wall of the log crib, all the way to the drip line of the gable. This creates an odd recess in the middle of the side elevation. Here too, this unusual feature appears to be original. The visible framing is completely consistent and the clapboard walls do not break at any point to indicate a subsequent enlargement of the original rooms.

A corner staircase in the northern log room ascends to a finished loft room with a knee wall condition. This space has been traditionally used as a bedroom. The attic over the southern log crib is not finished.

CONTINUED

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

The Greek Revival Wing

A few years after the original log house was built a Greek Revival frame "ell" wing was added to the front (see previous discussion as to the date). This is most unusual as "ell" wings are almost invariably located at the rear of a house. Nonetheless, this appears to be manifestly a front addition. Some might suggest that it was originally a rear addition and at some point the orientation of the house was reversed, but the evidence does not support this. Firstly, the property's log dependencies are located on the opposite side of the house from the wing, and utilitarian outbuildings such as this are usually set to the rear. Secondly, if the present back were originally the front, one would expect it to have at least a partial gallery. The evidence indicates that there was never an open gallery on that elevation. Finally, this wing contains a very elegant parlor which has by far the finest architectural work and detailing in the house. It seems likely that such a fine room would have been set forward to receive guests, not consigned to a rear service wing.

The "ell" wing is connected to the north end of the front elevation. Originally it was linked by an open breezeway (since enclosed). The wing consists of two rooms and a side gallery which connects with the front gallery of the original house. The configuration of this gallery is unusual. The gallery floor does not touch the columns; rather it is supported independently on brick piers. The columns themselves are set forward of the gallery floor and descend all the way from the entablature to brick piers. One sees this gallery configuration occasionally in other Greek Revival era houses in northwestern Louisiana. Of special note is the original pegged balustrade which marks the edge of the gallery floor.

There is a chimney set between the two rooms of the wing. The inner room is a parlor; the outer room appears to have been a bedroom. The parlor features a false marbled Greek Revival aedicula style mantel with a heavy molding on the entablature under the shelf. This molded entablature detail is repeated in pelmets over the windows. The room also features a paneled dado with bolection moldings and elaborate false graining. Doors in the room are also false grained. The second room of the wing features a similar mantel but it has been altered somewhat by the installation of a closet. The exterior of the wing features wide flush boards under the gallery and shoulder molded openings.

CONTINUED

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 3

Early Twentieth Century Alterations

The Shadow family, the present owners, acquired the house in 1906 and made various alterations in the 1920s and '30s. As originally built, the dogtrot corridor was fully open at both ends, and lacking a ceiling, was also open to the rafters. During the 1920s the dogtrot was enclosed with wide doors at each end. The walls were also sheathed in narrow gauge beaded board. In addition, massive dormers were added to the front and rear rooflines to create a second story central hall over the dogtrot. The rear dormer extends beyond the rear of the house to cover a small porch added by the Shadows.

Another change was the construction of a small frame wing on the north side of the house. This necessitated partially enclosing the old breezeway between the "ell" wing and the original house; the breezeway now registers as a recess in the wall off the front gallery. Some time later, a small portion of the front gallery, immediately next to the frame room, was enclosed for a bathroom. This is supported on an unusual homemade reinforced concrete platform. Other changes include the installation of a few additional doors and windows. Only one of the historic gallery columns remains, and it is being used as a brace for the sagging front porch ceiling; the other columns are replacements. Finally, the current rock-face mantels in the two log rooms are early twentieth century alterations.

Assessment of Integrity

Although the Shadow House has evolved over time, it retains the principal elements that establish its architectural significance -- its large and impressively crafted log core, most of the original characteristics of its Greek Revival wing, and its false marbling and false graining. And the dogtrot, while enclosed, is still easily recognizable both in plan and configuration. Thus the house retains sufficient architectural integrity to merit National Register listing.

Log Outbuilding

Just to the south and east of the Shadow house is a barn with a two story crib formed of round saddle notched logs. The barn may well be contemporaneous with the house. Sometime prior to about 1880, a buggy shed addition was attached across one side of the barn. The barn is being listed as a contributing element.

CONTINUED

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 4

Note: About a quarter of a mile from the above barn is a massive multi-crib barn with an impressive mortise and tenon frame attic structure. Continuous logs of about 60 feet span the width of the building. The long rafters are skinned poles. It appears that the cribs have received numerous alterations, although a complete visual inspection could not be made due to the overgrown condition of the barn and the fact that certain sections were not easily accessible. The building may at a later date be added to this submission as a contributing element. It is not being added now because of the lack of a complete inspection to determine integrity.

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. 1838, c. 1850

Significant Dates

c. 1838, c. 1850

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:

Shadow House
Name of Property

Webster Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approx 1.4 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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

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

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 September 1997
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 Multiple heirs
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

The Shadow House is of local architectural significance within the context of northern Louisiana as an early and rare example of domestic log construction. As such it exemplifies the folk architectural tradition of the Scots-Irish/Appalachian Uplanders who were by far the principal pioneer settlement group in the region. It is also significant as an example of the marriage of log construction and high style architecture. Its false marbling and false graining are particularly unusual for the region. Finally, its log dependency is also a rare survivor.

According to cultural geographer Milton Newton: "By about 1825, the shape of Louisiana society for the next two generations had been determined. The Uplanders had possessed North Louisiana . . . and installed their Jacksonian politics." Log construction was fundamental to this hardy, distinctly American pioneer stock. Indeed, the Uplanders were the only pioneer group to consider log buildings the norm for a permanent dwelling. Thus one may surmise that on the eve of the Civil War, after three or four decades of Uplander settlement, the disbursed hamlets and irregular farms of the northern hill parishes boasted many hundreds of log houses. But today this impressive heritage is all but gone. Standing structures surveys for the parishes of Bienville, Lincoln, Union, Webster, Jackson and Claiborne show a total of twenty-three surviving log dwellings that are thought to be pre-Civil War. This number may be lower, given the fact that the surveys are a few years old, and some of the abandoned log buildings may have been demolished or have fallen down. All of these early survivors should be considered as very significant. The Shadow House is conspicuous among this group because of its unusually large log rooms. Moreover if the c.1838 date is correct (as seems likely), the Shadow House would be one of the oldest log dwellings in the region.

The Shadow House property is also significant for its barn which has a two story log crib. This is very rare, being perhaps the only surviving multi-story log structure in North Louisiana.

The house's Greek Revival wing is finely detailed for the region. It illustrates a trend occasionally found in the northwestern part of the state -- the marriage of high style architecture with simple log construction. In some cases, an older log building was encased in a new up-to-date Greek Revival house. Here the two exist side by side -- shoulder molding and aedicular style false marbled mantels with primitive log construction, albeit finely crafted. The staff of the Division of Historic Preservation was particularly surprised to see the false marbling and false graining. They know of no other building in the region to feature this decorative treatment.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 2

Historical Note:

The nominated resource is also sometimes referred to as the old Leary place. North Carolina native Calvin Leary and his family arrived in northern Louisiana in early 1850 and acquired the property in question. In the 1850 census Leary is listed as owning 23 slaves. By 1866, his plantation, known as "Sunnyside," encompassed 1480 acres. Leary kept a very detailed journal of his agricultural activities, with the last entry being recorded March 17, 1881. He died in 1882.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chain of title research, copy in National Register file.

Folk Architecture in North Louisiana, Volumes I - VI. These six volumes summarize survey results in Lincoln, Bienville, Union, Webster, Jackson and Claiborne parishes. They were done by the Louisiana Tech School of Architecture under the direction of Professor Lestar Martin.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shadow House, Webster Parish, LA

Section number 10 Page 1

Boundary Description: See attached sketch map.

Justification: Boundaries were chosen to encompass the house and nearby barn and the immediate setting. To have followed property lines would have meant including hundreds of acres of timber land. As noted in Part 7, there is another barn on the property (about a quarter of a mile from the house) that may be eligible as a contributing element pending a thorough site inspection to determine integrity. Should it prove to be eligible, the acreage can be expanded to encompass it.

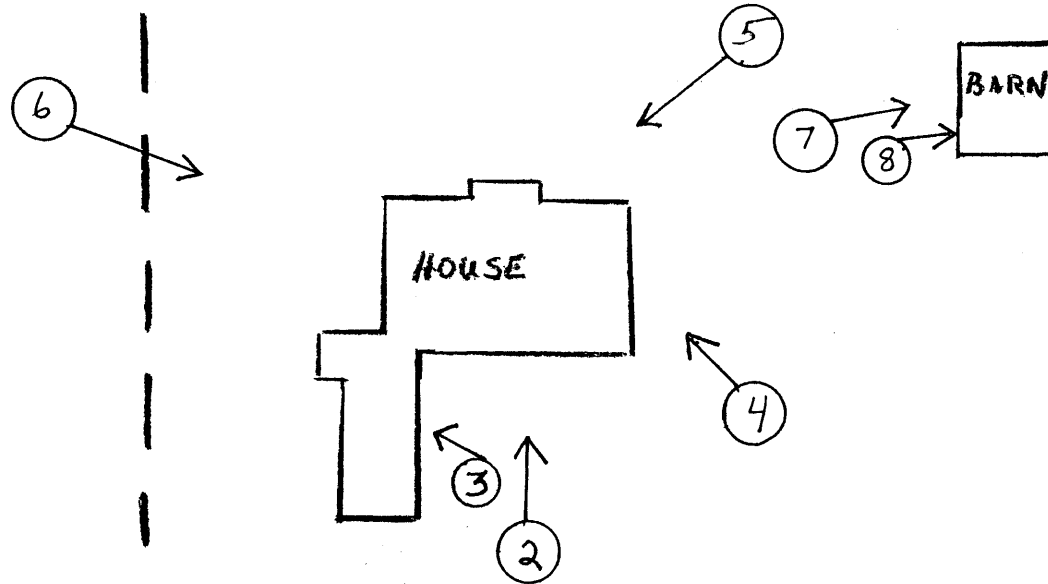
SHADOW
HOUSE

Webster Parish
Louisiana

--- BOUNDARY

1" = 40'

← N



LA HWY 531