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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

MAY 31 1994

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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 Argyle

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 3313 Bayou Black Drive N/A not for publication

city or town Houma N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Terrebonne code 109 zip code 70360

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.)

*Gerri Hobdy*

May 27, 1994

Signature of certifying official/Title Gerri 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:)

*Edson M. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

7-1-94

Entered in the  
National Register

Argyle  
Name of Property

Terrebonne 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	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	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)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Eastlake

Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

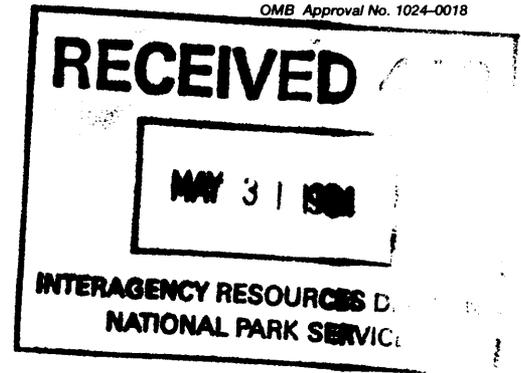
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Argyle, Houma, Terrebonne Parish, LA

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Argyle (c. 1906) is a one-and-one-half story frame cottage which mainly displays elements of the Eastlake style. The house stands on its original Terrebonne Parish site facing U. S. Highway 90 and Bayou Black. Originally a rural plantation home, the dwelling is now within Houma's corporate limits and is flanked by modern residences. Although it has experienced some change since construction, Argyle remains eligible for National Register listing.

The residence's first floor plan consists of a large central hall with two rooms on each side. Behind the rear rooms, a cross hall stands in the location where one would expect to find a gallery. Architectural evidence suggests that this rear hall has always been enclosed. The home's original kitchen is attached to the rear wall of the cross hall but must be entered from a porch. An original bathroom wing stands on one rear corner of the home. The second floor's plan contains a hallway with one room on each side. This hallway projects beyond the front and rear rooflines in dormer fashion and opens to a small balcony on the facade.

Argyle's Eastlake features are found primarily on its gallery and the above mentioned balcony. Both have turned Eastlake columns and balustrades composed of turned balusters. A curved projection fills the gallery's middle bay. Eastlake screens outline the gallery and balcony roofs. Brackets carved to resemble plant forms distinguish the gallery, while much simpler geometric brackets frame the balcony's bay. The interior's important Eastlake feature is a grille which separates the central hall from the rear cross hall. Its design features hearts, diamonds, and floral motifs. The grille's supports are in the form of thin, fluted columns.

The home displays a few Colonial Revival features. They include:

- 1) a restrained Palladian window piercing the rear dormer,
- 2) the staircase's newel post, which features dentils, anthemion-like designs, egg and dart molding, and a bas relief design suggestive of entwined vines surrounding an acanthus leaf,
- 3) the presence of a scroll motif decorating the stair's risers as well as the opening through which the stair passes on the second floor, and

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Argyle, Houma, Terrebonne Parish, LA

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- 4) mantels and overmantels typical of the style.

Other features of interest in the home include five panel doors, interior transoms, paneled wainscotting in the central and rear halls, one surviving set of pocket doors, and tall front windows which can be raised high enough to serve as doors to the gallery.

Argyle has experienced the following alterations since its construction:

- 1) the original hipped gallery roof has been replaced by one in the form of a shed, and the rear screened porch providing access to the original kitchen has been enclosed.
- 2) a modern kitchen has been created by walling off one end of the rear cross hall and lowering its roof. As part of this process, a door between the rear hall and the east rear room has been blocked. The original kitchen has been converted into a laundry room, and servants quarters which were apparently attached to the rear of the home have been removed.
- 3) exterior stairs leading to the bath wing and the original kitchen have been lost, the exterior stairs leading to the modern kitchen have been changed from a winder to a straight configuration, and the two stairs flanking the gallery's curved projection have been replaced. The latter now have cast iron railings.
- 4) two sets of pocket doors have been removed from the interior. One was located directly behind the Eastlake grille and separated the center hall from the rear cross hall. The other was located between the two rooms on the west side of the structure. The space left by the removal of the doors has been filled, and a smaller door has been installed in the new wall.
- 5) the installation of masonite on all of the first floor's walls and paneling in one second story room.

Although the above mentioned alterations are regrettable, none impacts the intact architectural features which define Argyle's identity as an Eastlake house. As a rare example of the style within Terrebonne Parish (see Part 8), Argyle is a legitimate candidate for National Register listing.

**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.1906

**Significant Dates**

c.1906

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_



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Argyle, Houma, Terrebonne Parish, LA

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Argyle is locally significant in the area of architecture within Terrebonne Parish because it is a rare and important example of the Eastlake style. In a parish in which prosperous citizens were slow to abandon previously accepted housing forms, the building is one of only a few which attempt to articulate characteristics of this style on a house of any distinction.

Terrebonne is a largely rural parish with a core of elaborate homes displaying outdated architectural styles. For example, as late as the last two decades of the nineteenth century, large houses in the older Gothic Revival and Greek Revival modes were being erected by wealthy but conservative citizens who withheld their patronage from newer styles such as Eastlake. Instead, it was the more stylistically up-to-date middle class which adopted elements of the Eastlake by attaching turned columns and three dimensional brackets to otherwise plain cottages. As a result, the Eastlake style seldom reached its full decorative potential on a Terrebonne Parish house. In fact, the Historic Standing Structures Survey for Terrebonne Parish indicates that, out of over 1,100 50+ year old buildings surveyed, only about a dozen are notable examples of the Eastlake style. ("Notable" houses are those of moderate or large size and featuring intensive Eastlake styling.) And of this number, only four display fully developed Eastlake gallery ornamentation (i.e., turned columns, balustrade, brackets, and screen). Against this background, Argyle is significant for its fully articulated Eastlake gallery with a curving middle bay flanked by stairs.

Historical Note

The home was built for Phelin Bonvillain c.1906 as the main house for a sugar cane plantation. The parcel upon which it stands is actually composed of land from two plantations--one known as Argyle and the other as Mulberry. For this reason, both names have been associated with the house. The building changed hands several times before being purchased by the Ingram family in 1947. It remains in their hands today.

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**Continuation Sheet**

Argyle, Houma, Terrebonne Parish, LA

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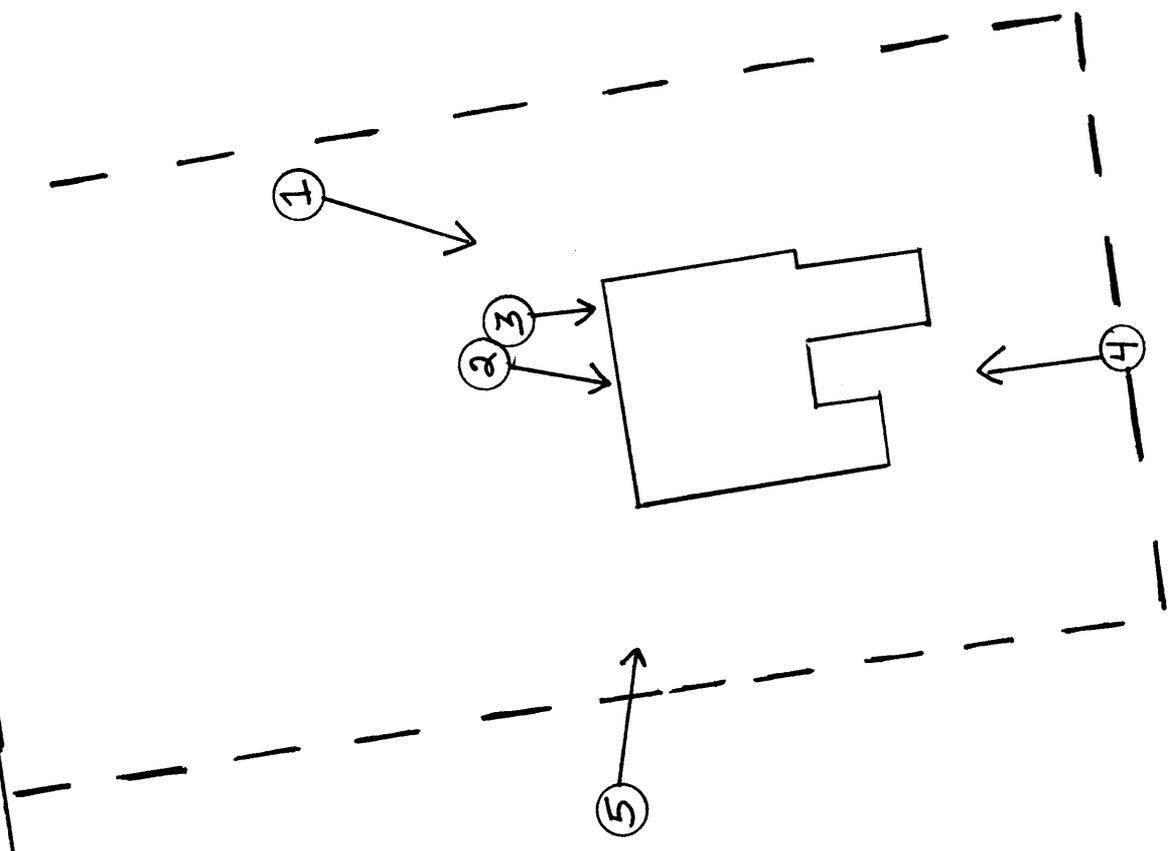
**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Historic Standing Structures Survey for Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

Site visit by National Register staff.

Argyle  
Terrebonne  
Parish, LA

U.S. Hwy 90 (Bayou Black Dr.)



1" = 50'