

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100002580

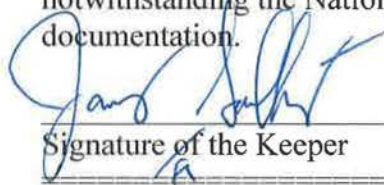
Date Listed: 6/25/2018

Property Name: Vallery, Jacquitte, Cabin

Parish: Natchitoches

State: LA

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

6-25-2018

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Criterion A is hereby deleted.
Criterion C is hereby added.

The incorrect box was inadvertently checked in Section 8. As certified in Section 3, and supported in the narrative statement of significance, the proper Criterion for the property is "C".

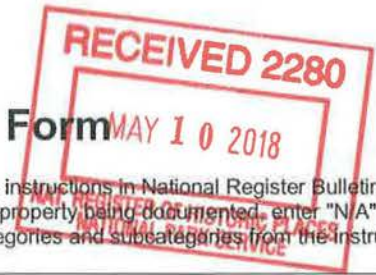
The Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior
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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Vallery, Jacquette, Cabin
Other Names/Site Number: N/A
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & Number: 382 Vallery Road
City or town: Chopin State: LA County: Natchitoches
Not for Publication: Vicinity:

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 at the following level(s) of significance:
 national state local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Kristin P. Sanders *4/20/2018*
Signature of certifying official/Title: Kristin Sanders, State Historic Preservation Officer **Date**
Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title: **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

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4. National Park Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain _____

Janis J. Walker
Signature of the Keeper
For

6.25.2018

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public – Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public – State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public – Federal

Category of Property (Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Site
<input type="checkbox"/>	Structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Non-contributing	
1	0	Buildings
		Sites
		Structures
		Objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.): Domestic: Single Dwelling; Secondary Structure

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.): Vacant/Not in Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.): Other: Vernacular

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone: Sandstone, and Wood

walls: Wood

roof: Galvanized Metal

other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Jacquitte Vallery Cabin (the "Cabin") is an early to mid-19th century log cabin located in what is now known as the Emmanuel Community in Chopin, Louisiana, which is located in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. The Cabin sits on twenty-seven (27) acres of land which also houses three (3) other non-contributing buildings (the property itself is 27 acres, but the nominated acreage is just 1.2 acres of this). The original building ("Main Room") was a one room dwelling that measures 10 x 10 feet. A second room ("Second Addition") was added sometime later, likely in the late 19th century to the left of the main room. A third room ("Third Addition") was eventually added after that, likely in the early 20th century when the building was used for housing livestock. The Cabin retains a high degree of historic integrity.

Narrative Description

The subject building is located on Vallery Road in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, approximately 2.9 miles southwest of Chopin, 3.47 miles south of Cane River, and 0.57 miles south and west of Bayou Barbue. The Main Room of the Cabin was constructed in the early to mid-19th century and falls under the category of a round notch¹ log cabin. The basic unit of traditional log construction is a one room enclosure formed by four log walls joined at their corners, called a "crib," which is the original one room of the Cabin² (see figure



Figure 1. Red outline is the original one room structure. Blue is the 2nd addition, purple is the 3rd addition.

¹ Round Notch: A notch in which the profile of the log exhibits the shape of a partial circle on the underside.

² Essentially a crib is a four-sided enclosure formed of logs with at least one access opening and some type of roof. A log crib is always one story in height.

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1). There were two additions, presumably the one on the left was second, the galvanized tin addition on the right was the third and last.

Main Room:

The Main Room's entryway is in the very center with the door constructed out of thin vertical boards on metal hinges and it is centered to the original four walled structure (see Fig. 1); a primitive hook and eye latch holds the door closed. A sandstone rock, presumably brought up from the nearby Bayou Barbue or Sang pour Sang Lake³, is utilized as a step for the Main Room. The original structure is made entirely of an unspecified wood. It is a crude log structure; no bark was removed from the logs when it was built. The roof has been replaced with galvanized tin and the structure stands with no nails-except for the more recently added tin roof, and the support frame on the interior. One can assume that "chinking"⁴ was done to prevent drafts in the original one room structure, but over the years was replaced with half logs to fill in the larger seams between rows of logs. There is a doorway located on the west side of the interior that grants access to the Second Addition via steps. The original one room dwelling is also a foot or two above ground resting on piers formed of wooden blocks and sandstone.

Second Addition:

The Second Addition (see blue outline in Fig. 1) is believed to have been added much later, presumably after the Main Room was no longer inhabited and in turn was used for storage/farming. It is a four walled primitively constructed building with one entry way built with thin vertical planks on metal hinges and has an old chain that hangs on a nail to keep the door shut. The walls seem to be made out of the same logs as the Cabin and the addition was not set on piers. This addition has dirt for flooring with steps leading from the main structure, as well as an entry way with the same primitive type chain and nail to secure the door. The steps are comprised of blocks of wood set on top of one another (see Fig. 2).



There are large gaps between the seams of the logs on the west, south, and north walls. It seems the method of chinking was not used to prevent weather reaching the inside of the addition. In the early 1800s, the first cabins to be built were crude structures. The bark was not fully removed, the notching was simple, and the chinking between logs was either nonexistent or was not durable enough. There is an animal trough on the west wall of the interior which can lead one to presume that this side structure housed farm animals at one point in time.

Figure 2. The right interior of the second addition. Steps can be seen leading to an entryway granting access to the Cabin.

³ Sang Pour Sang Lake is now completely dry.

⁴ Chinking: Filler used to cover the larger seams between rows of logs.

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Third Addition:

The galvanized tin addition on the right has two entry ways. The entry way on the north wall grants access from the front and does not have a door. The second entryway is located on the south wall and includes a door on metal hinges made from thin vertical planks. A primitive hook and eye latch holds the door closed.

The walls and roof are all galvanized tin that has been nailed to a very primitive frame and attached to the east side of the Main Room. There is no access to the interior of the Main Room from this addition. This addition also has a dirt floor.

Integrity:

Referencing the Cherokee Plantation, a structure located in Natchitoches Parish that is on the National Register of Historic Places, it is likely that the cabin was modeled after the French Creole style. This style calls for a structure made of cypress logs, chinking made up of a mixture of Spanish moss, animal hair and Cane River mud, and to be elevated by brick piers.⁵ The house on Cherokee Plantation was built around 1839, which is believed to be around the time that the Cabin was built by Jacquitte Vallery. At the time, the area was heavily populated by French Creole people. In fact, members of the Vallery and Chopin family married French people, and the Apalachee Indians ("Apalachee")⁶ were greatly influenced by French culture and customs.

Jacquitte built the Cabin with the intent of it being a small home. It was eventually used as a storage unit for crops and other items. Notwithstanding, every effort has been made to preserve the original structure of the Cabin so that it does not succumb to natural or man-made destruction. Jacquitte's Cabin has remained in its original location since it was built. The original materials seem to have stayed intact, and overall it has maintained its structural integrity.

Conclusion:

The Cabin is a rare surviving example of a once common and important architectural type of structure. It possesses the character-defining features of the genre, and represents an important aspect of log construction in Louisiana. It retains integrity of location and setting as it has not been moved and still sits in a very rural section of Natchitoches Parish. It still retains its single pen design and the two historic additions do not negatively impact the overall design of the cabin. The materials are also still intact despite their almost 200 year old age. This includes the logs as well as the stone that serves as the front step and former clothes washing "machine". The workmanship of the notching is intact as it the overall feeling and association of the rugged frontier lifestyle. A quote from "The Folk Architecture of the Appalachian Uplanders," by Jonathan Fricker only helps to drive home the rarity of Jacquitte's Cabin:

"Unfortunately, log houses and outbuildings tend not to survive outside a museum setting. People who live in log houses often tack on one thing after another until they become unrecognizable. Those that are unaltered are also usually abandoned. Deteriorating, they face an uncertain future. The prospects for log outbuildings are even grimmer. Such buildings are of

⁵ "Cherokee Plantation." National Park Service Cane River National Heritage Area Website. <https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/caneriver/che.htm#essays>. Accessed October 2017.

⁶ The Apalachee Indians are a Native American people who historically lived in the Florida Panhandle. They came from Florida in the 1700s and settled in Rapides Parish. In 1803 they were driven out of Rapides Parish and settled in the Kisatchie Hills in what is now Chopin, Louisiana. Jacquitte Vallery was an Apalachee Indian.

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absolutely no use in modern agriculture and hence are either abandoned or sold for salvage lumber.”⁷

This is quite true of Jacquitte’s Cabin. It did have two additions added to it that are well over 50 years old, but it has fortunately survived intact and is recognizable as a saddle notched log cabin that is significant to the state’s log construction heritage. As such, the Cabin is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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.)

X	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:

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.): Architecture

Period of Significance: 1830

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above): N/A

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion D is marked above): N/A

Architect/Builder (last name, first name): Vallery, Jacquitte

Period of Significance (justification): The period of significance is the year the cabin was built, c. 1830.

⁷ Jonathan Fricker, “The Folk Architecture of the Appalachian Uplanders,” p 85-86.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary): N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Cabin has statewide significance under Criterion C: Architecture as an early example of a log cabin in Louisiana and it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is one of the first structures built by the descendants of the Louisiana Apalachee Indians that settled in the area around the 1830s and the land the Cabin sits on was originally settled by the Apalachee Indians. The period of significance under Criterion C is 1830, the year it was built.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Chopin is a small town in Natchitoches Parish, approximately 19 miles south of the city of Natchitoches. It was reportedly named after Dr. Victor Jean (John) Baptiste Chopin (“Dr. Chopin”), of whom has strong ties in the town as both a plantation owner and close friend to the Vallerys of the Apalachee community. The town is not federally recognized, but rather considered an unincorporated community. It is, however, regarded geographically and is listed as a location on Google Maps.⁸

DR. VICTOR JEAN CHOPIN FAMILY TREE

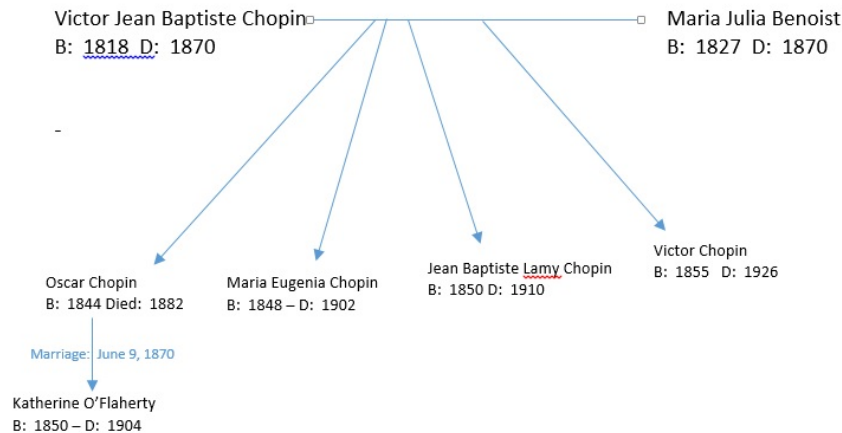


Figure 3. Victor Jean Chopin Family Tree

Dr. Victor Jean (John) Baptiste Chopin:

Dr. Chopin was born in 1818 in Loupeignes, a small French village between Soissons and Rheims. According to a letter referenced in “*Kate Chopin Reconsidered: Beyond the Bayou*,” Dr. Chopin settled in Natchitoches Parish in 1840 and married Julia Benoist in 1843.⁹ Dr. Chopin was a prominent figure in the local community and was close friends with the Vallery family. He and Julia

⁸ USGS Feature Report for Chopin, Louisiana. Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) website. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3:0::NO::P3_FID:543085, Accessed October 2017.

⁹ Lynda S. Boren. “Kate Chopin Reconsidered: Beyond the Bayou.” Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1999: Page 28.

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Benoist had three sons, Oscar, Lamy, and Victor, and one daughter, Eugenia. (See Fig. 3). Oscar was the husband of the famous Katherine O’Flaherty Chopin, author of “The Awakening.” Kate Chopin, daughter-in-law of Dr. Chopin, recorded much of the personal history that is known about her experience in the Chopin family and living in Cloutierville, Louisiana. She is known as an integral part of American and Louisiana literature. Although, she did not directly reside in the Cabin or in Chopin, her family’s involvement in the possession of the cabin was integral to its longevity and return back to the Apalachee community.



Figure 4. Eldren Carnahan Family Tree

Around 1854, following the 1853 epidemic of Yellow Fever, Dr. Chopin “acquired a plantation of 4,367 acres with it’s (sic) buildings and ninety-four slaves.”¹⁰ The initial owner of the plantation was Robert McAlpin (“McAlpin”), who by our research died sometime between 1852 and 1854. As stated by Bardot, “This domain, located a few miles from Cloutierville, belonged to Robert McAlpin, whose cruel treatment of slaves allowed him to serve as a model for Harriett Beecher Stowe’s character Simon Legree,” (Bardot, p. 30) as McAlpin’s plantation supposedly was the setting for the infamous novel “Uncle Tom’s Cabin.” Although, the land the Cabin sits on nor the Cabin itself is the land spoken of in the book, it was still owned by McAlpin, who Harriet Beecher Stowe portrayed as one of the cruelest slaveholders in the South.¹¹

Upon McAlpin’s death, he had no heirs and therefore his land was put up for public sale. This land was bought in the public sale by an unlisted, unknown subject, assumed to be Dr. Chopin, father of Lamy Chopin¹². Sometime between 1852 and 1904, the land the Cabin sits on came into the possession of Lamy Chopin, which was then sold to Alfred Carnahan¹³. The land is currently possessed by descendants of Eldren Carnahan, son of Alfred Carnahan (see Fig. 4).

“When the Civil War broke out, Dr. Chopin returned to France with his family and left his plantation under the care of a friend, Charles Bertrand.” (Bardot, p. 31). Around 1862-1863, correspondence to his sons suggest that Dr. Chopin decided to visit his Louisiana plantation and made the trip alone. Union Troops moved through the area and seized property that belonged to Dr. Chopin. Dayna

¹⁰ Boren, pg. 30.

¹¹ Lyle Saxon, “Old Louisiana.” Gretna: Pelican Publishing Co, Inc, 1999.

¹² Lamy Chopin Letter, *Corley, D. B. A Visit to Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, Laird & Lee Publishers, Chicago, 1892 (Purchased from Bayou Folk Museum “Kate Chopin Home” 1880-1883, Cloutierville, LA)

¹³ Dayna Bowker Lee’s research, a land deed recorded in the Natchitoches Parish Conveyances (Book 112, Page 545)

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Bowker Lee states that “He and two female servants abandoned the plantation and sought refuge at “Jacquitte’s place in the pine woods” (Rachel Morris deposition, Chopin Collection, October 1882)¹⁴.

A type of friendship become evident with Dr. Chopin and Jacquitte Vallery, not only through Dr. Chopin’s purchase of the plantation the Cabin was on, but also through the naming of Jacquitte Vallery’s son, Benoist Vallery, who was supposedly named after Dr. Chopin’s Wife, Julia Benoist.

Louis Jacquitte Vallery:

Jacquitte’s Cabin was built in the early to mid-1800s by Louis Jacquitte Vallery (1804-1892). Jacquitte was the brother of Jean Baptiste Vallery II (1801-1892). The two brothers are the sons of Jean Baptiste Vallery (1777-1852), whose twin is Jacques Vallery (1777-Death Unknown).

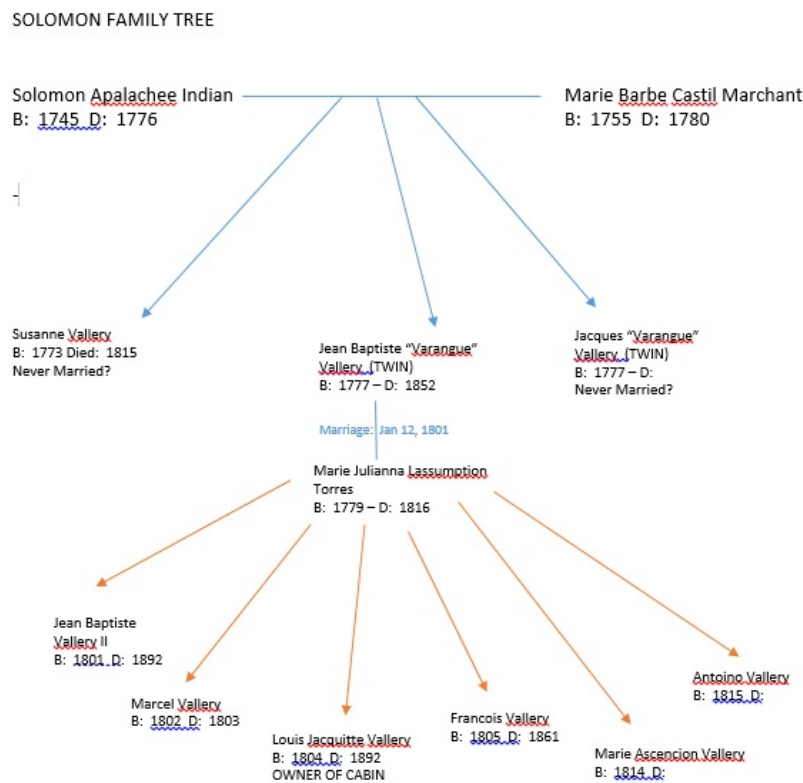


Figure 5. Solomon Apalachee Indian Family Tree

The twins were the supposed sons of Solomon Vallery (1745-1776), an Apalachee Indian from Natchitoches Parish (see Fig. 5). Solomon was one of the original members of the tribe in Chopin who began the lineage of the present day Apalachee community, otherwise known as the Talimali Band of Apalachee Indians. His grandson, Jacquitte, built the Cabin.

The Apalachee Indians originally resided in the vicinity of present day St. Augustine, Florida. The tribes were once thought to be extinct. They converted to Catholicism and adopted much of the Spanish customs and culture in the 1600s. Then, in 1704, South Carolina’s Governor James Moore joined forces with the Creek Indians and invaded the Apalachee tribe’s territory on behalf of the

¹⁴ Dayna Bowker Lee Research

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British. The Apalachee escaped to Mobile, Alabama, before making their way to Louisiana.¹⁵ French settlements had been established in Mobile, and the Apalachee used these settlements to their advantage.¹⁶ All the while, they were adopting aspects of French culture in addition to the Spanish culture they had assumed.

1528: Panfilo Narvaez's attempt at conquering Floridian Native Americans was avoided.

1539: Hernando de Soto and his Spanish men, hearing of the possibility of gold belonging to the Apalachee tribe of Florida, captured the Apalachee capital, Anhaica.

1540: Spanish moved onto Georgia.

1633: Two Catholic friars came to Apalachee territory, soon followed by Spanish soldiers, converting the Apalachee people to Catholicism, while simultaneously making them citizens of Spain.

1656: Mission San Luis (San Luis de Talimali) was built and became the center of Apalachee power.

Later decades of 1600s: Spanish families made the voyage to the Mission and joined the Apalachee people

1656 – 1704: San Luis de Talimali became the western capital of Spanish Florida.

1702: England and Spain began to wage war. English set out to destroy Catholic missions across Florida. Apalachee and Spanish settlers fled their settlement at San Luis de Talimali.

1704: Spanish and Apalachee destroyed Mission San Luis to keep it out of English hands.

1704: Apalachee split up into several groups, some choosing to surrender to the British, while others fled to St. Augustine, Pensacola, and Mobile. Those who fled to Mobile found themselves in French-controlled territory. They adopted many French customs – already having adopted much of the Spanish culture.

1704 – 1803: The Apalachee moved around quite a bit while attempting to settle in Louisiana. By 1803, they were driven off their land in Rapides Parish, Louisiana, and they relocated in the Kisatchie Hills of Natchitoches Parish. They remain in these hills today.

Figure 6. Timeline of Apalachee Indian History

The Apalachee settled at what is now known as Zimmerman Hill in Rapides Parish, Louisiana. They were the only local tribe considered to be Christian, having been converted to Catholicism by the Spanish missionaries in Florida (Tobin, p. 31). For some time, the Apalachee got along with the locals and were peaceful people, and yet, a dispute over land ownership began after the death of Alexander Fulton. Alexander Fulton ("Fulton"), the man who founded the City of Alexandria, and his partner, William Miller, bought the property where the Apalachee lived in 1804, but considered the Apalachee a nuisance. In 1818, when Fulton died, a legal battle regarding the land commenced, causing great tension between the locals and the Apalachee. Eventually they were driven out of Rapides Parish and came to settle in the Kisatchie Hills, in Emmanuel, Louisiana¹⁷ (See Fig. 6) This move into Emmanuel happened in or just after 1834, meaning that Jacquitte built his cabin shortly after their final settlement. That makes the Cabin possibly one of the first buildings to be established by the members of the Louisiana Apalachee Indians.¹⁸ According to the Ginny Tobin, "...a little log house in southern Natchitoches Parish that, I have been told (sic), was the first residence in the Emmanuel Community," (Tobin, p.31)

As pointed out in "Log Construction in Louisiana," historic context, "In some cases, an early log building might be eligible under Criterion A, exploration/settlement area of significance, because it

¹⁵ http://www.sptimes.com/2003/07/20/Floridian/The_Apalachee_trail.shtml St. Petersburg Times. Accessed October 2017.

¹⁶ Dayna Bowker Lee. "Louisiana Indians in the 21st Century." Folklife in Louisiana website. http://www.louisianafolklife.org/LT/Articles_Essays/nativeams.html#tab13. Accessed October 2017.

¹⁷ http://www.sptimes.com/2003/07/20/Floridian/The_Apalachee_trail.shtml St. Petersburg Times.

¹⁸ Ibid

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represents the earliest Euro-American settlement patterns of a given parish or region."¹⁹ Jacquitte's Cabin may have been built 120 years after Natchitoches was established, but it was part of the first surviving buildings constructed by Apalachee Indians who were resettled in Natchitoches Parish and the first settlements in this rural part of the parish.

The Cabin was a not only a product of the Apalachee residency, but was also a place of refuge for Dr. Chopin during the Civil War as he attempted to evade Union troops.²⁰ It stood the test of time and destruction that the Civil War presented to the area as a building on Confederate land. It remains on what was once Union-occupied territory. While the political orientation of Dr. Chopin is not known, it can be confidently assumed that he, like his son, Oscar Chopin, was a Southern Democrat. It could very well be regarded as a cabin that harbored Confederate sympathizers and supporters during the Civil War.

Criterion C: Architecture:

The Jacquitte Vallery Cabin is an important and rare example of Natchitoches Parish's vernacular building tradition. The following context on log construction is taken from the William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead.

A robust practice of log architecture took hold in Louisiana during the nineteenth century that stood apart from both the state's rich Creole and Acadian vernacular and the more high style national architectural influences. Log architecture was deeply connected with that part of the population which is commonly known as the Upland South culture, though some settlers may have originated in lower coastal plains of the Southeast as well.²¹ "The Upland South in the broadest sense is a culture region whose identity is based upon a Scotch-Irish heritage," but it is not exclusive to that particular ancestry and includes people of English descent.²² In Louisiana, this population was notably Anglo in contrast to the state's French influenced residents. It was also predominantly rural, tending towards more remote areas away from the colonial period settlements of the rich, fertile Mississippi and Red River valleys. After extensive field research of what he termed "Hill Louisiana", cultural geographer Martin Wright concluded that, "The areas occupied by the culture present a material appearance that is entirely different from the appearance of other culture regions of the state." Most notable was the "preoccupation with the use of logs for construction."²³

It is generally agreed that log construction once enjoyed widespread use in many areas of Louisiana. The extent of the log building tradition in the state was first studied systematically in 1949-1950 by cultural geographers including Martin Wright under the direction of Louisiana State University's Fred Kniffen. Through intensive field study that covered 12,000 miles of road and looked at approximately 45,000 farmsteads the researchers identified the geographical patterns of log culture as it survived in 1949 and as it had previously existed.²⁴

¹⁹ Jonathan and Donna Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context." Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

²⁰ Dayna Bowker Lee. "The Talimali Band of Apalachee." Louisiana Regional Folklife Program website. <https://folklife.nsula.edu/apalachee/KisatchieHills.html>. Accessed October 2017.

²¹ Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context"; National Register of Historic Places, Bouey Moore Homestead, Franklinton, Washington Parish, Louisiana, National Register # 09001059.

²² John B. Rehder, "The Scotch-Irish and English in Appalachia," in *To Build in a New Land: Ethnic Landscapes in North America*, ed. Allen G. Noble (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992), 99.

²³ Martin Wright, "Log Culture in Hill Louisiana" (PhD diss., Louisiana State University, 1956), xi.

²⁴ *Ibid*, 28, 52.

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They were only able to identify 80 standing log houses, but estimated that the actual numbers of survivors was likely at least three times that many due to indicators of what was likely to exist away from the paved roads. Furthermore, they concluded that, "The numbers of log houses are decreasing rapidly."²⁵ Fire, demolition for material reclamation, abandonment, rot, and conversion to outbuildings were cited as the primary modes of loss. In 2012, veteran scholars of Louisiana's historic architecture stated, "There are probably less than 40 log residences remaining in the state. Extant log buildings with any degree of integrity probably number even fewer."²⁶ Sixteen log residences and two groupings of log outbuildings in Louisiana are listed on the National Register. Although there is no definitive count of the extant log buildings in Louisiana, the fact that the log buildings were once prevalent and the number of survivors is proportionately very small in undisputed.

*The regional dispersion of log architecture in Louisiana was broken down into five distinct areas by Martin Wright in his 1956 dissertation derived from the 1949-50 research: 1. The "Red-Ouachita Divide," the central portion of northern Louisiana including portions of Bossier, Lincoln, Bienville, Claiborne, Webster, Ouachita, Caldwell, and Union Parishes; 2. The "Bastrop Hills," a small area in the northeast bordering Arkansas including Morehouse and part of West Carroll Parish; 3. **The "Dolet Hills," an area along the northwestern side including portions of Sabine, Natchitoches, Red River, DeSoto, and Caddo Parishes;** 4. and 5. The "Florida Parish Hills," two sections centering respectively on St. Helena and Washington Parishes in southeastern Louisiana. Among those buildings presently listed on the National Register, areas 1 and 5 are strongly represented with nine being in the "Red-Ouachita Divide" and six being in the Washington Parish centered section of the Florida Parishes...*

The historic context developed for the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation on "Log Construction in Louisiana" makes the argument that "Given their very poor survival rate, it seems clear that any extant log structures in Louisiana that survives with sufficient integrity . . . would be individually eligible for the Register under Criterion C at the state level."²⁷

Jacquitte's Cabin possesses more than sufficient integrity to remain eligible under Criterion C. Interestingly enough, Jacquitte's Cabin is found in an underrepresented area of the state as defined in the context, and does not come from the Upland South building tradition. It likely comes more from a vernacular building tradition at the time coming from both the French and Native American backgrounds of Jacquitte Vallery. It is one of the earliest built log cabins in the state, which makes sense because the area where it is built is one of the oldest settled locations in the state as Natchitoches predates even New Orleans' settling. The log construction context is helpful though in pointing out the building tradition, log construction's rare survival rate, and the techniques used at Jacquitte's cabin.

Martin Wright identified defining characteristics of log construction based on his extensive field survey done from 1949-1956. Of the nine characteristics he identified, Jacquitte's Cabin has at least five of these:

²⁵ Ibid, 53.

²⁶ Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context," pg. 2.

²⁷ Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context."; National Register of Historic Places, William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, Darlington, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana, National Register #16000673.

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Name of Property

Natchitoches Parish, LA
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- Finished (Uplander) cabins never had the bottom logs resting on the ground. They had sills resting on stone piers (often without mortar) or piers fashioned of short logs standing up. Thus, they had the amenity of raised plank floors.
- Chinking, filling gaps between the logs, could be accomplished using many different materials. In some sections of the South, stones and mortar were used. In Hill Louisiana, the preferred material was clay tempered with Spanish moss and wood chips.
- Notching, cutting logs to fit together at the corners of a structure, could be done in many different ways depending upon the skill of the builders. In Hill Louisiana, the most common notching was the saddle notch – scooping out a round void in the bottom of a log to rest upon the round log beneath it.
- Logs were invariable notch cut from underneath (the bottom side of the log was scooped out). This made for better shedding of water during Louisiana's torrential rains and helped prevent corner rot.
- Log residences usually had deep eaves.²⁸

Jacquitte's Cabin is not from the Uplander tradition, but Jacquitte may have seen similar properties in the neighboring parishes, which were from the Uplander tradition and thus, used stones and piece of wood for the piers of his cabin as the main room is raised off the ground. The additions were not built this way as these spaces were not used for human habitation at that point. The chinking has long fallen out of the cabin, but it appears based on some areas of the back, that mud and wood was used to fill the gaps. The building is most definitely constructed using saddle notches with the notch cut from below and it also has deep eaves on the façade.

Archaeology Potential

There are no official archaeological sites identified at the Jacquitte Vallery Cabin, but based on the age and time of occupation at the site, it is likely that there is archaeological potential there dating to both the prehistoric and historic periods. As there have been no formal investigations done at the site yet, archaeology is not being included as an official area of significance. However, if archaeological investigations are done at the site and yield important information, this section could be updated at that time. While there are no identified sites at this particular property, there are seven identified archaeological areas documented through site record forms (that include well over seven distinct sites) within 1.5 miles of the cabin, mostly focused around Sang Pour Sang Hill that include a prehistoric cemetery, village site, and camp site. It is reasonable to infer that there would also likely be artifacts found at the Jacquitte Vallery property dating both to prehistoric occupation as well as historic occupation of the site from the time of the cabin's construction through the 20th century.

CONCLUSION:

The Cabin has withstood a war and numerous natural disasters for more than 140 years. All in all, Jacquitte's Cabin has stood the test of time and has remained a historical landmark for an era that has passed. It is a little-known marker of the rich history that makes up Chopin. Natchitoches Parish cherishes so many plantation houses, museums – like the former Bayou Folk Museum – art, and culture. The history of Jacquitte's Cabin and its presence in this historic parish should also be recognized.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

²⁸ Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context."

Vallery, Jacquitte, Cabin
Name of Property

Natchitoches Parish, LA
County and State

See above.

9. Major Bibliographical Resources

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Vallery, Jacquitte, Cabin
Name of Property

Natchitoches Parish, LA
County and State

National Register of Historic Places, William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead,
Darlington, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana, National Register #16000673.

National Register of Historic Places, Bouey Moore Homestead, Franklinton, Washington Parish,
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Saxon, Lyle. (1988). *Old Louisiana*. Gretna: Pelican Publishing Company, 1999.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____ N/A _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 1.25 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 31.495686 | Longitude: -92.908551 |
| 2. Latitude: 31.496439 | Longitude: -92.908803 |
| 3. Latitude: 31.496679 | Longitude: -92.908346 |

Vallery, Jacquitte, Cabin
Name of Property

Natchitoches Parish, LA
County and State

4. Latitude: 31.495817

Longitude: -92.907989

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The cabin sits on a large piece of property that includes 5 other buildings that postdate the cabin and do not relate to the cabin's architectural significance. For this reason, the boundaries chosen can be seen on the submitted lat/long map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries chosen encompass sufficient land to place the cabin in an appropriate rural setting, but do not include the other resources on the larger piece of property (3 of these are historic and retain integrity, but are not significant for the same reasons as the Jacquitte Vallery Cabin; 1 is historic but has been extensively altered; 1 is an altered historic shed; and the last 1 is a carport).

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Rachel Barnes

organization: Grant Preservation Board of Louisiana

street & number: 136 Red Oak Lane

city or town: Dry Prong state: Louisiana zip code: 71423

e-mail: barnesarachel@gmail.com

telephone: 318-542-1277

date: January 19, 2018

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Jacquitte Vallery Cabin

City or Vicinity: Chopin

County: Natchitoches

State: Louisiana

Name of Photographer: Jessica Richardson

Date of Photographs: October 24, 2017

Vallery, Jacquitte, Cabin
Name of Property

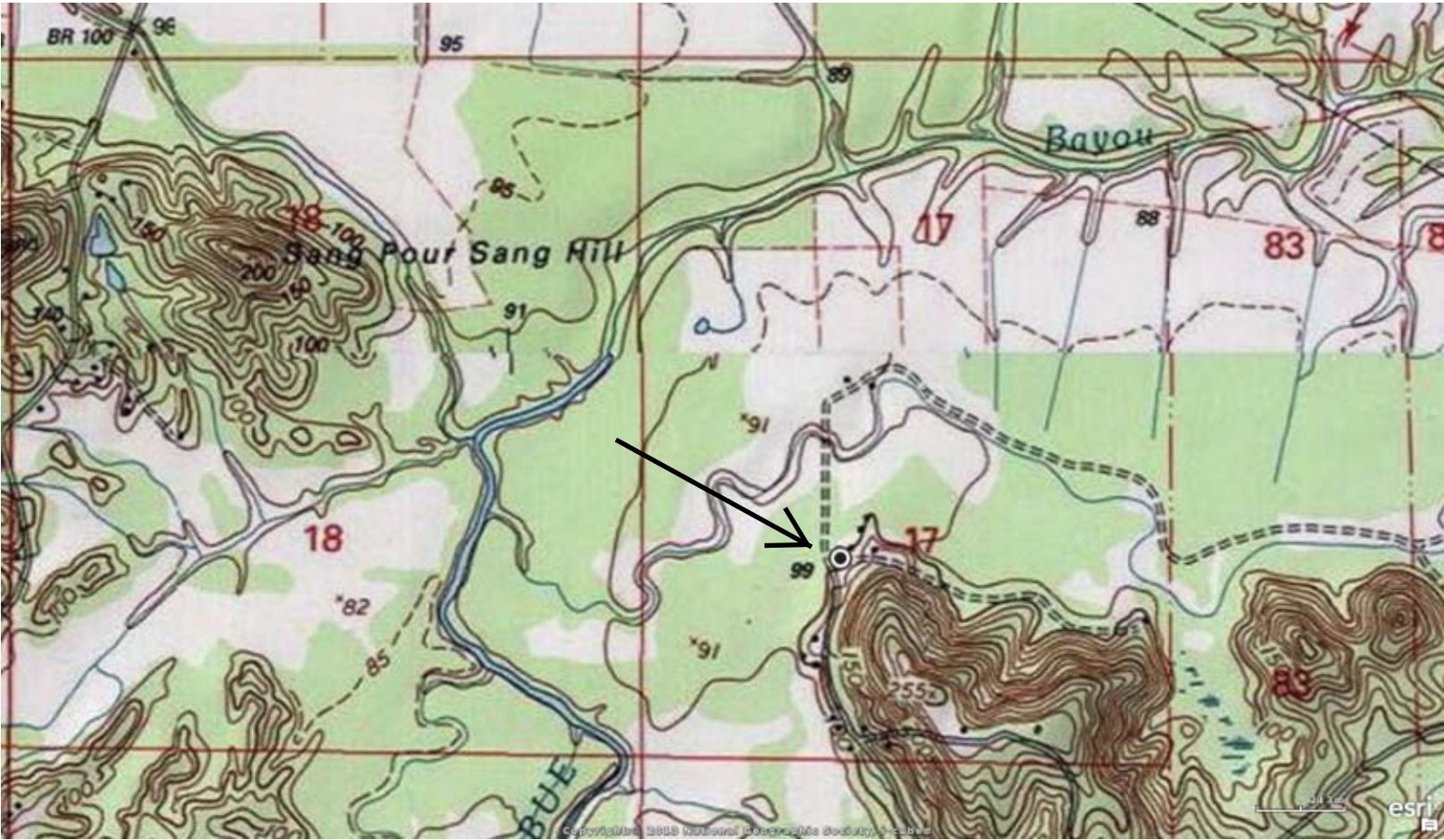
Natchitoches Parish, LA
County and State

- 1 of 15: Façade of cabin; camera facing northeast.
- 2 of 15: Façade of cabin; camera facing northwest.
- 3 of 15: View of cabin and surrounding land; camera facing northwest.
- 4 of 15: View of land surrounding cabin; camera facing north.
- 5 of 15: View of cattle shoot on eastern side of cabin: camera facing north.
- 6 of 15: Western elevation of the cabin; camera facing east.
- 7 of 15: Rear elevation of the cabin; camera facing south.
- 8 of 15: View of land surrounding the cabin; camera facing east.
- 9 of 15: Closer view of rear elevation of cabin: camera facing southeast.
- 10 of 15: Interior view, main room of cabin; camera facing northwest.
- 11 of 15: Interior view, main room of cabin; camera facing north.
- 12 of 15: Interior view, third addition; camera facing north.
- 13 of 15: Interior view, second addition; camera facing southwest.
- 14 of 15: Interior view, second addition; camera facing northeast.
- 15 of 15: Front step to main cabin, also used to wash clothes historically; camera facing north.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Jacquette Vallery Cabin, Natchitoches Parish, LA



Latitude: 31.495719 Longitude: -92.908496

Jacquette Vallery Cabin

Natchitoches Parish, LA
Lat/Long Map

Boundary

Vallery Rd

1.	Latitude: 31.495686	Longitude: -92.908551
2.	Latitude: 31.496439	Longitude: -92.908803
3.	Latitude: 31.496679	Longitude: -92.908346
4.	Latitude: 31.495817	Longitude: -92.907989

Google Earth

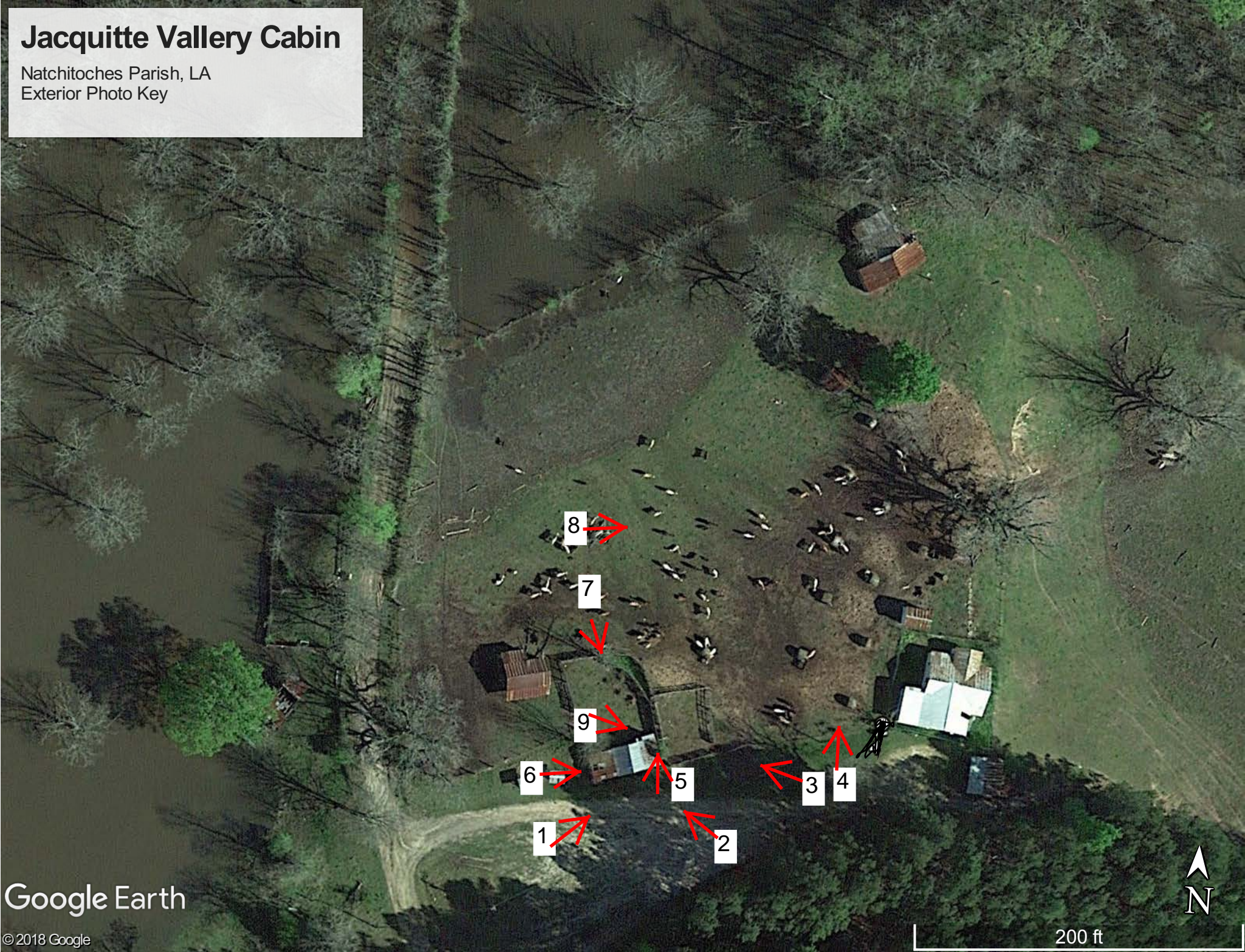
© 2018 Google



300 ft

Jacquette Vallery Cabin

Natchitoches Parish, LA
Exterior Photo Key



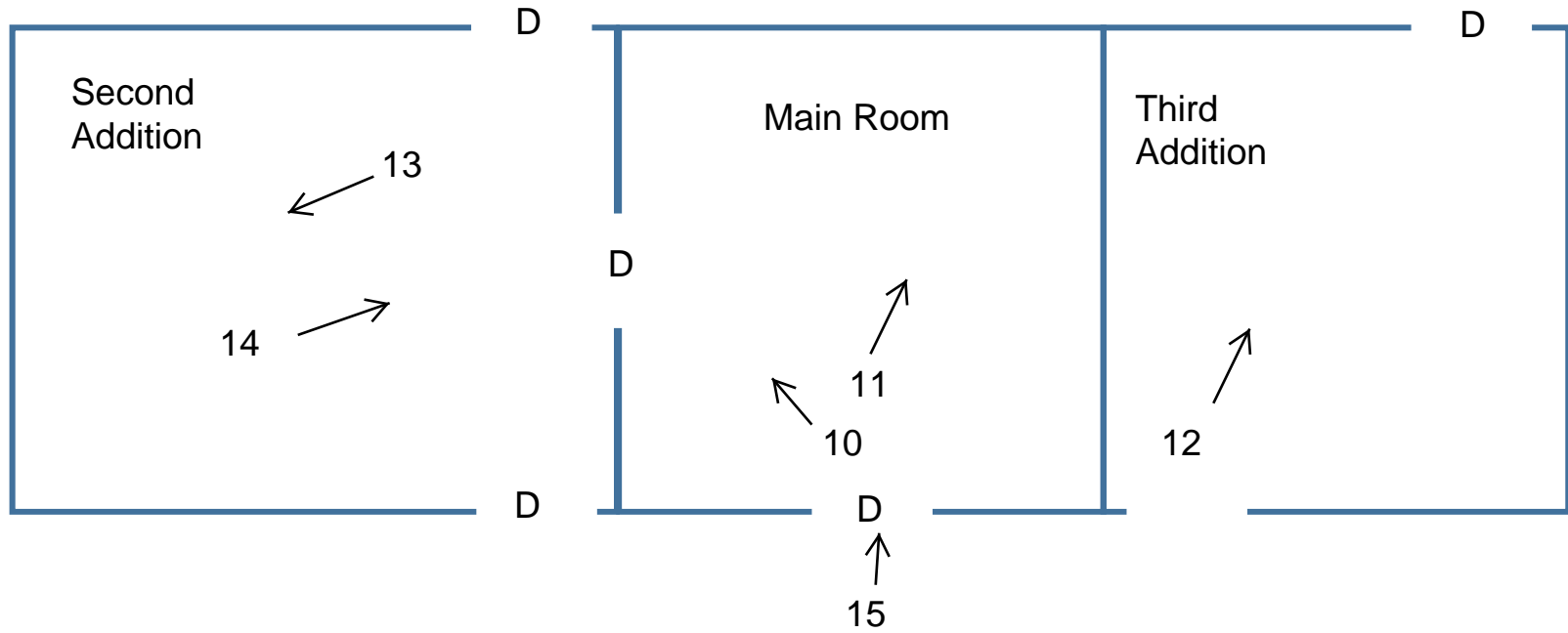
Google Earth

© 2018 Google

200 ft



Jacquitte Vallery Cabin
Natchitoches Parish, LA
Interior Photo Key
Not to Scale

































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 5/10/2018 Date of Pending List: 5/30/2018 Date of 16th Day: 6/14/2018 Date of 45th Day: 6/25/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 6/25/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

3280
MAY 10 2018
RICHARD H. HARTLEY
DEPUTY SECRETARY
KRISTIN P. SANDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATE: May 9, 2018

TO: Mr. James Gabbert
National Park Service Mail Stop 7228
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

FROM: Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator
Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation

RE: Jacquette Vallery Cabin, Natchitoches Parish, LA

Jim,

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the National Register Documentation for the Jacquette Vallery Cabin to be placed in the National Register of Historic Places. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 225-219-4595, or jrichardson@crt.la.gov.

Thanks,

Jessica

Enclosures:

- CD with PDF of the National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- CD with electronic images (tiff format)
- Physical Transmission Letter
- Physical Signature Page, with original signature
- _____ Other:

Comments:

- _____ Please ensure that this nomination receives substantive review
- _____ This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- _____ The enclosed owner(s) objection(s) do _____ do not _____
- _____ constitute a majority of property owners. (Publicly owned property)
- _____ Other: