

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

For NPS use only

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

received APR 18 1987
date entered MAY 14 1987

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

1. Name

historic Audubon Plantation House

and or common same

2. Location

street & number 21371 Hoo Shoo Too Road N/A not for publication

city, town Baton Rouge vicinity of

state LA code 022 county East Baton Rouge Parish code 033

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. and Mrs. William H. Tuttle

street & number 21371 Hoo Shoo Too Road

city, town Baton Rouge vicinity of state LA 70816

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouse

street & number 222 St. Louis

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1986 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Audubon Plantation House (c.1850) is a one-and-a-half story frame Greek Revival residence located in a rural setting in eastern East Baton Rouge Parish. While the house has suffered some alteration over the years, it retains its National Register eligibility.

Audubon has a central hall plan, two rooms deep, with a front and rear gallery. The front and rear parlors are linked by a set of pocket doors that still function. Each room has direct access to the galleries by means of French doors. The detailing is Greek Revival throughout. Both the front and rear galleries feature fully articulated entablatures. The front gallery posts are very elaborately treated with astragals and bolection molded panels. The front gallery also features a bolection molded paneled dado and clapboard sheathing. This clapboard treatment is unusual for the period, but it appears to be original. (Normally antebellum houses have flush board siding under the galleries.) The large pitched roof culminates in three front pedimented dormers. Noteworthy interior features include the staircase with its massive turned newel post, the elaborately molded baseboards, and the single aedicule style mantel. (At one time there were three others.)

Around the turn of the century much of the rear gallery was enclosed for a bathroom and service spaces. Later still the area under the staircase was enclosed for a closet. In addition, it appears that the two small windows on the side gables were added. Except for the previously mentioned pocket doors, all of the doors presently in the house are period salvaged replacements. Finally, all four of the chimneys have been rebuilt.

Despite these changes the house still retains much of its original interior detailing and most of its significant exterior detailing. Moreover, its facade and massing are virtually intact. Thus, in our opinion, Audubon still stands as an important example of a Greek Revival plantation house.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1850 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

Audubon is of local architectural significance as a rare and important example of a Greek Revival plantation house within the parishes of Ascension and East Baton Rouge. These two neighboring parishes are used as the context for significance because Audubon was originally in Ascension Parish, but the land was subsequently annexed into East Baton Rouge Parish.

These two parishes were once known for their sugar production, and their economy boomed in the thirty or so years prior to the Civil War. As a result, a goodly number of Greek Revival plantation houses were built, representing something of an architectural "flowering." But the area is now within the orbit of the expanding greater Baton Rouge metropolplex, and in recent decades has lost much of its antebellum building stock due to decay and urbanization.

It is impossible to determine with certainty the exact number of Greek Revival plantation houses built in the two parishes in the three decades prior to the Civil War. But a reliable clue can be found in the 1860 census, which lists sixty-two large slaveholdings (fifty or more slaves) in Ascension and East Baton Rouge. In addition, there were numerous good size holdings of less than fifty. Given the foregoing, it would be safe to conclude that there were scores of Greek Revival plantation houses and cottages in the two parishes on the eve of the Civil War. However, as far as the State Historic Preservation Office can determine, there are only about ten remaining examples. Hence Audubon is of special importance in the area's architectural heritage. In addition, most of the other surviving examples in the two-parish area are grand two story piles. Audubon is a Greek Revival cottage and hence is more representative of a typical plantation house of the period.

Historical Note:

The origin of Audubon is obscure. Attempts to establish a chain of title from before the late nineteenth century have thus far not been successful. The plantation is identified as Audubon in the Statement of the Sugar Crop for 1892. At that time it was owned by one Octavius Bullion and the house was rented to a Dixon family. An 1890s photograph reveals that the house was in poor condition. For much of the twentieth century Audubon remained a rural rent house.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1890s photograph of Audubon in possession of owner.

Chain-of-title research at Ascension and East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouses.

Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana, 1892.

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property @ 2 1/4 acres

Quadrangle name Prairieville, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5	6	9	6	7	6	0	3	3	5	9	2	6	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification Please refer to enclosed to-scale sketch map. Boundaries were chosen to take in the house and its setting. To have followed property lines would have meant taking in non-historic outbuildings to the rear of the house.

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

Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana

date February 1987

street & number P. O. Box 44247

telephone 504-922-0358

city or town Baton Rouge

state LA 70804

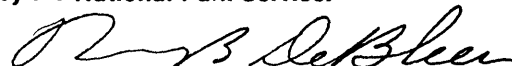
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 13, 1987

For NPS use only

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

entered in the
National Register

date 5-14-87


Keeper of the National Register

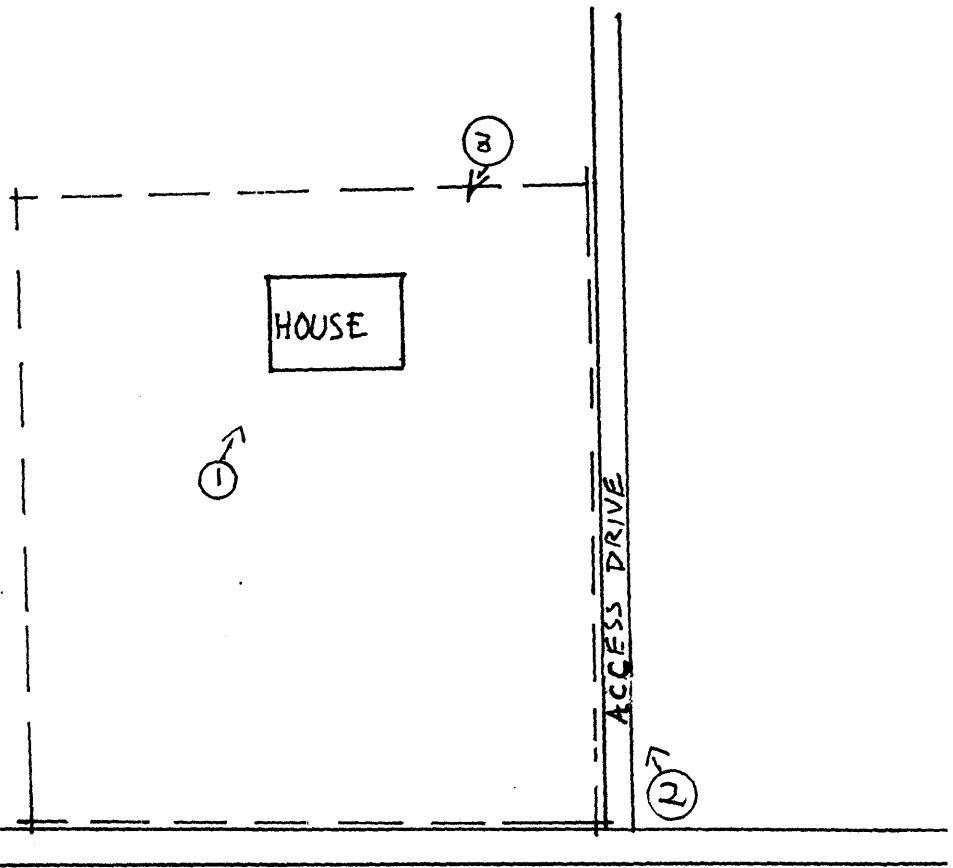
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

SCALE 1" = 100'

BOUNDARY



AUDUBON PLANTATION HOUSE
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LA.