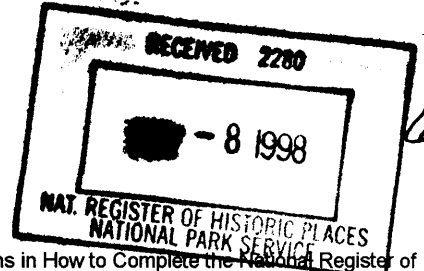


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 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 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. 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 Tate House
other names/site number Deville House

2. Location

street & number 1425 LA Hwy 29 (Cabbot Road) NA not for publication
city or town Ville Platte X vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Evangeline code 039 zip code 70586

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jonathan Fricker

May 4, 1998

Signature of certifying official/Title Jonathan Fricker, Date
Deputy SHPO, Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

State or 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 this 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):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Edson R. Beall 6.3.98

Tate House
Name of property

Evangeline 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	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	sites
<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	structures
<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	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

Louisiana's French Creole Architecture

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat. Domestic

Sub. Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat. Vacant/Not in use

Sub. _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: French Creole

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
walls weatherboard
roof metal
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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CONTINUATION SHEETSection 7 Page 1

The Tate House is a one-story frame cottage in the French Creole style. The dwelling, which stands in a rural section of eastern Evangeline Parish near the town of Ville Platte, was constructed c. 1875 and remodeled around 1900. In addition, it received a large side addition in the 1920s. Despite these changes, the home retains its National Register eligibility.

The Tate home's important French Creole features include:

- 1) a class III gabled roof with central chimney (see attachment),
- 2) the remnants of a hall-less Creole floorplan. This plan consists of a two-room range flanked by a full-length gallery on the facade and a *cabinet/loggia* range at the rear. Although somewhat altered (see below), the outline of this plan can still be clearly seen.
- 3) *bousillage* walls,
- 4) exposed ceiling beams on the gallery and throughout all the home's original rooms, and
- 5) two wraparound mantels. Both are decorated with paneling; one also features the French lozenge motif.

Other woodwork associated with the cottage (although not Creole in origin) includes simple cornices, molded baseboards, interior four-panel doors, and solid rectangular gallery columns which support an entablature. These columns feature bases, capitals and necking suggestive of the Italianate style. Each column also has an inverted V-shaped notch at its base which allows water to drain from the gallery.

The c. 1900 remodeling enclosed the *loggia* and moved the rear range's interior walls to create two instead of three rooms, replaced the home's original front doors with period doors featuring oval glass panes above horizontal wooden panels, added a beaded board wainscot to the facade wall, and added beaded board to all the interior walls. (It should be noted that the home's *bousillage* walls are intact behind the beaded board, as evidenced by a hole in the wall which makes the *bousillage* visible.) In addition, a gallery staircase leading to the unfinished attic may have been added at this time. As previously mentioned, new rooms were appended to one side of the home in the 1920s. Comprised of two rooms and a bath, this space is almost as large as the original house. One of these rooms has been updated with modern paneling. However, the exterior board and batten and weatherboard siding covering this portion of the building has remained intact.

In addition to the c. 1900 and c. 1920 changes outlined above, the Tate House has received the following alterations: 1) some repair of the gallery floor, 2) the construction of one closet in each rear room, and 3) the attachment of a false gallery to the main gallery roof.

CONTINUED

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National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection 7 Page 2

The important integrity issues are the covering of the original *bousillage* walls with beaded board, the installation of the beaded board wainscot on the facade, and the construction of the 1920s side addition. In reference to the *bousillage* walls, it should be noted that this infill material was not necessarily meant to be seen. It was often covered with smooth plaster, with this treatment being especially typical for later examples. Hence the beaded board covering the *bousillage* walls at the Tate House may not be as important an alteration as it might at first seem. (Because the hole revealing the *bousillage* is so small, it is impossible to detect any plaster residue.) And, because Creoles often decorated their galleries to serve as outdoor rooms, the c. 1900 wainscot is very much in the spirit of the Creole style. Finally, although the addition does visually impact the older Creole cottage, it has not destroyed or hidden the French Creole features which make the building architecturally significant, as explained above.

Contributing Element

Standing a few yards behind the Tate House is a vertical board smokehouse which appears to have been built at the same time as the house.

Non-Contributing Element

Standing directly next to the c. 1920s wing of the Tate House is a small, non-historic wooden wash house with a metal roof.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" next to 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

(Mark "X" next to all that apply.) NA

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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. 1875

Significant Dates

c. 1875, c. 1900

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

NA

- 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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CONTINUATION SHEETSection 8 Page 1
9 1

The Tate House is locally significant in the area of architecture because, as a rare example of the French Creole style within a parish once dominated by that building tradition, it represents Evangeline Parish's earliest architectural heritage.

Although now part of Evangeline Parish, the land upon which the Tate House stands was within the northwestern part of Imperial St. Landry Parish until the creation of the new parish in 1910. According to the historical record, settlement began in the late eighteenth century, and by the mid-nineteenth century the area was fairly well populated. However, little is known of Evangeline's early architecture. Presumably, it reflected the same building traditions as St. Landry, which is believed to have been a showcase of French Creole architecture, with examples numbering in the hundreds. This patrimony would have included the usual mix of Creole structures and structures combining Creole and American features, as was the typical architectural pattern for French parishes during the period 1820 to 1860. Furthermore, this tradition continued through the 1870s and 1880s.

It should be noted that very little survives in Evangeline Parish from before about 1900. Although the area has not yet been surveyed by the State Historic Preservation Office, long-time residents state that houses such as Tate once dominated the landscape. Of the handful of early structures that do remain, the Tate House is one of the best. As far as the SHPO can determine, most of the other earlier structures in the parish are humble one or two room cabins of indeterminate date with little or no architectural significance. By contrast, the Tate House has *bousillage* walls, well-detailed wraparound mantels, exposed ceiling beams, and the remnants of a Creole floorplan. Thus, it is one of few houses left in Evangeline Parish to represent the area's earliest building traditions.

Historical Note

Although constructed by the Deville family, the candidate house has belonged to the Tates since 1919. Except for occasional use as a camp, the house currently stands vacant.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Interview with Mr. and Mrs. John W. Tate, February 22, 1998.

Staff knowledge of Evangeline Parish.

Site visit by National Register staff.

Tate House
Name of property

Evangeline Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 15 572940 3400400

2 _____

3 _____

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 February 1998

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name John W. Tate

street & number 1327 Tate Cove Road telephone (318) 363-1828

city or town Ville Platte state LA zip code 70586

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Tate House
Name of property

Evangeline Parish, LA
County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached sketch map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION


Boundaries were chosen to include the home's immediate setting while excluding nearby non-contributing elements and extensive rural acreage.


TATE HOUSE

Ville Platte Vicinity
Evangeline Parish, LA

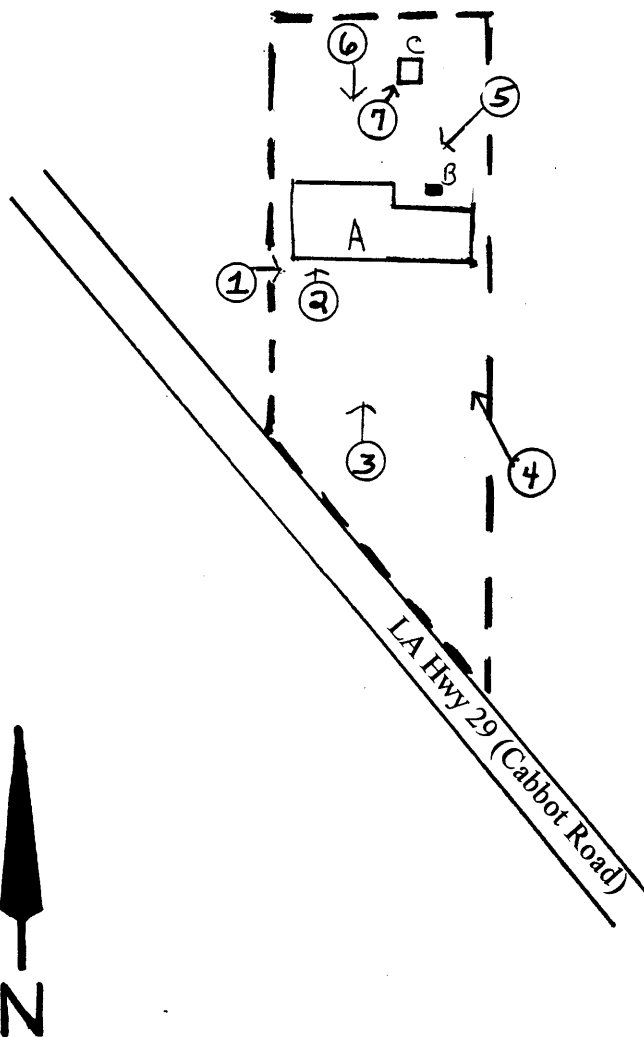
Boundary: - - - -

Scale: 1" = 50'

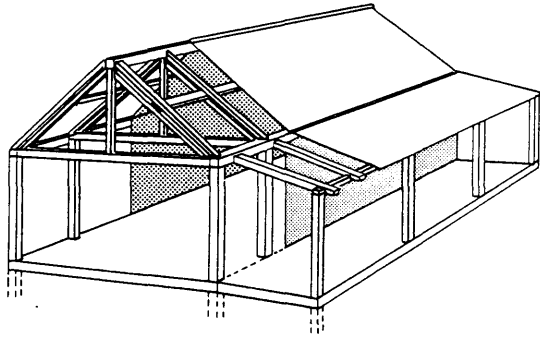
Contributing
Element: 

Non-Contributing
Element: 

LEGEND: A = House
B = Wash House
C = Smokehouse

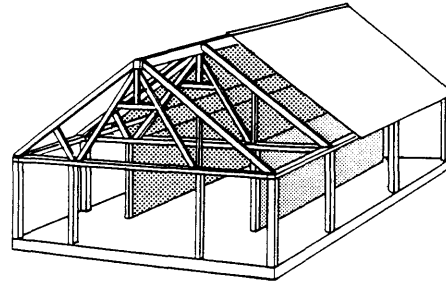


SOME CLASSES OF CREOLE VERNACULAR HOUSES



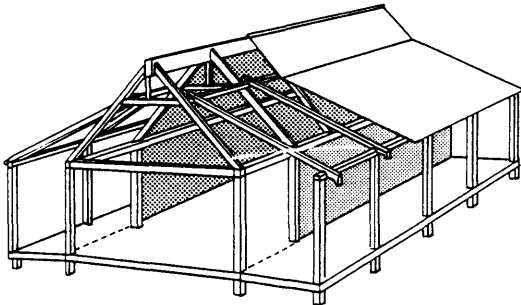
CLASS I

Single-pitch roof. Truss system includes the use of a king post and a double rafter system. Rafters set on wall plate. Inner rafters (truss blades) set on tie beam. Gallery optional. If present, gallery rafters tied into wall plate or front wall, and supported by an outer gallery plate, which is itself supported by light weight colonnettes.



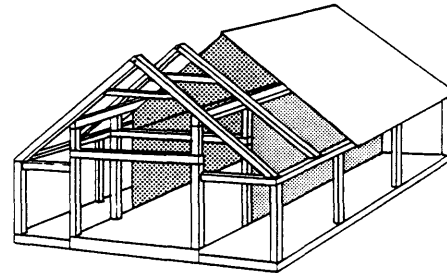
CLASS IIIa

Full (single-pitch) umbrella roof. Truss blades (principal rafters) mounted on wall plates. Long outer rafters mounted on outer gallery wall plates and let into or notched over the roof ridge. These rafters supported in their middles by posts (right side) or braces (left side), or by purlins supported by these.



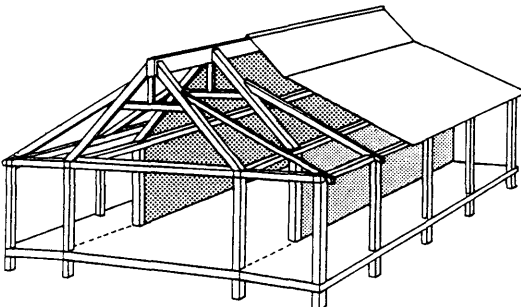
CLASS IIa

Mississippi Valley French Colonial broken-pitch roof (early form). Gallery always present. Gallery rafters notched over principal purlin and supported on outer gallery plate.



CLASS IIIb

Full (single-pitch) umbrella roof (later form). Truss blades now absent. Outer rafters supported in their middles by posts or by post-supported purlins. Roof ridge generally not present



CLASS IIb

Mississippi Valley French Colonial broken-pitch roof (later form). Principal rafters (single or doubled) set on wall plate. Gallery rafters let into backs of principal rafters and supported on outer gallery plates.