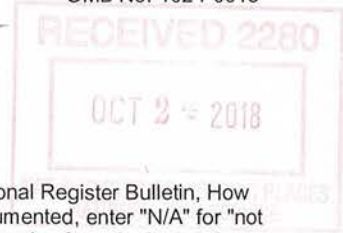


MP 3192



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: Kirby-Adam House  
Other Names/Site Number: N/A  
Name of related multiple property listing: Louisiana Coastal Vernacular: Grand Isle, 1780-1968

## 2. Location

Street & Number: 142B Community Lane  
City or town: Grand Isle State: LA County: Jefferson  
Not for Publication:  Vicinity: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* *August 15, 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**

Kirby-Adam House  
Name of Property

Jefferson Parish, LA  
County and State

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*

*12-4-2018*

**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		Buildings
		Sites
1		Structures
		Objects
2	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;  
Agriculture/Subsistence: Storage

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.): Domestic: Single Dwelling

Kirby-Adam House  
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## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions.): French Creole

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: brick

walls: wood

roof: metal

other: N/A

### 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 Kirby-Adam House was constructed circa 1880 on Grand Isle by local builders, the Nacarri Brothers. The five-room house features wood mortise-and-tenon structure, center chimney, as well as tongue-and-groove floor, ceiling, and interior walls which provided anchor and rigid stability during storm events. The house has survived over one-hundred-thirty years of annual tropical storms, hurricanes, and flood events and provides testimony to the strength and appropriateness of its design and construction in its' sub-tropical environment.

### Narrative Description

The Kirby-Adam House retains its historical integrity with original location, materials, structure, and appearance. Where materials have been replaced, the owner used same, similar, or sensitively incorporated materials with the exception of those below. The house is located on the chenier ridge near the center of the island with the front porch facing towards the beach (south) and the rear to the bay (north). The foundation and chimney are composed of clay bricks with lime mortar that shows considerable wear from wave action during storms. The current owner had the hearth and upper portion of the chimney rebuilt in 2001-2002 at which time it was discovered that the chimney foundation extends four (4) feet below grade serving as an anchor in the center of the house during flood events. Contrary to typical floating that occurs during high tide events, to the owner's knowledge, the house has never moved during a storm. The chimney is located in the center of the house and serves as a portion of the wall between two front rooms but has a hearth only on the west (living room) side. The bricks and hearth are original; the owner changed the former flat fireplace opening to a shallow arch to increase its structural stability after the damage that necessitated the rebuilding.

The main structure of the house is cypress wood with wood clapboard siding and wood floors. The windows and doors are wood. Windows are 2/2 and 6/6 double hung wood. All original exterior doors had been replaced when the property was purchased in 2001. The owner incorporated salvaged doors throughout but all are single-leaf; the original four openings on the front porch were all paired French style doors. The openings closest to the exterior walls now contain single-hung wood windows

Kirby-Adam House  
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with two-by-two lites and wood shutters (this change was done within the period of significance). The west door is a 6-lite, two-panel wood door with antique hardware. The east door opening has paired wood shutters. Both door openings and window openings match in height, width, and trim. Door and openings include a transom-like panel detail.

The Kirby-Adam House consists of the original building area without any external additions. The brick pier foundation supports a wood structure with side-facing gables. Exterior walls have wood clapboard siding and the roof is metal. The front faces towards the beach on the south with the rear towards Caminada Bay. The plan has two large front rooms with three smaller rooms across the back in a typical Creole style plan though the cabinets are considerably larger than the very small center space. The front gallery (porch) has two doors at center each flanked by a window and symmetrically arranged across the façade. The left door opens into the living room which has the only hearth in the building. The chimney is located in the center wall between the living room and bedroom, being flush with the wall on the bedroom side and projecting into the living room. A large framed opening provides access to the kitchen in the rear (northeast) corner *cabinet*. From the kitchen, a door opens into the small hall. From the hall, doors open to the bedroom, bathroom, and outside (rear) of the house. The hall retains at least two layers of wallpapers on the tops of the walls. The bedroom is the second large front room with a door to the front porch and exposed brick on the back of the chimney. The original stair located in the northwest corner *cabinet*, is now part of the bathroom. The stair has one step up to a corner landing then a steep, straight run up to the sleeping loft.

The owner stated that when the mason repaired the chimney, he revealed that the foundation extends four feet below the ground surface. Located at the center of the building, this would allow it to act as an anchor for the house during flood and wind events.

The cistern (see Photo 10) is located outside the rear of the house near the northwest corner. Although original to the island, it floated onto the property during a storm event and the owners agreed to permanently relocate it to the Adam house property. It is located over the brick circle foundation of an earlier cistern on a new foundation. At present, it does not contain water.

**Historic Integrity - Adam House and Cistern:** The house maintains its historic integrity with the original five rooms and no additions to the floor plan. Interior wood walls have been painted where originally wallpapered. Floors are exposed tongue-and-groove cypress. The brick chimney was repaired and an arch added to the top of the firebox after some bricks were damaged during hurricane Katrina. There is no wood or plaster over the bricks on the chimney and no mantel. The owner assumed these had been damaged by floods and removed by previous owners. The only major change to the house are the interior and exterior wall surface materials on the east gable wall. Due to storm damage, the exterior siding has been replaced with wood exterior grade plywood, and the interior horizontal tongue-and-groove boards have been partially replaced with vertical bead-board. Window unit air conditioners, indoor plumbing, and electricity provide modern amenities with minimal effect on the historical character of the structure. While the building retains many of its original design elements and is clearly a historic building, perhaps the most intact area of integrity is setting. As Photo 1 shows, the building is bathed in shade from nearby trees and looks much as it did in 1880 – an inviting home away from home.

## 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.)

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	<b>A</b>	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
	<b>B</b>	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<b>X</b>	<b>C</b>	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.
	<b>D</b>	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

**Criteria Considerations:**

	<b>A</b>	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
	<b>B</b>	Removed from its original location
	<b>C</b>	A birthplace or grave
	<b>D</b>	A cemetery
	<b>E</b>	A reconstructed building, object, or structure
	<b>F</b>	A commemorative property
	<b>G</b>	Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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

**Period of Significance:** 1880

**Significant Dates:** 1880

**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):** Nacarri Brothers

**Period of Significance (justification):** The period of significance is 1880, the year the building was constructed.

**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.)

Constructed in 1880, the Kirby-Adam House is significant on the local level under Criterion C: Architecture as a prime example of the Louisiana Coastal Vernacular style. The Kirby-Adam House has direct associations with the historic context from the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gilded Age of Grand Isle (1880-1893) as defined in the "Louisiana Coastal Vernacular: Grand Isle, 1780-1968" Multiple Property Submission. It meets the registration requirements of the Building Property Type found in Section F of the MPS. The Kirby-Adam House is eligible under Criterion C as it retains many original



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design features, materials, and examples of late 19<sup>th</sup> century craftsmanship. The period of significance is 1880, the year it was built.

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

The Kirby-Adam falls under the building property type as defined in the Louisiana Coastal Vernacular: Grand Isle, 1780-1968 multiple property submission. Built in 1880, this house falls under the discussion of a Creole type house with interconnected rooms, with no true hallways. The building also has heavy braced timbers, a large attic space, and a generous gallery. On Grand Isle, there are also bungalow style buildings that often also had prominent gable roofs, overhanging eaves, large gabled porches, large windows, paneled rooms with beamed ceilings, and casual, hall-less floor plans. The Kirby-Adam House has all of these features, even including some of the features of the later bungalow style buildings, including the beamed ceilings, which are currently covered with a later covering. The beaded board and wood board walls can be seen in some spots underneath the later wallpaper.

The registration requirements for the MPS state,

“Buildings of French Creole and Bungalow styles must retain major elements of these styles as described above for eligibility under Criterion C. Status of elevation to meet Base Flood Elevation requirements should not completely disqualify buildings on Grand Isle if they meet a majority of other elements of the specified style, mainly because of the geographic location of these buildings on an island continually battered by flooding and hurricanes and because of the longstanding history of elevating buildings on Grand Isle. Applicants should show documentation of historical background relative to the community for those structures not meeting Criterion C for architecture to achieve Criterion A or B listing under community significance. Buildings should at least retain integrity of design, feeling, association, location, and setting. Materials may have changed some due to repairing storm damage, but overall, the building should retain its overall form, style, and layout.”

The Kirby-Adam House meets the requirements under Criterion C as it retains the major elements that have been mentioned in the building property type description. Furthermore, it retains integrity of design, feeling, association, location, and setting, which is perhaps its strongest area of integrity as when one enters the property, they are almost transported back to Grand Isle’s heyday. The Kirby-Adam House also retains integrity of materials, miraculously even after weathering all of the storms it has seen over the last 130 years. Its overall form, style, and layout it most certainly intact and thus, the building is eligible for listing on the National Register as a prime example of the Louisiana Coastal Vernacular of Grand Isle.

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**Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

See above.

**9. Major Bibliographical Resources**

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

See Louisiana Coastal Vernacular MPS for sources (the same were used here).

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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:** less than an acre

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 29.236843                      Longitude: -89.995598

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

53FT ON PUBLIC LAND X 315FT AS FAR AS THE PUBLIC ROAD ON THE NORTH WEST SIDE & PT OF GROUND MEAS 30 x 100; GRAND ISLE 10157334 10338254  
Per Jefferson Parish Assessor PARCEL # 0610004637

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The chosen boundaries reflect the historic boundaries of the property.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Karen McKinney, Architect, AIA  
organization: N/A  
street & number: PO Box 101/402 Hinckley St  
city or town: Washington                      state: LA                      zip code: 70589  
e-mail: karen.js.mckinney@gmail.com  
telephone: 337-781-9820

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date: 6/15/2018

### 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

#### KIRBY-ADAM HOUSE AND CISTERN

Grand Isle

Jefferson Parish

LA

Date taken: 10/14/2017  
Photographer: Karen McKinney

Photo ID	Location	Description
1	Exterior	Front (southwest corner); camera facing northeast
2	Exterior	Front (southwest corner); camera facing northeast
3	Exterior	West elevation (front); camera facing southeast
4	Exterior	West elevation (rear); camera facing northeast
5	Exterior	East elevation (front porch); camera facing southwest
6	Exterior	East elevation; camera facing southwest
7	Exterior	Rear (north) elevation from northeast; camera facing south
8	Exterior	Rear (north) elevation; camera facing south
9	Exterior	Rear elevation kitchen window; camera facing south
10	Exterior	Cistern at northwest corner of house; camera facing east
11	Exterior	Floor joists and boards from foundation; camera facing west
12	Exterior	Brick piers and chimney; camera facing west
13	Exterior	Front porch (south elevation); camera facing north
14	Interior	Living room and fireplace; camera facing southeast
15	Interior	Fireplace chimney with original plaster; camera facing southeast
16	Interior	Kitchen looking from fireplace; camera facing northwest
17	Interior	Kitchen looking west; camera facing northwest
18	Interior	Kitchen looking east to hall and bathroom; camera facing east



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19	Interior	Hall looking north to rear door; camera facing north
20	Interior	Hall looking north to bedroom; camera facing south
21	Interior	Layers of wallpaper over T&G wallboard in hall; camera facing south
22	Interior	Bedroom looking southeast from hall; camera facing southeast
23	Interior	Bathroom and stair; camera facing southeast
24	Interior	Stairs in bathroom; camera facing southeast
25	Interior	Bottom of stairs in bathroom; camera facing southeast

**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.

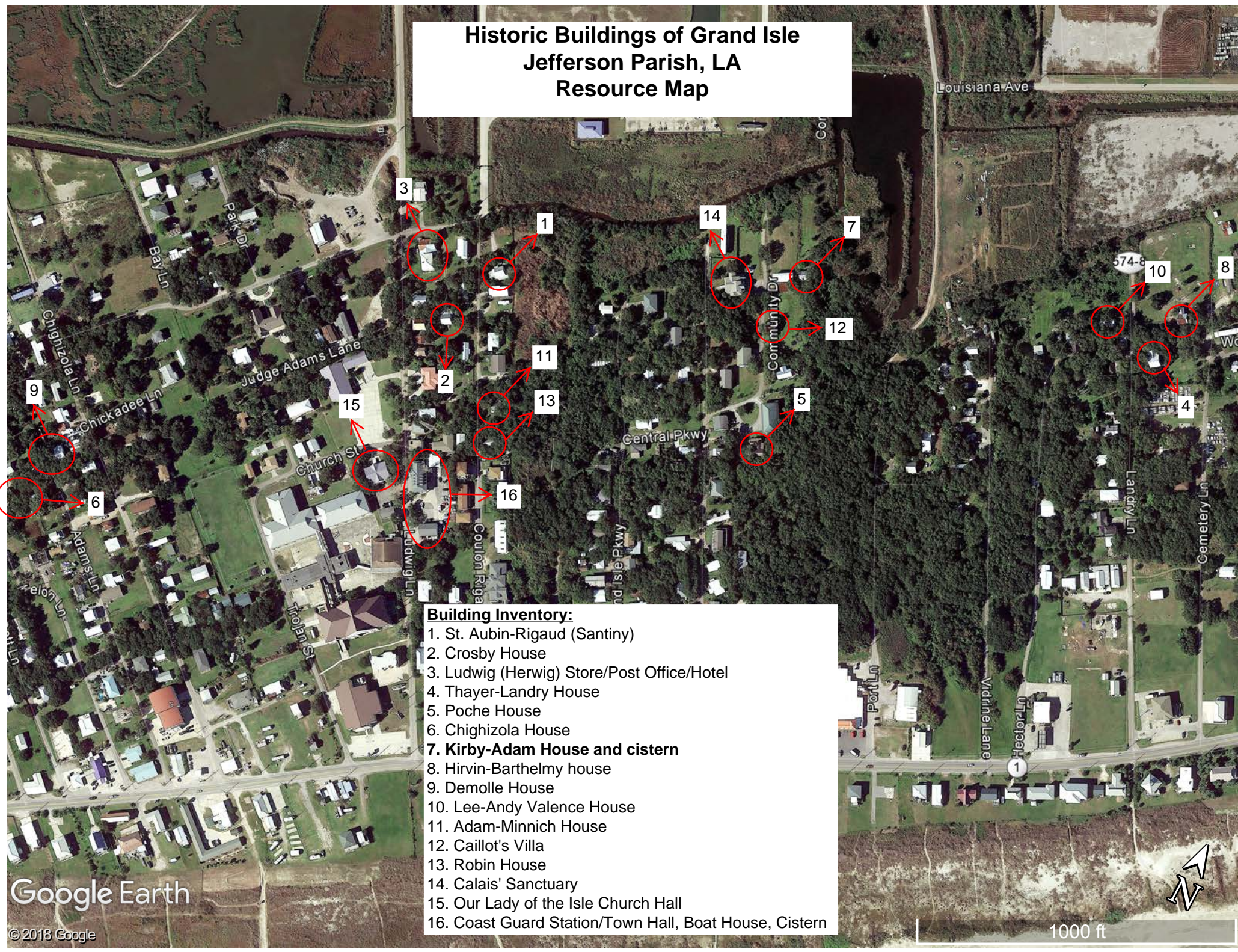
Kirby-Adam House, Jefferson Parish, LA



Latitude: 29.236843 Longitude: -89.995598



# Historic Buildings of Grand Isle Jefferson Parish, LA Resource Map

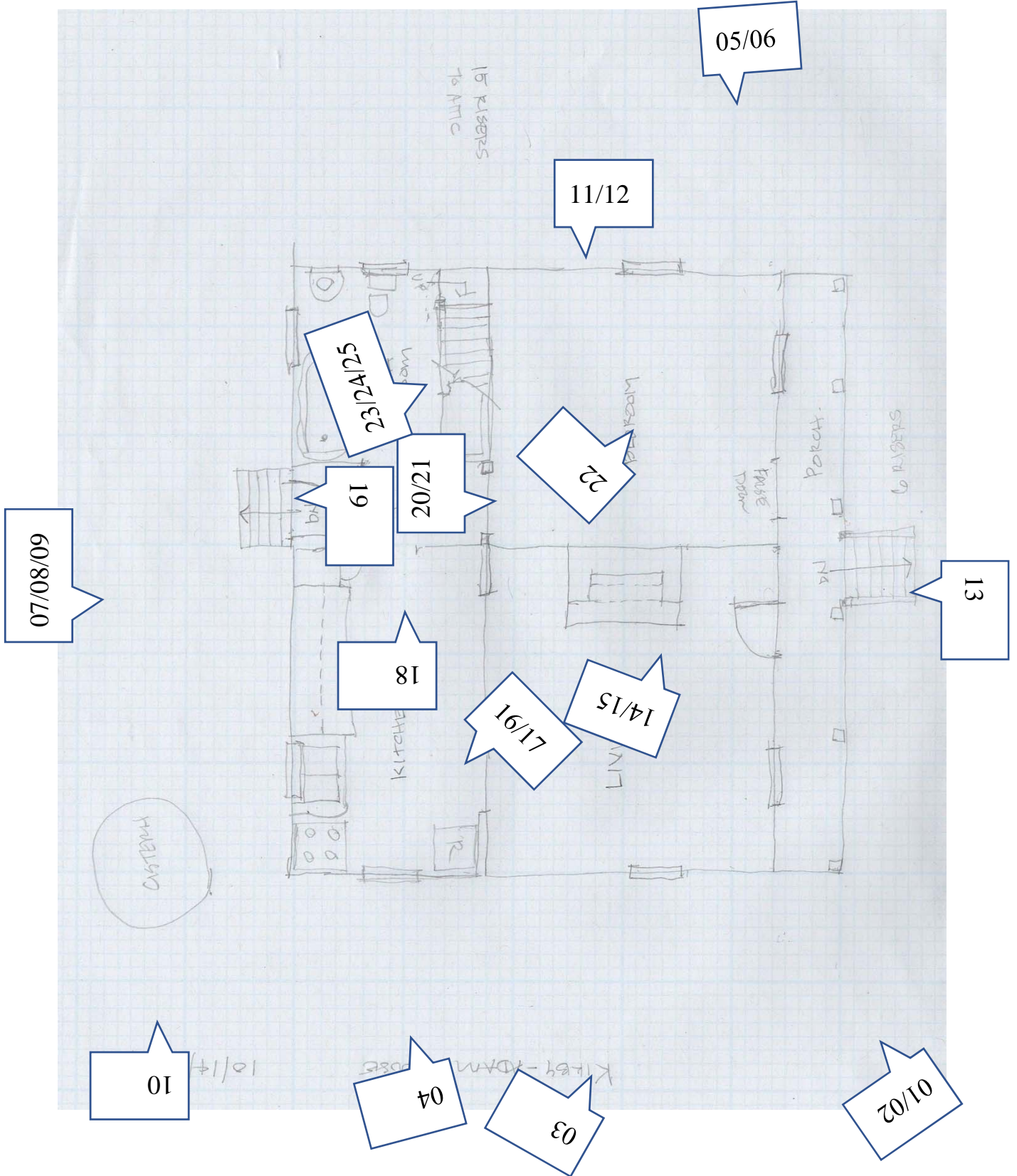
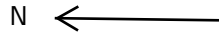


### Building Inventory:

1. St. Aubin-Rigaud (Santiny)
2. Crosby House
3. Ludwig (Herwig) Store/Post Office/Hotel
4. Thayer-Landry House
5. Poche House
6. Chighizola House
7. Kirby-Adam House and cistern
8. Hirvin-Barthelmy house
9. Demolle House
10. Lee-Andy Valence House
11. Adam-Minnich House
12. Caillot's Villa
13. Robin House
14. Calais' Sanctuary
15. Our Lady of the Isle Church Hall
16. Coast Guard Station/Town Hall, Boat House, Cistern



Kirby-Adam House  
Jefferson Parish, LA  
Photo Key









































































































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: 10/24/2018      Date of Pending List: 11/16/2018      Date of 16th Day: 12/3/2018      Date of 45th Day: 12/10/2018      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      12/4/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

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

RICHARD H. HARTLEY  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

KRISTIN P. SANDERS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY



DATE: October 23, 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: Kirby Adam House, Jefferson Parish, LA *gr*

Jim,

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the National Register Documentation for the Kirby Adam House 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](mailto: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: