

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUL 3 1984

date entered AUG 2 1984

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

1. Name

historic Brooklyn Church and Cemetery

and or common same

2. Location

street & number off LA HWY 4, 5.3 miles southeast^{SE} of Chatham ~~off LA 4~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Chatham vic, -X- vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Jackson Parish code 049

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Brooklyn Church Preservation Society, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 109 (Mrs. Aloyce Durrett, Secretary, 318-249-2850)

city, town Chatham N/A vicinity of state LA 71226

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson Parish Courthouse

street & number Main Street (no specific address)

city, town Jonesboro state LA 71251

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Brooklyn Church (1902) is a single story plain frame structure located in a wooded hilltop setting 5.3 miles southeast of the small town of Chatham. The church has been little altered since construction.

The Brooklyn Church has a simple pitched roof form, four bays deep. The church is entered through a central transomed double door on the gable end. The rear gable end features two windows and a second door. Windows are six over six and the doors are of the six panel "Cross and Bible" type. Detailing is simple with narrow gauge clapboards and plain door and window frames with molded tops. The attic vents are original.

The plain flushboard interior culminates in a slightly raised balustraded platform with a three-part pulpit-lectern. The floorboards are original.

INTEGRITY:

Since construction a new roof covering has been installed along with new front and rear steps and two exterior lights. In our opinion, these changes should be regarded as minor.

Adjacent to the church is a sizable historically associated cemetery (see Item 3 historical note). It is listed as a contributing element.

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

Specific dates 1902 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Brooklyn Church

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Brooklyn Church is locally significant in the area of architecture as an almost perfectly preserved example of an austere turn-of-the-century country frame church. It represents a local North Louisiana unpretentious building tradition. Architecturally speaking, churches of this ilk should be regarded as remote descendants of provincial Greek Revival temple form churches. They are generally associated with the Methodist and Baptist sects and represent a building type which is a vital part of the material culture of the Upland South.

But it is an archetype which is rapidly disappearing. Because these churches are in rural locations, many are no longer actively used and hence face an uncertain future. Many are already gone. Although there is no exact count or survey to indicate how many churches of this type there once were across northern Louisiana, it is reasonable to assume that many rural communities had them. But today, for example, there are probably fewer than ten remaining examples in the nine parishes in the eastern half of North Louisiana. *

*This figure covers the following parishes: Madison, East & West Carroll, Ouachita, Jackson, Richland, Union, Lincoln and Morehouse. It is based upon a windshield survey of East Carroll and Madison Parishes, comprehensive surveys of Union and Lincoln Parishes, and general knowledge of the remaining areas on the part of the staff of the State Historic Preservation Office.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

Brooklyn Church traces its beginnings to 1857 when a wagon train of settlers from Georgia camped at the church site and decided to settle in the area. According to church history, there was already a small log church at the site, but the settlers erected a new building soon after their arrival. Neither of these earlier structures is extant; the present building dates from 1902. Regular services at Brooklyn were discontinued in 1939, but homecoming services are held yearly. Upkeep is now the responsibility of the newly formed Brooklyn Church Preservation Society, Inc.

The present cemetery has been in use at least since the arrival of the settlers in 1857. Almost all of the tombstones date from c. 1860 through the early twentieth century.

NB: The State Review Committee asked that an expanded historical sketch be submitted with the nomination. It is enclosed (as prepared by the applicant),

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Standing Structures Survey Files, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

Historical information supplied by applicant, copy in Register file, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 4 acres

Quadrangle name Chatham, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A 15 558600 3568850
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

See attached scale plat map. Boundary lines follow property lines and provide the necessary rural setting for the church and adjacent cemetery.

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 ASSISTED BY OWNER

name/title National Register Staff

organization LA State Historic Preservation Office date March 1984

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-6682

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 X 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*
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date June 27, 1984

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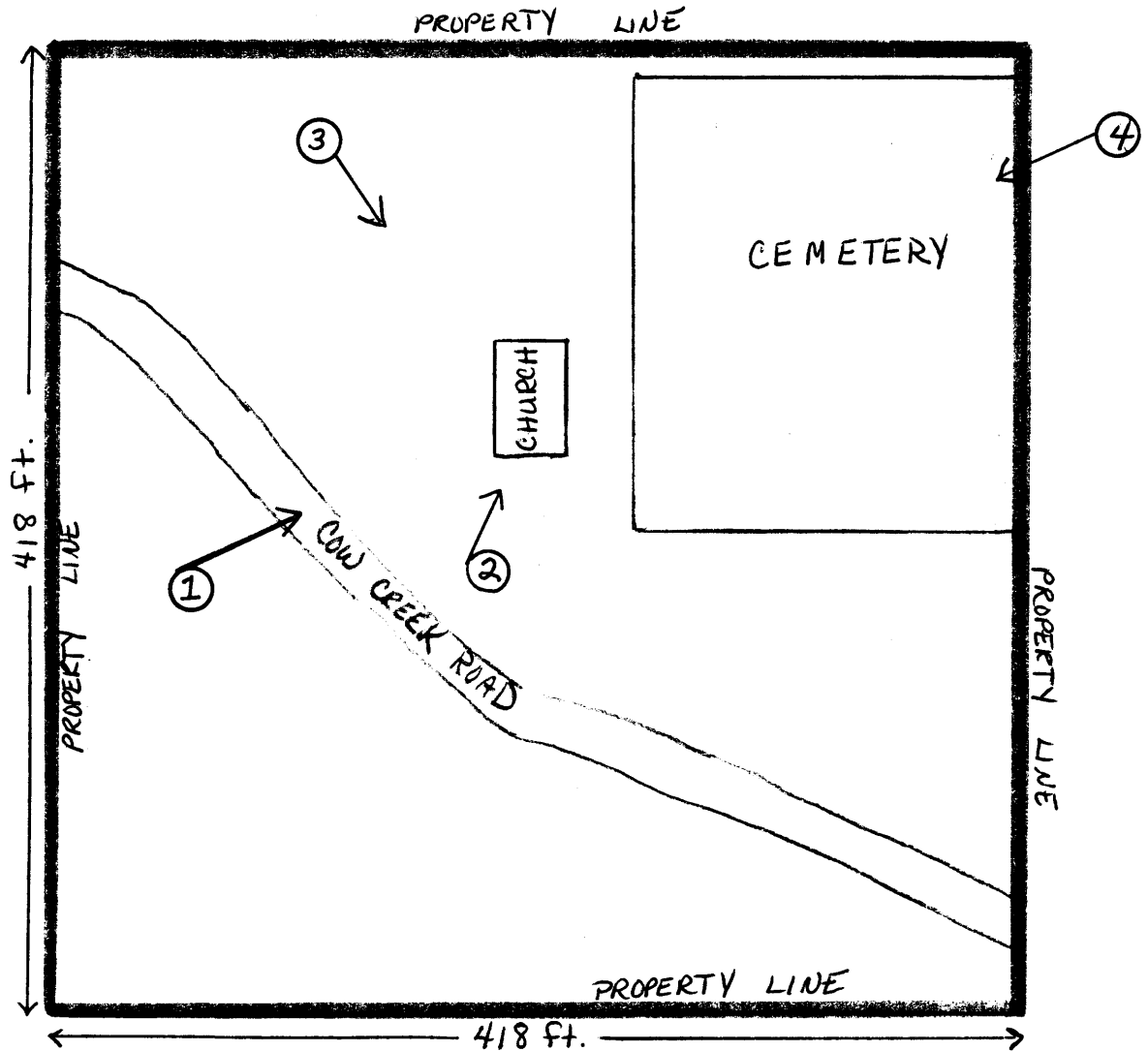
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 8-2-84

Melrose Byers
for Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration



Scale: 1 square = 20 ft.

← N
 ─────────── BOUNDARY LINE

BROOKLYN CHURCH + CEMETERY
 JACKSON PARISH LA.