

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received AUG 3 1987
date entered SEP - 8 1987

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

1. Name

historic

and or common Abbeville Residential Historic District

2. Location

street & number principally Fairview and West Oak Streets n/a not for publication

city, town Abbeville n/a vicinity of

state Louisiana code 22 parish Vermilion code 113

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"/> 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	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. n/a

street & number n/a

city, town _____ state n/a

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Standing Structures 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	date _____ n/a
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Abbeville Residential Historic District is a late nineteenth-early twentieth century neighborhood of nineteen houses. It is located at the confluence of the Valcourt Coulee and the Vermilion River just north of the historic central business district. Styles in the district run the gamut from Queen Anne Revival to Colonial Revival to Arts and Crafts. The intrusion rate is 16%, and few of the contributing elements have been significantly altered.

The district is characterized by large lots and numerous mature trees. The Valcourt Coulee meanders through the area adding to its pastoral character. Despite the generous lot setbacks and the many trees, the district is fairly cohesive, and it is possible to take in many of the houses in a single view.

Although the houses are fairly large, only two of them exceed a story and a half. Most are large rambling galleried cottages of the kind familiar in the Deep South. Although they partake of elements from the Queen Anne Revival, Eastlake, Colonial Revival, and Arts and Crafts styles, they retain their regional character. Most have fully developed garrets with large dormers, gables, or both. Favorite elements include curving or polygonal galleries, multiple decorated gables, and polygonal bays. In two cases (#s 7 & 13) the dormers are very large and give way to impressive rooftop balconies. Number 7 is particularly noteworthy owing to its ogee molded balcony roof which resembles a howdah. Another noteworthy house is #10, which has a gallery terminating in an open turret.

As previously mentioned, these horizontal rambling houses do not entirely resemble their stylistic counterparts in the eastern states. The exception is Grey Friars (#1), a three story shingle and clapboard mansion with twenty-eight rooms. Resembling pattern book designs of the early 1880s, it relies upon massing and texture for its effects rather than applied ornamentation. It has an open wooded setting on Valcourt Coulee which provides a park-like anchor for the district.

As in most turn of the century communities in Louisiana, virtually all the residences in the Abbeville district are of wood construction with some form of wood skin. Most, though not all, have sash mounted windows with large pane plate glass. For the record, no historic outbuildings survive.

Inventory

Note: The buildings were dated based upon the architectural evidence.

1. Grey Friars, 337 W. State Street, (c.1890). Three story frame house influenced by the Shingle style. Single story gallery with plain columns. The third story polygonal porch has been sensitively glazed in and a side carport has been added. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
2. 202 W. Oak Street (c1910). Large single story Colonial Revival cottage with floor-length windows on the front. The gallery curves to its terminus on the east end. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
3. 206 W. Oak Street. Intrusion. Low scale brick ranch house.

CONTINUED

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 checked="" 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 c.1890-c.1925 **Builder/Architect** n/a

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Abbeville Residential Historic District is locally significant in the area of architecture as easily the finest historic residential area in Vermilion Parish.

The large rural parish of Vermilion was created in 1844 and the parish seat of Abbeville was incorporated in 1850; however, the comprehensive historic structures survey reveals that there are very few buildings in the parish dating from before about 1880. In the late nineteenth century the parish received an influx of mid-western immigration due to a boom in the rice industry. Undoubtedly this rice boom caused a good deal of construction activity, and in a general sense, the grander houses in the Abbeville district reflect this period of prosperity.

Today the vast majority of the parish's older buildings date from the bungalow era or even later. One finds little in the way of Queen Anne Revival or Eastlake architecture. Examples generally occur as isolated specimens in a sea of bungalows or nondescript buildings. Of the many older neighborhoods in Vermilion Parish, the Abbeville district is the only one with a significant concentration of pre-bungalow era architecture. In fact, fully 70% of the district's contributing elements reflect the Eastlake or Queen Anne Revival influences. In addition, the district contains the parish's only example of East Coast Queen Anne Revival architecture (Grey Friars, #1). Finally, most of the historic residences are distinguished from other examples in the parish by their size and usually complex rooflines. 508 Fairview (#7), with its "howdah style" rooftop pavilion, is particularly noteworthy in this regard.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Structures Survey, Vermilion Parish
Vermilion Historical Society. History of Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. Dallas, Texas:
Taylor Publishing Company, 1983.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 18 acres

Quadrangle name Abbeville West, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5	5	8	3	3	0	0	3	3	1	6	8	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	5	5	8	3	6	6	0	3	3	1	6	7	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	5	5	8	3	4	2	0	3	3	1	6	3	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	5	5	8	3	1	6	0	3	3	1	6	3	8	0
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 district map. Boundaries were chosen to encompass the extant concentration of pre-bungalow era architecture (see Item 8). The areas beyond the boundaries are characterized mainly by bungalows or less than 50 year old residences. There are also a few Queen Anne Revival houses scattered elsewhere about town, but

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries these are isolated examples:

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY UNA EVANS AND CITY OF ABBEVILLE
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana date June 1987

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 922-0358

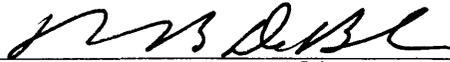
city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

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

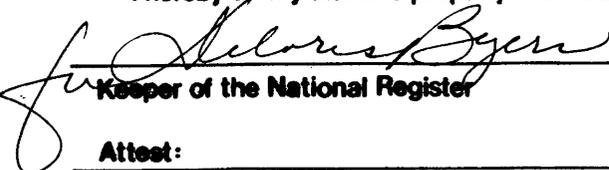
title State Historic Preservation Officer date July 29, 1987

For NPS use only

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

entered in the
National Register

date 9-8-87


Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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

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Abbeville Residential Historic District

Continuation sheet Vermilion Parish Item number 4

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4. Owners of Properties

Mrs. Una Broussard Evans
307 North Main Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Broussard
505 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Larry G. Dickson
416 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Robert deGraauw
508 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Scott and Marci Crosby
408 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mrs. E. T. Minville, Jr.
406 Fifth Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Alphe' Wilshire Baudoin
400 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Miss Theresa Heimendinger
300 West Oak Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Dan L. Boulet
300 Cherry Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mrs. William E. Lovell
210 West Oak Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. McPherson, Jr.
419 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Thompson, Jr.
202 West Oak Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mrs. Otis Blanchet
425 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. J. P. Boynton
337 North State Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mrs. Lionel Berry
501 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. Hollis C. Chandler
206 West Oak Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. William J. Massie
426 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Bourgeois
502 Fairview Drive
Abbeville, LA 70510

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National Park Service**

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Abbeville Residential Historic District

Vermilion Parish

Item number 7

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Continuation sheet



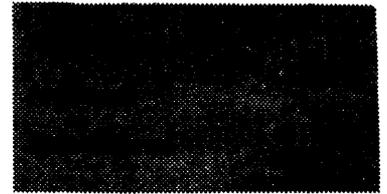
7. Description (cont'd)

4. 210 W. Oak Street, (c.1900). Queen Anne Revival cottage with side polygonal bay and Eastlake details. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
5. 300 W. Oak Street, (c.1920). One-and-a-half story pyramidal roof house reflecting the Arts and Crafts movement with pillars on bases, heavily textured clapboarding, and shallow arches. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
6. 509 Fairview Drive, (c.1900). One-and-a-half story rambling Queen Anne-Colonial Revival cottage with Eastlake brackets under the forward-facing gable corners. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
7. 508 Fairview Drive, (c.1890). One-and-a-half story massive symmetrical cottage with galleries on the front and side which round the corners in a curve. The chamfered gallery columns have Eastlake brackets with spindle drops. The roofline culminates in a great central balcony under an ogee roofed pavilion. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
8. 505 Fairview Drive, (c.1890). Single story Queen Anne Revival cottage with forward-facing gable featuring Eastlake brackets at the corners and a "carpenter's lace" apron. Front porch extended and columns replaced. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
9. 502 Fairview Drive, (c.1900). One-and-a-half story rambling Queen Anne-Colonial Revival cottage with elaborate roofline and "carpenter's lace" in the gables. The Doric gallery has a polygonal protrusion at one end and a curving terminus at the other. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
10. 501 Fairview Drive, (c.1905). One-and-a-half story rambling Queen Anne Revival cottage with an open turret on the gallery; plain details. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
11. 308 Greenwood Street, (c.1910). Single story Colonial Revival cottage with Doric columns. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
12. 426 Fairview Drive, (c.1925). Large pyramidal roof bungalow with diamond pane windows. Part of front porch sensitively enclosed with louvered shutters. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
13. 425 Fairview Drive, (c.1920). Massive one-and-a-half story pyramidal roof house with Colonial Revival gallery on three sides. Enormous front dormer has built-in balcony. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT

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Continuation sheet

Vermilion Parish

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7. Description (cont'd)

- 14. 419 Fairview Drive, (c.1920). Large cottage with heavy brick Arts and Crafts pillars on the front galleries. Brackets and diamond pane casement windows set in dormers. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
- 15. (No address) Fairview Drive. Intrusion. Small stuccoed ranch house.
- 16. 408 Fairview Drive. 1940s Intrusion. Plain frame cottage with aluminum siding.
- 17. 300 Cherry Street, (c.1890). Queen Anne Revival cottage with Eastlake brackets under the forward facing gable and Eastlake columns. Side addition c.1920. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
- 18. 400 Fairview Drive, (c.1890). Two story Queen Anne Revival house with two story Eastlake gallery on front and side. House has imbricated shingle gable and elaborate gallery column brackets. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT
- 19. 307 N. Main Street, (c.1900). Large rambling Queen Anne Revival cottage with imbricated shingled gables, Eastlake brackets under the gables, and oversized dormers. Porch with arbor added c.1920. CONTRIBUTING ELEMENT

BREAKDOWN BY PERIOD

	Numbers	Percentages
c.1890 - 1910	12	63
1911 - c.1925	4	21
Intrusions	3	16

Contributing Elements

The Abbeville district is significant as a superior grouping of late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences (c.1890-c.1925). Thus any residence which falls into this period category and is not altered significantly is considered a contributing element.

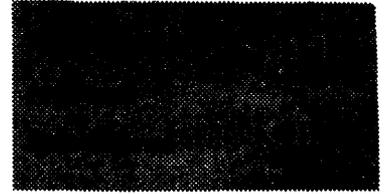
Integrity

There are only three cases in which contributing elements have received noteworthy non-historic alterations (#s 1, 8 & 12). These account for only 18% of the district's overall stock of contributing elements, and so numerically the Abbeville residential district is in a good state of integrity. More importantly, altered contributing elements still retain most of their original exterior features and thus still convey their significant architectural character.

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Continuation sheet Vermilion Parish Item number 7

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7. Description (cont'd)

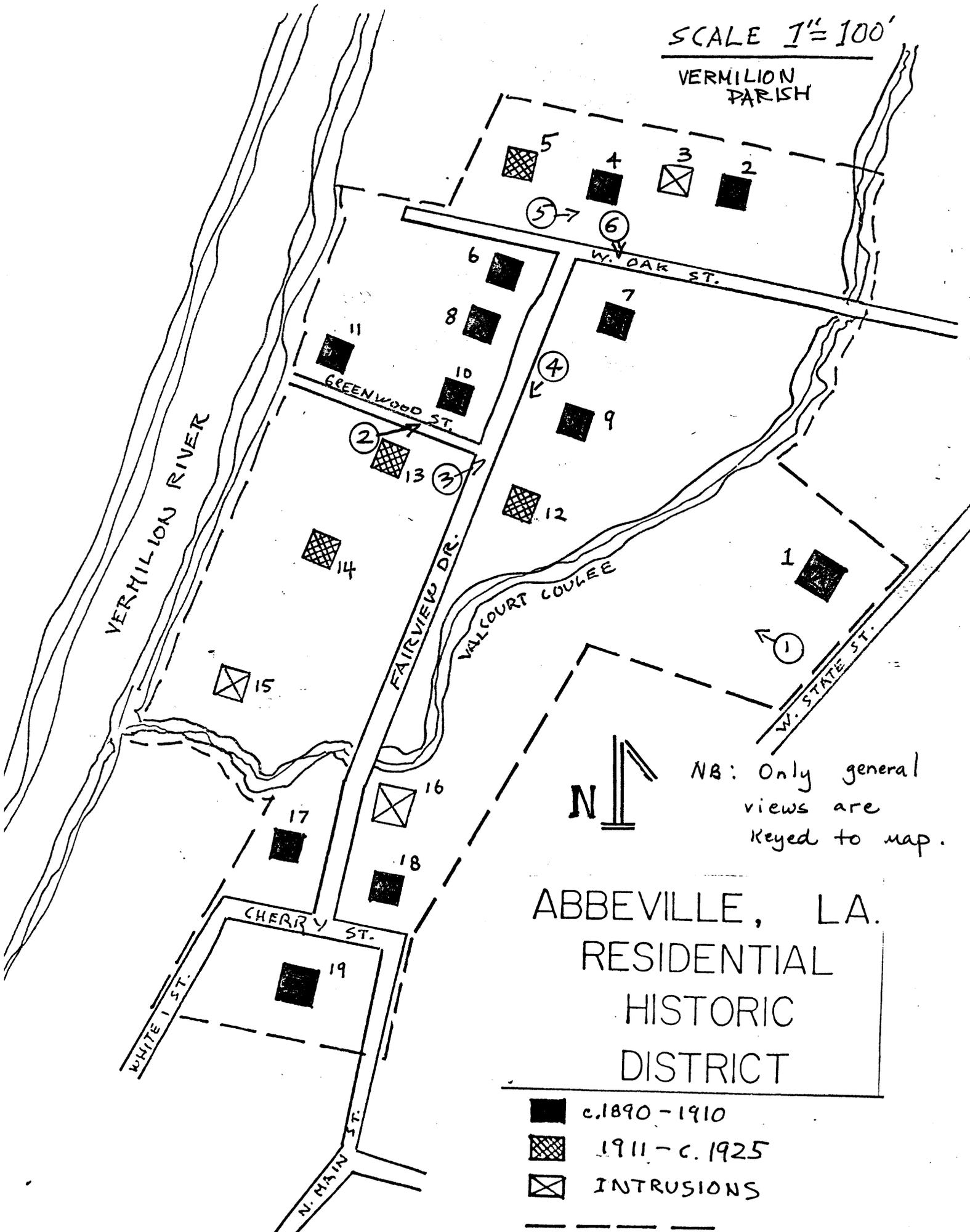
Intrusions

The district contains three intrusions, all of which are low in scale and comparatively small. In addition, the overall intrusion rate is 16%, which is well within the normally acceptable range. There is no question that the visually stronger historic residences easily dominate.

Note regarding general view photos: It will be noted that general view photos are concentrated in the northern part of the district. The southern portion is not covered because it is impossible to take good general views there because of the large lots and dense foliage. The district's buildings are well represented in the individual views.

SCALE 1" = 100'

VERMILION PARISH



NB: Only general views are keyed to map.

ABBEVILLE, LA.
RESIDENTIAL
HISTORIC
DISTRICT

- c.1890-1910
- ▣ 1911-c.1925
- ⊠ INTRUSIONS
- BOUNDARY