

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0678732

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 6 1979

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

APR 13 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Campbell, Sheriff Eugene P., Home

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

No. 2 Concordia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Vidalia

STATE

Louisiana

VICINITY OF

CODE

022

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th - Jerry Huckaby

COUNTY

Concordia

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Whitehead III

STREET & NUMBER

No. 2 Concordia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Vidalia

VICINITY OF

STATE

Louisiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse Registry, Clerk of Court's Office, Vidalia, La.

STREET & NUMBER

U. S. Highway 84 West

CITY, TOWN

Vidalia

STATE

Louisiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Louisiana Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Baton Rouge

STATE

Louisiana

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sheriff Campbell house is set near the corner of a one-acre lot in a low density residential area immediately behind the Mississippi River levee. Although the Mississippi River bridge is screened off by trees, it passes within 100 feet of the rear of the house, thereby creating a major auditory and visual intrusion. But the presence of the bridge is mitigated somewhat by the spacious immediate setting provided by the large lot.

The house has a large, boxey, and essentially symmetrical form. But the interiors exhibit a strong sense of space. Over a third of the ground floor is taken up by a large, Queen Anne living hall-dining room combination. This long room contains two fireplaces, an octagonal alcove set in the corner of the building, and an "L" dining extension at the far end. The heavily paneled and newel-posted staircase has two turns which give it a somewhat sculptural appearance. Its strong visual presence is owing to its massiveness, and to its central position between the living hall and dining area. There are two smaller parlors which communicate with the adjacent living hall-dining room by means of a combination of immense paneled, sliding doors. Though they are somewhat diminished by alteration, they still spread to an opening of over fifteen feet. When they are in their fully open position the three main rooms are visually united.

To the rear of these public rooms is a kitchen, a back stair, and a service area. The upstairs bedrooms are set along a hallway which runs from front to rear of the house. The only change in plan has been the enclosure of the upstairs porch which occurs in the center of the main facade.

The house features standard turn-of-the-century wood frame construction.

The square, boxey, hip roofed exterior features colonial revival details. The main facade features a central gabled pavilion which encompasses a two-story porch. The upper story has been enclosed, but the columns (which are now in the attic) could be put back and the enclosure removed. The fenestration on the ground floor does not harmonize well with the column spacing in the front and side galleries. The columns are of the stubby, catalogue ordered variety with Ionic capitals. Most of the windows have large, plain plate glass sashes, with the exception of the front door transom which is leaded.

The interior detailing is also catalogue ordered.

All the fireplaces have standard, turn-of-the-century, oak mantels with mirrored overmantels. The entrance to the alcove in the living hall-dining room is decorated with scroll-saw ornamentation formed of dowel rods, knobs, scrolls, and anthemion motifs. Most of the original ceiling fans and milk glass light fixtures remain.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1915 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Eugene P. Campbell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sheriff Campbell House is significant in four areas. Its political and social significance derives from its association with its builder, Eugene P. Campbell, who as sheriff of Concordia Parish from 1908 until his death in 1940, was a major figure in the town's political history.¹ Campbell built the house with the idea of making it a social center for the area and a place to entertain his numerous friends and political associates. The testimony of many longtime residents of the area concerning the "beautiful parties" given by Sheriff and Mrs. Campbell suggest that he fulfilled this ambition. The large sliding doors on the first floor could be thrown open to produce a sizable ballroom or dining room or whatever type room the occasion required.²

The Sheriff Campbell House is also significant in the area of local history, because it is one of only three homes not moved or demolished in 1939, when the entire town of Vidalia was moved about one mile west in order to allow for the widening of the Mississippi River and the construction of a larger levee. Of the three homes not moved, the Campbell House is the largest and most architecturally impressive, and is thus the present town's most notable physical link with its history prior to 1939.³

The house also possesses architectural significance. The Queen Anne Revival in Louisiana consisted mainly of applying a few Queen Anne features such as a bay window, a diminutive turret, or a curved porch to the standard Louisiana raised cottage form. The Sheriff Campbell house is unusual in having a fully developed Queen Anne living hall plan with a monumental staircase and a cohesive flowing together of interior spaces. The Campbell house is one of the few examples of this in northeastern Louisiana.

Campbell had the house built about 1915. In July of that year he purchased the 2½-acre lot on which he built the house from J. L. Fairbanks and Mabel Swayze in return for a consideration of \$675.⁴ Although the home had no architect, according to a statement by Campbell's nephew Michael J. Schuchs, "some of the floor plan" was copied from a friend's house on Linton Avenue in Natchez. Schuchs also states that it was Sheriff Campbell's wife Rhett who was primarily responsible for the design.⁵ The home's contractor was Frank Ketteringham, a local contractor active in the area during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.⁶ The total cost of construction is unknown, but the cost of the labor was \$4,500.⁷

After Sheriff Campbell's death in 1940, the house passed through the hands of several owners until the present owners obtained it in 1966.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bibliographical References listed on continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 6495710 3493
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The house stands on its original lot. (See copy of plat)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. G. W. Whitehead, Owner

ORGANIZATION

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

2 Concordia Avenue

(318) 336-4665

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Vidalia

Louisiana 71373

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

J. Bernard Lame

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

2/26/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles A. Smith

DATE

4.13.79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

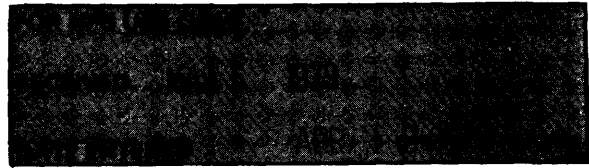
William H. Burdham for
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

4.12.79

DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

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NOTES

¹Bea Nathanson, "The People of the Mounds," Concordia Sentinel, 18 Sept. 1974.

²Affidavits by Louise Winston Sessions, Catherine Hough Winston, and Cecile Ohlsen Hunt, sworn to in October, 1978, located in National Register nomination file for Campbell House, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.

³Beatrice Nathanson, "River Moved Vidalia," Concordia Sentinel, 12 March 1969; Affidavit by J. P. Sessions, engineer in charge of relocating streets and utilities of Vidalia in 1938-39, sworn to 16 October 1978, located in National Register file for Campbell House.

⁴Deed from J. L. Fairbanks and Mabel Swayze to E. P. Campbell, 21 July 1915, Conveyance Book Z, page 361, Concordia Parish records.

⁵Affidavit by Michael J. Schuchs sworn to 20 October 1978, located in National Register file for Campbell House.

⁶Affidavit by James B. Ketteringham, Jr. sworn to 27 October 1978, located in National Register file for Campbell House.

⁷Affidavit by John H. Ohlsen sworn to 11 October 1978, located in National Register file for Campbell House.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Affidavits sworn to by the following persons during October 1978, located in National Register nomination file for Campbell House, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge:

Cecile Ohlsen Hunt
James Ketteringham, Jr.
John H. Ohlsen
Michael Schuchs
J. P. Sessions
Louise Winston Sessions
Catherine Hough Winston

Deed from J. L. Fairbanks and Mabel Swayze to E. P. Campbell, 21 July 1915, Conveyance Book Z, page 361, Concordia Parish records.

Nathanson, Bea, "The People of the Mounds," Concordia Sentinel, 18 September 1978.

Nathanson, Beatrice, "River Moved Vidalia," Concordia Sentinel, 12 March 1969.