United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form





1982

Type all entries	s—complete applicat	ole sections		
1. Nam	1 e			
historic	N/A			
and/or common	Jackson Str	eet Historic District		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	Jackson Stre	et	N	I <u>/A</u> not for publication
city, town	Winnsboro	N/Д vicinity of	tongressional district	
state	LA	code 22 parish	^l Franklin	code 041
3. Clas	sification			
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X private both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being considere	X yes: restricted	Present Use agricultureX_ commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
street & number	See Continuatio	T Sheet		
ity, town		vicinity of	state	
5. Loca	ation of Le	gal Description	<u>on</u>	
ourthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Franklin Parish Courth	ouse	
treet & number	Main Stree	t (no specific address	P. O. B	ox 70
ity, town	Winnsboro		state	LA 71295
6. Repi	resentatio	n in Existing	Surveys	
itie LA Hist	oric Sites Surve	y has this pro	pperty been determined e	eligible?yes Xn
ate	1981		federal X sta	ate county loc
lepository for su	rvey records Louis	iana State Historic Pr		
	Baton Rouge			LA
ity, town	Da con Nouge		state	LA

7. Description Condition Check one Check one Check one Check one

Condition		CHECK OHE	Cileck one			
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	_X_ original s	ite		
X good	ruins	_X_ aitered	moved	date	N/A	
fair	unexposed				•	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The buildings in the Jackson Street Historic District (late nineteenth/early twentieth century) are the only intact "survivors" of the once flourishing courthouse square residential area of Winnsboro.* The district consists of three large single story frame residences and seven outbuildings. It is set in the northeastern corner of the Franklin Parish courthouse square. (The old courthouse was replaced in 1952.) North of the district is a cypress hollow which was once the bed of Turkey Creek. Although the present district residential area is greatly reduced, what remains has suffered little loss of integrity.

* The qualifier "intact" is used because there is one other turn-of-the-century residence in the vicinity (about a block from the present district), but it has been drastically altered.

The three residences in the district are linked by several factors:

- 1. They are adjacent to each other. (Photo 1)
- 2. They occupy a common curving frontage along Jackson Street. (Photo 1)
- 3. They are within easy sight of one another. (Photos 2 and 3)
- 4. They occupy the same well treed setting. (Photo 1)
- 5. They share a common scale and street frontage setback. (Photo 1)
- 6. They are part of the same period of residential development:
 Belle Fann dates from 1891.
 The Godfrey House dates from 1900.
 The Scott-Elam House dates from 1906.

Although the three houses are different stylistically, they all reflect late nineteenth century architectural trends in Louisiana.

The following structures are within the district boundaries:

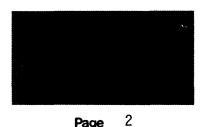
1. Belle Fann (1891) is a single story, five bay, galleried, retardaire Greek Revival house with a central hall plan, double parlors, and a rear kitchendining room wing. Noteworthy details include the full entablature, the turned balustrade, windows with pediment shaped tops, and manufactured golden oak mantels. Changes include the replacement of the front windows (Photo 4), the installation of an entrance awning (Photo 4), and the addition of a rear porch (Photo 5).

Outbuildings at Belle Fann

2. The smokehouse (c.1900) is a hip roofed board and batten structure with a large porch (presently screened-in). The screening is the only alteration it has received. (Photo 6)

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4. Owners of Property

George Elam 801 Jackson Street Winnsboro, LA 71295

Mrs. Mabel Bennett Columbia, LA 71418

Mr. T. B. Godfrey 2004 Pargoud Boulevard Monroe, LA 71201

Ms. Marjorie McLemore 803 Jackson Street Winnsboro, LA 71295

Mr. J. E. Godfrey 2002 West Winnsboro, LA 71295

Ms. Carice King 803 Jackson Street Winnsboro, LA 71295

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7. Description

- 3. The outhouse (c.1900) is a small plank sided shed roof structure which has suffered no alterations. (Photo 6)
- 4. The barn (c.1900) is a board and batten structure with a low pitched roof. It is relatively small, which indicates that Belle Fann was always a town property and not a farm. The barn has undergone no major changes since construction. (Photo 7)
- 5. The shed (c.1900) is a hip roofed board and batten structure (Photo 7) which has undergone no major changes since construction.
- 6. The maid's house (c.1900) is a small one room frame cottage which is presently unused. It is essentially unaltered.
- 7. The garage, a c.1940 tin sided frame structure with a new latticework facade, is a non-contributing element.
- 8. The Scott-Elam House (1906) is a single story, five bay, central hall plan, double parlor, frame structure with the original plate glass windows. Four light, square posts support a central high pitched Queen Anne Revival inspired front porch gable. The gable has an inset flared shingled eave. The house has undergone no major changes since construction. (Photo 10)
- 9. The Scott-Elam Garage (c.1940), a non-contributing element, is a simple board and batten frame structure. (Photo 9)
- 10. The Godfrey House (1900) is a single story, frame, central hall plan, double parlor, pitched roof structure with a five bay Eastlake gallery under a separate roof. All of the original six over six windows survive as do the Eastlake mantels. Since construction, the exterior of the house has been asbestos sided and half of the front gallery has been screened-in. (Photo 8)

Assessment of Integrity:

In the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office, the few small changes which have been made to the buildings in question have not significantly intruded upon the overall late nineteenth/early twentieth century character of the district. Only 3 of the eight contributing structures have been altered, and then only slightly.

8. Significance

1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		law literature military music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify
Specific dates	1891-1906	Builder/Architect	N/A	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion C

The Jackson Street Historic District is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is an important part of the residential architectural heritage of the parish seat of Winnsboro. It is the town's only remaining grouping of late nineteenth-early twentieth century residences and related structures. Its buildings, which are among the town's oldest, are the only extant intact visual reminders of Winnsboro's old courthouse square residential neighborhood. The district is also significant because of the survival of the outbuildings at Belle Fann.

All three of the houses in the Jackson Street Historic District are examples of the large though unpretentious residences found in many small towns in Louisiana in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Representing the more affluent local citizens, these are usually single story, frame, galleried structures with central hall plans and double parlors. Some have Queen Anne Revival or Eastlake touches while others have retardaire Greek Revival features. Although these are town residences, they resemble small plantation houses.

The houses in the Jackson Street Historic District are the only intact "survivors" of Winnsboro's historic courthouse square residential area. Since 1846 this has been a prestigious location within the town, due primarily to the presence of the Franklin Parish Courthouse. The area flourished in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries because of an unusual period of prosperity which was generated by over 20 years of bumper cotton crops, which local factors were able to sell. (This is in contrast to much of the rest of the South where the production of cotton was in a depressed state.)

The affluence of the area during this period is evidenced by the construction of a new fashionably styled parish courthouse in 1903. The Jackson Street area became Winnsboro's most important residential neighborhood with larger residences than were commonly found in other parts of town.

Since Winnsboro's agricultural heyday, there has been considerable redevelopment in the area, much of which was due to a boom in natural gas production. Today little remains of Winnsboro's historic residential architectural heritage. With one possible exception, the oldest residences in town date from the turn-of-the-century, and there are only about a half dozen of these, three of which are in the Jackson Street district. A fourth example is adjacent to the district, but because it was recently moved to the area, it has been nominated separately. A fifth example is in the vicinity of the district, but has been drastically modified. Other than these and a scattering of bungalows, the town's housing stock dates from the mid-twentieth century or later.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. G	eographi	cal Data		
Acreage of no Quadrangle no UMT Reference				Quadrangle scale 1:62500
	21131010 3 sting No	15 5 9 4 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	B Zone Zone D	Easting Northing
Verbal bound	dary description	and justification		Mark 100 April 1
	map and contir			
List all state	es and counties f	or properties over	rlapping state or c	ounty boundaries
state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code
name/title organization	see abo	ve		late July 1982
street & numbe	er P. O. B	ox 44247	te	elephone (504) 342-6682
city or town	Baton R	ouge	s	state LA 70804
12. St	ate Hist	oric Pres	ervation	Officer Certification
As the designa	national		local for the National Histo	oric Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–
according to th		edures set forth by t	the National Register the National Park Se	r and certify that it has been evaluated ervice.
itie State H	istoric Preser	Rob vation Officer	ert B. DeBlieux	date August 16, 1982
for	certify that this pro	mgel	the National Register	date 10/5-/8c
N	he National Regist Tuil W. And w	er ^U Ø		date 10/5/82

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8. Significance:

The present Jackson Street Historic District is all that remains of the once flourishing courthouse square residential area. In addition, it is Winnsboro's only remaining grouping of late nineteenth/early twentieth century residences, indeed of historic residences of any period. If all of the above is considered simultaneously with the fact that Jackson Street's houses were superior residences of their day, it must be concluded that the Jackson Street District is of great importance to Winnsboro's architectural patrimony.

8

The district is also significant because Belle Fann retains an almost complete complement of outbuildings. This includes a barn, a maid's house, a smokehouse, a shed and an outhouse. Very few town residences in Louisiana retain any outbuildings at all, let alone the number which survive at Belle Fann. *

*Although the outbuildings at Belle Fann can be spoken of within the context of the state, the State Historic Preservation Office does not feel that a sufficient scholarly basis exists to make a case for significance on the state level. In any event, the district as a whole is significant only within the context of Winnsboro.

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9. Bibliography

Franklin Parish Conveyance Records

Brasseaux, Carl A., Conrad, Glenn R., Robison, R. Warren. <u>The Courthouses of Louisiana</u>. USL Architecture Series No. 1, Center for Louisiana Studies, USL, Lafayette, 1977.

<u>Louisiana: A Guide to the State</u>. Compiled by Federal Writers' Program of the Works Progress Administration, 1941.

Research report prepared by Gay Hatfield, Parish Librarian based upon oral interviews with long-time residents of Winnsboro.

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10. Geographical Data

The boundaries were drawn to encompass the eight contributing structures which are the only intact "survivors" of Winnsboro's old courthouse square residential neighborhood. The present district is surrounded by modern structures and open woodland. As noted in Item 8, a c.1900 residence is adjacent to the district, but because it was moved into the area only recently, it has been nominated separately. The only other old residence in the vicinity has been drastically altered and is a full block away from the present district.

