

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

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: Bazoon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
Other Names/Site Number: N/A  
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

## 2. Location

Street & Number: George Wright Lane  
City or town: Darlington State: LA County: St. Helena  
Not for Publication:  Vicinity: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, 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

  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Phil Boggan, State Historic Preservation Officer Date: 8-10-16  
**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

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**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: \_\_\_\_\_

*John Smith*  
Signature of the Keeper

9-21-2016

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	
2		Buildings
		Sites
1	1	Structures
		Objects
3	1	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

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.): DOMESTIC/ camp

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## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions.): Other: log

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

foundation: Wood; Concrete

walls: Log

roof: Metal

other:

## Narrative Description

### Summary Paragraph

The William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead (herein referred to as the Bazoon farmstead) is comprised of a quintessential Louisiana single-pen log house with accompanying log barn and pole well shed set on a remote 20+ acre property in the piney hills of St. Helena Parish, Louisiana (Photo 1). In keeping with defining characteristics of the log building tradition in Louisiana, the house is elevated on piers with a side-gable roof of an approximately 45° pitch breaking to around 22° over the porches (Photo 2). The porches wrap the house and the rear semi-detached kitchen. Portions of the porches are enclosed with board-and-batten walls (Photos 3 & 4). Next to the house is the well shed - a simple gable-roofed structure supported by four stripped log posts. The barn stands approximately 100 feet to the right of the house and has a gable front with a deep overhang and sheds surrounding it on three sides. Approximately forty feet beyond the rear of the barn (southwest) is the one prominent shade tree on the property, a nearly one-hundred year old live oak. Historically, the yard would have been kept swept or closely mown, and the fields would have been planted with corn (Figures C and E). Today, pine trees grow across the yard and fields, but the property very much retains its historic remoteness, bordering a creek at the end of a dirt road. Aside from the new pine growth, age is the only sign of change to the farmstead. It retains exceptional integrity of design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, feeling, and association and is eligible for listing on the National Register.

### Narrative Description

The focal point of the William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead is the one-story, side-gable, single-pen log house (Photos 1 & 2). The pen measures 16' X 17' on the interior. It is composed of skinned, round logs of 4-6 inches in diameter assembled with saddle notches (Photos 8 & 9). There is no chinking between the logs. They are sealed by boarding of the interior that is circular sawn and secured with wire nails (Photos 11 & 12). The house is elevated approximately two feet above grade on piers, most of log and some of concrete (Photo 7). The side-gable roof is only as wide as the single-pen, creating a gable-on-hip configuration that breaks pitch as it extends over the porches. It is covered in corrugated metal and supported by stripped log posts. Originally, it would have been covered by wooden shakes and the lower pitched remained so until as late as the 1980s. The right and rear porches are enclosed with board-and-batten walls (Photos 6 & 14).

Behind the single-pen is a separate log pen for the kitchen that is connected by the porch. Like the house, it is made of stripped logs stacked with saddle notches and no chinking (Photo 4). This pen measures 10'-8" X 16'-6" on the interior and is also augmented by enclosed shed rooms on two sides. The log walls that are exposed to the exterior are sealed on the interior with irregular riven boards while the sides that are protected by shed rooms are not sealed with boarding (Photos 15 & 16).

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The front (northeast) elevation is asymmetrical with a single board-and-batten door set off-center and no windows. The porches wrapping the house are distinctly wider on the right side than the left, and the right side only is enclosed with boards and battens, adding to the asymmetry (Photo 2).

The left (southeast) elevation is composed of the kitchen at the rear and the house at the front with an approximately 5' space between the two (Photos 3 & 4). The side of the house has two windows set nearly evenly apart. They were designed without glass but had wood two-over-two horizontal paned sashes fixed into them during the mid-to-late twentieth century. The stove pipe from the wood stove that sits between the windows on the interior exits the porch roof. The gable is clad in plain wood weatherboards. There is a single board-and-batten door from the rear board-and-batten shed room. The gap between the house and the kitchen is bridged by an extension of the side porch. Although the gable of the kitchen is oriented front to rear, the house side of the building has a pent which meets the rear slope of the house roof to form a deep V-channel between the buildings. This side of the kitchen is composed of a board-and-batten shed room to the left with a single unglazed window opening fitted with a board-and-batten shutter, and the log pen with one doorway that is without its door. Directly across from the kitchen door, three steps descend from the porch.

The rear (southwest) elevation, which is the back of the kitchen, is covered in unpainted novelty siding, with one doorway set to the right and no windows (Photo 5). The right (northwest) elevation is composed of the house to the left and the kitchen to the right (Photo 6). This side of the house is clad in board-and-battens where the porches have been enclosed and plain wood weatherboards in the gable. There are two unglazed window openings with board-and-batten shutters and a board-and-batten door between with four steps to the ground. This side of the kitchen shows its log construction sheltered beneath a porch with board-and-batten cladding only on the side of its rear shed room (Photo 5). There is one window opening and one doorway from the log kitchen to the porch and one door from the kitchen shed room to the porch.

Approximately nine feet from the kitchen porch on the northwest side is the well shelter (Photo 17). It is an open sided, side-gable structure supported by four stripped log posts with a corrugated metal roof. Beneath it is a hand pump well. There was once an open well curb with a winch next to the hand pump, but it has been covered (Figure D). This pole well shed is counted as a contributing resource because is a significant part of this type of farmstead as described further in section 8. Next to the house is a low, wooden, modern well shed for a pump installed after the house was connected to electricity in 1962. It is included in the resource count as a non-contributing structure.

Standing approximately 100 feet from the right of the house to the northwest is the barn (Photo 18). The barn is an important contributing resource of the farmstead. Its front faces the house and its entrance is sheltered by the deep eaves of a front gable. Like the house, the barn is constructed of stripped, unfaced logs, assembled with saddle notches. Its log pen measures 15'-5" X 9'-10" from log end to log end on the exterior and is elevated on log piers and sealed on the interior with irregular riven boards (Photo 20). It is accessed by a single board-and-batten door. This roof breaks pitch and extends over shelters on the side and rear. The left (southwest) shelter is enclosed by boards and battens. This shed has a board-and-batten door with a wooden hinge (Photo 19).

### **Integrity**

Each of the three contributing resources retains excellent integrity of design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, feeling, and association. Although mostly obscured by the growth of trees, a wire fence remains that separated the yard from the fields (Figures C & E). Under a magnolia along the

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front fence line rests Myrtis Bazoon's homemade concrete grave marker in the shape of a hear that originally stood in the cemetery of the nearby Wesley Methodist Chapel, but was moved here after being replaced with a new headstone. In sum, the William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead is a very intact property that well reflects is historic significance.

**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.)

	<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.
X	<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:** 1905

**Significant Dates:** 1905

**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):** Bazoon, William Lee

**Period of Significance (justification):** The period of significance under architecture is 1905, the year the house and accompanying kitchen and barn were built.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary):** N/A

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**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.)

The William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazon Farmstead is significant at the state level under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a rare survivor of the log building tradition that once flourished in Louisiana. Its period of significance is its 1905 date of construction. As established by the "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context", log buildings were once widespread and numerous across the state, but today are an endangered species. The Bazon house and its accompanying log barn are unusually intact examples of the state's log construction and together with a pole well shed compose a rare, complete farmstead of the Upland South tradition in Louisiana.

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

A robust practice of log architecture took hold in Louisiana during the nineteenth century that stood apart from both the state's rich Creole and Acadian vernacular and the more high style national architectural influences. Log architecture was deeply connected with that part of the population which is commonly known as the Upland South culture, though some settlers may have originated in lower coastal plains of the Southeast as well.<sup>1</sup> "The Upland South in the broadest sense is a culture region whose identity is based upon a Scotch-Irish heritage," but it is not exclusive to that particular ancestry and includes people of English descent.<sup>2</sup> In Louisiana, this population was notably Anglo in contrast to the state's French influenced residents. It was also predominantly rural, tending towards more remote areas away from the colonial period settlements of the rich, fertile Mississippi and Red River valleys. After extensive field research of what he termed "Hill Louisiana", cultural geographer Martin Wright concluded that, "The areas occupied by the culture present a material appearance that is entirely different from the appearance of other culture regions of the state." Most notable was the "preoccupation with the use of logs for construction."<sup>3</sup>

It is generally agreed that log construction once enjoyed widespread use in many areas of Louisiana. The extent of the log building tradition in the state was first studied systematically in 1949-1950 by cultural geographers including Martin Wright under the direction of Louisiana State University's Fred Kniffen. Through intensive field study that covered 12,000 miles of road and looked at approximately 45,000 farmsteads the researchers identified the geographical patterns of log culture as it survived in 1949 and as it had previously existed.<sup>4</sup> They were only able to identify 80 standing log houses, but estimated that the actual numbers of survivors was likely at least three times that many due to indicators of what was likely to exist away from the paved roads. Furthermore, they concluded that, "The numbers of log houses are decreasing rapidly."<sup>5</sup> Fire, demolition for material reclamation, abandonment, rot, and conversion to outbuildings were cited as the primary modes of loss. In 2012, veteran scholars of Louisiana's historic architecture stated, "There are probably less than 40 log residences remaining in the state. Extant log buildings with any degree of integrity probably number even fewer."<sup>6</sup> Fifteen log residences and two groupings of log outbuildings in Louisiana are listed on

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan and Donna Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context." Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation; *Moore, Bouey Homestead*. National Register of Historic Places nomination. Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation National Register, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> John B. Rehder, "The Scotch-Irish and English in Appalachia," in *To Build in a New Land: Ethnic Landscapes in North America*, ed. Allen G. Noble (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992), 99.

<sup>3</sup> Martin Wright, "Log Culture in Hill Louisiana" (PhD diss., Louisiana State University, 1956), xi.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, 28, 52.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*, 53.

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan and Donna Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context." Louisiana Division of Historic

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the National Register. Although there is no definitive count of the extant log buildings in Louisiana, the fact that the log buildings were once prevalent and the number of survivors is proportionately very small in undisputed.

The regional dispersion of log architecture in Louisiana was broken down into five distinct areas by Martin Wright in his 1956 dissertation derived from the 1949-50 research: 1. The "Red-Ouachita Divide," the central portion of northern Louisiana including portions of Bossier, Lincoln, Bienville, Claiborne, Webster, Ouachita, Caldwell, and Union Parishes; 2. The "Bastrop Hills," a small area in the northeast bordering Arkansas including Morehouse and part of West Carroll Parish; 3. The "Dolet Hills," an area along the northwestern side including portions of Sabine, Natchitoches, Red River, DeSoto, and Caddo Parishes; 4. and 5. The "Florida Parish Hills," two sections centering respectively on St. Helena and Washington Parishes in southeastern Louisiana. Among those buildings presently listed on the National Register, areas 1 and 5 are strongly represented with nine being in the "Red-Ouachita Divide" and six being in the Washington Parish centered section of the Florida Parishes. Two of the National Register listed sites are outside of the five recognized log areas and none are in St. Helena Parish although this was identified as a "core" area of the Upland South culture and its associated log tradition.

A Historic Resources survey of St. Helena Parish was completed in 1981. That survey discovered seven extant log residences including the Bazoon house and nineteen log barns including the Bazoon barn. Only the Bazoon Farmstead possessed both a log house and a log barn. Of the six log houses aside from the Bazoon Farmstead, one (the McClendon House) has definitely been demolished; one (the Crittendon House) is presumed to be non-extant because in 1981 it had long been used as a barn and was in poor condition with timber being salvaged from it; one (the Watson House) is confirmed as standing; and three may be standing but are hidden by woods on gated properties. Each of the other possibly standing houses was constructed between the 1830s and 1860s. Likewise, in the neighboring Mississippi county of Amite which is considered to be a point of origin for this part of Louisiana's log culture, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has identified just four log houses: two have estimated construction dates in the 1840s and two are undated.<sup>7</sup> The Bazoon Farmstead is unique among the extant buildings of St. Helena Parish in its early twentieth century construction date as well as in its complimentary barn of the same estimated date. Its twentieth century construction date is also unmatched by any of the Louisiana log residences presently listed on the National Register.

Contrary to those Southern farmsteads and plantations often described as having the appearance of small villages due to their multitude of outbuildings, the "unadulterated expression" of log culture in Louisiana was "one in which farmsteads include[d] few outbuildings."<sup>8</sup> These farmsteads operated in a corn and cotton economy and commonly a single barn satisfied all the shelter needs of their production activities. The enclosed pens of the barns were rather small – roughly 12' X 10' or less – and served for corn or other food storage.<sup>9</sup> The surrounding sheds were all that were needed to shelter the limited farm tools and the small numbers of livestock and poultry that otherwise roamed

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Preservation, 2.

<sup>7</sup> Mississippi Department of Archives and History Historic Resources Inventory and Jennifer Baughn, Chief Architectural Historian, MDAH, email to author, May 16, 2016. Among the four identified houses is the c. 1840 Decatur N. Butler House, considered to "be one of the most significant log houses in the state of Mississippi." *Butler, Decatur N. House*, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, 1982.

<sup>8</sup> Wright, 91.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* Wright does not specify whether 12' X 10' was an interior or exterior measurement. The Bazoon barn measures 15' 5" X 9' – 10" on the exterior from log end to log end and the log ends protrude roughly 8" beyond the interior boards.

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free. The Bazoon barn is a quintessential example of this design: its small, unchinked log pen is raised on piers, roughly sealed inside with riven boards, and has shelters extending on three sides.

Another important feature of the Louisiana log farmstead was the water supply, which evolved through the years from streams, to open curb wells, to hand pumps.<sup>10</sup> The Bazoon farmstead exhibits this nicely with its location on Greasy Creek, its previously open curb well, and its adjacent hand pump, both of which stand under the log pole well shed outside of the kitchen. Well sheds such as this were a small, but important feature of the farmstead. Privies were not a necessity on the remote log farmsteads and were often a later introduction.<sup>11</sup> It was reported that the Bazoon farmstead had an impermanent outhouse that was moved from spot to spot.<sup>12</sup>

The larger community context further underpinned the cultural tradition of the log farmstead. A church, usually Baptist or Methodist, with an associated cemetery formed the nucleus of the communities.<sup>13</sup> Such a church, Wesley Chapel, and its cemetery is located just down the road from the Bazoon farmstead.

The fact that such a farmstead was constructed in 1905 demonstrates the tenacity of the log building tradition in the Upland South cultural tradition even as milled lumber and wire nails had become readily available. The lifeways associated with this type of construction endured even longer – nearly to the twenty-first century – with the continuous inhabitation of the property by Myrtis Bazoon, the daughter of the original builder.

The construction of the Bazoon Farmstead in 1905 fits within the context of this kind of construction in both St. Helena and neighboring Washington Parish. For example, the Brumfield Homestead in Washington Parish has seven buildings on site that date from 1900-1914. The earliest structures are traditional log outbuildings for the main house, which was sawn log construction. Homestead and farmsteads were being settled in the Florida parishes starting in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (c. 1830), but the main buildings that remain from the settlement date from the mid to late 1800s. This shows a long period of continuously using log construction in the area, even into the 20<sup>th</sup> century like that seen at the Bazoon Farmstead.<sup>14</sup>

Myrtis Bazoon was born in 1907 and lived in her family's single-pen log house until her death in 1995. No indoor plumbing was ever installed and electricity wasn't connected until 1962. Myrtis Bazoon is documented as being ambivalent to the electricity others insisted she needed and operated only a few light bulbs, and a few outlets for a hot plate, refrigerator, and radio when interviewed for the newspaper in 1982.<sup>15</sup> An electric water pump also added convenience over the previous hand pump and open well curb with winch, but otherwise the amenities of the house remained sparse and its design barely touched by modern interventions. A wood stove remained the source of heat. Only two window openings were ever closed with glass. The ceiling joists were left open with the cracks of light between the gable weatherboards apparent from the living space (Photo 13). The kitchen could only be accessed by walking outside across the porch and the shed rooms retained their single thickness board-and-batten exteriors. The house is exceptional as a perpetuation of a most basic

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<sup>10</sup> Wright, 110-11.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, 102.

<sup>12</sup> Tommy Klein as informed by a neighbor to the Bazoon farmstead, conversation with author, Darlington, LA, May 28, 2016.

<sup>13</sup> Wright, 144.

<sup>14</sup> National Register of Historic Places, Brumfield Homestead, Franklinton, Washington Parish, LA, National Register #20140924.

<sup>15</sup> Charley Vance, "Pioneer Lady of Darlington in a Fighter." *Sunday Advocate*, Baton Rouge, August 1, 1982.



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type of human shelter of ancient origin and centuries of tradition. Its sixteen foot interior width is the English rod that shaped house sizes in early Britain and Jamestown, Virginia.<sup>16</sup> Its durable log construction could be assembled from materials harvested on the site with little knowledge of carpentry. Wrapped by a generous porch, and raised off the ground, it is an exemplar of European adaptation to the American South. In sum, it is a material artifact of the migration of a people from Europe to the eastern shores of America, through the American South, and eventually to Louisiana.

The historic context developed for the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation on "Log Construction in Louisiana" makes the argument that "Given their very poor survival rate, it seems clear that any extant log structures in Louisiana that survives with sufficient integrity . . . would be individually eligible for the Register under Criterion C at the state level."<sup>17</sup> The William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead possesses more than sufficient integrity; it is of exceptional integrity. Additionally, the Bazoon property is particularly significant because it not just an isolated house, but an intact log farmstead. The farm unit composed of "derivatives of log houses. . . in association with a distinctive type of barn (also derived from log construction)" has been identified as the "basic feature of the cultural landscape" of Upland South culture in Louisiana, and that "within which the culture is best expressed."<sup>18</sup> Thus, the William Lee and Eudora Courtney Farmstead is significant under Criterion C for Architecture at the state level.

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### **Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

Much has been said and argued about the American origins and European antecedents of Louisiana's log construction.<sup>19</sup> For the purposes of this nomination, the significance of this log farmstead is not dependent upon its particular origins or antecedents; however the origins of the Bazoon family of St. Helena Parish could contribute to further studies on this topic.

The Bazoon farmstead was constructed by William Lee Bazoon in following his marriage to Eudora Courtney in 1904.<sup>20</sup> Bazoons resided in St. Helena Parish at least as early as 1850. In that year, the census recorded five separate Bazoon households. John Bazoon, 68 years of age, and Sarah Bazoon, 61 years of age were both listed as being born in South Carolina. Five other Bazoons (also spelled Bayzoon, Bazzoon, and Brazoon) who ranged in age from 18 to 29, were all listed as born in Louisiana. Among them was a 21 year-old Jesse Bazoon who was married to a 23 year-old Ellen Crittendon. In 1910, a 90 year old Jesse Bazoon appeared on the St. Helena Parish census who listed the birth place of his father as England and that of his mother as Louisiana. Therefore, further research is needed to determine whether the Bazoons migrated to Louisiana from South Carolina and/or whether they were of English descent.

One important hearth of Upland South culture was South Carolina. Immigrants entered through the port of Charleston and eventually a Scotch-Irish cultural core was shaped in the South Carolina piedmont that later fed migration into Georgia and onward through Alabama and Mississippi to

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<sup>16</sup> John B. Rehder, "The Scotch-Irish and English in Appalachia," in *To Build in a New Land: Ethnic Landscapes in North America*, ed. Allen G. Noble (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992), 106.

<sup>17</sup> Jonathan and Donna Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context." Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

<sup>18</sup> Martin Wright, "Log Culture in Hill Louisiana" (PhD diss., Louisiana State University, 1956), 2, 151.

<sup>19</sup> Jonathan and Donna Fricker, "Log Construction in Louisiana Historic Context." Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation; National Register of Historic Places. Bouey Moore Homestead. Franklinton, Washington Parish, Louisiana, National Register #20091208; Martin Wright, "Log Culture in Hill Louisiana" (PhD diss., Louisiana State University, 1956).

<sup>20</sup> Charley Vance, "Pioneer Lady of Darlington in a Fighter." *Sunday Advocate*, Baton Rouge, August 1, 1982.

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Louisiana.<sup>21</sup> As in many states, English immigration to South Carolina was much larger than Scotch-Irish and how many people of English descent mixed with the Scotch-Irish in the Upland South cultural group is uncertain.<sup>22</sup> Research of southern mountain cabins by folklorist Henry Glassie linked different house proportions specifically to English or Scotch-Irish traditions. He concluded the square cabin (16' X 16' +/-) to be of English derivation and rectangular forms such as 16' X 22' +/- to be Scotch-Irish, correlating directly to western Britain and Northern Ireland.<sup>23</sup> The Bazoon house is 16' X 17' and thus not quite square, but certainly more so than many others.

Jesse Bazoon (whom the census recorded as having a father born in England) was William Lee's father and in 1910 had been married for thirty-nine years to Mary Ravencroft, who was 70 years old. The couple had seven children, but only two living: William Lee and a 28 year-old Jesse, Jr., who was the only family member listed as illiterate. Jesse and Mary owned their farm free of mortgage. That year, William Lee, listed as Lee, and Eudora, listed as Dora, were twenty-nine and thirty-eight, had been married seven years, and lived with their only child Myrtis. Lee was identified as a self-employed farmer and the farm as rented. The St. Helena Parish Clerk of Court recorded Mary Ravencroft Bazoon as acquiring the property on which the William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead sits from one Willie Tillis in 1913. By the 1920 census, Mary and Jesse, Jr. had moved into the single-pen log house with Lee, Dora, and Myrtis. Myrtis recalled spending much of her youth caring for both her grandmother, who had epileptic seizures and broke a hip and her mother, who had several strokes.<sup>24</sup>

William Lee Bazoon acquired the farmstead property as the sole heir of his parents, J. J and Mary. Eudora Bazoon passed away in 1960 and William Lee in 1962, and the farmstead subsequently became the property of Myrtis Bazoon, who never married or had children, and stayed at the farmstead until her own death in 1995. William Lee, Eudora, and Myrtis Bazoon are all buried at the nearby Wesley Chapel cemetery. Myrtis left the farmstead to her doctor and it remained in his family until 2005, when it was purchased by the present owner.

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<sup>21</sup> Rehder, 98.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, 96.

<sup>23</sup> Henry Glassie, "The Types of the Southern Mountain Cabin," in *The Study of American Folklore*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Jan Brunvard, ed. (New York: Norton, 1978), 529, 543-53 in Rehder, 106.

<sup>24</sup> Charley Vance, "Pioneer Lady of Darlington in a Fighter." *Sunday Advocate*, Baton Rouge, August 1, 1982.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical Resources

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

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National Register of Historic Places. Bouey Moore Homestead. Franklinton, Washington Parish, Louisiana, National Register #20091208.

National Register of Historic Places, Brumfield Homestead, Franklinton, Washington Parish, LA, National Register #20140924.

Newton, Milton. "The Comprehensive Plan for St. Helena Parish: Historic Preservation Study." 1981, in Historic Standing Structures Survey Files, State Library, Baton Rouge.

----- "The Peasant Farm of St. Helena Parish." PhD diss., Louisiana State University, 1967.

Rehder, John B. "The Scotch-Irish and English in Appalachia." In *To Build in a New Land: Ethnic Landscapes in North America*, edited by Allen G. Noble, 95-118. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992.

St. Helena Historical Association. "1910 United States Census for St. Helena Parish." Amite, LA: 1996.

----- "1920 United States Census for St. Helena Parish." 2000.

Vance, Charley. "Pioneer Lady of Darlington in a Fighter." *Sunday Advocate*, Baton Rouge, August 1, 1982.

Wright, Martin. "Log Culture in Hill Louisiana." PhD diss. Louisiana State University, 1956.

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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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Bazon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
Name of Property

St. Helena Parish, LA  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_ 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):** 46-00138

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property:** ~20 acres

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

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

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 30.855735°  | Longitude: -90.802012° |
| 2. Latitude: 30.856343°  | Longitude: -90.801875° |
| 3. Latitude: 30.856423°  | Longitude: -90.799284° |
| 4. Latitude: 30.856064°  | Longitude: -90.799702° |
| 5. Latitude: 30.855099°  | Longitude: -90.799926° |
| 6. Latitude: 30.854790°  | Longitude: -90.799852° |
| 7. Latitude: 30.854180°  | Longitude: -90.800399° |
| 8. Latitude: 30.854211°  | Longitude: -90.801830° |
| 9. Latitude: 30.853974°  | Longitude: -90.802841° |
| 10. Latitude: 30.853399° | Longitude: -90.804000° |
| 11. Latitude: 30.856660° | Longitude: -90.803857° |
| 12. Latitude: 30.856177° | Longitude: -90.803097° |
| 13. Latitude: 30.856288° | Longitude: -90.802827° |
| 14. Latitude: 30.855837° | Longitude: -90.802434° |

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

Those certain lots or parcels of ground, situated in Sections 22, 27 and 42, T2S, R4E, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana, being designated as TRACT A, containing 8.443 Acres, TRACT B, containing 7.137 acres, TRACT C, containing .777 acres, and TRACT F, containing 3.101 acres, on "Survey Map Showing the Survey of Tract-A (8.443 Ac.) Sec. 42, Tract-H (2.148 Ac.) Sec. 42, Tract-B (7.137 Ac.) Sec. 22, Tract-C (.77 Ac.) Sec. 22, Tract-I (.332 Ac.) Sec. 22, Tract-D (.837 Ac.) Sec. 21, Tract-E (2.7 Ac.) Sec. 28, Tract-F (3.101 Ac.) Sec. 27, Tract-G (.190 Ac.) Sec. 27, all in T2S R4E GLD. St. Helena Parish, La for Dr. L. E. Stringer" dated July 20, 1999 by A. W. O'Quinn, RLS. A copy of said map is attached to an Act of Quitclaim Deed filed in COB 242, Folio 38 of the Conveyance Records of St. Helena Parish, La. See submitted boundary map for clarification (shaded polygon is actual boundary – solid line is polygon for lat/long points).

Bazon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
Name of Property

St. Helena Parish, LA  
County and State

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

The boundary is the property boundary and reflects its historic scale of the farmstead and its siting on Greasy Creek.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Laura Ewen Blokker  
organization: Southeast Preservation  
street & number: 11627 Hwy 37  
city or town: Greensburg state: LA zip code: 70441  
e-mail: lblokker@sepreservation.com  
telephone: 985.514.7802  
date: June 15, 2016

**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**

Name of Property: William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazon Farmstead  
City or Vicinity: Darlington  
County: St. Helena  
State: Louisiana  
Name of Photographer: Laura Ewen Blokker  
Date of Photographs: 5/28/2016 and 8/8/2015

- 1 of 20: House and barn, camera facing west.
- 2 of 20: Front (northeast) elevation, camera facing southwest.
- 3 of 20: Front (northeast) and left side (southeast), camera facing west.
- 4 of 20: Side (southeast) elevation of kitchen, camera facing west.
- 5 of 20: Rear (southwest) elevation, camera facing northeast.
- 6 of 20: Side (northwest), camera facing southeast.
- 7 of 20: Detail of foundation beneath front porch, camera facing southwest.
- 8 of 20: Front porch, camera facing west.
- 9 of 20: Detail of logs ends on porch, camera facing southwest.

Bazoon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
Name of Property

St. Helena Parish, LA  
County and State

- 10 of 20: Side porch showing 32' hewn plate, camera facing northeast.
- 11 of 20: Interior of single pen, camera facing southwest.
- 12 of 20: Interior of single pen, camera facing east.
- 13 of 20: Interior of single pen, camera facing east.
- 14 of 20: Interior of right shed room, camera facing northeast.
- 15 of 20: Interior of kitchen, camera facing northeast.
- 16 of 20: Interior of kitchen, camera facing north.
- 17 of 20: Well shed, camera facing southwest.
- 18 of 20: Barn, camera facing northwest.
- 19 of 20: Detail of wooden hinge on barn shed room, camera facing northwest.
- 20 of 20: Barn construction and foundation detail, camera facing southeast.

### List of Figures

All photographs dated November 1980. Courtesy of Tommy Klein.

- A. Myrtis Bazoon in front of the Bazoon House, on left with unidentified female friend, possibly Hazel Cornett.
- B. Myrtis Bazoon on the porch of the Bazoon House, on right with unidentified female friend, possibly Hazel Cornett.
- C. Right (northwest elevation) with cornfields beyond.
- D. Historic well shed with curb well and winch in foreground and hand pump well behind.
- E. Barn with live oak planted by Myrtis Bazoon behind and to the left and corn field beyond.



- A. Myrtis Bazoon in front of the Bazoon House, on left with unidentified female friend, possibly Hazel Cornett.

Bazoon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
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B. Myrtis Bazoon on the porch of the Bazoon House, on right with unidentified female friend, possibly Hazel Cornett.



C. Right (northwest elevation) with cornfields beyond.

Bazon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead  
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D. Historic well shed with curb well and winch in foreground and hand pump well behind.



E. Barn with live oak planted by Myrtis Bazon behind and to the left and corn field beyond.

**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.



**William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, St. Helena Parish, LA**



Latitude: 30.855516    Longitude: -90.802604

**William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, St. Helena Parish, LA**



Latitude: 30.855516 Longitude: -90.802604

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14. Latitude: 30.855837° Longitude: -90.802434°



**William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, Darlington vicinity, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana**

Google earth





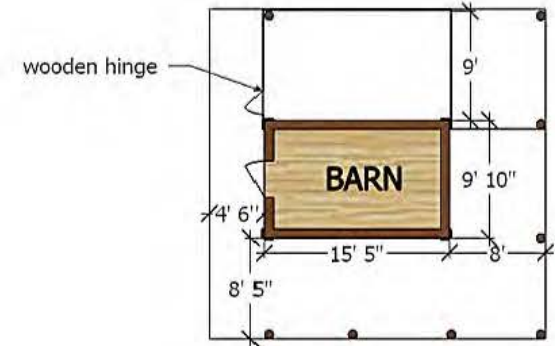
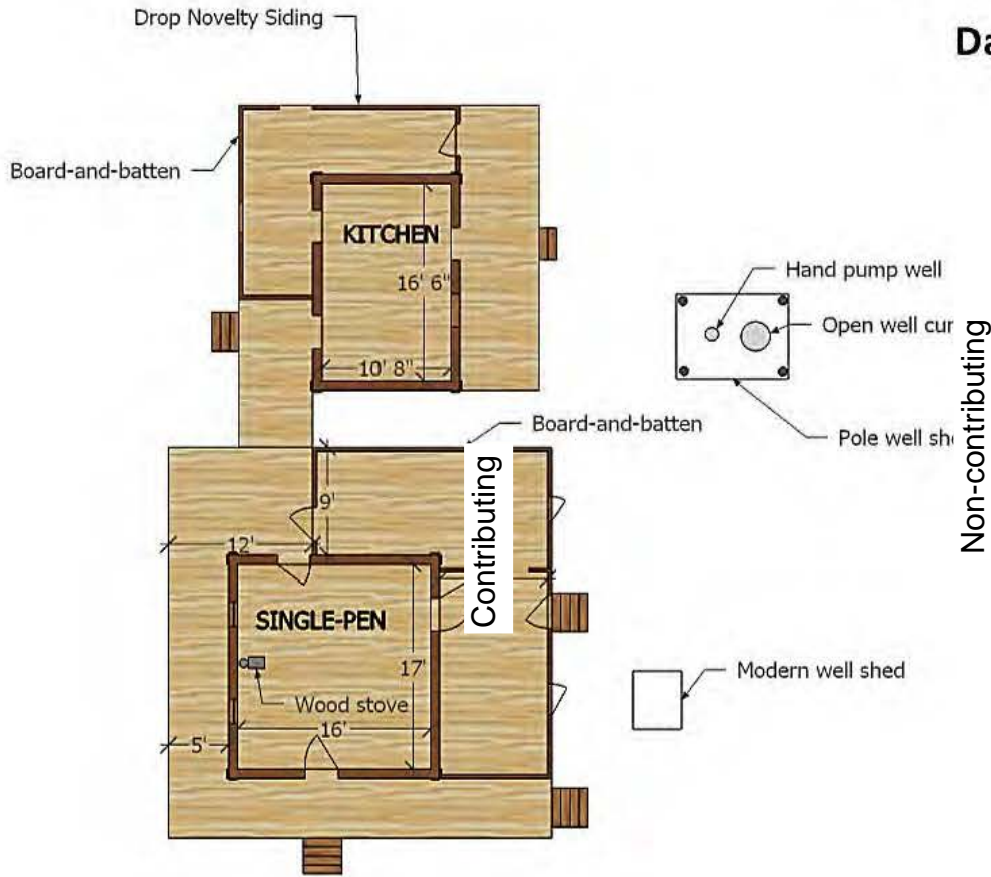
**William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, Darlington vicinity, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana**

Google earth

Imagery Date: 11/14/2012 Lat: 30.854921° Lon: -90.803013° elev: 189 ft eye alt: 2462 ft

# William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead

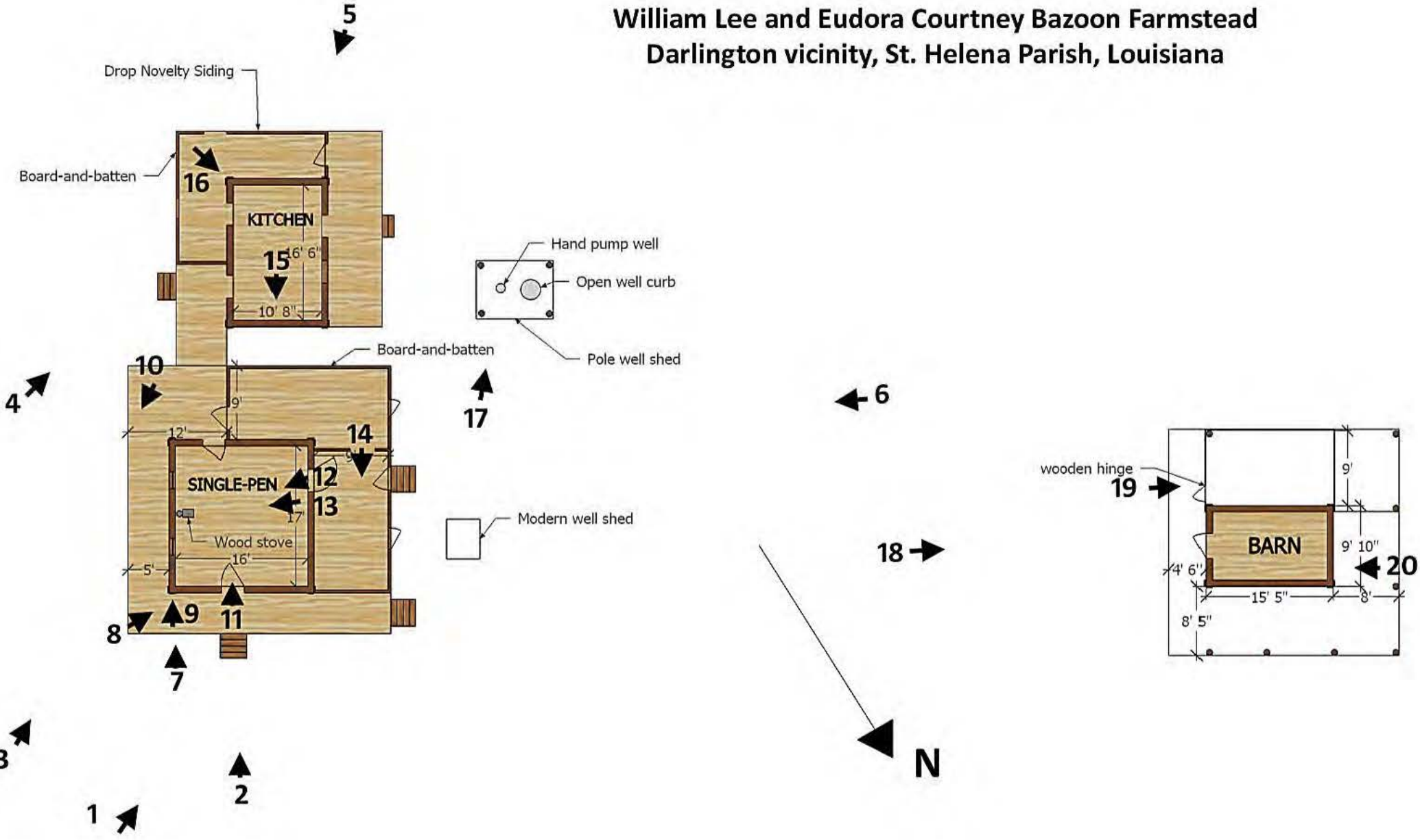
## Darlington vicinity, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana



Contributing

N

# William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead Darlington vicinity, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana

















































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Bazoon, William Lee and Eudora Courtney, Farmstead

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: LOUISIANA, St. Helena

DATE RECEIVED: 8/12/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/02/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/19/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/27/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000673

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9-21-2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Good example of late log construction. Remarkable integrity.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept-C

REVIEWER J. Gabbus DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N see attached

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



RECEIVED 2280

AUG 12 2016

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

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
RENNIE S. BURAS, II  
DEPUTY SECRETARY  
PHIL BOGGAN  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

August 11, 2016

TO: Mr. James Gabbert  
National Park Service 2280, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor; National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" Street, NW; Washington, DC 20005

FROM: Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator  
Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation

RE: William Lee and Eudora Courtney Bazoon Farmstead, St. Helena Parish, LA

Jim,

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for Bazoon Farmstead to the National Register of Historic Places. The second disk contains the photographs of the property in TIFF format. 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: