

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

1. Name

historic St. Emma

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Hwy. 1, 4-1/2 miles south of Donaldsonville — not for publication

city, town Donaldsonville vic. vicinity of congressional district 8th - Gillis Long

state Louisiana code 022 county Ascension code 005

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Flaherty

street & number Rt. 1, Box 282AA

city, town Donaldsonville — vicinity of state Louisiana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ascension Parish Courthouse

street & number

city, town Donaldsonville state Louisiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1979 federal state county local

depository 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

St. Emma Plantation house is set just west of Bayou Lafourche approximately four miles south of the town of Donaldsonville.

The house has a brick lower story and a circular sawn frame upper story. Although the upper story is the main floor, there are rooms on the ground floor as well which appear to be original to the house. The building is five bays wide and three rooms deep with a great central hall which runs from the front to the rear. Both the front and rear facades have five-bay galleries which are formed of brick posts on the lower story and paneled wooden pillars on the upper story. There are no interior stairs. Both staircases are set within the galleries.

The exterior doors have three vertical panels rather than the usual two. They are encompassed within ear-molded frames with pediment-shaped tops. Side lights are separated from the doors by full pilasters rather than molded strips. The front facade has heavy tongue and groove boards which are designed to resemble rustication. Major windows are of the 6 over 9 sliphead variety. The cast iron balustrades feature Gothic arches and foils. The interior features two black marble mantels and one cast iron mantel. Three mantels have been removed. Other changes include the addition of a side balcony, a semioctagonal bay and a bathroom-dressing area. In addition in the 1920's the hip roof was reworked.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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. 1850

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criteria A, B & C

St. Emma is a good representative example of a large mid 19th century Greek Revival Plantation house. This can be seen in its full two-story height, its articulation, and in its central hall plan which is three rooms deep rather than the usual two. It amounts to a larger version of the standard five-bay, central hall plan, raised plantation house.

In addition, of the many plantation houses of the Bayou Lafourche area, St. Emma is above average both in terms of size and pretention.

St. Emma Plantation is of historical significance for two reasons. First, it was owned from 1854 to 1869 by Charles A. Kock, one of the leading sugar planters and large slaveholders in Louisiana. Secondly, it played a role in a series of Civil War skirmishes in the Donaldsonville-Bayou Lafourche area.

Born in Bremen, Germany in 1812, Charles A. Kock by 1860, had become one of the largest sugar producers in Louisiana and had 300 slaves, of which 124 were at St. Emma. His two sugar plantations were Belle Alliance in Assumption Parish and St. Emma in Ascension Parish.

St. Emma and the nearby plantation Palo Alto were the scene of a Civil War skirmish in the fall of 1862. Union forces marching from Donaldsonville to Thibodaux were checked by the Confederates in the vicinity of St. Emma and lost 465 men. The sugar houses of St. Emma and Palo Alto were used to quarter Confederate troops.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Champomier, P. A., Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana.
 Conveyance Records, Ascension Parish.
 Davis, E. A., The Story of Louisiana, New Orleans, J. F. Hyer Publishing Co., 1960.
 Marchand, Sidney A., The Story of Ascension Parish Louisiana, Donaldsonville, 1931.

10. Geographical Data

DTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property approx. 5 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UMT References

A

1	5
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6	8	9	8	2	0
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3	3	2	9	5	3	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary is formed by a 300 ft. by 750 ft. rectangle whose location is determined by the east side of Rt. 1 and the south side of the driveway. The long front yard was included in the nominated area in order to recognize the historic view from the house to the Bayou. (see sketch map)

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 Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Flaherty

organization _____ date November 1979

street & number Rt. 1, Box 282AA telephone _____

city or town Donaldsonville state Louisiana

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. Bernard Lamar*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/8/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>Jean D. Beebe</i>	date June 30, 1980
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <i>Bob Grovern</i>	date 6/27/80
Chief of Registration	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

APR 21 1980

DATE ENTERED

JUN 30 1980

St. Emma

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

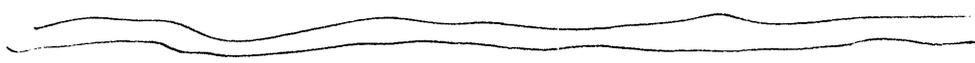
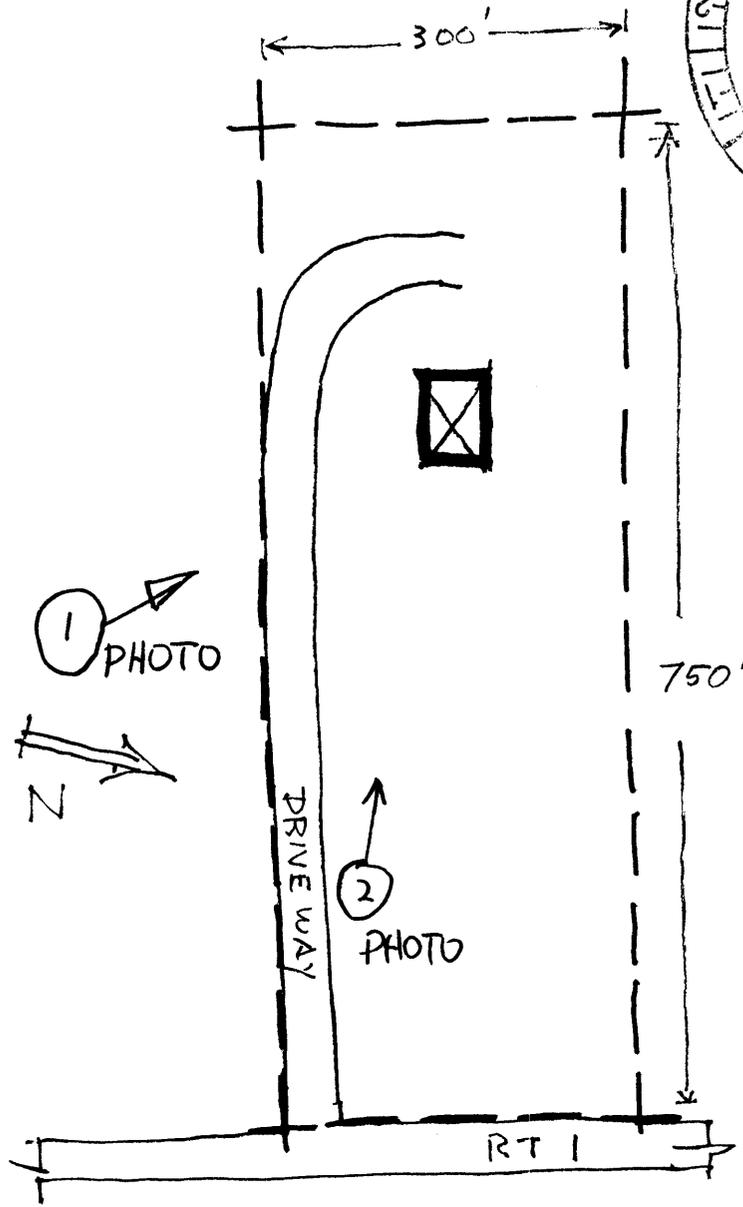
9

PAGE

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9. Bibliographic References

- Menn, Joseph Karl, The Large Slaveholders of Louisiana: 1860, New Orleans,
Pelican Publishing Company, 1964.
Stahls, Paul F., Jr., Plantation Homes of the Lafourche Country, Gretna,
Pelican Publishing Company, 1976.



BAYOU TECHE