

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

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

For NPS use only

received **AUG 9 1983**  
date entered **SEP 20 1983**

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

**1. Name**

historic Evan Hall Slave Cabins

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number LA 405, @ 3 miles west of Donaldsonville  
in small community of McCall N/A not for publication

city, town Donaldsonville vic.  vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Ascension Parish code 005

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant at present

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Thibaut home: 504-473-3875 work (Mr. Thibaut): 504-473-8241

street & number P.O. Box 267 work (Mrs. Thibaut): 504-473-6289

city, town Donaldsonville N/A vicinity of state LA 70346

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ascension Parish Courthouse

street & number P.O. Box 192 Homer Street

city, town Donaldsonville state LA 70346

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Evan Hall Slave Cabins (c.1840) are two single story brick structures located in the McCall sugar mill community on the Mississippi River three miles west of the town of Donaldsonville. Despite considerable deterioration, the buildings are rare enough within the context of Louisiana to merit listing on the Register.

The smaller of the two is a single cabin two rooms wide with a gable roof and a central chimney set between two rooms. The larger of the two is a double cabin with four rooms in a line and two chimneys. There are no interior hallways.

Both buildings are constructed of soft brick, three layers thick, laid up in English bond. Each of the windows and doors is surmounted by a round relieving arch. Relieving arches also support the walls above the foundation. Most of the wall openings retain what appear to be their original wooden frames. Some of the windows have shutters which do not appear to be original, although they are old.

Since construction the following changes have occurred in the buildings:

1. The wooden galleries have been lost.
2. The roof structure on the double cabin has largely disappeared.
3. The roof surface on the single cabin has been lost.
4. The central chimney in the single cabin has been lost.
5. The upper portion of one of the chimneys in the double cabin has been lost.
6. Much of the rear of the double cabin has been taken down as part of an ongoing restoration project.
7. All of the floors are gone.
8. The brickwork is in need of repointing.

### Assessment of Integrity:

Despite all of these losses, the cabins are still eligible for the National Register. They are deteriorated, but so are all but one of the seven other collections of slave quarters known to the State Historic Preservation Office. In our opinion, dependencies of this type are sufficiently rare that even deteriorated examples would still be significant. Moreover, the Evan Hall cabins are still easily recognizable as slave quarters from their form, their configuration, and their fenestration pattern. Finally, the significant features (the brick construction and the arches) 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 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. 1840 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Henry McCall

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criterion C

The Evan Hall Slave Cabins are of state significance in the area of architecture because they represent unusually fine surviving examples of a once common antebellum building type which has all but disappeared from the state.

The census schedules of 1860 reveal that there were approximately 1,640 holdings of 50 or more slaves in Louisiana on the eve of the Civil War. In addition, there were, of course, innumerable holdings of less than 50. This indicates that at one time there must easily have been thousands of slave cabins across the state. They were a very predominant feature of the rural landscape, vastly outnumbering the plantation houses. However, today this situation is reversed and antebellum plantation houses have survived in greater numbers than slave quarters. As far as the State Historic Preservation Office is aware, there are only eight collections of rural slave cabins remaining in Louisiana.\* This certainly qualifies the Evan Hall cabins as rare survivors.

However, beyond this, they are architecturally superior to all other collections known to the State Historic Preservation Office. One of the reasons that few slave cabins have survived is that many were flimsily built to begin with. Some, of course, were built using substantial frame construction, but relatively few were made of brick. Brick slave quarters were, of course, the finest and the most substantial. Of the above eight collections of slave quarters, only three are constructed of bricks. Of these, the Evan Hall cabins are the only ones which feature arch brick construction of any kind, let alone full round head relieving arches over both the foundation and the fenestration. Therefore, they may very well be the best crafted slave cabins remaining in the state.

\*This figure includes only those collections in their original locations. There are a few more small collections of frame slave cabins which were moved to their present locations from various places.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- Menn, Joseph K. The Large Slaveholders of Louisiana: 1860. New Orleans; Pelican Publishing Company, 1964.
- McCall, Henry. "History of Evan Hall Plantation, McCall, Louisiana from 1760-1899." Reprint by Henry George McCall, II. No date, but it is clear from the narrative that it was written c. 1900.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property — approximately 2 acres

Quadrangle name White Castle, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UTM References

A 

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6	8	8	4	0	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed sketch map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNERS

organization Division of Historic Preservation date June 1983  
State of Louisiana

street & number P.O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-6682

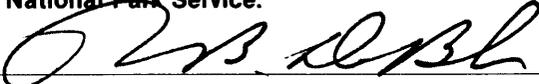
city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

## 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.

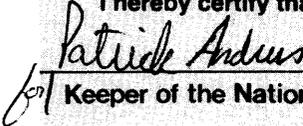
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date August 2, 1983

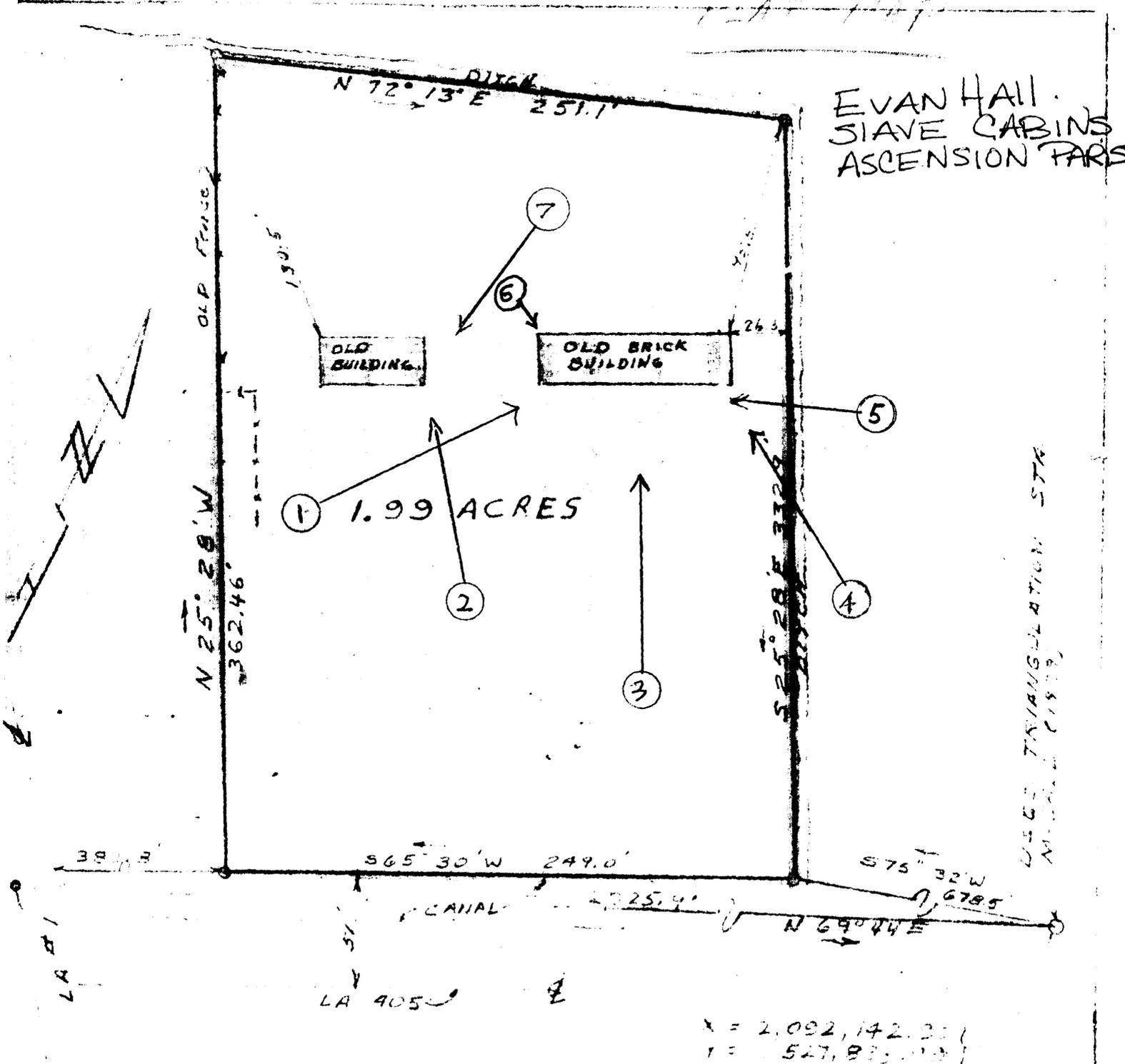
For NPS use only

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

 date 9/20/83  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration



EVAN HALL  
 SLAVE CABINS  
 ASCENSION PARISH

McCall Sugar House  
 Smoke Stack

X = 2,092,142.25  
 Y = 527,833.10

A MAP SHOWING THE SURVEY OF  
 A 1.99 ACRE TRACT OF LAND  
 LOCATED IN SECTION 16, T.11S.,  
 R. 14 E., IN ASCENSION PARISH,  
 LOUISIANA

FOR  
 CHARLES TRACT

DATE FEB. 28, 1941  
 SCALE 1" = 60'  
 BK 14, P. 54  
 P-81-2

*Vincent P. Pizzolatto*  
 VINCENT P. PIZZOLATTO R.L.S.