

Louisiana National Register Review Committee Meeting

April 12, 2018, 1:00pm
Capitol Park Welcome Center
702 N. River Rd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Minutes

Chairman Lynn Lewis called the April 12, 2018, regular meeting of the National Register Review Committee to order at 1:04 p.m. In addition to Mr. Lewis, members present included Dr. Rebecca Saunders, Peggy Lowe, Dr. Robert Carriker, Tarah Arcuri, Dr. Matthew Savage, and Sue Turner. Turry Flucker and John Sykes were unable to attend. Martha Saloman arrived at 1:10PM.

Mr. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Savage so moved and Dr. Carriker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator, welcomed the audience and committee members to the meeting.

Mr. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December's meeting. Dr. Saunders so moved and Tarah Arcuri seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Under New Business, 15 nominations were presented to the committee.

For the purposes of accurately summarizing all commentary, the following initials will be used for review committee members only in the section of each nomination's part of this document where discussion took place, after first identifying the speaker by their full name: Tarah Arcuri – TA; Lynn Lewis – LL; Peggy Lowe – PL; Dr. Robert Carriker – RC; Martha Saloman – MS; Dr. Rebecca Saunders – RS; Dr. Matthew Savage – MV; and Sue Turner – ST. For National Register Coordinator Jessica Richardson, JR will be used to identify her when speaking. This system will be used as there was extensive commentary for several of the nominations that is documented in these minutes. For individual presenters or audience members, they will be identified within each nomination section.

Carver and Clark Courts, Calcasieu Parish

Presented by Lee Ricetti, nomination preparer

Carver Courts, LA-4-4, was constructed in 1959 in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The development contains 44 1-story duplex buildings with 88 housing units, and one 1-story office building located on Medora Street, Prater Street, Channel Street, Augustus Street, Woodring Street, Orin Street, and N. Goos Boulevard. The Carver Courts development is located in a residential area on N. Goos Boulevard, a north-south arterial road in Lake Charles. The site is an intact example of a post-war housing project and retains many of the features that characterize public housing projects of the mid-twentieth century.

Carver Courts, LA-4-4, is significant under Criterion A in the category of SOCIAL HISTORY as a locally significant example of a Low-density Rural Housing Development. Carver Courts LA-4-4 was among the first Low-density Rural Housing Developments planned by the Lake Charles Housing Authority (LCHA) starting in 1956. The project utilized funds from the Public Housing Authority (PHA) in Fort Worth (the regional office appointed for the Federal Public Housing Authority). The design of the forty-four residential buildings and one non-residential building that comprises Carver Courts, their materials, and their organization on the site reflect the Lake Charles Housing Authority's engagement of official Housing Authority architect, Elwin Fitch, who was well-versed in the guidelines published by the Public Housing Administration in 1945. Guidelines addressed methods of optimal site design and mandated design elements inside the apartments, such as room sizes and amenities. Published guidelines emphasized the importance of using durable building materials, to reduce the ongoing cost of maintenance. Carver Courts expresses these guidelines through its siting, landscaping and circulation patterns, and use of inexpensive yet durable building materials.

Dr. Saunders (RS) expressed her awe at how green the landscaping is at Carver and Clark Courts. Peggy Lowe (PL) asked what the future use will be of both Carver and Clark Courts. Lee Ricetti (LR) responded that they will continue to be used as housing. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked if the density different from public housing in New Orleans. LR explained that yes, the density was much higher in the more urban settings than the lower density seen in the more rural areas like Lake Charles. LL asked if there were expectations that the properties would be maintained by the residents or the city. LR stated that it was up to the housing authority to maintain the property. Ben Taylor (BT), with the Lake Charles Housing Authority was in attendance and added that the upcoming project will be a \$40 million renovation of Clark and Carver Courts as well as another development in the city. Historic tax credits will be used to rehabilitate these two properties. The character of the property and houses will stay the same. It truly is a public/private partnership and the project will include a police substation.

Dr. Saunders moved that both properties be recommended to the State Historic Preservation Officer and Martha Saloman seconded. There were five yays and two nays. The motion passed.

Jacquitte Vallery Cabin, Natchitoches Parish

Presented by Rachel Petty, nomination preparer

Jacquitte's Cabin (the "Cabin") is a mid-19th century log cabin located in what is now known as the Emmanuel Community in Chopin, Louisiana, which is located in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. The Cabin sits on twenty-seven (27) acres of land which also houses three (3) other non-contributing buildings. The original building ("Main Room") was a one room dwelling that measures 10 x 10 feet. A second room ("Second Addition") was added sometime later to the left of the main room. A third room ("Third Addition") was eventually added after that, date unknown. The Cabin retains a high degree of historic integrity.

The Cabin has statewide significance under Criterion C: Architecture as an early example of a log cabin in Louisiana and it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. It is one of the first structures built by the Louisiana Apalachee Indians that settled in the area around the 1830s and the land the Cabin sits on was originally settled by the Apalachee Indians. The period of significance under Criterion C is 1830, the year it was built.

Mrs. Turner (ST) asked why they are interested in listing the property. Rachel Petty (RP) responded that the main reason is for the recognition for this historic property. ST asked what its importance is and if anything is being done to keep it up. RP said that it is important for its architecture and history and that it is not currently used. ST asked what listing will do for the building. RP stated that it will help bring recognition to the building as it is one of, if the only, log cabins in Natchitoches Parish. ST asked if the intent is to restore it or repair it. RP said the intent is to continue maintaining it as is. Jessica Richardson (JR) added that they want to continue to maintain it and list it for its recognition. Peggy Lowe (PL) asked if there have been any archaeological studies done at the property. RP said that there have been artifacts found on the property and the Heritage Center at Northwestern State University have done research about the property. There haven't been any official digs done there though. ST asked about the building's condition. JR added that it's actually in much better shape than it appears and you are able to walk into, the building is stable, it is not on the verge of collapse. Dr. Savage (MV) asked if the nomination includes just the central room or the whole structure. JR stated that it includes all three rooms as the National Register defines additions as parts of the building. MV asked about the dates of the additions. JR looked back at the nomination and the dates are not known exactly, but they are c. 1830, c. late 1800s, and early 1900s. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked Dr. Saunders (RS) if there is any archaeological potential at the site and she responded that there likely is. JR added that a section on the archaeological potential can be added to the nomination. MV asked if it is private property, how that affects its openness to research. RP said that the owners would be open to research done at the property. RS said she felt the roof is problematic and wondered if RP knew if they definitely came from the mission in St. Augustine. RP stated that was the only info she had.

Dr. Saunders moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Peggy Lowe seconded the motion. There were 6 yays and 1 abstention.

Colfax Jail, Grant Parish

Presented by Trevor Fry, nomination preparer

Located on the corner of 4th Street and Faircloth Street in Colfax, Louisiana, the Colfax Jail ("Jail") is a two story building constructed of red, unfired brick. The roof of the building is made from galvanized tin with a red brick chimney, while the structure rests upon a solid concrete foundation. The building is fenestrated by eight pane-less windows that were enlarged from their 2 ½ square feet to their present dimensions. Three doorways are located on three different sides of the building, however, no doors remain. The building has been altered throughout the years, as the Jail has hosted many public and government agencies. Fortunately, the basic structure has remained unscathed and has retained its original integrity.

The Colfax Jail, located on the corner of Fourth and Faircloth St., is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion A, in the area of politics/government, for its history and role in carrying out government affairs in Colfax and serving in numerous other capacities. Built during the early 1890s, the Jail is an excellent and intact example of a late nineteenth-century rural jail. The period of significance for the jail is 1893-1920, the years it served as a jail and place of governmental duties.

Dr. Savage (MV) asked what the intended purpose for the jail is. Trevor Fry (TF) stated that they'd like to restore it and hopefully utilize tax credits. They'd like to get input from the community and see what is needed and that they want it accessible to the public. MV asked to see interior photos of the jail. Jessica Richardson (JR) pulled up photos that show the interior from the nomination. Dr. Saunders (RS) asked if the jail had anything to do with the Colfax Riot. TF stated that it was built after, but it is near it. Sue Turner (ST) asked what the population of the town is. TF stated it is around 22,000. Interior photos were shown showing that it is intact on the inside. Peggy Lowe (PL) asked if the windows have been altered and if it was restored, if the windows would be changed. Jessica Richardson (JR) stated that there is a historic sketch showing smaller windows, but based on the thickness of the walls and no clear cut lines, it may have had larger windows. Sketches aren't always reliable. The window opening sizes don't appear to have changed. ST asked if there is any good research about the building available. TF responded that the sketch just shown is part of a book about Colfax's history and that is the main source of information on the building.

Peggy Lowe then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Savage seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Bohemian Community Hall, Rapides Parish

Presented by Carolyn Tuma, nomination preparer

The Bohemian Community Hall (interchangeably referred to as Libuse Czech Hall in this document) is located in Libuse in Rapides Parish, Louisiana. It is a one story wood frame building with wood and metal siding and is designed in a simplified Craftsman style. Built c.1930 following a 1930 tornado that destroyed the first hall, the building has been continually used as a social hall for the Czech community in the unincorporated community of Libuse. The building's façade has a stylized stepped parapet with central entry and cross hipped roof. It features a large interior space with a few small storage rooms, kitchen, and stage. Very few alterations have been made to the building since it was built and it retains a high degree of integrity. It would be easily recognizable to any of the former residents of Libuse and the surrounding area.

The Bohemian Community Hall is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of entertainment/recreation and ethnic heritage: European. The hall has been a central gathering place for the Libuse Czech community since it was constructed. It has served as a place for weddings, funerals, dances, plays, and any other social gathering the community had for almost 90 years. Its rarity and cultural importance to the community is unique and significant. The period of significance for the hall is 1930 through 1968, encompassing the year it was built through the 50 year cutoff.

Sue Turner (ST) asked if there are descendants of the original settlers still living in Libuse. Carolyn Tuma (CT) said that yes, there are several families still living in the area. ST asked if there is any direct connection to Czechoslovakia. CT explained that historically, the country now known as Czechoslovakia was Czechoslovakia, Slovakia, and Moravia. The immigrants who ended up in Nebraska were all three nationalities. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked if these ancestors came from Nebraska. CT said that some of them did. They weren't all just from Nebraska. LL asked Jessica Richardson (JR) about Libuse and the grand plans that were in the works for it

including a fully platted town and if that was common. JR said that yes, these towns often had detailed plans and ideas in mind, but they usually didn't develop that way.

Sue Turner then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Carriker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Downtown Alexandria Commercial Historic District, Rapides Parish

Presented by Sarah Mason, nomination preparer

The Downtown Alexandria Commercial District is located in the middle of Downtown Alexandria, beginning at the Red River levee, and encompasses the surviving historic commercial structures within fourteen blocks that date from 1894 to 1968. It is bounded by the Red River levee to the Northeast, Desoto and Jackson Street to the Northwest (including buildings on both sides of Jackson Street), portions of 5th Street and 6th Street to the Southwest, and Washington Street, Murray Street, and Lee Street to the Southeast (with four buildings and one structure included between Washington and Lee Streets). The proposed district consists of 29.71 acres and includes 52 buildings, and 2 structures, of which 41 are contributing to the district with 10 of these being previously individually listed on the National Register. This group of buildings represents the historic commercial core of Alexandria and surrounding Rapides Parish, as well as the original density of commercial buildings in downtown Alexandria. The district consists of buildings the majority of which have retained their historic appearance or have been rehabilitated.

The Downtown Alexandria Commercial Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of commerce and entertainment/recreation because it represents the area that once served as the early 20th century commercial, civic, and entertainment center of Alexandria and its more rural environs. The downtown area between Monroe and Fulton streets, from the Red River levee to about 10th Street/I-49, geographically represents the original city of Alexandria before it expanded beyond the railroad (present day I-49), and this district represents the historic building stock that remains as a testament to its historically dense and commercial character. It is also significant locally under Criterion C for its contributions to architecture and the array of specific American architectural styles that many of the larger scale buildings embody. Many of these buildings are representations of high-style work of renowned architects that made an impact on architecture on a local, state, and national level. These buildings demonstrate the transition and development of architectural styles from historicist styles to the modernist styles, and how these changing tastes affected the landscape of Main Streets and downtowns across America. The period of significance for the district is 1894 - 1968, encompassing the oldest buildings in the district and including all historic resources constructed or altered through the fifty year cutoff.

There were no questions.

Martha Saloman then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Tarah Arcuri seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

St. Theresa Catholic Church and School, Acadia Parish

Presented by Anthony Clement, nomination preparer

St. Theresa Catholic Church sits on 1.4 acres three blocks west of downtown Crowley in Acadia Parish, Louisiana. The property includes five buildings, four of which are contributing. The site used to house an additional school two-story building, which was located in front of the existing parish hall, until 2005 when the building was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The four contributing buildings are the church, rectory, sister's house, and kindergarten building (known today as the prayer chapel). These buildings date from c. 1922 through 1957 with the rectory and sister's house being the oldest, the church being the next oldest, and the prayer chapel is the youngest building. All of these buildings were used as the campus for the St. Theresa Catholic School from 1922 through 1971. Their styles include Craftsman for the rectory, Classical Revival for the church, no style for the sister's house, and the modern movement for the prayer chapel. These buildings have received some alterations over the years, including some window replacement on the rectory and sister's house and siding replacement on the rectory, church, and sister's house. While these are material changes, the overall form, fenestration patterns, and designs of the four contributing buildings has remained the same.

and are all recognizable to students and parishioners of St. Theresa Catholic Church and school during the period of significance.

St. Theresa Catholic Church and School is locally significant under Criterion A: History, in the areas of education and ethnic history: Black. It represents the initial development of an educational facility for African American students during a time when segregation was alive and thriving. These buildings represent the only opportunity local children of color had to receive an education. The main school building has been lost, but the church and the prayer hall also functioned as classrooms for the school and the rectory and sister's residence was also integral to the operation of the school. In addition to its educational significance, St. Theresa Catholic Church played a central role in the black community of Crowley.

There were no questions.

Mrs. Turner then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Peggy Lower seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BREAK (2:26PM-2:38PM)

Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, St. Bernard Parish

Presented by Gabrielle Begue, nomination preparer

The Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, located at 7200 North Peters Street in Arabi, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, was completed in 1923 as a branch plant for the assembly of Ford automobiles in the Gulf South region. Historically about 16 acres and later expanded to 27.8 acres, the property was strategically located at the Mississippi River and adjacent to railroad lines to transport parts and finished automobiles to and from the plant. It includes two contributing buildings: the assembly plant (1922-23) and the oil pump house (1922-23), both of which were designed by industrial architect Albert Kahn. The plant is a sprawling, 227,000-SF structure constructed of reinforced concrete and steel that housed a variety of functions, including assembly operations with a moving assembly line, a showroom, offices, and warehouse storage. Beyond the reinforced-concrete 2-story portion facing North Peters Street, which houses the public entrance, the plant is 1 story in height and exposed steel-frame construction, with 6 gabled roof monitors running east-west to provide light and ventilation to the plant's open interior. The small 2-story oil pump house is located approximately 70 yards north of the plant and is constructed of brick, concrete, and steel. There are no non-contributing buildings on the site. In 1933, the plant ceased assembly operations and was converted into a Ford parts and distribution center. Other modifications were later made to accommodate subsequent uses, but the property still retains several key features of Ford's second generation of Kahn-designed branch plants and remains eligible for listing in the National Register.

The Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant is eligible for listing at the local level under Criteria A and C. The property is eligible under Criterion A in the areas of commerce and industry for its association with Ford Motor Company's groundbreaking expansion and development efforts in the early 20th century. As the Gulf South region's state-of-the-art production and distribution point for seminal Ford models, the Arabi plant was part of the automobile revolution that economically, geographically, and physically altered the American landscape. Under Criterion C in the area of architecture, it is an excellent example of the industrial design work of architect Albert Kahn, widely considered a master architect for his role in the transformation of factory design worldwide. Although he worked with a number of automobile manufacturers and designed facilities for other types of industries during his prolific career, his longtime collaboration with Henry Ford in particular cemented his legacy as one of the most influential industrial architects of all time. The period of significance begins in 1923, when the plant officially opened, and ends in 1933, when assembly production ceased.

Lynn Lewis (LL) asked if Kahn had any issues with building in New Orleans because of the soft soil. Gabrielle Begue (GB) responded that she wasn't sure, but she wouldn't be surprised if he did. Peggy Lowe (PL) asked what year did the cease production? GB responded they stopped production in 1933. Several of the plants closed in the 1930s and they couldn't make it through the Depression. PL asked if the plant was used for anything during World War II. GB said that yes, it was used for arms storage.

Dr. Saunders then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Martha Saloman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Perseverance Benevolent Mutual and Social Aid Society, Orleans Parish
Presented by Emily Knollenberg, nomination preparer

The Perseverance Benevolent and Mutual Aid Society is a one-story meeting hall located in the 7th Ward of New Orleans, LA in a primarily African American neighborhood. It was built c. 1880 and a few renovations occurred in c. 1927, including the front of the building stretching to the sidewalk, a Spanish Mission Revival parapet stretching the front elevation and a camel back in the rear were added. The front elevation holds the highest degree of integrity with little alteration or change. The rear of the structure, before the historic camelback addition, once was a service hall or half camelback and had a first level kitchen and second floor landing with two small rooms, likely to house traveling musicians. The historic camelback suffered greatly from damages due to Hurricane Katrina and now is demolished. The inside of the building still holds many contributing historic features from the original construction of the building. It is in good condition and upholds its historic integrity of materials, design, craftsmanship, location, setting, feelings, and association from its period of significance and is eligible for listing on the National Register.

The Perseverance Benevolent and Mutual Aid Society building is locally significant under criterion A in the areas of Social History and Ethnic Heritage: Black, for its role as the location for an active benevolent society during the period of significance from 1880-1949. While benevolent societies played a nationwide role in the growth of America, the Perseverance Benevolent and Mutual Aid Society had a larger impact to the city of New Orleans and the African American community. Not only did the society provide health insurance to its members, but it also cultivated jazz music and African American comradery. These organizations were of great importance for the African American community in New Orleans at the turn of the 20th century.

Dr. Carriker (RC) asked how many halls like this were in the area. Emily Knollenberg (EK) responded that she wasn't sure of the exact number. There were pockets of them in each neighborhood. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked if the society was for the neighborhood. EK replied that yes, it was primarily for the neighborhood. RC asked if Ms. Knollenberg was familiar with any other society halls that are left. EK responded that she has looked at a few others, but that those have been heavily altered, especially the African American ones. LL asked about the historic photograph and the change in the gable end. EK responded that historically it was a stained glass window and today, it is a vent, but they are not sure when that change happened. Sue Turner asked who owns it. EK responded that the Holy Aid Church owns it. Martha Saloman (MS) asked what the future use is. EK responded that it will continue to be used as a church. They are very excited about having it recognized further on the National Register.

Dr. Carriker then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Martha Saloman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1601 and 1621 Lafitte Avenue, Orleans Parish
Presented by John Williams, nomination preparer

1601 Lafitte Avenue was constructed in 1950-51 for use as a building materials warehouse. Historically located in the Faubourg Tremé, the building falls just outside the boundaries of the Esplanade Ridge National Register District. Rectilinear in form and constructed of concrete block, the gables on the façade and rear elevation dominate the building's street presence. It faces Richard B. Lemann Memorial Park, which was built on land that resulted from the infill of the former Old Basin (Carondelet) Canal. Historically until the name change in 1924, Lafitte Avenue was called Carondelet Walk. It was the old canal's right of way. Bounded by St. Peter Street on its northern side, Carondelet Walk extended from the turning basin at today's North Basin Street to Bayou St. John. Today this area is being developed as the Lafitte Greenway Linear Park. The Old Basin Canal, as distinguished from the American Sector's ca. 1834 New Basin Canal, operated from 1794 through the early 1920s. During these years it was lined with businesses catering to the building trade such as lumber yards, mill shops, coal dealers, cooperages, etc., which used the shallow waterway for easy transport. Devoid of any architectural references, the building is strictly utilitarian and functional in form. It remains today as it did when constructed, a mid-20th century interpretation of the earlier 19th-century industrial and commercial buildings that lined the old canal.

1601 Lafitte Avenue is eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of industry at the local level. From the late 18th-century through the mid-20th century, the buildings on the subject site, including the current one, as well as other in the Old Basin Canal area, depended first upon that waterway and later on the railway system adjacent to the canal. This reliance continued even after the canal was filled in during the late 1920s and the Lemann Park was completed in 1934. Although the lumber warehouse at 1601 Lafitte dates from 1950-51, its form and use follow earlier buildings that also housed similarly functional land uses such as lumberyards, workshops, coal depots, junk yards and ice houses (figures 2-7). Along with the proposed renovation of 1621 Lafitte by the same owner, the maintenance of the utilitarian, small-scale character of this block of Lafitte Avenue (formerly Carondelet Walk) would be preservation of a small remnant of the neighborhoods of the young city's long-gone canals. Many of the buildings that lined Carondelet Walk were demolished for such city improvement projects as the Municipal Auditorium and the Lafitte Housing Project.

The commercial structure at 1621 Lafitte Avenue consists of an aggregate of building sections constructed in varying stages and located on several lot remnants, today united as Lot S-1, an L-shaped parcel facing both Lafitte and North Robertson Streets. Historically located in the Faubourg Tremé, the building falls just outside the boundaries of the Esplanade Ridge National Register District. Before the 1964 acquisition by the State of Louisiana of a large part of the subject square for the construction of Interstate Highway 10, the lots upon which the building is located extended to St. Peter Street (attachments 14, 17). The Lafitte Avenue façade presents as two sections: a small, one-story building with a gable roof (B2) and an addition on the western, or North Claiborne Avenue, side (B5), that extends in height to the peak of the pediment of the smaller building (Photographs 1-3, 5, 6 ; "Building Key"). B2 dates from circa 1952 when it was built for a meat cutting and storage business known as the Econo-Meat Mart, incorporated by brothers Louis and Gilbert Fourmigue. This section actually was constructed in front of an earlier circa 1942 asbestos on steel framing "ice cream factory" room B1 (attachments 15, 16, 18, 19: 1951 & 1964 updated 1940 Sanborn Insurance Map). Devoid of any architectural references, the building is strictly utilitarian and functional in form. It faces Richard B. Lemann Memorial Park, which was built on land that resulted from the infill of the former Old Basin (Carondelet) Canal (attachments 11, 12). Historically until the name change in 1924, Lafitte Avenue was called Carondelet Walk. It was the old canal's right of way. Bounded by St. Peter Street on its northern side, Carondelet Walk extended from the turning basin at today's North Basin Street to Bayou St. John (attachments 1-10). Today this area is being developed as the Lafitte Greenway Linear Park.

1621 Lafitte Avenue is eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of commerce at the local level. While not significant architecturally, 1621 Lafitte Avenue derives its importance from its connection to the mid- 20th-century period when the area, formerly one noted for its connections with the Old Basin Canal and the Southern Railway system depots, became one catering to its modest neighborhood—the Lemann Memorial Park and the Lafitte Housing Project. The retention and revitalization of such small-scaled buildings as the subject property and the adjacent building at 1601 Lafitte will maintain the essential character of the streetscape of not only the Lemann Memorial Park but also the Old Basin Canal. Many of the neighborhood-friendly buildings that lined Carondelet Walk were demolished for such city improvement projects as the Municipal Auditorium and the Lafitte Housing Project.

The owner of both buildings, Mike Valentino, was in attendance. Mr. Valentino (MV) stated that his company owns hotels in New Orleans and they wanted to locate their executive offices in these buildings as that was an appropriate centering of the business in the city. Dr. Saunders (RS) asked if most of the changes that were made were requested by the SHPO. John Williams (JW) said that was correct. Sue Turner (ST) asked why the buildings are being nominated for listing. JW responded that the buildings want to apply for the Federal tax credit as well as designate them along the Lafitte Greenway. ST asked what the importance of the original use is and is it still being used as that. JW said it was originally used as a meat market, but that today, they are used as office spaces. Dr. Carriker stated that it doesn't seem to feel like it retains much historical feel today. He didn't feel like if someone from years ago would recognize it today. JW responded that they have retained signage and talked more about the canal that used to be in this location. Dr. Savage (MV) respectfully disagreed and stated that it is a good rehabilitation project on a very difficult site and difficult neighborhood. MV sees the project as a real contribution to the area. RS also commented that space seems to be at a premium in the area. Peggy Lowe (PL) stated that she has an issue with the criterion, industry that is being presented. It keeps being mentioned as a building related to a canal turnaround and that the current building, which dates to 1951, has anything to do with that earlier history. It is just sort of a general industrial area that happens to be

over 50 years. JW responded that some of the pieces of the building are much earlier. PL responded that the criteria is not just age. If you look at it that way, any commercial building reflects industrial history. Daniel Winkert (DW), the project architect, added that the canal later became a railroad corridor. That's when these buildings were built and that they are a continuation of the light industrial use of this corridor. PL stated that it is a wonderful renovation, but she is having trouble relating that to the criteria offered. Tarah Arcuri (TA) added that she agrees with PL on all counts and feels that it is much more of a building that could contribute to a bigger nomination, but isn't individually eligible. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked Jessica Richardson (JR) if there were any other boxes that could be checked on a nomination. MV also asked what consideration was given to criterion A being the chosen criterion. JR responded that it isn't architecturally significant so we had to go purely on what the history of these buildings are and this was the only thing that could be found. JR also said the only boxes that can be checked is for a nomination or determination for eligibility. PL asked if there was any effort before the renovation to seek the tax credits. JW responded that time constraints meant that doing a district would take too long so they went with trying an individual listing. JR added that no matter what the review committee decides, the nomination will still be reviewed by the National Park Service. DW added that they did go forward with the state commercial tax credit because it already qualified for that. ST asked if it would be recognized as what it once was. Martha Saloman (MS) stated that she thinks it's an honest representation of what it once was, particularly since there is very little left to speak of the industrial nature of the area. It was always meant to be utilitarian. It's a matter of whether you'll obliterate that former use from this area of town or encourage others to try to preserve it. MS believes it's a worthwhile project. MV agreed with MS and stated that it anchors the Lafitte Greenway. PL stated that then that goes back to an architectural criterion and doesn't see the significance of these buildings to industry. PL asked if an architectural argument could be made for it. JR added that an architectural argument would be hard for this because of its context in the city of New Orleans. The entire committee agrees that the project was very well done.

Martha Saloman then moved that the properties be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Savage seconded. There were 4 yays and 3 nays.

Vieux Carré Additional Documentation, Orleans Parish

Presented by John Williams, nomination preparer

The Vieux Carré was updated in 2011 to add a new area of significance under Criterion A: Conservation to include the French Quarter Revival architectural style. This update included adding 28 contributing buildings under this area of significance. The period of significance set up for these buildings was 1934-1961. This current additional documentation document further updates that period of significance to 1968 for buildings classified under the French Quarter Revival style. By updating the period of significance to 1968, 19 contributing buildings are being added to the Vieux Carré for their significance as French Quarter Revival style buildings. It is also requested that other 20 become contributing buildings once an age of 50 years is reached.

This additional documentation for the Vieux Carré National Register Historic District nomination will update the period of significance to end in 1968. A 2011 update added a new area of significance: conservation (Criterion A), at the local level of significance. A large majority of the buildings constructed in the Vieux Carré during the 1934 to 1968 period (the period of significance for this addendum) were designed in the "French Quarter style," for the purpose of blending into the district and, thus, preserving its character and feeling. This preference for the "French Quarter style" is significant at the local level because it reflects a historic preservation approach prevalent in the Vieux Carré at that time in preserving the "quaint and distinctive" character and feeling of America's second oldest municipally protected historic district.

Lynn Lewis (LL) asked if all of the new construction was on vacant lots. John Williams (JW) stated that in some instances, they were on vacant lots. For others, they did tear down older buildings. Peggy Lowe (PL) and others wanted clarification on which buildings are now considered contributing and which are not. Those that are already 50 years old are considered contributing under the French Quarter Revival style. Those that are not yet 50 years old will be considered contributing once they are 50 years old. Dr. Savage (MV) asked why some were marked red and are not contributing. Jessica Richardson (JR) responded that they are non-contributing because they are not in the French Quarter Revival style. LL asked if this document helps to fill in the gap with what is left after 1961. JR responded that yes, John has picked this project up after a previous consultant who started the project. JW found the rest that should be in the district. JR stated that this will set the document up so that ones that will be 50 years old later will be contributing then. MV asked if every single

building had been identified that will qualify in the future. Could a building be built today in the French Quarter Revival style and be contributing later? JR responded that it could be contributing in the future if it met the qualities of the style. He asked how you define what the French Quarter Revival style is and secondly, once you've done that, you have identified everything that exists in that time frame. JR explained that that is the inherent issue with districts in general because you approve a district as it is today. Nicole Hobson-Morris (NHM), Division of Historic Preservation Director, and Dixon Jelich (DJ), project architect added comments. DJ added that the Vieux Carré Commission doesn't necessarily make buildings look like the French Quarter Revival style as much anymore as they have in the past. NHM added that we use the date of construction as the important date in establishing a building's contributing status. For DHP's programs, we always ask what the construction date is. Tarah Arcuri (TA) asked if these buildings are linked to a pre-design guideline time period or not. JR explained that these pre-date the 1980s and were actually in response to conservation and the VCC wanted to have buildings built in this style to help promote tourism. TA further asked if there were certain characteristics each building must have. JR stated that yes, the original documentation adding French Quarter Revival to the district identified what makes a building fit that style. MV asked if all the buildings in this update have been identified as such, including buildings that will come of age, that are already constructed. Are we being asked to vote on buildings that have not been built? JR responded that no, you are only voting on buildings that already exist.

Martha Saloman then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Savage seconded. There were six yays and one abstention.

Mix Store and Post Office, Pointe Coupee Parish
Presented by Brent Labatut, nomination preparer

The Mix Store and Post Office is a one story commercial building that sits in what was once known as the Mix community, just outside of New Roads, LA. The Mix community was officially annexed to be a part of the City of New Roads in the 1970s so up until then, this store was the center of the community. Formerly part of a large plantation, the Mix Plantation, the store features many original elements including wood windows, wood French doors, wood siding, wood floors throughout the interior, and original wood shelving and counters in the store. The rear section of the building has a small apartment that was for the store manager and his family. One of the original sets of French doors was altered to house a window at some point once the store added the post office. That window has since been replaced with a new set of French doors to match the other two. This is the main alteration to speak of. Because of this high degree of integrity, the Mix Store and Post Office is eligible for listing on the National Register.

The Mix Store and Post Office is locally significant in the area of commerce within Pointe Coupee Parish because it is a rare surviving example of a rural store. Mercantile establishments like the Mix Store and Post Office played a significant role in the economy of Louisiana's small towns from the years following the Civil War through the early 20th century, when automobiles made it possible for people to travel further distances to shop. This store was especially significant for the small community of Mix, which remained its own entity until the 1970s, and was not only a place to shop and collect your mail, but it was also a place to meet with your neighbors as well as a formal meeting place for the community. The period of significance is 1890-1968.

Dr. Savage (MV) asked if the siding on the building is original. Brent Labatut (BL) stated that yes, the siding is original. It was under the later asbestos siding. MV asked if the replacement doors fit. BL said they had to alter the openings by like an inch to put them in. MV asked if the interior was also original. BL said yes, it's all intact. Lynn Lewis (LL) asked where the red paint color came from. BL said the red was there under other layers of paint.

Dr. Saunders then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Martha Saloman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Fifth District High School, Terrebonne Parish
Presented by Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator

Fifth District High School is located on Rousell Street at the southern end of downtown Houma in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Built in 1928, this simply designed frame school building is raised off the ground on brick

piers almost a full story, clad in original wood siding, has replacement six over nine windows (within the original window frames), a central entry with double doors and multi lite wood transom above, and a hipped asphalt roof. A portion of the space underneath the school was filled in sometime between 1931 and 1947 as seen on Sanborn maps. The interior features a central hall with classrooms to each side. Some of the classrooms include their original bead board walls and ceilings (the others have it in intact, but it is covered with sheetrock or paneling). The floorplan has not changed and there have been cosmetic updates with new tile flooring and wall finishes. Besides that, the school itself retains a good degree of integrity and would be easily recognizable to alumni of the school. Thus, it remains eligible or listing on the National Register.

The Fifth District High School is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of education and ethnic heritage because it served as the earliest and only secondary school opportunity for African American students in Terrebonne Parish prior to 1950. Most significantly, it was the first high school in Terrebonne Parish for African Americans. The Fifth District High School provided students with a well-rounded educational foundation that enabled them to progress to college and pursue many different professions. The period of significance begins with the construction of the school in 1928 and terminates in 1950, the year the high school was closed.

Dr. Savage (MV) asked why there are no representatives at the meeting. Jessica Richardson (JR) said that the nomination preparer's daughter is having a baby any day now. MV asked if the interest to list the building comes from the community. JR stated that yes, the interest comes from the owners of the building, which is now run as an African American museum.

Peggy Lowe then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Savage seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and Cemetery, Plaquemines Parish
Presented by Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and Cemetery is located along Highway 15 in the rural, unincorporated community of Point a la Hache on the east bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and Cemetery is a small district consisting of the church, cemetery, and three non-contributing buildings. It is significant at the local level for its association with the history of development in Pointe a la Hache and the community's relationship with the Mississippi River. In 1946, St. Thomas Cemetery was relocated to its present site due to reconfiguration of the Mississippi River and reconstruction of the levee. Similarly, the present St. Thomas the Apostle Church was constructed on this site east of Highway 15 in 1949. Three non-contributing buildings were constructed between 2005 and 2015 including a rectory, an auxiliary building, and a shed. The church and cemetery retain a high degree of integrity, with the main alterations being replacement windows on the church, and thus, the church and cemetery remain eligible for listing on the National Register.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and Cemetery is locally significant under Criterion A: History in the areas of community planning and development and Criterion C: Architecture. It directly relates to the development and history of the unincorporated community of Pointe a la Hache. The period of significance begins in 1946 with the relocation of St. Thomas Cemetery, one of two contributing elements in the historic district and continues through to the date of construction for the extant St. Thomas the Apostle Church in 1949, the second contributing element. The church and the cemetery help to convey the history of the development of Pointe a la Hache in relationship to the Mississippi River and reconstruction of the levee in 1947 by the United States Army Corp of Engineers. Under Criterion C, St. Thomas the Apostle Church is a Minimal Colonial Revival style church constructed in 1949 according to the designs of Theodore Perrier. Despite replacement of the windows and doors following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and alterations to the interior, the church retains a moderate degree of integrity as those character defining features of the Minimal Colonial Revival style which qualify it for listing in the National Register of Historic Places have been retained. In the context of Pointe a la Hache, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church is one of few buildings with architectural merit that remain extant. Further, no other Colonial Revival style buildings have been listed in the National Register in Plaquemines Parish.

Dr. Savage (MV) asked who the architect is, was he significant, if he was local. Jessica Richardson (JR) checked the nomination and the architect is Theodore Perrier. MV stated that he wished there had been more information provided about the architect. JR stated that she will add more information about the architect. Martha Saloman (MS) asked if this flooded during Katrina. JR stated that yes, it did flood. MS asked if the height of the rectory is where the flood plain is. JR and NHM stated that it likely is that high. Lynn Lewis (LL) stated that it would flood again if another hurricane came. MV stated that it is an extremely well built structure. MV said he'd like to know if the architect had any sort of relationship to the building and parish. He'd like to know more information about how the architect related to the parish. Peggy Lowe (PL) added that It would be good to know what the history of the congregation is, even though it's not why the building is being listed. The committee voted in favor that the nomination move forward with the stipulation that additional information be added to reflect the architect and his relationship to the parish and church.

Martha Saloman then moved that the property be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Saunders seconded. There were 4 yays and 3 nays. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.