



**Name of Property:** Maison Olivier (updated documentation and name change)  
**City, State:** St. Martinville, St. Martin County, Louisiana  
**Period of Significance:** circa 1815-1845  
**NHL Criteria:** 4  
**NHL Theme:** III. Expressing Cultural Values  
5. Architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design  
**Previous Recognition:** 1974 National Historic Landmark  
1997 Historic American Buildings Survey  
**National Historic Context:** XVI. Architecture  
A. Colonial

**NHL Significance:**

- This property was designated as “Acadian House” in 1974, a name based on erroneous historical documentation that is corrected in the revised nomination. Not built in 1765, or built by French Canadians driven from Canada by the British, “Maison Olivier” (its current name) represents an example of the influence of French settlement in the Mississippi Valley during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.
- As noted in the original NHL nomination, the house “is significant in being an authentic survival of a once common regional building type adapted to climate and immediately available materials.” The house is architecturally significant as a rare surviving example of rural vernacular residential architecture in the form of a “raised Creole cottage” characteristic of French settlement in the Mississippi River Valley.

**Integrity:**

- Based on available documentation, the house, which was restored by the state in 1933, retains a high degree of integrity of its main character-defining features reflecting a vernacular farmhouse.



- The property includes three small outbuildings constructed in the twentieth century. A kitchen dates from the 1930s when the site was acquired by the state. Three other small buildings were erected in 2005. A 1983 archaeological report identified the site of one outbuilding that was probably contemporary with the house.

**Owner of Property:** Longfellow Evangeline State Historic Site

**Acreage of Property:** .25 acres

**Origins of Nomination:** The owner requested the nomination update.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- Updating the NHL documentation will revise inaccurate information and fulfill the program mandate of maintaining the list of NHLs to reflect the most current scholarship.

**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None is known.

**Landmarks Committee Comments:**

**Landmarks Committee Recommendation:** Designation. Mr. Hoyos moved, Dr. Allan seconded; unanimous approval.

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of ):**