

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Houma Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: LOUISIANA, Terrebonne

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 83003640

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9.29.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Additional Documentation Approved**

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 9.29.15

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

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

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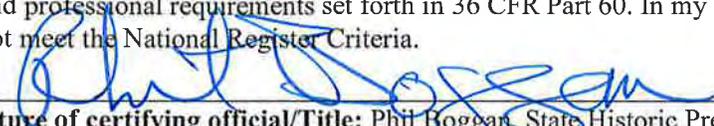
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AUG 14 2015

1. Houma Historic District Additional Documentation
2. State/Federal Agency Certification

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3. 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.

 8/12/15  
 Signature of certifying official/Title: Phil Boggan, State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

5. Number of Resources Within Property
  - Contributing Buildings: 85
  - Non-contributing buildings: 21
  - Buildings previously listed on National Register: 90 contributing buildings in original district
  - Updating period of significance for existing district changes 15 buildings from non-contributing to contributing. 6 contributing buildings now change to non-contributing due to inappropriate alterations.

**Section 7:**

Summary Paragraph:

The purpose of this addendum is to update the period of significance for the Houma Historic District, which was listed on the National Register in 1983, and has not been evaluated since that time for Register purposes. The district includes commercial, institutional and residential buildings. The current period of significance ends in 1933, following the Register's then 50 year cutoff. The present submission will bring the period of significance up to the present 50 year cutoff – 1965. As part of the update, a new inventory is provided as well as a new district map.

The new non-contributing rate is 20%. By updating the period of significance to 1965, the contributing/non-contributing status of 27 buildings changes (6 from contributing to non-contributing and 19 from non-contributing to contributing – these are noted in the inventory). There were 118 buildings in the original district. Today, there are 106 due to the demolition of 21 buildings and the introduction of new construction post 1983 into the district.

Buildings Constructed Between 1933 and 1965:

The researcher is hampered in determining the exact date of various 1930s buildings by the lack of city directories for this period. The only extant 1930s city directory is dated 1938-39. Sanborn maps skip from 1931 to 1947. The preparers of the 1983 documentation optimistically used the date circa 1930 for many of the

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buildings with an Art Deco or Art Moderne look and called them contributing. At that time, buildings were not researched in Sanborn maps or other sources. A date was given in the field based on the architectural style. But we now know that Art Deco or Art Moderne, at least in Louisiana, can be seen into the early 1940s (and occasionally as late as the early 1950s). Indeed, research for this update has demonstrated that a few 1930s buildings were actually not contributing at the time of the 1983 nomination. For example, the Art Deco Bank of Terrebonne (dated 1933 in the 1983 inventory) has now been documented to date to 1938.

The foregoing makes it challenging to agree upon which 1933-1965 buildings are within the scope of this update – due to errors in the old inventory. In consultation with the LA SHPO, only those buildings previously labeled non-contributing that are now contributing will be denoted in the inventory with Period of Significance Update in parenthesis at the end of the entry. For clarification, those buildings we now know to have been incorrectly dated, but counted as contributing in 1983, will bear the notation “counted as contributing in 1983.”

The following is a brief overview, in broad strokes, of the buildings within the 1934 to 1965 period in the existing boundaries that are being changed from non-contributing to contributing because they are now 50 years old.

Two of the now contributing buildings exhibit the Art Deco and Streamlined Moderne styles. While predominately Classical Revival, the monumental Terrebonne Parish Courthouse (1937; #19; Photo 13) has notable Art Deco details. A bit removed from the heart of downtown, at the corner of Barrow and Main, is a fully developed c. 1940 Streamlined Moderne gas station (#52; Photos 14-15).

A few of the new contributing buildings have a decidedly modern look and feel to them, but they cannot be “pushed” into a style category. They are not architect designed, rather a shopkeeper wanting that up-to-date look, but on a budget. Landry’s Furniture (#24; foreground of Photo 1) is an older building with a new (1940s) façade featuring pronounced linear bands in the upper façade (suggesting the Streamlined Moderne look) and a shopfront of brushed aluminum and sheet metal painted blue.

There are fourteen buildings in the district from the post-WWII period (specifically, built after the 1947 Sanborn map and before 1965). One, the former Terrebonne Parish Library (#55, Photo 23), is backward-looking for a building constructed in 1953 (having a stripped down Deco look). Two post-war buildings are small one story professional office buildings of a type quite common in post-war American small towns (#s 44 & 72, Photos 19, 21, 22). Another (#38, Photo 16), with its red brick “colonial” look, illustrates the historic revivalism that remained an undercurrent in the face of the dominant modernism of the period. Easily the largest of the post-war buildings is the three-story Ledet Building, built c.1960 across from the courthouse to house professional offices (#76, Photos 11-12). Four of the post-WWII buildings are residences.

### INVENTORY

Dating buildings: Where possible, buildings were dated using Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. maps (1898, 1907, 1912, 1924, 1931 and 1947). City directories were of more limited value, for the earliest extant directory for Houma is 1938-39. Where primary sources were not available, buildings were given a circa date based upon their architectural style.

Non-contributing buildings are those less than 50 years old and 50 plus year old buildings that have been severely altered. Decisions on non-contributing due to alterations were made on a case-by-case basis based on the

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nature of the alterations and the visual strength of the surviving historic features. Typically, it is the storefront level that has been modified or totally replaced. To give an example: For two story buildings with replaced storefronts, it is easier for alterations to be visually dominant if they are notable and the upper façade is quite plain and does not have good integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. By contrast, if that same building had a strongly detailed upper façade or a simpler façade with good integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, then one could argue that it remained contributing.

West Main Street:

Note: Main Street buildings have been renumbered using 4 digits since the district was originally listed. Also, the street is now designated West Main (not East Main as it was when the district was listed). The former addresses are in parentheses following the current addresses.

- 1) 7821 W. Main (formerly 225 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1950. A Knights of Pythias building with a three story tower was at this location as late as the 1947 Sanborn map. The present painted brick building, two stories in scale, is a circa 1950 renovation of an earlier building. (For example, the outline of windows can be seen faintly through the stuccoed façade.) The building is unadorned and ends in a full height brick shaft set at a 90 degree angle to the façade (a modern touch on a budget). The shop front is non-historic, but not out of character. Four three lite transoms, likely from the earlier building, remain above the storefront canopy. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 2) 7829 W. Main (formerly 305 E. Main). People's Bank/City Hall/Le Petit Theatre. Contributing building. Circa 1910. Two story free-standing Beaux Arts brick building with limestone details. Built as People's Bank; became Houma City Hall in 1934; later home of Le Petit Theatre. Façade features paired colossal Doric columns framing a grand round arch entrance capped with a scroll volute keystone. Other details include a fixed metal canopy at the entrance; an entablature with triglyphs, metopes and a dentil cornice; a stepped parapet on each of the two public elevations; and a side elevation divided into bays by brick pilasters. Windows (original) on the two public elevations are tall and narrow.
- 3) 7833 W. Main (formerly 307 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1915 (built sometime between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). While this building bears the name Bank of Houma, the 1924 Sanborn map shows it as a store with a telephone exchange on the second story. Two story structural brick Italian Renaissance style commercial building. Glazed cream color brick façade features elaborate glazed brick and terra cotta details. Façade first story features three great round arches resting upon piers with heavy molded impost blocks surmounted by a full entablature. Second story façade features three square head openings, each framed by composite pilasters with intricate bas relief shafts. Each opening is surmounted by a panel featuring a lion's head accented with swags and ribbons.
- 4) 7837 W. Main (formerly 309 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1920. Small one story brick free-standing commercial building with prominent rounded top parapet with a pilaster-like element at each side and a short squared member at the center. Decorative bands of brick emphasize the parapet shape and accent the pilasters. Shop front appears to retain historic configuration, although windows have been replaced and a metal awning has been added.
- 5) 7839 W. Main (formerly 311 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Circa 1980. Small brick free-

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standing professional office building with a gable end roof and a three-bay arched brick porch.

- 6) 7845-47 W. Main (formerly 315 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Circa 1980. Wide one story brick plain commercial building with five evenly spaced domestic-looking openings along Main Street. Wooden pilasters define the building's edges.
- 7) 7861 W. Main (formerly 425 E. Main). Contributing building. Former U. S. Post Office. 1934. One story red brick gable end Georgian style building articulated in three parts: a wide central block flanked by lower and smaller end pavilions. Façade of main block features three round arch openings accented with contrasting limestone keystones and impost blocks. Openings retain their original casement multi-pane windows, multi-pane lunettes, and at the center what appears to be the original paneled door. End pavilions (on front and sides) feature square head openings with limestone jack arches and original multi-pane windows. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 8) 7869 W. Main (formerly 501 E. Main). People's Drugs. Contributing building Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). Two story corner brick commercial building in the Streamlined Moderne and Art Deco styles. Beige brick building features a corner curving "tower" that rises above the main roofline. Tower features an Art Deco bas relief panel near the top and a People's Drugs neon sign. Shop front (in medium brown brick) curves around the corner as well. Shallow pilasters divide the front and public side elevations into bays. Side elevation features asymmetrically placed entrance pavilion that rises slightly above the main roofline. Pavilion is ornamented with bas relief plaques depicting a stylized woman, stylized eagles, and a stylized floral design. Windows on front are two-over-two; those on the public side elevation are of multiple horizontal panes. The most notable alteration is a metal parapet cap. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 9) 7873 W. Main (formerly 505 E. Main). Earl Williams. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). One story fairly wide brick party wall commercial building with modest Art Deco styling. Repeating horizontal features (of brushed aluminum, now painted) are found where transom windows are typically located on older commercial buildings. At each edge, parapet level, are short stepped elements suggestive of cutaway massing. Retains original shop front configuration, although glass has been replaced. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 10) 7877-7881 W. Main (formerly 513-515 E. Main). Jaccuzzo Building/Palais Royale. Contributing building. Circa 1910 building with 1950s details at shop front level. Appears as Palais Royale in 1960 city directory. This two story masonry commercial building was listed in the 1983 documentation as non-contributing and described as having an aluminum façade. Today the building has an intact early twentieth century upper façade and important elements of its 1950s character at the shop front level. Plain upper façade (stucco over brick) has two-over-two wood sash windows with cast concrete sills and lintels. Above the windows is a continuous simple brick band, and centered above that, the name Jaccuzzo Building. Shop front is replaced, but retains some of its recessed configuration (right two bays), as seen in 1950s terrazzo tile floor designs, mainly in red and green, one bearing the name Palais Royale, the other, Man's Shop.
- 11) 7883 W. Main (formerly 517 E. Main). Elks Lodge. Circa 1900. Contributing building. Two story brick party wall fraternal hall with parapet stepped at the edges; two-over-two windows at the upper story with segmental heads; and a prominent corbelled treatment above the windows. Openings at ground level

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(3) appear to be original, but windows and door themselves are non-historic, as is low-key balcony.

- 12) 7887 W. Main (formerly 521 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1910. Wide two story corner commercial building with a mezzanine. While side elevation is plain, the upper story of façade features a notable amount of decorative brickwork, including recessed panels under the windows; a band of layered bricks above the windows; and most notably, a band of bricks laid in a sawtooth-like pattern, a dentil band, and decorative recessed panels. Original façade windows (grouped in threes) feature a large single pane capped by a smaller decorative pane with muntins placed in a sunburst pattern. Slender brick piers (with decorative brickwork) extending above the parapet divide the façade into two large asymmetrical bays. Upper floor windows on the long side elevation are replaced. Two of the openings have been lengthened and small balconies added as part of a tax credit rehabilitation project. Two loading door openings appear to be original.
- 13) 7905 W. Main (formerly 603 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900. Wide one story corner commercial building with notable brickwork and an elaborate roofline silhouette. Seven prominent pilasters (dividing the façade into bays) with corbelled caps rise notably above the parapet. They mark the location of two equal size portions of the façade that are capped by decoratively shaped parapets. To the right is a two bay section of the building without a decorative parapet. A heavily corbelled band of brickwork at the parapet extends the width of the building, providing an element of unity to the asymmetric composition. Doors and windows feature a decorative segmental head. Most of the original two-over-two windows have been replaced with larger plate glass windows topped by a two lite arched transom. On the far left side, this necessitated removing the lower portion of the pilaster. The abundance of decorative brickwork and other details visually outweigh the window alteration.
- 14) 7913 W. Main (formerly 611 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900. One story brick commercial building with corbelling at the parapet level and a layered brick band below. Slender brick piers with corbelled caps define each edge. Shop fronts retain transom openings but are otherwise replaced with modern storefront systems within the original openings. All in all, the historic fabric is visually dominant.
- 15) 7931 W. Main (formerly 625 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1850 one-and-a-half story wood frame residence with inset gallery spanning façade. With the notable exception of a large pent dormer from the early twentieth century, façade retains its mid-nineteenth century appearance, including pediment shaped openings; porch posts and pilasters with molded capitals; and a cutout balustrade. (Balustrade is most likely a generation later – c.1875.) The pattern of openings on the side elevations dates from the early twentieth century. (A circa 1850 house would not have had paired windows.)
- 16) 7884-86 W. Main (formerly 524 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1900 (not on 1898 Sanborn map; first appears on 1907 map). Blahut Building. Two story brick commercial building located on a corner. Main façade culminates in a prominent heavily worked decorative brick parapet. Corbelled pilasters framing the central upper story opening extend to frame a central decorative brick section that extends perhaps two feet above the parapet. Similar vertical members accent each edge and extend a few inches above the parapet. Other details include one-over-one windows with segmental heads, an original cast-iron and wood shop front, multiple bands of brickwork accenting the top of the side elevation, and chimney tops with decorative ventilators. Rear fairly plain lower section appears on 1907 Sanborn. It has a pyramidal roof wood frame ventilator, which appears to be 1910s or '20s. In 1983, the shop front level

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was completely modern in character. Presumably the present shop front remained behind the accretions, for it looks historic (rather than reproduced). The only alterations appear to be the addition of shutters to the upper story openings and the present gallery at the façade, all since the 1983 fieldwork. (The 1907 Sanborn map shows a one story gallery across the façade.)

- 17) 7880 W. Main (formerly 510 E. Main). Non-contributing building (due to alterations sustained since the district was listed in 1983). When the fieldwork was done for the original (1983) Register submission, this was a largely intact circa 1930s F. W. Woolworth store. The characteristic stepped parapet remains, but it has been painted out in a single color. (Originally the upper part of the façade was red brick with white trim reinforcing the shape of the parapet.) The original F. W. Woolworth Co. signage (black band with white lettering) has been removed (where Mardi Gras Hall signage is now located). Multi-pane dark glass shop front is not in keeping with the building and dominates the façade.
- 18) 7868 W. Main (formerly 500 E. Main). Bank of Terrebonne/later City Hall. 1938. Contributing building. An entry in the 1938-39 city directory notes that the "Bank of Terrebonne and Trust moved into its new building at the corner of Goode and E. Main November 1938." Two story Art Deco corner building with two limestone-faced public elevations styled in the same manner. Prominent pilasters with reeded panels at the top divide the two elevations into bays. Details include bands of sawtooth design superimposed over circles, located above most second floor windows; large repeating scallops over the second story windows of the two entrance pavilions; panels with superimposed diamonds; and various bands of reeding. Entrance pavilions culminate in a pediment shape. Recessed windows (original) are mainly paired. Bank of Terrebonne appears in block letters at the top of the Main Street elevation. Modern canvas awnings over the two entrances are the only exterior changes. (This building was labeled contributing in the old inventory.)
- 19) 7856 W. Main (formerly 400 E. Main). Terrebonne Parish Courthouse. 1937, Wogan & Bernard, Architects. Contributing building. Classical Revival monumental three story limestone courthouse with various applied Art Deco details. A colossal Greek Doric colonnade dominates the façade. Art Deco details include the front doorway, two panels of stylized scroll volutes, zigzag bands over the upper windows, and large lamp standards at the steps resting on bases with reeded panels. Each side elevation features a central slightly protruding pavilion with two fluted pilasters in antis. A pediment shaped parapet caps the pavilion. Rear elevation (fairly plain) has been marred by a walkway that crosses School Street to provide access for a modern courthouse annex (latter not within boundaries of NR district).  
**(Period of Significance Update)**
- 20) 7832-36 W. Main (formerly 306-312 E. Main). Contributing building. Circa 1910. Wedge-shaped two story brick building built between 1907 and 1912, per Sanborn maps. Original details include an emphatic cornice formed of brick bands and brick dentils; contrasting red and gray brick laid in decorative patterns; and round head entrances on Main Street emphasized by contrasting brickwork. Shop front level is original, although glass has been replaced, and upper story windows have been replaced within the original opening. Present two story gallery is of fairly recent vintage. A one story gallery is shown on the 1912 Sanborn map. Finally, a fire escape has been added to the narrow western side elevation. Despite the alterations, the building easily conveys a strong historic character and hence is being considered contributing. The gallery is fairly slight in its visual weight.
- 21) 7816 W. Main (formerly 212 E. Main). Rybiski Building. Contributing building. Circa 1920. Small one

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story party wall brick commercial building with a fairly elaborate decoratively shaped parapet; an inset panel with the name Rybiski; transom windows (now painted over); and a historic shop front configuration. (The shop front is not original to the building. It is most likely from the 1940s/1950s, but is within the updated period of significance.)

- 22) 7812-14 W. Main (formerly 210 E. Main). Non-contributing building. This one story party wall building may be a remodeled older building. The only visible historic element is a shop front configuration that appears to be from the 1950s.
- 23) 7808 W. Main (formerly 206 E. Main). Non-contributing building. Notably altered one story c.1920 party wall commercial building. While the building retains its decoratively shaped parapet with an applied lozenge, alterations are visually dominant. Most notably, a door has been cut into the upper façade to access a modern gallery spanning the façade. Gallery has a strong visual character and weight. Above the door added to the upper façade is an awning, and the current signage interrupts the diamond shape in the parapet.
- 24) 7802 W. Main (formerly 200-202 E. Main). Contributing building. 1940s. One story older structure that received a new stucco front, presumably in the 1940s. Upper façade is vaguely Deco or Moderne, featuring a series of repeating linear bands in the upper façade, and at what would be the transom level, decorative applied shapes with a reeded effect flanking Landry Furniture signage. (The sign itself is presumably non-historic, but does date at least to 1983, per photos from the original nomination) The period shop front features painted sheet metal (blue) at the kick plate level. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 25) 7716-26 W. Main (formerly 104-120 E. Main). Contributing building. C. 1930. A building with this footprint first appears in this location on the 1931 Sanborn map. Wide and deep corner one story brick commercial building that occupies roughly one-fourth of a city block. Details include a pediment shaped parapet facing Main Street; shop front piers featuring contrasting red and cream brick, one of which curves at the corner; a contrasting brick band above the transom windows; and above that a red brick band formed of stretchers laid vertically. Shop fronts replaced, although transom window placement and size appear to be original. Shop front considerably altered in the far right bay of the Main Street façade, including painting some of the decorative brick, which disturbs the building's architectural rhythm). Despite these admittedly notable alterations, the building retains sufficient integrity to be considered contributing, given the amount of surviving historic material and the striking effects of contrasting brick on this quite large building. It reads as historic building, alterations notwithstanding.
- 26) 7712 W. Main (formerly 100-102 E. Main). Contributing building. C. 1950. Building assigned the date 1931 in the original inventory, but it is later. A two story building is shown at this corner on the 1947 Sanborn map. Wide and deep corner one story plain brick commercial building with period shop front shaded by fairly recent barrel shaped canvas awning. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)

Belanger Street:

- 27) 300-310 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). While this quite wide building with two stepped parapets looks like two buildings, it

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appears as one on Sanborn map. Other details include large transom windows, fixed awnings, and plate glass/carrara glass shop fronts. The only notable alteration is the far left shop front, which has been infilled with a smaller window, door, and glazed tile. (This building was identified as 2 buildings in the 1983 inventory; both were counted as contributing.)

- 28) 312 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). One story party wall brick commercial building with decoratively shaped parapet, transom windows (painted over) and non-historic shop front. Counted as contributing because of strong visual weight of upper façade. (This building was identified as 2 buildings in the 1983 inventory; both were counted as contributing.)
- 29) 314 Belanger St. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947, per Sanborn maps). One story party wall brick commercial building identical to 312 Belanger, including the same alterations. (This building was identified as part of 312 Belanger in the 1983 inventory and counted as contributing.)
- 30) 504 Belanger. Non-contributing building. Circa 1970 one story masonry free-standing commercial building.
- 31) 622 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame gable-fronted house with shed roof porch spanning façade. Porch features simple wooden posts and balusters and exposed rafter tails. Façade pierced with central entrance (with transom and sidelights) and paired six-over-six windows. Main alteration is the addition of vinyl siding, but this is outweighed by the numerous original features that remain.
- 32) 630 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story wood frame house. Roof ridge is parallel to street with projecting gabled porch at one end. Porch columns presumably replaced, for porch floor is now brick at grade level, with columns resting on short bases and vinyl siding has been added. A modern handicapped ramp can be found wrapping to the right side elevation, but does not negatively detract from the building's other original features. These alterations are superseded by the other extant original features – paired windows, entry with sidelights, and overall form.
- 33) 636 Belanger. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame house with broad gable (with Bungalow style brackets) spanning façade. Inset porch (occupying about half of façade) wraps around corner. Porch features slightly splayed posts. Façade windows are six-over-six, appearing singly and paired. Front glass door appears to be original; it is topped by a two lite transom.

School Street:

- 34) 101 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1950 one story plain brick commercial building presumably used as a warehouse. **(Period of Significance Update)** (Note: This building was not included in the 1983 inventory.)
- 35) 613 School St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame one story residence with rear two story section. Façade features two front facing gables (in the manner of a bungalow) and brackets at the eaves (also a bungalow detail). Porch is screened in, making it difficult from the sidewalk to see the façade openings,

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but it does have two doors with one window located to the right of the left-hand door. The window is a 6 lite sash over a one lite sash and appears to be original.

- 36) 621 School St. Contributing building. 1920s one story white stucco house in the Spanish Revival style. Details include red tile roof; projecting front gable roof that curves downward to cover entrance porch; round arch entrance to porch outlined in decorative red brick pattern; three-part front window with hood mold; Baroque shaped small vent in front gable peak with sconce-like element below; and a set of French doors with four lite transom above.
- 37) 627 School St. Non-contributing building. 1970s two story brick free-standing commercial building.
- 38) 635 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1950 (not on 1947 Sanborn map). One story, small, red brick, free-standing professional office building in the "Colonial" style. Building features a brick denticular cornice and a central entrance with a pediment and pilasters flanked by single floor-length multi-pane windows. Below each window is a panel ornamented with a decorative grille. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 39) 518 School St. Contributing building. Mid-nineteenth century wood frame house with inset gallery spanning façade. Large dormer added in early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Details include simple wooden gallery columns with molded capitals; plain corner boards (instead of pilasters matching columns); and a cutout balustrade. Façade window openings appear to be original, but central entrance surround does not appear to be mid-nineteenth century. Also, it has been filled in with inappropriate door and sidelight panels with large oval openings. Balustrades added at front steps.
- 40) 510 School St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow with two story section at rear corner. Because of dense vegetation, it is difficult to see all of the façade from the sidewalk. Visible details include a screened-in porch under a hipped roof; at least one set of French doors topped by a sidelight on façade; an original multi-pane window in the gable peak; and an original shed dormer on the side elevation. It is hard to determine from a public right of way if the original porch posts remain. The garage doors, under the two story portion also appear to be original.
- 41) 500 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1920 (built sometime between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). Former First Methodist Church. Red brick with limestone trim Classical Revival church. Two story worship space is set on a high brick above ground basement. At the center of the façade is a pedimented pavilion extending slightly beyond the main wall plane. The pavilion features a large round arch floor-length opening (with a keystone) flanked by shorter square head floor-length openings. To each side of the central pavilion is a double door accessed by a flight of steps. At each of the two side elevations is a central mass extending perhaps a foot from the main wall plane. It is dominated by three great round arch windows with keystones. Each of the flanking recessed bays contains a small square head window. Encircling the building is an entablature with a limestone architrave, a red brick frieze, and a limestone cornice. Above the entablature on each elevation is a stepped parapet.
- 42) 312 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. Houma Courier Building. As can be seen from the side elevation, this is an older residence set back on the lot that was almost completely absorbed in a much larger addition circa 1940. The older residence, per a historic photo, served as the newspaper plant prior to the expansion represented by today's building. One suspects the expansion was occasioned by

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the paper's shift from a weekly to a daily in 1939. The present building is two story beige brick with a vaguely Art Deco feel created by a brushed aluminum canopy with "The Houma Courier" in block letters above. Other façade details include horizontal pane windows (grouped in twos and threes) in the upper story; large plate glass windows flanking the entrance (with cast concrete surround) on lower story; and a stepped parapet. Side elevations feature glass block windows at the front and non-historic windows elsewhere. Front windows are boarded over and front entrance has been filled in. (Listed as contributing in the 1983 inventory.)

- 43) 302 School St. Contributing building. Circa 1830. One story wood frame house with five bay gallery spanning façade; round columns; Federal style central entrance with fanlight and side lights; and two floor-length openings to each side of entrance. Openings have original transoms, but windows have been replaced with storm windows and interior shutters. Central dormer looks to be made from salvaged parts. Despite façade window alterations, the building easily retains the bulk of its historic appearance and character-defining elements.
- 44) 206 School St. Contributing building. 1950s. One story small brick professional office building with wide recessed entrance at one end formed mainly of glass; low brick planter; door replaced. **(Period of Significance Update)**

Verret Street:

- 45) 107 Verret Street. Contributing building. 1950s brick veneer ranch house with low hipped roof that extends to shelter side carport and front grade level porch; front facing low pitch gable with weatherboards; traditional wooden porch posts; picture window. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 46) 109 Verret St. Contributing building. 1950s. Plain two story house with drop siding. Windows are not visible due to very dark screens. Small entrance porch may not be original. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 47) 211 Verret St. Contributing building. Circa 1915. One story residence with roof ridge perpendicular to street. Extending from main roof, at the edge of the house, is a gabled polygonal bay. Side shed roof section. Most windows are six over six wood sash.
- 48) 303 Verret St. Circa 1900 (not on 1898 Sanborn map; first appears on 1907 map). Contributing building. Well developed Queen Anne one-and-a-half story wood frame house. Busy roofline include cross gables, front and side dormers, tall chimneys, and at the front gallery, a turret-like projection. Gallery features Eastlake columns, brackets, and a spindle screen. Gables of projecting bays and gables of dormers feature fish scale shingles. Most windows are one-over-one. Those accessing the gallery are floor-length.
- 49) 303A Verret St. Non-contributing building. While this two story building is connected to 303 Verret above (via a one story connector), it reads as a free-standing building, and hence is being given its own inventory entry. Added since the district was listed and believed to have been built where a c. 1920 shotgun double was located in 1983 (305 Verret), it is a wide two-story, hipped roof building with a gallery spanning the upper façade.

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- 50) 537 Verret St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. One and two story asbestos-sided house with cross gable roofline and a small entrance porch with a wooden post at juncture of gabled masses. Windows are mainly six-over-six wood sash. Window at ground story of two story section replaced. Side carport is partially enclosed (may or may not be historic; does not appear on 1947 Sanborn map). **(Period of Significance Update)**

Barrow Street:

- 51) 300 Barrow St. Non-contributing building. Circa 1935 (not on 1931 Sanborn; appears first on 1947 Sanborn). While this former gas station retains its footprint, green tile roof, decoratively shaped parapets (front-facing section), and white stucco piers with green tile accents, its two once open bays (front and side) have been filled in for another commercial use. These open bays historically comprised 2/3rds of the footprint. Their enclosure has had a notable impact upon the building's appearance; hence the non-contributing designation.
- 52) 318 Barrow St. Contributing building. Circa 1940. Streamlined Moderne corner gas station with distinctive fan shape footprint. The edges of the station curve, curving piers define the garage bays (one facing Barrow and one facing School), and a boldly formed curve (almost a half circle) is at the corner. Horizontal lines are re-enforced by a green glazed tile base and various thin red tile horizontal strips. At the time of the 1947 Sanborn map, there was a single almost V-shaped overhang extending from the curving corner toward Barrow Street (to shelter gasoline pumps). This overhang has been incorporated into a larger covered gasoline pump overhang. Other original features include the copious glass windows in the large curving corner, original doors (with operable transoms), and porthole windows outlined in red. **(Period of Significance Update)**

Roussel Street:

- 53) 313 Roussel Street. Contributing building. Two story wood frame c.1900 Queen Anne house that received a Bungalow style façade in the 1920s. Northern side elevation retains original character, with gabled polygonal bay and six over six wood windows. Façade is completely Bungalow style, including a full width first story inset porch with coupled wood posts atop brick bases and brackets at the eaves. Upper façade is a sleeping porch.
- 54) 319 Roussel Street. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; first appears on 1947 map). Two story wood frame house with hip roof; small Colonial style entrance porch with round columns; entrance with sidelights; round arch multi-pane window above entrance; and one story sleeping porch on south side elevation. (This building was contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 55) 424 Roussel. Contributing building. Former Terrebonne Parish Library. 1953. While this one story limestone-faced building looks like it could be from the late 1930s, a different library is shown on the 1947 Sanborn map. The present building was dedicated August 2, 1953. Rather severely articulated (in the manner of late Art Deco), the former library features a central entrance pavilion that extends perhaps a foot from the main block. The edges of the pavilion feature a distinctive S curve. The central pavilion is flanked by horizontal pane windows grouped in threes. Side elevations also retain their original horizontal pane windows with brushed aluminum frames. **(Period of Significance Update)**

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- 56) 502 Roussel. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame bungalow with oriental-looking brackets at the eaves and screened porch with simple posts atop wood frame base. Metal awning (mid-20<sup>th</sup> century) at porch and side windows.
- 57) 510 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (no house on this lot on 1931 Sanborn map; house with this shape appears 1947 map). One story wood frame house. Front gable has asymmetrical roofline. Inset porch features Bungalow style short splayed wooden posts atop high brick bases. Façade's six-over-six windows are paired at the porch and tripled under the front gable. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 58) 514 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1935 (no house on this lot on 1931 Sanborn map; house with this configuration appears on 1947 map). One story wood frame cottage with roof ridge parallel to street. Roof accented with forward-facing small gable (with a round vent) at about the midpoint. Façade pierced by a set of four two-over-one windows. Porch that extends through to the rear is at right hand side. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 59) 522 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1900. One story fairly wide wood frame house with roof ridge perpendicular to street. Full width gallery features plain wooden posts with decorative brackets and pierce-work balustrade. Windows covered with storm windows, vinyl siding added, and new front door.
- 60) 600 Roussel. Contributing building. Gable end one-and-a-half story house with roof ridge parallel to street. House has present configuration (boxy footprint with half of an inset porch) on 1924 Sanborn map, but its predominant exterior materials today are from the 1950s (lacey wrought iron porch posts and partial brick veneer). Original wood windows remain and include six over six and three over two configurations (This was labeled contributing in the 1983 nomination.)
- 61) 608 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1905. Wood frame double shotgun with hipped roof and full width Eastlake porch (turned columns, brackets and spindle screen). One façade opening has a single door; the other with a transom and sidelight configuration. Windows on side elevations boarded over likely for security.
- 62) 614 Roussel. Contributing building. 1950s L-shaped brick ranch house with forward-projecting main block under low slung roof ending in broad gable facing the street; period carport at rear. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 63) 622 Roussel. Contributing building. Circa 1905 hipped roof shotgun with L-shaped porch (wrapping across front and down the side) and Eastlake porch posts. Home's exterior appears completely unaltered.

Goode Street:

- 64) 623 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow with similar details to others in 600 block of Goode, except that it features a jerkinhead front gable. Details include brackets at the eaves; paired three-over-one wood windows; a front entrance with sidelights; and a small porch with a vergeboard with linear cutouts, splayed posts above high brick piers; and a simple wooden balustrade. Front windows are covered with plywood.

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- 65) 613 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s. Virtually identical to 605 Goode St. Small wood frame bungalow with broad gables over main block and front porch; gable vergeboards with linear cutouts; brackets at eaves; and porch with splayed posts above stucco base. Windows (paired) are three vertical panes over one single pane. Multi-pane front door is likely not original; storm door added; balustrades added to sides of porch.
- 66) 609-611 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s wood frame double shotgun with a bungalow style front porch, under a low pitch gable, spanning façade. Porch features splayed wooden posts above high splayed stuccoed piers; vergeboard with linear cutouts, and brackets at the eaves. Windows on side elevation are original, with three vertical panes over one large single pane. Front doors replaced.
- 67) 605 Goode St. Contributing building. 1920s small wood frame bungalow with broad gables over main block and front porch; gable vergeboards with linear cutouts; brackets at the eaves; and porch with splayed posts above stucco bases. Vergeboards are deteriorated; windows and door have been replaced within the original opening size.
- 68) 601 Goode St. Non-contributing building. 1920s wood frame bungalow that is being counted as non-contributing due to severe alterations -- quite noticeable substitute siding (including boxing in the eaves); extension of roofline to right to provide for an addition; new pattern of openings on façade; and new lowered front porch.
- 69) 521 Goode St. Contributing building. Circa 1920. One story wood frame residence with brick accents. Extending forward of the main hip roof is a hip roof sheltering a porch located at one side of the facade. Pinkish brick pillars with cream brick accents define each corner of the porch. Pinkish color brick is also found at the base of the house, base of the porch, and a short pier at the steps. Palladian style entrance features multi-pane glass door and multiple pane sidelights. Metal awnings have been added to porch and windows.
- 70) 501 Goode St. Knights of Columbus Hall. Contributing building. Circa 1955. One story brick free-standing corner building that extends almost through the block. Front section has a flat roof; rear section (slightly higher) has a hipped roof. Body of building is light tan; accent bands of finely cast concrete are salmon colored. Façade features a central recessed entrance (covered by a flat roof awning) with a band of four tall windows to one side and louvered windows (alteration) at the other side. The tall windows feature a distinctive glass block pattern accented with salmon-colored cast concrete. The salmon-colored cast concrete band at the top extends across the façade, uniting the fenestration. Side elevations feature louvered windows (alteration). While the louvered windows are indeed noticeable, the building still makes a pronounced mid-century modern statement. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 71) 423 Goode St. Non-contributing building. Circa 1970. Brick hipped roof one story professional offices building with rear two story section.
- 72) 413-15 Goode St. Wurzlów Building. Contributing building. Circa 1955. One story free-standing mid-century modern professional office building that extends halfway through the block. The long public side elevation faces a parking lot (as when it was built). Orange brick façade is recessed about a foot from Goode St. Anchoring it at one end is a brick pillar. At the other end, where the recessed entrance is located, is a pillar with cutouts created in the brickwork (the latter a signature feature of the period). Also

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signature is the recessed entrance, skewed to one side, with a door flanked by a tall panel of multiple pane horizontal windows. Extending across the upper façade (between the pillars) is a white brick ledge. Immediately below it are two short windows (i.e., set high on the façade). Long public side elevation, also of orange brick, features a deep overhang and a rear entrance with a brick pillar with cutout designs (as at the façade). Windows on this elevation are original, consisting of three vertical panes. **(Period of Significance Update)**

- 73) 317 Goode St. Contributing building. Circa 1915. One-and-a-half story wood frame residence with gambrel roof; large pent roof dormer; wraparound Colonial Revival gallery (with paneled wood posts); paired two-over-two façade windows; a central entrance; and a gabled projecting bay at the rear of the southern side elevation.
- 74) 311 Goode St. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). One story hipped roof plain brick commercial building that is 50 years old (probably from the 1950s), but the alterations are visually dominant. They include the covering of the three windows with shutters, two new doors, and standing seam metal awnings on decorative brackets above the doors. Surviving from the original building is a low brick planter box.
- 75) 309 Goode St. Contributing building. Thatcher Hotel. Built sometime between 1931 and 1936. Not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map. 1936 WPA publication references it. The fairly plain brick building consists of a broad two story section facing Goode with a rear four story section. Details of the two story section include second story multi-pane windows (appearing in threes and singly); continuous cast stone bands above the second story windows; and three balconies. Regarding the latter, the balcony placements are original; the balconies themselves may be replacements and the doors accessing them are replacements. The shop front level (facing Goode) is largely non-historic. The deep four story section features numerous square head two-over-two windows; round arch openings near the corner at ground level; a paneled parapet facing Belanger; and added fire escapes on the Belanger façade. While the Thatcher Hotel has received the foregoing alterations, its abundance of original fabric and features easily outweighs the impact of alterations. (This building was labeled contributing in the 1983 inventory.)
- 76) 209 Goode St. Contributing building. Ledet Building. Circa 1960. Three story free-standing beige brick commercial building. Tall openings pierce upper floors on façade and long public side elevation. Each opening features a window-ceramic tile panel-window composition. Windows feature horizontal panes. Ceramic tile panels are predominantly white, with turquoise and pink accents. At the façade ground level is a plate glass shop front with a recessed entrance. **(Period of Significance Update)**

Church Street:

- 77) 300-304 Church St. Contributing building. Circa 1930 (between 1924 and 1931, per Sanborn maps). Haydel's Drugstore. Two story brick commercial building located at the corner of Church and Belanger. At the center of the main façade is a central mass with a decoratively shaped parapet and a single square head opening with a round ornamental arch above at the second story. At ground level is a deeply recessed entrance created with bands of brickwork (in a corbelled manner). Upper bays to each side of the central section feature windows with multiple horizontal panes (1940s replacements) capped by panels of superimposed vertical strips of brick. Shop front with its large plate glass windows, small transom windows, and kick plates appears to be historic (although some of its members have been

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stripped of paint). Façade treatment continues around the first bay of the side elevation. Remainder of side elevation is unadorned, featuring numerous windows with multiple horizontal panes at the upper level.

- 78) 308-310 Church Street. Non-contributing building. One story plain brick commercial building that appears to date from the 1950s or perhaps early '60s, but almost half of its façade has been reworked in a manner not in keeping with a building of this period and infilled with 6 modern (last ten years or so) doors and one large window.
- 79) 318 Church Street. Contributing building. Circa 1920 (between 1912 and 1924, per Sanborn maps). One and two story automotive facility located at the corner of Church and School. Labeled garage on 1924 and 1931 Sanborn maps and auto sales and service on 1947 map. One story section faces Church, with rear two story section fronting onto School. Wide one story section features a stepped parapet, three large display windows, and a decorative treatment created by various bands of cast stone Xs. Rear industrial-looking section retains its original multi-pane metal windows. Gunnite has been applied to its façade and one ground level opening has a new door treatment, but other elevations remain in their original brick state.
- 80) 402 Church Street. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). This one story wood frame residence has received notable alterations since the district was listed in 1983. Because the alterations are visually dominant, it is being counted as non-contributing. A 1982-83 photo shows a wraparound gallery with simple porch posts atop what appear to be wooden bases. Wraparound gallery has been enclosed (partially with a shingle treatment and partially with weatherboards); decorative panels have been added to the column bases; and faux Eastlake trim has been added to the gallery.

Grinage Street:

- 81) 300 blk odd side (no address). Contributing building. 1930s small wood frame plain house with gable facing the street. May have been a dependency to house facing School St.
- 82) 312 Grinage. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame cottage. Wood frame gable end main block with forward facing gable sheltering brick porch with three broad arches. Openings off the porch feature fanlights. Bay window opposite porch features three-over-one windows, the central one with a fanlight.
- 83) 306 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1905. Wood frame hipped roof shotgun with full width Eastlake porch (Eastlake columns, brackets, spindlework screen). Side elevations have original six-over-six wood sash windows, appearing singly and paired. Door and floor-length window pierce façade.
- 84) 300 Grinage St. Contributing building. 1920s. One story wood frame house with stuccoed façade and porch; hipped roof main block with hipped roof porch; Mediterranean Revival style arcaded porch with twisted Persian posts; multi-pane façade windows with glazing bars forming a round arch; wide front entrance with transoms and sidelights.
- 85) 219 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1850. One story wood frame galleried cottage with simple square posts and central entrance with transom and sidelights. Alterations include modification of façade

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windows (paired 6 over 6 windows and openings that appear to be filled in); 6 over 6 windows grouped in twos and threes on side elevation done during the period of significance; and application of vinyl or aluminum siding in vertical strips to the entablature. The rear addition, sheathed in board and batten, is historic. The house's historic character easily visually outweighs the alterations. It retains its identity as a mid-nineteenth century galleried cottage.

- 86) 205 Grinage St. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (built sometime between 1931 and 1947 Sanborn maps). Labeled furniture warehouse on 1947 map. Free-standing one story brick warehouse with stepped parapet and two wide bays. One of bays retains original beaded board doors (chain link fence added). The other has been replaced with a transom and garage roller door configuration. (This building was not included in the 1983 inventory) **(Period of Significance Update)**

Lafayette Street:

- 87) 202 Lafayette. Contributing building. Circa 1940 (not on 1931 Sanborn map; appears on 1947 map). One story brick commercial building that mimics the look of adjacent 7716-26 West Main. 1947 Sanborn map shows them separated by a very narrow space. They are now joined in brickwork that matches 202 Lafayette. The otherwise plain building features decoratively laid brickwork at the parapet. Shop front windows facing Lafayette have been replaced with a modern tinted glass treatment, as have windows on School Street elevation (which is mainly brick, with minimal openings). While the replacement windows are inappropriate for the building, when viewed from the corner, the building retains the bulk of its original appearance. **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 88) 300-302 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1950. (Building with a different footprint is on the 1947 Sanborn map. City directory for 1960 lists this address as Portier Furniture.) Two story plain brick free-standing commercial building located at corner of Lafayette and School. Main façade features at the upper story mainly paired six-over-six windows, and at the lower, large plate glass openings (one bricked in). Plate glass openings are fitted on interior with black blinds (making them appear dark in strong sunlight). **(Period of Significance Update)**
- 89) 308 Lafayette St. Non-contributing building. Set well back from the street, this two story asbestos sided building is a combination garage/residence. Of indeterminate date (does not appear on 1947 Sanborn). (This building was not included in the 1983 inventory)
- 90) 310 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. One-and-a-half story wood frame house in galleried cottage tradition with modest Bungalow style details (exposed rafter ends at the gallery, what were originally wooden posts atop high brick bases – posts replaced with wrought iron). A large pent dormer with 6 window openings defines the roof. Façade features window-door-door-window pattern of openings (with multi-pane windows and doors).
- 91) 316 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1880 galleried cottage. Porch posts and pilasters have molded capitals. Alterations include asbestos siding and enclosure of the gallery with weatherboards (at the bottom) and tinted glass. (Due to tinted glass, it is not easy to see the façade openings from the sidewalk, but one can see that the fenestration is door-window-door-window. The door on the left has sidelights.) Because building still readily retains its identity as a historic galleried cottage, it is being counted as contributing, alterations notwithstanding.

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- 92) 326 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1910. One-and-a-half story wood frame residence with gambrel roof and a projecting polygonal bay on the façade and a projecting squared-off bay on one side elevation. Porch with simple wood posts wraps around corner from front bay to side bay (porch partially filled in – as it meets the side bay). Single dormer pierces roofline. Windows are mainly two-over-two and six over two.
- 93) 400 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1910 (not on 1907 Sanborn map; first appears on 1912 map). Two story wood frame house located at corner of Lafayette and Verret combining Queen Anne Revival massing with Eastlake and Colonial Revival details. Two story polygonal bays on the façade and public side elevation extend from main hip roof. Two story gallery with Eastlake columns and a spindle screen at the upper story and Colonial Revival round columns on paneled wooden bases at the ground story. Original weatherboards covered by asbestos shingles.
- 94) 422 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1920. One-and-a-half story wood frame galleried cottage with a predominantly circa 1920 appearance (large pent dormer and Bungalow style porch treatment of paired wooden posts above high brick bases). Windows are paired six-over-six. Front doors feature multiple panes of glass.
- 95) 510 Lafayette St. Contributing building. Circa 1925. One story building with different footprint appears on 1924 map. Building with this footprint and detail (awning) appears on 1931 map (labeled auto storage). Free standing one story brick commercial building with gable end (with decoratively shaped parapet) spanning façade. 1983 inventory indicates that the gable at that time was covered in pressed metal. It now has an unfinished look, with exposed construction material (probably uncovered insulation). Lower façade (a little over one half) retains much of its original character, including multi-pane transoms; shop front with large plate glass windows; and brick piers with corbelled caps defining the edges. Because the lower façade retains most of its original character, the building is being counted as contributing.
- 96) 516 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story Bungalow style wood frame residence with asbestos siding. Front porch spanning façade features brick piers extending from the ground to the eaves; a brick balustrade; and low brick platforms defining the steps. Windows are paired.
- 97) 620 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. Modest one story wood frame shotgun with gable spanning façade and sheltering a porch with Bungalow style columns (splayed wooden posts on brick piers). What was once presumably a double shotgun is now a single family residence. One of door openings on façade has been removed and the other door replaced within the original opening.
- 98) 628 Lafayette St. (also 107 Point St.) Non-contributing building. One story metal building with gable end roof that extends the depth of the block.
- 99) 700 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. One story modest wood frame gable end double shotgun (shown on Sanborn maps as commercial at the corner and the other side residential). Brick veneer accent on façade is presumably a historic alteration. Front overhang has non-historic thin metal poles. One door has been replaced, one is boarded over, and one four panel door exists on the side elevation. Windows are boarded over for security. Nonetheless, building retains its shotgun form,

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weatherboards and pattern of openings; hence it is being counted as contributing.

- 100) 724 Lafayette. Contributing building. 1950s. Clad in corrugated metal, this functional building dates from after the 1947 Sanborn map. The address is listed as a beer distributor in the 1960 city directory; presumably it is this building. One story (large volume space) gable end main block (with roof ridge perpendicular to Lafayette) and side shed roof section (running the depth of the main block).  
**(Period of Significance Update)**
- 101) 802 Lafayette St. Contributing building. 1920s. This appears to be an older one story wood frame galleried cottage that received a Bungalow style gallery treatment in the 1920s (splayed wooden posts atop high brick piers). Windows replaced (aluminum sash with horizontal panes) and vinyl siding added.

Canal Street:

- 102) 317 Canal St. Non-contributing building (due to alterations). One-and-a-half story mid-nineteenth century galleried cottage that has received notable alterations. One end of the gallery was enclosed with a forward-projecting gable sometime after the 1947 Sanborn map; asbestos siding has been applied; aluminum awnings have been added; and windows on side elevations have been either replaced or are covered by hurricane shutters. Surviving visible original details are limited to some of the porch posts and one pilaster and the front entrance configuration (with a transom and sidelights). All in all, alterations are visually dominant.

West Park Avenue:

Note: This block-face has been completely redeveloped since the district was listed in 1983. None of the descriptions in the 1983 inventory match with buildings presently there. It is assumed they are all post 1983 new construction. Present addresses are used. East Park Avenue is now West Park Avenue.

- 103) 7910 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame Indian Ridge Canning facility in this location at time of district listing was destroyed by fire. Present building on site (a wildlife museum) is a large one and two story wood frame traditional looking building.
- 104) 7932 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame galleried cottage built within last 32 years.
- 105) 7936 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Wood frame and concrete block building with roof ridge perpendicular to street.
- 106) 7942 West Park Ave. Non-contributing building. Traditional looking, one-and-a-half story, wood frame, gable end professional office building built within the last 32 years.

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County and State  
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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**Part 8:**

New Period of Significance: 1910-1965

**Summary Paragraph:**

The Houma Historic District was listed on the National Register in 1983 based on local significance in the area of commerce – specifically because it represented the prosperity brought by the seafood industry in the early twentieth century. The period of significance was c.1910 to 1933.

This additional documentation proposal will add another case under Criterion A (commerce) for downtown Houma as the center of commerce for Terrebonne Parish (for goods and services). The end of downtown Houma’s commercial preeminence corresponds roughly to the present fifty year cutoff of 1965, so that date will be used as the ending date of the period of significance under commerce.

Until supplanted by strip centers and later malls, downtown Houma was the place to shop for goods and services for the large parish of Terrebonne. It was and is the only town of any size in a geographically isolated and decidedly rural parish.

**Houma Historical Background Summary:**

Houma is the seat of government for Terrebonne Parish, one of Louisiana’s southernmost parishes fronting onto the Gulf of Mexico. Roughly 40% of the parish’s 2,080 square miles is water. During the historic period for this nomination, Houma was the only incorporated community in Terrebonne – the only town of any size. For perspective, the entire population of Terrebonne in 1940 was 35,880, with 9,052 of those people residing in Houma.

Terrebonne (“good earth” in French) was established as a parish in 1822. The town of Houma (named for the Houma Indians) was established to be the parish seat in 1834. In that year, Richard H. Grinage and Hubert M. Belanger donated one arpent of frontage on Bayou Terrebonne for the new governmental seat. In the nineteenth and early twentieth century, agriculture (sugarcane) and the seafood industry dominated the local economy.

A seismic shift in the economy occurred in 1929, when oil was first discovered in the parish. The Texas Company (Texaco) brought in wells at Lake Pelto and Lake Barre in that year. The major field of Caillou Island started producing in 1930. Subsequent fields were Four Isle Bay (1934), Gibson (1937), Bourg (1952), Mosquito Island (1955), and East Caillou Island (1956). By 1965, there were some three dozen oil and gas fields in the parish (inshore) as well as 17 offshore wells in production. There were numerous major oil companies operating in Terrebonne (Texaco was the largest), as well as various smaller concerns. (Oil prosperity continued unabated until a slump in the 1980s.)

With all of this activity, the City of Houma emerged as the parish’s oil service center – the epicenter of oil related services. Like Shreveport in northwest Louisiana, Houma was able to ride out the worst of the Depression so-to-speak because of booming oil prosperity. Various indices illustrate growth in the city in the 1930s. Population surged from 6,531 (1930 census) to 9,052 (1940), an increase of 38.6%. Post office receipts were up 72%; telephone installations, 137%; and bank deposits, 180%.

**Downtown Houma as Center of Commerce:**

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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During the historic period, downtown Houma was the only center of commerce in Terrebonne – the only central business district. Proprietors and shopkeepers dispensed a wide variety of goods and services from buildings within the district. Coming to downtown Houma must have been quite an occasion to the families of this geographically isolated and decidedly, rural area. Into the 1950s, across rural America, “going to town” was a much anticipated, sometimes day-long event. And, of course, going to town meant downtown. An ode to Baton Rouge’s main shopping street written in 1954 is worth quoting, for it equally could apply to Houma’s Main Street: “Up and down this old street you can ‘window-shop’ to your heart’s desire . . . . So up and down this old street you can spend your hard-earned money both quickly and easily, because there is really something there for you to spend it for.”

Extant contributing buildings in the district represent a good cross section of commerce in downtown Houma, per city directories and other sources. Palais Royale Ladies Clothing and Men’s Shop (#10); Rybiski’s (#21); and 7873 West Main (#9, Houma Haberdashery) housed men’s and women’s clothing stores. The ubiquitous drugstore is represented by Haydel’s Drugstore (300-304 Church St., #77) and People’s Drugstore (7869 West Main, #8). The circa 1900 Blahut Building (#16) housed a general mercantile in its early days; by 1960, Morgan and Lindsey Department Store was located there. Specialty stores include: a music store at 7821 W. Main (#1); a furniture store, photo shop and jewelry store in the various shop fronts at #27; a furniture store in 300-302 Lafayette (#88); and a Singer sewing machine store at 7913 W. Main (#14).

Services dispensed from extant contributing buildings include beauty shops and barber shops (building #s 8 and 20); photography studio (building # 16); banking (#s 2, 3, 18); restaurants (the longtime Bob’s Café in #20 and lunch counters in the drugstores); Thatcher Hotel, the largest hotel in town (#75); and auto-related (a garage at #13, a service station at #52, a garage and auto sales at #79). Also, there were various professional offices (dentists, attorneys, real estate agents) in the upper stories of historic buildings in the district.

At least four of the buildings added to the district in the 1950s and early ‘60s were purpose built for professional offices. All are free-standing (as is typical of post-war professional offices in downtowns) and some provided for adjacent parking (rather than street parking). The largest is the three-story early 1960s Ledet Building (#76), prominently located across from the courthouse. The 1964 city directory shows it housing insurance agents (among them C. A. Ledet), lawyers, realtors, and Humble Oil and Refining. The two small professional office buildings at 206 School (#44) and 635 School (#38) housed insurance agencies in the 1964 city directory. Finally, the mid-century modern Wurzlow Building at 413-415 Goode (#72) housed the offices of Kermit Wurzlow, a mineral lease broker.

Downtown Houma’s last great decade as the mecca for goods and services within Terrebonne Parish was the 1950s (as is typical across America). The 1960s was a decade of transition, with downtown still a major player, but with competition from strip shopping centers. As late as 1964 (per city directory), downtown Houma was holding its own so-to-speak. The directory for that year shows the Thatcher Hotel still in business and very little vacancy in downtown commercial buildings. The arrival of enclosed shopping malls in the 1970s in or near small towns across Louisiana leveled the final blow to downtowns such as Houma.

**9. Bibliography**

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

<b>Houma Historic District Additional Documentation</b>
Name of Property
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**Photo Log**

Total of 26 photos

Photographer: Donna Fricker

Photo 1

Camera facing east

2/11/15

Photo 2

Camera facing east

2/11/15

Photo 3

Camera facing northwest

11/14/14

Photo 4

Camera facing northeast

11/14/14

Photo 5

Camera facing west

11/14/14

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation

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N/A

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Photo 6  
Camera facing west/northwest  
11/13/14

Photo 7  
Camera facing southeast  
11/13/14

Photo 8  
Camera facing south  
11/13/14

Photo 9  
Camera facing northeast  
2/11/15

Photo 10  
Camera facing west  
2/11/15

Photo 11  
Camera facing north  
11/14/14

Photo 12  
Camera facing north  
2/11/15

Photo 13  
Camera facing south  
11/13/14

Photo 14  
Camera facing north  
11/14/14

Photo 15  
Camera facing north  
11/14/14

Photo 16  
Camera facing north  
11/14/14

Photo 17

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Houma Historic District Additional Documentation

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N/A

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Camera facing north/northwest

11/14/14

Photo 18

Camera facing south

11/13/14

Photo 19

Camera facing south

11/13/14

Photo 20

Camera facing north/northwest

11/14/14

Photo 21

Camera facing east

11/14/14

Photo 22

Camera facing northeast

2/11/15

Photo 23

Camera facing west

2/12/15

Photo 24

Camera facing north/northwest

2/12/15

Photo 25

Camera facing north/northwest

2/12/15

Photo 26

Camera facing northeast

2/11/15

Houma Historic District - Additional Documentation  
Terrebonne Parish, LA

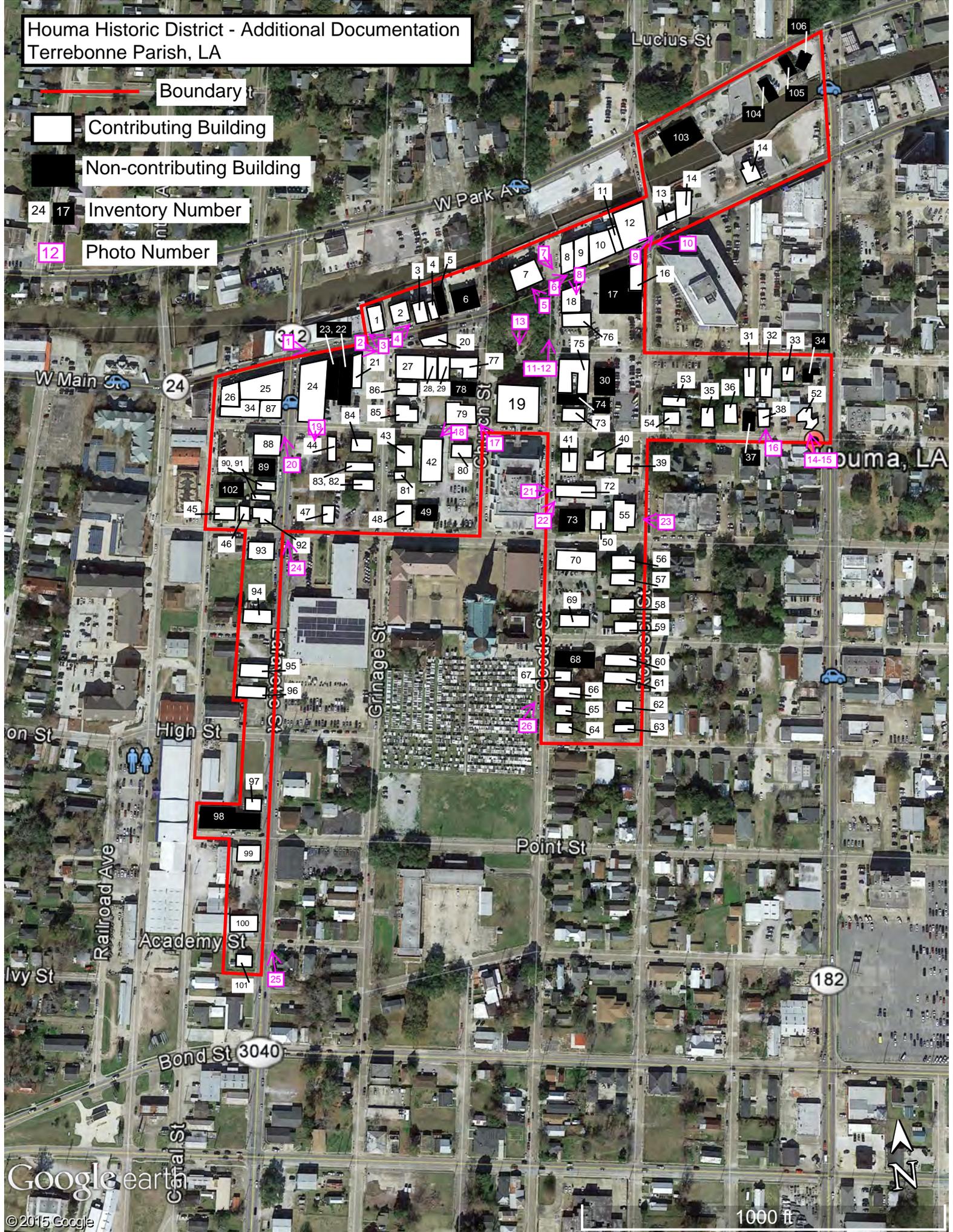
Boundary

Contributing Building

Non-contributing Building

Inventory Number

Photo Number





LANDRY FURNITURE

SALE  
CASH

SALE  
CASH

SPEED  
LIMIT  
25





WALK UP  
TO  
2ND FLOOR  
RAMP



RYBISKI

JOHNNY'S MEN'S SHOP

Cottage St

MILANO  
& Patis  
COMPLIMENTARY  
EVENING FISHING

FRIDAY SATURDAY  
Patis  
The  
house  
owners



MILANO  
& Patis



DO NOT  
ENTER

OPEN

Southwestern  
MUSIC

ONE  
WAY  
→





LE PETIT THEATRE

LE PETIT THEATRE  
LITTLE ROCK PARK

Hope Restored

9



Directional signs on a street signpost:

- ← Addicks Street
- ← Commercial Center
- ← MacArthur
- ← Riverside Avenue
- ← South Street



PEOPLE'S

DRUGS

ERRL WILLIAMS

BART SCRAPPEE  
MARK CLOVER

Earl Williams

The Monahan Agency

48  
87



USS TEXAROBONNE PARISH (LST1156)

708 Main St

Main St  
Goode St

WMS

FOR OFFICE

WMS

BANK OF TERREBONNE

7868 Main St.



Main St



ONE WAY

BILELLO'S  
CAFE



Russell St

CATALANO

78  
87  
MAIN  
Est. 1909



LEDET  
INSURANCE

EMERGENCY  
CALL 911

CITY OF  
HOLLYWOOD  
POLICE



PEOPLES

DRUGS

ADEL  
INSURANCE

TPCG  
100  
C



TERREBONNE PARISH COURT HOUSE



CAR WASH

1

Quality Products Gasoline

CONOCO

10¢

conoco



GTO

EMERGENCY SHUT-OFF SWITCH

Conoco

Fits U.S. and Import Cars

Shell





KENETH L. REMBERT  
LAND SURVEYORS

KENETH L. REMBERT  
LAND SURVEYOR

DCJ 886

Hand-drawn blue arrows on the sidewalk pointing towards the building entrance.



THE HOUMA COURIER





206



**HASSELL**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

300  
LAW OFFICES OF  
HENDERSON, REILLY  
& BOUDREAUX

300

**SAMURAI  
DRAGON**



WURZLOW  
BUILDING

ELECTRONICS DEPT

CLERK OF COURT  
JURY DEPT  
&  
PASSPORTS



TERREBONNE PARISH  
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