In accordance with ACT 302 of the 2020 Regular Session, the **National Register Review Committee** meeting on **Thursday**, **April 8, 2021**, at 11:00 a.m. was held via video conference. Matters on this agenda are critical to the continuation of the business of the **National Register Review Committee**.

## NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES Thursday, April 8, 2021- 11:00AM Via Zoom

John Sykes called the April 8, 2021 regular meeting of the National Register Review Committee to order at 11:02AM. In addition to Mr. Sykes, members present included Ava Alltmont, Dr. Robert Carriker, Guy Carwile, Turry Flucker, Peggy Lowe, Dr. Brian McGowan, Martha Salomon, and Dr. Rebecca Saunders.

Emily Ardoin welcomed the audience and committee members to the meeting. She also introduced all of the committee members.

Mr. Sykes then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Carriker so moved and Dr. Saunders seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sykes asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December's meeting. Turry Flucker so moved and Dr. McGowan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Under New Business, 3 nominations were presented to the committee.

## <u>Teddy Avenue Residential Historic District, St. Tammany Parish</u> Presented by Emily Reed, co-nomination preparer

The Teddy Avenue Residential Historic District is northeast of downtown Slidell, Louisiana, in the Brugier Addition, platted in 1909 as a railroad-oriented neighborhood. The nearby rail line connected Slidell to New Orleans. The district encompasses 32 residential properties and 1 site, a public park, on Teddy Avenue between just west of 3rd Street and just east of 7th Street and a portion of 4th Street between Teddy Avenue and Maine Avenue. It is characterized by one-story, detached, single-family residences constructed in the early twentieth century. Construction dates for historic-age properties range from c. 1910 to c. 1950, though most were built in the 1910s and 1920s. The architecture of the district represents popular trends of the era as well as housing forms that reflect local vernacular influences. The Craftsman style is the most prevalent in the district; Revival Era styles and French Creole examples are also present. The houses are of frame construction, generally clad in wood siding with wood windows, and have prominent front porches. Despite a few non-contributing residences and some material and design modifications, the district retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its architectural significance.

The Teddy Avenue Residential Historic District is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level as a cohesive collection of single-family residences that illustrate national early twentieth-century architectural trends and regional influences. It is the most cohesive and intact collection of early-twentieth-century residential architecture in Slidell. The district contains a high proportion of contributing resources and retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance despite some infill and alterations to individual buildings. The period of significance is 1910 to 1930, reflecting the district's primary years of development.

Guy Carwile expressed support for the nomination and made recommendations for terminology revisions in the architectural descriptions. Dr. Saunders also expressed support for the nomination. James Strain, a resident of the district, explained his family history in the neighborhood and expressed opposition to the nomination due to concerns about regulations for maintenance and alterations that might accompany the listing. John Sykes and Emily Ardoin explained the differences in regulation between a National Register district listing and a locally designated historic district. Mr. Strain then expressed support for the nomination as long as the city of Slidell did not impose additional regulations after the listing. John Sykes and Emily Ardoin explained that any future efforts on the part of the city to designate a local historic district would be separate from the National Register

process. Turry Flucker asked whether the property in question was contributing or non-contributing. Emily Ardoin and Emily Reed confirmed that it is non-contributing. Emily Ardoin explained the process of owner objection. Dwayne Lloyd, another resident of the district, explained that a local historic district was already designated in this neighborhood prior to the National Register nomination. Mr. Lloyd expressed concerns about the commercial focus of financial incentives tied to National Register listing and the resulting potential for increased commercial development in the neighborhood as well as the lack of assistance for homeowners to maintain properties in a way that retains historic integrity. John Sykes noted that any additional financial incentives that might become available in the future would be available to this district if it is listed.

Dr. Saunders then moved that the nomination be recommended to the SHPO and Turry Flucker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3014-3038 Leonidas Street, Orleans Parish

Presented by Gabrielle Begue, nomination preparer

Constructed between 1929 and 1938, the eight contributing resources located at 3014-3038 Leonidas Street in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, comprise 1) a visually cohesive row of six double shotgun houses (3016-3038 Leonidas Street), 2) a single-family raised-basement house (3014 Leonidas Street), and 3) a shared one-story, wood-frame garage. The double shotgun houses were planned and funded by contractor and private real estate developer Joseph Macaluso to provide affordable rental housing in Hollygrove, an expanding working-class neighborhood bordering the Illinois Central Railroad (present-day Earhart Boulevard). The six shotgun houses, which are in the Craftsman style with full-width front porches, occupy the length of the block facing Leonidas Street and are separated by off-street parking strips with a shared yard across the rear. The Craftsman-style raised-basement house at the southern end of the parcel near Earhart Boulevard served as an owner's unit. It is visually compatible with the rentals yet differentiated by its increased height and setback position on Earhart Boulevard. The shared one-story, wood-frame garage, which is currently attached to the north side of the owner's unit, was one of two such shared garages constructed for tenant use. The large parcel on which these eight resources stand also included two Craftsman-style raised-basement fourplexes (8612-18 Colapissa Street) that were demolished c. 2015 due to fire damage. There are no non-contributing resources on the site. Although all of the extant buildings have been vacant for more than a decade, they still possess a high degree of integrity, both individually and as a group of resources, and remain clearly recognizable as a cohesive, working-class residential development as they manifested in New Orleans in the early 20th century.

The eight contributing resources associated with 3014-3038 Leonidas Street are locally significant as a district under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a rare surviving example of a cohesive row of speculative shotgun housing, which was the primary working-class housing type in New Orleans between the 1880s and 1930s. Rather than the row houses or tenement blocks common in other cities, planned shotgun house rows were local developers' vernacular solution to the critical housing need that arose with the influx of thousands of poor and working-class people, primarily Sicilian immigrants and African Americans, during this period. The shotgun house's simple wood-frame construction, linear footprint, and adaptability to prefabricated materials made it possible to build these rows quickly and affordably in large quantities on the city's narrow urban lots. While New Orleans is home to thousands of shotgun houses in a variety of forms, these rows are distinctive in that they were planned and developed to read as visually cohesive groups of dwellings rather than individual residences. Since the 1930s, when federally subsidized housing projects became the new frontier of lowincome housing, the vast majority of these rows (approximately 84 percent) have been demolished or altered beyond recognition. The rare examples that remain with historic integrity, including the buildings at 3014-3038 Leonidas Street, embody this distinctive and localized use of the shotgun house type, which creates a distinctive streetscape and uniquely highlights the economy and adaptability of the shotgun to meet large-scale housing demands. The period of significance begins in 1929, when the first Leonidas Street houses were completed, and ends in 1938 with the completion of the development.

Paul Irons, who is developing the property, explained that his family is from the Hollygrove neighborhood and spoke about future plans for the property. Guy Carwile complimented the nomination and gave

recommendations for terminology revisions. Dr. Carriker expressed support for the proposed development and its continued use as affordable housing.

Turry Flucker then moved that the nomination be recommended to the SHPO and Martha Salomon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## <u>St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Avoyelles Parish</u> Presented by Jessica Richardson, nomination preparer

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church is located on a large lot bordered by S. Holly Street, St. John Street, and S. Mabel Street, about three blocks from downtown Bunkie in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. Built in 1925-1926, the church retains a high degree of integrity of its Romanesque Revival architectural style. The church facade features a large central bell tower, cascading side walls, a tripartite entrance, and two polygonal one-story projections on both the north and east ends of the façade. The exterior is clad in a red brick with stone detailing and multi lite arched windows as well as rowlock arch details in the brickwork itself. The church has a cruciform shaped plan with large arched windows on both side elevations and a Ludowici red tile roof. The interior of the church retains a high degree of integrity with only minor cosmetic changes to the entrance vestibule and to the altar. The original high altar was removed and replaced with a highly decorative mosaic in the 1960s. With a soaring arched ceiling, the interior of the nave is bright and airy and would be easily recognizable to any parishioners from the last 100 years. There have been minor exterior additions with covered entrance structures on the southern elevation and a small addition added behind the altar sometime between 1930 and 1957 for additional storage and access to the rear storage rooms (this was likely done at the same time as the interior cosmetic alterations). There is one non-contributing building - a c. 1957 rectory located to the west of the church, connected to the church by a small breezeway. Overall, St. Anthony's retains a high degree of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The only alterations are cosmetic and do not detract from the monumental stature of this highly detailed church within the context of Bunkie. For these reasons, St. Anthony's is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture, as it is an exemplary example of the Romanesque Revival style, within the context of Bunkie and Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. The church demonstrates the key components of the Romanesque Revival style including a fortress-like exterior, steeply pitched roofs, bold and heavy half round arches around doorways and windows, towers and projecting bays, polychromatic stonework, decorative plaques, and a "cathedral type" entry with recessed solid wood doors. It has stood for almost a century as an architectural landmark in Bunkie and retains a majority of its original architectural features. The church was designed by New Orleans architect William R. Burk, who was well known for designing many churches through the state of Louisiana.

Guy Carwile expressed support for the nomination and made recommendations for terminology revisions in the architectural description. Dr. Saunders recommended a revision to the tribal references in the draft. Martha Salomon asked whether the rose window is still present. Jessica Richardson confirmed that it is still present behind the newer mosaic panel in the church. Father Scott Chemino, the church pastor, explained that the rose window will be restored to be visible on the interior of the church in anticipation of the centennial anniversary of the church's construction. He thanked Jessica Richardson for her assistance in the nomination and the committee for their comments. He also noted that the church is planning an interior restoration in the near future.

Martha Salomon then moved that the nomination be recommended to the SHPO and Dr. Carriker seconded. The motion passed unanimously with one committee member absent during voting.

Emily Ardoin announced that the next Review Committee meeting would be held Thursday, August 5 and that the format, whether virtual or in person, would depend on COVID-19 guidance at the time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM.