

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Gillespie house is set near the massive Frogmore cotton gin complex in flat open farming country just east of Brushy Bayou. The house itself is a Louisiana frame raised cottage, three rooms wide, with a five-bay gallery and double pitch roof. Raised a full story above grade, the house is almost completely open at the ground floor level. English features of the house include its two exterior chimneys, its simple aedicule motif mantels, its emphasis upon the center with a central "ransomed, sidelighted double door, its simple corner block door frames, and its use of 6 over 6 sash windows and Greek Revival double panel doors. French features of the house include its lack of a central hall, its rear cabinets, and its use of three front doors on the front gallery.

The cabinets and rear gallery still exist in plan, but they have been adsorbed in a rear lean-to. Other changes include the slight lowering of the roof and the addition of a staircase in the front center room.

Specific dates                   c. 1843  
Builder/Architect            Builder - John F. Gillespie

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)  
Criterion C

The Gillespie house, despite the changes, retains all its essential features. It is one of the oldest structures in the area and stands as a fine example of a raised plantation house. In addition, it shows the combination of English and French characteristics which was common to many Louisiana plantation houses in the nineteenth century. Today houses of this type are rapidly disappearing. 9.

Major Bibliographical References

Title search, Concordia Parish Courthouse.