

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Elrose (1900) is a large, story and a half, frame, Queen Anne Revival house located in a residential area near downtown Lafayette. It has been altered very little and hence very easily retains its National Register eligibility.

Elrose has a central hall plan, two rooms deep, with a staircase set in an alcove at the end of the hall. Pocket doors give the interior a somewhat open character. There is also a rear "L" wing and a rear gallery. The front gallery wraps around the side of the house following the contours of an octagonal corner turret. The corner turret projects above the roofline, culminating in a flared spire. The complex roofline also features a central dormer and a very large side dormer. Each side of the house has a small projecting wing, one of which terminates in a polygonal bay under a gable. Most of the exterior detailing is in the Colonial Revival style, including Doric columns, gable end returns, and an oculus. The only exception to this is the Eastlake rear gallery.

The interior features "ransomed doors, catalogue golden oak mantels, and narrow gauge beaded wainscoting. The staircase has a heavy ornamental newel post with incised plant forms. Most of the windows are of the large plate glass sash type. Some are floor-length to enable one to step out onto the front gallery.

The only noteworthy change in the house since construction is the enclosure of a small portion of the side gallery. In our opinion, this change should be regarded as minor.

Specific dates 1900
Builder/Architect Crow Girard (builder)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
Criterion C

Elrose is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is one of Lafayette Parish's finest examples of late nineteenth-early twentieth century residential architecture.

The Lafayette Parish Historical Sites Inventory has identified some 111 residences which date from c. 1880 to c. 1920. (This figure is undoubtedly low.) Most of these buildings are relatively small unpretentious cottages with period details.

Elrose is conspicuous among this group because of the following factors:

1. It is one of the largest period residences in the parish.
2. It is one of only sixteen period residences whose roofline is sufficiently elaborate to have three forward facing elements- i.e., some combination of dormers, gables or turret tops.
3. It is one of only five period residences whose massing is enlivened by a protruding gallery which follows the undulating contours of a bay or a turret.
4. It is one of only six period residences which have turrets.

Major Bibliographical References

Historical Sites Inventory, Lafayette Parish, Section II. Prepared by the Lafayette Regional Planning Commission for the Lafayette Council of Governments. June, 1977.