

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Autrey House is located adjacent to the intersection of Louisiana Highways 151 and 152 near the small community of Dubach. Land in the area is hilly, but the house's immediate setting is flat second growth pine forest.

The house itself is a mid-nineteenth century square notched, half round log dog trot structure with hewn joists and circular sawn floor boards. There are two, end wall, exterior chimneys, one of which is constructed of local ironstone in undressed chunks and the other of brick. Presumably the brick chimney is a later addition, but this is not certain.

At the turn of the century the following changes were made:

- (1) The roof was replaced.
- (2) A lower porch roof was built which caused the old chamfered columns to be cut.
- (3) Windows were added
- (4) The rear porch was enclosed with board and batten siding.

The tin roof covering is more recent. Although the sleeping loft can be reached only by means of a ladder from the back gallery, it was apparently well used. Another noteworthy feature is the broad front porch rails which are carved into benches.

Specific dates	1849
Builder/Architect	Absalom Autrey

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
Criterion C

The Autrey House is significant in the area of architecture as an unusual example of an important early Louisiana house type. Few dog trot houses survive in Louisiana and fewer still, less than ten, retain the open dog trot corridor, as does the Autrey House.

The Autrey House is also important because it represents the early settlement of its area of Lincoln parish. According to oral history accounts from the builder's descendants, Absalom Autrey was the first settler in the area of what is now Dubach. Family tradition says that Absalom Autrey and his family moved west from Selma, Alabama by wagon train in 1848. He, his wife, and fourteen children are believed to be the first white people to cross what is now known as Bird Creek just west of Dubach, Louisiana. They crossed the creek and located at the present site of the Autrey House on Christmas Eve, 1848. Louisiana Patent Records notes Autrey's location on January 5, 1849.

The Autrey family was also important in the educational and religious development of the area. The Autrey School House, as it was known, was built on a hill west of the Autrey House. The 1860 census shows that James Jackson Autrey, an older son of Absalom, was a teacher of common school. He was probably the first teacher at the Autrey School. Other teachers boarded at the Autrey House over the year. The school also served as a meeting place for the Primitive Baptist Church. After church meetings people gathered at the Autrey House for meals and overnight visits.

Major Bibliographical References

Title Search, Lincoln Parish Courthouse

"History of the Autrey Home," Ruston Daily Leader, January 21, 1980.

Research Report Prepared by Rowland P. Gill, Curator, and Susan Roach Lankford, Folklorist,
Lincoln Parish Museum and Historical Society, located in Autrey House National Register
File, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.