

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fred B. Dubach House (c.1900) is a two-story, frame, Queen Anne-Colonial Revival structure located in a suburban setting on the south side of the town of Dubach. Despite a few alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

The house has a central hall plan, essentially two rooms deep, with a small single story rear wing. Architecturally the house amounts to a two-story, greatly enlarged version of an ordinary Queen Anne Revival cottage (i.e., a cottage with a forward facing gabled pavilion on one side and a gallery taking up the rest of the facade). In this case the asymmetrical front gallery has taken the form of a monumental four column Doric portico with a full entablature and a balustrade. The house also features small balustraded side wings which extend the ground story-rooms. In addition, the high pyramid roof is surmounted by a balustraded deck.

The one remaining chimney has a corbel top and inset panels. For the most part, the exterior surface is relatively plain with narrow gauge clapboards and slight corner pilasters. The front of the forward facing gable is completely louvered. Most of the two over two plate glass windows are set in groups of two.

The interiors are also relatively plain. The single remaining mantel is of the golden oak type. At the base of the staircase is a quarter sunburst motif.

Since construction the following changes have been made in the house:

1. In about 1930 the front doorway and some of the interior doors were replaced.
2. As previously mentioned, all but one of the original mantels have been lost, and only one of the two chimneys remains.
3. The original rear wing has been enlarged and incorporated into a recreation room.
4. A carport has been added at the rear.

Assessment of Integrity:

Despite the changes, the house retains the features (mentioned in Item S) which contribute to its architectural significance. Moreover, it easily retains its historical identity as the house associated with the founding of Dubach. Most of its original features remain, including the most distinctive ones.

Specific dates            c.1900  
Builder/Architect        Fred B. Dubach

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)  
Criteria B & C

The Dubach House is locally significant in the area of exploration/settlement because it was the home of Fred B. Dubach, the man who is regarded as the founder of the town of Dubach. It is also architecturally significant on the local level because it is considered the finest historic residence in the town of Dubach.

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT:

Although there were settlers in the Dubach area as early as the late-1840's, the town's origins date to the arrival of the Arkansas Southern Railway in 1898. With the coming of the railroad, the way was opened for the development of the lumber industry. In 1899, Fred B. Dubach, a lumberman from St. Louis, Missouri, arrived in the area and started the Dubach Lumber Company. Shortly thereafter he built the house under consideration. His lumber mill was located across the road. An old aerial photograph indicates that the lumber mill was by far the largest building in town

and visually dominated the townscape. Undoubtedly the Dubach Lumber Company was a major factor in the growth and development of what in 1901 was chartered as the town of Dubach. A few years later (c. 1906), Dubach sold his mill and home and returned to St. Louis.

#### ARCHITECTURE:

The Dubach House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is considered the finest historic residence in the town of Dubach. Compared with the low-scale Queen Anne Revival cottages and bungalows which characterize the older sections of town, the Dubach House stands out because of its size, its monumental portico, and its elaborately decorated balustraded mass. In many ways it is the residential landmark of Dubach.

#### Major Bibliographical References

Fletcher, Mary Frances and Ropp, Ralph L., editors, Lincoln Parish History, Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1976.

Ruston Daily Leader, Lincoln Parish Centennial Edition, September 26, 1973.

Personal communication with Rowland Gill, Curator, Lincoln Parish Museum and Historical Society.