

The Reese Agriculture Building (1939) is a large two-story brick building located at what is called "Tech Farm." This small satellite campus is about a mile to the southwest of Louisiana Tech's main campus. Because Reese Agriculture Building is functional rather than ornamental, with only very slight stylistic influences, the term "no style" is being used in the data retrieval portion of this form. Alterations have been confined to the interior.

Reese hall, as it is known today, is the classroom/laboratory building at Tech Farm. It has a hipped roof main block with a flat roof wing attached at the middle of the rear elevation. It complements other 1930s buildings on the main campus in certain respects, but in a low-key fashion. Like other buildings from the 1930s construction boom, Reese's brown and red brickwork resembles the textured effect found on colonial buildings where burnt headers were used. Other similar features are multi-pane windows (in this case, nine over nine grouped in pairs), fairly thick window frames, and recessed entrances with paneling on the interior side walls. The classically derived cast-concrete front entrance features simple piers and a simple entablature.

Like other historic buildings at Louisiana Tech, the interior has been modernized, although it should be noted that it was always very functional, consisting of classrooms grouped off hallways. The interior retains its original simple staircases and its stuccoed walls. Alterations include new tile floors and dropped celotex ceilings.

Assessment of Integrity:

Because Reese Agriculture Building would be immediately recognizable to someone from the historic period, it meets the integrity test for significance under Criterion A.

SIGNIFICANT DATES:	1939-40
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:	Neild, Somdal & Neild, Architects C.E. Andrews, Contractor
CRITERION:	A

The Reese Agriculture Building is of local significance in the area of education because it is an important component of a critical chapter in Louisiana Tech's history, the great construction boom of the 1930s which increased the physical plant by one-third, including numerous major buildings. See the multiple property cover form "The 1930s Building Boom at Louisiana Tech" for a fuller statement of significance. Although most of the 1930s construction was on the main campus, the classroom/lab building added at Tech Farm represented a quantum leap forward for the newly established School of Agriculture, with Raymond L. Reese as its first dean. By at least 1945 the large agriculture building, with its classrooms and labs, bears Reese's name. At roughly the same time it was being built, additional acreage was being acquired for Tech Farm. With the new construction, the creation of the School of Agriculture, and the expansion of acreage, Tech Farm "came of age" so-to-speak in the 1930s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

See multiple property cover form's bibliography.