

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Main Street not for publication

city, town New Roads vicinity of congressional district 8th--Gillis Long

state LA code 22 county Pointe Coupee Parish code 077

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury Adam J. Martin, President

street & number P.O. Box J

city, town New Roads vicinity of state LA 70760

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse

street & number

city, town New Roads state LA

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title La. Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records La. State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse is set behind a small public square in the twentieth century main commercial area of New Roads. The two story, bearing wall brick building has a central entrance with a central hall plan. The hall is flanked by parish offices and has a wooden staircase set off to the side at each end. A large rectangular courtroom occupies most of the second floor. In front is a set of judges' chambers and to the rear is the jury room.

This more or less conventional courthouse plan is articulated in the Romanesque Revival style. The front entrance is set within a broad arch which is part of a heavy rusticated brick ground story. The entrance is flanked by a pair of round turrets which continue through the smoother second story and terminate above the cornice line with conical roofs. The east turret contains a curving staircase. A broad square central tower rises 2 stories above the turrets and terminates in a squat octagonal spire. The spire is encompassed by 4 gables and 4 tiny corner towers.

The first story of the courthouse has flat head windows. The second story has round head windows with brick hood molds. The cornices for both the main block and the tower are formed of protruding brick headers turned on end in the manner of blind arcading. The top story of the tower has a clock on each face.

The courthouse is symmetrically articulated and its major architectural features (turrets and tower) are mainly intended to give an impressive facade. The sides of the building are not articulated beyond the type of window and cornice treatment seen on the front.

In 1939 a large rear two story Art Deco wing was added. This wing is not readily noticeable from the front square. At this time the interiors of the old courthouse were almost completely remodeled. The 2 staircases with their urn surmounted newels and some of the woodwork in the judges' chambers are all that remains.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1902 **Builder/Architect** A. J. Bryan and Company, Jackson, Miss.

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criteria A and C

The Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse is significant in the area of architecture because of its Romanesque Revival exterior articulation. It reflects a nationwide trend for public buildings in the late-nineteenth century. At one time there were approximately 16 fully developed Romanesque Revival parish courthouses in Louisiana. Today the Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse is one of only 4 which remain and one of only 2 still in use as a courthouse. It is also a landmark in the town of New Roads because it is the town's tallest, most elaborately styled building. The courthouse's only major competition for landmark status in New Roads is St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. This is a 1906 basilica which has simpler overall massing than the courthouse, and unlike the courthouse, it does not have a steeple.

The architect of record for the Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse was Andrew J. Bryan of Jackson, Mississippi. He was listed as a builder in one of his other commissions. He is known to have designed the Jefferson County Courthouse (1901) and the Monroe County Jail (1904), both in Mississippi.

The Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse is also significant in the area of politics/government because it has been the seat of parish government since its construction in 1902.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Brasseaux, Carl A., Conrad, Glenn R., and Robison, R. Warren. The Courthouses of Louisiana. USL Architecture Series No. 1, Center for Louisiana Studies, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana.  
 Mississippi Statewide Historic Sites Survey. Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED  
 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle name New Roads, La.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	5	6	5	0	1	4	0	3	13	9	16	5	4	0
Zone			Easting			Northing								

B 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

C 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

D 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

E 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

F 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

G 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

H 

Zone			Easting			Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached sketch map.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury Adam J. Martin, President  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date June 1981  
 street & number P.O. Box J telephone home phone number of President of Police Jury--694-3392  
 city or town New Roads state LA 70760

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

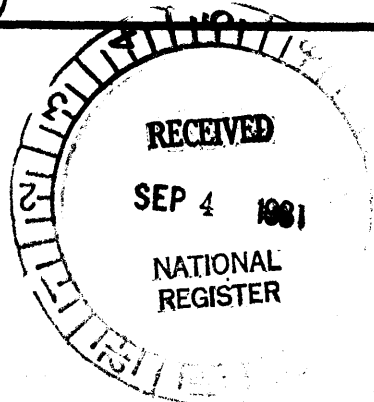
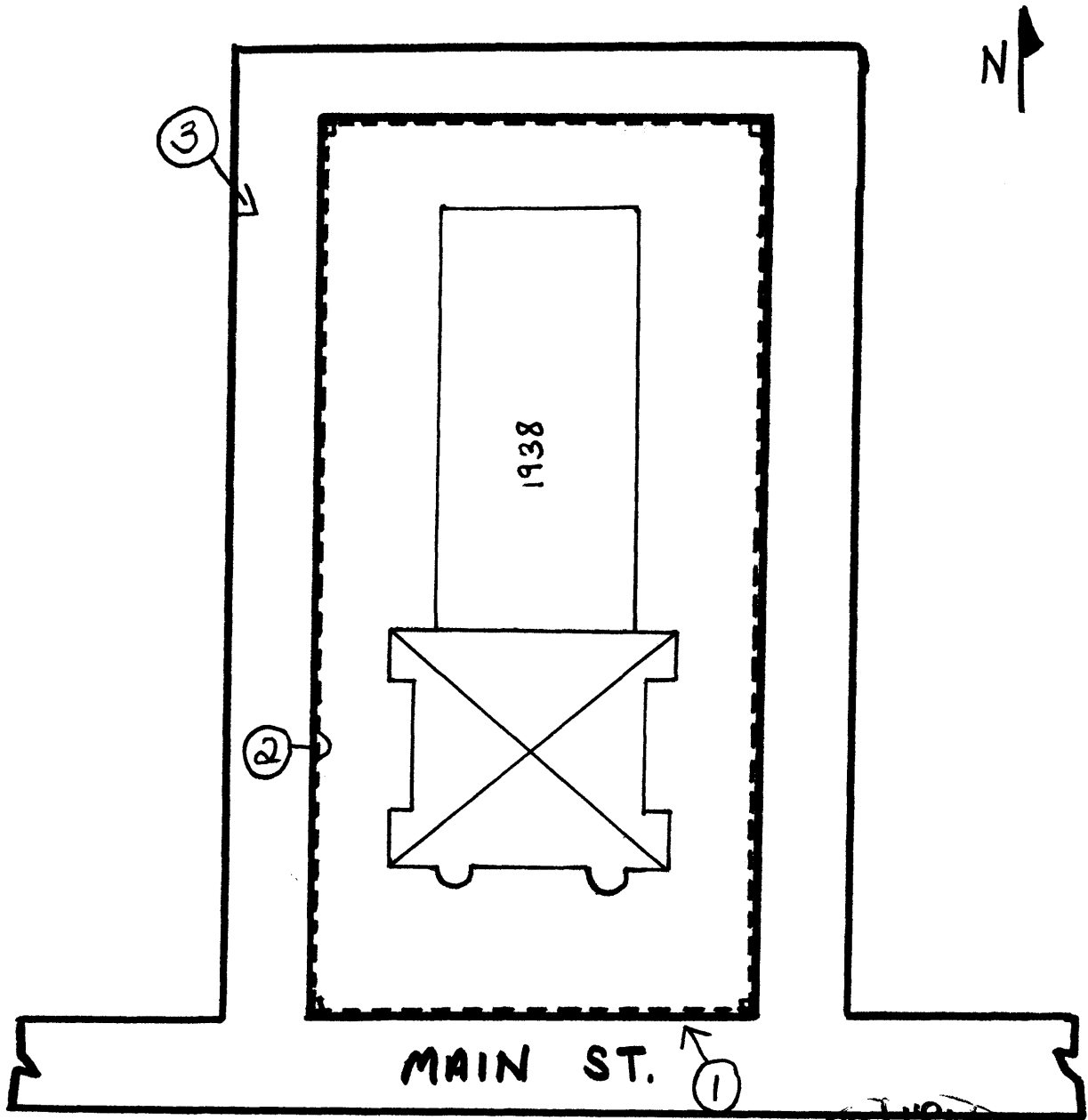
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date August 27, 1981

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>[Signature]</i>	date <u>10/7/81</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registrar	

Pointe Coupee Parish  
Courthouse,  
New Roads, Louisiana



OCT 7 1981