

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received JUL 10 1986  
date entered 8-13-86

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

**1. Name**

historic Sebastopol Plantation House

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number LA 46 N/A not for publication

city, town St. Bernard  vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish St. Bernard code 087  
~~county~~

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name James I. and Maude Bergeron Lewis (504) 682-5625

street & number Rt. 4, Box 43

city, town St. Bernard  vicinity of state LA 70085

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Bernard Parish Courthouse

street & number St. Bernard Highway P. O. Box 146

city, town Chalmette state LA 70044

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title LA Historic Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1982  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

# 7. Description

<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 <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

Sebastopol (c.1830) is a single story Creole frame plantation house located on a large suburban lot on the outskirts of the Greater New Orleans Metroplex. Despite some alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

Sebastopol has a typical Creole hall-less plan with a front gallery, two front rooms, two rear rooms and a small rear gallery set between cabinets. The four major rooms have fireplaces served by a pair of centrally placed chimneys. The rooms and galleries are encompassed by a massive pitched roof. The house is entered through four sets of French doors with Greek Revival fretwork style transoms. The interior features Greek Revival two panel doors and four identical French wraparound mantels with Federal moldings and end pilasters which have a very attenuated entasis.

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

1. In 1896 a side kitchen wing with a decorative vergeboard cornice was added.
2. In 1915 a hurricane damaged the roof, but it was repaired with the same pitch.
3. In 1934 the front gallery columns were evidently removed and replaced with the present Colonial Revival square posts. Columns which appear to be contemporaneous with the house can now be found on the porch of the aforementioned 1896 kitchen wing. How they got there is not known, but the State Historic Preservation Office staff feels reasonably sure that these columns came from elsewhere on the house.
4. In about 1934 the rear gallery was enclosed and the present side windows were added.
5. More recently, the interior walls have been re-sheathed in fiberboard, the chimney tops have been removed, and shutters have been added to the front.

## Assessment of Integrity

Despite these changes, Sebastopol's architectural identity and very significant mantels remain. In any case, it should be noted that most of St. Bernard Parish's earliest houses have been substantially altered. For example, of the six Creole plantation houses remaining in the parish, only one has its original columns. Sebastopol's integrity is comparable to other early houses in the area, and so it should not be regarded as a locally inferior example of its style based on this issue.

To the rear of the house is a small apparently contemporaneous pigeonier which is listed as a contributing element. It is all that remains of a two-story pigeonier which was blown down by the aforementioned 1915 hurricane. The present structure is the upper half.

Also to the rear of the house is a modern metal sided garage which, of course, is listed as a non-contributing element.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c.1830 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Pierre Marin

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criterion C

Sebastopol Plantation House is locally significant in the area of architecture as an important remnant of St. Bernard Parish's Creole architectural heritage.

The Creole style of architecture, which was once dominant, is almost gone from St. Bernard Parish. Today it is represented by fifty or so cabins of various sizes, most of which date from the early twentieth century, and by six early nineteenth century plantation houses. As previously mentioned, Sebastopol is fairly typical of this second group in terms of integrity. Like most of the others, it retains its form and massing, as well as most of its interior details, but has lost its columns. However, unlike some of the others, Sebastopol features important interior woodwork. According to the St. Bernard Parish Historic Structures Survey, Sebastopol is one of three Creole plantation houses with wraparound mantels. Moreover, the mantels at Sebastopol are unusually fine and rare. The pilaster design is probably based upon Creole plantation house columns set in elevation. But whatever its provenance, noted architectural historians Bernard Lemann and Gene Cizek have remarked that it appears to be unique in Creole architecture.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical sketch submitted by St. Bernard Parish Planning Commission, Based upon research in conveyance records and consultation with William Hyland, St. Bernard Assistant Parish Historian.  
St. Bernard Parish Historic Structures Survey, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 3 1/2 acres

Quadrangle name Delacroix

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	5	2	2	2	5	0	0	3	3	0	7	4	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary lines follow property lines, Please refer to attached property plat map,

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNER AND ST. BERNARD PARISH PLANNING COMMISSION

organization Division of Historic Preservation  
State of Louisiana date May 1986

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 922-0358

city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

## 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date July 1, 1986

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 8-13-86

  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

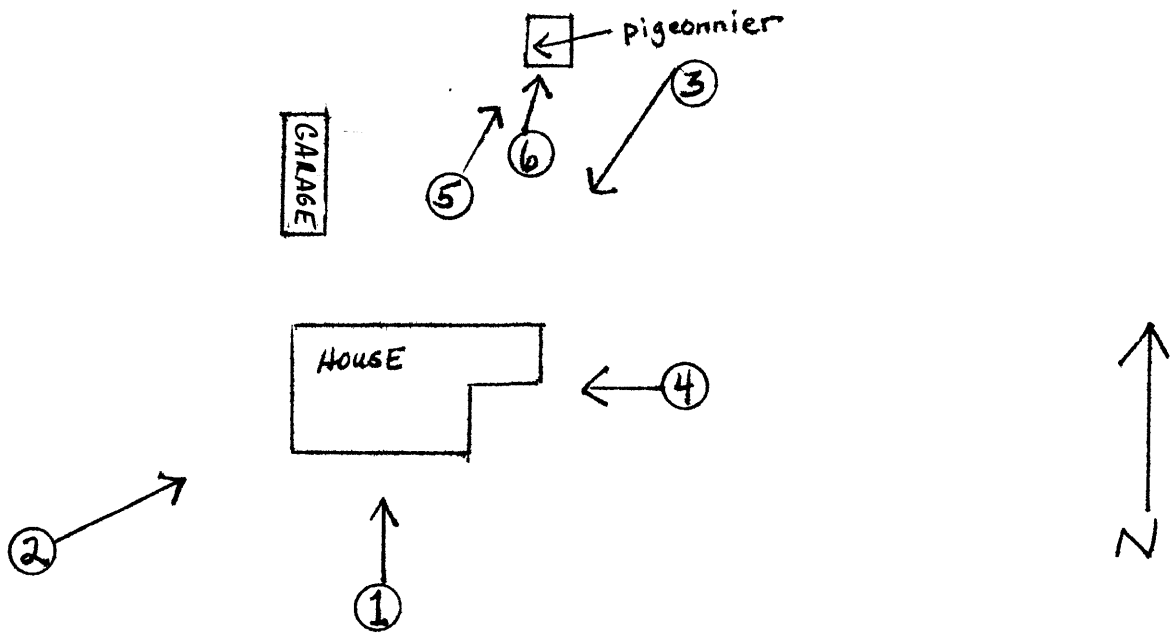
Chief of Registration

# SEBASTOPOL

St. Bernard Parish, LA

Photo Direction  
MAP

NOT TO SCALE

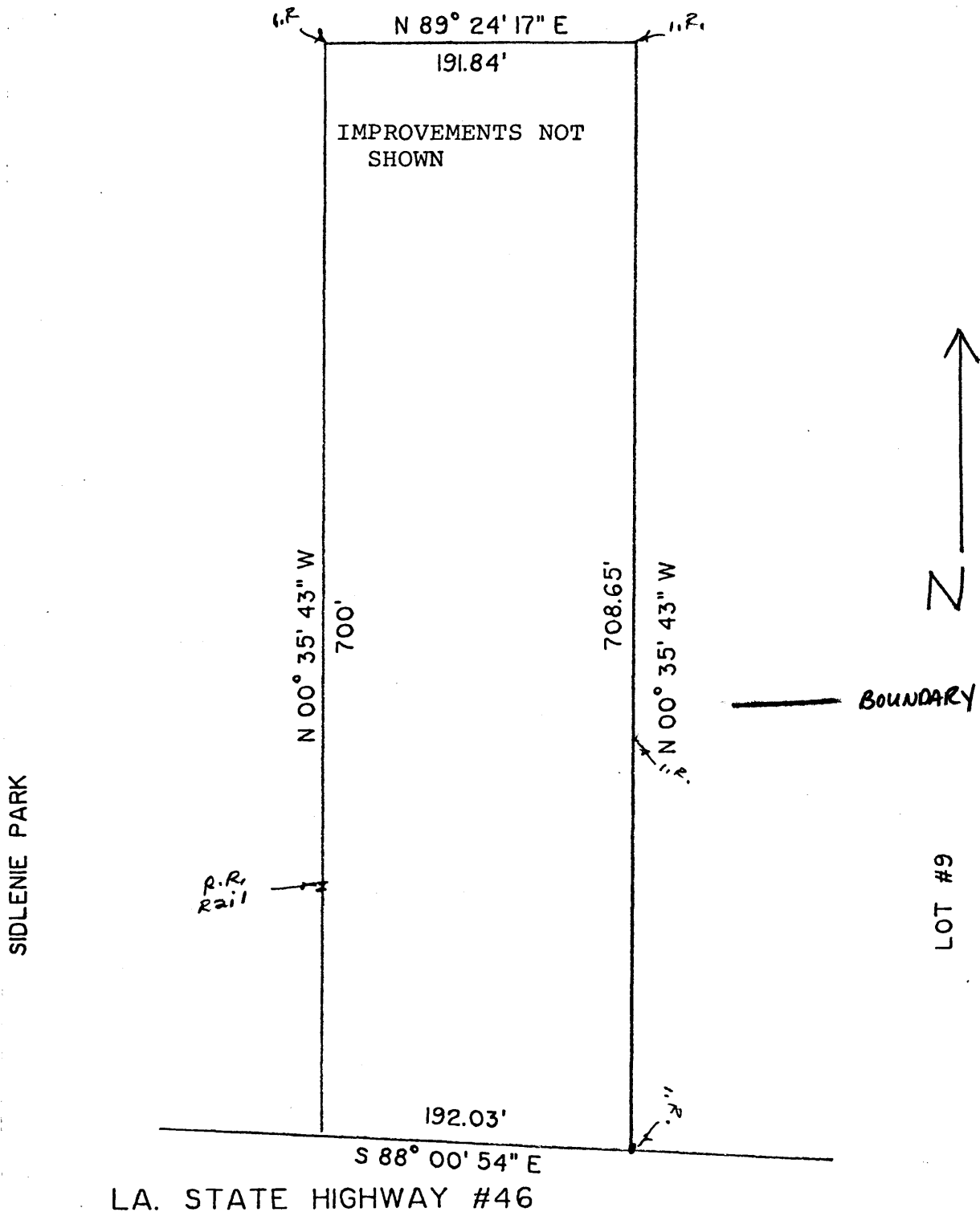


LA HWY 46

OFFICE OF  
**EUGENE I. ESTOPINAL & ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
 CIVIL ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS  
 2604 PAKENHAM DRIVE P.O. BOX 1183 CHALMETTE, LA.  
 279-7451

A PORTION OF LOT 7 OF SEBASTOPOL PLANTATION  
 ST. BERNARD PARISH, LA.

NEW LA. STATE HIGHWAY #46 (SIDE)



I hereby certify the above plan to be a true and accurate representation of a survey made by me  
 at the request of: MAUD B. LEWIS

CHALMETTE, LA., AUGUST 22 19 84  
*Eugene I. Estopinal*  
 CIVIL ENGINEER LA. REG. N<sup>o</sup> 1115  
 LAND SURVEYOR LA. REG. N<sup>o</sup> 1389