

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

TMC

historic name LeBeuf Plantation House

other names/site number Quarters A

2. Location

street & number 101 Carmick, U. S. Naval Support Activity N/A not for publication

city or town New Orleans N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county Orleans code 071 zip code 70114

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

John B. [Signature] 6/18/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
U.S. Department of the Navy Federal Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] May 27, 1993
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Patrick W. Andrews Date of Action 7/29/93

SOURCE: NATIONAL ARCHIVES LIBRARY
800 N CAPITOL ST, DC

LeBeuf Plantation House
Name of Property

Orleans Parish, LA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: French Creole

Federal

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

weatherboard

roof asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The LeBeuf House is an antebellum plantation house built in the raised French Creole style. The brick and frame building was constructed c. 1840-1850. Owned by the United States Navy since 1903, the structure stands in the midst of a large military base on the west bank of the Mississippi River in the New Orleans suburb of Algiers. However, the home's immediate setting is park-like, consisting of an expansive and well-shaded lawn. Although it has received a series of alterations since its construction, the home remains eligible for the National Register.

Creole features surviving in the LeBeuf Home include a hipped roof, an above ground brick basement story surmounted by a frame primary living floor, a seven bay upper gallery supported by slightly corbelled brick pillars, French doors, a Norman truss roof support system, and exposed beaded ceiling beams in some locations. Other surviving features of interest include Tuscan gallery columns, classical dormers, and some original Federal woodwork. This woodwork is simple in the home's rear rooms but more elaborate in the public spaces. It includes cornices on the gallery and in some rooms, fluted door surrounds with acorn corner blocks, and delicately subdivided transoms.

The house appears to have remained unaltered until its acquisition by the Navy. Then a series of modifications began which would bring notable changes to the rear and the interior. Modifications include:

- 1) the addition of two small wings to the house. The first, added before 1910, is a kitchen ell with its own brick basement story. This wing is attached to the home's rear southwest corner and has its own exterior stair. The interior of the kitchen has been re-worked twice, in 1941 and 1976. The second and smaller wing stands on the west (upriver) side of the building. It was built in 1924 and was raised on piers to the level of the upper story. Originally a bathroom, it was totally gutted and converted into a paneled study in 1941. By that date the area below the wing had also been enclosed for use as a laundry.
- 2) alterations to the building's rear elevation. No evidence survives to indicate the original configuration of the rear, and the area has undergone several alterations since its construction. Presently it consists of a range of rooms which includes a bathroom, a glazed sun porch with a projecting polygonal bay reached by an exterior stair, a butler's pantry, and two stair halls. One stairs leads to the basement, while the other rises to the attic.

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LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

- 3) the 1941 conversion of the home's hall-less Creole upper floorplan to a center hall plan. The original plan was three rooms wide and two rooms deep. To create the center hall, the front and rear center rooms were subdivided into three parts. The upriver (western) third became part of enlarged, back-to-back living and dining rooms, the downriver (eastern) third was converted into bathroom and closet spaces, and the middle third became the center hall. The remodeling which changed the floorplan also resulted in several other significant interior modifications to the home:
- a) Several interior door openings were closed and new openings cut. Others were moved to different locations and two modern sets of French doors were installed. One window location was closed, others were moved or added, and one French door on the facade was converted into a window. All of the living room windows and transoms are now covered by large sheets of protective glass.
 - b) Three of the home's six fireplaces and mantels were removed entirely, and two of the remaining three were moved to new locations. The fireplace in its original location features a black marble mantelpiece in the Greek Revival style. It probably replaced an earlier Federal mantel. The mantels of the moved fireplaces are in the Italianate style and are also probably mid-nineteenth century replacements. Marble hearths have been added to each fireplace.
 - c) Some of the home's Federal trim was moved to new locations, replications of the trim and transoms were created for other areas, and a new decorative square opening bisecting the central hall was installed. This opening is paneled and features Federal motifs.
 - d) The walls and ceilings were replastered and new flooring was installed.
 - e) The floor of the basement was covered by concrete, servants quarters were installed in the ell and the rear downriver (eastern) corner, the brick supports for the removed fireplaces were eliminated, and two columns were added in the center of the basement's large open area to support the weight of the floor above.

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LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

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- 4) the 1946 installation of bedrooms, a bathroom, and a hallway in the attic. These rooms are reached via a new stair built on the sun porch at that time, and
- 5) the enclosure of the front gallery with plexiglass, the replacement of one gallery column, the installation of beaded board siding on the facade, and the construction of a covered breezeway leading from the rear sun porch to a nearby historic kitchen building (see below).

Although the amount of change to the LeBeuf House is significant, the modifications do not have a serious impact upon the home's National Register eligibility. The home's architectural significance is not based upon its interior, where most of the alterations occurred. Instead, its importance lies in its identity as an extremely rare surviving example of an antebellum plantation house in the New Orleans area (see Part 8). Although changes to the interior of the LeBeuf House are regrettable, those to the exterior are relatively minor in nature. Importantly, the home's Creole massing and status as a raised plantation house remain intact. While some of the facade's openings have been changed, they are all in their original locations. The gallery retains all of its important features and still conveys its identity despite the plexiglass, which could easily be removed. The two wings are located at the side and rear and have no impact upon the facade. The building still reads as a pre-war plantation house, so its architectural identity remains intact.

Contributing Element

A one-story brick outbuilding with a slightly overhanging shingle roof and one set of French doors also stands on the property. Originally a kitchen, it has experienced extensive interior remodeling as a guest house. Nevertheless, its external appearance retains its integrity for Register purposes. The building is being counted as a contributing element to this nomination because it is as old, and perhaps older, than the LeBeuf Plantation House.

Non-Contributing Element

Also standing on the property is a one-story, three bay, modern garage covered by vinyl siding. It is being counted as a non-contributing element.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

architecture

Period of Significance

c.1840-1850

Significant Dates

c.1840-1850

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Naval Support Activity, New Orleans, LA

LeBeuf Plantation House
Name of Property

Orleans Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 2.3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	5
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7	8	6	6	0	0
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3	3	1	6	6	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

2

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3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Please refer to sketch map.

Boundary Justification Boundaries follow the fence line enclosing the yard, encompassing the significant resource, its historic dependency, and the immediate setting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date April 1993

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Naval Support Activity

street & number _____ telephone (504) 361-2783

city or town New Orleans state LA zip code 70142

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

The LeBeuf Plantation House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a rare surviving example of an antebellum plantation house within the greater New Orleans metropolitan area.

The modern City of New Orleans completely covers Orleans Parish, and its suburbs extend into a significant portion of northern Jefferson Parish. For this reason, it is difficult to imagine the rural nature which once characterized this area. Nevertheless, in the early nineteenth century New Orleans was a small city surrounded by rural plantation holdings. However, subdivision of these plantations began quite early, with the parceling of Bernard de Marigny's Orleans Parish property in 1805. When other plantation owners saw how profitable the subdivision trend could be, few failed to hesitate when presented with the chance to develop their property. Although the Lake Pontchartrain side of Orleans Parish remained undeveloped, most of the Mississippi River's east bank was subdivided well before the end of the 1830s. The Jefferson Parish plantations directly across from New Orleans were the first west bank lands to be subdivided. The community of McDonoghville came into being in 1813, Gretna in 1836, and Harvey in 1839. Across the parish line in Orleans, the west bank suburb of Algiers Point was developed in 1842. Development of the east bank in Jefferson Parish upriver from New Orleans was slower to evolve. Although Metairie was originally subdivided in the 1830s and Kenner in 1855, both saw their major growth after the turn of the twentieth century.

The breaking up of these plantations inevitably lead to the destruction of the plantation homes which stood on the sites. The first reference found by the Division of Historic Preservation to the loss of a plantation house due to development is dated 1863. This destruction continued well into the 1950s when, according to a knowledgeable New Orleans architect, a large number of plantation houses were lost. Although it is not possible to know the exact number of plantations which once existed in the two parishes, an educated guess can be made by extrapolating information from historic maps. For example, the 1858 Persac map of plantations along the Mississippi River between Natchez and New Orleans shows approximately 100 plantations outlining both banks of the river in Jefferson Parish. However, this number is artificially low as an indicator of the number of plantations which once existed in the metropolitan area because all but seven of Orleans Parish's plantations had already been subdivided and developed by that date. It is reasonable to assume that Orleans Parish had a correspondingly large number of plantations before development began. Most of these Orleans and Jefferson parish plantation tracts would have supported large or small plantation houses. Now the Division of Historic Preservation believes there to be no more than fifteen plantation houses surviving in all of Orleans and Jefferson parishes. The LeBeuf House is one of this small group of survivors.

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LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 2

Historical Note:

The land on which the LeBeuf House is located was part of a royal land grant to the Marigny family and originally was the site of a sugar plantation. In 1836 Prosper Marigny sold the property to Fucy Verret, an early settler of Algiers. Verret apparently built the home as a wedding present for his daughter Elmire when she married Martial LeBeuf, Jr., a doctor, in the late 1840s. In 1856 the estate was sold to the widow of Jacob Baker, nee Anna Maria Ott. She died in 1894 and left the property to a nephew she had reared, a riverboat captain named Luther Dock Ott. The Otts lived in the house until the government expropriated it in 1903.

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**National Register of Historic Places
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LeBeuf Plantation House, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cizek, Eugene, telephone interview, April 1993.

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"History of Quarters A," U.S. Naval Support Activity, New Orleans, Louisiana, pamphlet, copy in National Register file.

"Naval Station Home Once Plantation," New Orleans States-Item, March 16, 1970.

Persac, Adrien, "Norman's Chart of the Mississippi River from Natchez to New Orleans," 1858.

Phillips, Pat, "Linked to the Founding of New Orleans," Dixie, June 17, 1973.

Swanson, Betsy, Historic Jefferson Parish: From Shore to Shore. Gretna: Pelican Publishing Company, 1975.

Le Beuf Plantation House

New Orleans, Orleans
Parish, Louisiana

North



Scale 1"=50'

Contributing
Element



Non-Contributing
Element



Boundary

