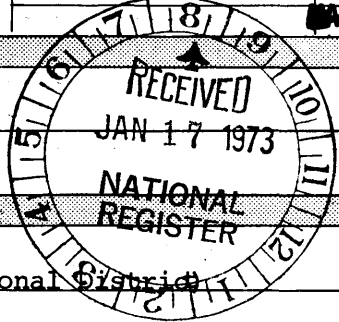


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Louisiana	
COUNTY: Orleans Parish	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 30 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
New Orleans Branch, United States Mint

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Old United States Mint

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
420 Esplanade Avenue (1st Congressional District)

CITY OR TOWN:
New Orleans

STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22 COUNTY: Orleans Parish CODE: 071

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum storage	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Louisiana - Louisiana State Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
751 Chartres Street

CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Conveyance Office, Civil Courts Building, Orleans Parish

STREET AND NUMBER:
421 Loyola Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Vieux Carre Survey (microfilmed)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1961-1966 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Tulane University Library

STREET AND NUMBER:
6823 St. Charles Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans STATE: Louisiana CODE: 22

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

MAR 30 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered (slightly) Unaltered			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old United States Mint is a large three story brick building, cement plaster stuccoed on the exterior, with granite trim. In front of the wide, pedimented central bay is a projecting, elevated, flat-roofed, Ionic portico with four columns and two square antae, at each side. The central bay and corners of the building are defined by granite pilasters above the basement story. The base watertable and belt course at the first floor level are also of granite. The deep, Greek Revival cornice is of wood. The exterior stairs to the main entrance ascend from each side beneath the portico, concealed by basement wall in the center of which is a minor entrance to the ground floor level. The central bay extends through the depth of the building with a gable or pediment in the rear similar to the one in front. This central section of the plan contains a spacious stair hall and the largest rooms in the building extending across the back. On either side of this central plan element are L-shaped wings giving the building an E-shaped plan. These wings have broad galleries supported on cast iron columns on the two inner sides. The end gables extend across the full depth of the wings with the courts and galleries forming an apparent penetration into a much larger building mass.

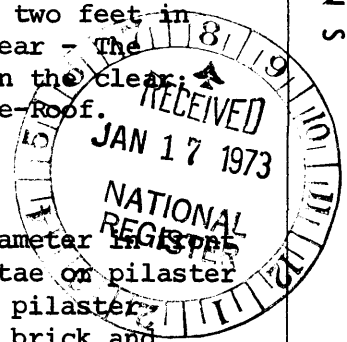
In the original building contract, dated August 22, 1835, passed before the New Orleans notary, Joseph Cuvillier, the building was described as follows:

The main or principal building shall consist of a center of Ninety feet in front on Esplanade Street, with wings on each side of Ninety six feet each fronting on said street; making the whole of said front two hundred and Eighty two feet by a depth of Eighty one feet.

The Elevation of said Buildings shall be of the height (sic) height of three stories, resting on a sub-basement of two feet in height; the basement to be Eleven feet high in the clear - The principal story to be of the height of sixteen feet in the clear; the whole of said Buildings to be covered with a Slate Roof.

Front Portico and Steps

There are to be four columns of three feet in diameter of the center building; these are to be flanked by antae or pilaster of two feet-nine inches square showing a single faced pilaster towards the columns - These columns are to be made of brick and rough cast; having stone bases and Capitals of the Ionic order. The whole depth of the Portico from the line of the street containing behind the check blocks upon which the columns and antea rest, a flight of granite steps leading from the pavement to the floor of the principal story. The architrave to be of granite, two feet two inches in height, by two feet nine inches in width, extending across the whole front of the portico, breaking joint over the center of each Column; the frieze to be constructed with brick work and the cornice of wood - The portico to be covered on a level with the cornice, with a flat roof of copper or zinc.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The old United States Mint occupies the site of Fort St. Charles one of a series of forts in the fortifications erected around New Orleans by the Spanish Governor Carondelet in 1792. The fort was demolished after the Louisiana Purchase, probably about 1817. A park was then established on the site named Jackson Square in honor of the hero of the Battle of New Orleans, who reviewed his troops here before the battle. By an ordinance dated May 11, 1835, the city council ceded the site to the United States Government for the erection of a branch mint.

The building was designed by the noted Greek Revivalist Architect, William Strickland and is one of the most important Greek Revival structures in New Orleans. The builders were John Mitchell and Benjamin F. Fox. In the 1850's the building was extensively remodelled to make it as fireproof as possible, the work being directed by the engineer P.G.T. Beauregard, the noted Confederate General. The mint was occupied by the Confederate Government which minted some coins here. At the time of the capture of New Orleans by Federal forces in 1862, William Mumford was hanged for tearing down the United States flag.

When the minting of coins was discontinued in 1909, the building was converted into a federal prison, and during World War II was used as a Coast Guard Receiving Station. In 1966 the building was transferred to the State of Louisiana for preservation as a historic landmark. The Louisiana State Museum was designated as the State Agency responsible for administration, maintenance, preservation and restoration. Complete plans and drawings for restoration and public use as a Museum and central focal point of the Vieux Carre Mall area are now being prepared; and it is hoped funds will then be made available. The building was one of the few rated as of national importance, historically and architecturally, by the Vieux Carre Survey.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached list.

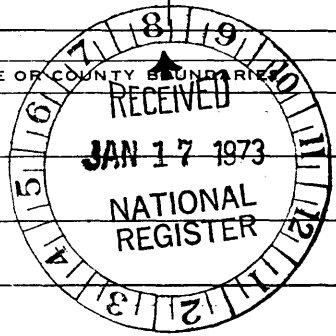
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		29 ° 57 ' 41 "	90 ° 3 ' 25 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.6 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



UTM
15/782970
2317940
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Peggy Richards, Director (and Samuel Wilson, Jr., Architect)

ORGANIZATION: **Louisiana State Museum** DATE: **June 1, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
751 Chartres Street

CITY OR TOWN: **New Orleans** STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **22**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: George W. Rake

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 9 Jan. 1973

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

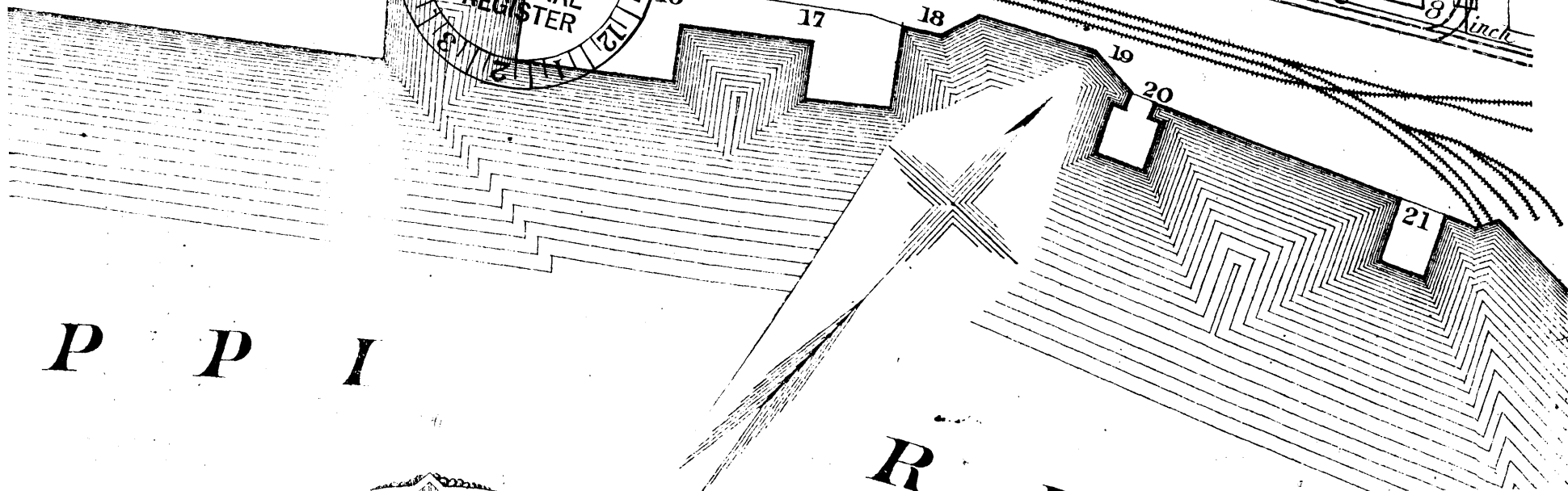
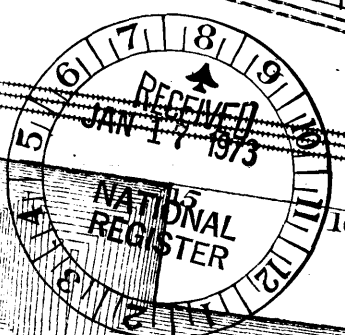
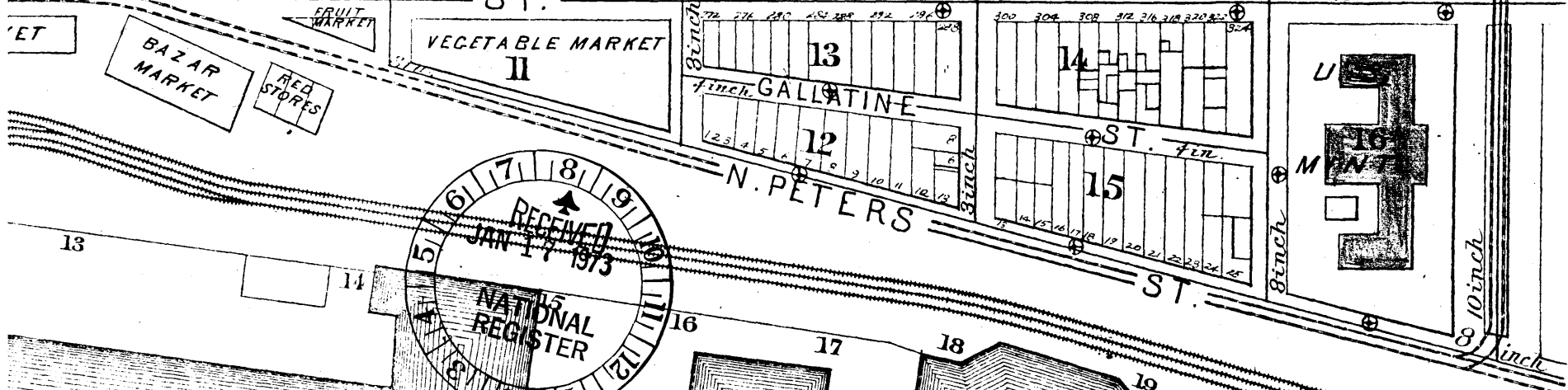
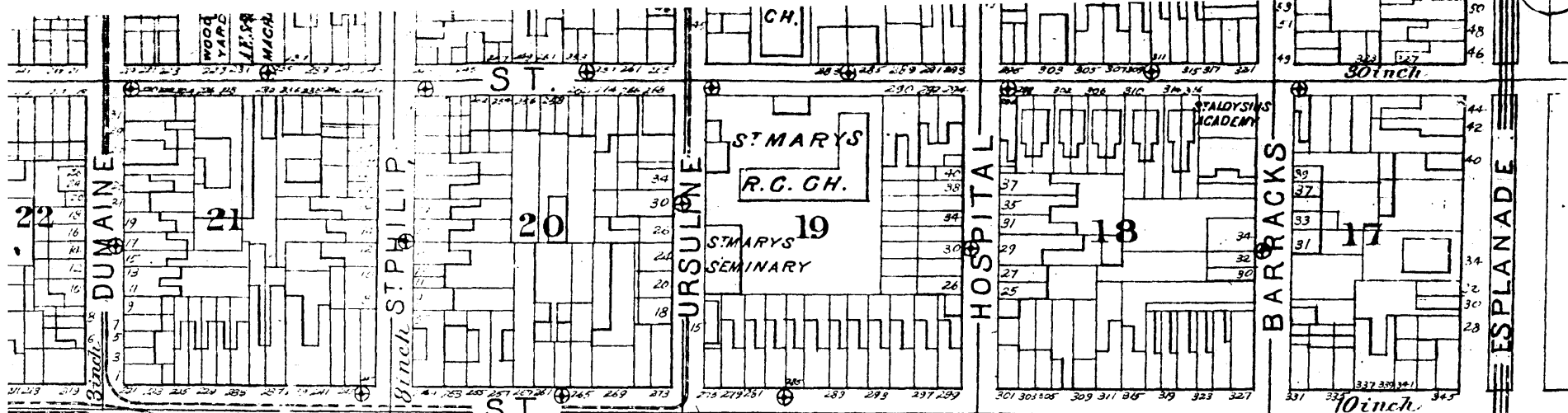
Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/30/73

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3/22/73



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Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Louisiana	
COUNTY Orleans Parish	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 30 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: New Orleans Branch, United States Mint		AND/OR HISTORIC: Old United States Mint	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 420 Esplanade Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans			
STATE: Louisiana	CODE	COUNTY: Orleans Parish	CODE
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Atlas of the City of New Orleans, pub. E. Robinson Co., N.Y., N.Y.			
SCALE: 200 feet per inch			
DATE: 1883			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

