

PH 0508471

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 31 1977
DATE ENTERED AUG 1 1978

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 Algiers **

AND/OR COMMON
Algiers Point *Use this*

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Bounded by Mississippi River, Iberville St., & Iberville Ave.
CITY, TOWN
New Orleans VICINITY OF
STATE *LA* COUNTY *Orleans Parish* CODE *071*

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple ownership (see continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Notarial Archives, Civil District Court Building

STREET & NUMBER
Poydras at Loyola Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

New Orleans, Louisiana

Louisiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
(see continuation sheet)

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Algiers Point is a univied, self-contained neighborhood of approximately 70 squares and approximately 1700 buildings, bounded on two sides by the natural boundaries of the Mississippi River, on the third side by the Southern Pacific Railroad yard (now a large open green space), and on the fourth side by Slidell Street. Architecturally it consists of Louisiana Colonial, Creole, Greek Revival, Italianate, Victorian, Gothic and Edwardian structures with very few buildings of later date. The preponderance of the Greek Revival and Victorian styles reflects the period of Algiers Point's growth and development, 1850-1900. The majority of the buildings are single story, although story-and-a-half, camelback and two story homes are found in the area. Dwellings range from four room doubles to large two story singles and doubles, and from modest to rather grand. Virtually all residential structures are of frame construction. Although white dominates, color has been used on a number of homes which tends to accentuate the decorative trim and gingerbread found throughout the area. The majority of homes were intended to be owner-occupied and were not built as tenant dwellings; therefore, construction was finer and decorative trim more elaborate.

The color-coded map of structures on Algiers Point serves to illustrate the growth pattern of the neighborhood. The oldest structures (pre-1860) are now clustered along Olivier and Vallette Streets, between Alix Street and the river; this is explained by the great fire of 1895. This fire destroyed the buildings of equal age which existed in the area bounded by Lavergne, Pelican and the river. The majority of the older structures are in the Greek Revival style with some Louisiana and West Indies inspired colonial examples to be found. The area reconstructed after the fire followed the then fashionable gingerbread Victorian style, with some Edwardian designed homes in evidence. Growth extended from the river to Opelousas Avenue, eventually absorbing once suburban Brooklyn. Western growth engulfed the suburb of Belleville. Here the older side-gabled cottages were quickly surrounded by Victorian neighbors. The growth of the railroad industry was responsible for residential construction in the Elmira-Pacific-Atlantic area. Here too, the occasional older cottages and suburban villas were joined by Victorian and Edwardian homes. The remaining lots were developed for the most part by the 1920's in the bungaloid style. Construction since that time has fallen into two categories: institutional expansion and residential replacement following major hurricanes (1915 and 1965) or fire.

The typical dwelling is on a lot approximately 30 feet by 120 feet. The house was built with a small front yard, a passage or "alley" at each side, and a back yard, usually with a cistern and shed across the rear. The typical house plan is called a "shotgun" meaning one room following another. Often the back two rooms were repeated in a second floor, making a shotgun "camelback." The result of this basic land use philosophy is street after street of variations on the same theme: parallel facades, similar roof heights and rows of identical buildings. The original brick sidewalks and lines of iron fences remain in much of the area. The street plan is the urban grid pattern distinguished by 22 squares set out of kilter. There are five small parks. There also exists planting space

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6. Existing Surveys (cont'd)

Community Renewal Program of New Orleans Report on Historic Areas and Structures, prepared by Bernard Lemann, Ph.D. for the New Orleans City Planning Commission, 1967. City Planning Commission-local New Orleans, La.

Regional Planning Commission Survey of Historic Sites and Areas, prepared by Bernard Lemann, Ph.D. for Rader and Associates, Consultants, 1969.

New Orleans and the River - Working Papers, prepared by the Tulane University School of Architecture, Tulane University, for the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of New Orleans, La., December, 1974.

New Orleans Housing and Neighborhood Preservation Study, prepared by Curtis and Davis, Architects and Planners for the City of New Orleans, February 1974.

In Progress:

Zoning Study for Algiers Point, prepared by the Staff of the City Planning Commission of New Orleans, Louisiana for the New Orleans City Planning Commission.

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7. Description (cont'd)

between most homes and sidewalks. This, accompanied by street trees, and oak-lined, grass-divided Opelousas Avenue, provides a pleasant village-like atmosphere. Oak-alleyed Opelousas Avenue was planted about 1900 during a City Beautiful program and is indicative of similar boulevards to be found in other older sections of New Orleans. As the trees grew, a natural canopy was formed over the grassy median. Opelousas Avenue was formerly Market Street (about 1835) and served as the community market for produce and poultry. Commercial activity still continues along this street, Algiers Point's major artery. The magnolia grove situated between Verret and Seguin Streets at Opelousas Avenue is Bartholemy Duverje Place. This park was originally the Duverje burial plot. The neighborhood has ready and free access to the green expanse of the Mississippi River levee and the willowed batture which wraps around the area on two sides -- a luxury afforded few other neighborhoods.

Unlike some areas of New Orleans which grew as overflow or bedroom suburbs, Algiers Point grew and prospered as a town unto itself. Because of this, Algiers Point had a mixed land-use pattern and has maintained this total urban community experience today. Algiers Point was and is comprised of all the components found in any small town and consists of a mixture of commercial, industrial, educational, religious, and residential properties. Most of the structures were built as residences and are used as such today. Commercial structures were scattered throughout the neighborhood, usually situated at corners, and often were a combination of store below and residence above. These commercial buildings continue in use today as groceries, pharmacies, a bakery, bars, and hardware stores. The bank, schools, library and churches are still used as intended. (There are no federally owned structures.) A large number of structures have remained virtually intact; some have had unfortunate cosmetic alterations. The general condition of the buildings is good and many are in excellent condition. Rather widespread restoration has taken place since 1970 and is continuing.

Algiers Point has extremely few nonconforming intrusions which detract from the integrity of the district - around 5% of the total area. This includes the major intrusions: the Louisiana Power and Light Office Building, parking area, and storage yard; and the Algiers General Hospital. There are also two small two story apartment buildings and some newer brick homes. (A complete listing of intrusions is attached.)

Algiers Point is distinct in that, although part of New Orleans, it was and is a self-sustained small town that has maintained its turn-of-the-century

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7. Description (cont'd)

townscape. The place and its people have managed to maintain a lifestyle relatively free of 20th century intrusions. The town is set against the levee as any 19th century river town would have been; and the sights and sounds of the river dominate the area. An intimate and integral part of the neighborhood is the Algiers-Canal Street Ferry, in continuous operation since 1827, which links the Point to the city proper.

Traditional New Orleans elements, once commonplace in the city, still abound within Algiers Point. An example is the back shed built of frame across the rear property line, butting side property lines, with its front-slanting roof. These sheds often formed a continuous line the length of the block. Many of these structures have remained and are an integral element of backyards and side street scapes. These sheds, when combined with the traditional 7-board fence, form a court-like enclosure. The 7-board fence, constructed of 12-inch cypress boards laid horizontally, seven boards high, afforded privacy for the backyards. Although few of these fences remain, their presence is apparent to even the casual observer of the Algiers Point. The front porch of a double house was sometimes divided in two. This was accomplished by the construction of a wood barrier approximately 7 feet high at the front wall, sloping to approximately 5 feet at the porch edge. These "partitions" can still be seen in the neighborhood (see photograph 9, 335-337 Delaronde Street, second house from the left).

Although once a common street corner element, carriage stops which resemble an iron cone topped by a cannon ball have become increasingly rare. These "tar babies" still exist in Algiers. A most unusual corner is that of Belleville and Alix Streets where all four of its original "tar babies" remain. Granite blocks brought to New Orleans as ballast in the 1800's were used as a street surfacing material. The Morgan-Bouny Street approach to the Algiers Point ferry landing is of these cobblestones.

The Algiers Point neighborhood is comprised for the most part of longtime resident families. It is not at all uncommon to find three generations of the same family living within the Point area, if not in the same house. A number of these families have lived here since before 1860; several have continuously occupied their original family homes dating from that time. This strong tie with the past has greatly enriched the entire community.

The photographs presented are representative of the various building types and styles to be found in Algiers Point. Although the photographs are taken of a somewhat concentrated area, similar quality and quantity of structures exist throughout Algiers Point.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Algiers Point is that it remains a unified self-contained small town of architectural worth, while technically it is part of a large city. Although annexed by the city of New Orleans in 1870, the community has maintained its unique character because of its geographical and psychological isolation. The railroad and the drydocking and ship-repair industries contributed directly to the growth of residences of architectural interest and value.

Algiers today refers to that part of New Orleans on the Westbank of the Mississippi River, most of which has been developed since the opening of the Greater New Orleans Mississippi River Bridge in 1958; its name is taken from the original town of Algiers which grew up at the bend of the river across from New Orleans over 100 years earlier. The historical navigational term for this bend is Algiers Point and that is the name now used to distinguish the old part of Algiers from the new. How the old town came to be called Algiers is uncertain. However, by the 1830's the name Algiers was in use on maps and in legal documents. Whatever the true reason may be, the name is firmly entrenched.

The Point changed hands several times during the colonial period. In 1719, Bienville was granted the tract. The Company of the West purchased this section in 1724. By 1731, all property of the defunct Company was returned to the King of France. At this time, the Point was the site of a slave depot and a powder magazine. Spain took possession of Louisiana in 1762 and granted this property to Louis Borepo, who sold the land to Martial LeBoeuf; he, in turn, sold it to Bartholomy Duverje for \$18,000.

The Duverje family under the leadership of Bartholomy Duverje was the "first family" of Algiers. Their plantation house was constructed in 1812 (burned 1895) at the site of the present Algiers Courthouse. Under the direction of this family, the first Catholic church parish on the Westbank was established. The family donated lands for the church, school and cemeteries in 1848. Also during the early years of the 19th century, adjoining plantation properties were acquired by the Olivier and Verret families.

After 1839, Duverje hired Alan d'Hemecourt to draw a plan and the land was subdivided. Either Duverje or d'Hemecourt was a student of history because the street plan commemorates the colonial claim-jumping of Adrien de Pauger, the engineer who had laid out the plan for the original city of New Orleans. In 1721, Pauger had made claim to a pie-shaped wedge of land on the Westbank that had already been granted to Bienville. This claim-jumping was not discovered until 1724 when a legal battle ensued and the land was returned to Bienville. The juxtaposition of a pie-shaped wedge of 22 squares adjacent to the more

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Chase, John. Frenchmen, Desire, Goodchildren and Other Streets of New Orleans.
New Orleans: Robert L. Crager and Co., 1949 and 1960.
- Seymour, William H. The Story of Algiers 1718-1896. Gretna: Pelican Publishing
Company, 1971. (Reprint of 1896 edition)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 228 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>15</u>	<u>785</u> ²²⁰	<u>3317410</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>785</u> ¹⁹⁰	<u>3316440</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u>15</u>	<u>784</u>	<u>140</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>784</u>	<u>140</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Algiers Point includes all property within the area bounded by the Mississippi River on the north and west, the center line of Slidell Street on the south and the center line of Atlantic Avenue on the east, as illustrated on the accompanying maps.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Frances Billes; Louis Aubert; Gerald Billes, architect

ORGANIZATION

Algiers Point Association

DATE

April 1977

STREET & NUMBER

324 Delaronde Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

New Orleans,

STATE

Louisiana

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.

FEDERAL SIGNATURE

Andra Thompson

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10/26/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

W. Smith
Charles Anderson

DATE *8-1-78*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-31-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Significance (cont'd)

typical urban grid pattern is clearly visible on any map of this area and has resulted in an interesting street plan. This wedge pattern is repeated in three triangular parks along Verret Street.

The village grew rapidly and the present structures reflect the respective styles of the changing periods. As the town grew merchants were attracted to the community. Simple stores gave way to the commercial-residential structures observed today throughout the neighborhood. Simple cottages were soon to become more sophisticated by displaying the then fashionable Greek Revival embellishment. Some of these structures of the 1840's exist today.

In 1837 a dry dock, said to be the first on the Gulf Coast, was established at the foot of present-day Seguin Street. Others were added, so that in 1896, Judge William H. Seymour in his book, The Story of Algiers 1718-1896, was able to list 19 dry docks that had been built. Algiers became known as the "city of docks" and Seymour wrote, "The docking business is a flourishing industry and gives employment to upwards of 200 or more men, which, considering the size of the town, is a most important feature of its industrial welfare."¹ Shipbuilding was an early industry, but its importance had decreased greatly by the 1880's. The dry docking and shipbuilding industry still exists in Algiers Point. The Algiers Iron Works and Dry Dock Company, established in 1902, continues this tradition today.

The Algiers-Canal Street Ferry has been in continuous operation since 1827, when the State legislature gave exclusive rights to Auguste Coycault and Brazile Gosselin to operate a steam ferry boat. From this single crossing, a network of crossings developed linking Algiers with the Eastbank. Today, the Algiers-Canal Street Ferry still carries passengers and vehicles back and forth across the river.

In the 1850's the town of Algiers had two suburbs, Belleville and Brooklyn. The settlement of Belleville consisted of then Chestnut and Elmire Streets. Its major industry was the Belleville Iron Foundry located on Patterson Street between Chestnut and Elmira. Chestnut Street was renamed Belleville Street when the area was absorbed by the expanding Algiers. Tradition has it that the area known as Brooklyn derived its name from a comparison of Mr. Vallette's warehouse complex on this site with similar buildings in Brooklyn, New York.

¹William H. Seymour, The Story of Algiers 1718-1896, (Gretna: Pelican Publishing Co., 1971; reprint of 1896 edition), p. 68.

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Significance (cont'd)

This complex was located in the area just south of what is now Opelousas Avenue.

Also in the 1850's, the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad was built through Algiers. Construction of a railroad from the town of Algiers to some point on the Sabine River was approved by the State legislature on April 22, 1853. The railroad was largely owned and operated by Algerines, who subscribed \$75,000 for the construction. Following the post Civil War depression, the railroad was sold to Charles Morgan for the sum of \$2,050,000. The Morgan name remains a part of Algiers, as Villier Street was changed to Morgan Street. The railroad was then renamed the Morgan, Louisiana and Texas Railroad and Steamship Company which evolved into the Southern Pacific Company, Atlantic System. The railroad yard flourished at the site bounded by present-day Atlantic Avenue to the west, Thayer Street to the east, and the river; it formed a barrier on the eastern edge of Algiers that could be crossed only by one footbridge. By 1896, the complex was described by Judge Seymour as follows:

Few people have an idea of the magnitude of the plant of the Southern Pacific Company in the corporate limits of Algiers. Standing on the river front, one notices extensive sheds and wharves with ships lined up in front, and looking back into the rear a series of buildings loom up into view. This casual glance but faintly pictures the extend of the plant and the variety of industries which flourish within the lines of the company. Once within the great wharf, which stretches along the river front for a distance of nearly half a mile, one begins to wonder at its vastness; walking over to the depot and then to the many shops, each a separate plant in itself, the realization gradually dawns upon you that the square mile of territory covered by them contains enough to form a village of handsome proportions, and that it is not unlike the famous town of Pullman, Ill., in many respects.²

The facility, by the 1890's, employed between three and four thousand Algiers residents, many of whom were second and third generation railroad employees. Atlantic and Pacific Avenues were developed during this time; their very names serve to commemorate the rail linkage of the East and

²Ibid., p. 43.

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Significance (cont'd)

West Coasts. These streets retain their turn-of-the century tout ensemble.

The town of Algiers was governed by a Police Jury until its annexation by the city of New Orleans on March 14, 1870, when it was designated as the Fifth Municipal District. The Algiers Courthouse, formerly the Duverje home, was the principal asset assumed by the city. Martin Behrman, a product of Algiers, has the distinction of having served as mayor of the city of New Orleans for a longer time than any other man: 1904-1920 and 1925-26 when he died. During his term, his residence was 229 Pelican Avenue and the house stands today much as it did then. "Papa" Behrman, in the tradition of political leaders, remembered his home and friends in Algiers, and public services, streets and utilities were of the finest in the city. The present high school in Algiers Point was named for him.

In the 1890's Algiers consisted of residential and commercial structures in Louisiana Colonial, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Victorian styles. The community was dominated by the expansive Southern Pacific Railroad yard, the towering steepled Gothic style Holy Name of Mary Church on Verret Street, and the 1812 Colonial style Algiers Courthouse. As in most of the city, frame construction dominated. On the night of October 23, 1895 fire erupted in the Old Rookery near the corner of Bermuda and Morgan Streets. High winds caused the fire to spread rapidly and it consumed 9½ city squares. About 200 homes burned, totalling \$600,000 in losses; the most significant loss was the former Duverje home, then serving as the Courthouse. A new Courthouse and the burned area as a whole were quickly rebuilt, so that in 1896 Judge Seymour described the rebuilt area thusly: "The way will be long, pretty streets, with new and beautiful houses lined up on either side. Looking at those houses with their Schillinger walks, neat iron fences and the flower beds, gay with flowers, Morgan Street paved for nearly a mile with vitrified bricks upon concrete foundation..."³ This description, with few exceptions, is still valid today. Algiers continued to prosper while undergoing gradual social change. Nevertheless, the physical presence of the area remained virtually unchanged. The railroad which had so influenced the growth of Algiers Point was gradually phased out in the late 1940's and 1950's, so that by the 1960's the once busy yard was empty and grown over in grass.

³Ibid, p.141.

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Significance (cont'd)

Algiers Point, bypassed by the construction of the Greater New Orleans Mississippi River Bridge and its attendant 1950 growth pattern, slept languorously on the banks of the Mississippi. Algiers Point exists as it does today because of this undisturbed period.

Algiers Point is significant in that it has maintained its turn-of-the-century townscape; nestled against the levee, the community exists almost as though in a time capsule. Although geographically set within the heart of a 20th century urban complex, the pace, mood, and architecture of the community are those of the 19th century. It is indeed a small town located within a large city. Its churches, schools, corner stores, library and courthouse service the neighborhood as they have for past generations. Only approximately 5% of the structures in Algiers Point could be considered nonconforming intrusions which detract from the integrity of the district.

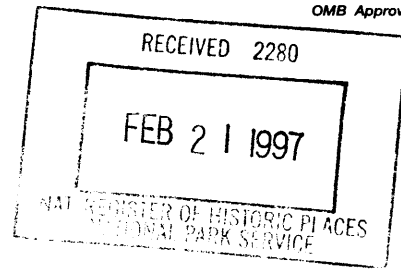
Algiers' architectural styles correspond to those of other New Orleans neighborhoods dating from 1840-1910. The shotgun style, native to New Orleans, dominates. This basic housing type evolved through a progression of architectural styles: Greek Revival, Italianate, Victorian and Edwardian. Block after block of fine examples still survive.

The formation of the Algiers Point Association in January, 1973 is indicative of the preservation activity in the area. It is dedicated to the protection and improvement of the architectural, social and economic welfare of the Algiers Point neighborhood. Of utmost concern and importance to the Algiers Point Association is the 1896 Moorish inspired courthouse, presently in need of renovation. The building is a landmark to both those within the neighborhood and Eastbank Orleanians. Many homes have been restored with a larger number in progress. In 1975, a major preservation victory was the successful lobbying for the complete renovation and reopening of the Andrew Carnegie Grant Algiers Point Branch Library which had been abandoned in 1965. In October, 1976 the first Algiers Point House Tour was attended by over 800 visitors.

78001428

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

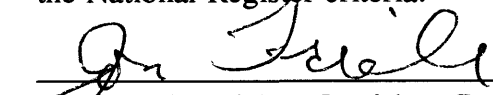
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**



Algiers Point Historic District (Additional Documentation), Orleans Parish, LA
Section number 1,3,5,8 Page 1

1. Name of Property: Algiers Point Historic District (Additional Documentation)

3. As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria.


Jonathan C. Fricker, Louisiana Deputy SHPO
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

2/17/97
Date

5. Add seven contributing elements.

8. New ending date for period of significance: 1946

continued

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Algiers Point Historic District (Additional Documentation), Orleans Parish, LA
Section number 7/8 Page 1

The purpose of this submission is to bring the period of significance for the Algiers Point Historic District up to the current 50 year cutoff -- 1946. The district was listed in the National Register in 1977, when the cutoff would have been 1927. The update is being undertaken at the request of the Algiers Point Neighborhood Association because of the possibility of a tax credit project on an Art Deco theatre.

The original nomination form indicates that the district boundaries encompass approximately seventy squares and approximately 1700 buildings. The district is almost entirely residential in character, with roughly thirty to forty institutional buildings and commercial buildings, most of which are on main thoroughfares such as Opelousas and Verret. Like many New Orleans neighborhoods, the district has a repetitive housing stock consisting mainly of small cottages and shotgun houses. The vast majority of the district's buildings date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Like elsewhere in the city, one finds row after row of highly styled shotguns -- whether they be in the Italianate bracketed style, the Eastlake style, the Colonial Revival style, or the bungalow style. As with other historic New Orleans neighborhoods, the houses, most of which are small, are placed very closely together and either directly on the street or very close.

The Division of Historic Preservation's field survey identified various buildings that could well date from between 1928 and 1946. This list was refined by examining cornerstones and Sanborn Insurance Company maps, yielding a final list of seven buildings to be added as contributing elements. Although small in number, they make a significant contribution to the district's architectural character, often because of their size and scale and very different styling within a district characterized mainly by low scale repetitive housing stock. Two are huge institutional buildings in prominent locations, two are Modernistic theaters, one is a Mission Revival gas station, and two are brick veneer residences.

Inventory of buildings from the 1928-1946 period:

Holy Name of Mary Roman Catholic Church (1929)

This massive brick and limestone building has a spacious setting in the heart of Algiers across from a triangular shaped public park. It culminates in an open work tower that is visible from many parts of the district. The church exhibits an elaborately worked design derived from various phases of the Gothic period.

continued

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Algiers Point Historic District (Additional Documentation), Orleans Parish, LA
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Martin Behrman High School (1929)

This richly detailed stuccoed masonry building is an excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Its asymmetrical massing culminates in a campanile rising above the building's three story mass. Located on Opelousas Avenue, the district's principal thoroughfare, the school is quite large, with its footprint occupying almost all of a city block.

Art Deco Theatres (2)

The district contains two very strikingly styled Modernistic theatres which date from the 1930s. The one on Vallette, a stuccoed building, is a very noticeable landmark because of its dramatic massing within the context of rather conventional buildings (see streetscape photos). The more restrained theatre on Opelousas features a geometric design in brick. It too is very noticeable because it is so different from the buildings surrounding it.

Mission Revival Gas Station

Across the street from the theatre on Opelousas is a Mission Revival gas station. Its date cannot be documented from Sanborn maps. Gas stations of this type were built in Louisiana from the mid-1920s through the 1930s. In short, while this building might actually be just inside the current date range for Algiers Point, the staff is being conservative and including it in this submission.

Two Brick Veneered Residences

Located at the corner of Opelousas and Olivier, these two houses are not on the 1937 Sanborn map, but are there on the next map, which dates to 1950. Based on the two homes' architectural character, the staff feels confident that they were built earlier in the range rather than later -- i.e., that they are fifty years old. One is two stories with a tile roof. The other is a gabled one story cottage with a tile roof.

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CONTINUATION SHEET INTRUSIONS ITEM NUMBER PAGE 1

300 Opelousas	one story brick hospital
301 Opelousas	metal sheds
315 Opelousas	cinder block add-on office
338 Opelousas	gas station
351 Opelousas	brick office building
410-420 Opelousas	stucco and tile commercial building
411 Opelousas	brick movie theater
427 Opelousas	modern brick office building
428 Opelousas	modern brick house
438 Opelousas	large brick with cinder block and shingle building
441 Opelousas	modern brick office building
511 Opelousas	nondescript commercial structure
516 Opelousas	brick and mansard fronted apartments
605 Opelousas	nondescript stucco commercial building
606 Opelousas	two story modern brick house
625 Opelousas	nondescript commercial structure
648 Opelousas	three story brick hall
900 Opelousas	gas station
342 Slidell	large stucco commercial building
404-406 Slidell	modern frame house
600 Slidell	brick gymnasium
1020 Slidell	modern brick house
312 Evelina	cinder block building
321 Evelina	cinder block structure
217-223 Eliza	vacant lot
500 Eliza	two story modern brick rectory
8170819 Eliza	vacant lot
139-141 Alix	metal shed
205 Alix	modern brick house
628 Alix	two story brick addition to 349 Vallette

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CONTINUATION SHEET **INTRUSIONS** ITEM NUMBER PAGE **3**

733 Nunez	modern brick residence
701 Teche	two story apartment
420 Bermuda	modern brick house
441 Bermuda	stucco store
504-506 Verret	brick office building
512 Verret	brick bank
543 Olivier	brick veneer house
624 Olivier	modern brick house
258 Vallette	modern brick house
338 Vallette	modern brick house
546 Vallette	modern brick house
605-607 Vallette	brick veneer front with mansard house
339 Belleville	modern brick house
216 Elmira	one story brick hall, American Legion
200-274 Elmira	warehouse and storage yard for La. Power and Light
320 Elmira	modern brick house
343 Elmira	modern brick house
417-421 Elmira	two story brick apartments
540 Elmira	modern brick residence

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CONTINUATION SHEET **INTRUSIONS** ITEM NUMBER PAGE **4**

100 block Pacific	vacant lot
201-237 Pacific	warehouse and storage yard for La. Power and Light
200-202 Pacific	modern brick residence
228 Pacific	modern brick house
527 Pacific	modern cinder block house
523 Atlantic	two story cinder block house
601 Atlantic	modern brick veneer house

ALGIERS POINT

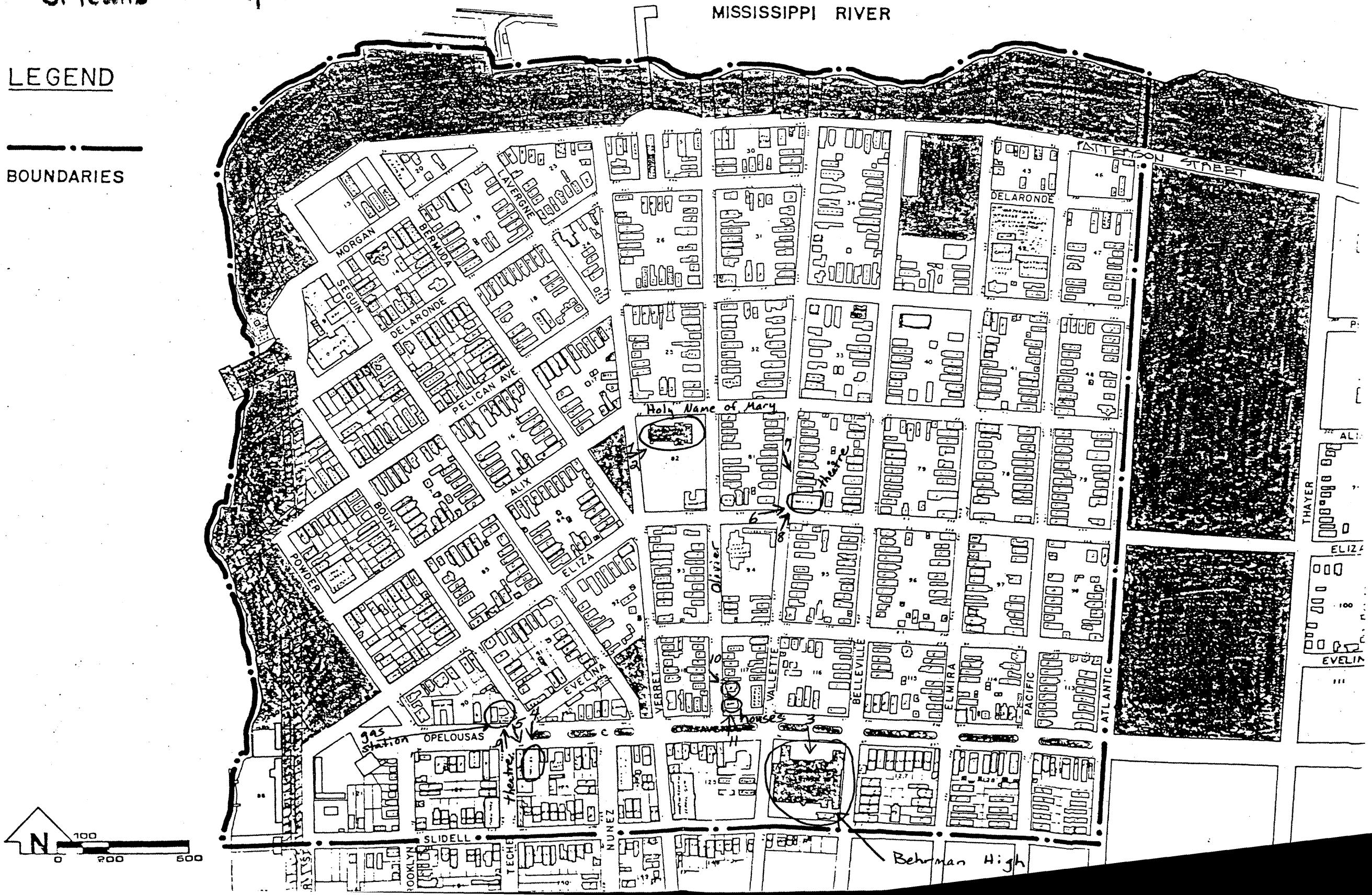
ARCHITECTURAL DISTRICT MAP

Orleans Parish, LA

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

LEGEND

--- BOUNDARIES







ALGIERS POINT

AGE OF STRUCTURES MAP



LEGEND

-  PRE 1860
-  1860 - 1910
-  1910 - 1927
-  1927 - PRESENT



ALGIERS POINT


PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY MAP

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

LEGEND

 BOUNDARIES

 FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHED

 POSITION OF CAMERA AND NUMBER OF PHOTOGRAPH

 EXTENT OF VIEW



ALGIERS POINT

ARCHITECTURAL DISTRICT MAP

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

LEGEND

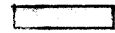
BOUNDARIES



PIVOTAL STRUCTURES



PARKS AND
OPEN SPACES



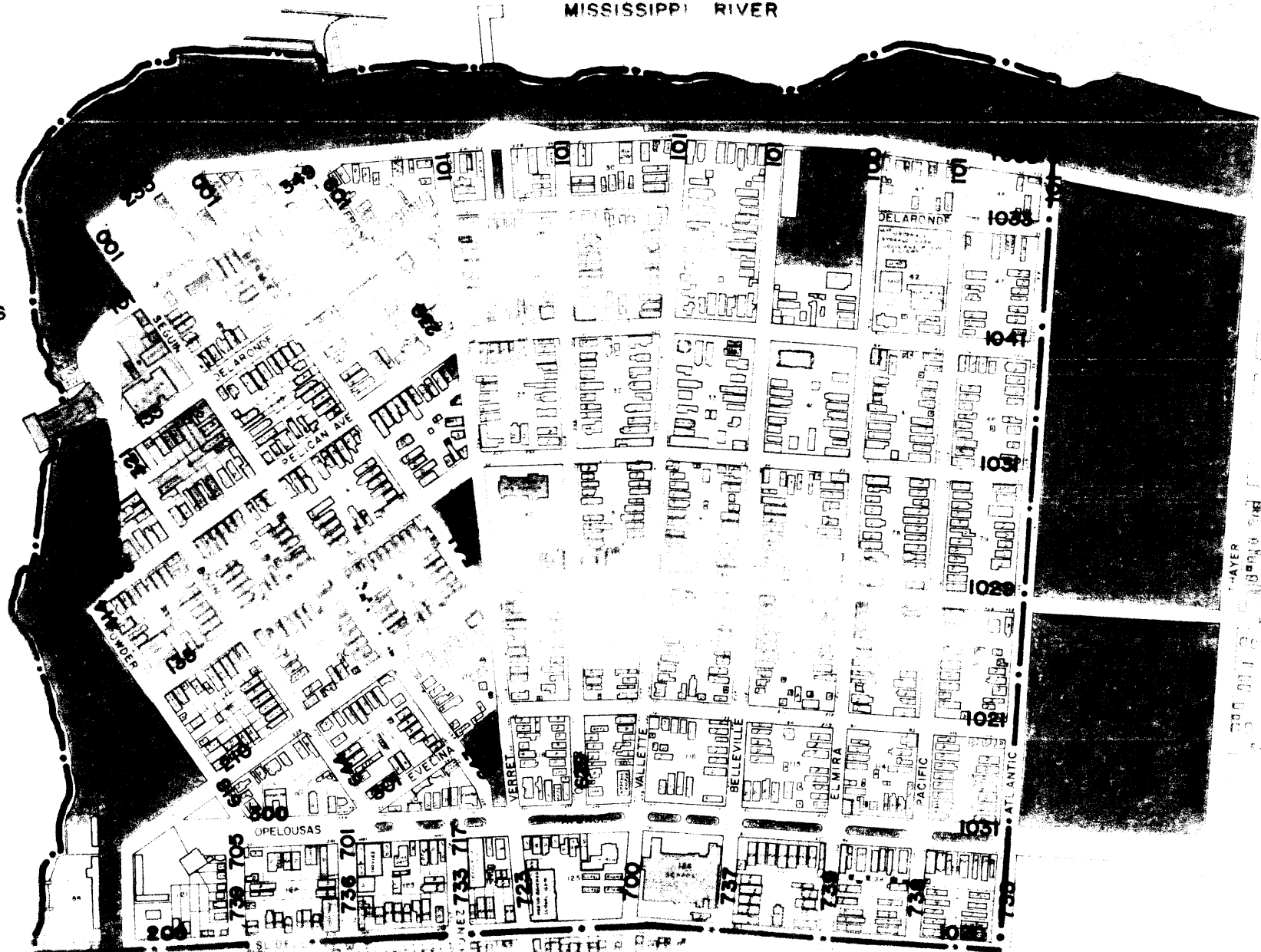
INTRUSIONS

101-999

ALL INCLUSIVE
STREET NUMBERS

TYPE OF DISTRICT:

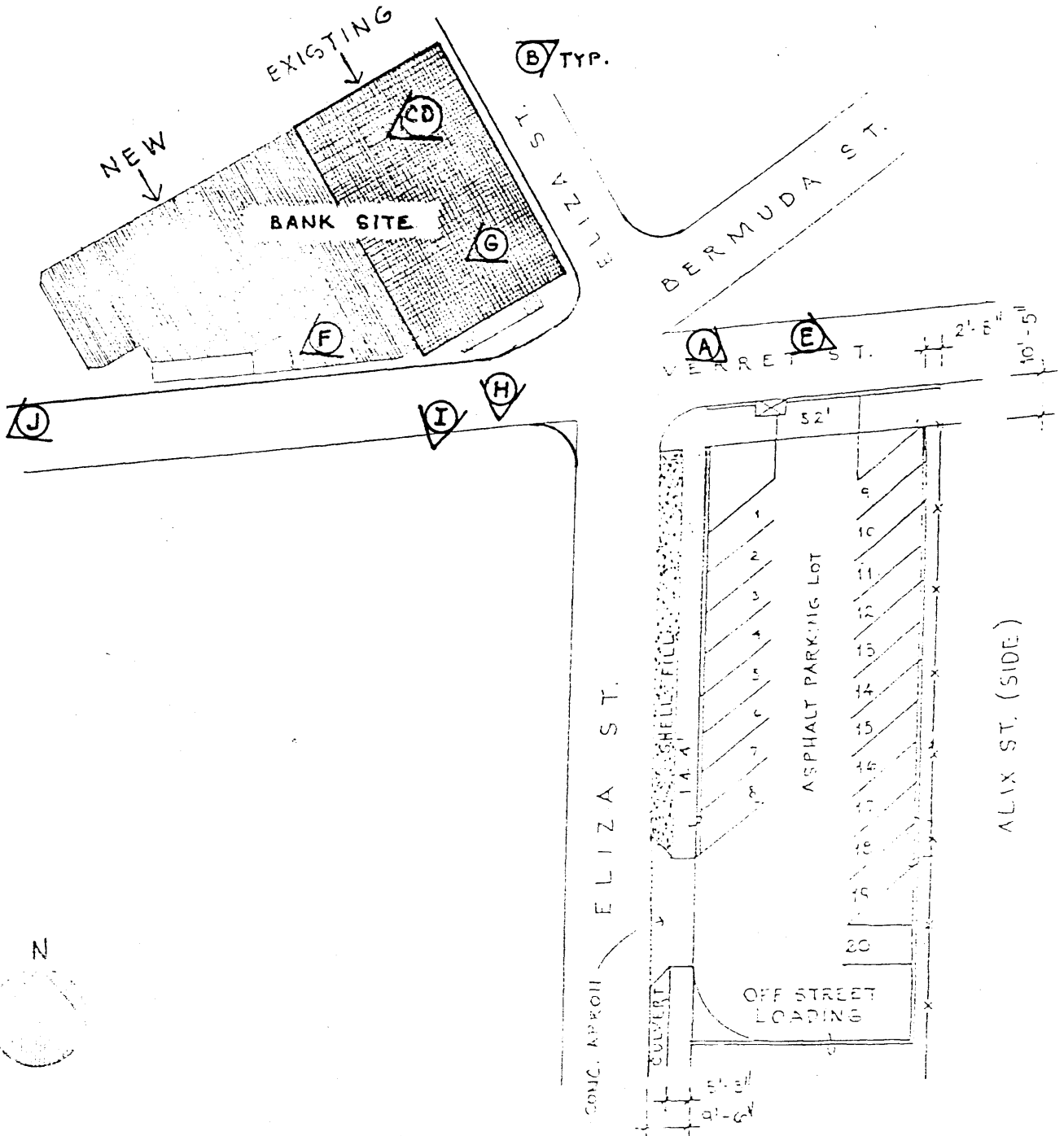
RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
PUBLIC
PARKS



SOURCE: CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

SITE PLAN (AND PHOTOGRAPH DIAGRAM)

SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



Fixed Sash

Plate Glass

Cast Stone

Cast Stone

Fixed Steel Sash

Plate Glass

Plate Glass

3-5

10"

A

7 1/2"

7 1/2"

3-0

8 1/2"

2-5 3/8"

8 1/2"

Drainage Cover
Door & Frame

Cast Stone

1-10 1/4"

7 1/2"

1-0"

1-0"

7 1/2"

Cast Stone Step



