

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JUN 20 1983
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Bouverans Plantation House (also Arialo)

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number LA HWY 1, @ 1 1/2 miles southeast of Lockport N/A not for publication

city, town Lockport X vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Lafourche Parish code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Rene A. and Barbara R. Claudet 504-532-6157

street & number Route 1, Box 58

city, town Lockport N/A vicinity of state LA 70374

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lafourche Parish Courthouse

street & number 200 Green Street

city, town Thibodaux state LA 70301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition
 excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Bouverans (c.1860) is a two-story brick and frame house which combines French Creole and American Greek Revival architectural features. The house is located on the west bank of Bayou Lafourche approximately one-and-one-half miles southeast of the town of Lockport. Despite several changes, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

There are two popularly held theories concerning Bouverans' construction date. One is that it was built sometime between 1852 and 1860 for Augustin Cunio. The other is that the house was built for Pierre Joseph Claudet between 1860 and 1862. A c.1860 date is not implausible given the architectural evidence. The only clue that would lead one to suspect an earlier date is the fact that the house is pit sawn; however, this in and of itself is not conclusive evidence.

Bouverans' Creole architectural features include:

- (1) The fact that as originally built the lower story did not have a finished interior and was largely devoted to service spaces.
- (2) The use of brick construction on the lower story and frame construction on the upper story.
- (3) The use of French doors on the upper front gallery.
- (4) The wraparound mantels in the upper story.
- (5) The exterior stairs on the front gallery which run from the second story to the unfinished attic.

American Greek Revival architectural features include:

- (1) The central hall on both stories.
- (2) The use of a central entrance on both stories.
- (3) The fact that despite their wraparound designs, the mantels feature a simple and heavy aedicule motif style.
- (4) The shoulder molded openings on the upper front gallery.
- (5) The upper front gallery with its six Doric posts and heavy frieze.

All of the second story rooms feature exposed and beaded beams. Two such beams run the length of the upper central hall for an uninterrupted distance of forty-five feet. The shutters are of the fixed louver type on the front gallery and close over the original French doors.

The following changes have been made in the house since construction:

- (1) The lower story has been converted for living space, although the old stucco walls have been left exposed.
- (2) The upper rear gallery has been enclosed. (The cabinets are still evident in the floorplan, but they are, of course, no longer visible from the exterior.)

CONTINUED

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Continuation sheet Bouverans

Item number 7

Page 2

7. Description (continued)

- (3) A staircase has been installed on the interior.
- (4) In about 1900 the walls of the upper hall were sheathed in narrow gauge beaded board.
- (5) The upper story has been resheathed in aluminum siding, although a vapor barrier was installed to protect against moisture damage.
- (6) The side windows and shutters on the upper story have been replaced.

Assessment of Integrity:

Bouverans is significant because of its mixture of Creole and Greek Revival features. Despite the aforementioned changes, the house still has more Creole features than any other major example of Greek Revival architecture in the parish. Hence it retains its significance as an example of the mixture of the two styles.

Bouverans is also significant as an example of a Greek Revival residence. In the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office, the house still retains all the features which establish it as such--i.e., the gallery, the shoulder molded openings, the mantels, and the symmetrical articulation.

The addition of new siding is the most significant change the house has undergone. Despite this, we feel that the siding has little visual impact when compared with Bouverans' historic features.

NB: The above changes refer to architectural elements of the house. At the time the enclosed photographs were taken, the house was under restoration. It will be noticed in photos 4-6 that some of the walls and openings are under repair. This work will be completed shortly.

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.1860 **Builder/Architect** uncertain--see Item 7

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

Bouverans is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a rare surviving example of a leading architectural trend in antebellum Lafourche Parish--the transition from Creole to Greek Revival architecture. It is also an important example of a Greek Revival influenced plantation house within the context of Lafourche Parish.

Much of the architectural history of the Acadian parishes centers upon the gradual inculcation of American architecture into the Creole traditions of the area. This process began in about 1820 and lasted essentially until the Civil War era. Bouverans stands near the end of this transition both because of its date (c.1860) and because, although Creole features are clearly present, the American Greek Revival style dominates the character of the house. Because of this, Bouverans is exemplary of the final stage in the process. Most of the extant antebellum residences of Lafourche Parish reflect the Greek Revival style and do not retain many vestiges of the Creole influence. Hence Bouverans is very important because it represents a transition which was very much a part of the parish's architectural development and which is not much in evidence today.

Bouverans is also significant on the parish level as an example of a Greek Revival plantation house. The importance of the house within the context of Lafourche Parish can be illustrated by examining the census schedules of 1860. On the eve of the Civil War, there were thirty-seven large slaveholdings (i.e., fifty or more slaves) in the parish. Of these, the average size per slaveholding was 104.3 and only two involved individuals who did not reside in the parish. In addition, there were undoubtedly numerous slaveholdings of less than 50. Given the above, it is clear that there must have been numerous Greek Revival influenced plantation houses in Lafourche Parish on the eve of the Civil War (probably at least 30). However, as far as the State Historic Preservation Office is aware, there are only seven substantial remaining examples. Consequently Bouverans is of special importance in the architectural heritage of the parish.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Louisiana Historic Standing Structures Survey, Lafourche Parish.

Stahls, Paul F., Jr. Plantation Homes of the Lafourche Country. Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Company, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @1/6th of an acre

Quadrangle name Houma, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UTM References

A

1	5	7	4	1	2	1	0	1	0	3	1	3	8	1	0	2	1	5	1	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

Please refer to the attached sketch map.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff, Division of Historic Preservation ASSISTED BY OWNERS

organization State of Louisiana date April 1983

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-6682

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

Robert B. DeBlieux
date June 9, 1983

title State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

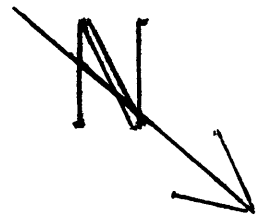
date 7/21/83

for Allous Byers
Keeper of the National Register

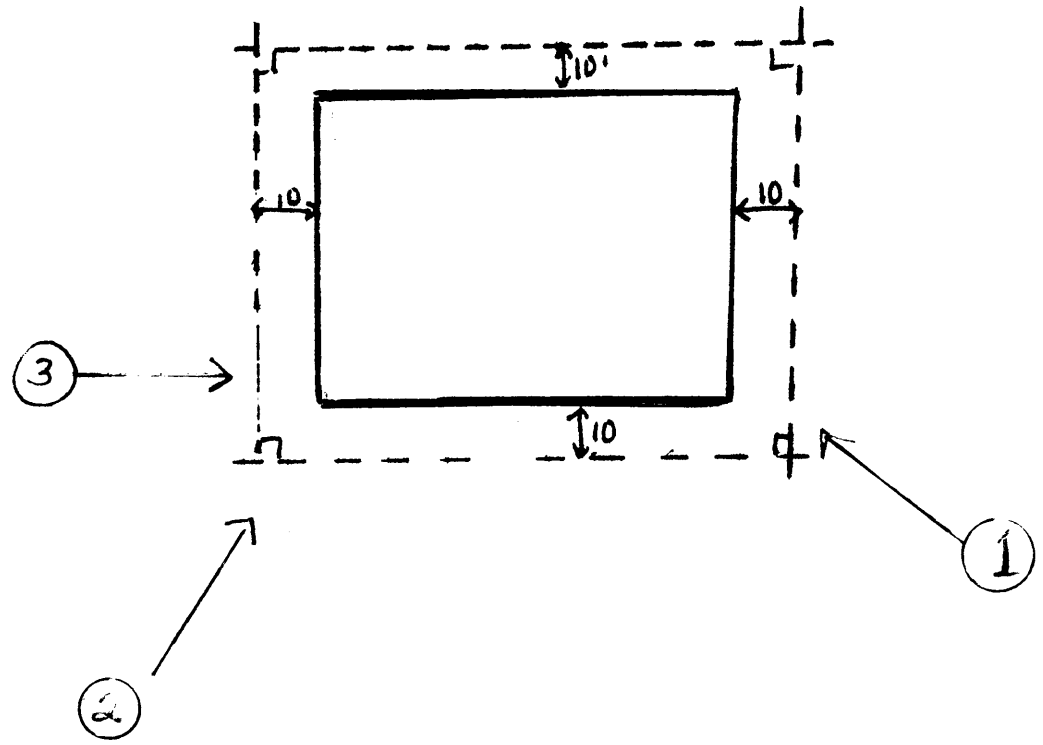
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



SITE Boundaries are
PARALLEL TO BLDG. Facades,
Distances as shown.
THE HOUSE FACES HWY 1.



LA HWY. 1.

BOUVERANS,
LOCKPORT, LA.
LAFORCHE PARISH.

JMR