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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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

historic name Ory House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number corner Highland Road and Jean Lafitte Avenue N/A  not for publication

city or town Baton Rouge N/A  vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county East Baton Rouge code 33 zip code 70810

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.)

*Gerri Hobdy*

December 17, 1992

Signature of certifying official/Title Gerri Hobdy, Date

LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

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

Entered in the  
National Register

Date of Action

*Helene Byrum*

1/21/93

Ory House  
Name of Property

East Baton Rouge 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	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

Louisiana's French Creole Architecture

**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)

WORK IN PROGRESS

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: French Creole

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Wood  
walls Weatherboard  
Stucco  
roof Shake  
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**

Ory House, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA  
Section number 7 Page 1

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The Ory House (c. 1830-1835) is a one-story French Creole bousillage cottage. It stands on a suburban site which was once a rural farmstead. Also located on the property is a large Creole house (Les Chenes Verts) which was moved to the site in 1991 and is being separately nominated to the Register. The Ory House was moved some fifty feet to accommodate the larger house. The visual relationship between the two houses is shown in Photo 2. Despite some alterations, the Ory House retains its National Register eligibility.

In addition to bousillage walls, Creole features found in the Ory House include the following:

- 1) a Class III gabled umbrella roof with central chimney,
- 2) a French braced frame,
- 3) a full length gallery,
- 4) exposed unbeaded ceiling beams on the gallery and in the interior, and
- 5) a hall-less floorplan reflecting Creole geometry. This plan consists of two equal sized rooms in front and smaller rooms of equal size in the rear. Although not original to the structure, a very early staircase rises from the north rear room to the attic.

Although not a Creole characteristic, an interesting feature of the house is the fact that it stands raised upon cypress block piers.

The Ory House had endured some change and general deterioration before it was moved in 1991 to a new location only 50 feet from its original site and well within the lines of its original plot. Examples of these alterations include:

- 1) the loss of the gallery's columns and flooring,
- 2) the loss of the plank partition between the two front rooms,
- 3) the installation of twentieth century double windows on both side elevations,
- 4) the loss of the home's original mantels, French doors, and the plaster which covered the two front rooms' interior walls,
- 5) changes to the rear entrances, and
- 6) the rebuilding of the brick chimney as a result of the move.

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**United States Department of the Interior  
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Ory House, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

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Despite the alterations, the Ory House retains its overall Creole architectural character and many of its important Creole features. As a rare example of an architectural tradition which once dominated East Baton Rouge Parish, the Ory House is a worthy candidate for National Register listing.

NOTE: The platforms which appear in the accompanying photographs were placed on the roof to aid workmen during its repair. The platforms were removed shortly after the photos were made.

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.
XX 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
XX 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. 1830 - 1835

Significant Dates

c. 1830 - 1835

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:

Ory House  
Name of Property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** less than an acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 686180 | 3358740 |  
Zone Easting Northing  
2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
Zone Easting Northing  
4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

Please refer to sketch map.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date November 1992

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

city or town Baton Rouge state LA 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 F. Wayne and Cheryl T. Stromeyer

street & number 7109 Woodstock Drive telephone (504) 928-7109

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70809

**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.

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

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Ory House, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

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The Ory House is locally significant in the area of architecture as a rare example of the Creole style, and more importantly, of bousillage construction within East Baton Rouge Parish.

Bousillage was a prevalent form of construction in French Louisiana during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Undoubtedly there were numerous examples in East Baton Rouge Parish at one time. The Ory House, however, is one of only five that are thought to survive.

In addition, the house has a lesser degree of significance as an example of the Creole style within the parish, where only a handful of French Creole structures remain. Furthermore, the small size of the Ory House is important because it is typical of the many smaller Creole houses across South Louisiana. These were far more numerous than grand Creole houses such as Parlange (NHL, Pointe Coupee Parish) or Magnolia Mound (NR, East Baton Rouge Parish). However, they have not tended to survive in East Baton Rouge Parish, and the Ory House is one of only three small Creole cottages which remain. Characteristics which establish the house as an example of the style include the umbrella roof with central chimney, the hall-less plan, the exposed ceiling beams, the braced frame, and the use of bousillage.

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**Continuation Sheet**

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Site visit by National Register staff.

Staff knowledge of Creole properties within East Baton Rouge Parish.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

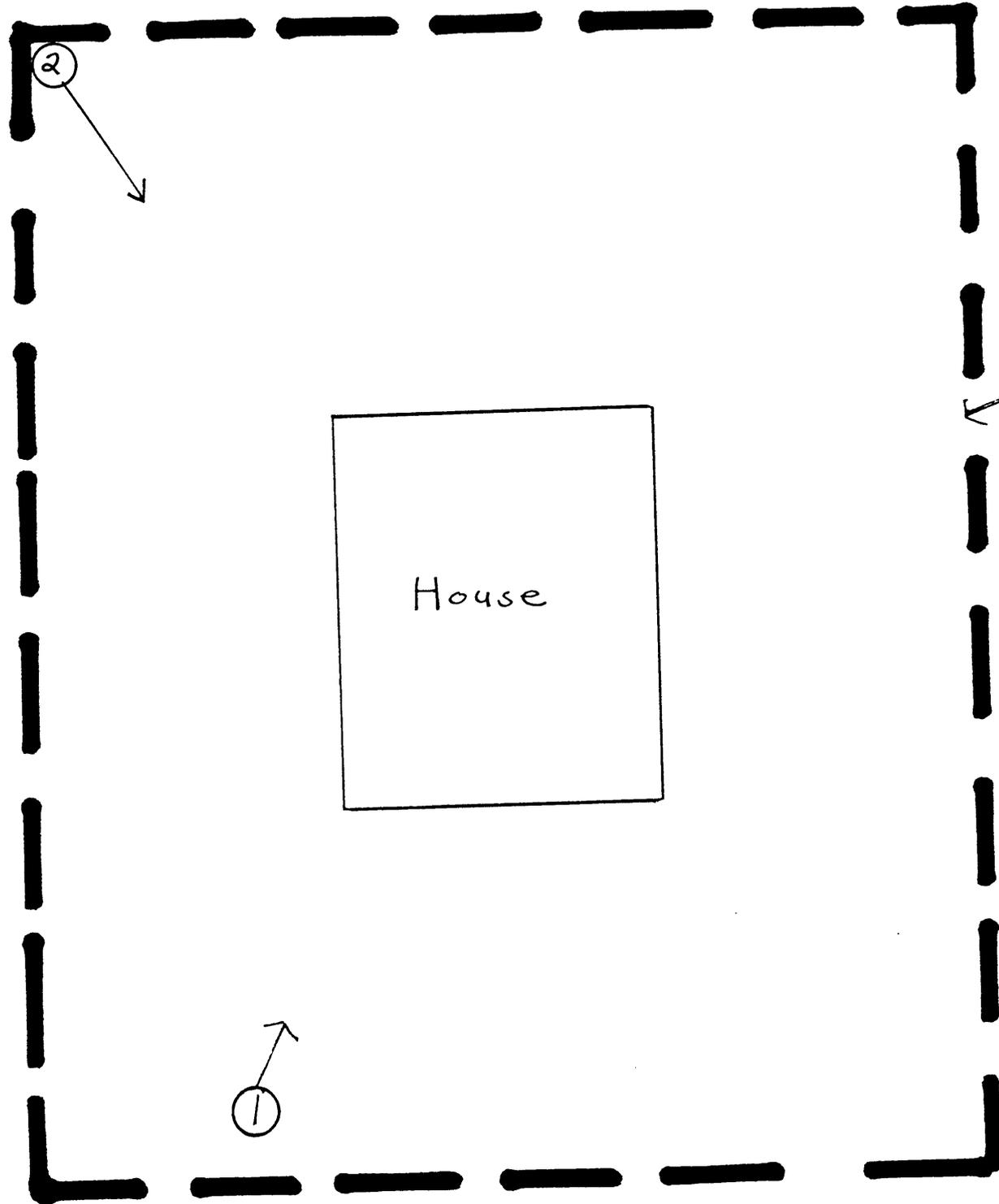
Ory House, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

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Boundary Justification

As noted in Part 7, the Ory House was moved some 50 feet when Les Chenes Verts, a large Creole house, was moved onto the property. Boundary lines are fairly discrete because of the proximity of Les Chenes Verts, as shown in Photo 2.



House



ORY HOUSE  
BATON ROUGE,  
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH,  
LOUISIANA

Boundary 

Scale: 1" = 15'