

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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received

OCT 11 1984

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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 (Sidney Martin) House

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number 310 Sidney Martin Road,

N/A not for publication

city, town Lafayette

N/A vicinity of

state Louisiana

code 22

~~XXXXXX~~ parish

Lafayette

code 055

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 type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frank Preston

(318) 237-6996

street & number 310 Sidney Martin Road

city, town Lafayette

N/A vicinity of

state LA 70507

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Lafayette Parish Courthouse

street & number 221 W. Main Street

P. O. Box 2009

city, town Lafayette

state LA 70502

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Lafayette Parish Historical
title Site Inventory Page 20

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Volume I - June, 1976

federal state county local

depository for survey records Lafayette Regional Planning Commission

city, town Lafayette

state LA

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 N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sidney Martin House (c1835) is a two and one half story classic raised cottage. The first story has walls constructed of common bond one and one half bricks thick. The first story floor is of cypress and is raised above the ground level about one (1) foot. There are four fully finished rooms, three of which have fireplaces. This story retains an amazing amount of original architectural features including all original cypress mantels, glazed French doors, beaded ceilings, fabulous interior winding staircase and banisters as well as much of the wide cypress flooring.

The second story is of bousillage construction and has the typical six room creole floor plan. The second story interior retains an unbelievable amount of original architectural fabric; the three (3) cypress mantels and their hearth brickwork intact, all doors, almost all iron hardware, all flooring (never painted), all plaster, many original painted surfaces never repainted, and original glazed French doors. Throughout there is an almost eerie lack of marks of use and abuse almost always found in houses of this early period.

The attic story was originally composed of three (3) rooms of bousillage construction but was demolished in a 1919 remodeling and lowering of the roof.

The exterior form of the house is intact with the exception of the 1919 lowered roof line. Other 1919 renovation details include the second story columns, eave overhang and stucco on first story. The current owners are undertaking a complete archaeologically based restoration of the exterior and interior which will meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards for historic preservation projects.

Measurements:

Plan: 46'9" wide by 45'5"

Ceiling Height: 1st story 8'10"

2nd story 9'0" front gallery and rear rooms

11'0" central three (3) rooms

ITEM 7 ADDENDUM BY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

The 1919 alterations mentioned in the consultant prepared nomination form have to a large extent been corrected. The enclosed current photographs indicate the house's present appearance. The only feature which has not been corrected (and cannot be corrected) is the stuccoing of the first story. The replacement second story columns appear to have been copied from other period examples in the area. They are certainly appropriate to the house.

Assessment of Integrity:

Despite the aforementioned changes and replacements, the Martin House still retains most of its original Creole features--i.e., its plan, bousillage construction, form, French doors, staircase, hardware, mantels, etc. Moreover, in its restored state it conveys the Creole style very well.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1835

Builder/Architect

Builder: Juan Baptiste Mouton (Fils)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Sidney Martin House is significant on the local level in the area of architecture in that it is a classic example of a medium size two and one half story creole plantation house with a high level of originality and intactness. Though a building contract for it has not been uncovered, it was certainly built by "Mr. Moellon" who built the strikingly similar Charles Homer Mouton House and Couret House. These three houses are certainly the most architecturally significant and intact plantation houses in Lafayette Parish today. Though these houses all represent the blending of both French Creole and Anglo American style architectural motifs, of the three the Sidney Martin house exhibits the most French features-- i.e., Creole hall-less floor plan, exterior French doors, bousillage walls, and internal fireplace locations. In the Sidney Martin house today one can discover 1) the polycultural makeup of early 19th century Louisiana, 2) inventive adaptation to environmental forces, as well as creative achievement in the visual arts using native materials.

ITEM 8 ADDENDUM BY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

The Sidney Martin House is locally significant in the area of architecture as an important example of the Creole style within the context of Lafayette Parish. The importance of the house can best be seen if one considers it as part of Lafayette Parish's overall historic patrimony. The Lafayette Council of Government's Historical Sites Inventory has identified 203 structures in the parish which date prior to 1921. Among these there are thirty-eight Creole or Creole influenced houses which date from the first half of the nineteenth century. These Creole houses are important because collectively they represent the parish's French heritage. The Martin House is important because it is one of only a handful of Creole houses in the parish which can be considered fully fledged plantation houses as opposed to cottages or cabins. It is one of only four examples which are two full stories high. In its restored state it presents the correct historical appearance of a Creole plantation house and hence stands as an architectural landmark in the parish.

NB: The Sidney Martin House is so named for the man who owned it from 1918 to 1976.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lafayette Parish Conveyance Records

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 1 acre

Quadrangle name Carencro, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A 1,5 | 5,9,5 | 0,0,0 | 3,3 | 4,9 | 8,7,5
Zone Easting Northing

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of a 200' by 200' square which follows the cardinal compass directions and which is centered at the center of the house. One acre was deemed sufficient to take in the immediate setting of the house.

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 Robert E. Smith

organization N/A date August 25, 1982

street & number Route 2, Box 1220 telephone (318) 332-2852

city or town Breaux Bridge state LA 70517

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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

title State Historic Preservation Officer date September 27, 1984

For NPS use only

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

for [Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date 11-8-84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



SIDNEY MARTIN
HOUSE

PHOTO DIRECTION
MAP

LAFAYETTE PARISH, LA.