

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Hebert House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 919 East Main St. N/A not for publication

city or town Brusly N/A vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county West Baton Rouge code 121 zip code 70719

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 9/1/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Gerri Hobdy, Louisiana SHPO, Department 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 Delores Byers Date of Action 10/7/93

Delores Byers 10/7/93

Hebert House
Name of Property

West 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		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)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: French Creole

Federal

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Hebert House, Brusly, West Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

Located in West Baton Rouge Parish, the one-and-one-half story Hebert House (c. 1830-1840) is a frame dwelling in the French Creole style with some Anglo-American influence. The house stands a short distance from the Mississippi River levee in the west bank community of Brusly. Although it has experienced a short move and some alteration over the years, it remains eligible for National Register listing.

The Hebert House historically stood between the River Road and the Mississippi River across from Brusly's Catholic Church. This site, approximately three blocks south of the home's present location, is now under water due to 1930s levee construction and river encroachment. Thus, the 1932 move was necessary to save the house. Although the structure no longer faces the river, it remains within a block of the current levee. Since the house previously stood in a semi-urban rather than a rural setting, its current location on a wooded residential street is not inappropriate.

The Hebert Home's Creole features include 1) a Class III gabled umbrella roof, 2) a pegged roof support system with Roman numerals carved into the wood, 3) French doors of pegged construction, 4) surviving interior bousillage walls, and 5) exposed ceiling beams on the gallery and throughout the original house. Although some of these beams are plain, the majority are beaded in the manner preferred by the Creoles.

The home's Anglo-American features include its floorplan and certain decorative elements. The floorplan is that of the traditional Georgian and Greek Revival layout of two equal sized rooms on each side of a central hall. This plan gives the facade a central emphasis not found on earlier Creole homes. The building's Anglo-American decorative elements reflect the Federal and Greek Revival styles. For example, a Federal mantel is found in the home's southeast room. It features paneled pilasters which rise from simply molded bases. These pilasters support an entablature which continues the paneling motif at the mantel's edges. A similar but not identical Federal mantel stands in the next room. It features slightly more elaborate moldings than those found on the first mantelpiece. However, its vertical decorative members have been lost. A Greek Revival transom surmounts the French door which opens into the central hall, and the interior doors are of the four panel type commonly found in Greek Revival houses.

Alterations to the Hebert House can be divided into four categories. The first concerns those changes made during the historic period before the move. They include the installation of new mantels in the home's two western rooms, the construction of a small polygonal room on the east side of the building around 1900, the replacement of the home's original windows with two-over-two windows dating to the late nineteenth century, and the addition of a kitchen at the rear during the 1920s. In addition to the change in orientation, alterations associated with the move include the loss of the bousillage in the exterior walls, the construction of a small bathroom wing on the home's west side, and the lowering of the structure by approximately three-and-one-half feet.

CONTINUED

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Hebert House, Brusly, West Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2

During the 1980s the home was updated by the current owners. In addition to restoring the original floorplan (which had been divided into apartments), the owners:

- 1) converted the attic into living space. This conversion necessitated the addition of a stairway in the southeast room, the removal of the 1930s chimneys down to the attic floor level, the shortening of an opening in one gable, and the installation of new windows in the gables.
- 2) remodeled the kitchen and added a short hall, utility room and bath at the rear, and
- 3) replaced rotten material on the exterior. This included 30 to 40% of the weatherboards, the fascia above the gallery, three gallery pillars, and the pillars' capitals.

The final category of changes focuses upon those which cannot be dated. These include the previously mentioned loss of one mantel's vertical members and apparent alterations on the gallery. Although concrete information is unavailable, it is believed that an attic stair once stood on the gallery. The unusually close spacing of the two columns on the gallery's eastern end suggests that this stairway might have stood in that location. Latticework now covers the bay created by these columns. In addition, "ghost marks" on the surviving original columns indicate that the railing has been moved or replaced.

Despite these changes, the Hebert House retains its National Register eligibility because its Creole character still dominates. This is reflected in the massing of the umbrella roof, the pegged roof frame, the exposed ceiling beams, the bousillage interior walls, and the pegged French doors. Furthermore, all of the additions are at the side or rear, and none has a serious impact upon the facade. Only damaged pieces of siding and woodwork were removed, leaving the rest intact. The replaced gallery pillars replicate the originals. As a rare example of the French Creole style within West Baton Rouge Parish, the Hebert House is a viable candidate for National Register listing.

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.
- 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.
- 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.1830-1840

Significant Dates

c.1830-1840

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:

Hebert House
Name of Property

West 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	1 5	6 6 9 7 0 0	3 3 6 2 8 2 0
	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.)

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 July 1993

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

city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana 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 Lucy Peavy Landry

street & number P. O. Box 176 telephone (504) 749-2981

city or town Brusly state Louisiana zip code 70719

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.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Hebert House, Brusly, West Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

The Hebert House is locally significant in the area of architecture within West Baton Rouge Parish because it is a rare example of the French Creole influence in an area once dominated by this building tradition.

Like the other parishes along the lower Mississippi, West Baton Rouge was originally settled by Frenchmen who built houses in the Creole tradition. Hundreds of such structures must have existed at one time. However, the parish's partially completed historic structures inventory indicates that most of these Creole houses have been lost or deteriorated to the extent that their integrity is compromised. The data from the surveyed region can be taken as indicative of the entire parish's surviving Creole patrimony because the completed area, examined by an authority familiar with West Baton Rouge's history and settlement patterns, includes all of the parish's high probability sites for Creole settlement (i.e., the River Road).

The data shows a preliminary total of 73 houses (from over 211, 50+ year old buildings surveyed to date) reflecting some Creole influence. However, the overwhelming majority of these buildings are quarters houses which are "Creole" only in that they exhibit the general massing (umbrella roof and full facade gallery) of a Creole structure. Only ten of the 73 Creole-influenced buildings are more substantial, and of these, only six survive with enough stylistic features or historic integrity to merit their identification as genuine Creole homes. For example, two of the ten have received inappropriate additions and two others have had later stylistic features added to their facades. Although the Hebert Home reflects some Anglo-American influence, its Creole character is still dominant. This can be seen in its massing, roof framing, surviving interior bousillage walls, French doors, and exposed ceiling beams.

Historical Note

The Hebert House is named for the family associated with the home for the longest period of time (1918-1978). The building changed hands many times over the years. The first documented owner of the home was Bertrand Cazes, but it is not known if the house was built for him.

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Continuation Sheet

Hebert House, Brusly, West Baton Rouge Parish, LA

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Division of Historic Preservation, Standing Structures Survey of West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.

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Continuation Sheet**

Hebert House, Brusly, West Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 10 Page 1

Legal Property Description:

A certain lot or parcel of ground lying and being situated in the Town of Brusly, Parish of West Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, measuring 101' front on Main Street by a depth of 210', between parallel lines; bounded on the North by property now or formerly owned by Mrs. Alcidie Hebert Mondart, on the East by property now or formerly owned by George Hebert, on the South by Main Street, and on the West by property now or formerly owned by Joseph H. Hebert.

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries follow the property lines of the parcel of land upon which the nominated resource is located.