

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received SEP 18 1984

date entered OCT 18 1984

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

1. Name

historic LaBranche Plantation Dependency

and or common same; also known as Barbarra Plantation

2. Location

street & number ~~LA Hwy, 48 @ 4 miles SW of Kenner of LA 48~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Kenner ~~vic.~~ X vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish St. Charles code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Sal Lentini

street & number c/o Kenner City Hall

city, town Kenner N/A vicinity of state LA 70062

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Charles Parish Courthouse

street & number River Road (no specific address) P. O. Box 424

city, town Hahnville state LA 70057

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge 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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>N/A</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The LaBranche Plantation Dependency is an early-nineteenth century single story brick Creole house located near the Mississippi River Road on the east bank just inside the St. Charles Parish line. Despite several alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

The stuccoed brick structure consists of four 20' x 20' rooms with a nine foot deep gallery on three sides (see plan). This is encompassed by a slightly flared hip roof. Chimneys are set on the interior walls between rooms. The house is entered through sets of ten-light French doors on all four sides. Doorways are fitted with board and batten shutters. The galleries and interior ceilings feature beaded beams and beaded ceiling boards.

The house's four mantels, all of which are original, are its most impressive feature. Two feature paneled entablatures resting upon termini and two feature somewhat more elaborate entablatures resting upon engaged balusters. The mantel designs make extensive use of fluted sunburst motifs in various forms.

Alterations:

1. Two interior doorways have been refitted with late-nineteenth century paneled doors.
2. Shelves have been installed in one of the rooms.
3. One of the walls has been furred out to provide for a small staircase and a half bath.
4. A carport has been attached.
5. A kitchen wing has been added.
6. All of the original columns have been lost.

Assessment of Integrity:

In spite of these changes, the LaBranche Dependency represents an archetype so rare that even a badly altered example should be considered significant in our opinion. In any case, the basic form and the significant features survive (see Item 8). Accretions are easily removable and the documentation exists to replace the present columns with exact copies of the original columns. (This is not the case with numerous Creole houses whose columns or other features are missing.)

NB: The present owner claims a date of c.1792 for the LaBranche Dependency; however, the architectural evidence suggests a date sometime during the early nineteenth century.

NB: The owner is planning to restore the house using the tax incentives available to depreciable Register properties.

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 early 1800's **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The LaBranche Plantation Dependency is of statewide significance in the area of architecture as a rare and superior example of the Creole style.

The importance of the dependency rests upon its elaborate and pretentious detailing. Both its beams and ceiling boards are beaded, which alone makes it superior to numerous other surviving examples of the Creole style. Beyond this, it has high quality mantels which are very unexpected on a house so small. With their strong moldings, elaborate sunburst motifs, and complex engaged balusters, the dependency's mantels are commensurate with those of a major Creole plantation house. Most Creole houses the size of the LaBranche Dependency were built as plantation houses in their own right and had the relatively plain styling appropriate to a smaller Creole house. But the LaBranche Dependency was built as an ancillary building to a plantation house of the first rank and was styled accordingly. Very few if any comparable dependencies survive in Louisiana. Hence the LaBranche Dependency is undoubtedly one of the state's most richly and impressively styled smaller Creole houses. It is also significant as a rare example of a residential plantation dependency from the early nineteenth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey of Select Creole Houses by Tulane University Architecture Department, Personal communication with Gene Cizek, project director, In progress.
Overdyke, W. Darrell. Louisiana Plantation Homes: Colonial and Ante Bellum, New York: Architectural Book Publishing Co., Inc., 1965.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1/4th of an acre

Quadrangle name Luling, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5
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7	5	9	0	5	0
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3	3	1	6	1	1	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries shown on the attached map were chosen to encompass the significant resource. They form a discrete rectangle which follows the property line on one side and excludes a modern ranch house on the other.

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 ASSISTED BY OWNERS
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana date July 1984

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

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date September 12, 1984

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 10-18-84

for Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

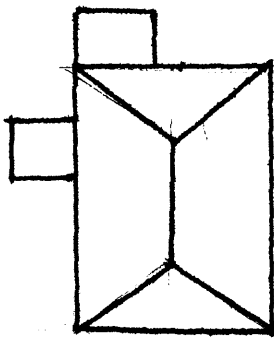
Chief of Registration

100'

MODERN
RANCH
HOUSE

1

DRIVEWAY



PROPERTY LINE

2

50'

dimensioned
from edge of
original house

50'

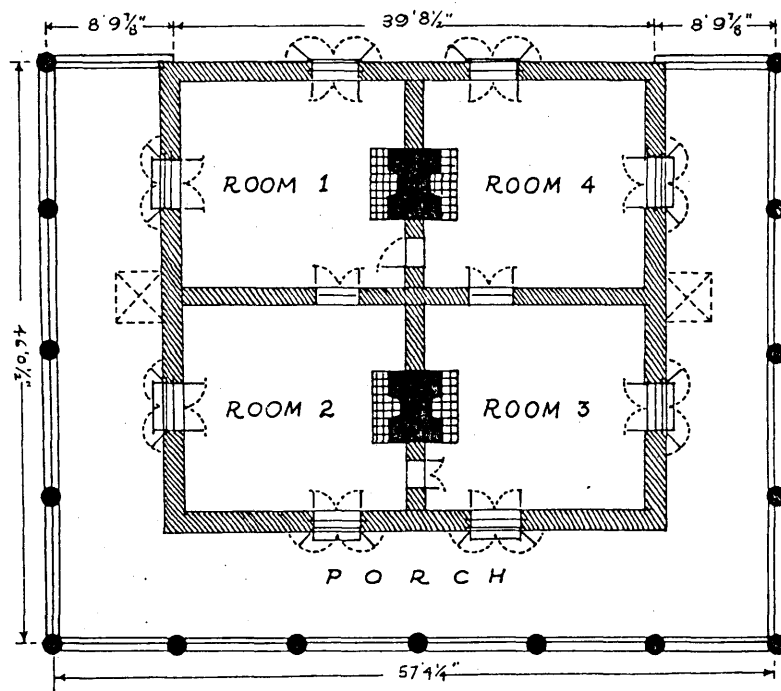


NOT TO
SCALE

APPROX 1/4
ACRE

LABRANCHE PLANTATION
DEPENDENCY

ST. CHARLES PARISH,
LA.



ORIGINAL FLOOR
PLAN

LA BRANCHE PLANTATION
DEPENDENCY

ST. CHARLES PARISH,
LA.