

100 0001 DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 15 1975

DATE ENTERED JUL 30 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC St. Louis Cemetery II

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 3 Squares bounded by Claiborne, Robertson, St. Louis, Iberville Streets

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2 - Lindy Boggs

STATE

Louisiana

CODE

22

COUNTY

Orleans

CODE

071

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Archdiocese of New Orleans, Roman Catholic Church

STREET & NUMBER

7887 Walmsley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

VICINITY OF

STATE

Louisiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City Hall

STREET & NUMBER

Loyola Avenue

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

STATE

Louisiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic Survey for City Planning, Regional Planning

DATE

1969

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Regional Planning and City Planning Offices

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

STATE

Louisiana

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Louis II was established in 1823. Maps of the period show the cemetery as one continuous piece of property running from Canal to St. Louis Street. The division of the cemetery into separate squares was done when Iberville, Bienville, Conti, and St. Louis Streets were cut through in July 1847. The graves under what became Bienville and Conti Streets were relocated within the cemetery. The square between Canal and Iberville was never completely used as a cemetery plot and was eventually sold, leaving the three squares as they exist today. The three blocks are filled with a variety of above ground tombs. These tombs line various avenues and walkways within the cemetery walls and create a most unique appearance when compared with the numerous other cemeteries in the United States.

Many of the tombs resemble small houses and the effect caused Benjamin H. Latrobe to describe this cemetery as a "City of the Dead." The cemetery is laid out with a straight center aisle and parallel side aisles. All three squares are surrounded by wall vaults except the Robertson Street side of the middle square. Sections on the Claiborne Avenue wall vaults are in ruinous condition, some beyond reuse. Many of the other "oven" vaults could be restored and reused.

The tombs are in various stages of repair or ruin. Many tombs are in excellent condition. Others are picturesquely overgrown with vines, trees, and ferns. Many of the tombs are still being used for contemporary burials.

The various family tombs are constructed of brick (often plastered and whitewashed), marble, and granite. The styles vary from a simple brick rectangular tomb to the most ornate marble Romantic revival design. Numerous benevolent association tombs were also constructed for various societies. These are usually large and designed with numerous vaults. The cemetery plots were owned by both black and white residents, and titles remain with descendants of the original owners.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

1823

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Louis Cemetery II is the second oldest cemetery in New Orleans. It was established so that burials would be further from the center of population in order to prevent the spread of diseases such as cholera and yellow fever by the "miasmas" thought to be emanating from St. Louis Cemetery No. I. It was consecrated for burials in August, 1823. (The Girod Street Cemetery, established in 1822 for New Orleans Protestants, was destroyed in 1957.) With their above ground burial, New Orleans cemeteries are among the most unusual in the United States.

Such burial provided an opportunity for artistic expression of craftsmen, artisan, and New Orleans' finest 19th century architects. Concentrated in the three squares of St. Louis II are notable tombs of brick, marble, granite and combined varieties of these materials which reflect the tastes and styles both traditional and popular with New Orleans' residents. A stylistic evolution can be traced in the development and change of tomb design. These designs are complemented by sculptural decorations and ironwork. Marble sculpture includes free standing figures, marble urns, and delicate relief carvings on the tomb and wall vault tablet doors. These tablets are often signed by local sculptors. Iron work -- fences, gates, and crosses -- is well represented with twenty-five varieties of cast iron and many enclosures of the finest wrought examples remaining in the country. Along with the traditional brick monuments, impressive granite and marble tombs are built in the neo-Classical, neo-Gothic, and Egyptian/Revival styles. Wall vaults commonly referred to as "ovens" because of their barrel brick vaulting surround these squares except for one block facing Robertson Street. These vaults, also found in St. Louis I, separate the cemetery blocks from the surrounding streets, apartment houses, and businesses. This architectural buffer contributes an element of unification to the squares both esthetically and physically. They are in themselves a unique element in relation to other American cemeteries. They provide beyond their architectural rarity a practical solution to the problem of multiple burials for those who did not wish or could not afford the more elaborate tombs. They are skillfully constructed of brick three or four tiers high. Many are faced with delicately carved marble tablets and many are expressive of a folk art providing a curious record of individualistic beliefs. A vocabulary of symbols and ideograms such as winged hour glasses, inverted torches, arrows, lyres, and urns in both marble and iron provide irreplaceable art forms.

Among the historically important people buried here are General Jean-Baptiste Plache who fought in the Battle of New Orleans; Francois Martin, jurist and author; Pierre Soule, senator and ambassador to Spain, Confederate provost marshal; Dominique You,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

New Orleans Architecture: The Cemeteries, Huber, McDowell and Christovich; Pelic Publishing Co., New Orleans, 1974.
The St. Louis Cemeteries of New Orleans, Samuel Wilson and Leonard Huber; St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans, 1968.
Benjamin Henry Latrobe's Impressions Respecting New Orleans edited by Samuel Wilson; Columbia U. Press, New York, 1951.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	7, 8, 2	3, 3, 1, 7	B			
	12, 5	1, 1, 5					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mary Louise Christovich, Acting Director

ORGANIZATION

Save Our Cemeteries

DATE

April 1975

STREET & NUMBER

900 Amethyst Street

TELEPHONE

(504) 282-0215

CITY OR TOWN

New Orleans

STATE

Louisiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

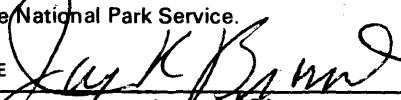
NATIONAL X

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE



Jay R. Broussard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

Director, Dept. of Art, Historical & Cultural Preservation July 11, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7/30/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

JUL 29 1975

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

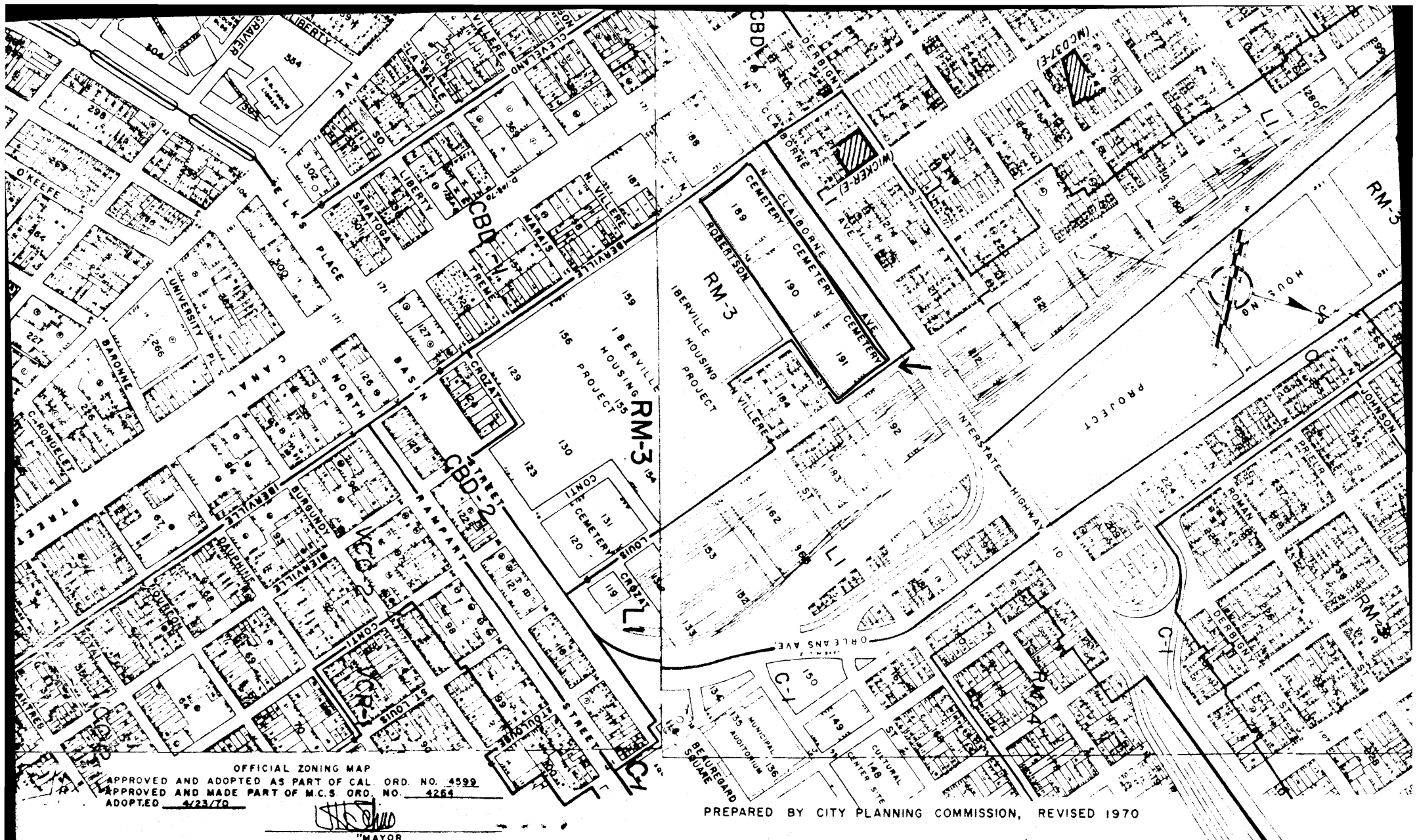
CONTINUATION SHEET

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pirate captain under Jean Lafitte who fought in the Battle of New Orleans and who later became a respected citizen; Major Daniel Carmick, United States Marine Corps, who fought in the Battle of New Orleans; James Freret, distinguished nineteenth century architect; Oscar J. Dunn, an octoroon plasterer and house painter who rose to be lieutenant governor of Louisiana during the Reconstruction era; Nicholas Girod, Mayor of New Orleans; and Charles Genois, Mayor of New Orleans. Architects and builders of some of the most impressive tombs include J. N. B. de Pouilly (buried St. Louis II); Newton Richards; P. H. Monsseaux (buried St. Louis II); Florville Foy; Isnard, and numerous artisan-carvers many of whom did not sign their work. Monuments of architectural significance are numerous; among the most notable are: family tombs designed by dePouilly --Fouche (1836-Roman sarcophagus), Dupeire (sarcophagus), J. M. Caballero (Gothic), Peniston and Duplantier (Greek Revival-granite), Plauche (Greek Revival "Marbre blanc de Nord"), Lacoste (Greek Revival without chapel, granite). The white marble Barelli tomb was probably imported from Italy and the Amable Charbonnet tomb was imported from France.

Item No. 10

Archives of St. Louis Cathedral and the Archdiocese of New Orleans



OFFICIAL ZONING MAP
 APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS PART OF CAL. ORD. NO. 4599
 APPROVED AND MADE PART OF M.C.S. ORD. NO. 4264
 ADOPTED 4/23/70

[Signature]
 "MAYOR"

PREPARED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION, REVISED 1970

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PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC St. Louis Cemetery II

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN New Orleans VICINITY OF COUNTY Orleans STATE Louisiana

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE City Planning Commission

SCALE DATE 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES