

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received AUG 9 1983
date entered SEP 21 1983**1. Name**

historic N/A

and/or common Longview

2. Location

street & number LA Hwy. 44 N/A not for publication

city, town Lutchet N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish ~~XXXX~~ St. James code 093**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military

4. Owner of Property

name Longview - St. James Corporation Joel H. Mitchell, General Partner

street & number 2926 Canal Street Office: (504) 821-2091 Home: (504) 482-3754

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of state LA 70119

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number River Road P. O. Box 63

city, town Convent state LA 70723

6. Representation in Existing Surveystitle LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1983 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA 70804

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☒ moved date 1927

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Longview (circa 1850) is a brick and frame, provincial Greek Revival, raised cottage plantation house. At one time the house had a rural setting behind the Mississippi River levee, but the town of Lutchter has since grown around it. Although Longview has been moved and considerably modified over the years, it retains its National Register eligibility.

Legend has it that the house was built by Joseph Gebelin in 1790; however, there is no architectural evidence to substantiate such an early date. The basic style of the house suggests a date of about 1835 or '40. However, the relatively large panes of glass in the French doors suggest a slightly later date -- perhaps 1850.

As originally built, the house had a five room plan with a pair of rear cabinets and an open area between. The front part of the house was three rooms wide with the center room symmetrically placed. Most of the openings were French doors with transoms; however, there were also some six over six windows on the lower service area. The main entrance was symmetrically placed and consisted of an unusual set of French doors with a transom and side lights. The house was completely surrounded by a Doric pillared gallery with stuccoed brick piers below. The gallery also featured a boldly molded box cornice.

The house existed in this form until after the 1927 flood when it was moved back several hundred feet from the river in order to protect it. The main (upper) story and the roof were moved more or less intact, but the stuccoed brick service area had to be disassembled and rebuilt. Oral history suggests, and architectural evidence confirms, that the service area was rebuilt exactly as it had been before the move. However, after the move the main story was renovated. The rear half of each of the side galleries and the entire rear gallery were enclosed for additional living space. Some of the original doors and doorways were salvaged and reused in the new walls. The old front and side walls were resided to match the new walls. In addition, two of the original three mantels were replaced and new floorboards were installed. Finally, a rooftop captain's walk was added.

Sometime later the present rear steps and rear access balcony were built. The present front steps are a modern in kind replacement of earlier steps which had deteriorated.

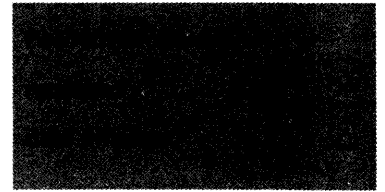
The house retains the following additional significant features:

1. the shoulder molded doors and windows;
2. the handsome black marble Greek Revival mantel in the central room;
3. the louvered shutters on the upper story; and
4. the board and batten shutters on the service area.

CONTINUED

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet LONGVIEW

Item number 7

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7. Description (cont'd)

Assessment of Integrity:

The aforementioned alterations are considerable, but the house still retains its form, its basic plan, its fenestration (at least from the front), its most visible main gallery features, as well as a fine marble mantel. The lower piers and service area were replaced, but in a way that continued the historic appearance of the facade. The gallery was enclosed in the rear parts, but this work is not visible from the front. The replacement of the floorboards, front steps and siding and the installation of the captain's walk and the rear steps should be regarded as minor.

All in all, Longview retains its visual identity as a Greek Revival raised cottage plantation house, which is the basis of its architectural significance (see Item 8).

Longview's architectural integrity was not affected by the relocation itself, because the house was not moved out of the area which forms the context for its architectural significance (St. James Parish).

To the rear of the house is an old cistern which is included in the nominated area as a contributing element. It is not known if the cistern is as old as the house, but it is certainly well over fifty years old.

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.1850 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

Longview is locally significant in the area of architecture as an important example of a Greek Revival plantation house within the context of St. James Parish.

The importance of Longview, within the context of St. James Parish, can be illustrated by examining the census schedules of 1860. On the eve of the Civil War, there were forty-three large slaveholdings (i.e., fifty or more slaves) in the parish. Only three of these involved individuals who did not reside in the parish. In addition, there were undoubtedly numerous slaveholdings of less than fifty. Given the foregoing, it is clear that there must have been numerous Greek Revival plantation houses and cottages in St. James Parish on the eve of the Civil War (probably at least fifty). However, as far as the State Historic Preservation Office can determine, there are only seven remaining examples.

Of these seven, five are essentially single story raised cottages. Of these five, Longview is one of only two in which the front gallery wraps around the mass of the house in imitation of the great peripteral mansions such as Oak Alley. This gives Longview additional distinction among the parish's few surviving Greek Revival plantation houses.

9. Major Bibliographical References

St. James Parish Conveyance Records,
Louisiana Comprehensive Historic Sites Survey, St. James Parish,
Architectural report prepared by F. Monroe Labouisse, Jr., December 18, 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 3 acres

Quadrangle name Lutch, LA

Quadrangle scale 1: 24000

UTM References

A 1 5 7 2 2 0 0 0 3 3 2 4 9 2 0
Zone Easting Northing

B Zone Easting Northing

C Zone Easting Northing

D Zone Easting Northing

E Zone Easting Northing

F Zone Easting Northing

G Zone Easting Northing

H Zone Easting Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to attached sketch map. Boundaries were drawn to recognize the house and the front vista from the River Road. The boundary cuts close to the house in the rear in order to exclude some modern condominiums.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY OWNER

organization Division of Historic Preservation
State of Louisiana date June 1983

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



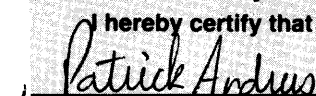
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 2, 1983

For NPS use only

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



date 9/21/83

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

SITE BOUNDARIES
ARE PARALLEL TO BLDG.
FACADES, DISTANCES
AS SHOWN. THE HOUSE
FACES RIVER ROAD.

LONGVIEW ST. JAMES PARISH

NOT TO SCALE

