

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 20 1985

date entered JUL 18 1985

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

1. Name

historic Felix - Block Building

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 303 Williams Blvd, N/A not for publication

city, town Kenner N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish ~~St. James~~ Jefferson code 051

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A 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: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Carl J. Eberts (504) 835-4217

street & number 3101 W, Napoleon Avenue, Suite 201

city, town Metairie N/A vicinity of state LA 70001

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson Parish Courthouse

street & number No street address P. O. Box 10

city, town Gretna state LA 70054

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Felix-Block Building (1907) is a two-story brick late Italianate commercial building located in the old Kenner central business district. Despite a few alterations, the building retains its National Register eligibility.

The Felix-Block Building consists of a two story block with a single story side wing which appears to be original. The ground story is largely open and features beaded board walls and rows of wooden columns. The columns are round with block bases and block capitals surmounted by consoles. The staircase is set in its own enclosure in the southwest corner of the building. It features turned balusters and heavy turned newel posts. The second story consists of a central hall with rooms on either side. Like the first story it is sheathed in beaded board. Other noteworthy features on the second floor include molded doorways with transoms and four panel doors.

The building's distinction rests chiefly upon the ornamental brickwork on the principal elevation. Almost the entire front is treated with layers of protruding brick bands, presumably to imitate rustication. In addition, the facade is set off by brick pilasters. The transom level of the first story features two oculus windows along with the ordinary transoms. In addition, there is a brick denticular cornice with a full paneled parapet. At the center of the parapet is an ornamental tablet set off by brick piers. The tablet consists of a saw tooth brick panel, a cornice and a pediment shaped top. The other three elevations are relatively plain. Most of the building's windows have segmentally arched tops.

Since construction a few of the windows have been replaced and two of the ground floor openings on the facade have been partially bricked in to form windows. In addition, three of the ground story entrances on the facade have been fitted with new doors. None of these changes have affected the building's architecturally significant features and none have lowered its status as a landmark in old Kenner.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 1907 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Felix Family (first name unknown)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Felix-Block Building is locally significant in the area of architecture as the landmark among Kenner's few surviving older commercial buildings.

The Kenner central business district was once somewhat larger than it is today. With the construction of the Mississippi River levee, First and Second Streets disappeared. In addition, numerous commercial buildings have been lost over the years in what remained of the central business district. As a result, present-day Kenner retains about thirty 50+ year old commercial buildings, most of which are very plain. The Felix-Block Building is one of only two remaining examples which feature a significant amount of ornamentation. These two late Italianate buildings are really the landmarks of old Kenner. Of the two, the Felix-Block Building is decidedly the grander for two reasons: (1) It features rustication across the entire front rather than just at the corners. (2) Its roofline features an ornamental tablet rather than just a plain parapet. The landmark status of the Felix-Block Building is well known and has been noted in the published parish history Historic Jefferson Parish: From Shore to Shore.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Swanson, Betsy, Historic Jefferson Parish: From Shore to Shore, Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Company, 1975.
Cornerstone, Felix-Block Building.

10. Geographical Data

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

Quadrangle name New Orleans West, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	6	5	6	6	0	3	3	1	8	8	8	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 enclosed property plat map. Boundaries follow property lines, thereby including acreage under single ownership.

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
Division of Historic Preservation ASSISTED BY OWNER

organization State of Louisiana date May 1985

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 922-0358

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 May 22, 1985

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 7-18-85


Keeper of the National Register

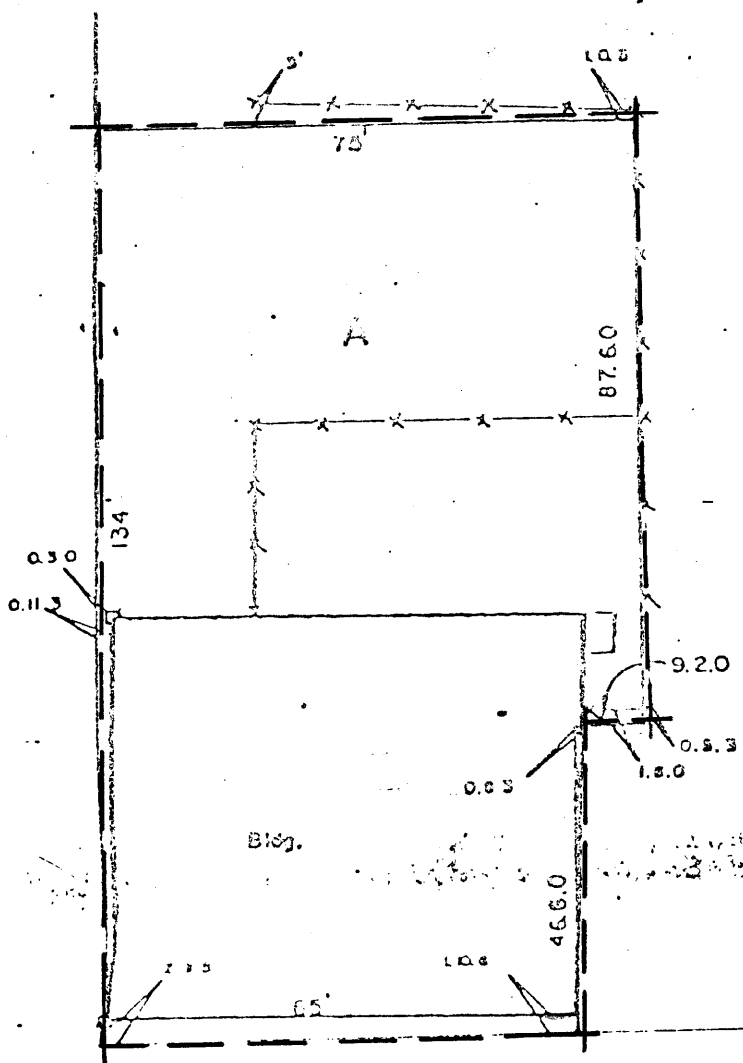
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

MINOR ST. (SIDE)

JEFFERSON HWY. (formerly 3rd ST.)



BOUNDARY OF NOMINATED AREA

FOURTH ST. (SIDE)

WILLIAMS BLVD.

Felix - Block Bldg.
Kenner
Jefferson Parish
LA

SURVEY OF PLOT "A"
SQUARE 25
KENNER
JEFFERSON PARISH, LA.



Filed Correct to:
Northern Motorcycle Sales

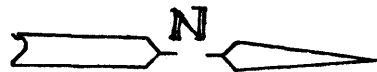
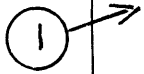
Anthony M. Fontcuberta, Jr.

OFFICE OF SURVEYS, INC.

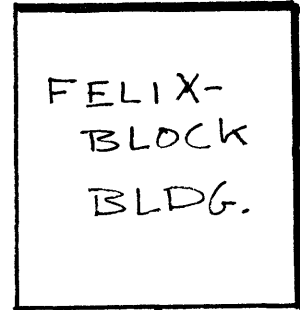
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEE

FELIX-BLOCK BLDG.
303 WILLIAMS BLVD.
KENNER, JEFFERSON
PARISH, LA.

PHOTO DIRECTION MAP



JEFFERSON HWY (FORMERLY 3RD ST.)



WILLIAMS BLVD

