

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

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

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



82

1. Name

historic LeBlanc House

and/or common Same

2. Location

N of Erath on LA 339

street & number Highway 339 N/A not for publication

city, town Erath (six miles out) ^{vic.} vicinity of congressional district 7th - John Breaux

state Louisiana code 22 parish Vermilion ~~XXXX~~ code 113

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> <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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Ronald R. Ray and Carolyn T. Doerle

street & number Rt. 2, Box 135

city, town Abbeville N/A vicinity of state LA 70510

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Vermilion Parish Courthouse

street & number State Street (no specific street address) P.O. Box 790

city, town Abbeville state Louisiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

NB: "outdoor" kitchen probably moved short distance c.1900

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The LeBlanc House (c.1845) is a medium size, story-and-a-half plantation house which embodies both the French and Anglo-American architectural traditions. The setting is completely rural. The house was recently sensitively restored and there is no integrity problem.

The LeBlanc House consists of: 1) a main one and one-half story, four bay, gable roofed house of "bousillage-entre-poteaux" construction, measuring 38 feet, 6 inches across the front by 38 feet in depth and facing east, 2) the original "outdoor" kitchen structure measuring 23 feet in width by 37 feet in depth, (This structure was probably moved c.1900 to its present location approximately five feet behind the main structure from some other position in the rear yard.) 3) a bedroom addition c.1900 which measures 18 feet, 6 inches wide by 18 feet in depth.

Stylistically, the main house is a classic example of mid-19th century Acadian architecture. With exposure to the Anglo-Americans, by mid-century the Acadian's architecture began an evolution showing the introduction of one Anglo feature after another. The LeBlanc House is such a stylistic melange. Its features traditionally considered Anglo-American include: 1) the location of its two fireplaces on the exterior sidewall of the house, 2) the use of recessed four panel doors with applied moldings, 3) the use of double hung "six over six light" sash windows, and 4) the wainscott "paneling" throughout its interior. Its features traditionally considered of French extraction are 1) its hall-less floor plan with two square major rooms to the front backed by smaller "cabinet" rooms to the rear on either side of what was a semi-enclosed rear "cabinet" gallery, and 2) the use of wrap-around or box type mantels in each of the two front rooms. Its features which are an expression of adaptation to the Louisiana environment are 1) its front and rear galleries, 2) its being raised 20 inches off the ground on brick piers, and 3) the use of flush boarding on the front facade to protect the bousillage construction.

Distinctive architectural features which have no unique nationalistic affiliation are: 1) the exterior stair on the rear gallery, 2) the use of the two finished rooms of the attic as a boys' dormitory or garconier, 3) the extensive faux-bois and faux-marbe treatment of the doors, wainscoting and mantels of the house, 4) the exterior color scheme which is an archaeologically based restoration; a) weather boards: yellow orche, b) columns, entablature, door and window enframements and sashes, lower sections of the banister railings and porch ceiling; a dark off-white, c) shutters and upper rail of the banisters: Paris green, d) porch floor: grey.

The original "outdoor" kitchen (now attached) is of heavy cypress construction weather boarded on the exterior and originally plank walled on the interior. This structure received "new" windows and doors during the c.1900 and c.1940 remodeling of the complete structure. The 1900 bedroom addition is typical of the period and features "bull's eye" corner block door and window enframements, beaded center-match wainscoting and two over two window sashes.

Original Features Extant:

Floors, mantels, brickwork, bousillage, most plaster, attic stairs, window

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7. Description (cont'd)

shutters, interior doors, ceilings, extensive faux bois and faux marbe paint ornamentation, banister railing, exterior weather boarding.

Archaeologically Based Restoration:

Front 2 pairs of french doors, front 2 pairs of door shutters, 5 sets of window sashes, all exterior and some interior paint, some interior plaster.

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 c.1845 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The LeBlanc House is architecturally significant on the state level in that it is a classic and a rare survivor today of a specific short-lived phase of Louisiana colonial architecture. Following the Louisiana purchase, a great influx of Anglo-Americans permeated what was essentially a Gallic Louisiana. This began an important phase of acculturation, aspects of which continue even today. The LeBlanc House represents what a moderately wealthy Acadian chose to build for himself at mid-century. This particular architectural melange was at the equal balance point of being 50% Anglo-American and 50% Acadian in derivation. By the 1860's, Landrys, Moutons, and also LeBlancs would be building houses with center-hall floor plans and no distinctly French features, making the architectural, if not the cultural metamorphosis, complete. Hence, the importance of the survival of the LeBlanc House as a valuable link in this pervasive socio-cultural evolution.

Significant features include:

- 1) Its high state of originality.
- 2) Its distinct architectural style.
- 3) Its archaeologically based restoration.
- 4) Its unusually intact painted surfaces.
- 5) Its archaeologically based paint restoration.
- 6) Its "outdoor" kitchen extant

Because the house represents an architectural phenomenon which is important to Louisiana as a whole, it is nominated for significance on the state level.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Chain of Title Search, Vermilion Parish Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property approx. 8.2 acres

Quadrangle name Lafayette LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A

1	5	5	9	3	7	0	0	3	3	2	3	2	2	5
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

See attached sketch map and continuation sheet.

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 Robert E. Smith, Restoration Consultant

organization N/A date November 17, 1980

street & number Rt. 2, Box 1220 telephone (318) 332-2852

city or town Anse La Butte state LA 70517

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Thomas B. Blue*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date February 25, 1982

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>William H. Braubach</i>	date 4.15.82
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Item number 10

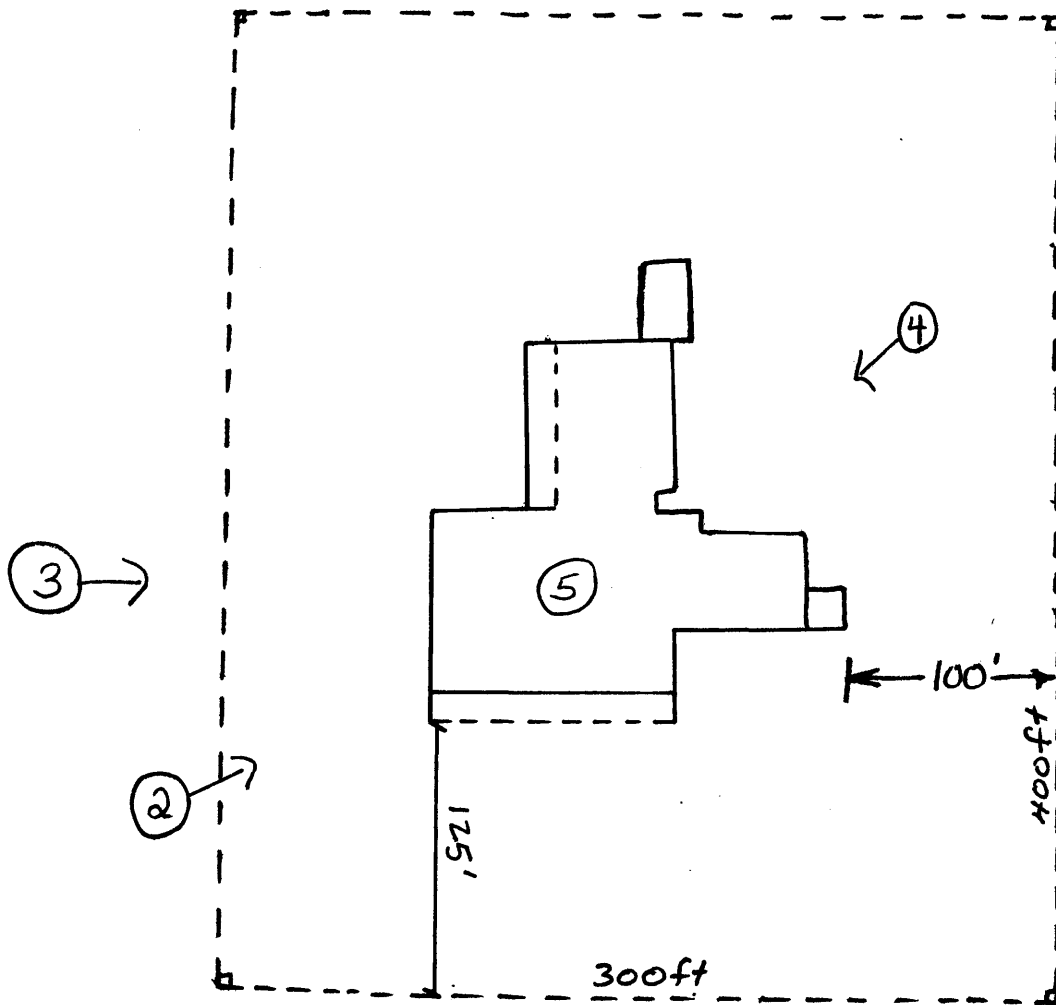
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10. Boundary justification:

The boundary rectangle was chosen to encompass the house and its immediate setting. The setting is defined as the small grouping of trees which partially encloses the house. (see photo #1).

Le Blanc House

Blacktop Road



300x400 block around house



NOTE: SITE BOUNDARIES PARALLEL
BLVD. FACADES AT THE DISTANCES
SHOWN & ENCOMPASSES THE
IMMEDIATE SETTING.



SCALE 1/4" = 100'
APPROX.

TO ERATH



Highway 339