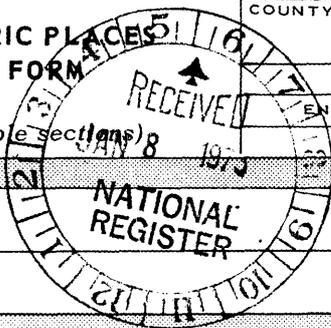


STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: **APR 13 1973**

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME
COMMON: **The Hermitage**
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: **Darrow**
1 mile south of Marchandville and 1-3/4 miles east of Darrow on La. 982
STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **022** COUNTY: **(Parish) Ascension** CODE: **005**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: **Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Judice**
STREET AND NUMBER: **1323 Eighth Street**
CITY OR TOWN: **New Orleans** STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **022**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Ascension Parish Court House**
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: **Donaldsonville** STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **022**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: **Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration**
DATE OF SURVEY: **1941** Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Library of Congress**
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D.C.** CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
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DATE:

6-4-73

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building is one of the finest examples in the spirit of classical revival architecture in Louisiana, being surrounded by 24 classic Doric columns. Presently an eight-room home, two stories in height, with a hipped roof, and a gallery on both upper and lower floors on all sides. The interior woodwork for the most part is Federal in style.

The home was begun in 1812 and completed in 1814 by Michel Couradou Bringier.

Construction of first floor and all columns is solid brick, that of second floor brick between posts.

The original house, as described in the enclosed copy written by the builder in the 1832 plantation journal, in the Louisiana State University Archives, described the house as of "stories with columns all around" and a gallery all around." A wing was added to the house in the late 1830's or early 1840's but was demolished in 1932.

Also enclosed is a plan of all the buildings, gardens, etc., taken from an old blue print in the Ascension Parish Courthouse, done in 1911. The plantation was subdivided into the town of New Hermitage, but never succeeded. The main house is at the end of the center allee of trees just above the figures 7.07. The sugar mill is the large building to the left, closer to the river than the house. The slave cabins are the double row of houses between the mill and the house. All of the structures are gone and only the main house remains.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

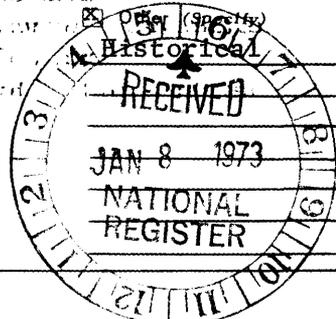
- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1812 - 1814

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Rhin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hermitage Plantation has played a prominent part in the early agricultural development of the area in which it is situated. Prior to 1777 the land belonged to the Houmas Indians, and at this time was sold to a Mr. Latil, who began farming the land. Originally, it was an indigo plantation and continued to have indigo as its main crop when it was purchased by the Bringier family in 1806. It continued on with indigo for a few more years and then, when sugar manufacturing became feasible, the plantation switched to the growing of sugar cane. This plantation was the center of Michel Douradou Bringier's vast land holdings, even though this was one of his smaller plantations, as far as land area is concerned.

There is also an account, the the Bringier papers at Tulane University, of the close relationship of the builder and General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans. Bringier named his home after Jackson's plantation near Nashville, Tennessee. There is also an account of the steamboat Sultana landing at Hermitage with General Jackson, who visited with the family in the 1820's.

The property was well maintained and a very fine sugar mill was built which operated until the Civil War. At that time, the family was evicted by the Union Army and the property was leased from the Union by a carpetbagger from New England. He remained for three years, and on departing stripped the property of everything movable in the form of livestock, machinery, etc.

The property was restored to the Bringier family and a son, Louis Amedee Bringier, undertook the task of restoring the house and plantation. This he accomplished quite well during the late 1860's and 1870's. A new mill was constructed, employing all of the latest equipment of the period, and this continued in operation until about 1916. At that time the mill was closed. The machinery was sold and moved away, and the building was demolished. However, the house remained intact and the main crop at this time was changed to rice cultivation. This continued for approximately 15 years, and since that time the property has been used for cattle grazing and, more recently, a good portion of the land has been leased to farmers for cultivation of sugar cane and soy beans.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Books:

Bourgeois, Lillian C.: Cabanocey. Pelican Publishing Co., New Orleans Louisiana. 1957
 Cooper, J. Wesley: A Treasure of Louisiana Plantation Homes. Southern Historical Publications, Inc., Natchez, Miss. 1961
 Desmond, John: Louisiana's Antebellum Architecture. Claitor's Publishing Division. Baton Rouge, La. 1970
 Hamlin, Talbot: Greek Revival Architecture in America. Dover Publications Inc., New York. 1956, p. 220
 Kane, Harnett L.: The Romantic South, Coward-McCann, Inc., New York. 1961

NW15/6966/3335520
 SE15/6966/3332760
 SW15/6966/3332780
 NW15/5110/3335520
 SE15/5110/3332760
 SW15/5110/3332780

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	30° 07' 06"	90° 57' 57"				
NE	30° 07' 08"	90° 57' 50"				
SE	30° 06' 43"	90° 57' 33"				
SW	30° 06' 44"	90° 57' 40"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **25 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Judice - owners**

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: **11/3/72**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1323 Eighth Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **New Orleans,** STATE: **Louisiana** CODE: **022**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: George W. Rube ATTEST: _____
 Title: State Liaison Officer Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 30 December, 1972 Date: 4/11/73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 13 1973

(Number all entries)

9. (Bibliography cont'd)

- Kane, Harnett L.: Plantation Parade, Bonanza Books. New York. 1945
Laughlin, Clarence J.: Ghosts Along the Mississippi. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 1951
Louisiana - A. Guide to the State. New York. 1941
Pratt, Dorothy and Richard: Guide to Early American Homes - South. McGraw Hill Publishing Co. 1956.
Ricciuti, I. William: New Orleans and Its Environs. Bonanza Books. New York. 1938
Seebold, Hermann de Bachelli: Old Louisiana Plantation Homes and Family Trees. Private Printing

Newspapers and Magazines:

- Atlanta Journal and Constitution, Atlanta, Georgia, March 12, 1967
Friends Magazine, April 1961
Horseman's Journal, September 1959
House and Garden, April 1945
Life Magazine, June 9, 1952
National Geographic Magazine, April 1958
New Orleans States Item, October 14, 1961
Preservation, Vol. 5, No. 4, Fall 1962, New Orleans, Louisiana
Southern Living, November 1972
Sunday Advocate, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 9, 1967
Sunday Advocate, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 16, 1972
Times Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana, July 18, 1965
Times Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 24, 1966

Movies:

- The Long Hot Summer, 1957



