

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 13 1987
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Perry House; LeBlanc House

and or common same

2. Location

street & number Orange Drive

N/A not for publication

city, town Perry N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish Vermilion code 113
~~county~~

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 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 type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input 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: |

4. Owner of Property

name Chris LeBlanc

street & number P. O. Box 87

city, town Perry N/A vicinity of state LA 70575

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Vermilion Parish Courthouse

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

city, town Abbeville state LA 70510

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Comprehensive Standing Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1987 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 Perry House (1840) is a two story frame Greek Revival residence located in a rural setting on the east bank of the Vermilion River in the small settlement of Perry. The site is characterized by numerous mature trees laden with Spanish moss. Despite some alterations, the house retains all of its original Greek Revival features.

It is a squarish hip roofed house with two front rooms and two rear rooms on both floors. There are no hallways and originally there was no gallery, all of which is very unusual in a Louisiana Greek Revival house. There are two chimneys set in the middle of the house which service a total of eight fireplaces. Both the front staircase and the rear servant's staircase are original. The only typical Louisiana Greek Revival feature is the double parlor which is achieved through the use of a wide double door. (See attached floor plan.)

The house is entered via an elaborate aedicule style doorway with side lights, but no transom, and pilasters with raised panels. The exterior culminates in a full entablature surmounted by the aforementioned hip roof. Windows downstairs are nine over six, while upstairs they are six over six. On the interior most of the principal doors and windows feature shoulder molded surrounds with pediment shaped tops. They also feature shoulder molded bottoms, which is fairly unusual. The principal windows have panels set below the sill. The house retains all of its original mantels. They are in a fairly conventional aedicule style.

Alterations:

In about 1900 an Eastlake gallery encompassing the front and river side of the house was added. In the 1920's a board and batten kitchen was built just to the rear of the house. Recently this was connected with the house by means of an open breezeway. Finally, the tops of the chimneys have been cut off below the roofline.

Assessment of Integrity:

Despite these changes, the Perry House still retains all of its original Greek Revival features. Moreover, it is still far and away the most impressive Greek Revival structure in Vermilion Parish. Although its overall style has been somewhat compromised by the addition of the gallery, it is such an outstanding example that it still merits listing in the National Register.

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 1840

Builder/Architect Builder: Robert Perry

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion C

The Perry House is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is the most significant example of the Greek Revival style in Vermilion Parish. It is also one of a very limited number of surviving examples of the style in the parish.

The large rural parish of Vermilion was created in 1844 and the parish seat of Abbeville was incorporated in 1850; however, the comprehensive historic structures survey reveals that there are very few buildings in the parish dating from before about 1880. Fewer still date from before the Civil War. In the late nineteenth century the parish received an influx of mid-western immigration due to a boom in the rice industry. Undoubtedly this rice boom caused a good deal of construction activity, and in a general sense, most of the grander houses in the parish reflect this period of prosperity.

The survey reveals that there are only seven surviving Greek Revival structures in the parish, most of which are galleried cottages with plain details. The Perry House is the parish's only two story Greek Revival building, being at least twice as large as any other example. Very importantly, it is the only one with pretentious Greek Revival features such as double parlors and a fully articulated aedicule style entrance. Finally, its interior woodwork, with shoulder molded window and door surrounds culminating in pediment shapes, and molded panels below the window sills, is thought to be unmatched in Vermilion Parish.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Comprehensive Historic Structures Survey, Vermilion Parish.
Conveyance Records, Vermilion Parish.
Abbeville Meridional. February 9, 1901.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4.604 acres

Quadrangle name Abbeville, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A

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| Zone | | | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to enclosed property plat map. As shown, boundaries follow the property lines of the tract of land on which the building is located.

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 ASSISTED BY THE OWNER
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana date August 1987

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*
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date October 7, 1987

For NPS use only

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

John Alton Byers
Keeper of the National Register

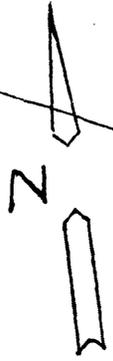
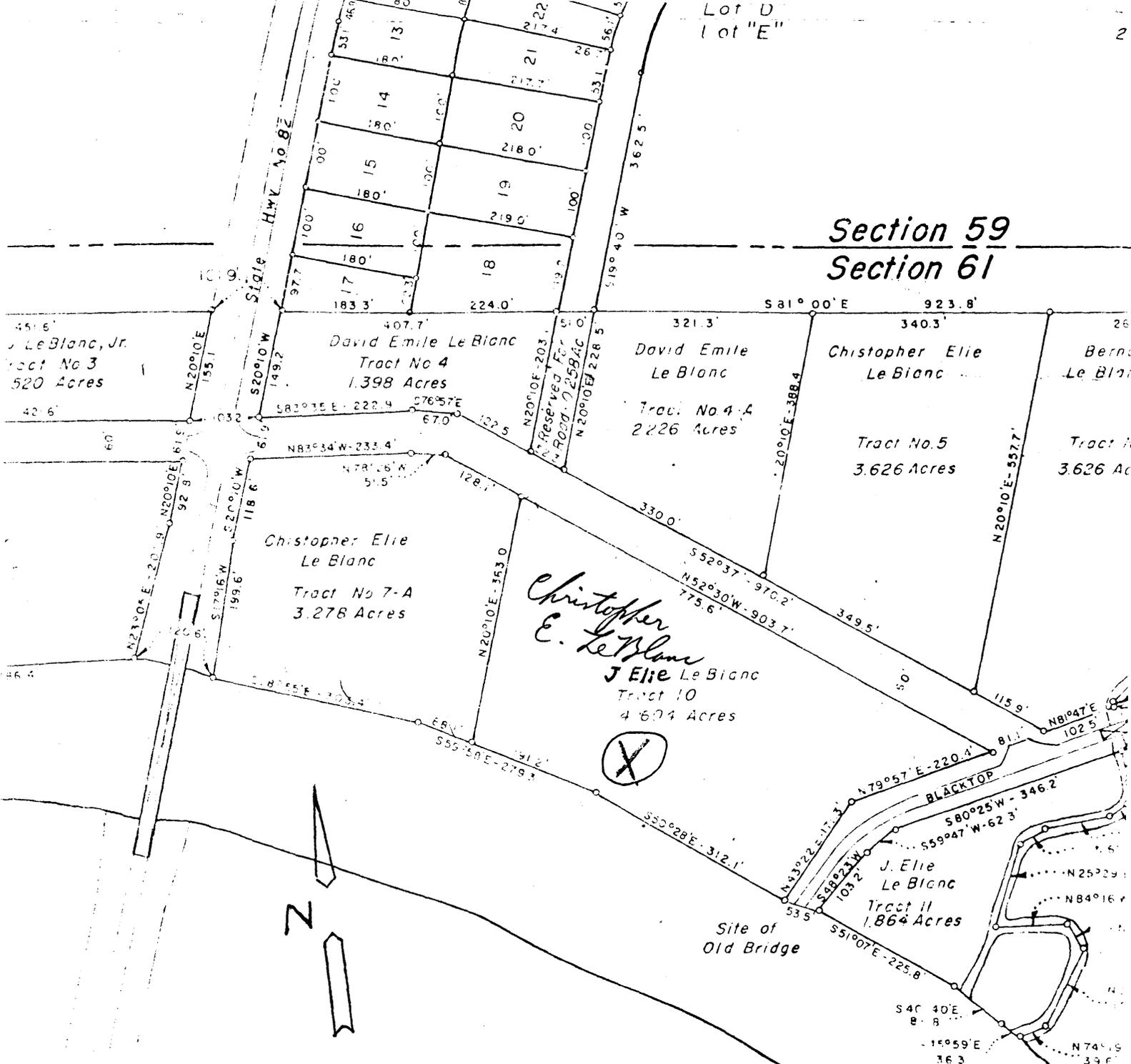
Entered in the National Register date 11-16-87

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

Lot D
Lot "E"

Section 59
Section 61



PERRY

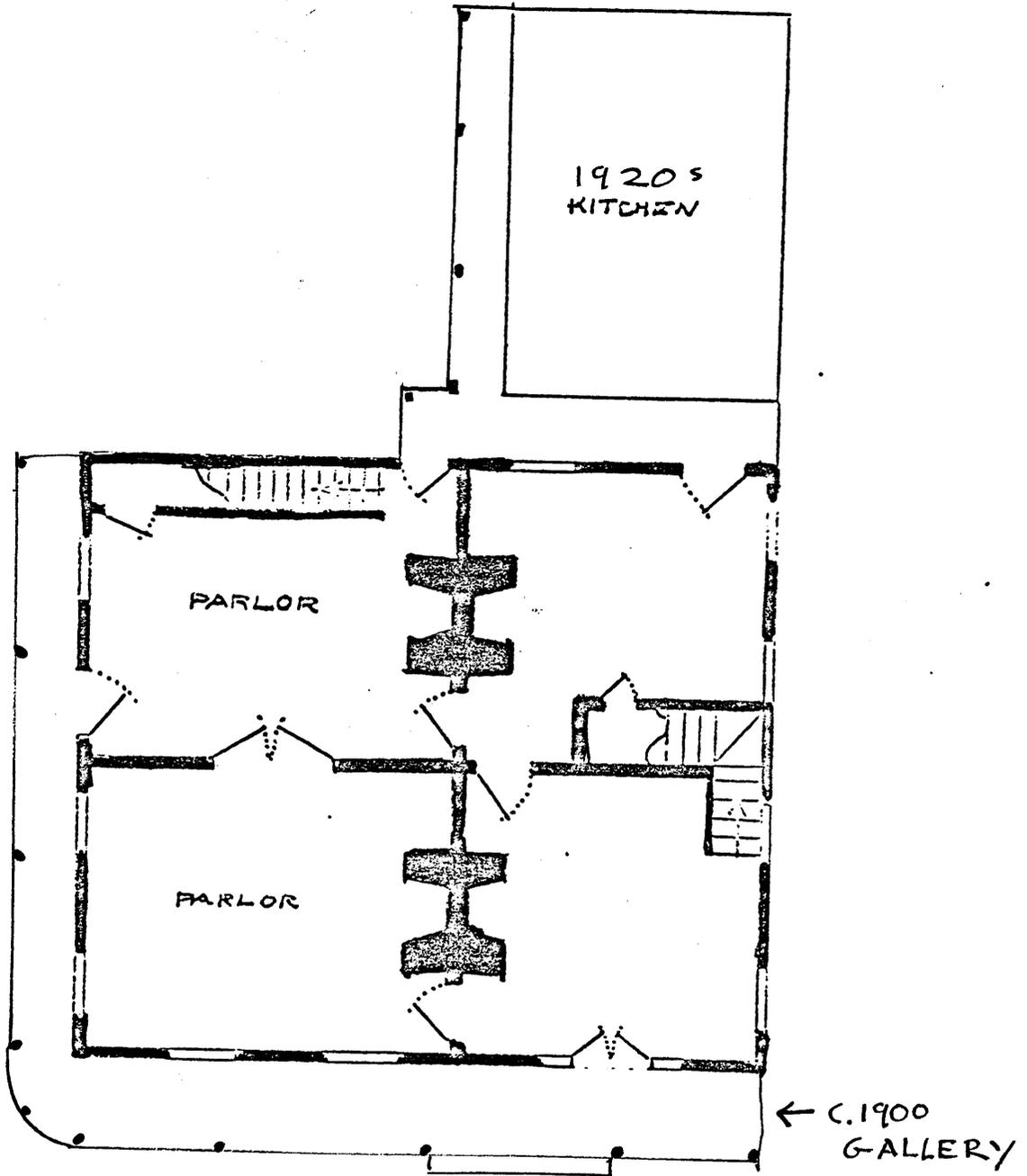
BOUNDARIES HIGHLIGHTED

1" = 200'

Perry House

Vermilion Parish

LA



Perry House

Vermilion Parish, LA