

**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



1. Name

historic Sandoz House

~~common~~ Belle Cherie (also known at various points in its history as the Ozenne House, the Fuselier House, the Duchamp House, and Providence Plantation)

2. Location

street & number ~~04 miles due west of~~ St. Martinville on N/A not for publication
LA Hwy. 96 (Terrace Road)

city, town St. Martinville vicinity of 3rd--W.J. Tauzin congressional district

state LA code 22 county St. Martin Parish code 099

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name see continuation sheet

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Main Street (no specific address) P. O. Box 308

city, town St. Martinville state LA 70582

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1981 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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u> N/A </u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Belle Cherie faces north on top of a hill which overlooks Bayou Tortue approximately 4 miles due west of St. Martinville. The 2 1/2 story house is set in the side of the hill so that the rear of the brick first story is half buried. The main (2nd) story is formed of pegged framing with brick nogging which is carefully laid and pointed. The attic is unfinished.

The plan contains both English and French features. English features include the central hall double parlor plan and the axial entrance to the hall on the main story. French features include the front and rear gallery circulation with French doors into most of the rooms and the staircase to the attic which is entered directly from the rear gallery.

The central halls on both floors are unusually wide (16 feet). Even more unusual, both have fireplaces set against a side wall. The two main chimneys are set between the front and rear rooms either side of the central hall. All mantels are of the simple Greek Revival aedicule type, though the moldings wrap around the chimneys. A small enclosed quarter turn winding stair is set in a rear corner of the lower hall, which communicates with the upper hall. It appears that these stairs are original and that the 2 sets of gallery stairs were added later.*

The large pitched roof is lit by 3 equally spaced Federal style dormers front and rear. The upper gallery columns are simple posts with molded capitals. The original balustrades remain. Most of the original 12 light French doors and beaded board shutters remain. Sash windows are 6 over 6. All of the beams are exposed and beaded.

The house has been changed little since it was built. The exterior front and rear gallery stairs appear to have been added, a portion of the rear gallery has been enclosed for a bathroom, and a concrete retaining wall has been built under the rear gallery.

Assessment of Integrity:

The above changes should be regarded as minimal. They have had no effect upon one's perception of the house's historic character.

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH:

Belle Cherie (c.1851) is a 2½ story, frame and brick plantation house which reflects both the French and English architectural traditions in Louisiana. The house is located in a rural hilltop setting overlooking Bayou Tortue. It has been changed very little since it was built; hence there is no integrity problem.

*These are exterior staircases which descend from the upper front and rear galleries to the ground. The one in the front descends from the center (Photo 2) and the one in the rear descends from the east end (barely visible in Photo 4 due to foliage).

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. 1851 **Builder/Architect** Builder: David Sandoz

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

Belle Cherie is architecturally significant on the state level as an important example of an antebellum Louisiana plantation house. It has many of the characteristics normally associated with the confluence of the English and French architectural traditions in Louisiana. Beyond this, it is unusually large, well-preserved, and has a 3 dormer roofline which is far more graceful than the customary roofline which consists of 1 or 2 dormers. Moreover, the central halls are very unusual for 2 reasons: (1) They are 16 feet wide, which is unheard of even in the largest antebellum plantation houses in the state. (2) They have fireplaces, which is also quite rare (within the context of the state). For these reasons, Belle Cherie is considered to be an important example within the context of Louisiana.

Historical Sketch:

Records of Belle Cherie begin in 1781 with the possession and settlement of the land upon which it stands by Jacques Francois Ozene. The house was built c. 1851 by David Sandoz, Ozene's grandson-in-law. Sandoz died in 1878 and his wife one year later, whereupon their only surviving child, Marie Amelie Sandoz Duchamp, inherited the property. She sold the plantation in 1904 to the Billeaud family and in 1951 the present owners acquired it.

The house was given its present name, Belle Cherie, by the current owners. It has at various times during the course of its history been called the Ozene House, the Fuselier House, the Duchamp House, and Providence Plantation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Architectural Statement Prepared by John Albert Landry, Architect. Located in Belle Cherie National Register File, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.

Taylor, Gertrude C. "The Legacy of Ozenne's Island." Attakapas Gazette, Winter 1980, pgs. 167-173.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. .21 acres

Quadrangle name St. Martinville, La.

Quadrangle scale 1=62500

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to sketch map.

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 Cherie Chappuis Kraft

organization N/A date June 1981

street & number 109 Nickerson Parkway telephone 318-233-7777

city or town Lafayette state LA 70501

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

Robert B. DeBlieux
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date September 7, 1982

For HCRS use only

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

Thomas Van Rangel

date 10/25/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Patrick Andrews*

date 10/21/82

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Belle Cherie ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

OWNERS OF PROPERTY

4

1

Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Chappuis, Sr.
310 N. Sterling St.
Lafayette, Louisiana

Richard Chappuis, Jr.
417 E. Demanade Dr.
Lafayette, Louisiana

John Chappuis
2307 W. St. Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, Louisiana

Cherie Chappuis Kraft
109 Nickerson Parkway
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Mr. and Mrs. Huey Keeney, Sr.
6023 Stones Throw
Houston, Texas 77057

Huey Keeney, Jr.
316 W. 2nd Street
Tyler, Texas 75701

Randy Keeney
6023 Stones Throw
Houston, Texas 77057

Wickliffe B. Vennard, Jr.
3263 Huntingdon Place
Houston, Texas

Mr. John C. Vennard
3263 Huntingdon Place
Houston, Texas

HWY. 96 (TERRACE RD.)

BAYOU TORTUE

PHOTO #1

APPROX. 350 FT.
THIS DISTANCE NOT TO SCALE

PHOTO #2

PHOTO #5

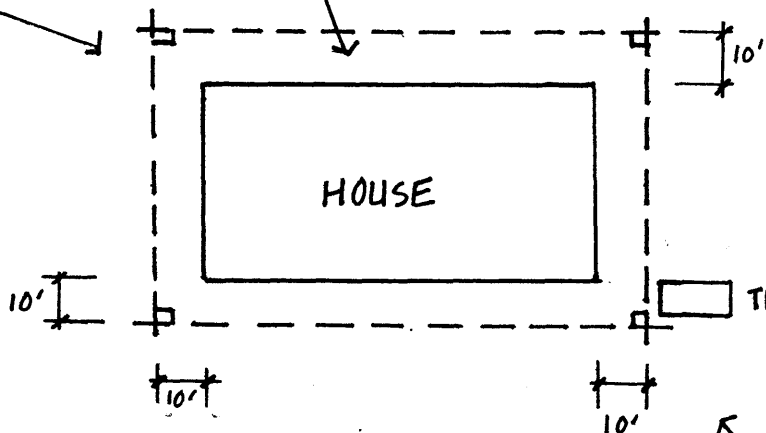


PHOTO #3

TIN & WOOD OUTBLDG.

SCALE 1" = 50' APPROX.

PHOTO #4

BELLE CHERIE
ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA
(VICINITY)

BOUNDARIES ARE PARALLEL TO BLDG.
FACADES, DISTANCES AS SHOWN.