

**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 Greensburg Land Office

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Courthouse Square _____ not for publication

city, town Greensburg _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 6th-Henson Moore

state La code 22 county St. Helena Parish code 091

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" 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 St. Helena Parish Police Jury

street & number P.O. Box 339

city, town Greensburg _____ vicinity of _____ state La. 70441

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Greensburg state La

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records La. 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 _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Greensburg Land Office is located adjacent to the St. Helena Parish Courthouse entrance on the courthouse square. The common bond brick structure has one room and a single end wall chimney. The building is entered through a small portico which has two massive brick Doric columns. There is no frieze. The gable roof was replaced in the late nineteenth century. The only major interior feature is a large paneled Adams mantel which dwarfs the room.

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 checked="" 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 circa 1820's

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criteria A and C

The Greensburg Land Office is significant in the area of architecture as a good example of a small rural office building in the Greek Revival style. It is of a type commonly found in the Eastern states as well as in nearby Lawyer's Row in Clinton (NHL), but which is seldom in other parts of Louisiana. Although some towns had them, all but a few were sacrificed to downtown redevelopment in the later nineteenth century.

The Greensburg Land Office is also significant because it housed the St. Helena District Land Office, which serviced the entire Florida Parishes. Although Congress had in 1812 organized a land district out of the Florida Parishes, no provision had been made for the surveying of the private claims and public lands in this area. On March 3, 1819, however, Congress officially named this region the St. Helena District and provided for its survey. It was here that Florida Parish residents applied for American patents to their lands. In fact, this can be seen as but one of the many steps involved in the Americanization of Louisiana. In 1843 the land office was removed from Greensburg to Baton Rouge.

The structure is currently being used as a Veterans' Administration Office. It is 1 of the 2 or 3 oldest public buildings still in use in the Florida Parishes.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Downs, Raymond, "Public Lands and Private Claims in Louisiana, 1803-1820," LSU thesis, 1960.
Statutes At Large, 15th Congress, 1819.
 Letter dated October 9, 1843 from General Land Office to the Register of the Land Office,
 Opelousas indicating removal of office to Baton Rouge, copy located in Greensburg Land

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

CONTINUED

Acreeage of nominated property approx. .05 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UMT References

A

1	5
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7	2	3	1	5	0
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3	4	1	2	8	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See sketch map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Cornelia Bond, President

organization St. Helena Historical Association, Inc. date June 1980

street & number Route 1 telephone

city or town Montpelier state La 70422

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local *per phone call w/ state, 10/2/80*

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 8/6/80

For HCERS use only

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

Pell Grosvenor date 10/2/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED **AUG 13 1980**
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Bibliography (Continued)

Office National Register File, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.

AUG 13 1980

APPROX. .05 ACRES
BOUNDARY LINES
PARALLEL THE
FACETS OF THE
BUILDING

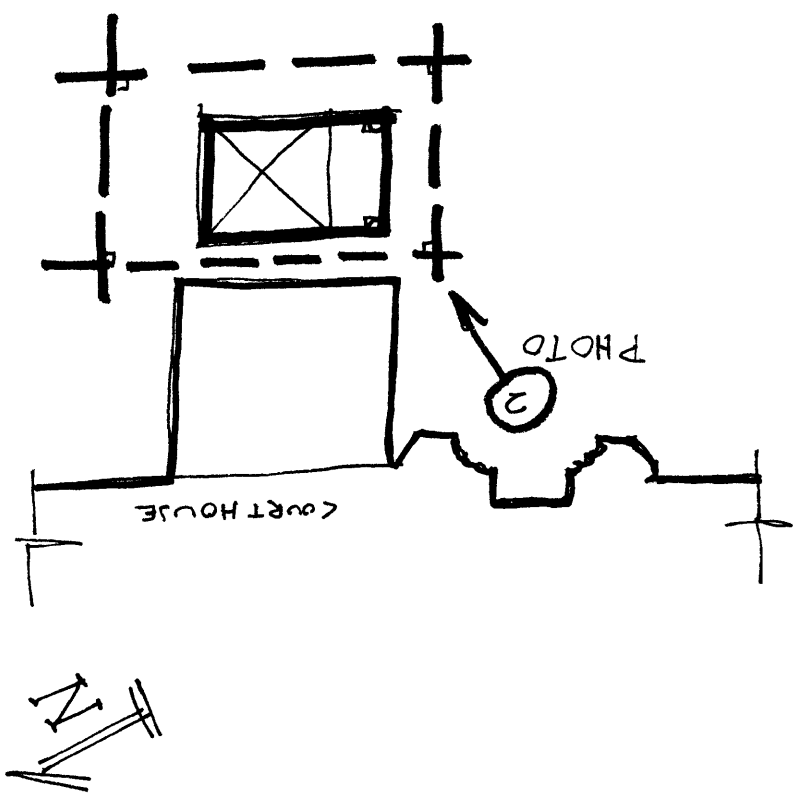
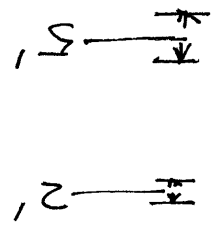
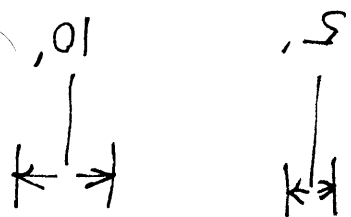


PHOTO 1

PHOTO 2

COURT HOUSE