

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received OCT 6 1986  
date entered NOV 6 1986

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

**1. Name**

historic Alfred H. Bordelon House

and/or common E. M. Michel House; Belle Oak

**2. Location**

street & number 511 N. Washington N/A not for publication

city, town Marksville N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 parish ~~LA 71351~~ Avoyelles code 009

**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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A 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 Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Michel

street & number 511 N. Washington Street

city, town Marksville N/A vicinity of state LA 71351

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Avoyelles Parish Courthouse

street & number Main Street (no specific address)

city, town Marksville state LA 71351

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Louisiana 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

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 Alfred H. Bordelon House (c.1872) is a frame, one-and-a-half story, transitional Greek Revival-Italianate-Stick Style galleried cottage located in the old residential area of Marksville. Despite some alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

The house has a hall-less plan three rooms wide and two rooms deep with a five bay facade and a central entrance. The front center room contains a stair-case which leads to the capacious finished attic. The front rooms connect with the gallery by means of floor-length sliphead windows.

The front gallery has square posts with molded capitals and the suggestion of an entablature. Between the posts are elaborately turned balustrades. The gable ends of the house are treated with decoratively cut Stick Style vergeboards. The facade is sheathed in flush boards and features plain detailing.

The two matching mantels are essentially in the Greek Revival aedicule style, but they also feature two Italianate touches: (1) The moldings are fairly elaborate. (2) The bottoms of the entablatures are partially arched.

Another Italianate feature is the decoratively painted ceiling in the front parlor. Consisting of a central medallion and a Baroque surround, the ceiling has a very personal and religious character with stylized clouds and headless birds. The original ceiling was painted over in the 1920's and was recently reproduced in a different color. Of course, significance in the area of art is not being claimed for the present reproduction. The only other noteworthy interior feature is a pair of original glass doors which connect the dining room with the rear parlor.

### Major Alterations:

1. In the 1920's a porch was added which wrapped around the southeast corner of the house. This has since been enclosed.
2. In 1937 a second porch was added at the rear in the northeast corner. It was glazed in in 1947.
3. More recently a two story kitchen wing was added in the center of the rear. This wing is not visible from the front of the house despite its size.

Minor alterations include the widening of an interior doorway in the 1920's and the removal of interior shutters.

### Assessment of Integrity

Despite these alterations, the house retains its original frontal appearance as well as its significant interior features (i.e., its mantels). In addition, the accretions are set to the rear; so the original part of the house still dominates the scene.

A modern carport and shed are also located on the property. They, of course, are listed as non-contributing elements.

## 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.1872 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Alfred H. Bordelon

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criterion C

The Alfred H. Bordelon House is architecturally significant on the local level as the finest of the earliest surviving structures in Marksville and the immediate vicinity.

The City of Marksville has served as seat for the large rural parish of Avoyelles since its founding in 1809. Presently it has a population of approximately 5,100. The City and immediate vicinity were surveyed in 1980, at which time 176 fifty plus year old buildings were identified. This was before historical surveys were required to be comprehensive, so one could probably legitimately double that figure. The survey revealed that very little survives of Marksville's pre-Queen Anne Revival architectural heritage, despite the City's age. The overwhelming majority of the older residences are innocuous frame cabins, Queen Anne Revival cottages, pedestrian bungalows, or Colonial Revival cottages. Earlier periods of taste are all but unrepresented. For example, nothing at all is left from the Federal period. Indeed, the earliest architectural period from which anything survives at all in Marksville is the Greek Revival. The survey revealed that the area retains three Greek Revival structures, all of which are galleried cottages. Of these, the Bordelon House is certainly the most architecturally important. It is the largest, being the only one with a full five bay facade. Secondly, it is the most intact, being the only one, for example, which retains its original columns.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Conveyance Records, Avoyelles Parish Courthouse,  
Historic Structures Survey, Avoyelles Parish.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ 1 1/2 acres

Quadrangle name Marksville, LA

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

### UTM References

A 

1	5	5	8	9	3	0	0	3	4	4	4	1	0	0
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

Boundaries follow property lines. Please refer to enclosed property plat map.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff ASSISTED BY DAN MICHEL AND OWNERS  
Division of Historic Preservation

organization State of Louisiana date August 1986

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 September 29, 1986

### For NPS use only

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

added to the  
National Register

date 11-6-86

for Alton Byrum  
Keeper of the National Register

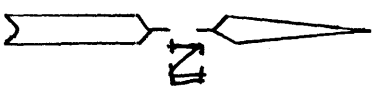
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

ALFRED H. BORDOLON HOUSE  
AYOUELLES PARISH, LA.  
PHOTO DIRECTION MAP  
(NOT TO SCALE)

SEE PROPERTY PLAT MAP FOR  
BOUNDARIES



N. WASHINGTON ST.

LAUREL ST.

