

**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



81

## 1. Name

historic St. Martin Parish Courthouse

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number South Main Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town St. Martinville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 7th-John Breaux

state La. \_\_\_\_\_ code 22 \_\_\_\_\_ county St. Martin Parish \_\_\_\_\_ code 099

## 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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. Martin Parish Police Jury

street & number P. O. Box 9

city, town St. Martinville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state La. 70582

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number South Main Street

city, town St. Martinville \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The St. Martin Parish Courthouse is located on South Main Street in a modern commercial area approximately 2 blocks from the pending St. Martinville Historic District.

Constructed in the form of a 4 column Ionic temple, the stuccoed brick 2 story structure has a central hall plan on each floor. The 4 portico columns are of brick with stucco fluting. The bases and elaborate Ionic capitals are of cast iron. The temple effect is heightened by the single 2 story opening on the facade which provides a door below and a window above. All other windows are placed around the side.

In 1937 a large rear wing was added which contains the present courtroom, marble floors and dado were installed in the original building, the old front window and door were replaced, and an oculus was installed in the tympanum. In the 1950's and '60's 2 wings with their own pediments and pilasters were added. These, however, are recessed, thus allowing the original front to stand forth.

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Continuation sheet St. Martin Parish Courthouse Item number 7

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7. Description (Continued)

Additions:

Although the St. Martin Parish Courthouse has been added to several times, and over half of the present building is not original, all the appendages have been set to the rear. These additions are screened from the original building by large live oak trees. Thus the old courthouse stands in a well-treed, parklike setting. What is remarkable is not that so much of the courthouse is not original, but that, with all the additions, the original building was not obliterated.

Interiors:

The interiors of the original building were largely reworked in 1937. For example, the wooden floors were removed and replaced by tile laid on a concrete base, marble wainscots and floors were installed in the lobby, and the lobby's original iron staircase was replaced. There are no noticeable interior features that remain from the 1859 construction. Evidently the original interiors were rather plain.



# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Brasseaux, Carl A., Conrad, Glenn R., Robison, R. Warren. The Courthouses of Louisiana.  
 USL Architecture Series No. 1. Center for Louisiana Studies, USL, Lafayette, 1977.

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

# 10. Geographical Data

**DTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 2 acres  
 Quadrangle name St. Martinville, La.

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

**UMT References**

A 

1	5	6	1	2	7	5	10	3	13	3	2	4	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**

See attached 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 Marian Barras and Jane Bulliard

organization c/o St. Martin Parish Library date December 1980

street & number P.O. Box 79 telephone 394-4086

city or town St. Martinville state La. 70582

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

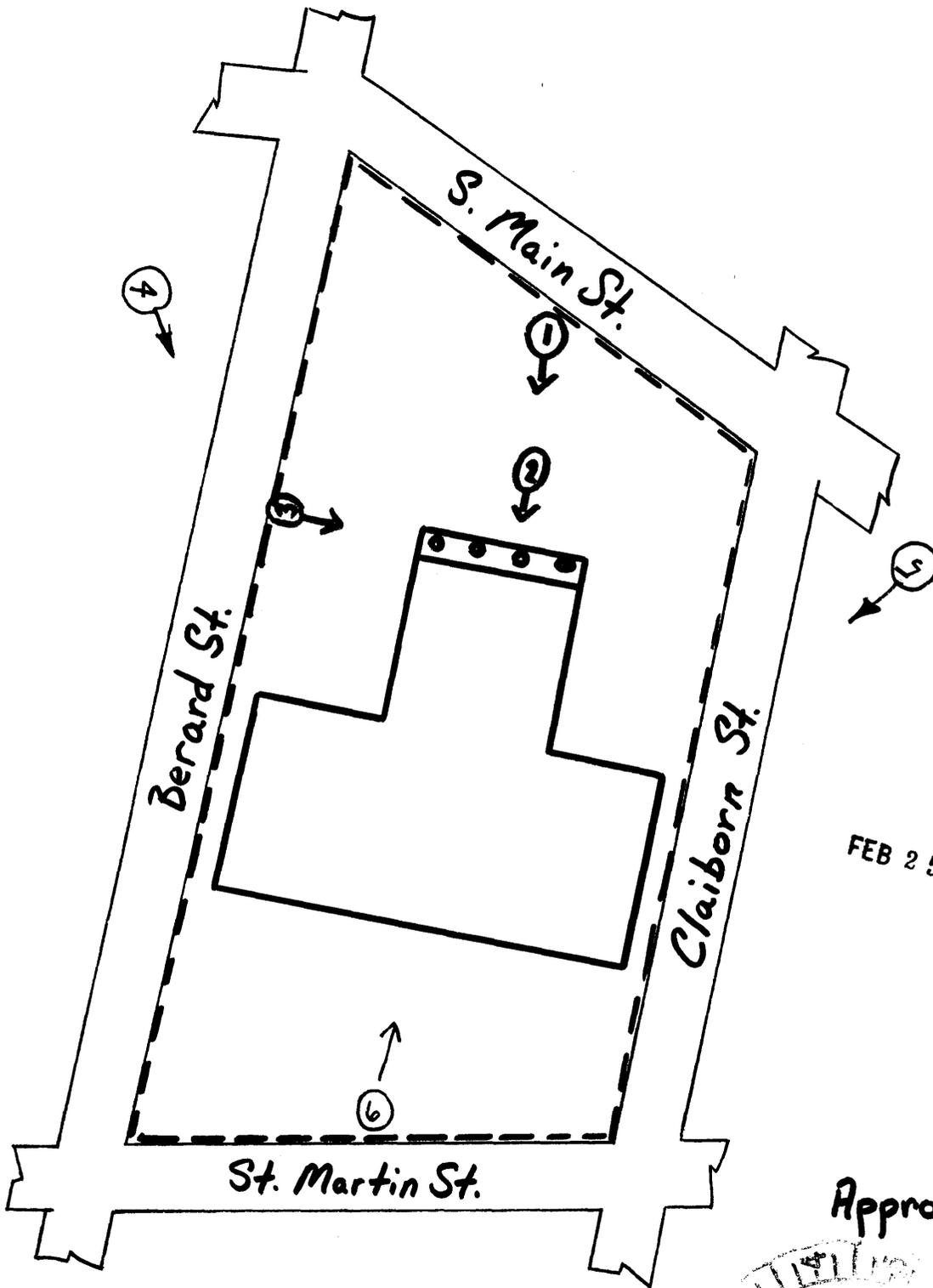
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]*

title State Historic Pres Officer date 2/16/81

For HCPRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>[Signature]</i>	date <u>11/19/81</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

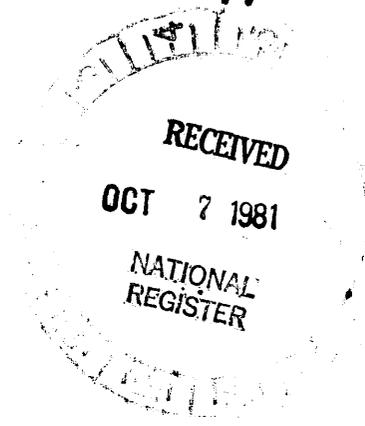
St. MARTIN PARISH  
COURTHOUSE



FEB 25 1981



Approx. 2 acres



NOV 19 1981