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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Baton Rouge

city, town

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

JAN 12 1988

date entered

LA

state

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections Name Fairhaven Plantation House historic and or common Location 18630 Samuel Road (off U. S. 61) N/A not for publication street & number Zachary X vicinity of city, town parish LA 22 East Baton Rouge 033 code XMMMXX state code Classification Category Ownership **Status Present Use** X occupied _ district public agriculture museum X private $\frac{\chi}{\chi}$ building(s) _ unoccupied commercial . park X_ private residence _ structure both _ work in progress educational Accessible religious **Public Acquisition** entertainment _ site N/A in process _ yes: restricted __ object government scientific N/A being considered __ ves: unrestricted industrial _ transportation military no other: **Owner of Property** Mr. and Mrs. T. Norris Samuel name Fairhaven Plantation, 18630 Samuel Road Zachary LA 70791 X vicinity of city, town state **Location of Legal Description** East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouse courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. 222 St. Louis Street P. O. Box 1991 street & number Baton Rouge city, town state LA 70821 Representation in Existing Surveys LA Historic Structures Survey title has this property been determined eligible? 1987 federal X state date county ___ local LA State Historic Preservation Office depository for survey records

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Condition excellent deteriorated ruins fair unexposed	Check one unaltered _X altered	Check oneX original site moved dateN/A	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Fairhaven is a single story frame transitional Greek Revival-Italianate galleried plantation house located in the rural northern part of East Baton Rouge Parish. Despite some alterations, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

According to family history, the house was begun in 1855 by a Joe Neville, and when work was nearly complete, construction was discontinued. Work began again in 1867 under Captain Gilbert Collins Mills, and the house was completed shortly. Captain Mills is the grandfather of the present owner. For the record, the architectural evidence supports the family history.

The house has a symmetrical plan with three large front rooms and three smaller rooms in the rear. The front central room is entered from the gallery by means of a double door with a transom and side lights. Each of the front side rooms has its own entrance off the front gallery, in this case a single leaf door. All three of the front rooms feature molded ceiling medallions. Two of the front rooms connect by means of pocket doors, creating what is in effect a Greek Revival double parlor. Each of the rooms features a heavy molded plaster cornice and an aedicule sytle mantel. (All six mantels are identical.)

An interesting feature of the facade is the way the boards are cut and beveled to give the effect of rusticated stone. This was a fairly popular treatment in urban areas, but in Louisiana one seldom sees it in a country house. Although family history does not specifically state that this rusticated treatment dates from the 1867 completion of the house, it quite possibly does. However, the family history does assert that the present front gallery, with its square columns, full entablature, and Italianate brackets, was completed in 1867. In addition, the present rear gallery was added in 1867, and the original kitchen was moved and appended to the house to form a rear "L" wing.

In about 1890 Fairhaven was remodeled. At that time the old attic was developed for living quarters, and a staircase was added in the front central room. The typical late nineteenth century stair features a large faceted newel post and faceted balusters. The enclosed area below the stair is ornamented with diagonally ribbed boarding under a chair rail. Also, in about 1890 a large gable dormer with imbricated shingles was added on the principal elevation. More recently, the 1867 rear gallery has been enclosed, the 1867 kitchen wing has received a carport addition, and a tiny side wing has been added.

The only alteration which has had a significant visual impact upon the front elevation is the gable dormer. Although this addition is regrettable, it has not obscured any of the original elements of the house. Fairhaven's identity as a transitional Greek Revival-Italianate galleried cottage is still obvious.

8. Significance

prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation conservation conservation conservation conservation conservation conservation conservation/settlemon conservation conservation	law literature military music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1855; 1867	Builder/Architect	1855: Joe Neville 1867: Gilbert Collins	Mille

Fairhaven is locally significant in the area of architecture as a rare surviving example of a Greek Revival galleried cottage within the context of East Baton Rouge Parish.

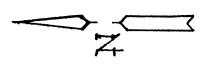
East Baton Rouge Parish includes a fair amount of rural land as well as the capital city of Baton Rouge, the second largest city in the state. Although it has never been surveyed comprehensively, the historic preservation staff is very familiar with its patrimony. There are probably close to 2,000 buildings in the parish that are fifty years old or older, most of which are bungalows, twentieth century eclectic residences, or twentieth century commercial buildings. Although the area that is now East Baton Rouge Parish was fairly well settled when Louisiana became a state in 1812, there are very few buildings in the parish dating from before the late nineteenth century. Thus there are very few surviving examples of the Greek Revival such as Fairhaven. This is important because the Greek Revival is not merely an early style in the region, but in many ways is the hallmark of southern architecture. It has been traditionally venerated as an important part of the visual environment of the "Old South." From among what was once a much larger collection, East Baton Rouge Parish retains only eight residences in the Greek Revival style. These include four two story columnar "mansions," one townhouse, and three cottages, one of which is Fairhaven. All are significant, but the cotttages are more so because they were once more numerous than grander two story houses such as the townhouse and the "mansions."

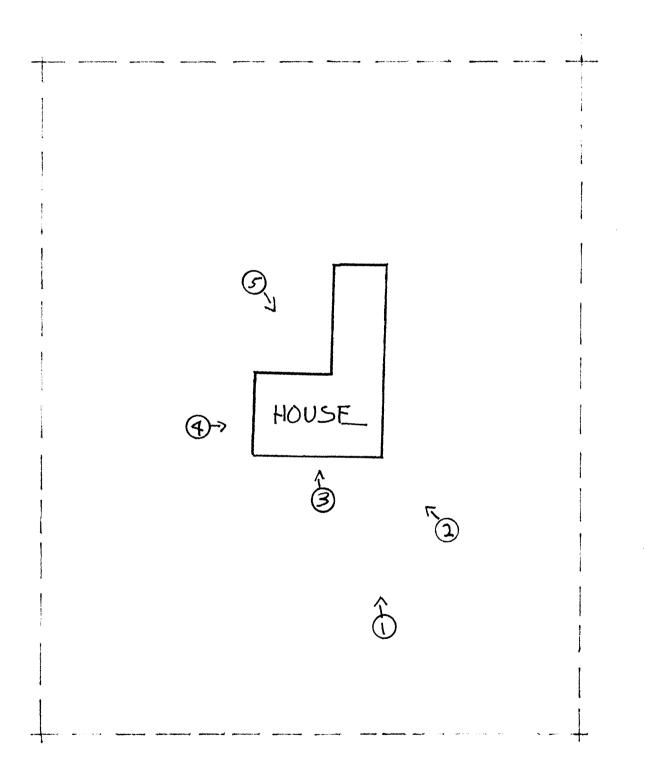
9. Major Bibliographical References

History of property submitted by owners (based upon family history). Owner is grandson of Gilbert C. Mills, who completed the house in 1867.

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FAIRHAVEN EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LA.





SCALE 1'=50'

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