

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received JUN 8 1983
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Vermilion Inn
and/or common Café Vermilionville

2. Location

street & number 1304 Pinhook Road N/A not for publication
city, town Lafayette N/A vicinity of
state LA code 22 parish Lafayette code 055

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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 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 Mrs. Horace B. Rickey, Sr. home: (318) 232-0207
street & number 427 Girard Park Drive
city, town Lafayette N/A vicinity of state LA 70503

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lafayette Parish Courthouse
street & number 221 W, Main Street P. O. Box 2009
city, town Lafayette state LA 70502

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Lafayette Parish Historical Sites Inventory, Section I
has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date June, 1976 federal state county local
depository for survey records Lafayette City Hall
city, town Lafayette state Louisiana

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 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 Vermilion Inn (c.1835) is a two-story brick-between-posts provincial Greek Revival structure located near the north bank of the Vermilion River. Although it once had a more rural setting, it is now in the midst of expanding suburban Lafayette. Despite several changes and additions, the building retains its National Register eligibility.

The Vermilion Inn is a combination of Creole French and Anglo-American features. Creole features include the upstairs hall-less floor plan with its two large rooms and its pair of rear cabinets and the fact that the staircase is set on the rear gallery between the cabinets. Anglo-American features include: (1) the one-time central hall floor plan on the ground story; (2) the fact that the ground story entrance is in the center; (3) the simple Greek Revival mantels, all four of which survive; (4) the five-bay colossal Doric post gallery in the front; and (5) the fact that the chimneys are set against the exterior walls.

Other noteworthy features include;

1. The exposed and beaded beams on the ground story,
2. The four-panel doors which open onto the upper gallery from each of the upstairs rooms,
3. The six over six windows on the front gallery and on the sides of the upper story,
4. The nine over six windows on the sides of the lower story,

The following noteworthy changes have been made in the structure since construction:

1. The original front doorway has been replaced by a reproduction turn-of-the-century style doorway,
2. The rear gallery has been enclosed on both stories,
3. The walls of the central hall have been removed on the ground story, thus creating a single long room. (Originally there was a central hall with a room on either side.)
4. Shutters have been remounted with new hardware,
5. Large wings have been added on the rear and on the north side. (The northern wing contains an imitation Normandy style turret.)

Assessment of Integrity

Despite the aforementioned changes and additions, the Vermilion Inn retains its National Register eligibility. The original building's basic form stands apart from its accretions and most of its Greek Revival features remain, including all of the mantels. Hence, in the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office, it retains its obvious identity as a Greek Revival structure. Moreover, it retains the two features which establish its architectural significance -- i.e., the building's two-story height and its colossal gallery. (See Item 8.)

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. 1835 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Vermilion Inn is locally significant in the area of architecture as a superior example of Greek Revival architecture within the context of Lafayette Parish.

The Historical Sites Inventory prepared for the Lafayette Council of Governments identifies some twenty-eight Greek Revival structures remaining in Lafayette Parish. Most are single story cottages with simple posts for gallery columns. About half are in a deteriorated state and many have been significantly modified. The Vermilion Inn is conspicuous among this group because it is one of only four two-story examples and because it is one of only two examples which have colossal columns on the gallery. This is important because the Vermilion Inn represents something of an architectural fashion of its time. Shadows-on-the-Teche (1834) set a fashion for colossal gallery columns on larger houses in the vicinity of Iberia, Lafayette and St. Landry parishes. This appears to have been the leading high style architectural trend in the area. The Vermilion Inn is a rare surviving example of this trend in Lafayette Parish.

Historical Note:

The Vermilion Inn is so named because it is believed to have been an inn at some point in its history. In addition, the area where it is located is the site of the Battle of Vermilion Bayou (October 1863), at which time the structure was occupied by Union troops.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical Sites Inventory, Lafayette Parish, Section I. Prepared by the Lafayette Regional Planning Commission for the Lafayette Council of Governments, June, 1976. Nomination Form Prepared by Ruth Fontenot. Copy in National Register File, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1/5 acre

Quadrangle name Lafayette, Louisiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 15 594280 3341700
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

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 National Register Staff
Division of Historic Preservation

ASSISTED BY: RUTH FONTENOT

organization State of LA

date April 1983

street & number P. O. Box 44247

telephone (504) 342-6682

city or town Baton Rouge

state LA 70804

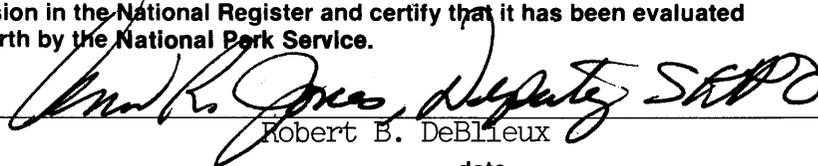
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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

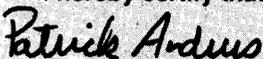

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 23, 1983

For NPS use only

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



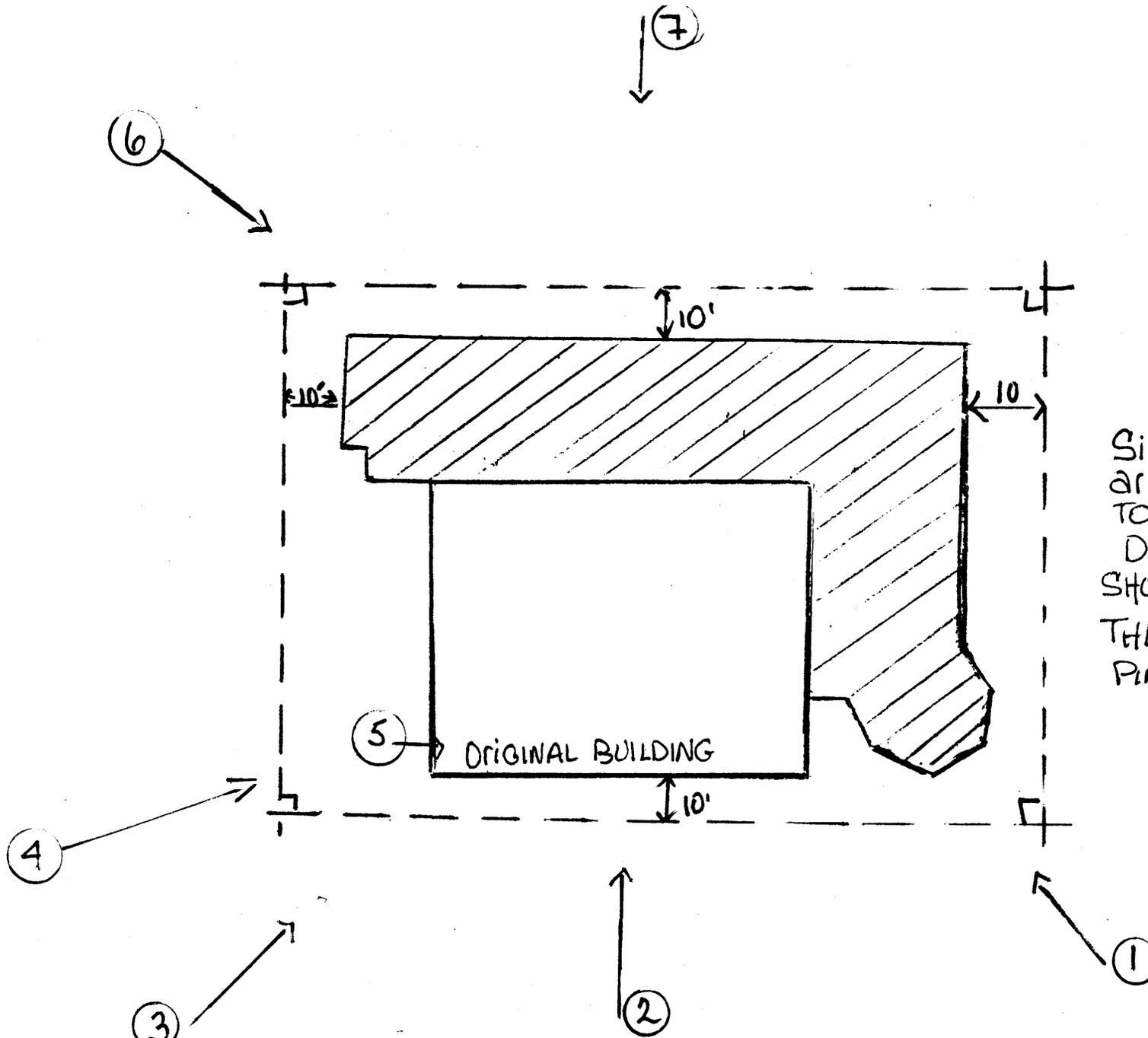
date 7/13/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Site Boundaries
 are PARALLEL
 TO BUILDING FACADES,
 DISTANCES AS
 SHOWN
 THE BUILDING FACES
 PINHOOK ROAD.

PINHOOK ROAD

CAFE VERMILIONVILLE, LAFAYETTE, LA.
 LAFAYETTE PARISH.

