

Beauregard House, 1113 Chartres Street,  
New Orleans, Louisiana

*Orleans Parish*

HABS No. 18-1

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District No. 18

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Richard Koch, District Officer  
614 Audubon Building, New Orleans, Louisiana

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"THE BEAUREGARD HOUSE" (residence)  
New Orleans            Orleans Parish            Louisiana

Owner

Beauregard House, Incorporated  
1113 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana

Date of Erection

Latter part of 1826

Architect

Jn. Correjolle

Builder

James Lambert

Present Condition

The building is in fair condition; the brickwork shows almost no cracks or distortions and though the woodwork is in good shape, the whole is in need of intelligent and careful attention. The original building shows practically no departure from the original plan. Later additions are the kitchen in the west corner and the one-story buildings at either side of the courtyard. The diningroom was formerly the gallery, the present rear porch being an addition.

Number of Stories

Raised basement single story residence.

Materials of Construction

Walls of the building are soft burned brick, stuccoed. Framing timbers, joists and rafters of cypress. Interior walls and ceilings are plastered. The principal rooms have marble mantels, plaster cornices and center ceiling ornaments. Floors of all porches are yellow pine.

Other existing Records

Building Contract between Joseph LeCarpentier, owner, and James Lambert, Contractor, dated August 11, 1826,

is among the notarial records of Felix de Armas at the New Orleans Court House. (Copy attached hereto)

Photostats of building plans attached to above mentioned building contract, towit:

- (1) Floor plans by Jh. Correjollies, Architect
- (2) Front elevation by Jh. Correjollies, Architect
- (3) Plat showing garden, by Chas. H. de Armas, Surveyor, dated October 7, 1865  
(Copies ~~attached hereto~~)

H. G. Curtis "New Orleans, Its old houses, Shops, and Public Building".

New Orleans City Directory, 1829

Chain of Titles on file at New Orleans Court House (Copy attached hereto)

#### Additional Data

Among the interesting examples of the raised basement single story type house in New Orleans few are more interesting than the one at 1113 Chartres Street.

This house was built in 1826 by Joseph Le Carpentier, a prominent auctioneer of the city. Jh. Correjollies was the Architect and James Lambert the carpenter-contractor. There is no record as to how the other contracts were let. The Architect's drawings show that the kitchen was originally in an outbuilding, and that neither the room now used as a kitchen nor the present rear gallery were part of the original construction. It is also interesting that the building was built reversed from the way shown in the drawings. The stairway mentioned in the contract as leading to the cellar and the lower section of

the stair to the garret have been removed. These stairs being additions to the contract do not appear on the original plan.

The drawing of the front elevation seems scarcely to be the one from which the building was built. Front steps are shown as leading down from only one side of the portico and the balustrade is shown as being of turned wood.

Le Carpentier, builder of the house, lived in it only a short time. The city directories reveal that the house was vacated by him in 1834, from which time until 1838 it was occupied by Alonzo and Ernest Morphy, the former being the father of Paul Morphy, noted chess player, who is said to have been born in this house in 1837.

The history of the house is rather obscure until about 1866, when General P. G. T. Beauregard of Civil War fame is listed in the directory as residing at 279 Chartres Street, the old number of the house. The system of numbering has been changed many times and the name of the street was changed from Conde to Chartres. Le Carpentier's number on Conde Street is listed in 1830 as #105, in 1832 as #117, and in 1834 as #129. The Morphy's number was given as #129 in 1834. General Beauregard lived here until 1868, though he never owned the house.

In 1898 the Giacona's, a family of Italian wine

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merchants, bought the house and owned it until 1925. During their occupancy the Mafia riots took place in the city and it is rumored that several murders were committed in the house. It was the Giacona's who built the one-story buildings at either side of the courtyard.

In 1930 the buildings were purchased by Beauregard House, Inc., especially formed for the purpose of preserving it as a memorial to General Beauregard. This saved it from being utilized for commercial purposes as had been planned before Mr. W. J. Warrington and General Allison Owen aroused enough public interest to cause the formation of the Memorial Association. Many plans have been proposed for its restoration, but to date only a few repairs have been made.

When this house was built, New Orleans was growing rapidly, due to the influx of Americans who had moved to the city and to the steamboat traffic on the Mississippi. The house is not "Old New Orleans", but a type prevalent in the South, derived from the Taft House in Cincinnati and the house now standing on the grounds of the Johns Hopkins University, called "Homewood". However, the detail is not as pure as the above mentioned examples, but a blending of local sources and finally the Greek Revival iron rail and fence that was a later change, as can be seen from the contract drawings, and could hardly have been designed by the original architect of the building.

The plan of the house is very simple and with an

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air of spaciousness. The principal entrance is from the front gallery into a large hall which runs the full length of the house, opening at the rear into the dining room. The principal rooms are arranged on both sides of the hall. In the rear of the house is a large paved courtyard, with slave quarters.

The principal feature of the exterior design is the front gallery, which consists of a raised, pedimented portico with four columns, reached by two flanking curved granite stairways. The rails of the stairs and gallery are of wrought-iron of a Greek pattern, with some cast ornament. At the foot of each stair are iron gates hung from granite gate posts. The original columns of the portico were turned from cypress logs, but they have recently been replaced with crudely cast concrete ones. Two of the old columns, minus caps and bases, were found in the basement and measured.

The central doorway is a finely detailed double wood panelled door with sidelights and a rectangular transom. Engaged Ionic colonnettes separate the doorway and the sidelights. A similar one, having simple pilasters instead of the colonnettes, is found at the opposite end of the hall, between it and the dining room. Practically all the interior doors are similar to the ones which open from the two front rooms onto the gallery, but are wood panelled instead of having the upper part glazed and

the transoms and interior trim are identical.

The windows at the side of the house are large double hung ones, divided by narrow muntins into small lights. They have splayed panelled jambs extending to the floor with a wood panel filling the space below the windows. All the rooms have plaster cornices and several have center ceiling ornaments. In each of the principal rooms there are ordinary marble mantels placed on a narrow chimney breast against the wall.

From the dining room double doors with elliptical transoms and sidelights open on the rear gallery which extends across the entire rear of the house. This dining room was formerly the gallery, the present gallery being an addition. There are six rectangular wood posts on the gallery and a wood stair leads down from it to the paved courtyard. The balustrade of the gallery and stair are of wood. At the west corner of the house is a small wing containing the kitchen, also a later addition.

The attic is reached by a small enclosed stairway which comes down into the ante room at one end of the dining room. This stair once came all the way to the floor but now comes down only about halfway. In the attic are two finished rooms lighted by dormer windows, two on each side and one at the rear center. The roof is hipped, with a low pitch and is covered with slate with terra cotta hip and ridge tiles.

At the rear of the courtyard is a two-story

brick building used as slave quarters. There is a wood balcony with turned wood columns on the second floor, from which access is gained to the rooms. The columns and balustrade were restored by the men working in the Warrington Shop. This building is now connected with the house by the one-story work shops of recent construction which close both sides of the court.

The original grounds extended over a space adjacent to the present building, running along Ursulines Street to a depth of 160 feet. This was planted to a well-arranged symmetrical garden, with numerous walks, an arbour, and in the rear was a shed and an open space, probably used for stable and carriage storage.

April 1, 1935

Samuel Wilson, Jr.

*Reviewed 1936, H.C.F.*

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CONTRACT FOR BUILDING BEAUREGARD HOUSE

between

Joseph Le Carpentier and  
James Lambert  
Dated August 11, 1826

Be it known that on the 11th day of August in  
the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty  
six and in the Fifty First of the Independence of the  
United States of America:

Before me, Felix de Armas, notary public, in and  
for the City and Parish of New Orleans, in the State of  
Louisiana, one of the United States aforesaid, and in the  
presence of witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned;

Personally came and appeared Mr. Joseph Le  
Carpentier of this city, on the one part;

And Mr. James Lambert also of this city on the  
other part; which parties have declared that they have  
entered into the following articles of agreement, towit:

That the said party of the second part shall and  
will forthwith (MARGINAL NOTE: begin, and have on or before  
the first day of February next finished) in a good and work-  
manlike manner and according to the best of his art and  
skill, in the City of New Orleans aforesaid, on a lot of  
ground belonging to the said party of the first part, sit-  
uated at the corner of Ursulines and Conde Streets, measuring

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one hundred and fifty feet in front on the former street by one hundred and twenty five feet on the latter, which the said party of the first part bought of the Ursuline Nuns, on the fourth of January, 1825, by act passed before Marc Lafitte, a notary in this city, well and substantially for what reletes the carpenters and joiners work, erect, build, set up and finish one main good and substantial new two-story brick house, according to plans or draughts hereto annexed after being signed ne variation by the said parties to these presents, and one two-story brick kitchen and servants' house; the said buildings to be of such quality of material as shall be furnished by the said party of the first part at his own proper costs, such as paint, oil, glazing, locks, hinges and fastenings, nails, iron. . . . without exception, other than the materials of wood which shall be furnished by the said party of the second part, at his own proper costs, which materials shall be composed of pine, with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned - The painting and glazing shall be executed (that is shall be ordered) by the said party of the first part, and the execution thereof shall be at his own proper costs:

The said main building shall be erected fifty one feet front on Conde Street and sixty eight feet deep, out to out, French measure. There shall be twenty five doors and windows on the first story (MARGINAL NOTE: Made with cypress) with good framed and battoned doors and shutters, the windows in the said first story shall have

cannisters - In the second story there shall be twelve windows in the ends and two in the rear, they shall be boxed, framed, pannel jambs and pilastered, the shutters to be framed with mouldings - four front and two rear; outside doors to have sashes and fan lights - one front and one rear doors to have circular heads, fan-lights, and side-lights; Nine onside double doors with transom sash; four six pannel doors trimmed in the cabinets - three back arches trimmed with pilasters and venetian blinds - The joists shall be three by twelve inches and placed two feet from center to center, and be of yellow pine - The floors to be one and a quarter inches thick, to be of cypress planks and six by seven inches wide, and secret nailed - There shall be a stud partition to go through the house, and likewise for the two cabinets on the back gallery (MARGIANL NOTE: from which cabinets there shall be two stairs, going one to the garrett and the other to the cellar. J LeC; J.L.; F. de A., N.P.) which partition shall be lathed - the garrett joists shall be three by ten inches, and two feet apart - The floor to be one inch thick of pine. The roof to have a gallows frame, hip rafters, sufficiently strong to support a slate roof - There shall be a cornice to run all around the house - There shall be two stairs to run together in front of the house, with turned columns and pediment - There shall be a wash house, kitchen and privy as per plan - There shall be one fine railing in the front

of Conde Street, and opposite the main house, and one fence on each side and immediately after the said railing to fence the whole front of the said lot on Conde Street- There shall also be one fence eighty five feet long, similar to the one now existing on the said lot of ground, towards Ursulines Street, to fence the said lot in its depth - and there shall further be two railings (MARGINAL NOTE: to separate the lot whereon shall stand the said buildings from the empty portions of the said lot on each side of said building - There shall further be one gate fronting Ursuline Street. J.LeC.) It is well understood that said party of the ("first part" deleted) second part, for what relates the carpenters and joiners solely, shall furnish the said buildings in the best style and manner possible and in every respect for the workmanship, as the house of Mr. St. Martin in Conde Street, adjoining the lot whereon the buildings herein contemplated, are to be erected:

It is further understood that in the event of the said party of the first part having omitted anything for the full completion of the said carpenters and joiners work, that the said party of the second part, upon the other party furnishing all the materials soever as is herein agreed upon, shall thus completely finish the same:

In consideration whereof, the said party of the first part shall pay the other party the sum of four

1-  
thousand dollars, in manner following, towit: 1<sup>o</sup> One  
thousand dollars cash, which the said party of the first  
part has actually and in presence of the notary and  
witnesses undersigned, paid to the said party of the  
second part, who acknowledges the receipt thereof -  
2nd: One thousand dollars when the roof is ready to re-  
ceive the slate, 3d and two thousand dollars four months  
after the completion of the said work and after the keys  
of the said house shall be delivered by the said party of  
the second part to the said party of the first part -

In case of any dispute arising between the  
parties in the foregoing articles, the same shall be  
forthwith left to the determination of two disinterested  
parties, one to be chosen by each of the parties, and in  
case of disagreement on their part they shall have the right  
to appoint a third person, and whatever award or umpirage  
they shall give shall be binding on the said parties to  
these presents:

Thus the whole has been agreed between the said  
parties: Done and passed, at New Orleans aforesaid, in  
my office in presence of Messrs. Michel J.B.L. Fourcisq  
and Albert de Armas, both witnesses hereto required and  
residing in this city and the said parties have hereunto  
set their hands, together with the said notary and wit-  
nesses, on the day and year first before written.

Three references in the margin approved; two words  
erased to be null.

Albert de Armas  
Fourcisq

J. LeCarpentier  
James Lambert  
Felix de Armas - N.P.

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Chain of Title  
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Act before A. B. Koorie, N.P., June 16, 1930.  
Allison Owen, to Beauregard House, Inc., 2nd District,  
Square 50. Chartres, Ursulines, Royal & Governor Nichols.  
Lot 1 - Plan C. A. De Armas, Surveyor, October 14, 1865,  
annexed to Act E. Bouny, N.P., October 28, 1865. 60' from  
Chartres and Ursulines and measures 73.2.5 on Chartres by  
160'.1".2''' and 74' 9" 5''' rear 1113 Chartres.

Act before Judith Hyams Douglas M.P., July 8, 1926  
Anthony Manino et als to Allison Owen.

Act before Michel Provosty, N.P., September 2, 1925  
Mrs. C. Giacona et al to Anthony Manino.

Act before Theo. Cotonio, N.P., October 14, 1921,  
Mrs. C. Giacona to Corrado Giacona.

Act before Theo Cotonio, N.P., November 6, 1918,  
Corrado Giacona et al to Mrs. Ursula Lingara Widow Fran-  
cesco Giacona.

Act before U. Mariononi, N.P. March 1, 1917,  
Dominica Giocona et al to Mrs. Pietro Giacona (Widow)  
Children renounce their one-half share in favor of their  
mother, making the mother sole owner.

Act before P. J. Patorno, N.P. March 29, 1907,  
Corrado Giacona to Pietro Giacona.

Act before F. J. Dreyfous, N.P., March 17, 1904,  
James N. Larose & Edward Louis Fernandez to Corrado Giscona.

Larose & Fernandes acquired by inheritance  
June 30, 1896 and May 3, 1901.

Succession Mrs. Louise Marie Lanata, wife of  
James N. Larose.-Minard C. D. C. #50208, July 1st, 1896,  
to James N. Larose-Minard one half interest #42043  
acquired succession Antoine Lanato March 16, 1894 C.D.C. #

Succession Angela Louise Lanata, wife of Edward  
Fernandez C.D.C. #64887, May 6, 1901 to Edward Fernandez  
one half interest act before James Trahey, N.P. April 10, 1894.

Antoine Lanata acquired from the succession of  
D. Lanata C.D.C. #33378 - 2nd D.C. as per act passed before  
Ed. G. Gottschalk, N.P., April 19, 1870.

Dominique Lanata acquired from L. A. Garidel as  
per act before E. Bouny, N.P., October 28, 1865.

Eusebe Bouny, N.P., October 28, 1865, Mrs. L. A. Garidel to D. Lanata. Plan Charles de Armas, N.P. October 7, 1865 (Lot 1). Mrs. L. A. Garidel Marie Josephine A. Andry. Mrs. L. A. Garidel acquired by inheriting from her mother Josephine Laveau Treadeau, Widow of Manuel Andry (133'2"5' x 160'10"0' forming corner Chartres and Ursulines.)

Act before Felix Grima, N.P., June 21, 1841, creditors of John Ami Merle to Josephine Laveau Treadeau, Widow, of Manuel Andry (Building, etc.) acquired one portion of Mr. Joseph Carpentier, Act before L.T. Claire, N.P., May 17, 1833.

Oct. 4, 1833: One portion of Mr. Correjolles - Act L.T. Claire, N.P.

July 11, 1834: One portion of Mr. Correjolles - Act L. T. Claire, N.P.

February 6, 1837: One portion of Mr. Correjolles - Act L. T. Claire, N.P.

June 21, 1841: One portion known as residence of John A. Merle, by act before F. Grima, N.P.

Act before L. T. Claire, N.P., May 17, 1833, Josephine Le Carpentier, residing on Chartres between Hospital and Ursuline to John Ami Merle, residing on Levee Street Mandeville and Spain 64' more or less on Chartres by 160' (American measure) with buildings one lot adjoining the preceding 20' on Ursuline by 70' in depth.

Ursuline Nuns to J. Le Carpentier: Corner of Chartres and Ursuline measuring (French) 150' on Ursuline by 125' on Chartres Lots 11-12-13-14 - Act before Marc Lafitte, January 4, 1825.

Ursuline nuns acquired from French Crown through Governor Bienville.