

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 16 1986

date entered

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

1. Name

historic New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavilion

and or common same

2. Location

street & number City Park N/A not for publication

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of

state LA code 22 county Orleans Parish code 071

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture	☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☐ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial	☐ park
☒ structure	☒ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational	☐ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☒ entertainment	☐ religious
☐ object	N/A in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government	☐ scientific
	N/A being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial	☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. New Orleans City Hall

street & number 1300 Perdido

city, town New Orleans state LA 70112

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NONE has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☒ good	☐ ruins	☒ altered	☒ moved
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		date 1929 - pavilion
			1948 - carousel

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavilion are located in the amusements section of a large municipal park. The pavilion, which originally housed a different carousel, has been in city park since its c.1906 construction. It and the present c.1910 carousel have been together since 1948. Both have been moved short distances and both have received some minor alterations; however, they still easily retain their significance as rare surviving examples of a once common phenomenon.

The Moves:

In 1929 the carousel pavilion was moved less than one mile from one location in city park to another. As indicated above, it does not retain its original carousel. The present roughly contemporaneous carousel was installed in the pavilion in 1948 by Harry Batt, Sr. It originally was located in an amusement park about a mile away. Neither structure has been moved out of the area which forms its context for significance. Also, one would never guess that the two had not always been together. In fact, the State Historic Preservation Office would not have known otherwise had it not been for an interview with Batt's son. In addition, it should be noted that the present pastoral amusement park setting is entirely appropriate.

The Carousel Pavilion:

The carousel pavilion is a ten sided structure with a clerestory surmounted by a lantern cupola. The roof is faceted to match the sides. At one time there were double fold French doors on each side. Some of these have been replaced by plate glass windows and garage type doors; others have been remodeled into fixed windows. Nonetheless, the stained glass transoms remain intact as do the matching stained glass windows in the clerestory and cupola.

The Carousel:

Essentially the carousel consists of a huge spoked wooden wheel supported by a central mast. The wheel, which supports the carousel animals and the floor, is turned by means of a huge horizontal cog connected to a vertical drive shaft. This system in turn is connected to an electric motor. The carousel contains fifty-four animals plus a single two seater chariot. All of the animals are horses except for a lion, a camel, and a giraffe. Thirty of the horses are "flyers," providing a floating galloping motion which is actuated by an overhead cranking system using crossheads. The animals are typical of period carousel figures in that their features are boldly carved in dramatic poses, but without close attention to detail. Though much repainted, all figures are original.

The central carousel mechanism is concealed by a canvas screen with a continuous mural surmounted by a faceted beveled mirror. This in turn is surmounted by a large faceted crown with panels depicting exotic natural scenes. There is also a Baroque looking organ. The outer rim of the carousel is capped by a continuous set of painted brincaade panels.

CONTINUED

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

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Continuation sheet New Orleans City Park
 Carousel and Pavilion Item number 4 Page 1

Owners

Pavilion: New Orleans City Park
 New Orleans, LA 70119 504-482-4888

Carousel: John A. Batt
 Henry J. Batt, Jr.
 6528 Pratt Drive
 New Orleans, LA 70122

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Continuation sheet New Orleans City Park
Pavilion and Carousel Item number 7 Page 1

Description (continued)

Carousel Alterations:

- (1) The mural which conceals the motor mechanism was repainted about twenty years ago.
- (2) As previously mentioned, the carousel figures have been repainted many times.

Assessment of Integrity:

In our opinion, the changes made both to the carousel and pavilion should be regarded as minor because both still easily retain their historical identity. Also, in the case of the carousel, it would be virtually impossible to find an example where the figures had not been repainted. In the case of the pavilion, the roof structure and the stained glass transoms and windows are so prominent that the replacement of the French doors has not had the visual impact that might be expected. Finally, the companion structures represent an element of patrimony which is becoming so rare that even more significantly altered examples would still probably be important.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☐ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☒ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☒ other (specify) recreation

Specific dates c.1906 - pavilion **Builder/Architect** Pavilion Builder: Bartholomew A. Murphy
c.1910 - carousel
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Carousel Figures: Shops of Charles Carmel and Charles Looff, Brooklyn
Criterion A

The New Orleans City Park Carousel is of national significance in the area of recreation as a rare example of the prevalent form of mechanized recreation in America during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The carousel pavilion is of national significance in the area of recreation because it represents a once prevalent recreational structure which has largely disappeared from the American scene.

Of all the forms of mechanized recreational amusement, the carousel was the most prevalent prior to about 1920. It was the first to be introduced in America, and it held its own well into this century.

Generally speaking, carousels were brought to an area for one of two distinct purposes:

(1) They were installed in municipal parks to provide an added recreational attraction. A typical park might have a canoeing lake or a bandstand, but as a rule, the carousel was the only mechanized "ride,"

(2) Carousels were also brought in as centerpieces for commercial picnic grounds. These were set up by traction car companies at the outermost point on their lines. The purpose was to provide a destination for Sunday riders, thus boosting fare collection on an otherwise slow day. It was generally found that the presence of a carousel would attract more patrons than picnic grounds would by themselves. Carousel manufacturers encouraged this kind of business, for example, by making presentations at traction car company conventions. Of course, some commercial picnic grounds later acquired other rides and became amusement parks. But for the most part carousels were the work horses of mechanized amusement in America, being by far the most common mechanized ride.

Today the carousel is considered tame, but in its day it was a "thrill" ride. At that time carousels were turned much faster than they are now so that people were able to experience speeds in an unprotected setting that were unattainable in everyday life. In addition, the flying motion of the horses could be quite violent. As one New Orleans operator remarked of his carousel: "It took a cowboy to ride it."

Carousels declined in popularity after about 1920 and were relegated to the status of a children's ride. One theory as to why this took place is that as automobiles became more common and speeds increased, it took more to thrill the public.

According to the National Carousel Association, there were well over two thousand carousels operating in the United States during their heyday (c.1880-c.1920). The New Orleans City Park Carousel is one of only 247 remaining examples. (It is the only one left in Louisiana.) In addition, about ten to twelve historic carousels are being lost per year, according to the National Carousel Association.

CONTINUED

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1 acre

Quadrangle name New Orleans East, LA

Quadrangle scale 1: 24000

UTM References

A 1 5 7 7 9 8 8 0 3 3 2 0 7 6 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. Boundaries were chosen to encompass the significant resources. In this case the boundary line is a circle of 130 foot radius centering on the conical top of the pavilion. To have nominated the entire acreage under single ownership would have meant listing the whole park with vast numbers of unrelated features.

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 State of Louisiana

ASSISTED BY OWNERS AND NATIONAL
CAROUSEL ASSOCIATION

organization Division of Historic Preservation
National Register Staff

date November 1985

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 January 6, 1986

For NPS use only

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

John A. Ryan
Keeper of the National Register

John A. Ryan
Keeper of the National Register

date 2-3-86

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Continuation sheet New Orleans City Park
 Carousel and Pavilion

Item number 8

Page 1

Significance (continued)

Carousel pavilions are even rarer. At one time virtually all carousels of any size had pavilions, but today less than 100 pavilions remain in the country.

NB: The foregoing carousel and pavilion statistics come from the National Carousel Association.

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

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

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date entered

Continuation sheet New Orleans City Park
Carousel and Pavilion

Item number 9

Page 1

Bibliography

Personal communication with Charles Walker, Conservation Chairman, National Carousel Association.

Personal communication with Henry J. Batt, Jr.

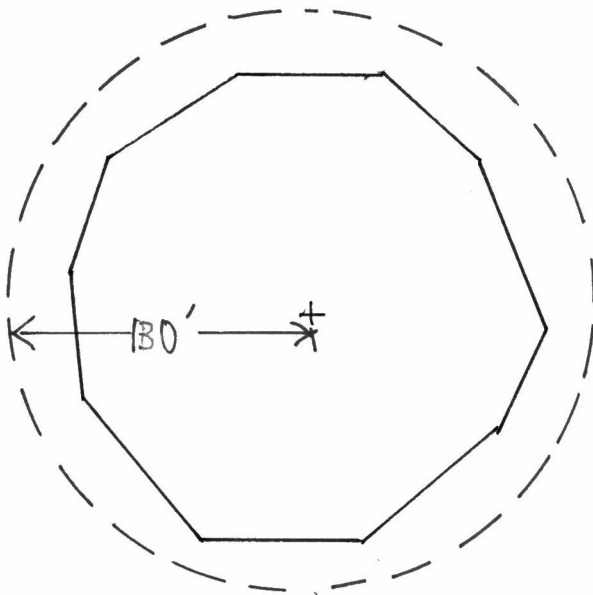
Fried, Frederick. A Pictorial History of the Carousel. Vestal, New York: The Vestal Press Ltd., 1964.

Fried, Frederick. Appraisal Report on New Orleans City Park Carousel.

Historic City Park, New Orleans. Friends of City Park, 1982.

National Carousel Association. Merry-Go-Roundup. Volume 12, Number 3, Fall 1985. This volume contains the 1985 carousel counts nationwide.

NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK
CAROUSEL & PAVILION
ORLEANS PARISH, LA.



BOUNDARY

↑
① EXTERIOR
PHOTO.

(NOT TO SCALE)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

86000254

New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavilion
Orleans Parish
LOUISIANA

Working No. JAN 16 1986
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-3-87
Date Due: 2/13/86 - 3/2/86
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 2-13-86
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	
	☐ unaltered	
	☐ altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker
LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985
Photo #1
North -- pavilion



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker
LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985
Photo #2
Interior View - Carousel



MERRY-GO-ROUND
50c
EVERYONE MUST
HAVE A TICKET

New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker
LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985
Photo #3
Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion

Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker

LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985

Photo #4

Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker
LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985
Photo #5
Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion

Orleans Parish, LA

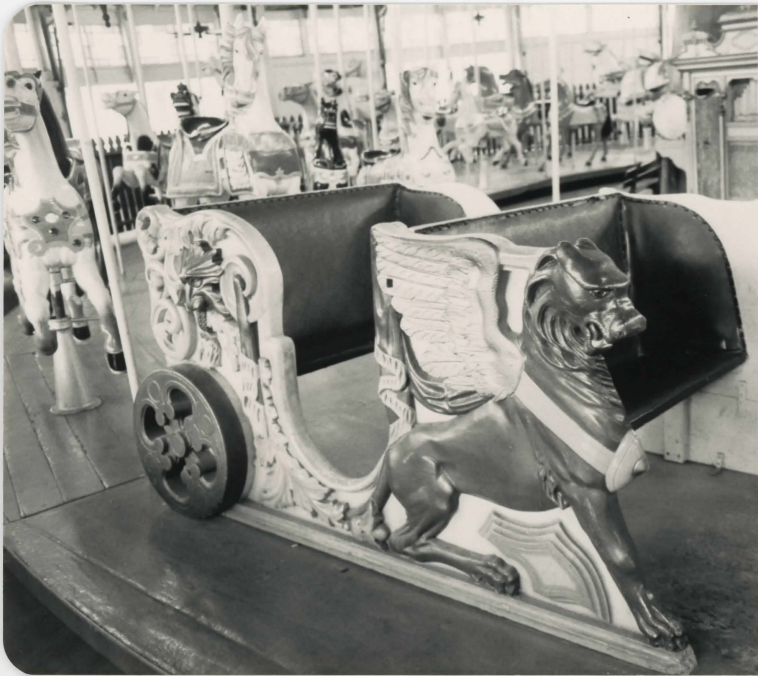
Jonathan Fricker

LA State Historic Preservation Office

August 1985

Photo #6

Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion

Orleans Parish, LA

Jonathan Fricker

LA State Historic Preservation Office

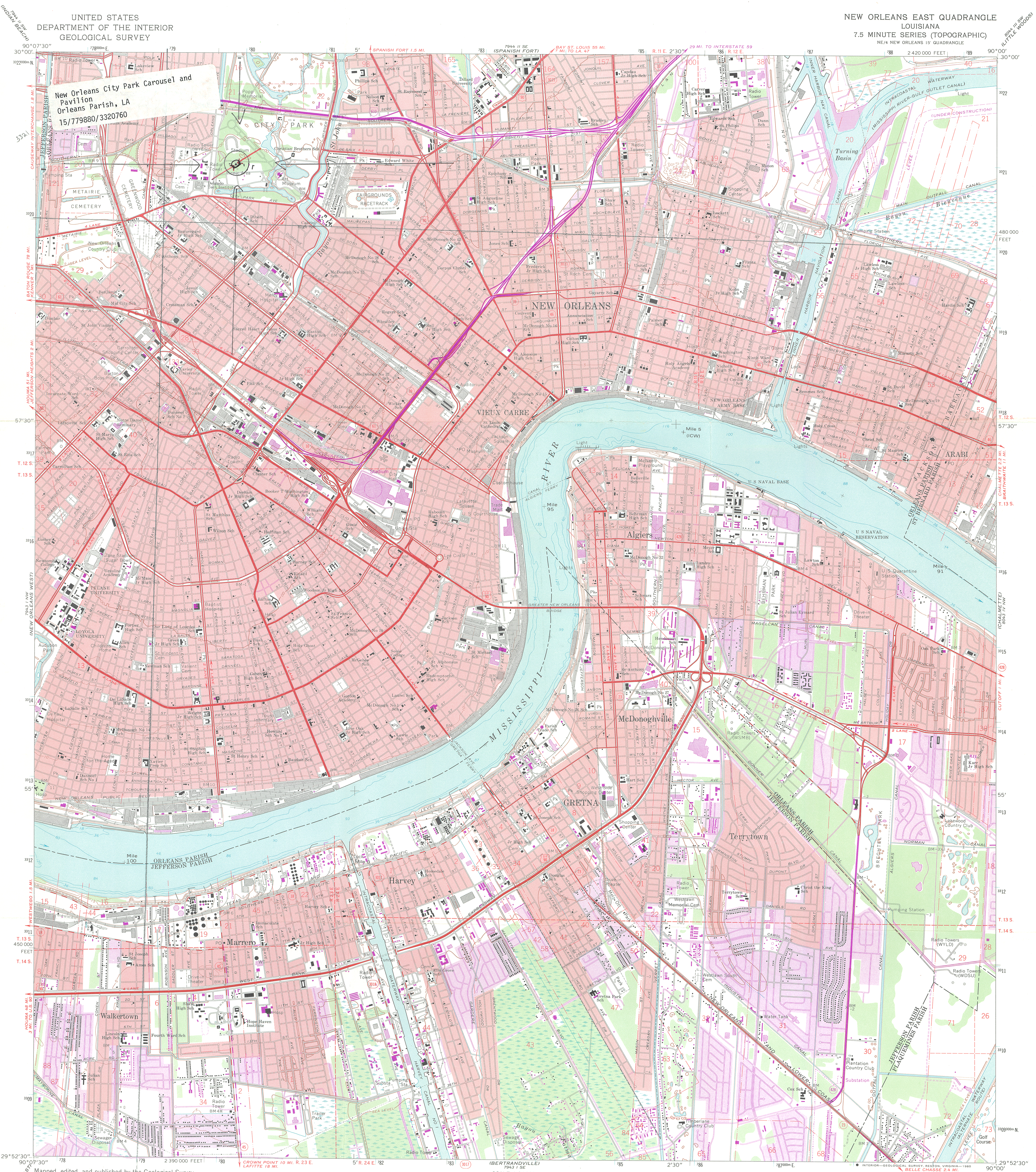
August 1985

Photo #7

Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and
Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
Jonathan Fricker
LA State Historic Preservation Office
August 1985
Photo #8
Interior View - Carousel



New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavilion
Orleans Parish, LA
15/779880/3320760

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1964. Topography by planimetric surveys 1965-66
Supersedes map dated 1951
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts
878 (1964) and 497 (1966). This information is not intended for
navigation purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Louisiana coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 19 meters south and
8 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
City of New Orleans and Orleans Parish are coextensive

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
All or part of this quadrangle lies within a subsidence area

SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET
GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1/2 FOOT
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND STATE OF LOUISIANA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route
NEW ORLEANS EAST, LA.
NE/4 NEW ORLEANS 15' QUADRANGLE
N2952.5—W9000/7.5
PHOTOREVISED 1972 AND 1979
DMA 7943 1 NE—SERIES V885
2018



EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR
NOELLE LEBLANC
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

ROBERT B. DEBLIEUX
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY
KATHLEEN BYRD, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF THE ARTS
ALBERT B. HEAD, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ANN REILEY JONES, DIRECTOR

FOLKLIFE PROGRAM
NICHOLAS R. SPITZER,
PROGRAM MANAGER

January 6, 1986

Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 L Street N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the completed and signed nomination forms, along with maps and photographs, for the following properties:

Jackson House, Calcasieu Parish
Magnolia Lane Plantation House, Jefferson Parish
New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavilion, Orleans Parish
Lee Hardware Building, Caddo Parish

If any additional information is needed, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Robert B. DeBlieux
State Historic Preservation Officer

RBD/DF/bc

Enclosures

JAN 16 1986

86000254

page 1 of 4

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES DATA COLLECTION FORM

State	County		
Surname	/		
Date	List		
Start	Stop	S	T

1. Reference Number _____ (8) †01a. Control No. _____ / M H W (10)
2. Resource Name
New Orleans City Park Carousel and Pavillion
3. Other Name/Site Number _____ (120)
4. Address/Boundary _____ (120)
City Park off City Park Ave.
5. City _____ (120)
New Orleans _____ (36) †05a. Vicinity 06. Restricted Address _____
7. State Code LA *08. County Code 071
9. Ownership:
☒ Private ☒ Public (Local) ☐ Public (State) ☐ Public (Federal)
0. Resource Type D †11. No. of Contributing Buildings _____ 1 Non-contributing Buildings _____
(B, D, S, U, O) Sites _____ Sites _____
Structures _____ † Structures _____
Objects _____ Objects _____
2. Federal Agency _____

This field should be left blank.

Field may be left blank if information is not given.

Mandatory data element; field must be filled in.

Field that must be completed unless address is not for publication.

2-19-84

01. Reference Number _____ (8)

*13. Non/Det Type S

14. Multiple Name _____

(120)

*15. Nominator
☒ State _____ Federal _____ Local _____ Other _____

†16. Non. Name/Designations _____

(26)

†17. NPS Park Name _____

*18. New Certification L1

*18a. Certification Date
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __

†19. Current Certification
 Primary: _____

Other: _____

†19a. Other Certification Dates
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
 __ __ / __ __ / __ __
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 __ __ / __ __ / __ __

- + This field should be left blank.
- † Field may be left blank if information is not given.
- * Mandatory data element; field must be filled in.

12-19-84
* ↑
20/20a. Historic 00-10EF1--1--
* ↑

21/21a. Current 08-108F1 - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - / - - - /

†23. Arch Style
801-1-1-

†23a. Other Description Carousel and Pavilion----- (28)

*25. Applicable Criteria
 A B C D

†25a. Significant Person's Name _____ (26)

*27. Areas of Significance
1201-1-1-

*28. Periods of Significance
04 / _ / _ / _ / _ / _ / _ / _

†29. Circa C
C

†29a. Specific Significant Years

1906

1960

1948

30. Cultural Affiliation

†31. Architect/Builder/Engineer/Designer Murphy, Bartholomew
Carmel, Charles, G-Loeff, Charles, Shops

22. Construction Materials
Foundation Roof Walls Other

*24. Level of Significance
 7 NA ST LO IN

26. Criteria Consideration
A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

- + This field should be left blank.
* Mandatory data element that must be completed.
† Data element that may be left blank if information is not given.
†† Mandatory data element that must be completed in the first occurrence in each field of the building sections.

19-84 +01. Reference Number -----

12. Other Documentation NR DOE NHL LCS

32a. HAER/No. -----

32b. HABS/No. -----

33. Acreage ----- 1.0

34. UTM Coordinates

A/ L51171791080113312017601

C/ -----

E/ -----

G/ -----

I/ -----

K/ -----

M/ -----

O/ -----

Q/ -----

S/ -----

U/ -----

W/ -----

Y/ -----

B/ -----

D/ -----

F/ -----

H/ -----

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Z/ -----

- + This field should be left blank.
 * Mandatory data element; field must be filled in.