



Old Mandeville Street Strolls Rue du Lac/Lakeshore Drive

(Originally Rue du Lac, this street has been known variously as The Beach Road and Lake Street. The name was formalized as Lakeshore Drive in the 1980's)

"Along the lake extends a shady alley, which runs beside the white houses with green shutters"
'Mandeville' by George Dessommes, 1876

Sponsored by the City Of Mandeville, Louisiana

Begin your walk at the west end of Lakeshore Drive:

West Beach Parkway, circa 1925, is the entrance to one of the earliest planned developments in the country:
West Beach Parkway Subdivision.

Rue Carondelet. Baron Francisco Carondelet(1748-1807) was the Governor of Louisiana and West Florida under the Spanish. He spoke fluent French and was respected by Creole New Orleans.

1. 2627. Morel-Nott House, circa 1820's. This Creole Cottage, on the National Registry of Historic Places, predates the founding of Mandeville. Moved from its original location on the lakefront between Foy and Lamarque in 1965, its footprint is clearly visible on Mandeville's first map by Louis Bringier in 1834.



2627 Lakeshore Dr.



2613 Lakeshore Dr.

2. 2613. Before the Civil War this property, reaching from Rue du Lac back to Claiborne, included a house, dependencies, bath house and wharf. During the war, Union troops burned all of Mandeville's numerous wharfs. The house has been extensively modified, however the footprint of the property, reaching through the block, has endured.

3. 2603. Former site of the Jean Baptiste Lang House, circa 1850, which was acquired and relocated by the City after Hurricane Katrina's winds and waves severely damaged it. Now a house museum located at 605 Carroll.

Rue Wilkinson. Major General James Wilkinson(1757-1825) fought in the Revolutionary War and was appointed Governor of the Louisiana Territory after its purchase from France(1803). It was during this time that Bernard de Marigny, serving in the U S Army, was Wilkinson's aide.

4. 2547 Former site of the Audubon Hotel, circa 1915. Lost to fire in the 1970's.

5. 2535. Circa 1923. The Borey family owned this property from the 1880's until the 1920's. Hermann Borey was mayor(1906-1910) and a well respected civic leader. The Craftsman Bungalow you see today was built on the footprint of their 19th century house, destroyed by fire. Elevated in 2015.



2535 Lakeshore Dr.



2529 Lakeshore Dr.

6. 2529. Craftsman Bungalow, circa 1920. Former site of the Alexander Prieur House, circa 1869.

7. 2525. Prieur-Hartman House. Built for cotton merchant William Prieur in 1848, this property includes many of its original dependencies such as the carriage house, slave quarters and handmade brick well. Originally a Creole Cottage, the house was refashioned into the more popular style of the Craftsman Bungalow in the 1920's. The present owners, descendants of the Hartman family who have owned the property for over 102 years, choose to elevate the house in 2015.



2525 Lakeshore Dr.

8. 2505. Circa 1849. Heavily damaged in Hurricane Katrina, the original Creole Cottage has been elevated and enlarged with additions and wraparound gallery. Former home of journalist Rosemary James. Site of the 2008 movie 'My Own Love Song'.



2505 Lakeshore Dr.

Rue Lafayette. The Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) was a Major General in the Continental Army and friend and confidant of George Washington. When the Marquis made a visit to New Orleans in 1825 he was entertained by the Marigny family.

9. 2441. Circa 1849. This Creole Cottage was altered by owner Mary Seaman Hawkins in the late 1800's who added the dormer and bracketed apron overhang. The house is featured on a postcard from the 1920's where it is identified as the Witherspoon Residence, Mandeville.



2441 Lakeshore Dr.

10. 2423. Theodule Verret House, circa 1849. Verret was mayor and civic leader during Mandeville's earliest days. In 1900, owner Marie Duteil Prudhomme had the Creole Cottage remodeled to reflect the Victorian style popular at the time, adding the dormer and ornate gallery. It became a landmark for steamer passengers, calling it the White Castle of the lake. This site appeared in the movie 'The Curious Case of Benjamin Button' (2008).



2423 Lakeshore Dr.

11. 2407. Dufilho-Poitevent House, circa 1840, began as a simple three room hunting lodge. It was enlarged in 1850 and again in 1900 when the 1880's shotgun (built as a separate address by Charles Lafitte) was connected with breezeway to become the east side addition. In 1913 the Poitevent-Faure Lumber Company acquired the property for the Eads Poitevent family who maintained ownership for 90 years. Former home of artist Emory Clark.



2407 Lakeshore Dr.

Ravine aux Coquilles (shell ravine) is a small natural bayou identified on the earliest maps of the area. It figured prominently in the 1834 map by Surveyor General, and Marigny friend, Louis Bringier.

12. 2303. Dr Ruffin B Paine House, built 1915. A prominent doctor, pharmacist and civic leader, Paine built this expansive Craftsman Bungalow to replace his Queen Anne home that was destroyed by a fire that also consumed a confectionary, the telephone exchange and the Lake View Hotel. The small enclosure on the western end of the bungalow is original, serving as the office and apothecary. Heavily damaged by wind and flood waters from Hurricane Katrina, the home has been meticulously restored.



2303 Lakeshore Dr.

Rue Coffee. Major General John Coffee (1772-1833) was a Virginian who fought in the War of 1812. During the Battle of New Orleans (1814-1815) he commanded a Brigade of Free Blacks and Native Americans from the Southeast Allied tribes.

13. 2247. Charles A David House, circa 1907. This graceful Queen Anne was built by Charles and Lily David as a wedding present to each other. It, too, is included in the postcard collection from the early 20th century 'Residences at Mandeville, La.' The current owners, descendants of the David family, have elevated the house.



2247 Lakeshore Dr.

14. 2239. Enveloped within this new home is the former ticket house of the St Tammany and New Orleans Railway and Ferry Company (1909-1918). Tickets were sold for the electric train cars that picked up passengers on the 1500' wharf extending out into the lake and carried them to Abita Springs and Covington. The car barn was around the corner on Coffee.

15. 2207. Former site of Duval's Dance Hall, a popular destination for generations of visitors and residents. More recently the High Water Bar and the Lakeshore Restaurant which were lost to Hurricane Katrina (2005).

16. 2201. Former site of the Bonseigneur House, circa 1890. During the mid twentieth century this corner, with its brightly painted antique fence, was the site of a recurring summer carnival. The antique iron fence was removed in 2015 to clear the way for new construction.

Rue Carroll. Major General William Carroll (1788-1844). Hero of the Battle of New Orleans and Governor of Tennessee.

17. 2143. Windhaven, a Colonial Revival, built in 1926 as the summer home for Maurice Hartson, Civil Sheriff of New Orleans. Heavily damaged by fire in 1983, owner Dale Gale carefully restored her beloved Windhaven. In its spacious side yard there was once a small shotgun house where the fire began.



2143 Lakeshore Dr.

18. 2135. Augustin-Foster House, circa 1859, built for Marigny in-law, Numa Augustin. In near ruinous condition after Hurricane Katrina, the current owners rescued the old Creole from demolition, elevated and lovingly restored it to its original condition. The exterior color palette of off-white siding, 'gros rouge' window sashes and warm green shutters and French doors is an historically accurate selection reflecting early Creole tastes.



2135 Lakeshore Dr.

19. 2113. Rest Awhile (1905-2011) This expansive property, covering half a block, was donated by Prof. and Mrs Anderson in honor of her parents, the Rodds, to the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons to be used as a summer retreat for under-privileged women and children.



2113 Lakeshore Dr.

A. The largest building is the former Frapart House, circa 1880, the only 19th century hotel building left from Mandeville's Golden Age. It was known as the Margaret Rodd House for 110 years.

B. The center building is the Thomas Hynes Cottage, circa 1850. One of three original Creole Cottages built on the lakefront as guest accommodations by Thomas Hynes.

C. The easternmost cottage is the Sophie B Wright Memorial, circa 1916. This Craftsman was built by the Order of the Kings Daughters and Sons to honor member, philanthropist, social activist and educator, Sophie Wright.

20. 2101. Former site of numerous enterprises, circa 1840's-2000's including the Colomes Hotel, Levy's Drugstore, Williams Drugstore and several restaurants.



Photo C Lakeshore Dr.

Rue Lafitte. Named after the notorious Gulf Coast pirate, Jean (1780-1823) to honor him and his men, the Baratarians, for their contribution of men and artillery to the Battle of New Orleans (1814-1815)

21. 2000. Impresario and Marigny friend, John Davis bought this square (#1) and the square directly behind it. On them he built The Davis Hotel which opened in time for the 4th of July, 1834. Much has been written about his investment in Mandeville: extravagant accommodations, gardens, Tin Pan Alley, bathhouse, wharf and restaurant with Chef Boudro (a favorite of singer Jenny Lind). However, as early as 1844 the hotel was bankrupt and replaced with the Mandeville College. Fire ended this venture by 1849. This corner location is the former site of Crescent Hotel (1887), Mugnier's Hotel (1891) and the St Tammany Hotel, circa 1920 until fire destroyed it in the 1960's.



2025 Lakeshore Dr.

22. 2025. This early Creole Cottage, circa 1849, is said to have been variously occupied by Marigny family members. By the 1880's it was operating as a Casino/bar: Paul's Exchange, then Arceneaux's. In 1916 it was acquired by Albert Bechac and has been operating as a restaurant under Bechac ownership to this day.

23. 2001. Justine Plantation, circa 1786, was moved by barge to this site in 2003 from the Bayou Teche area in St Mary Parish. It is adorned with fanciful woodwork depicting snakes, Indians and owls reflecting its bayou heritage. Former site of the Welcome Hotel, circa 1909 and the Mandeville Inn, circa 1915 and the Lake Theater.



2001 Lakeshore Dr.

Rue Girod. Nicholas Girod (1751-1840) was the 6th Mayor of New Orleans. The original street name appearing on the Bringier map is Rue Gerard. Etienne Gerard (1773-1852) was a Brigadier General in the Napoleonic Wars and the 13th Prime Minister of France (1834). Contrary to original maps and Bernard de Marigny's clearly demonstrated practice of offering a measure of esteem to his French and American heroes, the street name was changed from Gerard to Girod in the 1990's.

24. 1951. Built as a tavern in 1850, this is Mandeville's only masonry building from the antebellum period. It is missing its original upper level wraparound gallery and ground floor openings. In the 1860's, it became part of a complex of buildings called the Soldiers' Home. Honore Doussan, émigré from France and a physician in Napoleon's army, cared for Confederate soldiers here. He was succeeded by Dr Alonzo Givens until funding was lost in 1880.



1951 Lakeshore Dr.

25. 1925. Wiltz-Bechac House, circa 1850. Classic gable sided Creole Cottage on a property whose early footprint remains unchanged, reaching from Rue du Lac to Claiborne.



1925 Lakeshore Dr.

26. 1911. Live Oak. Coquillon-Cousin House, circa 1840. Louis Coquillon was Marigny's agent during the 1830's auctions. After the Civil War, the Cousin family relocated here to live with maiden aunt, Victorine Coquillon. They named the old home Live Oak after their plantation in Lacombe. Severely damaged in the 1915 hurricane, the Creole Cottage was relocated behind the protection of the great oak you see today.



1911 Lakeshore Dr.

Cours Marigny. The grandest of our north/south streets at 100 feet wide, it was named after Creole (French or Spanish descendants born in Louisiana) aristocrat and town founder Jean Bernard Xavier Philippe de Marigny de Mandeville (1785-1868).

27. 1849. Former site of two homes belonging to the Vincente Prieto family. Prieto, a sea captain, built his first home in the 1850's. It was lost to fire around 1900. The Craftsman Bungalow that replaced it was built soon after. It was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina (2005).



1815 Lakeshore Dr.

28. 1839. Former site of Bernard 'Prosper' de Marigny House, grandson of the founder and last direct descendant with the Marigny name.

29. 1815. Flagstaff, circa 1849, on the National Registry of Historic Places. According to local history, Joseph Vial, prominent builder during Mandeville's early days, built this Creole to look much like two others he built at 121 and 139 Cours Marigny. Major updating in 1915, perhaps following the destructive hurricane of that year, resulted in the addition of the Colonial Revival facade with heavy cornice and columns with decorative capitals. Former home of Dr S Harvey, Jr. and Melba Colvin who were active members of The St Tammany Historical Society and Mandeville Horizons.



1801 Lakeshore Dr.

30. 1801. Mandalay, circa 1849. Built for New Orleans auctioneer Jean Valsin Gourdain. The current owners have elevated the Creole Cottage, adding the arched basement, large upper story and expansive additions. The original 'brick between posts' construction is still visible in its three room core, all that remains of the Gourdain cottage.

Rue Lamarque. Jean Maximilien Lamarque (1770-1832) was a hero of the Napoleonic Wars and French statesman. His death in Paris in 1832 inspired the June Rebellion - backdrop to Victor Hugo's Les Miserables.

31. 1729. Former site of the Moorman-Maspereau House, circa 1850, which was destroyed by a suspicious fire in the 1970's. The antique fence, built by Hinderer Ironworks, with its wrought iron posts and pickets with fanciful cast iron ornamentation, however, has endured. The current owners have had the beloved fence restored and reconstructed to 'like new' condition.



1725 Lakeshore Dr.

32. 1725. Tabary-Martin House, circa 1834. A Creole Cottage built for Louis Emile Tabary and his wife Leocardie Coquillon, daughter of pioneer Mandeville resident Louis Coquillon. Recently, the cottage has been elevated and enlarged with a dormer and west side addition, a former Shotgun that was relocated from a lot on Rue Lamarque in 2000 to become an expansive master suite.

33. 1721. Little Flower Villa, circa 1835. Built without the wraparound galleries, the 'brick between posts' Creole Cottage was once part of a large farm spreading over the square. On the National Registry of Historic Places, this cottage once served as a retreat house (1943) for the Society of the Redemptorists. They bestowed the name "Little Flower" to honor Carmelite nun St Therese of Lisieux.



1717 Lakeshore Dr.

34. 1717. Hightide. circa 1840's. Gable-sided Creole Cottage with arched basement detail. On the National Registry of Historic Places.



1721 Lakeshore Dr.

Rue Foy. Marechal Maximilien Foy (1775-1825) Hero of the Napoleonic Wars and French statesman

35. 1647. Formerly the Welcome Inn, circa 1920, now a private residence. Heavily damaged in Hurricane Katrina, the enclosed ground floor was lost and the building elevated.



1647 Lakeshore Dr.

36. 1635. Oriol-Sheen Cottage, circa 1849, was built for Victor Feste, a New Orleans dry goods dealer. With its imposing gable-front, wraparound galleries and unusual proportions, this seems a peculiar house indeed. However, when viewed from the side, the gable assumes a familiar look and its Creole roots are evident. It served as the Mandeville Yacht Club, circa 1893-1904).



1635 Lakeshore Dr.

37. 1623. John Ernest Prieto House, 1933. Prieto built 4 Craftsman Bungalows in a row for each of his four children. This is the only remaining. Prieto descendants elevated their home in 1996. The others were lost in Hurricane Katrina. May Koop Prieto, wife of John Ernest, planted the old oaks when the home was built.



1623 Lakeshore Dr.

Sources:

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