

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Plaquemine City Hall is set behind the Bayou Plaquemine levee near the northeastern edge of the business district of Plaquemine.

The stuccoed brick building has a central council chamber flanked by pairs of offices. There is also a rear wing. The council chamber is recessed within the facade to provide a large space behind the front portico. The building has 18-foot ceilings which have been lowered to a height of 13 feet. Two of the offices have been paneled over. The only other major change in the building has been the addition of a metal-sided rear wing.

The building is five bays wide, with a central attenuated pedimented portico consisting of four simple Doric columns, an unornamented frieze, and a plain tympanum. Most of the unornamented windows have six panes over six. There are also a few which have six panes over nine.

Detailing is simple, with triple framing boards which give the effect of moldings around the doorways. The front door is noteworthy for its multiple panel effect, and for its ear molded pedimented frame.

Specific dates 1848
Builder/Architect George and Thomas Weldon

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
Criteria A & C

Plaquemine City Hall with its stark articulation and handsome tetra-style Doric portico is a fine local example of the Greek Revival style. It is the only fully developed Greek Revival structure in Plaquemine's downtown area, most of which is characterized by late 19th and early 20th century commercial development. It is therefore an important part of the city's architectural legacy.

The Plaquemine City Hall is also of significance in the area of politics/ government since it was the Iberville Parish Courthouse from 1848-1906 and the City Hall from 1906 to date. Thus it was the seat of parish government for over a half century and then the seat of city government for nearly three quarters of a century afterward.

The building was constructed in 1848 when the police jury purchased the site. The contractor was the firm of George and Thomas Weldon of Natchez. The cost of construction was \$16,119.

Major Bibliographical References

Conrad, Glenn R., Carl A. Brasseaux, and R. Warren Robinson, *The Courthouses of Louisiana* (Lafayette: University of Southwestern Louisiana, 1977), p. 90.

Iberville Parish Conveyance Records.