

An Important On-Premises Auction

May 22 & 23, 2004

Neal Auction Company is pleased to announce the on-premises auction of the entire contents of Albania Plantation, Jeanerette, Louisiana

The noted collection of Emily Cyr Bridges (1912-2003).

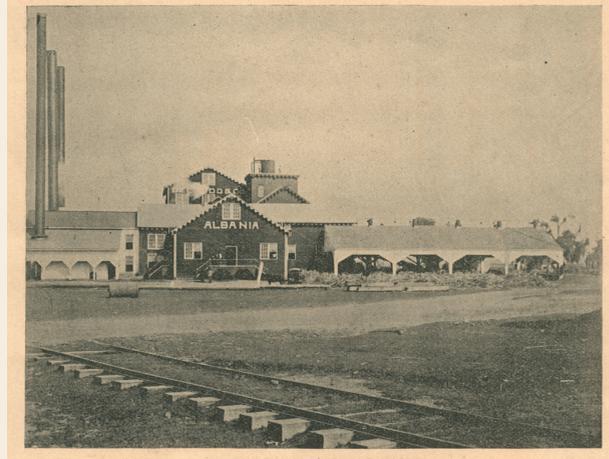


The Bayou Teche facade of Albania, as seen in the 1861 gouache by Adrien Persac (b. France 1823, d. Manchac, Louisiana 1873, active New Orleans 1857-1872). Private Collection. Photograph Courtesy The Historic New Orleans Collection.



Residence of A. Allain, General Manager of Albania Refinery.

The road facade of Albania, as seen in *The Parish of St. Mary*, 1898, photograph by W. Maurice Harding. Photograph Courtesy the St. Mary Parish Public Library.



ALBANIA REFINERY—S. DELGADO & CO.

Albania Sugar Mill, as seen in *The Parish of St. Mary*, photograph by W. Maurice Harding. Photograph Courtesy the St. Mary Parish Public Library.

Albania was built between 1837 and 1842 by Charles Francois Grevemberg, grandson of Jean-Baptiste Grevemberg, a prominent landholder who had settled in the Attakapas District in the Spanish Colonial period.

After Charles Francois Grevemberg's death at Albania in 1851, his wife, Euphemie Fuselier (d. 1886), managed the plantation. Champomier's Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana 1859-1860 shows Mrs. Charles Grevemberg producing 475 hogsheads of sugar on Bayou Teche. Mrs. Grevemberg owned approximately 6,500 acres at the time.

Samuel and Isaac Delgado acquired the property in 1885. Isaac Delgado bequeathed it to the City of New Orleans which continues to this day to operate the sugar plantation through the Delgado-Albania Plantation Commission.

In 1957 the City of New Orleans did sell the plantation house and proximate surrounding acreage at public auction. It was acquired by Emily Cyr Bridges, who restored Albania Mansion and opened it to the public showcasing her well-known collection of antique furniture, decorations, art and Acadian artifacts. Albania Plantation House is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The contents of Albania Plantation being offered May 22 and 23 represent an immense and historical trove of material culture.

Furniture highlights include the unique monumental full tester bed found in Miss Emily's bedroom, a rare suite of Napoleonic mahogany and bronze-mounted furniture, early Louisiana beds and armoires, an architectural secretary/bookcase, and much more. Throughout Albania and its grounds there is a quantity of antique porcelain, art, glass, lighting, Native American material, fine linens, decorative objects, sugar kettles, bronze plantation bells, a Civil War anchor, and innumerable discoveries for the discriminating collector.

Albania Plantation Auction

Saturday, May 22, 10 a.m. • Sunday, May 23, 11 a.m.