



**LYONS - JEANMARD - BREAUX HOUSE  
CIRCA 1889**

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The property located in the northern most limits of the present day City of Carencro is owned by the heirs of Theo Joseph Breaux. The large, white, Victorian-style house located at 210 Theo Street has a long history of various owners.

The original purchase of the property was as a fifty (50) arpent tract of land by Edouard Hector Magnon from the heirs of Pierre Cormier on January 20, 1872.

On March 31, 1885, Oscar S. Lyons negotiated the acquisition of the western twenty (20) arpents of the original tract. On December 12, 1888, Lafayette Building Association accepted as collateral, two (2) acres from a loan necessary in the building of the house. Construction was completed sometime in 1889.

Following the building style of the times, the two-story house faces south, with two wide porches on each side of an octagon-shaped parlor. The home contains 3,000 square feet under roof; five (5) bedrooms, two (2) downstairs and three (3) on the second floor, a large dining room, glass porch and kitchen at the back. The upstairs bedrooms still retain the original wall construction. There are four (4) fireplaces still in place. The bedroom above the parlor has the same unique octagonal shape as the parlor. The chandeliers in the hall and dining room are original to the house.

Anecdotal family history passed from generation to generation claims that the back part of the house was attached to the original building after moving an existing older house; rolled on logs, pulled by mules across the fields.

Oscar Lyons lived in the house until he sold it and the twenty (20) acres to Dr. William W. Lesley on November 18, 1891.

Dr. Lesley and his family remained in residence until February 24, 1896 at which time he sold the estate to Antonia Melchoir, the wife of Claude F. Latiolais.

Three years later, Antonia Melchoir sold to Jules Jeanmard, Sr. and his wife, Frances Marie Blanche Brown, the parents of Bishop Jules Jeanmard, Jr. , First Bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette.

Jules Jeanmard, Sr. died September 19, 1917 and his wife followed him closely in death on November 22, 1917. Both died at the residence.

The following year, December 9, 1918, Theo Joseph Breaux purchased the house and lands from the Jeanmard heirs.

Theo Breaux was one of Carencro's entrepreneurs, at one time owning a hardware store and a sweet potato business. Breaux & Company had sweet potato produce named after two of his grandchildren, "Miles' Sweets" and "Martha Anns' Pride." He also managed a bar and packaged liquor store and was a large landowner, acquiring large tracts of land to further his farming interests. A graduate of Louisiana State University, he used his accumulated knowledge in all facets of his business. He died at the young age of 56 on May 18, 1951, and his widow, Florence Francez and her sons, Aristide and Lester continued to operate the many businesses.

Florence Francez Breaux died at the age of 92 on August 8, 1987, but was preceded in death by her sons.

The street name originally Francois Street was renamed Theo Street in honor of Mr. Breaux.

The estate has been in the Breaux family a total of eighty (80) years for three (3) generations.

Written and submitted by:  
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