Building permit values slipped 22 percent to $15.2 million in April from $19.5 million a year ago, ending a three-month surge that had pushed 1992's permit activity to 2½ times 1991's first quarter levels.

Despite April's slump, the current 1992 total of $86.0 million remains 82 percent above 1991's four-month tally of $47.3 million in building permits, according to figures from the city-parish Department of Public Works Inspection Division.

April's weakness was reflected in new commercial construction and commercial additions. Homebuilding soared, while increases were posted in residential additions and accessory construction.

Through the first third of this year, only accessory construction lags 1991 totals.

While Baton Rouge's employment growth and continued economic recovery is stimulating construction activity, contractors had attributed the substantial first-quarter increase to seasonal gains and the happenstance of several large projects breaking ground at the same time.

During the January to March period, 12 building permits — valued at $1 or more and totaling $32 million — accounted for nearly half of the three-month total and 72 percent of the commercial activity.

In comparison, April's largest commercial permit was valued at $186,000. That was for a 3,786-square-foot Medi-Save Pharmacy Inc. renovation at 10877 Reiger Road. The contractor is Salco Construction Co.

New commercial construction accounted for eight permits issued in April, valued at $621,562, compared to six permits valued at $3.9 million a year ago. The four-month total reached 48 permits worth $16.9 million, an increase from 20 last year valued at $6.7 million.

Commercial additions — often a sign of a finish-out or remodeling for a new office or retail outlet — accounted for 60 permits in April valued at $1.8 million, a drop from 65 permits last year worth $8.3 million. The 1992 total hit 225 permits valued at $30.2 million, compared to 1991's four-month tally of 235 permits worth $11.2 million.

Home builders obtained permits for 137 houses in April worth $11.2 million, a jump from 76 houses last year valued at $6.0 million. That pushed the four-month tally to 431 houses valued at $33.3 million, a substantial gain from 246 permits valued at $20.8 million for the first four months of 1991.

Home building is being fueled by increasing demand and sales, amid a declining inventory of existing houses.

Residential additions produced 108 permits in April valued at $1.1 million, a gain from 93 permits last year worth $863,526. The 1992 tally grew to 335 permits valued at $3.1 million for the first quarter of 1991.

Accessory construction — demolitions, house moving, swimming pools, signs and fences — accounted for 140 permits valued at $548,308 last month, compared to 163 permits valued at $342,811 a year ago. The.

Commercial permits exceeding $20,000 in value included:

- $1,600,208 - Capital Campers Inc.; 16545 Florida Blvd.; Bernhard Bros. Mechanical Contractors; 1641 Airline Hwy.; Bernhard Brothers, builder; 10,000 square feet; new office/warehouse.
- $1,400,000 - Carpet Kingdom; 7655 Airline Hwy.; Rogerlo Real Estate, builder; 5,600 square feet; metal building addition.
- $1,350,000 - Jet 24; 2070 Millerville Road; PumpcUy Maintenance, builder; 3,300 square feet; new gas pumps.
- $1,250,000 - PumpcUy Maintenance, builder; Install three underground septic tanks & pump connections.
- $1,200,000 - C.C. Construction, 7,000 square feet; new retail store.
- $1,100,000 - Stuart's; 9655 Cortana Place; C.C. Construction, builder; 5,400 square feet; metal building addition.
- $1,100,000 - Stuart's; 9655 Cortana Place; C.C. Construction, builder; 5,400 square feet; metal building addition.
- $1,000,000 - St. Alphonsus Catholic Church; 14040 Greenwell Springs Road; P.J. Mathorne, builder; 885 square feet; addition & modification to existing church buildings.
- $1,000,000 - Capital Campers Inc.; 16545 Florida Blvd.; Bernhard Bros. Mechanical Contractors; 1641 Airline Hwy.; Bernhard Brothers, builder; 10,000 square feet; new office/warehouse.
- $1,000,000 - Jet 24; 2070 Millerville Road; PumpcUy Maintenance, builder; 3,300 square feet; new gas pumps.
- $1,000,000 - C.C. Construction, 7,000 square feet; new retail store.
- $1,000,000 - Stuart's; 9655 Cortana Place; C.C. Construction, builder; 5,400 square feet; metal building addition.
- $1,000,000 - St. Alphonsus Catholic Church; 14040 Greenwell Springs Road; P.J. Mathorne, builder; 885 square feet; addition & modification to existing church buildings.
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- $57,500 – E.B.R. Recreation & Park Commission; 14024 Highland Road; Louisiana Building Services, builder; 1,500 square feet; activity room addition to existing recreation building.

- $55,500 – Jefferson Lakes Apartments; 12400 Jefferson Buildings No. 32 and No. 33; Milton Womack, builder; 1,500 square feet; two each laundry buildings for existing apartment complex.

- $53,222 – Merry-Go-Round; 9315 Cortana Place; Weekes Construction, builder; 4,988 square feet; remodel & expand existing store.

- $50,000 – OLOL Medical Plaza, Phase II; 7777 Hennessy Blvd., Suite No. 208; M. J. Womack, builder; 1,650 square feet; renovations for business office.

- $48,680 – Baton Rouge Clinic; 8415 Goodwood Blvd.; construction and maintenance services, builder; 28,000 square feet; asphalt parking lot addition.

- $44,000 – Shear Shack Hair Salon; 548 S. Foster Drive; Champion Builders, builder; 950 square feet; new building for hair salon.

- $41,181 – Farr Park; 6001 River Road; BREC, builder; 4,416 square feet; renovate existing building into office/warehouse.

- $36,990 – Blue Bayou Water Park; 18142 Perkins Road; Blue Bayou Water Park, builder; 3,000 square feet; addition for picnic pavilion.

- $36,990 – Brew-Bacher’s Grill; 4747 S. Sherwood Forest; Picou Bros. Construction, builder; 3,000 square feet; remodel existing restaurant for new tenant.

- $35,000 – Blue Bayou Water Park; 18142 Perkins Road; Blue Bayou Water Park, builder; 1,440 square feet; open picnic area with kitchen.

- $35,000 – Sherry Russell; 888 Tara Blvd., Suite G; Boyce Remodeling, builder; 1,330 square feet; renovation to existing suite for dentist office.

- $33,600 – Herb’s Trailers; 4035 Plank Road; C&J Construction, builder; 840 square feet; office addition.

- $30,840 – Russell’s Grill; 2477 N. Flannery Road; Four Seasons Sunrooms, builder; 771 square feet; addition to existing restaurant.

- $30,000 – Westinghouse Remediation Service; 11150 Cozumel No. 1; Mark Trim, builder; 720 square feet; relocate trailer & convert to environmental lab.

- $30,000 – Brew-Bacher’s Grill; 4747 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd.; Craig Construction, builder; 2,900 square feet; exterior renovations.

- $28,529 – Burger King Corporation; 3100 Highland Road; FJB Construction, builder; 350 square feet; addition to existing fast-food restaurant.

- $24,864 – Salmon & Associates, Inc.; 626 Highland Drive; Salmon & Associates, builder; 1,344 square feet; trailer for office space.

- $24,675 – Baton Rouge Tire & Car Care Center; 222 Lee Drive; Salco Construction, builder; 16,450 square feet; new concrete parking lot.

- $21,340 – Sports Mania; 9481 Cortana Place; Smith Sports Inc., builder; 1,700 square feet; exterior renovations.

- $20,000 – Borden Inc; 4743 Florida Blvd.; H.L. Otken Rogilio Real Estate, builder; 100 square feet; install steel frame cooling tower.