History

In 1813, Widow Panis began the subdivision of five blocks of her land by the surveyor F.V. Potter. She named the broad, tree-lined avenue "Cours Panis," later Jackson Avenue, in honor of Major Jackson, who died at the Battle of New Orleans. This suburb was called Faubourg Lafayette after General Lafayette.

Until 1833, Faubourg Lafayette and Faubourg Lavadaus were independent towns. They were annexed to New Orleans in 1852.

Many German, Irish, and Italian immigrants lived in Lafayette. The first St. Patrick's Day Parade was in 1809; the parade is still an annual tradition.

The immigrants brought their various musical talents to New Orleans, which combined with the local Negro and Creole traditions, became New Orleans Jazz. Many of New Orleans' well-known jazzmen came from the Irish Channel—Tom Brown, George Bruns of the New Orleans Rhythm Kings, Harry Shields and all the members of the Original Dixieland Jazz Band. Happy Schillberg and Johnny Fisher.

The origin of the name "Irish Channel" is not known for sure. It probably dates from the early 20th century. Some say that at Adèle Street and the river, in front of Nola's Ocean Home, a saloon of some reputation, there was a light and that Irish seamen coming up the river and seeing the light exclaimed, "There's the Irish Channel!" Another has said that he made up the name and was too embarrassed to tell the whole story.

2319-25 LAUREL ST. This outstanding row of three Italianate doubles is one of the most striking in the Channel. See photo.

819 FIRST ST. First Street Presbyterian Church. Built in 1856, this German church is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture. The steeple was demolished in the hurricane of September 19, 1915. The Manse is next door.

436 SEVENTH ST. Very early two story, two dormered house

2200 ROUSSEAU ST. Formerly the Sixth District Police Station. Watercolor by Boyd Cruise. Courtesy Historic New Orleans Collection.

Preservation Resource Center
823 Perdido St., No., La. 70112
581-7032.

Produced by Christine Moe & Chuck Sanders

NEW ORLEANS Architectural Tour of the IRISH CHANNEL

sponsored by Neighborhood Improvement Assoc. of the Irish Channel & The Preservation Resource Center
823 Perdido St., N.O., La. 70112 581-7032
Tour

NOTE: This is a self guided tour of exterior facades only.

5

Clay Square was laid out in 1850. This home is one of the most architecturally outstanding in the Irish Channel. If the Magnolia trees.

2533 CONSTANCE ST. Parasol’s Bar. This is the center of activity on March 17. St. Patrick’s Day. Get your green beer here before the parade. Established 1994.

2512 CONSTANCE ST. Parson’s Bar. This is the center of activity on March 17. St. Patrick’s Day. Get your green beer here before the parade. Established 1994.

308 CONSTANCE ST. Beauifull renovated late Victorian house.

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2235 CONSTANCE ST. Beautifully renovated late Victorian house.

Tour continued on back.

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