



Ashland/Belle Helene Plantation Home

Photographic “Open House” for Leica
Society members and friends

9:00—11:00 a.m., Thursday, 16 April
2015

To visit New Orleans and not visit one of the grand old plantation homes along the famous River Road is like taking one's café au lait without a beignet. It's very good but the experience is incomplete.

One of the treasures along the River Road is the Ashland/Belle Helene plantation home. Although photographed by our Spring Shoot presenter Richard Sexton and featured on the cover of his classic “Vestiges of Grandeur—The Plantations of Louisiana's River Road”, Ashland/Belle Helene has never been opened to the public.

Until now. For this event, Shell Chemical, the home's owner, has graciously agreed to open Ashland/Belle Helene for us to visit and photograph.

There is more!!

Following our photographic session, we will proceed down river on the River Road to Darrow LA to photograph the burned remains of the Tezcucco plantation home, again through the graciousness of Shell Chemical.

We will continue down river on the River Road to Convent LA for a late lunch at the iconic Hymel's (pronounced “E-Mail's”) Seafood Restaurant.

To arrange access and car-pooling, contact LHSA Vice-President and Meetings Chair Gary Hough or LHSA Executive Director Richard Rejino. (E-Mail addresses and telephone numbers are in the VIEW-FINDER.)



DIRECTIONS TO ASHLAND/BELLE HELENE PLANTATION

- From Interstate 10 between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, exit “Hwy 30” and turn west.
- Drive to Ashland Road which is the SECOND LIGHT after you merge onto Hwy 30 from I-10.
- Turn left and drive until just before River Road.
- Just before the River Road, you will see the home on the right. (We will be met at the entrance by a Shell Chemical representative who will lead us into the property.)

Ashland/Belle Helene is about 65 miles from New Orleans and is something like an hour and a half to two hours drive. Ashland/Belle Helene is about 20-25 miles from Baton Rouge and about an hour’s drive away.

Note: we will be parking by road-side when we approach the home. The ground can be wet and spongy this time of the year. Car pooling is encouraged.

DIRECTIONS TO TEZCUCO

- Continue down river on the River Road (Hwy 71) about 20 miles to Darrow LA.

DIRECTIONS TO HYMEL’S (pronounced “E-Mail’s”) SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

- Continue on down river on the River Road (now becoming Hwy 44) an additional 20 miles to Convent LA.