

Baton Rouge City of Landmarks

10. Spanish Town Historic District

B2 One of Baton Rouge's first formally planned communities, commissioned in 1805 by Don Carlos de Grandpre, Governor of Spanish West Florida. During the city's early years some of the Spanish population settled in this area. The major thoroughfare has always been Spanish Town Road. There is an array of significant architectural styles in this cherished neighborhood. Famous also for the Spanish Town Mardi Gras parade and pink flamingos.

11. Potts House

C2 **831 North Street**
Circa 1850 Classic Revival showplace built by Nelson Potts, a master brick mason, as his family home and example of his craft. Potts was one of the major builders in Baton Rouge from 1846 to 1868. Private residence.

12. Pino-Wolfe House

C2 **721 North Street**
This diminutive cottage has an interesting and rich history of owners and stewards as the Spanish Town's neighborhood's oldest surviving house circa 1820. A broad hip roof covers the house's front and rear galleries and the two spacious and high ceiling principal rooms, each with fireplaces from the central chimney. Private.

13. Stewart-Dougherty House

C2 **741 North Street**
This Classical Revival brick mansion was occupied by the confederate military as a headquarters during the Civil War. The home was built by Nathan King Knox, and purchased by Elvira McCalop Stewart, widow of a West Baton Rouge Parish sugar planter in 1854. The home remains the property of her descendants. Private residence.

14. Florence Coffee House

A2 **130 Main Street**
A true treasure. One of Baton Rouge's few remaining examples of a 19th century building used for a business on the ground floor and as a residence on the second storey. Constructed by Nelson Potts. The only known structure on the city's waterfront which retains a kitchen wing. Private residence.

15. St. Joseph's Cathedral

B2 **Main Street at North Fourth**
This Gothic Revival church is the third to stand on a plot of land donated in 1809 by Don Antonio Gras, a Spanish resident. Designed by Jesuit architect, Father John Cambiasco, and constructed 1853-56. The edifice has been extensively remodeled over the years. The steeple dates to 1891. Fourth Street originally was named "Church Street."

16. Main Street Historic District

B2 **South Side of Main Street No.442-660**
These twelve buildings covering two and one half blocks comprise Baton Rouge's most impressive grouping of older commercial structures. The architectural styles include Neo-Classical, Italianate, Renaissance Revival, and "commercial vernacular" styles dating from circa 1890 to 1935.

17. Warden's House

C2 **703 Laurel Street**
This is the last remaining building (circa 1840) of the State Penitentiary which existed in Baton Rouge from 1834 to 1917. The lower floor served as a prison store to sell articles made by prisoners and the upper floor was a residence for the warden and his family. The kitchen wing of this Georgian building remains and is in the French Quarter style. Adaptively restored as offices.

18. Central (Bogan) Fire Station

B2 **427 Laurel Street**
Multi-colored glazed, terra cotta tiles adorn the striking facade of this 1924 Gothic Revival brick fire house. Renamed Bogan Fire Station in July 1959 in memory of the city's first paid fire chief, Robert A. Bogan, who served from 1918-1959. Now a firefighting museum and home to The Arts Council and the Community Fund for the Arts.

19. The Washington Fire House No.1

B2 **406 Fourth Street**
Built in 1850 for the city's oldest volunteer fire company, Washington No.1, and for use as City Hall. Site of the first Baton Rouge public library in the early 1900's, started by the Daughters of the Confederacy. Adaptively restored as offices.

20. The Baton Rouge Area Foundation Headquarters

B2 **402 Fourth Street**
Sensitively created to complement the neighboring downtown historical structures, this 21st century building was designed to maximize environmentally responsible green building concepts. BRAF is a resource for philanthropists, a funder for nonprofits, and a supporter of community leadership projects.

21. St. James Episcopal Church

B3 **Fourth and Convention**
The congregation, first organized in 1819, received its charter in 1844. Mrs. Zachary Taylor was one of the original founders. Built in 1895 the church is Gothic Revival with Tiffany windows behind the altar.

22. Capital City Press Building

B3 **340 Florida**
Designed by architect Edward F. Nield of Shreveport in 1922 and described by him as "Spanish Renaissance." The front facade is clad in Bedford limestone with marble and terra cotta trim. Original home of the city's newspaper. Often called the Varsity Shop due to its retail heritage. Adaptively restored as a law firm and bistro.

23. Third Street

B1-3 **From the corner of North Boulevard to the Capitol Complex**
The historical and social heart of the city for entertainment, shopping, dining, and "making history." A wealth of commercial architectural styles house retail, office, residential, and night spots. Always the place to "see and be seen," past and present.

24. Roumain Building

B2 **343 Third Street**
A 1914 six-story concrete and terra cotta office building with a Beaux-Arts facade and beloved sidewalk clock. A major contributor to downtown's ambience and the city's first "skyscraper."

25. The Kress, Knox and Welsh & Levy Buildings

B2 **Kress, 445 Third Street**
This L-shaped masonry decorative brick-faced commercial building of two to four stories was the site of a major event in the state's modern civil rights history: a March 1960 lunch counter sit-in. This former "five and dime" store retains those features that make it a notable example of the Art Deco taste within downtown Baton Rouge. Adaptive restoration to mixed use underway.
Knox Building, 447 Third Street
The Knox building (1887) is a two-story, three-bay, plaster over brick Italianate building with notable cast-iron details. It shares a party-wall with the Kress.
Welsh & Levy, 445-446 Third Street
Historically a mercantile emporium, the large, three story, plaster-over-brick Welsh-Levy building stands at the corner of Third and Main streets. It was built in 1887 in the popular and exuberant Italianate style, with an abundance of cast-iron ornamentation. A unique and rare example of this type.

26. Fuqua Hardware Building

B2 **358 Third Street**
The original floor plan of this 1905 retail building constructed by Henry L. Fuqua is still evident today. Mr. Fuqua would go from hardware store owner, to manager of the Louisiana State Penitentiary System, to become Governor of Louisiana. Currently this attractive, vintage building has multiple and diverse tenants.

27. Old Library

C2 **700 Laurel**
Designed by architect Louis A. Grosz, this 1939 Art Deco gem served as Baton Rouge's first public library building. Constructed with Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) funds. Now housing United Way offices.

28. Fonville Winans Studio Bldg.

C2 **409 North Seventh Street**
Fonville Winans, a self-taught photographer and film maker whose famous images recorded important aspects of Louisiana life during the Great Depression, and its architecture. "Fonville" is best known for chronicling the near-lost Cajun lifestyle of South Central Louisiana and the bayous surrounding Grand Isle. His later work featured activities at Louisiana State University, formal portraits, weddings, and candid shots of the state's political personalities such as Governor Richard Leche and LSU President James Monroe Smith.

29. Tessier-Lafayette Buildings

B2 **342-348 Lafayette Street**
In the antebellum period, this area was lined with small shops and houses. The Tessier Buildings, circa 1820 and 1840 survive. Elaborate ironwork and upstairs galleries are reminiscent of the French Quarter and Natchez, Mississippi. Once the home of Judge Charles Tessier, an early parish official, and later the home of Judge Daniel Avery, whose son-in-law developed Tabasco Sauce. Legend holds that the Marquis de Lafayette made a speech from the balcony in 1825.

30. Shaw Center for the Arts

B3 **a blend of new and vintage buildings**
North Boulevard, Lafayette, Convention, and Third
This cornerstone block of the downtown's entertainment district holds the "old" Stroube's Drug Store, The Manship Theatre, dancing fountains, art galleries, the LSU Museum of Art, restaurants, and the LSU School of Art Museum.

31. The Standpipe

A3 **Lafayette Street**
The Baton Rouge Water Company's Standpipe is a monument to the City's determination to grow and modernize with the latest improvements. Fabricated at the National Iron Works in Dubuque, Iowa, the massive all-steel sections were shipped to Baton Rouge in January 1888. The "Water Tower" stands on property dedicated to public use, designated as Lafayette Street Park. In 2007 Baton Rouge drinking water is rated second in the nation.

32. Hotel Heidelberg

A3 **201 Lafayette**
This ten-story 1927 Spanish Renaissance skyscraper, designed by Edward F. Nield, was the economic and social centerpiece of downtown Baton Rouge. Its historical and political associations date most notably when it was the unofficial headquarters for Governor Huey P. Long's administration during the years of 1928-1932. With the 1950s International Style addition, the property was called the Capitol House. This monumental, meticulous restoration utilized federal and state historic preservation tax credits. A historic grand reopening was held in 2006 for rebirth as the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Park. A Member of the prestigious Historic Hotels of America.

33. Hotel King

B3 **200 Lafayette**
The first three stories of this brick building were constructed in 1921 by Alfred C. Glassell, Sr. for the Standard Motor Car Company. In 1928 architect Edward F. Nield redesigned the building and added four additional stories. This interesting brick structure became the second most significant hotel in the downtown area for a period of fifty years. A legendary underground service tunnel connects the King and Heidelberg hotels. Restoration underway, scheduled to reopen as a hotel in 2008.

39. Louisiana Art and Science Museum and Planetarium

A3 **Riverside Museum 100 S. River Road**
Housed in the historic Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railway Station, LASM includes the state-of-the-art Irene W. Pennington Planetarium and large format theater. Fine art galleries showcase changing exhibitions and works from the museum's permanent collection. Also featured is an Ivan Mestrovic sculpture atrium and an Ancient Egypt Gallery.

40. U.S.S. Kidd and Naval War Museum

A4 **305 S. River Road at the foot of Government Street**
A World War II Fletcher Class Destroyer restored to 1945 configuration as a floating museum and national landmark. One of America's most famous fighting ships named after rear Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, Sr., who was killed aboard his flagship, the USS *Arizona*, during the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. The Nautical Historic Museum adjacent to the vessel contains complementary exhibits and visitor services. The top vessel in America for hosting military reunions.

34. Beaugard Town Historic District

B4 In 1806 Elias Beaugard, a retired captain of the Louisiana Regiment, offered the citizens of Baton Rouge plans for an elaborate and complete community situated on the banks of the Mississippi River to East Boulevard. His vision followed the grand European manner of town design with tree-lined boulevards, fountains, plazas, squares, and formal gardens. Beaugard envisioned a church on the central Place Royal on the Grand Rue which would be approached by four diagonal streets – Penalvert, Beaugard, Somerulos, and Grandpre. Although this ambitious blueprint was never fully realized, the streets hold fine Romantic and Classic structures used as residences and offices. Beaugard Town is the finest surviving example in East Baton Rouge Parish of an outstanding turn of the century, middle class neighborhood.

35. Williams House

C4 **601 Spain Street**
Circa 1890, an excellent example of Louisiana's signature shotgun houses, with rooms one behind another. Private.

36. Fuqua House

C3 **301 Napoleon Street**
Dating from 1834, this house retains original cypress columns and cypress interior woodwork with brass fittings. Occupied by Governor Henry L. Fuqua from 1924 to 1926. The Fuquas added the front gallery and upstairs living quarters. Private.

37. The Bailey House

C3 **900 North Boulevard**
Circa 1840, the finest Greek Revival cottage remaining in Baton Rouge. Headquarters of the Foundation for Historical Louisiana through the generosity of Fairfax Foster Bailey and her children from 1965 to 1998. Private.

38. African American Museum

C4 **538 South Boulevard**
The Odell S. Williams *Now and Then Museum* of African American History is located on the southern perimeter of Beaugard Town. The museum showcases African American contributors in science, medicine, and politics as well as minority inventions, rural artifacts and African art. A Juneteenth archive site. This museum reminds us that Black heritage is "not just February, but American History year round." The museum is a faith-based initiative of New St. Luke Baptist Church.

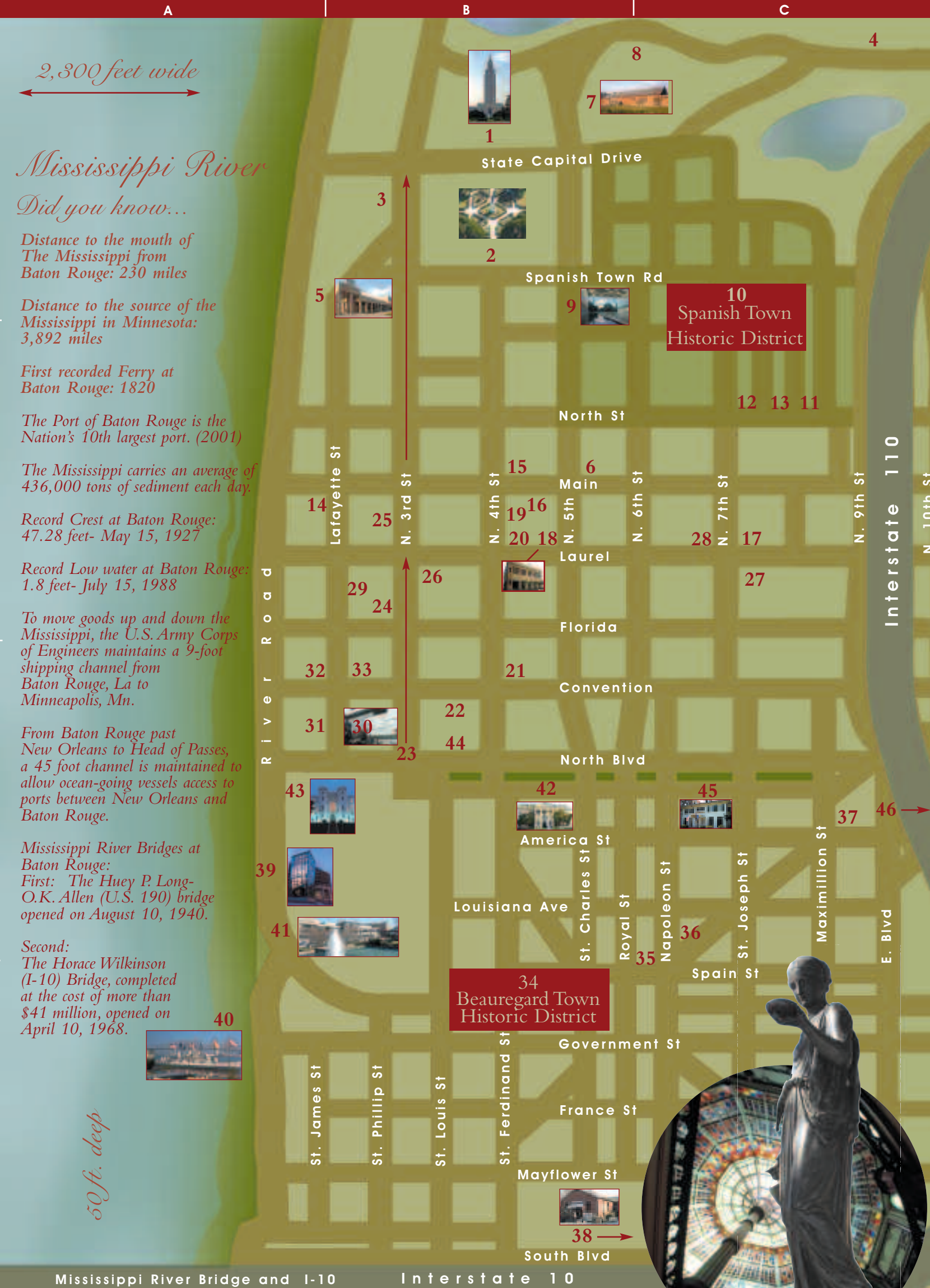
Catfish Town, River Center, Municipal Buildings and Plazas

Bounded by Government Street, St. Louis, and South Boulevard

A pocket of Beaugard Town which takes its name from the memory that in this neighborhood residents caught many a catfish from their front porches when the flood waters receded. Five attractive brick warehouses dating from the 1880s have been adaptively restored.

A modern multi-million dollar governmental, administrative complex that includes the offices of the Mayor-President, City-Parish Council, the River Center (a convention and exhibition hall), the Performing Arts Theater, and the downtown branch of the City-Parish library. Three plazas grace the complex: the Bicentennial Plaza, Mestrovic Court, and Gavez Plaza.

This is the docking area for steamboats and other pleasure vessels visiting Baton Rouge.



North Boulevard: The City's Great Promenade

This parklike boulevard is often the site of city festivals and special events. At the corner of Third Street stands a statue of a Confederate soldier dedicated in 1886 to the memory of those who fought in the Civil War. Another statue is Hebe, Cup Bearer to the Gods, erected by the WCTU in 1917.

42. B3
Old Governor's Mansion
502 North Boulevard
Called Louisiana's "White House." This Georgian mansion is a major landmark serving as a historic house museum, preservation headquarters, and community venue. Operated in a cooperative endeavor by the Foundation for Historical Louisiana and the State Division of Administration.

43. A3
Old State Capitol
Lafayette St. and North Blvd.
An 1847 Gothic Revival masterpiece designed to resemble a medieval castle. Cutted by fire during the Civil War. Now a museum of political history, a beloved and treasured site for Baton Rougeans. Under the auspices of the Secretary of State.

44. B3
The City Club
355 North Boulevard
Built in 1894 as a U.S. Post Office then renovated in 1935 for service as City Hall until 1955, this handsome yellow brick building is an excellent architectural example of Renaissance Eclecticism. President Taft addressed a waiting populace from the balcony.

45. C3
Standard Oil House
730 North Boulevard
Designed by Favrot & Livaudais of New Orleans, this handsome residence was built in 1920 for the superintendent of the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana's Baton Rouge Refinery. Currently serves as the offices of the Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

46. C3
Prince Hall Masonic Temple
1335 North Boulevard
Built in 1924 as an Odd Fellows lodge. This Neo-Classical landmark is celebrated as the former Temple Theatre, an epicenter for African-American entertainment legends such as Fats Waller, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Cab Calloway.

Baton Rouge

City of Landmarks

Walking Tour

Historical Preservation

Preserving the cultural and architectural heritage of Baton Rouge by protecting and celebrating our city's rich history. Ask about membership in The Foundation for Historical Louisiana.

In East Baton Rouge Parish there are over 75 buildings and sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, 8 historic districts are distinguished with Register designation.

Downtown Museums

Old Governor's Mansion 502 North Blvd. 225.387.2464	U.S.S. Kidd and Naval War Museum 305 S. River Road 225.342.1942
Louisiana Art & Science Museum, Planetarium and Space Theatre 100 River Road 225.344.5272	Robert A. Bogan Firefighters Museum 427 Laurel St. 225.344.8568
Louisiana State Museum 660 N. 4th St. 225.219.0725	African American Museum Odell S. Williams New and Then 538 South Blvd. 225.355.8086
LSU Museum of Art 100 Lafayette St. 225.346.5001	Old Arsenal Museum East of the New State Capitol 225.342.0401

Old State Capitol
100 North Blvd. 225.342.0500

Capitol Park Welcome

Center 702 River Road
Located just south of the Pentagon Barracks, near the historic sites of President Zachary Taylor's home and the Spanish Fort San Carlos, this welcome center is a great stop for brochures and information. Operated by the Louisiana Office of Tourism in cooperation with the Baton Rouge Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The Capitol Complex and Governmental Buildings

Beginning at the end of the 20th century and into the 21st, the State began consolidating its departments and divisions in the downtown area. A number of new buildings, inspired by the 1930s landmark State Capitol buildings, were constructed. Historical names adorn their facades—Bianville, Lafayette, Iberville, etc. Home of the popular Public Market, the weekly Red Stick Farmer's Market, and the monthly Arts Market.

Old Arsenal Museum

Constructed in 1838, this unique structure was built as a powder magazine with 54-inch thick walls and a 10-foot high explosion fence for the U.S. Army Post. From 1886 to 1926, the building was used as a veterinary hospital. During this time, LSU was located on the Arsenal grounds. Restored as a museum by the State Legislature in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office and The Foundation for Historical Louisiana.

Native American Landmark

The ceremonial Indian mound near the Arsenal was probably constructed about A.D. 1000, and may have served as a ceremonial platform for a temple or chief's house, probably overlooking a communal plaza. This site dates from the Coles Creek culture when local Indians were expanding their agriculture and beginning to use the bow and arrow. Two cannons are at the site.

Louisiana State Museum

Spanish Town Road and Fifth Street
Filled with exciting, dynamic, and colorful exhibits, the museum tells the story of the state's cultural heritage and historical milestones including wars, the 1927 Flood, jazz and blues, Mardi Gras, agriculture, history, cuisine, Sportsman's Paradise, civil rights, folk art, and legendary persons.

Louisiana State Capitol

State Capitol Drive
This Art Deco masterpiece was completed in 1932 by Governor Huey P. Long, at a cost of \$5 million, including \$1 million worth of art. This Beaux-Arts skyscraper designed by Weiss, Dreyfous and Sellschlag is the tallest capitol in the United States. An observation deck and The Shop at the Top on the 27th floor affords a spectacular, panoramic view of the capital city.

Louisiana State Capitol Grounds and Grave

Twenty-seven acres of beautifully landscaped formal gardens designed by Jungle Gardens, Inc., of Avery Island, Louisiana with more than 300 varieties of plants. Governor and Senator Huey P. Long, one of the state's most flamboyant and controversial political figures, is buried in the sunken garden at the front of his beloved capitol where he was fatally wounded by an assassin's bullet in 1935.

Pentagon Barracks

Riverside North adjacent to the State Capitol
Composed of four brick buildings in a pentagon shape with an open courtyard, formerly a military parade ground. Built during the years 1819-22 in the Classical Revival style with Doric columns supporting broad galleries on both the front and back. The barracks originally housed U.S. troops garrisoned at Baton Rouge. Zachary Taylor was the commander of the barracks prior to his election as president. These buildings and the capitol grounds were the site of Louisiana State University from 1886-1925.

Louisiana Governor's Mansion

This handsome executive home was built in 1902 by then Governor Jimmie Davis in the opulent River Road plantation style. The interior often showcases the artists and craftsmen of the state. The Louisiana Governor's Mansion Foundation was created by law to serve as stewards and fundraisers of the fine arts and furnishings collection.