United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Thibodaux Multiple Resource Area Continuation sheet Lafourche Parish, LA Item number

7 & 8

Building #9 UTM: 15/710680/3298140

Original Name (until 1929): BANK OF LAFOURCHE BUILDING

Present Name: OIL & GAS BUILDING

206 Green Street

Owner: David J. Robichaux, Jr. 206 Green Street Thibodaux, LA 70301

1897

Local Significance: Architecture

The Bank of Lafourche is a two story, brick, Italianate commercial building with a handsome marble front. The interior was completely altered in the 1960's, and virtually nothing original remains. The building features a grand Serlian motif entrance with rock-faced voussoirs, Ionic columns, and a console keystone. The lower story also features rock-faced bands and two oculi with Mannerist surrounds. The upper story features three arched windows, a modillion cornice, a balustrade, and a central tablet.

There is a small one story wing to the right of the original facade which appears to be over fifty years old. Neither the wing or the aforementioned interior alterations have affected the bank's National Register eligibility because the building still retains its principal elevation, which is the source of its significance.

Significance:

There are undoubtedly over one hundred 50+ year old commercial buildings in Lafourche Parish. Most of these are either simple late nineteenth-early twentieth century plantation stores or examples of the "commercial vernacular," the latter being a diluted, sometimes much diluted, version of the urban Italianate style.

Of course, the grandest examples feature the most elaborate Italianate styling. The Lafourche Bank is certainly the most opulently and impressively styled Italianate commercial building in the parish. It is the only one with an articulated marble front (as opposed to brick), and it is the only one with a grand Serlian entrance (as opposed to an ordinary commercial front).



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