

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on how to complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Bank of Lockport
other names/site number Gouaux Building

2. Location

street & number 111 Barataria Street N/A not for publication
city or town Lockport N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Lafourche code 057 zip code 70374

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Gerrit Hobdy February 23, 1995
Signature of certifying official/Title Gerrit Hobdy, Date
LA SHPO, Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain:)

Elson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Entered in the National Register Date of Action 3/30/95

Bank of Lockport
Name of Property

Lafourche Parish, LA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE - financial institution
COMMERCE/TRADE - business
GOVERNMENT - Post Office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE - professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

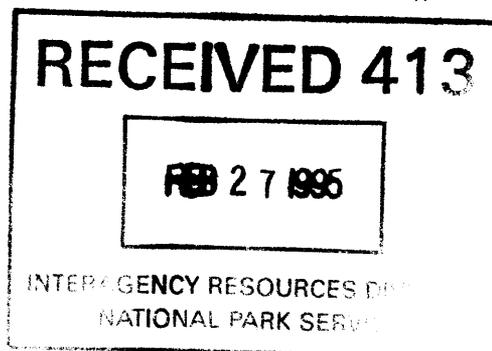
foundation concrete
walls brick, stucco
roof slate
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Continuation Sheet**

Bank of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, LA

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The Bank of Lockport is located within the central business district of the Lafourche Parish community of Lockport. A low-key, vernacular example of the Romanesque Revival style, the masonry building was constructed as a one-story structure in 1901 and expanded by the addition of a second story in the same style by 1910. It has experienced minor changes on the exterior and a rehabilitation with more notable changes on the interior. However, the bank remains eligible for National Register listing.

The bank was originally constructed to house two businesses under one roof, with thick brick walls separating its two sections. Although of poor quality, two early photographs indicate that this two-tenant building was a one-story structure capped by a molded cornice, high parapet with molded coping and shaped central pediment, and decorative metal roof vent. The northeast portion of the structure, which was occupied by the bank, was deeper than its neighbor--a footprint which survived after the addition of the second story. This was accomplished by copying the placement of facade openings from below and then crowning the whole by replicas of the original cornice and pediment. The decorative vent appears to have been reused. The second story provided additional offices which opened off an "L"-shaped hallway.

The influence of the Romanesque Revival style is seen in prominent round arched openings on the facade's first and second stories. On the lower level, these openings consist of three windows and two paneled French doors surmounted by semi-circular transoms. Each door and window is emphasized by a prominent threshold or sill, as well as by molded pilasters and capitals from which molded arches spring. The openings within the upper portion of the facade consist entirely of windows. Their ornament is comprised of prominent sills and molded, semi-circular surrounds connected to each other by a broken belt course. Keystones at the uppermost point of each arch connect to a continuous belt course located just below the cornice. Although this upper belt course ends immediately after turning the corners of the building, the broken belt course encircles the building. Other architectural features found on the building include the facade's undulating surface, which features slightly projecting and receding planes; the plastering and scoring of the facade to resemble stone; quoins on all but one corner of the structure; an additional belt course separating the first and second stories; the above mentioned molded cornice with shaped pediment; square head windows on the sides and rear; and, on the interior, the first floor's molded window surrounds with bull's eye corner blocks. In addition, the bank's vault survives.

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Bank of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, LA

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A canopy was installed on the facade some time after 1922 and the words "Gouaux Building" were placed in tile on the right front threshold some time after the Gouaux family purchased the building in 1943. Otherwise, the Bank of Lockport's facade appears to have remained unchanged until the above mentioned 1976 rehabilitation. At that time, doors were cut through the thick wall separating the two portions of the building; the interior was subdivided for use as attorneys' offices and carpet, paneling, and wallpaper were installed; storm windows were placed on all windows except those on the lower facade; lanterns were placed on the facade; the front canopy was replaced with one of similar appearance; and a small canopy was installed over a side door. Although the storm windows detract slightly from the building's appearance, the architectural features which make the structure significant clearly dominate. Furthermore, these windows could easily be removed. The canopy does not cover architectural elements. As an architectural landmark within the community of Lockport, the Bank of Lockport building is a viable candidate for National Register listing.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

N/A

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

architecture

Period of Significance

1901-1910

Significant Dates

1901-1910

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Bank of Lockport
Name of Property

Lafourche Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	5
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7	3	8	3	3	0
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3	2	8	1	9	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date January 1995

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Eugene G. and Catherine Harang Gouaux

street & number 111 Barataria Street telephone (504) 532-6507

city or town Lockport state Louisiana zip code 70374

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Bank of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, LA

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The Bank of Lockport is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a landmark building within the community of Lockport.

Lockport was founded in 1833 when William Fields donated a tract of land to the Barataria and Lafourche Canal Company. Fields had owned all the land on both sides of Bayou Lafourche for several miles up and down the waterway from the future town's location. As part of the donation agreement, the company promised to construct a canal completing the water route between New Orleans and Bayou Terrebonne. The canal itself was completed in 1847, but the locks accompanying it were not finished until c. 1850. After that date, the west side of Bayou Lafourche at Lockport was used as a port for boats awaiting transfer through the locks. Prosperity came with the completed canal. By 1849 the community had a public school; by 1850, a Catholic church; and by 1875, a post office. It incorporated during the latter years of the nineteenth century.

Despite its long history, Lockport has few historic structures left to illustrate its early years. Much of the business district was destroyed by a tornado in 1893, and a catastrophic 1916 fire devastated several downtown blocks. Virtually the entire central business district of the small town contains undistinguished one-story structures dating to the early years of the twentieth century or later. While older residential areas survive, these appear to date only between 1885 and 1930. The houses here consist mainly of undistinguished Creole cottages, shotguns, and bungalows. Only a handful of houses with Eastlake, Queen Anne or Colonial Revival details may be found, and these details are extremely low-key. Against this background, the Bank of Lockport stands as an architectural landmark. It is one of only four two-story commercial buildings in the CBD, and it is one of only two which make any attempt at architectural styling. In addition, although a vernacular interpretation, it is the only example of the Romanesque Revival style within the community. For these reasons, the bank building is a legitimate candidate for National Register listing.

Historical Note

The Bank of Lockport opened in November 1901 with a capital stock of \$15,000. By 1910 its profits were over \$30,000. Although the building stood outside the area consumed by the downtown fire of 1916, the bank institution itself failed at some point after 1910. Known as the Farmer's Bank and Trust Company, a second bank occupied the northeast side of the building until it also failed in the 1930s. The Lockport post office occupied the

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Bank of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, LA

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southwest side of the structure until 1943, when the entire building was purchased by the Gouaux family. Eugene Gouaux used the southwest side as his law office until the building's tenants moved out of the second floor offices and first floor former bank space. Then he took over the entire building and rehabilitated it to serve as the office for his family's law practice.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barker, Marjorie. A Picture History of Lockport, n.p., 1986, p. 6. Copy in National Register file.

Division of Historic Preservation, Historic Standing Structures Survey of Lafourche Parish, Lockport Folder.

Excerpt from publication identified only as "1910 Waterways Edition;" copy in National Register file.

Historic photo of Baratavia Street, Lockport, Louisiana, showing Bank of Lockport building, no date available. Copy in National Register file.

"Eugene Gouaux Office Building," typescript, n.d. Copy in National Register file.

Lockport Eagle, December 21, 1901. Copy of newspaper article and photograph in National Register file.

Site visit by National Register staff.

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Continuation Sheet**

Bank of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, LA

Section number 10 Page 1

LEGAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

A certain tract or fractional lot of ground, situated in what is known as the Town of Lockport, in the Parish of Lafourche, Louisiana, on the right bank of Bayou Lafourche, at about 22 miles below the town of Thibodaux, measuring 55 feet on Barataria Street by a depth of 55 feet; being a fractional part of Lot #5 in Block #30, on a plan of Bougerol, Surveyor, which plan is on file in the Clerk's office of the Parish of Lafourche, Louisiana. The lot begins at a point 65 feet from the line of Lot #1 of said Block #30 on Barataria Street and then runs along said Barataria Street towards the front or Bayou Lafourche, a distance of 55 feet by the whole depth of said Lot #5 which runs fifty five feet until in the rear or below the lot #6 of said Block #30, which fractional lot is bounded above or in front by Barataria Street, in the rear or below by lot #6 of said Block #30; towards Bayou Lafourche by a portion of lot 5 and back by another portion of said lot #5.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

Boundaries follow property lines.