NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

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National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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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 in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Union Federal Savings and Loan Association
Other Names/Site Number: n/a
Name of related multiple property listing: The Architecture of A. Hays Town in Louisiana and Mississippi, 1926-1991

2. Location

Street & Number: 500 Laurel St
City or town: Baton Rouge State: LA County: East Baton Rouge
Not for Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:
☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Phil Boggan, State Historic Preservation Officer 10/16/15 **Date**

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title: **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

✓ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other, explain: _____

11-24-2015

Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)

x	Private
	Public – Local
	Public – State
	Public – Federal

Category of Property (Check only **one** box.)

x	Building(s)
	District
	Site
	Structure
	object

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

Contributing	Non-contributing	
1		Buildings
1		Sites
		Structures
		Objects
2	0	Total

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

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.): Vacant/Not in Use; Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.): Modern Movement: International Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
foundation: concrete
walls: Glass, concrete
roof:
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Union Federal Savings and Loan Association, constructed in 1956, is located in downtown Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on a corner lot at 500 Laurel Street. Designed by architect A. Hays Town, this 6 story mid-century modern office town is a prime example of Town's modern style commercial buildings designed between 1939 and 1960. The building itself is cast in place concrete construction with rows of large single pane windows separated by the vertical concrete structural members. The L shaped building includes a small courtyard that is part of the original design. Parking lots, part of the original plan, are situated to the south and west of the building. The interior of the building includes several original details, primarily in the entry and lobby areas. This building retains a high degree of historic integrity and is eligible for listing on the National Register.

Narrative Description

The building complex is composed of a six story office tower which is elongated to run parallel to Laurel Street, facing its front façade towards the north. Connecting to the six story block is a two story block that gives the building an L shape. To the west of the two story block is a landscaped courtyard (see photo 4). The contrast between the structural concrete frame, painted white, and the characteristic blue colored reflective glass windows give this building its unique modern look.

North Elevation (see photos 1, 2, and 8)

On the north elevation (the main street facing façade), a small integrated concrete awning extends over the sidewalk, framing the front entry from Laurel (see photo 8). The ground floor on both this elevation and the west elevation is recessed slightly to create a covered area that wraps the corner. The recessed area is supported by simple square concrete columns. This recessed area terminates at the exterior courtyard located behind the south elevation of the building. The ground floor is clad in a light colored marble. The entry door itself consists of two all glass double doors, flanked by single lite glass sidelights and a single light transom. The same sized transom can be found above all of the marble panels on the recessed ground floor. The transoms end at the corner of Laurel and 5th Street, where there is a full height glass panel.

To the left of the main entry, there is a full height single glass window with a small concrete stoop. Marble panels, matching those on the rest of this elevation are continued after the window. The last bay of the ground floor is an open drive that is original to the design, as the building was used as a bank.

The second through six floors consist of an evenly proportioned six bay elevation. On the far left, there is a windowless section at the second floor and then four windows within each bay on the 3rd through 6th floors. The bays created by the structural frame are infilled with an aluminum glass system that utilizes heat reflecting windows in order to maximize natural light into the space. The four windows consist of a small black panel topped by a single pane of this reflecting glass (see photos 1 and 2). Next to this section, all 6 floors are windowless and contain painted white brick between the vertical concrete structural members. The other four sections all contain windows in each bay on the 2nd through 6th floors. A simple, small projecting cornice tops the building.

There is a 7th floor mechanical room located directly above the windowless section of the building, which forms an interesting vertical element breaking up the design of this elevation, but also adding a bit of modern detail.

East Elevation (see 1, 5, 6, and 7)

The east elevation is very simply detailed. The first floor is open as it is the drive thru for the former bank. The 2nd through 6th floors are stucco over brick that is painted white. To the south of the building tower itself, the continuation of the covered drive can be found. The roof of the covered driveway functions as a balcony for the mechanical equipment of the building and it can be accessed from the second floor. At the far left of this elevation is the a second floor mechanical room. Parking lots are mainly located on the south and east side of the building and can be accessed from both Laurel and N. Fifth Street. Lastly, a covered driveway is placed adjacent to the east side of the building, allowing for vehicular circulation from the south parking lot to exit on Laurel Street, and was once utilized for a drive-thru lane.

South Elevation (see photos 4 and 5)

The south elevation is also divided into six bays, like the north elevation. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th sections feature bays of four windows, like those on the north elevation, on the 3rd through 6th floors. The 1st section, at the far left, also has these windows on the 2nd floor. The 3rd and 4th sections do not as this is where the 2 story block connects to the 6 story block. The 2nd section of the building features a projecting fire stair on all 6 levels. There are four windows, in the same style as the others, but in a smaller proportion, and a door that leads onto the fire stairs on every floor. The 5th section on this elevation has windowless bays on every floor of painted white brick. The last section, at the far right, features a full height vent for the elevator shaft, a small area of blank wall, and then two windows to match the others on the elevation. There are cast in place concrete solar shades over all of the windows. The exterior fire stair connects the six story block to the courtyard below.

Surrounding the courtyard, there is a covered walk that wraps the two sides of the courtyard facing N. 5th Street and the parking lot to the south. The exterior wall on the ground floor that faces onto the courtyard is clad in white Alabama marble with glass transoms above the storefront windows, like those found on the north and west elevations.

The south elevation of the two story block is a blank wall painted white with no openings.

West Elevation (see photos 2, 3, 46-48, Figure 1)

The west façade of the tower, facing North Fifth Street, is painted stucco and has no openings. The cladding is painted stucco scored to look like large panels of marble. The west elevation has large storefront style windows on the ground floor, which is recessed and supported by two square concrete columns like the ground floor of the north elevation. The 2nd through 6th floors are windowless.

Originally, the west elevation of the two story block featured five bays of plate glass windows matching the rest of the building. The section at the far right is a blank, white painted brick wall. It also featured an open balcony

area, extending the length of the elevation, overlooking the courtyard (see Figure 1). Photo 4 shows the state of the building when this nomination was started, when this space was a board room. At some point, this balcony area was filled in with new plate glass windows (which do not match the originals) to fit flush with the exterior wall to create said board room. Exploratory demolition was done (see photos 46-48) and evidence was found to support the historic photo showing this open balcony area. The original exterior wall was recessed behind a simple handrail. Photo 49 shows the original railing off of the stairs and when comparing where this railing ends to this elevation of the two story block, one can see how the balcony continued from this point on to the end of the elevation. The exact depth of the recess is uncertain, but it is clear that there was a recessed balcony area here, which was supported by exploratory demo and removal of later wooden paneling on the interior.

Courtyard (1 contributing site)

The courtyard has a round white brick planter in the center with a crepe myrtle planted in it. There are low plantings (see photo 26) with small trees interspersed in beds surrounding the edges of the courtyard. The main material for the courtyard floor is an aggregate concrete. The aforementioned covered walkway surrounds the south and west sides of the courtyard and is supported by simple square concrete columns.

Interior

The most historic portions of the interior, that feature the most detailed spaces, are the entry elevator lobby and the main banking lobby on the ground floor. The rest of the building was designed as speculative office space and thus, primarily features simply sheetrocked walls and drop in acoustic tile ceilings. The floors in the office areas are covered in carpet of different colors except for the bathrooms, which consist of tile floors and walls. All ceilings are currently 2’x4’ and 2’x2’ drop ceiling panels that conceal the air conditioning ductwork above.

The original elevator lobby, which one enters in off of Laurel Street (see photos 9 and 21) has a black marble tile floor. The walls have matching marble tile walls halfway up that are finished with painted sheetrock. The doors that serve as the entrance into the main banking lobby match those on the exterior and are all glass with aluminum trip. A transom above the entry doors is a large pane of glass through which once can see a later dropped in acoustic tile ceiling, again concealing air conditioning ductwork. The elevators are the original elevators to the building.

The main banking lobby, located in the two story block of the building, (see photos 10, 12, 14-16, and 27) is a full height two story space and the most detailed in terms of its mid-century modern design. The far east wall is clad in a pink colored marble. The L shaped staircase that is along this wall has mid-century stylized handrails with clear panes of plastic in between them for safety. Above the marble panels on the wall, there is a transom of sorts that helps keep the noise within the lobby itself and not in the office spaces behind them. Within the lobby itself, there are modern cubicles, which served its most recent use as a state office.

Overlooking the lobby on the west side are three bays of four large panes of glass separated by aluminum mullions. On the other side of these windows was a conference room or large office. Historic photos show that this was originally an open air balcony overlooking the exterior courtyard (see Photo 30, 46-68, and Figure 1). The plate glass windows on the right side of this conference room overlooked the banking lobby. Photo 47 also shows the curb cuts where the doors led from the office space out onto this balcony area.

Overlooking the lobby on the east side, there are cubicle areas that have similar glass panels on them. It is likely though, that these were added as this area would have been a larger circulation hallway originally.

Beneath the second floor on the west side are office spaces. On the east side, there are offices as well as the teller station for the drive thru (see photo 13). The ceiling of the two story space has acoustic tile panels and also has three large circular air conditioning vents. There are also several inset can lights in the ceiling.

On the rest of the first floor, there are offices that wrap the exterior floor plan of the building. The second floor also has offices that wrap the exterior of the main banking lobby. The second floor features 11 offices in the tower portion of the building and offices that wrap the banking lobby in the two story block. The 3rd through 6th also feature 11 offices in the tower, all of which have been altered slightly over the years, but only in cosmetic ways. The various finishes can be seen in photos 28-45. The rest of the finishes appear to be from later iterations of use of the building that came after Union Federal Savings and Loan Association.

The Union Federal Savings and Loan Association retains a high degree of integrity (see Figure 3 and Photos 4 and 5 for comparison of a historic and current photo). It retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association as it has not changed on the exterior, still sits within the downtown Baton Rouge core, and still feels like a mid-century commercial office building. It also retains its integrity of design as it has not lost the original details from A. Hays Town for the main public spaces – the elevator lobby and the banking lobby. The rest of the building, as designed by Town, was speculative and was designed and built to meet the individual needs of the occupants.[1] The building also retains integrity of historic materials and workmanship for the same reasons just discussed. Additionally, the integrity of setting and design is further enhanced as it still has its original courtyard, which was an integral part of the building's design.

While the building has experienced some cosmetic changes on the interior in the office areas in the two story block and in the office spaces of the tower itself, this building still retains its overall historic integrity and would easily be recognizable by anyone who knew the building as the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association as well as by A. Hays Town himself.

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.
x	**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: N/A

	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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

[1] "Union Federal Lets $597,000 Contract for New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*, 18 May 1955.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.): Architecture

Period of Significance: 1956

Significant Dates: 1956

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above): N/A

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion D is marked above): N/A

Architect/Builder (last name, first name): Town, A. Hays

Period of Significance (justification): The period of significance is 1956, the year the building was constructed.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary): N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Constructed in 1956, the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association (UFSLA) is significant on the local level under Criterion C: Architecture. Designed by well-known Louisiana architect, A. Hays Town, the building was a ground-breaking design for Town that set the course for his later commercial designs. The UFSLA building was the first of Town's in which he used colored glass for the windows as well as an exposed concrete structural grid and was used as a model for later Town buildings, including the Department of Transportation building in Baton Rouge. The Union Federal Savings and Loan Association has direct associations with the historic context, *A. Hays Town Commercial Designs, 1939-1968*, developed as part of the MPS, "The Architecture of A. Hays Town in Louisiana, 1939-1991," and meets the registration requirements of Property Subtype – Commercial Buildings under Buildings found in Section F of the MPS cover. The Union Savings and Loan Association is eligible under Criterion C as an important design in A. Hays Town's career as it would influence his later commercial architecture designs. The period of significance for the building is 1956, the year it was constructed.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The city of Baton Rouge benefited from the industrial boom during and after World War II, particular because of the oil and petrochemical industries. During the war, companies in Baton Rouge supplied jet fuel and synthetic rubber to the war effort. As these industries grew, the economy of downtown Baton Rouge began to thrive and expand. As many businesses moved downtown, the old downtown homes were demolished to make way for new modern designs. Prior to 1956, the majority of the downtown core of Baton Rouge consisted of mostly smaller scale (3-5 stories) commercial buildings as well as some early versions of skyscrapers (7-10) stories. It was from this main core that the city began expanding and that more mid-century styled buildings began to be built.

The Union Federal Savings and Loan site, at the corner of Fifth and Laurel Streets, was formerly the site of the Temple B'Nai Israel Synagogue.[2] In 1876, The Hebrew Congregation Shaare Chesed (now the Congregation B'Nai Israel) traded their property for the lot at Fifth and Laurel. The group received the lot and a building (formerly the Catholic Brother's School). The group remained in the building until 1954, when they relocated to a new synagogue in Baton Rouge.

History of Union Federal and the UFSLA Building at 500 Laurel Street

Union Federal Savings and Loan was originally founded in 1917 as the Union Homestead Association by Baton Rouge businessman, Ben Mayer.[3] Prior to building the nominated property, the company was housed in several other downtown locations. The first home was in the Roumain Building (listed on the National Register in 1985). Seven years later, in 1924, the company moved into the Wieck Building, where they experienced growth from $5000 to $524,000. Due to this growth, they moved again five years later to the Eagles Building on North Blvd. A decade later, the company purchased land at the corner of Florida and Fifth Streets, one block away from the nominated property.[4]

On that new piece of property, a new building designed by architect Lewis Groes was constructed. It measured 54 feet along Florida Street and 57 feet along Fifth Street and had a parking lot in the rear. Today, this site is occupied by the activity center for First Baptist Church, which was designed by A. Hays Town as well.[5] A newspaper article from 1940 has an image of the building, but the microfiche copy is so dark that the architectural details of this building are hard to make out. Knowing the current building on site there, it is likely that this c. 1940 building was torn down sometime after 1951.[6]

Union Federal would remain in this building until 1955 when construction began on their new and final home at 500 Laurel, one block north from the previous location. Miss Josie T. Camors, vice president and secretary of Union Federal, stated that,

> "The need for the new building arises from constant and substantial growth of our association which Union Federal's members have played a large contributing part. Our new building provides larger and more modern office, fine parking facilities and enables us to give faster, even more personalized service to our customers."[7]

This quote, from one of numerous newspaper articles published prior to the construction of the building as well as surrounding the opening of the building helps to emphasize just how important the construction and opening of this building were to downtown Baton Rouge and its surrounding suburban areas. One article, complete with a photo of a model of the building stated, "Baton Rouge's changing skyline will be changed even more with the construction of the Union Federal & Loan Assn.'s new six story office building at the corner of Fifth and Laurel Sts."[8]

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[2] Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, 1923-1951.
[3] "Faith and Foresight Culminate in Union Federal's New Home."*Baton Rouge State Times*. 24 August 1956.
[4] "Union Federal is Celebrating its 25th Year." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 12 January 1942.
[5] "Union Federal Open House Set for Tomorrow." *Baton Rouge State Times.* 3 January 1940.
[6] Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923-May 1951. Baton Rouge [East Baton Rouge Parish]. State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection 1867-1970. Accessed 12 May 2015.
[7] "Modern Design with Emphasis on Customer is Union Federal Office Building's Distinctive Mark." *Baton Rouge State Times.* 24 August 1956.
[8] "New Office Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 18 May 1955.

Not only did the construction of this building change Baton Rouge's skyline, but it also helped to usher in more modern architecture in the downtown area.

> "The Union Federal Savings and Loan Assn. will give Baton Rouge its first example of advanced contemporary design in multi-story buildings. The six-story building facades will be an expression of the structure itself, with the monolithic concrete frame exposed to serve function, without loss of its own pattern of design."[9]

That same article, as well as others from 1955, describe the building in the following manner:

> "The walls of the office building will be made primarily of solex heat resisting glass, with the south elevation protected by cantilevered concrete awnings, a climate control method. Some planes will be emphasized by use of other materials. The entire west façade of the building will be a five story wall of Alabama white marble; the first story being open space on raised columns to serve as a sheltered approach to the Fifth St entrance. The building may also be entered from the large parking lot through a formal patio garden with a central fountain surrounded by native Louisiana shrubbery….The savings and loan assn. will have its private offices, a clerical office, a two story high public space, space for officers, counters, work space, drive in window night depository, file vault, and security vault – all arranged for the most efficient use of banking facilities. The second floor balcony will have the director's room, clerical room, waiting room, and coffee room. The openness of the plan will make functional use of the space, with the islands of work area being attractive as well as useful.[10]

In addition to its modern exterior and plan, the building also featured other new modern conveniences.

> "The entire building is centrally air conditioned with thermostats in the individual offices. Pneumatic tube inter office communications and a file lift between floors are other means of speeding up customer service. The new vault is the same in design as that used by the nation's largest banks."[11]

The site also featured an ample parking lot consisting of spaces for 20 to 30 cars.

The grand opening officially began on Saturday, August 25, 1956, and continued for a week after. Bobbie, Chachere, Miss Baton Rouge, cut the ribbon at the grand opening and was joined by the firm's first vice president and other members of the board of directors.$25 savings accounts were given away each day and a grand prize of a $300 savings account was given out that Friday. Refreshments were also served every day from 9 am to 5 pm. Tours were given by members of the board of directors.[12]

In addition to refreshments and tours,

> "Each visitor will receive a souvenir, and a 'whistle pop tree' will be provided for the children…Each person who opens a new savings account during the week's program will receive a special gift – fountain pens to the men, woodrose corsages to the women, and stratobanks to the children."[13]

It was expected that thousands of visitors would attend the weeklong opening including many out of town officials in the building and loan field.

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[9] "Union Federal Lets $597,000 Contract for New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 18 May 1955.
[10] "Contemporary Design to Distinguish New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 19 May 1955.
[11] "No Convenience Spared in New Structure." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 24 August 1956.
[12] "Union Federal Formally Opens New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 25 August 1956.
[13] "Building's Formal Opening Saturday." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 24 August 1956.

Following their opening in 1956, the company occupied the building until they were merged into another company and the building was closed in 1982. After 1982, the building leased office spaces to various businesses including state offices.

Union Federal as an A. Hays Town Commercial Design

The building is a prime example of A. Hays Town's commercial designs. The building features a concrete structural grid pulled to the exterior which gives the building a sense of weight. Brick masses mark elevator cores, and the fire stairs are on the exterior to break up the main block. The first floor features entry canopies to add depth and focus. This building was constructed adjacent to the already developed downtown Baton Rouge, which had a large collection of early 20th century buildings. This building stood out on the street not only because of its modern design, but also because of its two story height and small garden adjacent. This building served as a basis for subsequent building designs in the growing downtown core, including the Louisiana Department of Highways building in Baton Rouge.

In summary, the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association was one of A. Hays Town's first modernist commercial designs, done prior to his departure to more residential architecture. The design and construction of this building is notable for its direct associations with the historic context, A. Hays Town Commercial Designs, 1939-1968 found in the MPS, "The Architecture of A. Hays Town in Louisiana, 1939-1991." The building's design was ground breaking for Town and for the city of Baton Rouge through its use of an exposed structural concrete structure with bands of windows utilizing reflective colored glass. The design influenced Town's later designs and elements from the UFSLA building were adapted and used in Town's later commercial buildings, including the Department of Transportation Building constructed in 1958. It was important in Town's career, particularly after he had returned to Louisiana from his work in Mississippi, as it represented Town's dedication to working with the modern architectural designs of the time and influenced his other modernist commercial designs from the era.

The UFSLA building itself remains one of the few mid-century designs down by Town in downtown Baton Rouge (the DOTD building is still standing, but it located on the periphery of the downtown core). The building itself retains a high degree of integrity on its exterior and in its main public spaces that were designed by Town and thus, serves as an innovative example of A. Hays Town mid-century commercial designs. Because of this, the Union Federal Savings and Loan Association is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C for its significance in architecture at the local level.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

See above.

9. Major Bibliographical Resources

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

A. Hays Town Historic Marker Program. Foundation for Historical Louisiana Archives, Baton Rouge, LA.

"A. Hays Town (1903-2005)." In *KnowLA, Encyclopedia of Louisiana*. Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, 2014. http://www.knowla.org/entry/476/.

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Cramer, John D. "Back to the Future with Louisiana Architect A. Hays Town." *HPRES-ist* (blog). Entry posted January 24, 2013. http://johndcramer.wordpress.com/2013/01/24/back-to-the-future-with-louisiana-architect-a-hays-town/.

DNA Workshop. Memorandum to the author, "500 Laurel Architecture," n.d.

"Faith and Foresight Culminate in Union Federal's New Home. "*Baton Rouge State Times*. 24 August 1956.

Gladney, Leslie Hays. Interview by Nicole Marie Kennelly. Baton Rouge, LA. May 2014.

"Modern Design with Emphasis on Customer is Union Federal Office Building's Distinctive Mark." *Baton Rouge State Times.* 24 August 1956.

"New Office Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 18 May 1955.

"No Convenience Spared in New Structure." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 24 August 1956.

Sachs, David H. *The Life and Work of the Twentieth-century Louisiana Architect, A. Hays Town*. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 2003.

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Town, Albert Hays. "Questionnaire for Architects' Roster: A. Hays Town, Architect." December 2, 1947. The American Institute of Architects Archives. Washington, D.C. http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/AIA%20scans/Rosters/TownAHays_roster.pdf.

"Union Federal Formally Opens New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 25 August 1956.

"Union Federal is Celebrating its 25th Year." *Baton Rouge State Times*. 12 January 1942.

"Union Federal Lets $597,000 Contract for New Building." *Baton Rouge State Times*, 18 May 1955.

"Union Federal Open House Set for Tomorrow." *Baton Rouge State Times.* 3 January 1940.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette. "About the Museum." Paul and Lulu Hilliard University Art Museum. http://museum.louisiana.edu/about-the-museum.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

_x__ 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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

__x_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
__x_ Other
Name of repository: __Foundation for Historical Louisiana Archives_____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ___N/A_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than 1 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 30.450366 Longitude: -91.185413
2. Latitude: 30.450386 Longitude: -91.185184
3. Latitude: 30.449925 Longitude: -91.185173
4. Latitude: 30.449918 Longitude: -91.185381
5. Latitude: 30.119854 Longitude: -91.185380
6. Latitude: 30.449839 Longitude: -91.185818

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
The property consists of four lots described below and seen as outlined on the submitted plat map.
Lot 1: Ward 1-1 #2370; Lot 3, Square 10, Devall Town Subdivision. Lot measures 128' on its north and south sides and 64' on its east and west sides.
Lot 2: Ward 1-1 #2369; Lot 2, Square 10, Devall Town Subdivision. Lot measures 128' on its north and south sides and 64' on its east and west sides.
Lot 3: Ward 1-1 #2368; Lot 1, Square 10, Devall Town Subdivision. Lot measures 128' on its north and south sides and 64' on its east and west sides.
Lot 4: Ward 1-1 #2371; Lot 12 PT, Square 10, Devall Town Subdivision. Lot measures 64' on its north and south sides and 160' on its east and west sides.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundaries chosen reflect the historic boundaries that were part of the property when it was constructed in 1955-56, which includes two lots for parking on the south and west sides of the building. These two lots were planned to be part of the building as parking was needed for the tenants of the building.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Nicole Kennelly and National Register Staff
organization: Foundation for Historical Louisiana; Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation
street & number: 502 North Boulevard; PO Box 44247
city or town: Baton Rouge state: LA zip code: 70802; 70804
e-mail: jrichardson@crt.la.gov
telephone: 225-219-4595
date: 02/13/15; 10/16/15

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Union Federal Savings and Loan Association
City or Vicinity: Baton Rouge
County: East Baton Rouge
State: Louisiana
Name of Photographer: DNA Workshop, Jessica Richardson
Date of Photographs: 2014, September 2015

1 of 49: View of the Laurel Street façade; camera facing southwest.
2 of 49: View of the Laurel Street façade; camera facing southeast.
3 of 49: View of the 5th Street elevation, camera facing east.
4 of 49: View of the courtyard and the south elevations; camera facing northeast.
5 of 49: View of eastern elevation; camera facing northwest.
6 of 49: View of eastern elevation; camera facing southwest.
7 of 49: View of eastern elevation; camera facing west.
8 of 49: View of Laurel Street façade; camera facing south.
9 of 49: View from bank lobby into elevator lobby; camera facing northeast.
10 of 49: View into bank lobby; camera facing south.
11 of 49: View of bank lobby; camera facing east.
12 of 49: View of bank lobby; camera facing west.

13 of 49: View of individual office on first floor of bank; camera facing northeast.
14 of 49: View of entrance on west elevation from bank lobby; camera facing west.
15 of 49: View of bank lobby as seen from the stairs; camera facing east.
16 of 49: View of bank lobby as seen from the stairs; camera facing northeast.
17 of 49: View of individual office in 6 story tower; camera facing southwest.
18 of 49: View of hallway in 6 story tower; camera facing east.
19 of 49: View of individual office in 6 story tower; camera facing northwest.
20 of 49: View of individual office in 6 story tower; camera facing northeast.
21 of 49: View of elevator lobby; camera facing southwest.
22 of 49: View of staircase in 6 story tower; camera facing north.
23 of 49: View of office in bank; camera facing southeast.
24 of 49: View of storage space in bank, camera facing west.
25 of 49: View of original bank safe; camera facing south.
26 of 49: View of the original courtyard; camera facing northeast.
27 of 49: View of second floor communal space in bank; camera facing northwest.
28 of 49: View of second floor communal space in bank; camera facing west.
29 of 49: View of second floor kitchen; camera facing south.
30 of 49: View of second floor conference room overlooking bank lobby; camera facing northwest.
31 of 49: View from second floor of bank to the exterior stairs; camera facing west.
32 of 49: View of second floor hallway in 6 story tower; camera facing east.
33 of 49: View of second floor hallway in 6 story tower; camera facing west.
34 of 49: View of second floor cubicles and hallway overlooking bank lobby; camera facing south.
35 of 49: View of second floor individual bank office; camera facing southeast.
36 of 49: View of second floor hallway overlooking bank lobby; camera facing north.
37 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor elevator lobbies; camera facing northeast.
38 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor hallways; camera facing east.
39 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor hallways; camera facing west.
40 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor individual offices; camera facing south.
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42 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor individual office; camera facing northwest.
43 of 49: View of hallway by 3rd-6th floor bathrooms; camera facing southwest.
44 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor hallway; camera facing west.
45 of 49: View of typical 3rd-6th floor individual office; camera facing southeast.
46 of 49: View of former board room, originally an exterior patio; camera facing northwest.
47 of 49: View of former board room, originally an exterior patio; camera facing northeast.
48 of 49: View of former board room, originally an exterior patio; camera facing south.
49 of 49: View of exterior wall of former board room, originally an exterior patio, camera facing south.

List of Figures

Figure 1. Newspaper article from a series, “The Advocate Looks Back,” showing a photo of Union Federal Savings and Loan when it opened in 1956. Image courtesy of *The Advocate.*

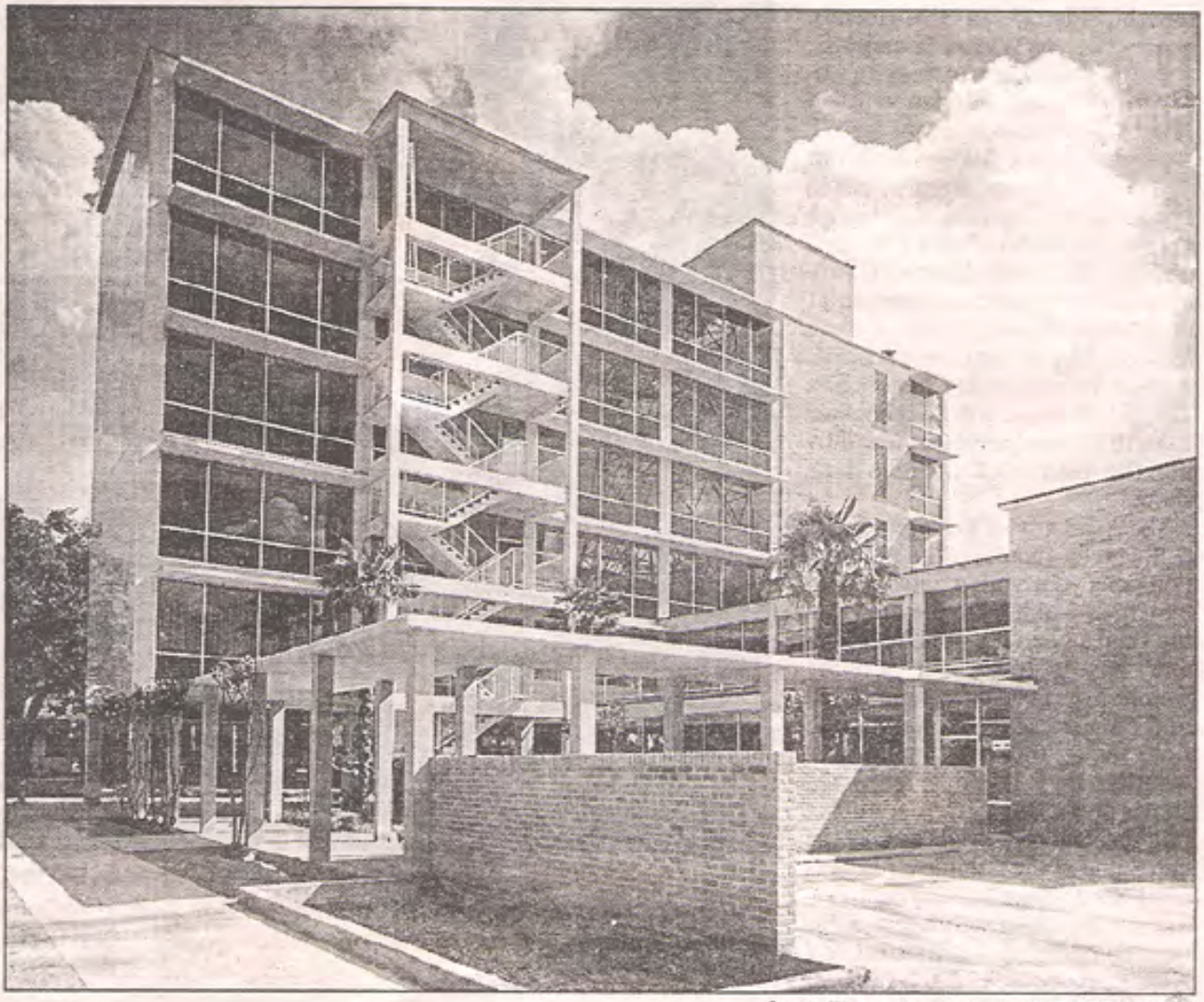
Figure 2. 1956 photo of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 24, 1956)

Figure 3. Advertisement from the grand opening of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 24, 1956)

Figure 4. Miss Baton Rouge, Bobbie Chachere, cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 25, 1956).

Figure 5. Photo of the model for Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (May 18, 1955).

THE ADVOCATE LOOKS BACK



State-Times file photo by **ELEMORE MORGAN**

Aug. 24, 1956

Called Baton Rouge's 'first example of advanced contemporary design,' the new Union Federal Savings and Loan office building on the southeast corner of Laurel and N. 5th streets, opened its doors to the public 50 years ago. Designed by A. Hays Town, the building is clad with white Alabama marble and features special heat-reflecting glass windows to help with the interior's climate control.

Figure 1. Newspaper article from a series, "The Advocate Looks Back," showing a photo of Union Federal Savings and Loan when it opened in 1956. Image courtesy of *The Advocate.*

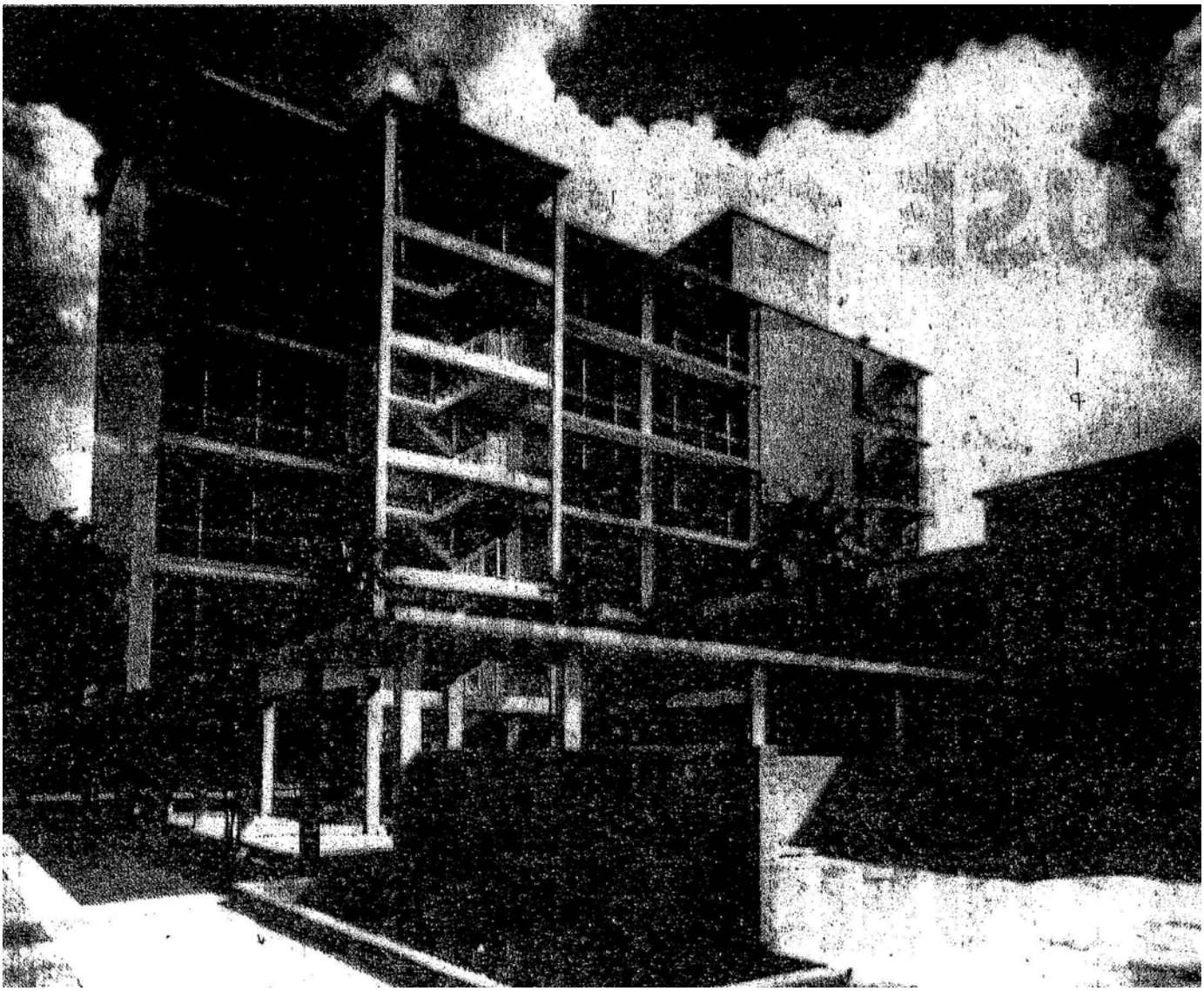
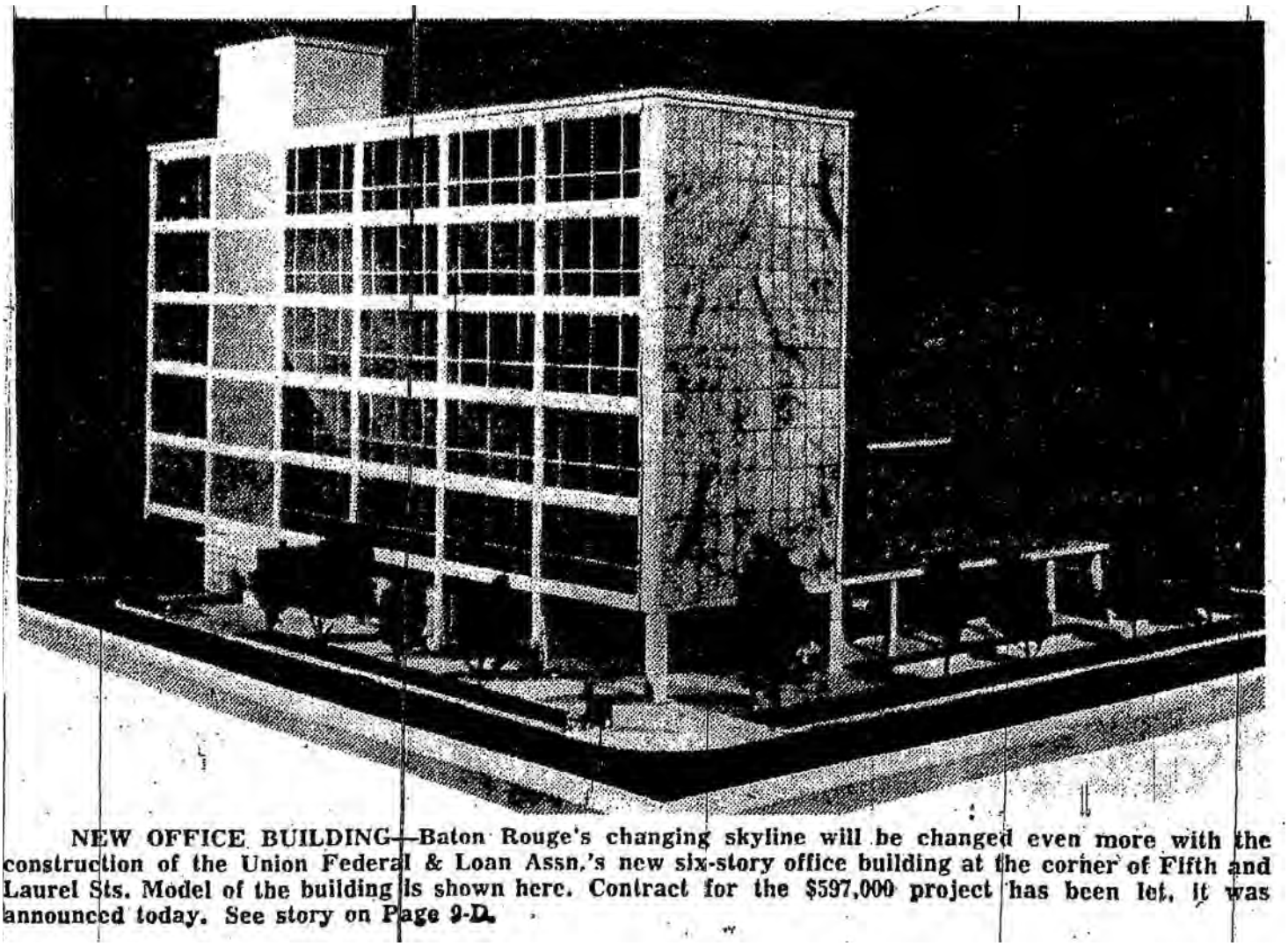


Figure 2. 1956 photo of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 24, 1956)

Figure 3. Advertisement from the grand opening of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 24, 1956)

FORMAL OPENING—The new modern Union Federal Savings & Loan Assn. building was opened to e public today in a brief ceremony in which Bobbie Chachere (left), Miss Baton Rouge, cut the rib- n in front of the doors. Second from the right is Maurice J. Mayer, the firm's first vice president d now a member of the board of director, as he made a brief talk of welcome. At the extreme right Bob Earle, master of ceremonies, and the man holding the microphone with his back to the camera Don Perry of WJBO.

Figure 4. Miss Baton Rouge, Bobbie Chachere, cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (August 25, 1956).



NEW OFFICE BUILDING—Baton Rouge's changing skyline will be changed even more with the construction of the Union Federal & Loan Assn.'s new six-story office building at the corner of Fifth and Laurel Sts. Model of the building is shown here. Contract for the $597,000 project has been let, it was announced today. See story on Page 9-D.

Figure 5. Photo of the model for Union Federal Savings and Loan Association. Image courtesy of *Baton Rouge State Times* (May 18, 1955).

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.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

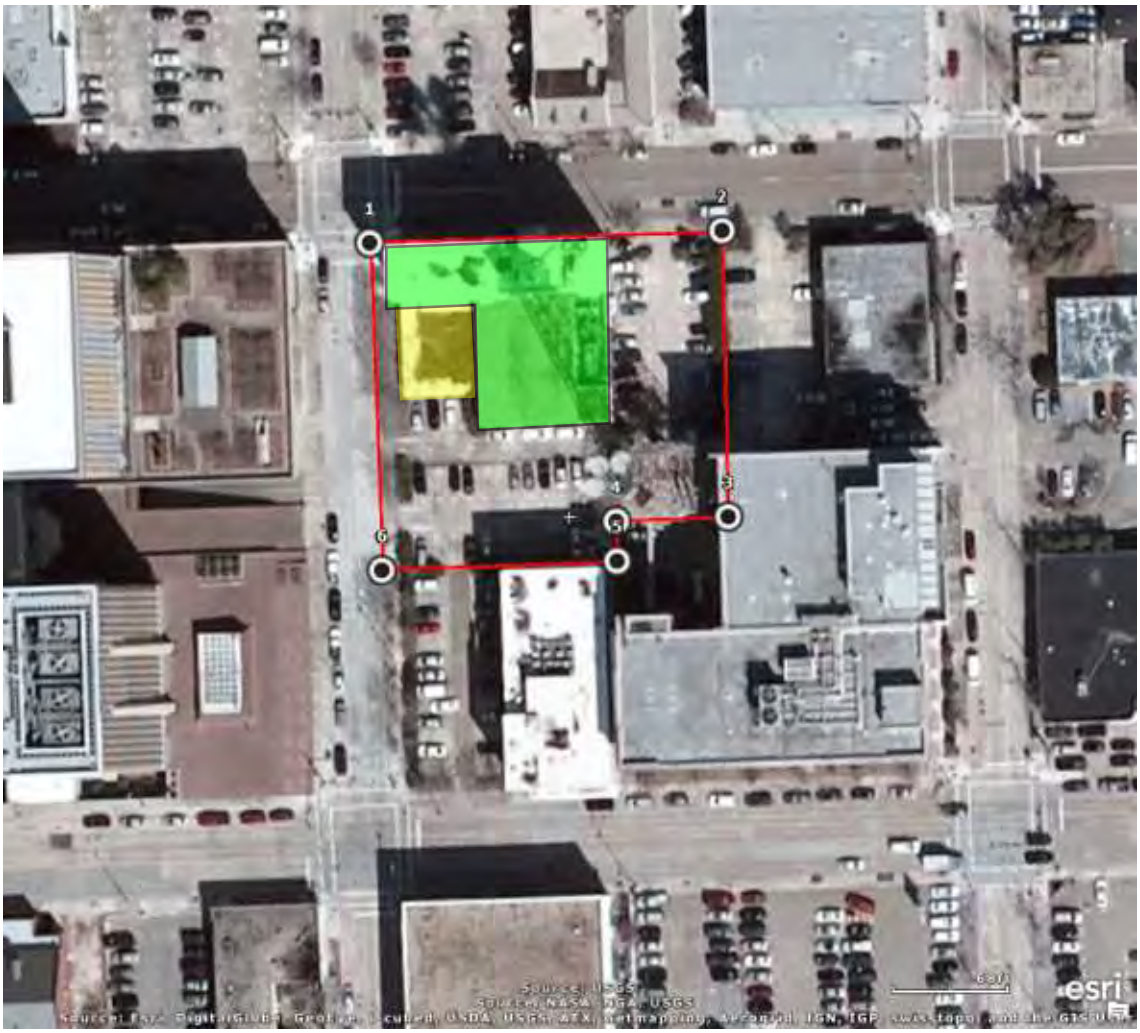
Union Federal Savings and Loan Association, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Latitude: 30.450243 Longitude: -91.185597

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Latitude: 30.450243 Longitude: -91.185597

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA



	Latitude	Longitude
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2.	30.450386	-91.185184
3.	30.449925	-91.185173
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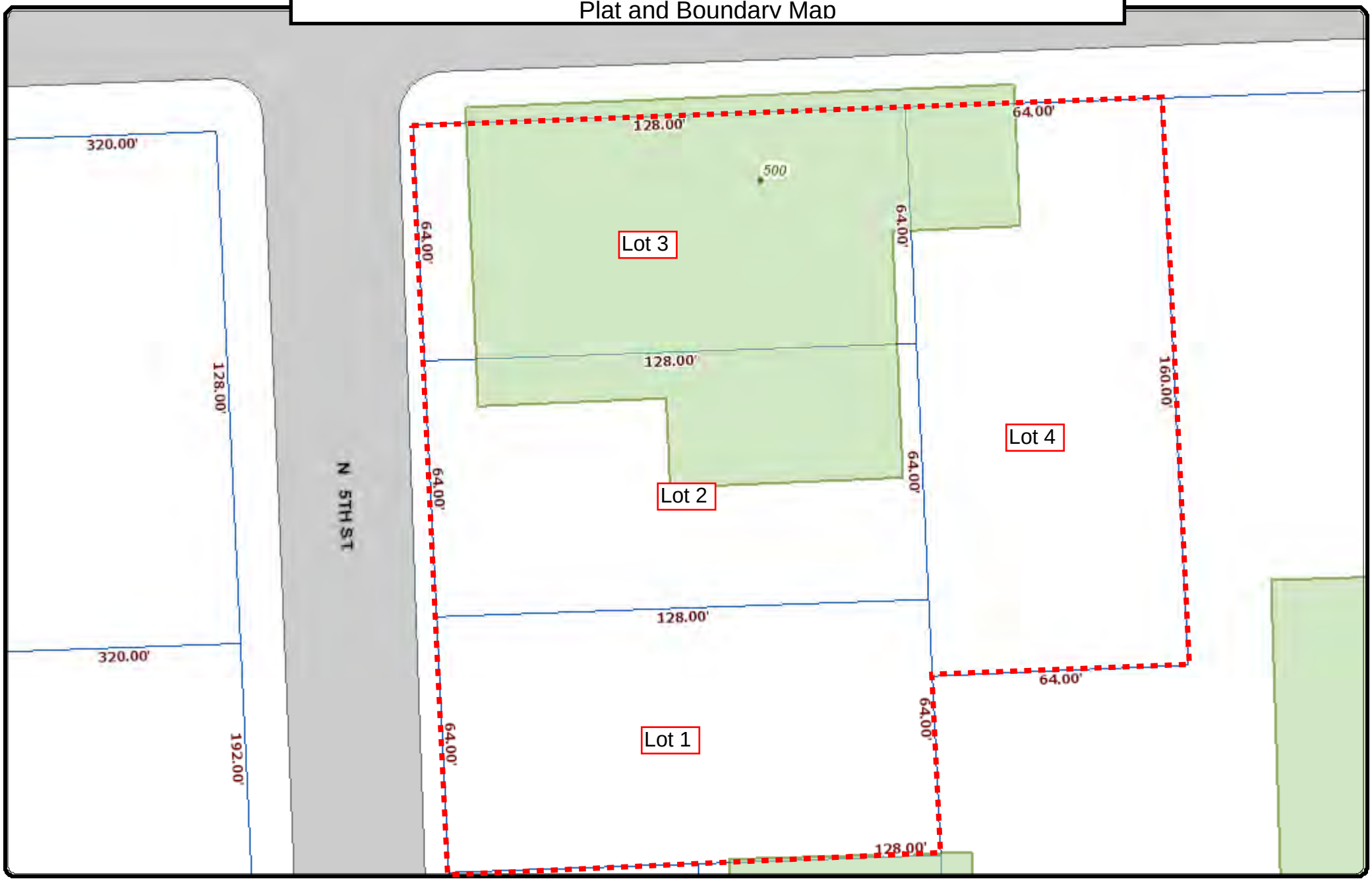
5.	30.119854	-91.185380
6.	30.449839	-91.185818

Contributing Site

Contributing Building

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association - East Baton Rouge Parish
Plat and Boundary Map



DISCLAIMER: The Assessor's Office provides this information in good faith with no warranty and does not accept any liability arising from incorrect, incomplete or misleading information or improper use. Be advised not to rely solely on the information reflected in these maps.

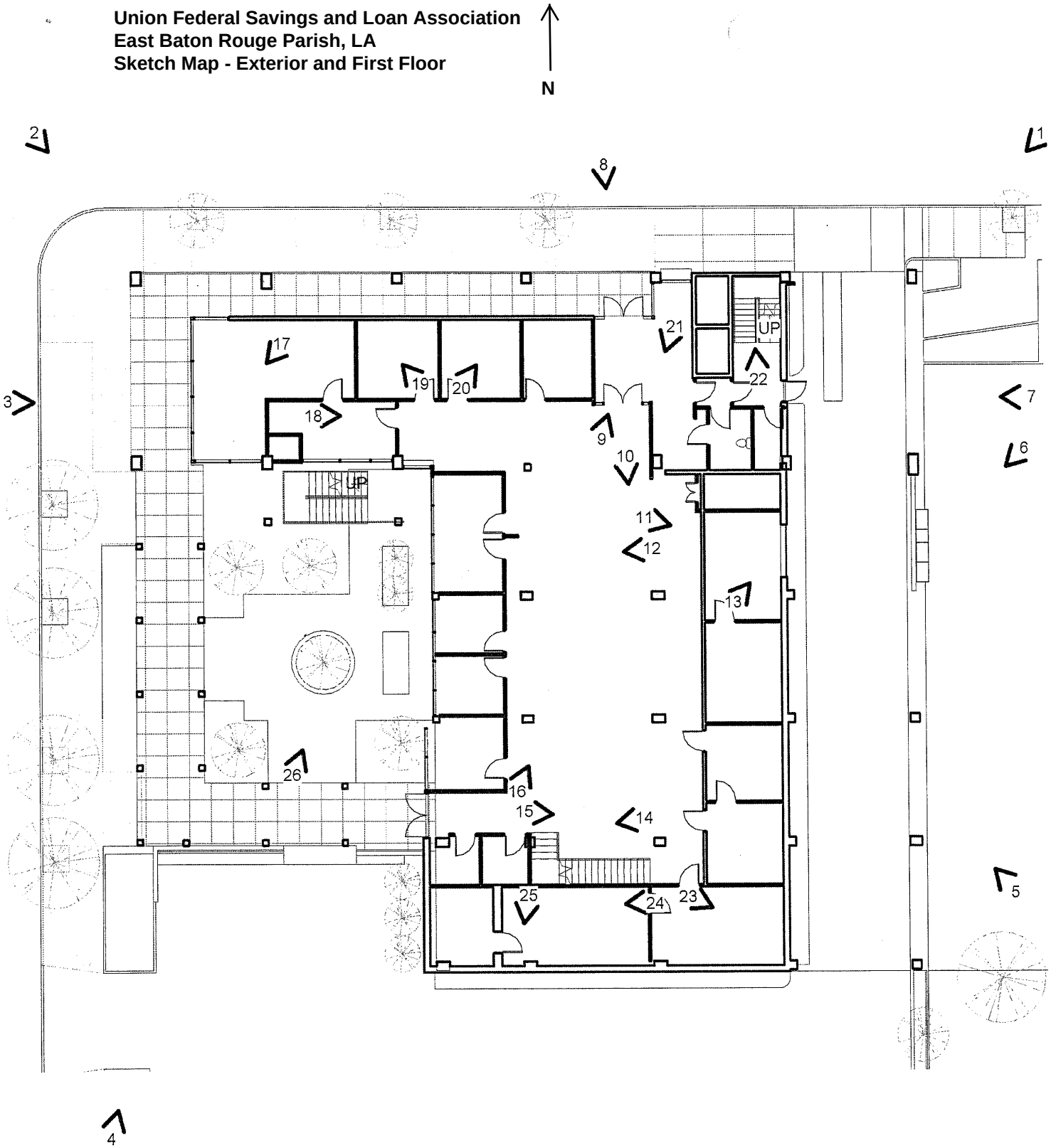
Boundary

February 26, 2015

1 inch = 32 feet

0 10 20 30 40 Feet

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Sketch Map - Exterior and First Floor



SHEET NAME:

PHOTO KEY PLAN FOR EXISTING - 1ST FLOOR

SHEET NO. SK1.1

PROJECT:
500 LAUREL STREET

500 LAUREL ST BATON ROUGE, LA

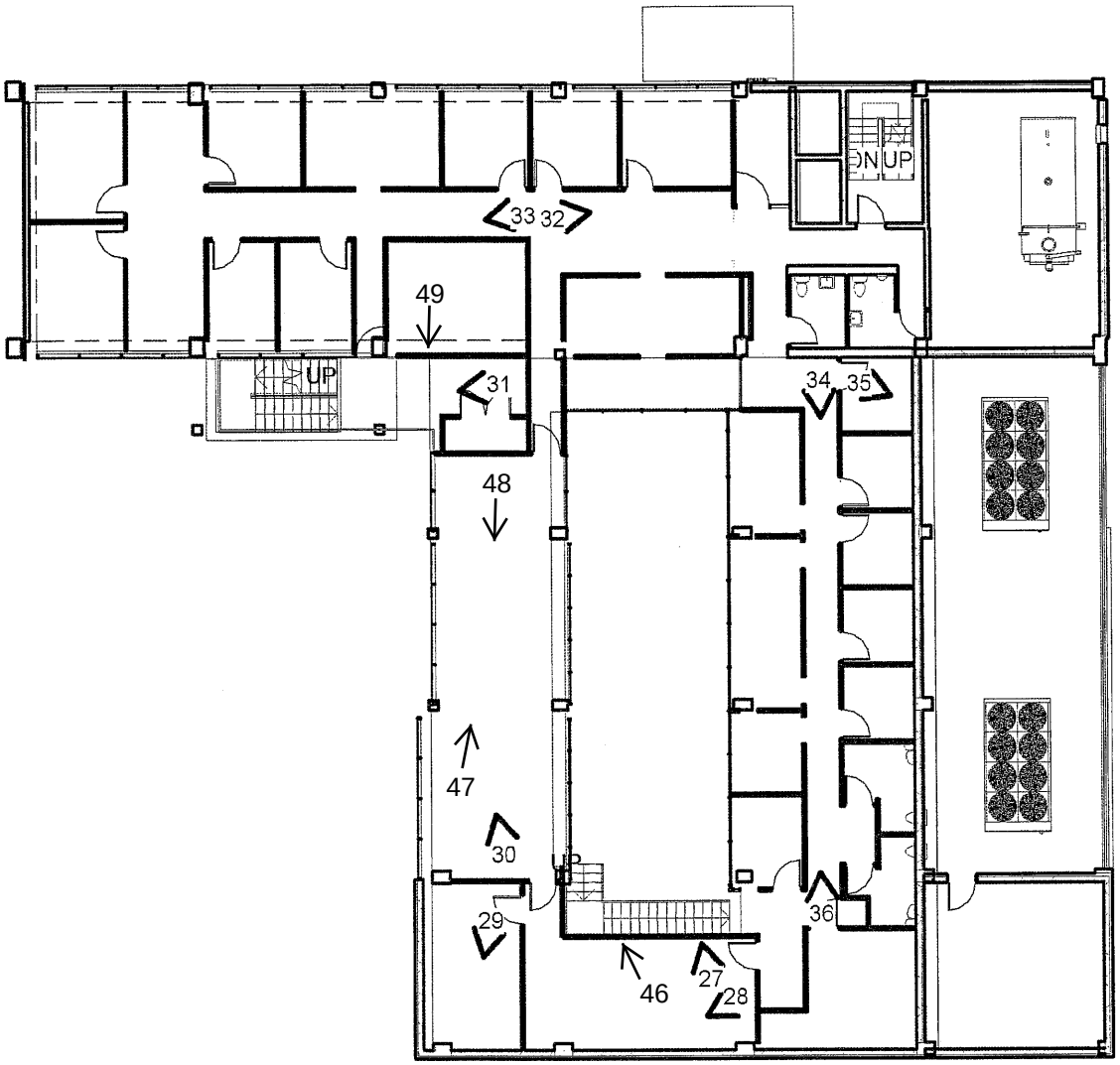
JOB No. 12-0019

ISSUED: Issue Date

DNAworkshop
DYKE NELSON ARCHITECTURE

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Sketch Map - Second Floor

N



SHEET NAME:

PHOTO KEY PLAN FOR EXISTING - 2ND FLOOR

SHEET NO. SK1.2

PROJECT:
500 LAUREL STREET

500 LAUREL ST BATON ROUGE, LA

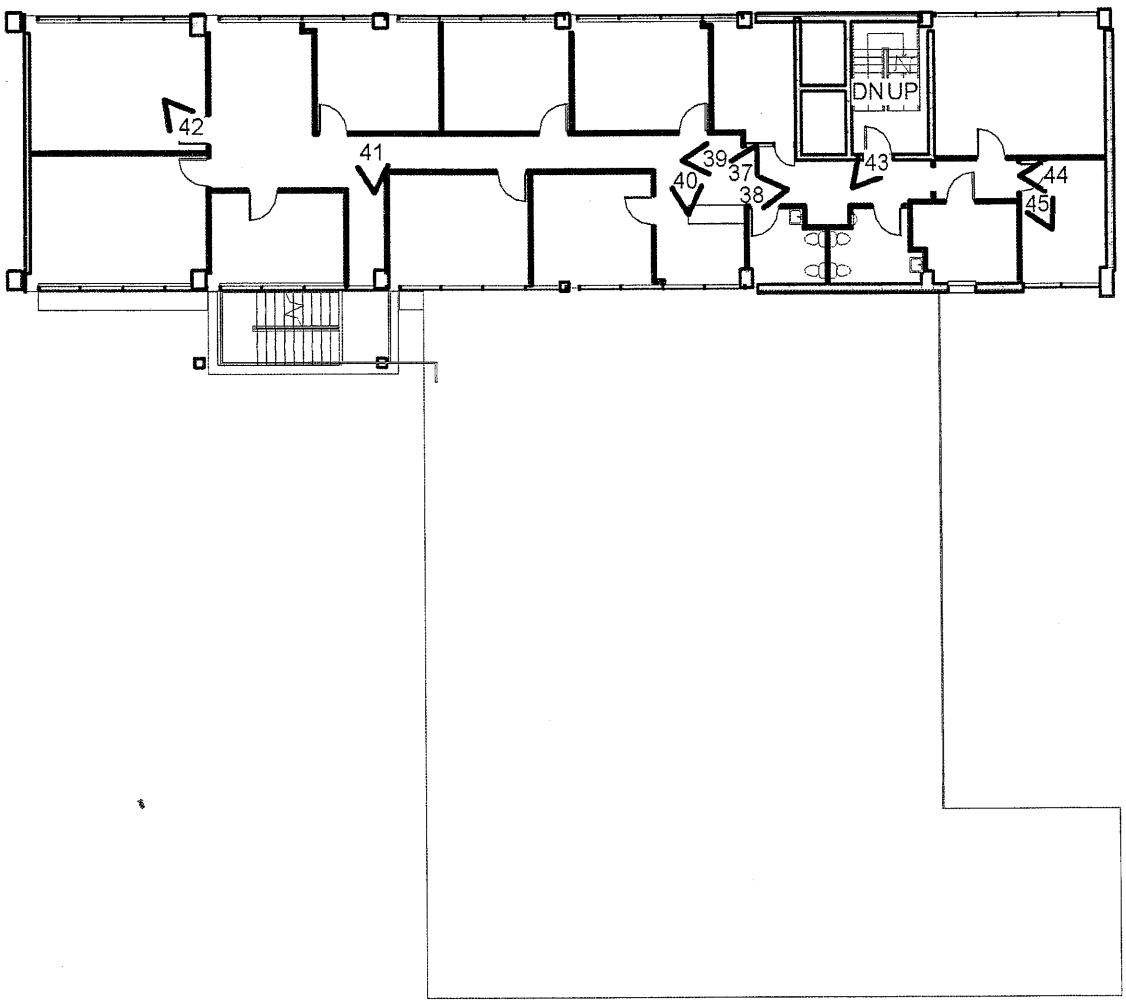
JOB No. 12-0019

ISSUED: Issue Date

DNAworkshop
DYKE NELSON ARCHITECTURE

Union Federal Savings and Loan Association
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Sketch Map - Typical 3rd-6th Floor

N



SHEET NAME:

PHOTO KEY PLAN FOR EXISTING - 3RD-6TH FLOOR TYP

SHEET NO. SK1.3

PROJECT:
500 LAUREL STREET

500 LAUREL ST BATON ROUGE, LA

JOB No. 12-0019
ISSUED: Issue Date

DNAworkshop
DYKE NELSON ARCHITECTURE

CHASE

ONE
WAY

CHEVROLET

Liebert

TFR 618
TRH 360

500

500
LETTER BOX

SIPC

EXIT

500
WHITWORTH LAW FIRM
SIXTH FLOOR

The Mosler Safe Co.

EXIT

U.S.
MAIL

EXIT

EXIT

EXIT

DANGER

II CITY PLAZA