

7 - OLD POST OFFICE

(204 West First Street)

The post office, across from the courthouse and jail, was built in 1935.

The brick Colonial Revival is home to the Beauregard Tourist Commission, Lois Loftin Doll Collection and a mural painted by noted artist Conrad Albrizio.



The building today.



"Rural Free Delivery"

8 - FORMER "GOLDEN POND ASYLUM"



(110 West First Street) For years, the late Paul Harlow's antiques collection was housed in this old DeRidder building. Harlow called his collection, the "Golden Pond Asylum." In 2022, some items were donated to the Beauregard Museum.

9 - REALART DERIDDER GALLERY

(108 West First Street)

The RealArt DeRidder Gallery building is owned by the city, but it is a collaboration of the community. Volunteers staff this wonderful, little gallery which features the works of local and regional artists.



"RealArt" DeRidder takes its name from an old DeRidder movie theater.



10 - OLD IDEAL DRUGSTORE/ JOUBAN

(103 N. Washington St.) This building housed Ideal Drugs for years, yet before that, it was the People's Supply, an early mercantile. The Jouban family operated their store in the building starting in 1923 and in various forms, it was a mainstay for decades.



WWI soldiers marching in front of the building.



The building today.

11 - CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(111 N. Washington St.)

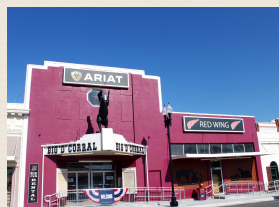
The Greater Beauregard Chamber of Commerce building was once one of the city's oldest drugstores, City Drug Store. It dates back to at least 1911. In a recent



renovation, the store's old tile was discovered and salvaged. Look through the door to see the history!

12 - UPTOWN THEATER/BIG "D" CORRAL

(119 N. Washington St.) The theater opened in 1938



Big "D" Corral

and was designed by architect John M. Gabriel, who designed many SWLA buildings. Big "D" Corral has been a DeRidder fixture for years and sells Western wear. Take a look inside to see some theater history.



Return to the museum for a cold drink!

HISTORIC DERIDDER

A WALKING TOUR



Early DeRidder

The earliest buildings in the DeRidder Commercial Historic District standing today were built around 1905. The district is composed of three blocks of primarily commercial-related buildings. Prior to DeRidder's incorporation in 1903, there were wooden structures along what would become Washington Avenue. The railroad arrived in 1896 and thereafter, the town area began to develop.

5 and 6 -



Beaugard Parish Courthouse and Jail

(*West First Street*) The courthouse was built between 1913 and 1914. New Orleans architects Stevens and Nelson were contracted for both the courthouse and jail. Both buildings are on land donated by the Hudson River Lumber Company. The Beaux-Arts style building is similar to the Morehouse Parish Courthouse in Bastrop.

A tunnel was built to connect the courthouse and jail, however, as part of the recent courthouse revamp, it was filled in. Of note is the beautiful mural in the main courtroom that depicts Ancient Rome. In 2016, art conservator Elise Grenier was tapped to restore it. Built in 1914, the jail was designed to be imposing. The reinforced concrete building is tiered with a spiraling staircase up to a central tower. There are steep gables, arches and barred windows. The jail was considered modern for its time with toilets, showers and cell windows.

The jail was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. It was closed by the state fire marshal three years later. Locals call the jail the "Hanging Jail" because of a 1920s murder case that resulted in the convictions and hangings of two men there. Joe Genna and Molton Bresseaux robbed and killed taxi cab driver J.J. Breville in 1926. Two years later, justice was served.

DOWNTOWN DERIDDER



1 - Beaugard Museum, 120 S. Washington Street

The former Kansas City Southern Passenger Depot was built in 1926. Like many turn-of-the century towns, DeRidder's business district revolved around the railroad. It was crucial in the incorporation of the city in 1903 and its further economic development through the decades. In the late 1960s, the passenger train operation ceased through DeRidder and later, the depot became home to the museum.

2 - THE STANDARD BUILDING

(*121 S. Washington Street*) In 1904, the Long-Bell Lumber Company of Kansas City, Missouri, established a large mill within sight of the central business district. It became the town's largest employer. The Hudson River Lumber Company was a subsidiary of Long-Bell. The company built a wood-frame commissary first, yet around 1917, it was replaced by a brick building.



The building was originally the Long-Bell Commissary.



The Standard Building is now the Treasure City Mall.

3 - OLD CITY SAVINGS BANK

(*101-103 S. Washington Street*) This building was built around 1915 and early on, housed a drugstore. In 1928, it became the first location of City Savings Bank. The building now houses Dance Stop which has a long history in DeRidder. Dance Stop has been teaching dance to local children for 35 years. The building is owned by the City of DeRidder and is currently being rehabilitated.



The building was originally a drugstore.



The old bank building today.

4 - OLD ROYAL CAFE

(*107 West First Street*) A burger and cold milk, that was the winning combination most recall enjoying at the Royal Cafe, which opened around 1930. It was soon 'the spot' for a cup of coffee. It had the city's first soft ice cream machine. Homemade root beer was another favorite. Former McNeese art professor, Bill Illes, painted a scene from the cafe and it hangs in the Beaugard Museum.



An early 1950s scene at the Royal Cafe.



The building today.