Building blocks of industry

By TED GRIFFIS

The Standard Oil Company commissioned artist John McCrady in 1947 to produce a series of drawings of its Baton Rouge refinery. The works he produced included this picture of two hard-hatted workers in front of the refinery's catalytic cracker unit. The Baton Rouge refinery today remains a major force in the local economy.

Louisiana's Petrochemical Corridor

Along the Mississippi River between Baton Rouge and New Orleans lies a string of industries, many of them petrochemical plants. It is one of the largest concentrations of industrial facilities in the world. The Advocate takes a close look at the complex in articles, a map and a list profiling the plants. — Pages 48-50

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THE COVER ILLUSTRATION
A refinery tower reaches toward the sky, symbolic of the mighty petrochemical industry that gives employment to people not only in Baton Rouge but all along the Mississippi River. Other elements fuel the economy of Louisiana's capital area, too, including state and local government, two universities, retailing, construction and agriculture.

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