HADRIAN

... Emperor, 117 A.D. to 138 A.D.—one of the greatest, most revered rulers of the Roman Empire.

With the graceful marble architecture of Iberia Savings and Loan as background... with stately oaks providing a glorious environment, the original sculpture of Hadrian stands proud. A rare classic has found its place. The statue is imposing with a height of about seven feet and massiveness of over a ton... yet, in true Roman form, the features and lines are artistically graceful. A work of art, the statue dates back to circa 130 A.D. where it stood near the site of what is now the Rome Railway Station. Then, around 1820, it traveled to Cobham Hall, Kent, thanks to the Fourth Earl of Darnley... then over to the New World as part of the collection of Wilson J. Raker in New Orleans.

True—this statue is the only major one of Hadrian in the United States, but the Emperor's influence is seen in our nation's capitol and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

To us, our Hadrian is more than a work of art. It is matter of pride. Iberia Savings and Loan Association arranged for the purchase of this classic the same year we constructed our new building—1961. The rare work is a reminder of this just and wise leader: defender of his land, reformer of government and laws, architect of worldwide influence, and dedicated supporter of the arts. Everyone, of course, knows him by the Wall that bears his name... a wall that was formidable proof of his determination to maintain peace and defend his beloved and vast empire.

Our Hadrian is also an inspiration to preserve the timeless principles of justice, wisdom and dedication to community betterment. We run our day-to-day business that way. Our customers know that.

As citizens of New Iberia, we are understandably proud of our own heritage and have a natural desire to share things of historical interest, beauty and value with everyone.

Iberia Savings and Loan itself stands proud in contributing a major important work of art and attraction to the historical area of New Iberia.

When you come by to see the sculpture, please stop in our New Iberia office, have a cup of coffee, and get acquainted. We'll be happy to have you.

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