Old Railroad Station Has A Lot To Show

LAFAYETTE
Le Soir

BY AMANDA GRIFFIN

When the old railroad station in Baton Rouge was converted into an arts and science center in 1976, it became more than just a building for art exhibits. Displayed within the former Illinois Central Gulf Railroad Passenger Station are permanent exhibits dedicated to the Mississippi River, which meanders downstream right outside the center. The railroad tracks still thunder with passing trains and to the history of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Arts and Science Center is an aesthetic and intellectual delight. The spacious office totals more than 50,000 square feet, and the natural sunlight fills the rooms with inviting light. The center is dedicated to the fine arts, with exhibits changing frequently.

The Louisiana Arts and Science Center (LAST) was created as a result of the Mississippi River Centennial expositions held in Illinois in 1973. The center was designed to be a place where people could learn about the river and its history.

The center's focus on the Mississippi River is evident throughout the exhibits. Visitors can learn about the river's history, its role in Louisiana's development, and its impact on the state's culture and economy.

The center is located on the second floor of the old railroad station in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It is open to the public and is a great place for anyone interested in learning more about the Mississippi River and its significance to Louisiana.

CONVERTED RAILROAD STATION – The former Illinois Central Gulf Railroad Passenger Station, built in 1925 north of Baton Rouge by the Louisiana Arts and Science Center at Baton Rouge. The building was renovated in 1976 and its exhibits are open to the public Tuesday through Sunday.