

# Historic Property at 408 East Simpson Street



## Property Description

- Year Built:** 1908
- Original pre-1900 building lost to fire
  - Current building constructed as single story in 1908
- Historical Name:** A. Nelson Building/First National Bank/Public Library
- held retail stores, First National Bank, public library
- Eligible for:** Lafayette Register of Historic Places; could contribute to National or State Register Historic District
- one of the original buildings in Lafayette's commercial district
  - provided services for Lafayette's miners
  - exemplifies early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial building architecture

## Development Opportunities

### Defining Characteristics (1908–1950 period):

- Large storefront/street-side windows with small windows over large ones
- Elaborate parapet
- Two entrance doors
- One-story, horizontal orientation
- Small setback from East Simpson Street
- Store sign perpendicular to building facade

### Development Opportunities:

- Remove intrusive painted metal siding and north façade light fixtures
- Reconstruct detailed parapet based on historic photos
- Expose and/or reconstruct original baseboard details using historic photos
- Re-introduce small windows across top of large ones
- Retain single story
- Retain two entrances
- Use compatible historic material (e.g., brick) and limit the total amount of introduced material (e.g., stucco, wood clapboard, metal, concrete) on elevations to less than 20%

## Development Benefits

- If listed on the Lafayette Register of Historic Places, property becomes eligible for 20% State and 20% Federal tax credits for appropriate renovation, rehabilitation, and/or reconstruction