

MIXED-USE ASSET | FOR SALE

# The Pythian Building

234 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112



# ICONIC RENOVATED BUILDING READY FOR OCCUPANCY

234 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112

# **OVERVIEW**

**Building Size** +/- 123,266 sf (GBA)

**Residential** 69 units on floors 4-9

**Commercial** 38,599 sf on floors 1-3

# **OFFERING PRICE**

**Contact Agents** 

# **DESCRIPTION**

The historic Pythian Building at 234 Loyola Avenue presents a rare and dynamic investment opportunity. This mixed-use asset underwent an ambitious \$46 million renovation in 2017, carefully restoring and modernizing the building while preserving its iconic architectural character.

The property features 69 residential apartments above three floors of versatile commercial space, currently improved with office suites on floor 3, an event venue on floor 2, and a former food hall on the ground floor. The building benefits from highly favorable CBD zoning that permits a broad range of uses, including hotel and short-term rental, hotel operations and

multi-family housing that includes workforce housing, ideal for repositioning or redevelopment.

The Pythian enjoys exceptional proximity to both the city's major tourist destinations and its core economic base. It is ideally positioned just steps from the French Quarter, Caesars Superdome and Smoothie King Center as well as within walking distance of both the CBD's daytime office population and, most importantly, the growing medical district.

This premier location, coupled with the building's scale, thoughtful renovation, history, and zoning flexibility, result in the Pythian being a compelling offering in the New Orleans real estate market.

# **FACT SHEET**

**Building Size** +/- 123,266 sf (GBA, inclusive of roof deck & basement)

**Site Size** +/- 13,885 sf | 0.32 acres

**Zoning** CBD-1 Core Central Business (Zoned for hotel, apartments, short-term rental, office, and retail)

**CenTrio** The property is subject to an Energy Service Agreement (ESA) with CenTrio to deliver chilled water to the property for HVAC. This 25-year agreement commenced in 2016 and is billed based on usage. The Energy Service Agreement can be provided upon request



## RESIDENTIAL UNIT DISTRIBUTION

# 4th floor

12 units (9,292 rsf)

10 - 1BR/1BA (562-804 rsf)

1 - 2BR/2BA (1,085 rsf)

1 - 2BR/1BA (1,018 rsf)

## 5th floor

12 units (9,253 rsf)

10 - 1BR/1BA (562-804 rsf)

1 - 2BR/2BA (1,085 rsf)

1 - 2BR/1BA (1,018 rsf)

#### 6th floor

12 units (9,347 rsf)

10 - 1BR/1BA (562-804 rsf)

1 - 2BR/2BA (1,085 rsf)

1 - 2BR/1BA (1,018 rsf)

# 7th floor

12 units (9,332 rsf)

10 - 1BR/1BA (562-804 rsf)

1 - 2BR/2BA (1,085 rsf)

1 - 2BR/1BA (1,018 rsf)

#### 8th floor

12 units (9,253 rsf)

6 - 1BR/1BA (562-785 rsf)

1 - 2BR/1BA (1,085 rsf)

2 - Loft 1BR/1BA (955-969 rsf)

2 - Loft 2BR/2BA (1,705-1,037 rsf)

1 - Loft 3BR/2BA (1,677 rsf)

# 9th floor

9 units (6,304 rsf)

9 - 1BR/1BA (525-929 rsf)

# **COMMERCIAL SPACE**

### 1st floor & Mezzanine

10,824 sf on 1st floor (former Pythian Market) 5,003 sf mezzanine (formerly part of Pythian Market)

### 2nd floor

8,725 sf event space 2,632 sf office space

## 3rd floor

10,415 sf office space

- 4,935 sf vacant
- 2,786 sf vacant
- 2,694 sf leased

#### Roof

2, 413 sf rooftop deck



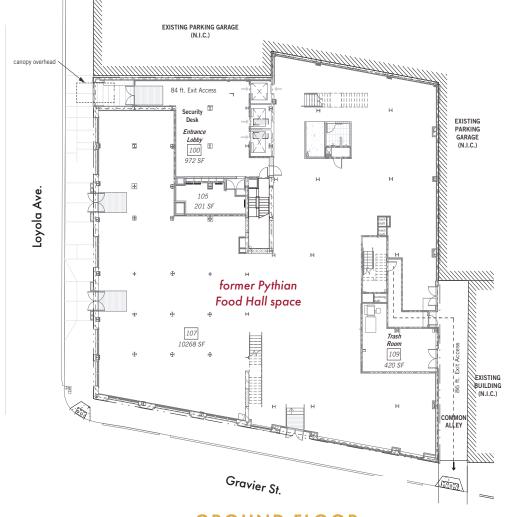
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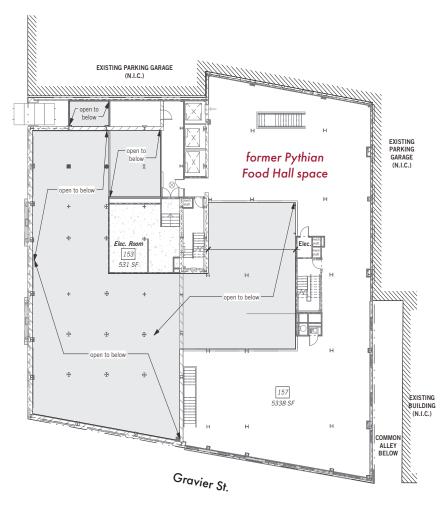






# FLOOR PLANS



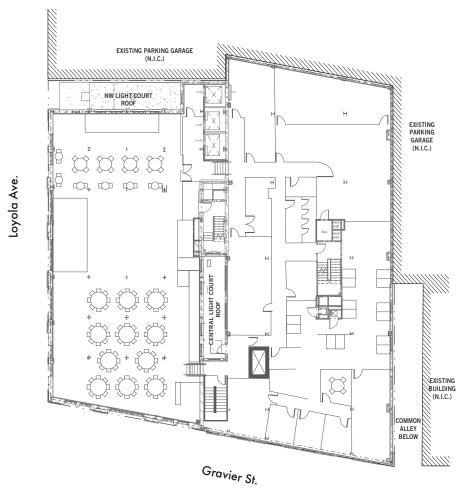


**GROUND FLOOR** 

**MEZZANINE** 

Loyola Ave.

# FLOOR PLANS



EXISTING PARKING GARAGE (N.I.C.) Model Unit 301 301 879 SF EXISTING PARKING GARAGE (N.I.C.) office space 2,694 sf Access Health Louisiana office space 4,935 sf VACANT office space 2,786 sf VACANT COMMON ALLEY BELOW Gravier St.

2ND FLOOR

3RD FLOOR

Loyola Ave.

# FLOOR PLANS



Loyola Ave.



**5TH FLOOR** 

504.919.5211

# FLOOR PLANS

Loyola Ave.



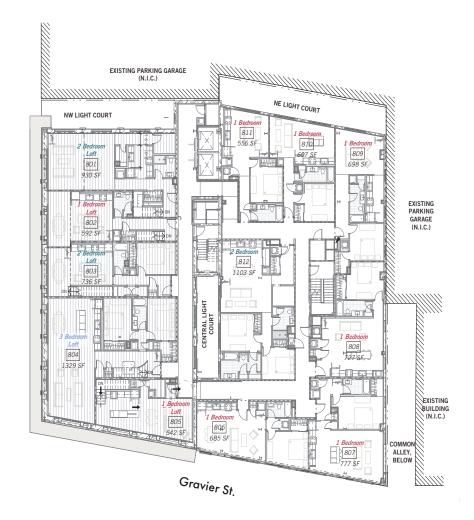
**6TH FLOOR** 



7TH FLOOR

# FLOOR PLANS



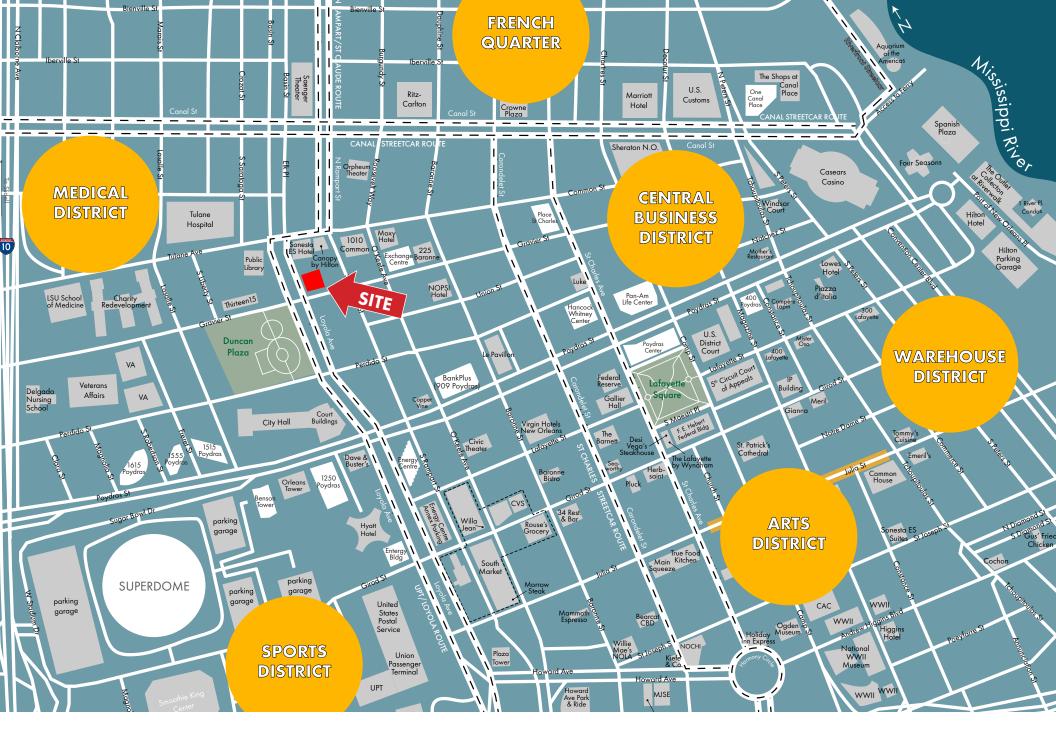


EXISTING PARKING GARAGE NE LIGHT COURT 911 1 Bedroom 909 703 SF 801 775 SF Loyola Ave. PARKING GARAGE 802 363 SF 912 797 SF 803 301 SF 901 929 SI 804 348 SF open to 1 Bedroom 913 below EXISTING BUILDING COMMON 907 767 SF ALLEY, BELOW Gravier St.

8TH FLOOR

9TH FLOOR

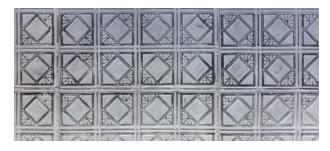






# **ARCHITECTURE**

Designed by noted local architecture firm
Diboll, Owen and Goldsmith and built in 1909,
the 7-story building was constructed using
a steel frame, which was a relatively new
technology for building material at the time.







The exterior consists of tan magnesium pressed brick and terra cotta.

Brick sunbursts fan above the windows on the first two floors, while grand stone entrances are decorated with plaster cartouches.



Arched windows span the mezzanine and second floors.







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# **HISTORY**

Founded in 1880, Knights of Pythias of North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia, also known as the **Colored Knights** of Pythias, was an offshoot of the whites-only Knights of Pythias, a fraternal organization established by an act of U.S. Congress. It functioned nationwide as a benevolent organization. Smith Wendell Green served as Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias for New Orleans. He was born into slavery but freed as an adult and became one of the most prominent New Orleans businessmen, amassing a fortune first as a grocer, then as president of the Liberty Independent Insurance Company, and also an NAACP leader.

The Pythian Temple, or Grand Lodge, for which Green provided funding would open in 1909 and serve for decades as an incubator for African American business, politics, and culture. It then went through several iterations before its 2018 renovation brought it to its current state as a mixed-use building.





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# DESCRIPTION OF

The second story is occupied by a large auditorium of good sea capacity, having four ornate boxes, a large stage, a substage store

ms.

The sixth story has two large lodgerooms with the necessar
ms and paraphernalia rooms, together with ten office-roor
The seventh story has also two large lodgerooms with a
sidiary rooms for antercooms and paraphernalia rooms as

The seventh story has also two large lodgerooms with adjas-subsidiary rooms for antercoms and paraphernalia rooms and as-includes a large meeting hall.

The rool is fitted for roof garden purposes and will make a lightful gathering place during hot summer nights.

Each floor is provided with ample corridor facilities with necessary toilet-rooms and all offices are supplied with lavator All office floors have mall subsets, also passenger and freight ward gas lighting. The building is well ventilated from all sig-course heine provided, so that the possible encreachment of fire

# HISTORY OF THE PYTHIAN BUILDING



photo credit Sepia Socialite

#### 1908

Smith Wendell Green commissions the construction of the Pythian Temple as a Grand Lodge for the Colored Knights of Pythias.

1910



## 1910

Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club founded, inspired by a show performed at the Temple Theater on the 2nd floor.

1920<sup>-</sup>



# 1936

The building is leased to Charity Hospital

1930



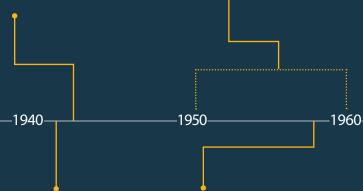
photo credit
United States Patent and Trademark Company

#### 1943-1945

Higgins Industries leases the building as a hiring center. Andrew Higgins, owner, was responsible for inventing the Higgins Boat, a landing craft for vehicles and military on D-Day.

#### 1950s

The building houses such as Dwight
D. Eisenhower's presidential campaign office and planned streetcar boycotts that pave the way for the Civil Rights bus boycotts.



#### 1909

1900-

The building officially opens. It will play an important role in fostering African-American life, from a ground floor bank, shops, and offices that were owned and catered to New Orleans' African-Americans, fraternal organizations, the Negro Board of Trade, carnival balls, and activist movements.



### 1923

As well as adding the 8th and 9th floors, Piron's Garden of Joy opens on the roof. This garden bar will host popular music acts and nurture the development of famous musicians like Louis Armstrong, Manuel Perez, and Manuel Manetta.





photo credit www.britannica.com

### 1941

Knights of Pythias loses the building due to a court order brought on by the group's financial difficulties.



## 1957

A new owner makes the decision to install an aluminum and porcelain sheath over building's original facade.





## 1960-1972

1970

The building goes through various name changes, including the Civic Center Building and the de Montluzin Building. It features various entities, such as a district court, a bank, a beauty salon, and medical offices.

1980

# INDUSTRIES BUILDING IS 'CIVIC CENTER BUILDING'

R. E. E. de Montluzin, MAgnolia 4444, is advertising modern offices for rent in Civic Center Building. That's the structure at Loyola and Gravier that's had several name changes. We forget what it was before the 1940s, but during World War II it was the Higgins bldg., then it became the Industries bldg. Now with the new Civic Center springing up, it's had another "christening."

### 1955

This blurb in the business section of The Times Picayune pokes fun at the building's many name changes.

-1990



## 2012

Metal cladding removed to reveal original exterior in an effort to gain historic recognition.



# 2017

The Pythian opens as a mixed-use building with apartments, offices, and a ground floor food hall.

-2000-2010-2020 2002

Building is now vacant.

## 2015

**Expansion granted on the Lower Central Business District National** Register, securing historic status for both this building and others on the block. As conditions, the front of the building is restored to 1909 status, and the back addition is restored to its 1961 original construction look.



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