NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received JUN 3 1983
date entered 7.18.83

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Main Street/Market Square Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

Roughly bounded by Buffalo Bayou, Fannin, Texas, and Milam Sts.

street & number Central Business District, see continuation sheet — N/A not for publication

city, town Houston — N/A vicinity of

state Texas code 048 county Harris code 201

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
X district	X public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	X commercial	X park
___ structure	X both	X work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	X entertainment	___ religious
___ object	N/A in process	X yes: restricted	X government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	X yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	X other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name see continuation sheets

street & number

city, town — N/A vicinity of — state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harris County Courthouse

street & number 1001 Preston

city, town Houston — state Texas 77002

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title (1) Houston Architectural Survey
(2) Historic Sites Survey
has this property been determined eligible? see continuation sheet ___ yes X no

date (1) 1980
(2) 1983
___ federal X state ___ county X local

depository for survey records (1) Houston Public Library
(2) Texas Historical Commission

city, town (1) Houston
(2) Austin
state Texas

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Bounded roughly by Fannin Street, Texas, Milam Street, and Buffalo Bayou--a twelve-block area in downtown Houston centered around Main Street. For further description see section 10, continuation sheets 1 and 2.

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Continuation sheet OWNERS OF PROPERTY Item number 4 Page 1

Map #	Address	Catagory*	Block / Lot(s)**	Owner or Trustee / Mailing address
SITES LISTED IN SEQUENCE BY BLOCK:				
-	Corner of Commerce and Travis	-	1	City of Houston
-	Allen's Landing Corner of Commerce and Main	-	3	City of Houston
1(A)	Buffalo Bayou & Main	C	-	City of Houston
30	901 Commerce	C	2 / 1,2	Harry Rosmarin 5631 Old Clinton Rd. Houston, Texas 77020
2	108 Main	C	15 / 4	H.G. Patrick 502 Strey Lane Houston, Texas 77024
3	110 Main	C	15 / 3	Albert Kalas 804 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002
4	114 Main	C	15 / 2,3	same as above
5	116-120 Main	C	15 / 1,2	J. Bernard Schultz, Trustee 917 Franklin, Suite 200 Houston, Texas 77002
36	913 Franklin plus parking lot	C	15 / 1,2,4-12	Southern Pacific Transportation P. O. Box 1319 Houston, Texas 77001
31	902 Commerce	C	15 / 9,10	same as above
6	203 Main	C	21 / 4,5,9,10,11	201 Main, Ltd. 5009 Caroline, Suite 509 Houston, Texas 77002

* "C"=Contributing
"N"=Non-contributing
**Lots listed are covered entirely or partially by each building. Title information is necessary for full legal description.

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7	213 Main	C	21 7,8	same as above
8	217 Main	C	21 6,7	same as above
9	219 Main	C	21 6	same as above
56	1009 Congress	N	21 12	same as above
57	1011 Congress	N	21 12	same as above
29	1019 Congress	C	21 1,2	same as above
12	301 Main	C	32 10	Harris County Houston, Texas
28	106 Congress	C	32 4,5	same as above
64	Main & Preston	N	32 1-4,6-9,11,12	same as above
16	405 Main plus parking	C	45 9,10,11	Scanlan Foundation c/o Property Tax Service Co. P.O. Box 344730 Dallas, Texas 75234
17	421 Main	C	45 6	Lawrence Hyung Lee 7715 Eichler(sic) Houston, Texas 77036
-	Parking lot Main Street	-	45 7,8	N. J. Rader c/o Scanlan Foundation Property Tax Service Co. P. O. Box 344730 Dallas, Texas 75234
-	Parking lot Prairie & Fannin Streets	-	45 1,2,3,4,12	Republic National Life Insurance Company American Properties c/o Property Tax Service Co. P. O. Box 344730 Dallas, Texas 75234

27	1018 Preston	C	45 5	Cobblestone Venture 4801 Woodway, Suite 250W Houston, Texas 77055
21	501 Main	C	56 10,11	Mary Faith Giles c/o Harding & Eaves 4615 Southwest Freeway, #415 Houston, Texas
22	505-507 Main	C	56 9	Paul E. Wise, Trustee 505 Main 1905 Bank of the Southwest Houston, Texas 77002
26	1010 Prairie	C	56 4,5	John Edward Morgan Ann Morgan Bruce c/o Wm. K. Bruce 707 American Building Houston, Texas 77002
72	1014 Prairie	N	56 4,5	John Edward Morgan Ann Morgan Bruce c/o Wm. K. Bruce 707 American Building Houston, Texas 77002
32	800 Commerce plus parking lots	C	16 7,8,9,10	Frank T. Abraham, Jr. c/o Jas. A. Hall 600 Jefferson Cullen Center Houston, Texas 77002
33	800 Commerce	C	16 7	Elmer J. Gray 3709 Wakeforest Houston, Texas
34	110-112 Travis	C	16 11	same as above
35	118 Travis plus parking lot	C	16 1,2,11	Alma Detering et al 10002 Memorial Drive Houston, Texas 77024
37	202 Travis	C	19 9,10	ENOTS 19, Inc. 3000 One Shell Plaza Houston, Texas 77002

38	204-212 Travis	C	19 9,10,11	Salvation Army 1717 Congress Houston, Texas
39	214-218 Travis	C	19 1,2	Jazz Palace 311 San Jacinto Building Houston, Texas 77002
40	220 Travis	C	19 1,2	Albert Kalas 804 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002
41	Congress	C	19 2	Jazz Palace 311 San Jacinto Building Houston, Texas 77002
54	Congress	N	19 3	A. J. Piazza, Sr. 222 S. Post Oak Lane Houston, Texas 77056
42	Congress	C	19 4,5,12	Louis A. Pontello, Jr. 708 Main Street, Suite 703 Houston, Texas 77056
10	202 Main plus parking lot	C	20 3,4,5,9,10,11	Harvin C. Moore, Trustee Todd-Moore Properties Inc. 7001 Corporate Houston, Texas
11	220 Main Street	C	20 1,2,12	220 Main Street Joint Venture 2777 Allen Parkway Houston, Texas 77019
55	Parking garage	N	20 2,3,6,7,8,9	same as above
-	Market Square (Bound by Travis, Milam, Preston, and Congress.)	-	34	City of Houston
43	310 Milam	C	35 3	Allright Properties, Inc. P.O. Box 53390 Houston, Texas 77052

44	316 Milam	C	35 2	Allright, Inc. c/o Harding & Eaves 4615 Southwest Freeway Suite 760 Houston, Texas 77027
58	314 Milam	N	35 2,3	Allright Properties, Inc. 1625 Esperson Building Houston, Texas 77002
18	402 Main	C	44 5	c/o J.H. Pappas P.O. Box 3141 Houston, Texas 77001
19	412 Main	C	44 2,3,12	State National Bldg. Jt.Venture c/o First Southern Properties 11 Greenway Plaza, Suite 2130 Houston, Texas 77046
20	418-420 Main	C	44 1	Harry & Nathan Lewis 420 Main Houston, Texas 77002
50	401-403 Travis plus parking lot	C	44 9,10,11	405 Main St. Joint Venture c/o Jack C. Cannata Scanlan Building, Suite 315 405 Main Houston, Texas 77002
65	417 Travis	N	44 6	Frank & Albert Kalas Mickey Manos 804 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002
66	419 Travis	N	44 6	same as above
67	404-408 Main	N	44 4	J.H. Pappas P.O. Box 3141 Houston, Texas 77001
68	410 Main	N	44 3	Frank & Albert Kalas 804 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002

69	416 Main	N	44/2	Leota Hess, Agent c/o Harding & Eaves 4615 Southwest Freeway Houston, Texas 77027
-	Parking lot	-	44/6,7	Gordon Profit Sharing c/o Property Tax Service Co. 6200 Savoy 520 Colonial Houston, Texas 77036
-	Parking lot	-	44/7,8	Southern Realty Corporation c/o same address as above
70	502-504 Main	N	57/5	Joel J. Ezon 9102 Cliffwood Houston, Texas 77096
71	506 Main	N	57/4	Methodist Hospital Trust c/o J.K. Mitchell 6516 Bertner Houston, Texas 77039 and J. K. Mitchell, et al c/o Prop. Tax Service Co. 6200 Savoy Houston, Texas 77001
25	917 Texas	C	57/1,2,3,6-12	Rovi-Texas Corp. Capital Bank Plaza Suite 4440 Houston, Texas 77002
51	910 Prairie	C	57/11	Anthony Piazza Sr. 222 S. Post Oak Lane Houston, Texas 77056
52	912 Prairie	C	57/11	Frank K. Meyer Est. 3 P.O. Box 1074 Houston, Texas 77401
53	914 Prairie	C	57/5	Joel J. Ezon, Trustee 9102 Cliffwood Houston, Texas 77096

24	508-510 Main	C	57 3,4	Frank K. Meyer Est. 4 P.O. Box 1074 Bellaire, Texas 77401
59	918 Congress	N	33 9,10,11	Frank K. Meyer Est. 71 P.O. Box 1074 Bellaire, Texas 77401
60	924 Congress	N	33 11	Joseph Tamborello 11227 Timber Lane Houston, Texas 77043
-	Parking lot	-	33 10	C.H. Coffield Est. Box 466 Rockdale, TExas 76567
67	319 Travis	N	33 6	Mrs. L.H. Bethea Est. c/o Ray Arterburn 6906 Atwell, Suite 209 Houston, Texas 77081
13	302 Main	C	33 5	Wolff Memorial Foundation 333 W. Loop N., #120 Houston, Texas 77024
14A	304 Main	C	33 4,5	J. Clarence Tamborello 1119 Commerce Houston, Texas 77002
14B	306 Main	N	33 4	Albert & Frank Kalas 804 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002
14C	308 Main	C	33 3,4	Irvin L. Maleh (tract 20) 5250 Birdwood Houston, Texas 77024
62	310 Main	N	33 3	W. L. Bowers, Est. 11905 Taylorcrest Houston, Texas 77024
63	312 Main	N	33 2,3	E.I. Brakatselos 2311 Welch Houston, Texas 77019

15A	316 Main	N	33 1,2	314 Main Street Corp. #28 Merrick Avenue Merrick, New Jersey 11566
15	320 Main	C	33 1	Cobblestone Venture 4801 Woodway, 250W Houston, Texas 77055
45	305-307 Travis	C	33 9	David Shapiro Et Ux 305 Travis Houston, Texas 77002 Wm. V. Berry (owns south half of building) 813 Congress Houston, Texas 77002
46	309 Travis	C	33 8	Israel Bloom 912 Medical Towers Building Houston, Texas 77025
47	311 Travis	C	33 8	Samuel Michael Grella Michael Joseph Grella 311 Travis Houston, Texas 77002
48	315 Travis	C	33 7	Frank K. Meyer Est. 36 P.O. Box 1074 Bellaire, TExas 77401
49	911 Preston	C	33 12	Hon. Ha Ray Ent. Inc. 3730 N. Main Houston, Texas 77009

73	202-204 Milam	C	18/5	Texas Commerce Bank P.O. Box 2558 Houston, Texas 77001
73	714 Franklin	C	18/5	Craig C. Cantey, Jr. Suite 100 4299 San Felipe Houston, Texas 77013
Construction of RepublicBank drive-in bank underway		N	19/6,7,8,11,12	Enots 19, Inc. 3000 One Shell Plaza Houston, Texas 77002
	parking		16/3,4,5	Allright Properties, Inc. #373 P.O. Box 53390 Houston, Texas 77001 (1/20th interest) Dorothy V. Sulgar no address (1/5 interest) Frances F. Dooley est. Interfirst Bank P.O. Box 2555 Houston, Texas 77001 (3/5th interest) C.W. Cahoun, Jr. Wichita County, Texas (no address) (3/20th interest)
74	715 Franklin	C	17/1,2	J. Bart Truxillo 1802 Harvard Houston, Texas 77008
75	112-114 Milam	N	17/2,3	Leon H. Sebesta 3304 Milam St. Houston, Texas 77006
76.	110 Milam	C	17/3,4	Alpine Holding Co. 333 N. Belt Suite 660 Houston, Texas 77060

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A request for determination of eligibility for the Main Street/Market Square Historic District was submitted by the Urban Mass Transit Administration of Houston on, or about, April 28, 1983.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	X deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date N/A
X fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Main Street/Market Square Historic District is located on the south bank of Buffalo Bayou between Milam and San Jacinto streets. The buildings within this district range from modest, mid-nineteenth-century brick commercial buildings to a number of small but ornately detailed High Victorian commercial buildings, and include a fine selection of multistory public, bank, and office buildings inspired by the Ecole des Beaux Arts, dating from the first three decades of the twentieth century. Completing this architectural array are several modernistically detailed commercial buildings of the early 1930s. Most of these buildings continue in use as either office or retail establishments. The district represents one of the state's best concentrations of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial and public structures (photo 23).

Fifty-two buildings and one structure (Main Street Viaduct) contribute to the architectural and historical significance of this district. Allen's Landing and Market Square (both public parks) are two of the most historic sites in Houston. Twenty-four of the fifty-two buildings were constructed between 1858 and 1900. The remainder date from 1901 to 1935. Thirty-two buildings were constructed to serve primarily as stores, eleven to serve primarily as office buildings, four to serve as warehouses or large wholesale stores, and two each to serve as banks and motion picture theaters. The district contains one hotel. Thirty-seven of the "contributing" buildings are one to three stories high. Ten range between four and eight stories in height, and five are nine to eighteen stories high. Twenty buildings are categorized as "non-contributing." Of these, the nine-story Harris County Administration Building of 1978 (#64) possesses contemporary architectural merit. Surface parking lots constitute a great instrusion within the district. Fourteen of the "non-contributing" structures are over fifty years old and have been altered so that most, but not all, of their architectural integrity has been compromised.

The lower, more modest nineteenth-century buildings in the district tend to be located in the Market Square area or along streets perpendicular to Main Street. The more elaborate nineteenth-century buildings, as well as a majority of the ornate twentieth-century bank buildings and tall office buildings, tend to be situated on Main Street or the two most important cross-streets within the district, Franklin Avenue and Texas Avenue. The Harris County Courthouse, listed in the National Register, occupies Courthouse Square, one block east of the district between Congress and Preston. Christ Church Cathedral, also listed in the National Register, is located one block east of the district between Prairie and Texas. One block west of Main between Congress and Preston lies Market Square, site of the chief public market and the offices of the municipal government from 1839 until 1939. Allen's Landing at the foot of Main Street was the principal landing for barge and steamboat traffic between Houston and Galveston Bay until the construction of the Main Street Viaduct (#53) in 1912-1913 and the concurrent construction of the Houston Ship Channel several miles downstream.

Within the past decade, rehabilitation of historic buildings in the district has been undertaken. Eleven buildings in the proposed district are presently listed in the National Register of Historic Places and one other has been nominated.

Definition of Categories:

CONTRIBUTING

Contributing structures and sites are over fifty years old, are of significant architectural merit, and add cohesiveness to the historic integrity of the district. Fifty-two buildings and one structure (Main Street Viaduct) are classified as "contributing" (C). The majority of the buildings were intended for commerici-cial/retail use, are still used as such, and retain all or most of their original architectural features. Market Square and Allen's Landing are not categorized, but are perhaps the two most historic sites in Houston. The Main Street Viaduct (1913) (#53) is a significant early work of civil engineering and concrete construction, and links the historic commercial retail district with the early warehouse district on the north side of Buffalo Bayou.

NON-CONTRIBUTING

"Non-contributing" (N) structures are those which are under fifty years of age, or are over fifty years of age and have been severely altered. These buildings do not add to the historic or architectural cohesiveness of the district. All, however, are less than four stories tall, and in scale contribute to the district. Several of the non-contributing buildings over fifty years old possess enough original detail so that with extensive restoration they would contribute to the district's architectural character. The Harris County Administration Building (1978) (#63) possesses contemporary architectural merit, but does not contribute to the integrity of the district. Surface parking lots are not categorized, but are detrimental to the district. Some of these lots are slated for new construction.

INVENTORY

All buildings and structures within the district are listed below. Each entry includes the following information: map reference number, historic name, address with exact or approximate date of construction, category, a brief physical description, and a photo reference number.

Market Square

Block 34. Bound by Milam, Congress, Travis and Preston (laid out 1836). This is the historic site of four of Houston's City Markets and City Halls (see "significance" section). Since 1976 a grassy park. See photo 1.

Allen's Landing

Part of Block 3, south side of Buffalo Bayou, at the intersection of Main Street (east side) (1836). Contributing. Allen's Landing is a paved overlook, circular in plan, and combined with a grassy park which was completed in 1967. The site is Houston's earliest steamboat landing. See photo 53.

1. Main Street Viaduct. Main Street, spanning the north and south banks of Buffalo Bayou (1913; 1982); F. L. Dormant, City Engineer. Contributing. A reinforced concrete bridge with a 150 foot arch span, the Main Street Viaduct was the longest span in Texas when it was built. See photo 53.

2. Brewster Building. 108 Main Street (1872-1876); Frederick Stellbauer, builder. Contributing. This three-story plastered brick building has three bays in each story containing tall, round-arch windows with segmentally arched hood molds. A brick cornice is set below the parapet. The windows have been altered and now contain single, fixed-pane glazing. See photos 2, 3, 4.

3. Raphael Building. 110 Main Street (c.1911). Contributing. This three-story, two-bay building of painted brick has a suggestion of a cornice in the denticulated belt course across the attic story below the parapet. Double pairs of sash windows in the upper floors are probably original. A central entry at the ground level, flanked by two large fixed-pane windows, is not. See photos 2, 3, 4.

4. Dorrance Building. 114 Main Street (1903); Green and Svarz, architects. Contributing. Originally only four stories high, the Dorrance Building now has a modern fifth floor added about 1930. A masonry building with a stuccoed facade, this structure has four repeating bays with little ornamentation other than narrow piers which rise from the ground between the bays and terminate in arches over pairs of fourth-floor, round-arch windows echoing Italianate detail. The ground floor has been altered. Now Travelers Hotel. See photos 2, 3, 4.

5. Commercial National Bank. 116-120 Main Street (1904); Green & Svarz, architects. Contributing. This six-story, tan-brick building in Beaux Arts styling has limestone trim and a rounded corner bay which contains the main entrance. Vertically organized into three zones, the three-story shaft contains the most outstanding feature: a pair of three central arched apertures upheld by colossal Ionic pilasters, each with two tiers of bay windows. The building is topped with an impressive denticulated cornice upheld at five points by massive scroll brackets and a balustrade. See photo 4.

6. First National Bank. 201 Main Street (1905, 1909, 1913, 1925); Sanguinet and Staats, architects. Contributing. This Beaux Arts, eight-story, steel-framed building is faced with buff colored brick and limestone trim. Two major additions are by the same architects in the original style. The first consists of two bays on Main, and tripled the size of the building (1909). The second addition is a large rear annex (1913). On the interior a colonaded banking hall extends through the whole block. Now Lomas & Nettleton. See photos 6, 10, 33.

7. South Texas National Bank. 213 Main Street (1908-1910; 1921-1922); C. D. Hill and Company, architects; William Ward Watkin, architect of additions. Contributing. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places (1978). This two-story Beaux Arts building is of steel-frame and masonry construction with a marble facade. The original (central) section has a Corinthian portico rising two stories to a pediment with a denticulated, raking cornice and elaborately decorated tympanum. The rectangular wings were added in 1921-22. See photo 7.

8. Dumble Building. 217 Main Street (1882-83). Contributing. This three-story brick building is surfaced with plaster. A massive iron cornice with central broken pediment is supported by scroll brackets. The double bay windows were added in the 1920s. Vacant. See photo 8, 9.

9. B.A. Shepherd Building. 210 Main Street (1883); George E. Dickey, architect. Contributing. This three-story, three-bay building on a corner site is Houston's best example of the Victorian Gothic style as employed in a commercial building. Its facade is typically polychromatic with red brick and stone. A two-tiered iron balcony once surrounding the building on its two street elevations has been removed. The heavy bracketed cornice is broken in the center by a distinctive pointed-arch aedicule surmounting a pair of round-arch windows. Below, the central bay of the second story has a less-exaggerated aedicule with a wider arch supported by short stone colonettes with stylized, but elaborate, capitals. Within the arch, a stained-glass window fills the tympanum above a pair of rectangular sash windows. Stone lintels and belt courses continue around the building along the Congress Avenue elevation, which is plainer than the facade, but contains a centrally located pediment above the cornice line. The ground floor has been altered. Vacant, euphemistically known as the "Pink Pussycat." See photos 8, 9.

10. Houston National Bank. 202 Main Street (1928); Hedrick and Gottleib, architects, Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1975). Four fluted, Doric columns five feet in diameter and thirty-five feet high dominate each of the two street elevations of this three-story, steel-frame building. Set on a polished black granite base, this Beaux Arts building is faced with limestone. Exposed metalwork is bronze. Above the colonnade is an architrave studded with solid cast-bronze discs. Cast-iron spandrels with marble panels and a richly carved, festooned frieze and cheneaux occur above the attic floor. Vacant. This has one of the most elaborate interiors in the district. See photo 13.

11. Union National Bank. 220 Main Street (1910-1912); Mauran, Russell and Crowell, architects. Contributing. This twelve-story, steel-frame building is located on a corner site at Main and Congress. It has a tri-partite vertical composition which includes a limestone base two stories high. Colossal Corinthian columns separate the bays of the base section, which are entirely filled with large, round-arch apertures. Carved stone heads of Hermes, God of Commerce, are located in the keystone positions above these arches. A massive cornice with modillions is crowned by a balustrade at the top of the building. Unsympathetically altered windows contain fixed-pane glass panels. American Bank is the major tenant. See photo 14.

12. Sweeney, Coombs and Fredericks Building. 301 Main Street (1889); George E. Dickey, architect. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1974). The main architectural feature of this three-story, stuccoed brick building is the prominent, rounded corner turret which rises above the roofline. The double-door entrance is cut diagonally below the two-story corner of the turret. Stained-glass transoms, pilasters, string courses, and decorative panels, moldings, and friezes ornament the building with a Victorian exuberance. See photo 11.

13. Sterne Building. 302 Main Street (1914-1916); Finger and Bailey, architects. Contributing. This three-story building clad in yellow brick is constructed of reinforced concrete. Three bays on Main each contain pairs of double-sash windows. Seven bays on Congress contain triple sets of double-sash windows. Brick piers between the bays rise above the roofline and terminate in stylized pendants, in lieu of capitals or a cornice. Ground-floor alterations include iron bars over the first bay entry on Main and changes in the display windows. See photos 15, 16.

14A. Stuart Building. 304 Main Street; (1879-1880). Contributing. Although it appears as three separate structures from Main Street, the continuous construction in the rear confirms that 304-308 Main was once a single unit. At #304, a three-story structure of load-bearing walls of masonry is topped by a flat, heavy, bracketed metal cornice. A broken pediment above the cornice perches above the word "Stuart." Rectangular hood molds over segmental arches occur on the second floor, while pedimented hood molds are found on the first floor. The original windows in the top two stories remain. The ground floor now contains Eve's Fun Shop and has been altered. See photos 15, 16, 50.

14B. Guaranty National Bank. 306 Main; (1879-1880; 1924). Non-contributing. Originally part of the three-part Stuart Building, #306 Main was remodeled by A. C. Finn in 1924 for the Guaranty National Bank. More recent exterior changes have rendered it non-contributing. Now Cinema XX. See photos 15, 16, 50.

14C. Stuart Building. 308 Main (1879-1880). Contributing. The third part of the original Stuart Building, at #308 Main, still has a heavy metal cornice upheld by large scroll brackets. Although the window glazing has been altered, hood mold ornament like that at #304 Main also remains. The ground floor has been unattractively altered. See photos 15, 16, 50.

15. Kiam Building and Kiam Annex. 316-320 Main Street (1893); H.C. Holland, architect; Barry Moore, rehabilitation architect (1981-82). Contributing. This five-story building on a corner site is faced with red brick and white cast-stone trim. A prominent cornice supported by corbelled brickwork tops the structure above a series of round-arch windows, which repeat in the third floor. A deep, two-story arch marks the recessed main entrance, while a side entrance is punctuated by a balcony. This balcony projects from the wall between the third and fourth floors, and is rather like the medieval English oriel window. Large display windows have been restored in a recent reconditioning of the building. The Kiam Annex, built at the same time, is a three-and-a-half-story structure which has been completely refaced. See photos 17, 18.

16. Scanlan Building. 405 Main Street (1907-1909); D.H. Burnham and Company, architects. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1980). This eleven-story, L-shaped, steel-frame building has a two-story base faced with Texas granite. The remaining floors are faced with grey brick. Ornament consists of a continuous belt course at the sill level of each floor. The cut-stone moldings, terra-cotta rosettes, scroll brackets and palmette acroteria surround the main entrance. Huge terra-cotta wreaths occur between the attic story windows. A heavy cornice has been removed. See photo 19.

17. Burns Building. 421 Main Street (1883); Edward J. Duhamel, architect. Contributing. This three-story, High Victorian building with Italianate detailing stands on a corner site. It is heavily decorated with plaster. Round-arch and segmentally arched apertures occur on two street elevations. An iron canopy and corner roof cap have been removed. The ground floor has been altered. See photo 20.

18. Public National Bank. 402 Main Street (1924-1925); James Ruskin Bailey, architect. Contributing. This nine-story, rectangular building has three bays on Main and six on Preston. The ninth story, like the eighth, is recessed. The top floor was added in 1928. The building is faced with smooth-cut limestone, and is vertically divided into three zones. A decorative frieze tops the sixth-story, above which a corbelled balcony with iron railing separates the seventh and eighth floors. Now Citizens Bank. See photo 21.

19. State National Building. 412 Main Street (1922-1924); Alfred C. Finn, architect. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1982). This twelve-story, steel-frame building is faced with smooth-cut limestone on the Main Street facade, and with painted brick on its other three sides. The top two stories display colossal Corinthian pilasters separating bays filled with large, round-arch windows. Set above this is a frieze of scroll brackets supporting a cornice. A small octagonal pavilion with a terra-cotta tile roof sits on top of a gabled roof, and contains a thirteenth-floor penthouse which is recessed from the Main Street elevation. See photo 22.

20. Byrd's Building. 418-420 Main Street (1934-35); Joseph Finger, architect. Contributing. This is a three-story, Moderne-style corner building displaying three bays on Main Street and five on Prairie. The ground floor contains large, fixed-glass display windows and a diagonal corner entry. See photo 23.

21. Isis Theater Building. 501 Main Street (1911-1912); C. D. Hill and Company, architects. Contributing. This is a three-story building faced with buff-colored brick. Cast-stone belts occur above and below brick pilasters which separate window bays on the second and third floors. The entrance to the theater was on Prairie Street, while the Main Street facade was given over to retail space and an office lobby. The ground-level front has been considerably modified. Now called McCrory's. See photo 24.

22. McCrory's. 505-507 Main Street (1930-31); W. W. Simpson, architect. Contributing. This is a three-story yellow-brick building on a mid-block site, characterized by zig-zag Moderne brick detailing. Now Stuarts. See photo 24.

24. Mosk Building. 508-510 Main Street (ca. 1916). Contributing. This is a two-story, buff-brick building with three bays. The second-floor windows are original. The ground floor has been altered. Now Golden Stein and Esther Imports. See photo 25.

25. Rice Hotel. 917 Texas Avenue (1912-1913); Mauran, Russell and Crowell, architects. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1978). This is an eighteen-story, E-shaped brick structure with a five-story annex and a motor lobby. Along with decorative brick work and stone trim, the cast-iron canopy that extends the full length of the Main and Texas elevations is the most notable ground-level feature of the building. A second-floor canopy on Texas forms a large gallery. Large second-floor arches extending around the two main elevations have been filled in an unsympathetic way. The west arm of the "E" was added by A. C. Finn in 1925-26; the north wing was added ca. 1956. See photo 26.

26. Wilson's Building. 1010 Prairie Avenue (ca. 1932); William Ward Watkin, architect. Contributing. This is a five-story, buff-colored stucco building. Triple raised bands between floors give this Streamline-Moderne building a horizontal emphasis. The large, metal-framed industrial windows are generally intact. See photo 29.

27. Paul Building. 1018 Preston (1907); Sanguinet and Staats, architects. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1979). This eight-story, steel-framed Beaux Arts building is faced in brown brick and terra-cotta ornament. Prominent brick piers between bays emphasize the building's verticality in the five-story shaft of the building, which rises above a two-story rusticated base. The original denticulated cornice above the one-story attic level of the building has been removed. See photo 30.

28. Pillot Building. 106 Congress (ca. 1858). Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1974). This three-story brick building is on a corner site, and is considered the oldest building in the district. A fine, cast-iron front with Corinthian columns between bays is intact on the ground floor. The second- and third-floor windows have cast-iron, segmentally arched hood molds and cast-iron bracketed sills, while a corbelled cornice crowns the structure. The windows have been altered. Vacant. See photos 11, 12.

29. Zindler Building. 1019 Congress Avenue (1921); Cato and Finger, architects. Contributing. Abstract classical motifs decorate the white, terra-cotta facade of this four-story, steel-frame building on a corner site. A wide sidewalk canopy extends around the building on both street elevations. Large six-paneled windows (now shuttered with Aramco blinds) in the upper stories fill each bay. The building has five bays on Congress and four on Fannin. See photo 10.

30. Desel-Boettcher Building. 901 Commerce Avenue (1912); H. C. Cooke and Company, architects. Contributing. This two-story brick building (plus basement) is covered with plaster on the two decorated elevations. The second floor has been scored in horizontal bands. The multipaned, first-floor windows and the leaded-glass entrance door are not original, while the metal canopy probably is. Now the Old Spaghetti Warehouse. See photo 31.

31. Riesner Building. 902 Commerce Avenue (1906); attributed to H. C. Cooke and Company, architects. Contributing. This three-story brick building is now painted. Decorative brickwork at the cornice level above the third-story windows, and at the header level of the second-story windows, occurs on both elevations. No photos.

32. Dickson Building. 800 Commerce (age unknown, over 50 years). Contributing. This two-story building of sand-colored brick with stone trim has a four-bay front. Each bay is bridged by a wide, elliptical, second-floor arch with keystone, and is filled with modern plate glass. A metal second-floor balcony spans each bay front. The continuous cornice with arched parapet may be original. See photo 32.

33. Sierwessen Building. 800 Commerce (age unknown, over 50 years). Contributing. Since 1944, this small two-story, one-bay structure has been considered one building with the Dickson Building. The Sierwessen Building has three round-arch windows with voussoirs on the second floor, and a cornice continuous with its neighbor's. Solid-pane plate glass has recently been installed. See photo 32.

34. Kirlick Building. 110-112 Travis Street (1894); August Baumbaugh, builder. Contributing. This is a two-story brick building with a corbelled cornice over a central recessed nameplate, "Dickson," which was added in the early twentieth century. On the second floor, each side bay has two round-arch windows with painted, cast-stone voussoirs. Three windows with flat arches occur in the center bay beneath the nameplace. The ground-floor front has been considerably altered. Now Huber's Seafood House & Oyster Bar. See photo 46.

35. George's Cafe. 118 Travis Street (ca. 1915). Contributing. This one-story buff-colored brick shell retains its original metal-frame windows, canopy hooks, and decorative brick cornice. The entry is boarded over. No photos.

36. Southern Pacific Building. 913 Franklin Avenue (1910-1911); Jarvis Hunt, architect. Contributing. This nine-story, steel-frame building is faced with brown brick and has a brown-marble, one-story base. Abstract Renaissance details are rendered in brick and terra cotta. The eight-bay front has one window to each side bay, and paired windows elsewhere. Red mortar is used in places as a decorative detail. The very deep, plain iron cornice protrudes on both street elevations. See photos 4, 5.

37. Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade. 202 Travis (1884); Eugene T. Heiner, architect. Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1971). This Italianate, four-story, red-brick and stone building is highly ornamented with polychromatic banding, hood molds, keystones, and a bracketed stone cornice. On the facade facing Travis, an imposing entrance is decorated with stone arches and decorative brickwork. Recently rehabilitated; Graham Luhn, restoration architect. See photos 34, 36.

38. Hermann Estate Building. 204-212 Travis (1916-1917); F. S. Glover and Son, architects. Contributing. This eight-story, yellow-brick building has its original cast-iron canopy along its facade on Travis. In the upper seven floors, the five repeating bays, each containing three undecorated wood-frame windows, are joined by a common cast-stone sill pierced by brick piers between bays. A flat parapet lies over a cornice with large modillions. Vacant. See photos 34, 35, 36.

39. W. L. Foley Building. 214-218 Travis (1860; 1880); Eugene T. Heiner, architect (1889); John Kennedy, builder (1860). Contributing. National Register of Historic Places. This three-story brick building has elaborate stone trim. Third-story arched windows have limestone keystones, voussoirs, and imposts under a corbelled limestone parapet, as well as hood molds on the third floor. The iron sidewalk canopy remains. The 1860 section is slightly shorter in height than the addition, although it was refaced in 1889 and matches the 1889 building stylistically. See photo 36.

40. Kennedy Corner. 220 Travis Street (ca. 1860; remodeling 1889). Contributing. This three-story masonry building has plastered facades scored to resemble ashlar on Travis and Congress. The windows have pedimented cast-iron hoods, and the building has a prominent corbelled cornice. An early photograph shows a metal canopy and a triangular pediment centering on the Congress Ave. facade. These elements have been removed. See photo 36.

41. Kennedy Bakery. 813 Congress (ca. 1860). Contributing. National Register of Historic Places (1979). This narrow, two-story, red-brick building is two bays wide. The single-door entrance is framed by wooden pilasters and has brackets supporting an architrave. One first floor window is a wood-framed, fixed-pane window with twenty-four lights. In the second floor are two segmentally arched, double-sash windows. The building's elaborate cornice shows brick dentils and corbelled brick brackets. The ornamental iron work on the facade was added in the 1960s. Now La Carafe. See photos 37, 38.

42. Henke Building. 805 Congress Avenue (1924); R.D. Steele, architect. Contributing. This three-story brick building has tile coping below the parapet over a cornice with dentils and brackets. The facade consists of five bays with three windows each on the second and third floors, and with single display windows at street level, all filled with modern plate glass. In 1981, a set-back fourth story was added. See photo 37.

43. Erickson Building. 310 Milam (ca. 1868). Contributing. This two-story commercial building faces Market Square. At the parapet there is a corbelled brick cornice. On the second floor, four segmentally arched windows are outlined by a double brick course which arches over each window, to give the effect of joined hood molds. The ground floor has been considerably altered. See photo 39.

44. Bethje-Lang Building. 316 Milam (ca. 1868). Contributing. This two-story brick building is twenty-five feet wide. The original facade was remodeled in the 1960s, and a second-floor balcony added in front of three French doors. Original brick dentils can still be seen below the front parapet. The area below the balcony has been markedly altered. Now Warren's Inn. See photos 39, 40.

45. Fox-Kuhlman Building. 305-307 Travis (1862-1866). Contributing. Originally one structure, this two-story brick building now appears to have two separate facades. Two hipped roofs lie behind a continuous cornice line of decorative brickwork. The double front doors of the south half of the front, as well as the narrow flanking doors with transom lights and brick hood molds, appear to be original. The ornamental iron balcony across the second floor was added sometime in the twentieth century. New Market Square Food and Beverage. See photo 41.

46. Larendon Building. 309 Travis Street (ca. 1890). Contributing. This is a two-story stuccoed brick building three bays wide. The first floor has been remodeled except for the one-inch-thick, cast-iron pilasters at the corners. A twentieth-century metal canopy is suspended over the first floor. The second floor has tall, narrow, segmental-arch windows with wooden sashes and one-over-one lights. A metal denticulated cornice and flat parapet crown the building. Now Facets. See photo 43.

47. Altmont Building. 311 Travis Street (ca. 1878; 1892). Contributing. This two-story, three-bay building of stuccoed brick has a central double door which is believed to be original. The second floor, added in 1892, has a central bay containing a triangular pediment with "1892" inscribed in the tympanum, and is supported by three pilasters. Round-arch windows occupy the flanking bays. Heavy quoining is seen at the corners of the building on the second floor. Now Mexicatessen Two-on-The-Square. See photo 43.

48. Baker-Meyer Building. 315 Travis (ca. 1870). Contributing. This two-story brick building is fifty feet wide and faces Market Square. Its most distinctive architectural feature is the corbelled brick cornice. Now Treebeard's Restaurant. No photo.

49. Ritz Theater. 911 Preston (1926); William Ward Watkin, architect. Contributing. This two-and-a-half-story building with plastered front has a simple, banded cornice below a flat parapet. Two of four original octagonal windows are located below the cornice, and are decorated with painted plaster. Four festooned windows occur on the second floor, with its small marquee. An original, wrought-iron balcony is found under each. The canopied first floor has been remodeled many times. The small interior theater is not highly decorated, and still functions as a movie theater. Now Majestic Metro Theater. See photo 18.

50. Baker Building. 401-403 Travis Street (1875). Contributing. This two-story brick building has a corbelled brick cornice with dentils and a frieze of indented panels. The second-floor windows have slightly rounded arches, and brick sills. The first floor has been unsympathetically refaced. See photo 44.

51. Brashear Building 910 Prairie (1882); Eugene T. Heiner, architect. Contributing. One of Houston's best examples of a Victorian commercial building, the Brashear building is very ornate in its facade decoration, and is a heavily plastered, three-story brick building twenty-five wide. An iron entablature and cornice, broken by a central broken pediment and urn, reach above the roofline. The third floor is heavily decorated over the entire surface with subtle pattern changes such as segmental-arch bays over windows with flattened arches. On the second floor are reticulated and smooth grids between three round-arch windows and fluted Corinthian pilasters upholding heavily molded voussiors and prominent keystones. Ground floor exterior modifications are probably overlaid on the original facade. See photo 27.

52. Scholibo Building. 912 Prairie (1880). Contributing. This two-story building has a stuccoed facade over brick construction, and a large sheet-metal cornice supported by four large brackets. A small pediment originally capping the parapet over the center of the three bays has been removed. Arched windows and hood molds with prominent keystones remain on the second floor. The first floor has been altered. Now Cinema Golden Star. See photos 27, 28.

53. Stegeman Building. 914 Prairie (ca. 1877). Contributing. This is a small two-story building of brick construction. Arched hood moldings accent the tall, and thin second-story windows, while wide inset panels lie below the corbelled cornice. Now Wig Salon. See photo 28.

54. Cochran Building. 809 Congress Avenue (age unknown, over 50 years of age). Non-contributing. A two-story building which has been completely refaced with a brown stucco front. Now Glatzmaier Seafood Market & Restaurant. See photo 37.

55. Parking Garage of American Bank. 901 Congress (ca. 1964). This non-contributing building is a two-story, grey-concrete parking garage at the corner of Travis and Congress. It is the only structure of this kind in the district. See photo 51.

56. Show Time Club. 1000 Congress (ca. 1925). Non-contributing. This is a one-story, building with buff-colored brick front. See photo 50.

57. Aaron Mintz Building. 1011 Congress (ca. 1940s). Non-contributing. This is a one-story, red-brick building with a metal canopy over the glass entrance. See photo 50.

58. Buck's Mens Wear. 314 Milam (ca. 1935). Non-contributing. This one-story building has a black, glazed-tile facade. See photo 39.

59. United Labor Service. 918 Congress (ca. 1890's). Non-contributing. Three metal pilasters remain and old brickwork is evident on the sides of this two-story building. Seven tall, second-story apertures are further evidence of the building's age. Unsympathetic alterations with "shell-stone" have ruined the original facade. See photo 43.

60. Circle Bar. 924 Congress (ca. 1920). Non-contributing. A unique round-arch parapet at the roofline occurs on this building's one-story store front. The original facade has been completely covered. Now Swank Lounge. See photo 42.

61. Main Street Drugs. 319 Travis (ca. 1914). Non-contributing. This two-story building has an added "shell-stone" skin, while the second-story windows are filled with plywood. See photo 18.

62. Sweeney & Coombs Building. 310 Main Street (1880); Eugene T. Heiner, architect. Non-contributing. This three-story, three-bay rectangular building of brick construction was extensively remodeled in the 1920s, obliterating the original Italianate facade which had a striking, pedimented cornice, arched windows, and elaborate hood molds. Were this building to be restored, it would be eligible for "contributing" status. See photos 16, 50.

63. The Hub. 312 Main (ca. 1934). Non-contributing. Two-story building faced with large, square, red ceramic tiles abaove storefront windows, now plywood. See photo 48.

64. Harris County Administration Building. Main Street and Preston (1978); Kenneth Bentsen Associates, architects. Non-contributing. This nine-story concrete brise-soleil building has bronze-glass windows. The structure covers over half the block. See photos 12, 47.

65. Bolfrass Building. 417 Travis Street (ca. 1878). Non-contributing. This two-story brick building has a twenty-five foot street frontage. Its stuccoed facade is scored to resemble stone. The bracketed and denticulated cornice along the flat parapet line is broken midway by a semicircular pediment. The iron canopy is shared with the adjacent Roco Building. The second-floor windows are stuccoed over, and the ground floor has been altered. With extensive restoration this building would contribute architecturally to the historic district. See photo 45.

66. Roco Building. 419 Travis Street (ca. 1870; 1883). Non-contributing. A two-story brick and stucco building on which a simple bracketed cornice shows the beginning of Italianate stylistic influence. A metal canopy supported by thin cast-iron columns wraps around the building on Travis and Prairie. Windows have been filled in and stuccoed, but with restoration the building could be reclassified "contributing." Now Bubba's Bar-B-Q. See photo 45.

67. Texas Pawn Shop. 404-408 Main Street (20th century). Non-contributing. This one-story, masonry-block building has three separate storefronts. See photos 22, 49.

68. Charlie's. 410 Main Street (20th century). Non-contributing. This is a two-story masonry building, three bays wide. The second-story windows have been filled in with glass block. See photos 22, 49.

69. Reiner's. 416 Main Street (ca. 1922). Non-contributing. This is a three-story corrugated aluminum front building. The original facade has been totally covered. See photo 22.

70. Stegeman Building. 502-504 Main Street (1879; 1890). Non-contributing. This two-story plastered building has large, paired, Italianate brackets supporting a metal cornice. In 1890 a mansard roof was added as a third floor, but has since been removed. The original second floor windows with deep pedimented hood molds and other Italianate elements have been obliterated in a refacing of both street facades. With extensive restoration this building would qualify as contributing. Now Church's Fried Chicken. See photo 25.

71. Barringer-Norton Building. 506 Main Street (1928); James Ruskin Bailey, architect. Non-contributing. This two-and-one-half-story building's Main Street facade has been almost entirely refaced with plaster. Part of the original half-timbered, Elizabethan-style facade remains at the top of the building in a cantilevered gable. A brick chimney and a steeply pitched roof top the structure. Photographic documentation of this building's original appearance would make it possible to restore its Main St. facade so that it could become a "contributing" building. See photo 25.

72. Southern Dental. 1014 Prairie (1940s). Non-contributing. This four-story commercial building has a textured concrete facade. There are no apertures except the ground floor entrances. See photo 52.

73. Cruger's Warehouse/Radoff Building. 202-204 Milam (1850;1896). Contributing. August Baumbach, builder, designed a new facade for H.V. Radoff in 1896. This is the two-story, stuccoed brick commercial building that was originally constructed, unornamented, as a warehouse. The roof of the corner tower, added in 1896, has been removed. At the roofline a stuccoed balustrade wraps around the two decorated facades. A shallow cornice below the balustrade is upheld by closely spaced brackets. Hood moldings, original windows, and a stuccoed belt course remain, as does the ground floor entrance. Vacant except for a mission-type facility in part of the building. Endangered. See photo 54.

74. Magnolia Brewery. 715 Franklin (1893). H.C. Cook & Co., architects. Contributing. This two-story building of reinforced concrete and full basement originally housed the Magnolia Cafe, the taproom for the Brewery. At the roofline, a low balustrade wraps around the building on the two street facades. A large corner baluster rises prominently. A heavy, decorative metal cornice protruding below the balustrade is upheld by exaggerated Italianate scroll brackets. The second-story, leaded-glass windows are framed with original cypress, and the transom lights are of stained glass with magnolia motifs. Both ground-floor facades have been restored to their original condition and the second-floor interior was restored in 1966-67 to its original appearance. In a large second-story room, Corinthian columns uphold a circular rotunda with clerestory skylights. Floors are original tile and terrazzo, and walls are of glazed tile. The building now houses several restaurants. See photo 55.

75. Houston Ice and Brewing Company. 112-114 Milam (c. 1915). Non-contributing. This one-story, green, stuccoed building with windows filled by glass blocks, was a two-story brick building with arched windows and a pyramidal pediment over the central bay. The second story was removed ca. 1960. Vacant. See photo 56.

76. Houston Ice and Brewing Company. 110 Milam (1906). H.C. Cook & Co., architects. Contributing. Although now basically a ruin, the street facade and two side walls of this four-story plaster-and-brick building are partly intact except for the missing cornice. The plastered facade features round-arch windows within the rusticated third floor. Three capped pedestals rise above a flat roof, giving an Italianate feeling. Elaborate molded-metal inserts with the Magnolia trademark, the symbol of the Magnolia Brewery (part of the vast Houston Ice and Brewing Company complex), are still intact. The sidewalk canopy supported by an iron colonnade is also still in place. The structure was originally L-shaped. It wrapped around the Magnolia Brewery and had frontage on Franklin Street. The flood of 1935 caused the Franklin Street side to collapse. A small addition to the north of the structure is not included within the boundaries of the district. Although the structure is basically a ruin, its integrity is not compromised and provides an essential balance in scale, texture, and style to the buildings immediately adjacent. Vacant. See photos 56 and 57.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	_X_ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
_X_ 1800–1899	_X_ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	_X_ transportation
_X_ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates see cont. sheets **Builder/Architect** see continuation sheets

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The structures and sites of the Main Street/Market Square Historic District constitute Houston's largest, most nearly intact accumulation of physical resources representing the city's civic and commercial past. Main Street, the commercial axis of the city, runs south from Allen's Landing at Buffalo Bayou to Texas Avenue, the southern boundary of the original townsite. Flanking Main Street are the two public squares, Market Square and Courthouse Square, set aside by the founders. Until well into the twentieth century, this cruciform pattern of streets and places marked the bounds of the public and business life of Houston. Here were the municipal and county buildings, as well as structures dedicated to wholesale, retail, and financial enterprises. The surviving architecture documents the episodes of development which occurred between Reconstruction and the building and real estate boom of the 1920s, the half century when Houston emerged from relative obscurity to become the largest city in the southern United States. Connected with many of these buildings and places are the personalities and institutions which were instrumental in promoting the city's political and commercial advancement.

The townsite of Houston was platted in the fall of 1836 by the surveyors Gail Borden (1801-1874), Thomas H. Borden (1804-1877), and Moses Lapham (1808-1838). This work was done for two investors who came to Texas from upstate New York in 1832, the brothers Augustus C. (1806-1864) and John K. Allen (1819-1838). The town consisted of sixty-two numbered blocks, most of them two-hundred fifty feet square, located near the southeast corner of the John Austin league which the Allen brothers had acquired in August 1836. The townsite was wedged into a shallow bend on the south bank of Buffalo Bayou opposite its confluence with White Oak Bayou, which the Allen brothers had determined was the head of tidewater and navigation on Buffalo Bayou. Consequently, they promoted their new townsite, named after General San Houston who had recently won the Battle of San Jacinto nearby, as the logical point of transshipment between the coast and the vast interior of the new Republic of Texas.

A grid-iron plan was employed for the Borden survey. The blocks were separated by eleven streets running from the bayou northeast to southwest, and by five cross-streets running northwest to southeast. Of the eleven streets, the central one commencing at Allen's Landing was called Main Street and was platted at ninety feet in width. The southernmost of the cross-streets was designated Texas Avenue, and it was platted at a hundred feet in width. Two square blocks near the center of the townsite, one to each side of Main Street, were designated as sites for public buildings. A courthouse was to be placed on one, and as the Allen brothers harbored no mean ambitions, the capitol of the Republic was supposed to be placed on the other. At the edge of the townsite on Texas Avenue, parts of two blocks were reserved for a church and a school.

The Allen brothers were successful in persuading the Texas Congress to name Houston as the provisional seat of government in November 1836. Rather than in Congress Square, the legislature convened in April 1837 in a two-story wooden building, still under construction, at the northwest corner of Main and Texas. A map of 1839 identified Congress Square as Market Square, the site of the later public market and the seat of municipal government. One year after the Allens had acquired their league, the town of Houston was chartered. In 1839 a new charter was issued which, among other things, provided for the division of the town into four wards. Main Street and Congress Avenue were the lines of partition, and remained so until the abolition of the ward system in the reforms of 1905. In 1839, however, the seat of national government was moved from Houston to what would become Austin.

Between 1836 and 1838, the Allens considerably expanded the limits of the townsite to the south, the east, and across Buffalo Bayou to the north. During the ensuing two decades, Houston would continue to expand as a market town and as the state's first railroad center. The earliest commercial buildings along Main Street were little more than houses of wood-frame construction, usually with the end gables turned toward the street. Only their close configuration and lack of porches distinguished them from houses in the residential section of Main Street (south of Prairie Avenue), and east of Main Street.

A wave of prosperity in the late 1850s was attended by the construction of the Houston and Texas Central Railway, as well as the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railway. Houston's situation was enhanced as a point of transshipment between the coast and the "interior" lands of the Brazos and Colorado river valleys. This prosperity encouraged the replacement of wooden commerical buildings with more substantial masonry structures. Three examples of the typical commercial architecture of this period survive: the relatively large, three-story Pillot Building (#28) of about 1858, on Courthouse Square; the three-story Kennedy Corner (#40) of about 1860, remodeled in 1889 and now partially effaced; and the small, adjoining, two-story Kennedy Bakery (#41) on Market Square of about 1860. All of these buildings exhibit similar architectural traits. They are flat faced, with window openings punched regularly into an unarticulated wall. They have segmental window heads, and their decorative brick work confined to the cornice. The ground floor of the Pillot Building is faced with a screen of cast-iron Corinthian columns, and the windows above are crowned with arcuated cast-iron lintels. These industrially produced decorative features permitted the Pillot Building to transcend the architectural limitations of the frontier.

After the Civil War Houston renewed its role as a growing regional center of trade and finance. Continuing railroad construction permitted its wholesale merchants to expand into new territories. Shallow-draft traffic on Buffalo Bayou allowed Houston to represent itself as a port, although this claim often provoked the amusement of visitors. In the postwar boom which markedly influenced most Southern cities, long overdue public improvements were commenced in Houston. A brick courthouse for Harris County, begun in 1860, was completed after the war. T. H. Scanlan (18??-1906), the controversial Reconstruction Mayor of Houston between 1870 and 1873, built a permanent City Hall and Market House in Market Square in 1873, which far surpassed any municipal

building in the state. During the late 1860s and early 1870s, the wooden buildings on the block fronts surrounding Market Square were replaced by two-story masonry buildings housing the establishments of grocers, bakers, butchers, confectioners, liquor dealers, and other businesses who would derive advantage from their proximity to the public market.

Most of the buildings on the east side of Market Square, the Fox-Kuhlman Building ca. 1866 (#45), the Altmont Building ca. 1876 (#47), the Baker-Meyer Building ca. 1879 (#48), and the remaining segment of the Baker Building of 1975 at Travis and Preston (#50), date from this era as do the two remaining buildings on the west side of the square, the Erickson Building ca. 1868 (#43), and the Bethje-Lang Building ca. 1868 (#44). These buildings do not depart widely from the type of masonry construction used business block established in the late 1850s in such buildings as the Kennedy Bakery. They featured segmentally arched or flat-headed windows in regular patterns on the upper floors, with most ornament confined to brick cornices. All of these buildings have lost their original storefront and sidewalk canopies. Three buildings south of Market Square, the Roco Building ca. 1870 (#66), the Bolfrass Building ca. 1878 (#65) (both effaced), and the first Stegeman Building ca. 1877 (#70), conform in size and composition to the Market Square blocks. Their decorative details give evidence of the increasing influence of High Victorian eclecticism, even in commercial construction. The same characterization applies to buildings of slightly larger scale, such as the Brewster Building of 1873 (#2) on Main Street, and the Scholibo Building of 1880 (#52) on Prairie Avenue (next to the first Stegeman Building). The three-part Stuart Building of 1880 (#14A,B,C), and the second Stegeman Building of 1880 (#53, now resurfaced), both on Main Street, demonstrate the popular High Victorian rendition of classical detail.

The tendency toward more stylish architectural expression was only one indication of the changes which would become evident in the Main Street/Market Square District of Houston during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The relative simplicity of masonry commercial buildings erected between 1855 and 1875 was superseded by a taste for complex profiles, textural variety, and rich ornamental programs, even on narrow storefront blocks. Within the district specific subdistricts began to emerge. Main Street could be divided into four zones. The first, between Allen's Landing and Franklin, was dominated by wholesale establishments and warehouses; the second, between Franklin and Congress, was mostly financial institutions; the third, between Congress and Texas, consisted of retail establishments; and the fourth, south of Texas, was primarily single-family, detached houses. Between Market Square and the bayou were the wholesale stores and warehouses of Produce Row, as Commerce Avenue was called. The food and liquor trade dominated Market Square. Courthouse Square still remained surrounded by single-family residences except on the west, where business buildings began to be erected on Fannin Street. Along Texas Avenue a series of large churches were to be constructed. Since 1859 the church reserve marked on the Allen brothers earliest map of 1836 had been occupied by the brick Gothic-style church of the state's second oldest Episcopal parish, Christ Church.

Architectural exuberance underscored the development of an architectural profession in Houston after the late 1870s. Despite the tremendous loss of nineteenth-century structures in downtown Houston, those that remain document the ability of the town's earliest established architects. After Mayor Scanlan's City Hall and Market House of 1873 burned in 1876, Galveston architect Edward J. Duhamel won the commission to design a second City Hall and Market House, completed in 1877. In 1883 Duhamel received the commission for a new Harris County Courthouse, built in 1884 in Courthouse Square. Duhamel's one remaining building in Houston is the Burns Building of 1883 (#17) on Main Street, a spirited work of picturesqure eclecticism. George E. Dickey (1840-?) and Eugene T. Heiner (1852-1901) both arrived in Houston in 1878. Dickey was originally from New Hampshire and had worked in Boston and Toronto; Heiner was born in New York but received his professional training in Chicago. Heiner's surviving buildings in lower downtown Houston are the presently resurfaced Sweeney and Coombs Building of 1880 (#62), the Henry Brashear Building of 1882 (#51), the W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company Building of 1889 (#39), and the Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade Building of 1884 (#37). Dickey's remaining downtown buildings are the B. A. Shepherd Building of 1883 (#9), and the Sweeney, Coombs and Fredericks Building of 1889 (#12). To a remarkable degree, these buildings retain the architectural features that have distinguished them since the time of their completion. The architectural authorship of the Dumble Building of 1883 (#8), and the remodeling of the Kennedy Corner of 1889 (#40), is unknown. While neither is as distinctive architecturally as the works of Duhamel, Heiner, or Dickey, they represent the typical standard of architectural achievement in Houston of the 1880s.

During the 1890s there was an influx of new architects, and new construction in lower downtown Houston continued to increase. Two small structures,m the Altmont Building, as it emerged from its 1892 alternations, and the Kirlick Building of 1894 (#34), demonstrate a degree of restraint not evident in the architecture of the previous decade. This restraint is apparent in two other major construction projects of the 1890s: a new Christ Church parish group on Texas Avenue in 1893, and the five-story Kiam Building of 1893 (#15) on Main Street. Both the Gothic Revival style Christ Church and the Richardsonian style Kiam Building were the work of younger architects. J. Arthur Tempest designed Christ Church, and Henry C. Holland designed the Kiam Building.

These buildings remark not only the stylistic currency of Houston architects, but the emergence of important local institutions. The Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade was organized in 1882 to take advantage of Houston's importance as a center of the Texas cotton trade, and was a consequence of the city's rail and water connections. The B. A. Shepherd Building, located in the Main Street financial district and built by Benjamin A. Shepherd (1814-1891), a pioneer Houston banker, housed the Houston National Bank from 1889 until 1912, which was organized by Henry S. Fox (1835-1912) and Joseph F. Meyer (1851-1935). The W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company, established by William L. Foley (1855-1925) in 1876, was one of the first large-scale retail stores in Houston. It was surpassed in size by the Kiam Building constructed by the merchant Ed Kiam. Kiam's included a passenger elevator, and the dry goods store was topped by three floors of office space. The Kiam Building, and the adjoining Kiam Annex built at the same time and also designed by Holland (presently

effaced), were located in what would remain the heart of the Main Street retail and entertainment district until the 1920s. Christ Church was only one of a number of large, architecturally distinguished public institutional buildings erected along Texas Avenue on the edge of the solidly built-up downtown district in the 1890s.

After the turn-of-the-century, Houston experienced another episode of intensive growth and development. Continuing expansion of railroad connections, the discovery of oil, and the construction of a deep-draught ship channel were factors in this development. Architecturally this growth was reflected in a new surge of construction in the lower downtown area. Especially notable during the first two decades of the twentieth century was the virtual reconstruction of the financial district. There was once again an increase in the scale of new buildings and, as in the 1880s, a noticeable shift in architectural taste. Classical architectural details determined the appearance of most of the new buildings in lower downtown Houston from this period. Also, as in the 1880s and 1890s, there was an influx of new architects, often of national reputation, who were called to Houston to undertake important local commissions.

Late Victorian traditions did not die easily, and this was perhaps a factor in the sudden vogue for commissioning out-of-town architects. George E. Dickey's last major building was a new City Hall and Market House completed in 1904 to replace Duhamel's building of 1877 which had burned in 1901. Dickey's design was a late essay in the Richardsonian Romanesque. Displaying much greater stylistic currency were two buildings then under construction at Main and Franklin: the six-story Commercial National Bank Building of 1904 (#5) by the Houston architects Green and Svarz, and the eight-story First National Bank Building of 1905 (#6) by the Fort Worth architects Sanguinet and Staats. The First National Bank, the oldest chartered bank in the city and the second-oldest national bank in Texas, was also to occupy Houston's first steel-framed office building. Sanguinet and Staats, a firm organized in 1902, found Houston so profitable a field that they operated a branch office there until 1930. Sanguinet and Staats were the the first Texas architects to master the skyscraper form, and they were responsible for many of the early multistory office buildings constructed in Texas between 1900 and 1917. They designed two subsequent extensions to the First National Bank, and additions to the Paul Building of 1907 (#27) on Courthouse Square.

The architectural style of the Commerical National Bank and First National Bank buildings was derived from Renaissance classicism, while the Paul Building was decorated with classical elements of a more abstracted configuration. Green and Svarz had employed a less grandiloquent sort of Renaissance architecture for their four-story Dorrance Building of 1903 (#4), next to the Commercial National Bank Building. The rather austere use of selected classical ornaments was carried through in what was briefly Houston's tallest building, the eleven-story Scanlan Building of 1909 (#17) at Main and Preston. Like the Paul Building, it was constructed for exclusive use as an office building by the daughters of T. H. Scanlan, in whose memory it was named. Constructed on the site of the shed-like house in which Sam Houston resided while President of Texas, the Scanlan Building was designed by one of the most outstanding architectural firms of the period, D. H. Burnham and Company of Chicago. In the financial district, the South Texas National Bank (#7) was built in 1910

exclusively for banking purposes. It has a Corinthian temple facade clad in white marble. Again, an out-of-town architect was responsible for this Beaux Arts design, C. D. Hill and Company of Dallas, who like Sanguinet and Staats opened a Houston branch office.

In both the wholesale sector and Market Square, evidence of the new architectural taste was seen. The real-estate investor and industrialist Benjamin A. Riesner (1856-1932) built a large, three-story brick warehouse at Commerce and Travis in 1906 (#31), probably designed by the Houston architects Cooke and Company. This seems to have represented the English-born Henry Cooke's (1852-1920) idea of Georgian architecture, executed with a certain late Victorian flair. In Courthouse Square, Duhamel's courthouse of 1884 gave way to a domed and porticoed six-story building, the commission for which was won in 1907 by another prominent Dallas architectural firm, Lang and Witchell, and completed in 1910. Although it suffered unsympathetic internal remodeling in the early 1950s, the classical exterior of Harris County's fifth courthouse continues to serve as the centerpiece of Courthouse Square.

Three of the most architecturally distinctive buildings in the district from this period were the work of nationally known architects. The Chicago architect Jarvis Hunt (1859-1941), who designed the Union Station in Dallas, was responsible for the nine-story Southern Pacific Office Building of 1911 (#36) at Franklin Avenue and Travis Street on the former site of one of Houston's most famous hotels, the Hutchins House of 1859. The Southern Pacific Lines absorbed the Houston and Texas Central Railway in 1893, and thereafter maintained a regional headquarters in Houston. Like the Paul and Scanlan buildings, the Southern Pacific Office Building is decorated with classical detail, but of an abstract and restrained type.

The St. Louis architects Mauran, Russell and Crowell (Mauran, Russel and Garden before 1911) had a thriving Texas practice and were responsible for large projects in El Paso, Dallas, San Antonio, Galveston, and Fort Worth, in addition to the seven buildings which they executed in Houston between 1908 and 1913. Most of their Houston commissions were associated directly or indirectly with the entrepreneur Jesse Holmon Jones (1874-1956). Jones was a director of the Union National Bank for which Mauran, Russell and Crowell designed a twelve-story building (#11) at Main and Congress. This structure opened in 1912, and served as an office and bank building distinguished by elegant Beaux Arts detail at its base and summit. Jones directly commissioned the design of the seventeen-story Rice Hotel (#25) completed in 1913 at Main and Texas on the site of the Capitol of the Republic of Texas. The Allen brothers' wooden Capitol (which has become the Capitol Hotel) was demolished to permit construction of a five-story brick Capitol Hotel designed by George E. Dickey and completed in 1883. The Capitol was acquired in 1886 by the investor William Marsh Rice (1819-1900), who placed it in trust in 1891 as an endowment property to benefit the university he established, the William M. Rice Institute. Rice instructed that upon his death the hotel he renamed the Rice Hotel. Rice's trustees leased the property to Jesse H. Jones, who replaced it with Mauran, Russell and Crowell's building. From 1913 until 1975, the Rice was Houston's foremost downtown hotel.

The retail and entertainment district on Main Street in proximity to the new Rice Hotel continued to attract new construction even though large new hotels, office buildings, and department stores began to be built along Main, Fannin, and Travis several blocks south of Texas Avenue. In 1912, C. D. Hill and Company designed a combination motion picture theater and retail shop for the Isis Theater (#21) at Prairie and Main, a two-story building of sober classical aspect. This was one of several motion picture theaters for which Hill's Houston office was responsible. Joseph Finger (1887-1953), an Austrian immigrant, was the architect in charge of the Houston office. In 1914 he established a partnership with James Ruskin Bailey (1889-19??) that would persist until 1919. One of their early commissions was the three-story retail and office building at Main and Congress (#13) for Pauline Sterne Wolff. It replaced a building George E. Dickey had designed for her father in 1884 that subsequently burned. Like the Isis Theater, the Sterne Building was of sober appearance, eschewing even the former's vestigial classical detail. The same is true of the narrow Raphael Building at 110 Main (#3) and of another of B. A. Riesner's warehouses, the Desel-Boettcher Building of 1912 (#30) which was designed by H. C. Cooke and Company at Commerce and Travis.

The Houston building boom that began in 1909 subsided in 1913. Completed that year was the Main Street Viaduct (#1), a reinforced-concrete bridge spanning Buffalo Bayou between Allen's Landing and the north bank. Designed by the City Engineer F. L. Dormant, the Main Street Viaduct was claimed as having the longest arch span in Texas, one hundred fifty feet. It was equiped with comfort stations, planting boxes, and benches, because Mayor H. Baldwin Rice (1865-1929), a nephew of William M. Rice and one of the Houstonians most strongly identified with the Progressive movement in local politics, felt that its civic dignity as the city's major bridge demanded such amenities. Mayor Rice ushered in the reforms of 1905, and supported the Civic Arts movement in urban beautification. Extensive remodeling in 1981-1982 compromised the historic character of the Viaduct.

One of the last large buildings to be erected in downtown Houston prior to U.S. entry into World War I was the eight-story office building on Travis between the Cotton Exchange and Foley's Dry Goods Company. Built by the trustees of the estate of the industrialist and philanthropist George H. Hermann (1843-1914), the Hermann Estate Building (#38) was vestigially classical and was the work of the Houston architects F. S. Glover and Son. Like Foley's (and the Rice Hotel), the Hermann Estate Building retains the metal canopy sheltering the sidewalk, a feature once typical of all of lower downtown Houston.

Following World War I, the building boom of the 1920s eclipsed all previous episodes of growth and expansion in Houston. During that decade Houston moved from the position of third-largest city in Texas to that of the largest city in the South. This period of development, however, was not felt as strongly along Main Street and Market Square as in the newer portions of downtown, south of and eastward along Texas Avenue. Intensive new construction did not occur on North Main Street in that period.

Nonetheless, new construction did occur within the District area on an incremental basis. Joseph Finger and his new partner Lamar Q. Cato (1888-1948) designed a four story department store for Ben Zindler and Sons on Courthouse Square (#29) in 1921. This building is decorated with selected classical details and clad entirely in white terra-cotta. On Market Square, a large, three-story building with a decorative clay-tile parapet was constructed in 1924 (#42) by the grocer Henry Henke (1850-1928) for investment purposes. The architect was R. D. Steele. The South Texas National Bank was expanded with the construction of flanking two-story wings containing office space. These were built in 1922 to the designs of the Houston architect William Ward Watkin (1886-1952), head of the Department of Architecture at the Rice Institute from 1912 until 1952. The expansion of the First National Bank between 1923 and 1925 by Sanguinet, Staats, Hedrick and Gottlieb gave the building full block of frontage on Franklin Avenue. Jesse H. Jones contributed to this process of additive expansion by having the Houston architect Alfred C. Finn (1883-1964) add a third wing to the Rice Hotel in 1926. Finn was a former member of Sanguinet and Staats whom Jones had set up in practice in 1914. Augmenting the retail and entertainment district around the Rice was the construction of the Ritz Theater in 1926 (#49), a graceful, Renaissance-style motion picture theater built by the T. H. Scanlan Estate and designed by William Ward Watkin. The Ritz is the only legitimate motion picture theater still in operation in downtown Houston. Adjacent to the Rice Hotel on Main Street, James Ruskin Bailey designed a picturesquely gabled and half-timbered storefront building of three stories for the clothing store of Barringer-Norton in 1928 (#71). It has been effaced.

Most of the new construction in lower downtown Houston in the 1920s occurred in the financial district. Between 1922 and 1924, Finn designed the twelve-story State National Building on a mid-block site in the 400 block of Main Street (#19), formerly considered a part of the retail district. The thin, classically detailed tower was capped with an octagonal, tile-roofed penthouse pavilion. During the same years he also refaced the center bay of the Stuart Building with a classically detailed front to transform it into the Guaranty National Bank. Acquiring a corner lot on the same block as the State National Bank, the Public National Bank retained James Ruskin Bailey to design an eight-story bank and office building (#18), constructed between 1924 and 1925. As Finn had done on his bank tower, Bailey decorated the building with classical ornament. He treated the eight floor like a loggia, and wrapped a continuous, cantilevered balcony around the street sides of the building.

Although not the tallest new bank to be built in the financial district, the Houston National Bank Building (#10), constructed between 1926 and 1928 by the oilman, newspaper publisher, real estate investor, and future Texas governor, Ross S. Sterling (1975-1949), was its most impressive work of architecture. It is of limestone block, is faced with Doric columnar screens on the Main and Franklin elevations, and carries an attic floor above the vaulted banking hall. The architects were Wyatt C. Hedrick (1888-1964) of Fort Worth, Sterling's son-in-law, and Hedrick's Houston partner Richard D. Gottlieb. Hedrick's firm was the successor to Sanguinet and Staats, which had been dissolved in 1926. During the 1920s, Sterling and Jesse H. Jones, who would become Secretary of Commerce during the Roosevelt administration, were friendly rivals in real estate, building, publishing, banking, and political developments in Houston.

The Great Depression marked the climax of the area's historic role as the commercial, financial, retail, and entertainment center of Houston. During the Depression years a small number of buildings were constructed for retail purposes. The three surviving structures exhibit the popularity of the Moderne styles of architecture: the zig-zag-style McCrory's of 1931 at 505 Main Street (#22), by the New York architect W. W. Simpson; the streamlined Wilson's of 1932 at Fannin and Prairie (#26), by William Ward Watkin; and the classical Byrd's of 1935 at Main and Prairie (#20), by Joseph Finger. However, the area began to lose the institutions that had guaranteed its importance in the life of the city. The Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade moved to new quarters in 1924. In 1929 the City Market was removed from Market Square to a new Farmers' Market in the Civic Center; ten years later a new City Hall was completed in the Civic Center. Dickey's 1904 building was leased by the city to a bus company, which used it as a bus terminal until its destruction by fire in 1960. Between 1955 and 1964, all the banks moved to newer buildings south of Texas Avenue. Retail establishments either moved southward or abandoned downtown altogether. The construction of the suburban Produce Terminal in 1954 ended Commerce Avenue's career as Produce Row. After the late 1940s, buildings began to be demolished in the district. This was not done for new construction, but to clear property, usually for surface parking lots.

Intermittent revitalization occurred. After the destruction of the 1904 City Hall and Market House in the 1960s, the City of Houston resisted suggestions that Market Square be sold for private development. Instead it became a parking lot, but this provided the impetus for the transformation of "Old" Market Square into a center of downtown nightlife from the middle 1960s through the middle 1970s, a development which did not sustain itself, however. In 1966 and 1967 the Houston Chamber of Commerce sponsored the construction of a park and a scenic overlook at Allen's Landing. The Junior League of Houston undertook a similar effort of urban improvement in 1976, when Market Square was turned into a park dotted with trees and grassy hillocks. Serious restoration and adaptive use also began to occur. The Burn's Building was the object of a careful exterior restoration in 1965. The Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade Building was rehabilitated in 1973 to be used as offices, as were the Dickson and Sierwessen buildings in the 800 block of Commerce (#32, #33) in the 1970s, the Paul Building in 1978, the Kiam Building in 1981, the Scanlan Building in 1981, and the Henke Building in 1982. Public attention was focused upon the historic resources of the Main Street/Market Square District when Harris County proposed to level an entire block on the west side of Courthouse Square for the construction of a nine-story County Administration Building in 1974. The efforts of citizens led to the preservation and restoration of the Sweeney, Coombs and Fredericks Building, and the preservation (but not the restoration) of the Pillot Building. The Henry S. Fox Building of 1877, however, was demolished to provide a site for the county building. The general success of this preservation effort encouraged many unsympathetic property owners to embark upon a campaign of massive demolition between 1975 and 1981, before their plans could be "interfered with."

Since 1971, eleven buildings within the Market Square/Main Street District have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The formation of groups such as the Houston Old Town Development Corporation and the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance have helped substantially to inform the public of the historic character of this architecturally significant historic district.

JUSTIFICATION OF BOUNDARIES

The District contains the only concentration of remaining nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century commercial/retail buildings of architectural and historical significance in Houston. Included are Market Square and Allen's Landing, which are among Houston's most historic sites, and the Main Street Viaduct, an early significant structure for Texas.

The spine of the district runs north-south on Main Street from Buffalo Bayou to Texas Avenue. Buffalo Bayou, as the northern boundary, is a natural geographic delineation between the commercial/retail district and a warehouse/industrial area to the north. Texas Avenue was the southern boundary of the original town site as laid out in 1836. Most new construction in the last fifty years has taken place south of Texas Avenue.

The eastern boundary is edged with nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings facing east onto Fannin Street. Two buildings east of Fannin, the Harris County Courthhouse and Christ Church Cathedral, are listed in the National Register and are adjacent to the district.

The western boundary encompasses a number of contributing buildings facing west onto Travis Street, and includes all contributing buildings surrounding Market Square (bounded by Travis, Preston, Milam, and Congress). Market Square, now serving as a park, will undergo major improvements in the next two years, and will continue to serve as the focal point for the northern CBD. Contributing buildings facing east onto Travis Street and north of Market Square are also included in the district.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 1/23/84
date entered

The present extension of the Main Steet/Market Square Historic District adds cohesiveness to the district in terms of scale, building age, architectural styles, and use. The original boundary proposal was conservative, and the inclusion of the present four structures will help set a more meaningful western boundary. Early in 1983, it became apparent that several of these structures were endangered. With the inclusion of the additional four buildings on the western boundary of the historic district, the district will be more clearly defined, since it will extend to Buffalo Bayou. The buildings adjacent to the bayou are the Houston Ice and Brewing Company (site no. 76), and the Magnolia Brewery (site no. 74). An added impetus for the preservation of these two structures is their future inclusion in the Buffalo Bayou Transformation Project, which will include a riverwalk. A large parking lot adjacent to the structures in the extension does not compromise the area in terms of scale and visibility.

The Magnolia Brewery (site no. 74), originally owned by the Houston Ice and Brewing Co., has been in continuous use as an eating facility since its design by architects H.C. Cook & Company and its subsequent construction in 1912. The structure originally housed the Magnolia Cafe, the taproom for the brewery. An ingenious cooling system was devised and installed, introducing Houston to its first taste of air conditioning. One of the few buildings in this vast complex to have survived the flood of 1935, this structure is not only significant for its continuous use and innovative cooling system, but adds cohesiveness to the historic district in terms of scale, use, and age.

The Houston Ice & Brewing Co. consisted of more than 10 buildings built between 1892 and 1915. The Magnolia Brewery and the building at 110 Milam (site no. 76), are two of three important survivors of this large complex which spanned Buffalo Bayou and was one of Houston's largest businesses in the early 1900s.

Hugh Hamilton, founder of the Brewery Company, was a prominent Houston businessman. The company at its height produced 750 tons of ice daily and 600 barrels of beer. With the advent of prohibition in 1920, and the flood of 1935, the Houston Ice and Brewing Co. fell into a gradual decline and went out of business in 1950.

Cruger's Warehouse/Radoff Building (site no. 73) is one of Houston's oldest buildings. It was originally constructed circa 1860 as Cruger's Fireproof Warehouse. It survived Houston's great fire of August, 1860. The building was acquired by Simon Priester in 1871, and had a number of tenants during the Priester family's ownership, including a boarding house and a wholesale distributor of dairy products.

In 1896 the simple two-story building was remodeled, and included a three-story corner tower and a metal canopy. In 1903 a smaller structure was added to the rear (facing Franklin Street).

In 1919 the building was sold by the Priester family to the Radoff Brothers Notion Company wich removed the roof of the corner tower and the metal canopy. "1896" (probably the date of origin of the Radoff Brothers Notion Company) and "H.V. Radoff" were embossed on the corner. The building remains virtually unchanged since this 1919 remodeling.

This building is in imminent danger of demolition (Spring, 1983) by a major bank which has constructed a drive-in facility designed by I.M. Pei on the adjoining lots. The structure's significance lies not only in its age, as one of the earliest extant commercial buildings in Houston, but in its location. As corner buildings at the intersection of Franklin and Milam, the Magnolia Brewery and the Radoff Building balance each other in scale and harmony and provide a handsome enhancement to the edge of the Main Street/Market Square Historic District. Facing onto Buffalo Bayou, these buildings will make an essential contribution to the proposed Bayou Walk Project. No further additions to the district are contemplated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 35 acres

Quadrangle name Settegast, Tex. **Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	271330	3129450
B	15	271610	3129510
C	15	271660	3129420
D	15	271280	3129480
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

see continuation sheets

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Minnette Boesel, Barrie Scardino, Stephen Fox

organization Houston Old Town Development Corp. **date** November 30, 1982

street & number c/o Charles Heimsath, 2103 Bartlett **telephone** 713 528-7129

city or town Houston **state** Texas 77098

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [signature]

title State Historic Preservation Officer **date** 11 May 1983

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[signature] **date** 7/18/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: **date**

Chief of Registration

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Main Street/Market Square Historic District comprises all or part of sixteen blocks (Blocks 1; 2; west half of 3; 15; lots 1, 2, 6-11 of 16; lots 1-5, 9-11, part of lot 12, of 19; 20; 21; 32; 33; 34; lots 2-4 of 35; 44; 45; Lots 4, 5, 9-11 56; and 57; all South Side of Buffalo Bayou, Houston, Harris County, Texas) on both sides of Main Street between Buffalo Bayou on the north and Texas Avenue on the south, extending as far as Fannin on the east and as far as the depths of lots bounding the west side of Milam Street on the west. The street pattern is a grid of square blocks (except along the bayou banks where the shapes conform partially to the contours of the shoreline). The grid is skewed a few degrees east from true north. Each block is approximately 250' by 250'. Streets on the edges of the district are inclusive to the middle of the streets.

EASTERN BOUNDARY

Begin at Main Street Viaduct the north bank of Buffalo Bayou and continue across the Viaduct to the south shoreline. Proceed southeast along shoreline to the northeast corner of tract 16, block 3, commence south 205 feet along the eastern boundary line of tracts 16 and 14. Continue south to middle of Commerce Street. Then proceed west to middle of intersection of Commerce and Main. Then proceed south along center of Main one block to center of intersection of Main and Franklin. Then proceed east along center of Franklin one block to center of intersection of Franklin and Fannin. Then proceed south along center of Fannin three blocks to center of intersection on the southside of Prairie and Fannin. Then proceed south along center of Fannin one hundred feet. Then proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to edge of Block 56, proceed west 100 feet along south boundary line of Lot 4. Proceed south 25 feet along eastern boundary line of Lot 11. Proceed west 50 feet along southern boundary line of Lot 11. Proceed north 25 feet along western boundary line of Lot 11. Proceed west 100 feet along southern boundary line of Lot 9. Proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to middle of Main. Proceed south along center of Main approximately one half block to center of intersection of Texas and Main.

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

Then proceed west along center of Texas one block to center of intersection of Texas and Travis.

WESTERN BOUNDARY

Then proceed north along center of Travis two blocks to center of intersection of Travis and Preston. Then proceed west along center of Preston one block to center of intersection of Preston and Milam. Then proceed north along center of Milam 50 feet past southern boundary line of block 35. Proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to edge

of block 35. Then proceed west 100 feet along northern boundary line of lot 1 block 35. Then proceed north 100 feet. Then proceed east 100 feet along northern boundary line of lot 3 of block 35. Continue east to center of Milam. Then proceed north along center of Milam to center of intersection of Congress and Milam on the north side. Proceed north along center of Milam 120 feet. Proceed east (approximately 40 feet) to edge of block 19 and continue east 100 feet into block 19. Proceed south 20 feet. Proceed east 50 feet along north boundary line lot 3, block 19. Proceed north 150 feet along western boundary line of lots 11 and 9, block 19. Continue north across Franklin to southwest corner of lot 2, block 16. Proceed north 100 feet along western boundary line of lot 2, block 16. Proceed west 25 feet along southern boundary line of lot 11, block 16. Proceed north 50 feet along western boundary line of lot 11, block 16. Proceed west 125 feet along southern boundaries of lots 6, 7, and 8, block 16, and continue west from edge of block 16 to center of Milam. Proceed north along center of Milam across Buffalo Bayou. Proceed northeast along the north shoreline to beginning point.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Main Street/Market Square Historic District comprises all or part of 18 blocks (Blocks 1; 2; west half of 3; 15; 16; lots 1-4 of 17; lot 5 of 18; 19; 20; 21; 32; 33; 34; lots 2-4 of 35; 44; 45; lots 4, 5, 9-11 of 56; and 57; all South side of Buffalo Bayou, Houston, Harris County, Texas) on either side of Main Street between Buffalo Bayou on the north and Texas Avenue on the south, extending as far as Fannin on the east and as far as the depths of lots bounding the west side of Milam Street on the west. The street pattern is a grid of square blocks (except along the bayou banks where the shapes conform partially to the contours of the shoreline). The grid is skewed a few degrees east from true north. Each block is approximately 250' by 250'. Streets on the edges of the district are inclusive to the middle of the streets.

EASTERN BOUNDARY

Begin at Main Street Viaduct on the north bank of Buffalo Bayou and continue across the Viaduct to the south shoreline. Proceed southeast along the shoreline to the northeast corner of tract 16, block 3, commence south 205 feet along the eastern boundary line of tracts 16 and 14. Continue south to middle of Commerce Street. Then proceed west to middle of intersection of Commerce and Main. Then proceed south along center of Main one block to center of intersection of Main and Franklin. Then proceed east along center of Franklin one block to center of intersection of Franklin and Fannin. Then proceed south along center of Fannin three blocks to center of intersection on the south side of Prairie and Fannin. Then proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to edge of Block 56, proceed west 100 feet along south boundary line of Lot 4. Proceed south 25 feet along eastern boundary line of Lot 11. Proceed west 50 feet along southern boundary line of Lot 11. Proceed north 25 feet along western boundary line of Lot 9. Proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to middle of Main. Proceed south along center line of Main approximately one-half block to center of intersection of Texas and Main.

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

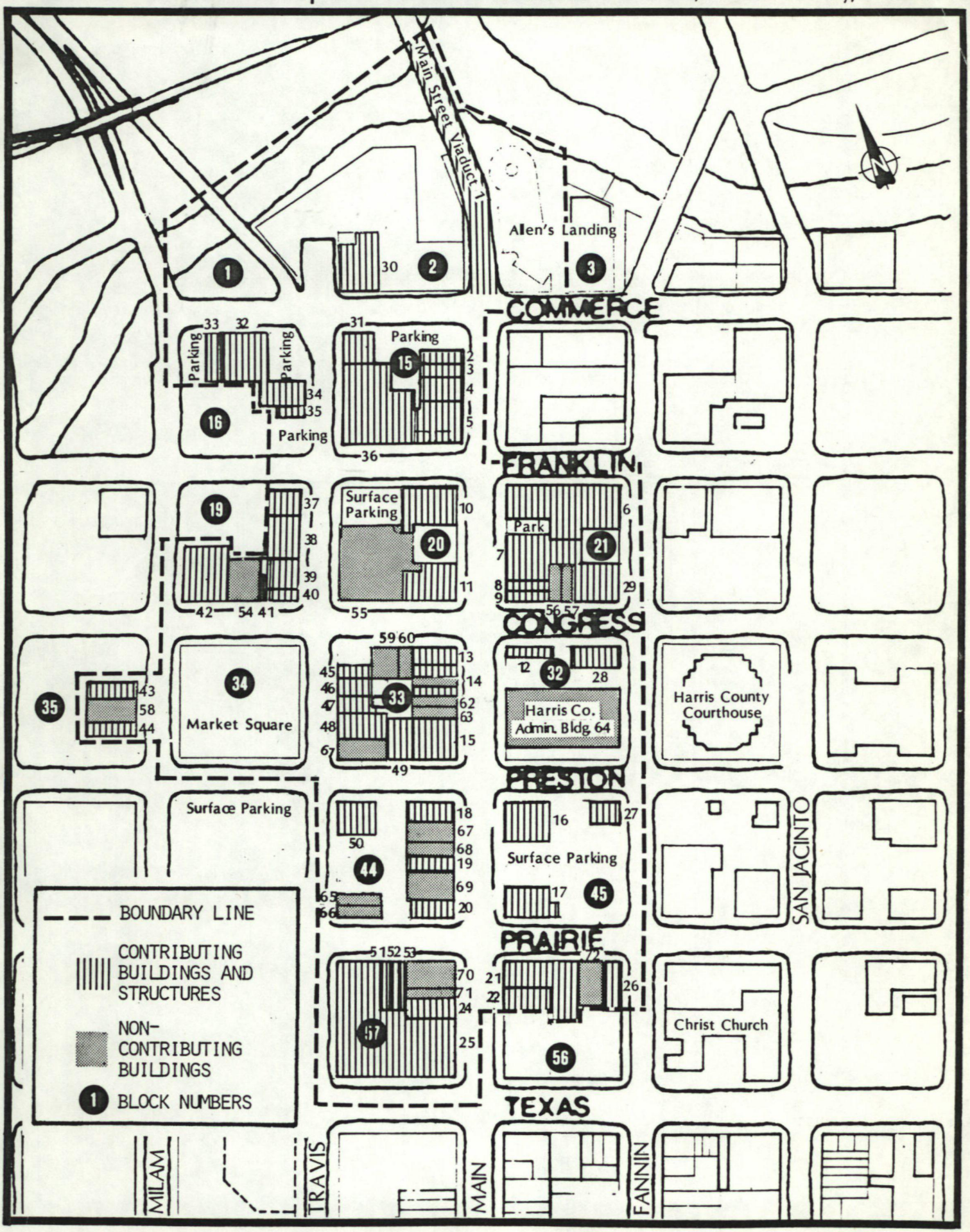
Then proceed west along center of Texas one block to center of intersection of Texas and Travis.

WESTERN BOUNDARY

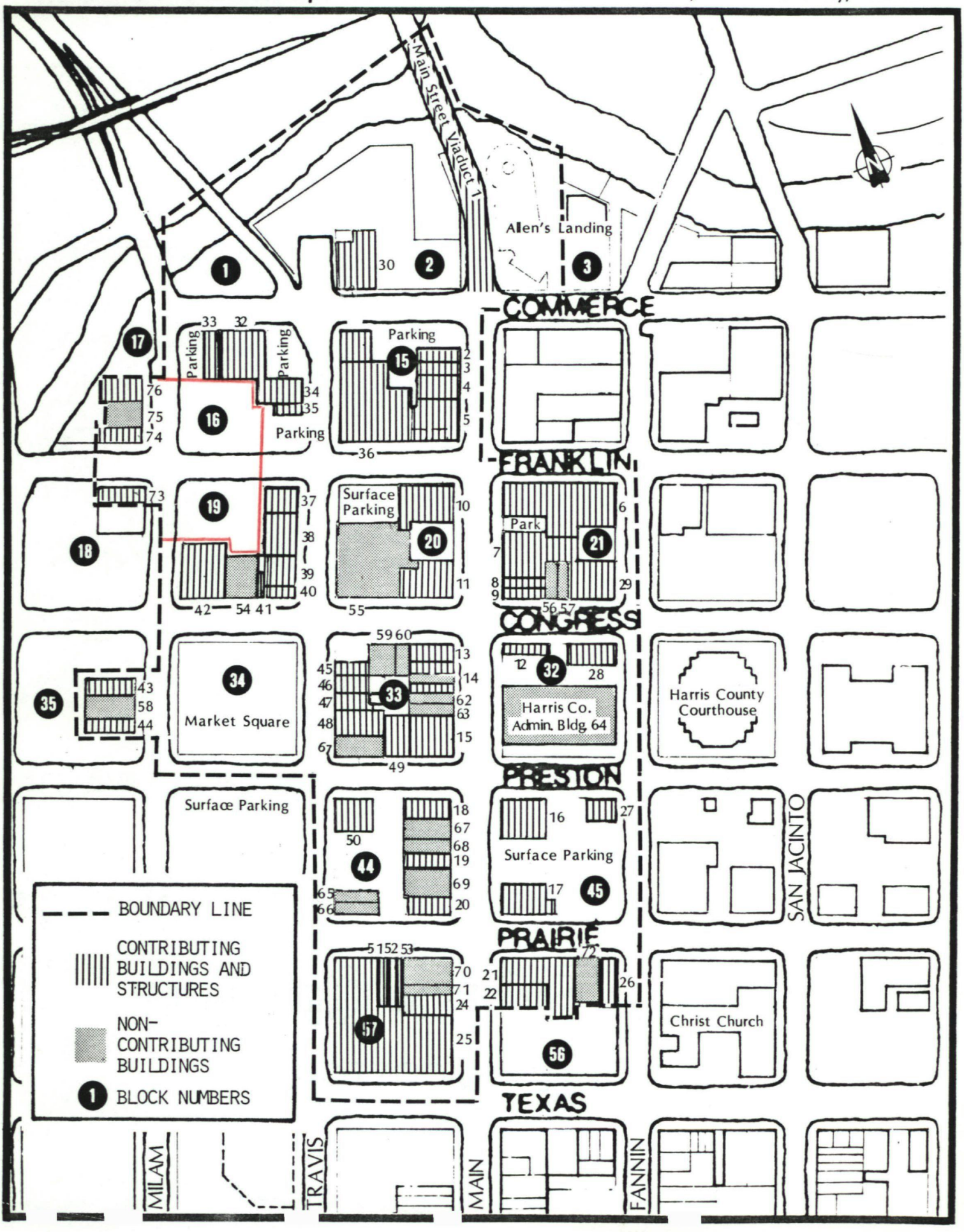
Then proceed north along center line of Travis two blocks to center of intersection of Travis and Preston. Then proceed west along center of Preston one block to center of the intersection of Preston and Milam. Then proceed north along center of Milam 50 feet past southern boundary line of Block 35. Proceed west (approximately 40 feet) to edge of Block 35. Then proceed west 100 feet along northern boundary line of lot 1 Block 35. Then proceed north 100 feet. Then proceed east 100 feet along northern boundary line of lot 3 Block 35. Continue east to center of Milam. Then proceed north along center of Milam to center of intersection of Congress and Milam on the north side. Proceed north along center of Milam

200 feet. Proceed west to edge of Block 18. Proceed west 100 feet along south boundary line of lot 5 Block 18. Proceed north 50 feet along western boundary line of lot 5 Block 18. Continue north across Franklin to northwest corner of lot 1 Block 17. Proceed east 25 feet along north boundary line of lot 1 Block 17. Proceed north 54 feet along west wall of 112-114 Milam (site no. 75). Proceed west 5 feet along south wall of 110 Milam (site no. 76). Proceed north 47 feet to north boundary line of lot 3 Block 17. Proceed east along north boundary line of lot 3 and continue to center of Milam Street. Proceed north along center of Milam across Buffalo Bayou. Proceed northeast along north shoreline to beginning point.

Main Street/Market Square Historic District Houston, Harris County, Texas



Main Street/Market Square Historic District Houston, Harris County, Texas



1/23/80

TIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION / RETURN SHEE

ited States Department of the Interior
ional Park Service

Substantive Review

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Harris County
TEXAS

Working No. JUN 3 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2 7 84
Date Due: 6/30/83 — 7/18/83
Action: ✓ ACCEPT 7/18/83
___ RETURN ___
___ REJECT ___
Federal Agency: ___

___ resubmission
___ nomination by person or local government
___ owner objection
___ appeal
Substantive Review: ✓ sample ___ request ___ appeal ___ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria Accept - A, C
Reviewer Grosvenor
Discipline Historian
Date 7/18/83
___ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ___ technical corrections cited below
___ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use
Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

7. Description

Condition
___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ unexposed

Check one
___ unaltered
___ altered

Check one
___ original site
___ moved date ___

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

___ summary paragraph
___ completeness
___ clarity
___ alterations/integrity
___ dates
___ undar selection

8. Significance

Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates | Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

JUN 3 1983

_____ summary paragraph
_____ completeness
_____ clarity
_____ applicable criteria
_____ justification of areas checked
_____ relating significance to the resource
_____ context
_____ relationship of integrity to significance
_____ justification of exception
_____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UMT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title | date

13. Other

_____ Maps
_____ Photographs
_____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 83004471

Property Name: Main Street Market Square Historic District

County: Harris State: Texas

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper — March 13, 2002
Date of Action

==========

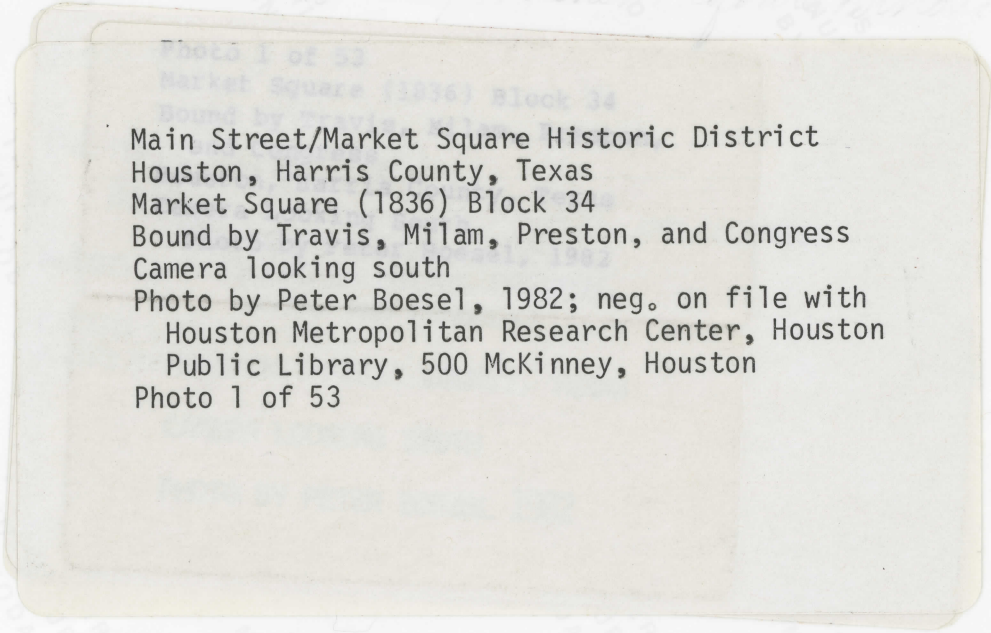
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 7. Description/Sketchmap. The classification of the Barringer-Norton Building at 506 Main Street is, hereby, changed to "contributing," due to the removal of modern panels that had obscured its historic facade and due to confirmation that the 1928 Tudor Revival facade has survived in a fairly intact condition and the building possesses historic integrity. The sketchmap is also, hereby, amended to indicate the building's contributing condition.

The Texas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)


Houston Citizens
BANK AND TRUST
DRUGS



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
Market Square (1836) Block 34
Bound by Travis, Milam, Preston, and Congress
Camera looking south
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 1 of 53


CHARLIE'S
SALOON
CHARLIE'S
SALOON
100

253

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#4 Part of Dorrance Building (1903)
114 Main
#3 Raphael Building (ca. 1911)
110 Main
#2 Brewster (1872-76)
108 Main
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 2 of 53


TRAVELERS
HOTEL
Charlie's BAR-B-Q
OPEN
FOR
BREAKFAST
BAR

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#4 Dorrance Building (1903)
  114 Main Street
#3 Raphael Building (ca. 1911)
  110 Main Street
#2 Part of Brewster Building (1876)
  108 Main Street
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
  P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 3 of 53



17x21w

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#36 Southern Pacific Building (1911)
913 Franklin Avenue
#5 Commercial National Bank (1904)
116-120 Main Street
#4 Dorrance Building (1903)
114 Main Street
#3 Raphael Building (ca. 1911)
110 Main Street
#2 Brewster Building (1876)
108 Main Street
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 4 of 53 (left to right)


SOUTHERN PACIFIC

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#36 Southern Pacific Building
(1910-11)
913 Franklin
Camera looking north
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 5 of 53


L N
LOMAS & NETTLETON

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#6 First National Bank (1905, 1909, 1913, 1925)
201 Main Street
Camera looking southeast
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 6 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#7 South Texas National Bank
(1908-10, 1921-22)
213 Main
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 7 of 53


1883
TAILOR
EXOTICS
COCKTAILS
PUSSY CAT

19

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#8 Dumble Building (1882-83)
217 Main Street
#9 B.A. Shepherd Building (1883)
219 Main Street
(To the left of the Dumble Building is part of the South Texas National Bank, #7, and the Dome of the Harris County Courthouse is in the background)
Photo 8 of 53


EXOTIC
NUDE
GIRLS
EXOTICS COCKTAILS
EXOTICS COCKTAILS
ONE WAY
NO RIGHT TURN
Beer Cellar
BAR
EXOTIC
DANCERS
SHOW TIME

19

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#8 Dumble Building (1882-83)
217 Main Street
#9 B.A. Shepherd (1883)
219 Main Street
Camera looking northeast
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 9 of 53


EXOTIC
DANCERS
SHOW TIME
KRIV 94
METRO

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#29 Zindler Building (1921)
1019 Congress
Rear of B.A. Shepherd Building
(#9) to left
Rear of First National Bank
(#6) to right
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 10 of 53


ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#28 Pillot Building (ca 1858)
#12 Sweeney, Coombs and Fredericks Building (1889)
Camera looking southeast
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 11 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#28 Pillot Building (ca 1858)
106 Congress
Background (left to right): Harris County Administration Building
Camera looking southeast
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 12 of 53


FOR LEASE
FULLER
850-8400
OLD HOUSTON NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#10 Houston National Bank (1928)
202 Main Street
Camera looking west
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 13 of 53


American
Bank

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#11 Union National Bank Building (1912)
220 Main Street
Camera looking northwest
photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 14 of 53


STUART
Fun Shop
Al Lum
Properties
For
Sale
654-2121
ONE
WAY

258

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#13 Sterne Building (1916)
302 Main Street
To the left: #14A, B, C - Stuart Building
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 15 of 53


STUART
CINEMA XX
ADULT THEATRE
CINEMA XX
306
OPEN 24 Hrs
LADIES FREE
NUDE DANCING
ADULT MOVIES
EVE FunShop
EVE FunShop
GIFTS & MAGAZINES
COST
BAR &

22

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#62 Sweeney and Coombs Building (1880)
310 Main Street
#14 A,B,C Stuart Building (1880)
304-308 Main Street
#13 Sterne Building (1916)
302 Main Street
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 16 of 53 (left to right)


MAJESTIC
METRO
WAIT

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#15 Kiam Building (1893)
320 Main
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 17 of 53


FISH THAT SAVE
PITTSBURGH
COMA
FISH THAT SAVE
PITTSBURGH
COMA
STORES FROM
COAST to COAST
CANNON'S

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#61 Main St. Drugs (ca. 1914)
319 Travis
#49 Ritz Theater (1926)
911 Preston Avenue
#15 Kiam Building (1893), Preston Street Facade
318-320 Main Street
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 18 of 53 (left to right)


Ransom's
Ransom's
WIG SAVE
RHEALEE

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#16 Scanlan Building (1907-09)
405 Main Street
Camera looking southeast
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 19 of 53


WORKINGMEN'S STORE
WORKINGMEN STORE
STORE
Golden Step
FAMILY SHOES
FAMILY SHOES
Alfredo's Discoteca
COFFEE
HOT DOGS
G ROLLS
HAMBURGERS
PO-BOYS
SANDWICHES
ICE COLD
DRINKS
DRUGS · BEER
EGG ROLL
EGG ROLL
WIG s Outlet
HOSIERY UNDERWEAR
T-SHIRTS CAPS
BEDDING ITEMS
SAMPERI
SHOE HOSPITAL
ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#17 Burns Building (1883)
421 Main
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 20 of 53


NATIONAL BLDG
CITIZENS
BANK
CITIZENS BANK
TEXAS
PAWN SHOP
$ MONEY LOAN

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#18 Public Naitonal Bank Building (1925)
402 Main Street
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 21 of 53


GORDON'S
Quality JEWELERS
GOLDEN POT
FOODS
LEE
Optical

21

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#19 State National Bank (1924)
412 Main Street
#67 404-408 Main
#68 410 Main
#69 416 Main (ca. 1922)
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 22 of 53 (left to right)


STATE NATIONAL BLDG.
LOANS
GORDON'S
CITIZENS BANK

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
Aerial View and #20 Byrd's Building (1935)
(signs read: Nathan's, Loans, G.E., Armour's Furniture)
418-420 Main Street
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 23 of 53


McCRORY
STUARTS
STUARTS
SHEET SETS
$2
$1
Festival SHOES
FULL FAMILY FOOTWEAR

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#21 Isis Theatre Building (1912)
501 Main
#22 McCrory's (Original) (1931)
505-507 Main
Camera looking east
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 24 of 53 (left to right)


LOANS
MONEY TO LOAN
LOUNGE
OPEN 7AM TO 2AM
Restaurant
Church's

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#24 Mosk Building
508-510 Main (ca. 1916)
#71 Barringer-Norton Building (1928)
506 Main
#70 Stegeman Building (1879, 1890)
502-504 Main
Camera looking west
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 25 of 53 (left to right)


HARDY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#25 Rice Hotel (1912-1913)
917 Texas
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 26 of 53


1882
THE SHOE MARKET
LOVE WIGS
LOVE WIGS
912
SWIFT
HOUR
DRY
CLEANERS
WILBUR DRUGS
CIGARETTES
COSMETICS
WILBUR DRUGS
WE PRESS
1
HOUR
CLEANING
NO
EXTRA CHARGE
WHILE U WAIT
CHEVROLET

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#52 Scholibo Building (1880)
912 Prairie Avenue
#51 Brashear Building (1882)
910 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 27 of 53


THE SHOE MARKET
WIG SALON
JEWELRY ELECTRONICS PURSES HATS ETC.
SALE
CINEMA
226-8825
Golden Star
XXX
CLOSED
TRUCKS ONLY
30 MIN LIMIT

257

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#53 Stegeman Building II (ca 1877)
914 Prairie Avenue
#52 Scholibo Building (1880)
912 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 28 of 53


WILSON'S
OFFICE
FURNITURE
STATIONERY
PRINTING
SAVE
ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#26 Wilson's Building (ca 1932)
1010 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 29 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#27 Paul Building (1907)
1018 Preston
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 30 of 53


The SPAGHETTI
Old WAREHOUSE

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#30 Desel-Boettcher Building (1912)
901 Commerce
Camera looking northeast
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 31 of 53


THE SHOE MARKET
WIG SALON
JEWELRY ELECTRONICS PURSES HATS ETC.
SALE
CINEMA
226-8825
Golden Star
XXX
CLOSED
TRUCKS ONLY
30 MIN LIMIT

257

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#53 Stegeman Building II (ca 1877)
914 Prairie Avenue
#52 Scholibo Building (1880)
912 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 28 of 53


WILSON'S
OFFICE
FURNITURE
STATIONERY
PRINTING
SAVE
ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#26 Wilson's Building (ca 1932)
1010 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 29 of 53


THE SHOE MARKET
WIG SALON
JEWELRY ELECTRONICS PURSES HATS ETC.
SALE
CINEMA
226-8825
Golden Star
XXX
CLOSED
TRUCKS ONLY
30 MIN LIMIT

257

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#53 Stegeman Building II (ca 1877)
914 Prairie Avenue
#52 Scholibo Building (1880)
912 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 28 of 53


WILSON'S
OFFICE
FURNITURE
STATIONERY
PRINTING
SAVE
ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#26 Wilson's Building (ca 1932)
1010 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 29 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#27 Paul Building (1907)
1018 Preston
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 30 of 53


The SPAGHETTI
Old WAREHOUSE

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#30 Desel-Boettcher Building (1912)
901 Commerce
Camera looking northeast
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 31 of 53


THE SHOE MARKET
WIG SALON
JEWELRY ELECTRONICS PURSES HATS ETC.
SALE
CINEMA
226-8825
Golden Star
XXX
CLOSED
TRUCKS ONLY
30 MIN LIMIT

257

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#53 Stegeman Building II (ca 1877)
914 Prairie Avenue
#52 Scholibo Building (1880)
912 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking south
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 28 of 53


WILSON'S
OFFICE
FURNITURE
STATIONERY
PRINTING
SAVE
ONE WAY

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#26 Wilson's Building (ca 1932)
1010 Prairie Avenue
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 29 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#27 Paul Building (1907)
1018 Preston
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 30 of 53


The SPAGHETTI
Old WAREHOUSE

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#30 Desel-Boettcher Building (1912)
901 Commerce
Camera looking northeast
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 31 of 53


800 COMMERCE STREET


800 COMMERCE STREET

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#32 Dickson Building
800 Commerce
#33 Sierwessen Building
800 Commerce (far right)
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 32 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#6 First National Bank (1905, 1909, 1913, 1925)
201 Main Street
Old Bank Lobby
Camera looking east
Photographer unknown - September 1982; neg. on file at 201 Main Venture, 2727 Kirby Drive, Houston
Photo 33 of 53


DON'T
WALK

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#38 Hermann Estate Building (1917)
204-212 Travis
#37 Houston Cotton Exchange (1884)
202 Travis
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 34 of 53 (left to right)



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#38 Hermann Estate Building
204-212 Travis
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 35 of 53


TO
NORTH
45

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#40 Kennedy Corner
220 Travis (ca. 1860, remodeled 1889)
#39 W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company Building
214-218 Travis (1860, remodeled 1889)
#38 Hermann Estate Building (1917)
204-212 Travis
#37 Houston Cotton Exchange & Board of Trade (1884)
202 Travis (far right)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 36 of 53 (left to right)



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#38 Hermann Estate Building
204-212 Travis
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 35 of 53


TO
NORTH
45

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#40 Kennedy Corner
220 Travis (ca. 1860, remodeled 1889)
#39 W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company Building
214-218 Travis (1860, remodeled 1889)
#38 Hermann Estate Building (1917)
204-212 Travis
#37 Houston Cotton Exchange & Board of Trade (1884)
202 Travis (far right)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 36 of 53 (left to right)


NOW LEASING
HENRY HEATH BUILDING
CLATZMAIER
OPEN for LUNCH
815

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#42 Henke Building (1924)
805 Congress
#54 Cochran Building
809 Congress
#41 Kennedy Bakers (ca. 1860)
813 Congress
Camera looking north; photo by P. Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 37 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#38 Hermann Estate Building
204-212 Travis
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 35 of 53


TO
NORTH
45

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#40 Kennedy Corner
220 Travis (ca. 1860, remodeled 1889)
#39 W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company Building
214-218 Travis (1860, remodeled 1889)
#38 Hermann Estate Building (1917)
204-212 Travis
#37 Houston Cotton Exchange & Board of Trade (1884)
202 Travis (far right)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 36 of 53 (left to right)


NOW LEASING
HENRY HEATH BUILDING
CLATZMAIER
OPEN for LUNCH
815

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#42 Henke Building (1924)
805 Congress
#54 Cochran Building
809 Congress
#41 Kennedy Bakers (ca. 1860)
813 Congress
Camera looking north; photo by P. Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 37 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#38 Hermann Estate Building
204-212 Travis
Camera looking west
Photo by Paul Hester, 1980; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 35 of 53


TO
NORTH
45

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#40 Kennedy Corner
220 Travis (ca. 1860, remodeled 1889)
#39 W. L. Foley Dry Goods Company Building
214-218 Travis (1860, remodeled 1889)
#38 Hermann Estate Building (1917)
204-212 Travis
#37 Houston Cotton Exchange & Board of Trade (1884)
202 Travis (far right)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 36 of 53 (left to right)


NOW LEASING
HENRY HEATH BUILDING
CLATZMAIER
OPEN for LUNCH
815


NOW LEASING
HENRY HEATH BUILDING
CLATZMAIER
OPEN for LUNCH
815

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#42 Henke Building (1924)
805 Congress
#54 Cochran Building
809 Congress
#41 Kennedy Bakers (ca. 1860)
813 Congress
Camera looking north; photo by P. Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 37 of 53


813
TEXAS
YJB-27


813
TEXAS
YJB-27

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#41 Kennedy Bakery (ca. 1960)
813 Congress
Camera looking north
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 38 of 53


BUCKS
M NS WEAR
MR. BIG — We can FIT YOU! Sizes to 66
LEVI'S
WRANGLER
SEDDFIELD
DICKIES
LOST OUR LEASE
SHOE REPAIRS
RED'S SHINE PARLOR
Vaudeville Theatre
308

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#44 Bethje-Lang Building (ca. 1868)
316 Milam
#58 Buck's Menswear (ca. 1935)
314 Milam
#43 Erikson Building (ca. 1868)
310 Milam
Camera looking west
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 39 of 53 (left to right)


Warren's
BIG



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#44 Bethje-Lang Building (ca. 1868)
316 Milam
Camera looking west
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 40 of 53


MARKET SQUARE
FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#45 Fox-Kuhlman Building (south half) (1862-1866)
305-307 Travis
Camera looking east
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 41 of 53


THE
Swank
LOUNGE
FOR LEASE
668-2369
UNITED LABOR
SERVICE
CALL 227-0252
DAILY PAY
TEMPORARY HELP
OPEN
UNITED CAB

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#60 Circle Bar (Swank Lounge)
924 Congress (ca. 1920)
#59 United Labor Service
918 Congress (ca. 1890)
Camera looking south
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 42 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#44 Bethje-Lang Building (ca. 1868)
316 Milam
Camera looking west
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 40 of 53


MARKET SQUARE
FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#45 Fox-Kuhlman Building (south half) (1862-1866)
305-307 Travis
Camera looking east
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 41 of 53


THE
Swank
LOUNGE
FOR LEASE
668-2369
UNITED LABOR
SERVICE
CALL 227-0252
DAILY PAY
TEMPORARY HELP
OPEN
UNITED CAB

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#60 Circle Bar (Swank Lounge)
924 Congress (ca. 1920)
#59 United Labor Service
918 Congress (ca. 1890)
Camera looking south
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 42 of 53


1882
311


1882
311

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#46 Larendon Building (part of) (ca. 1890)
309 Travis
#47 Altmont Building (ca. 1878, 1892)
311 Travis Street
Camera looking east
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 43 of 53 (left to right)


Houston Citizens BANK AND TRUST
1801 - MAIN AT JEFFERSON
SHOW 'N TELL
SHOW 'N TELL
DISCOUNT ADULT BOOKS
PEEP SHOW
25¢ MOVIE ARCADE 25¢
ADULT VIDEO GAMES
900 PRESTON
VIDEO GAMES 24 HRS
24 HRS VIDEO GAMES 24 HRS
LIQUOR
HOT SANDWICHES
BEER-WINE-TOBACCO-DRUGS
BIG CASINO
ONE WAY
TRAVIS
TO NORTH 45
ENTER
ALLRIGHT
CITIZENS
BANK
PLAYERS

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#50 Baker Building (1875)
  401-403 Travis
Background (left to right):
  Scanlan Building
  Public National Bank
  State National Building
Camera looking south
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
  Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
  Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 44 of 53


NATIONAL
Houston Citizens
BANK
AND
TRUST
BUBBA'S
BAR-B-Q

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#65 (left) Bolfrass Building
417 Travis (ca. 1878)
#66 (right) Roco Building
419 Travis (ca. 1870, 1883)
Camera looking south
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 45 of 53


GOOD MUSIC
GOOD FOOD
NIGHTLEY
HUBER
SEAFOOD OYSTER BAR
SUMMER JAZZ
FESTIVAL
SUNDAYS 3TIL 10
BEGINNING JULY 11TH
HUBER
LUNCH
HUBER
DINNER & JAZZ
108
110

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#34 Kirlick Building
110-112 Travis (1894)
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 46 of 53

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#65 (left) Bolfrass Building
417 Travis (ca. 1878)
#66 (right) Roco Building
419 Travis (ca. 1870, 1883)
Camera looking south
Photo by Peter Boesel, 1982; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 45 of 53


GOOD MUSIC
GOOD FOOD
NIGHTLEY
HUBER
SEAFOOD OYSTER BAR
SUMMER JAZZ
FESTIVAL
SUNDAYS 3TIL 10
BEGINNING JULY 11TH
HUBER
LUNCH
HUBER
DINNER & JAZZ
108
110

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#34 Kirlick Building
110-112 Travis (1894)
Camera looking southwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 46 of 53





Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#64 Harris County Administration Building
Main Street at Pearson (1978)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 47 of 53


the
HUD
SOUL TRAIN OF NEW YORK
PANTS
HIRTS
SUITS
JEWELRY • HATS
ES JEWELRY Co.
BROKER
ANYTHING OF VALUE"
SOUL TRAIN OF NEW YORK
ALWAYS HI-STYLE
& LOW-LOW PRICES!!
312
DAYS
DAYS
CLOTHIERS
NUDE DANCING
XXX
MOVIES
COLOR
FILMS
MOVIES
OPEN
7 DAYS
24 HR.
LIVE
ON STAGE
EVERY DAY
CINEMA XX
ADULT THEATRE
OBSERVE
WARNING
SIGNS
STATE LAW
Fun Shop

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#63 The Hub
312 Main (ca. 1934)
#62 Sweeney & Coombs Building
310 Main (ca. 1880) remodeled
#14 A,B,C Stuart Building
304-308 Main
308 Main remodeled 1924
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 48 of 53 Left to Right


Charlie's
Charlie's
VIDEO GAME ROOM
VIDEO GAME ROOM
TEXAS
PAWN SHOP
$ MONEY TO LOAN

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#67 Texas Pawn Shop
  404-408 Main (20th century)
#68 Charlie's
  410 Main (20th century)
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
  Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
  Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 49 of 53


EXOTIC
DANCERS
SHOW TIME
1009

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#56 Show Time Club
1000 Congress (ca. 1925)
#57 Aaron Mintz Building
1011 Congress (ca. 1940s)
Camera looking north
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 50 of 53


American Bank PARKING
SYSTEM PARKING
$1.00 EACH HALF HOUR
$4.00 MAX.
ATTENDANT LEAVES 6 P.M.
TO
NORTH
45
DO YOU NEED EXTRA HELP?
call UNITED LABOR SERVICE
FAST SERVICE & QUALITY IS OUR POLICY
227-0252
UNITED LABOR SERVICE
227-0252
All Lum Properties
64-203

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas

#55 American Bank Parking Garage
901 Congress
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Minette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 51 of 53


Southern Dental
1014
1014

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
#72 Southern Dental
1014 Prairie (1940s)
Camera looking south
Photo by Minnette Boesel, 1983; neg. on file with
Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston
Public Library, 500 McKinney, Houston
Photo 52 of 53



Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Houston, Harris County, Texas
Allen's Landing (1936, 1967)
Corner of Main & Commerce
#1 Main St. Viaduct (1913, 1982)
Main St. at Buffalo Bayou
Camera looking northwest
Photo by Paul Hester, 1981; neg. on file with
P. Hester, 1008½ Hyde Park, Houston
Photo 53 of 53


H.V.RADOFF
18 96
H.V.RADOFF
18 96
FRANKLIN
ONE WAY
FRANKLIN ST
CINEMA
CHEVROLET

Houston Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Harris County, Texas
Site No. 73, Cruger's Warehouse/Radoff Building
202-204 Milam

Photo 1983 by Minnette Boesel; neg. on file with her at Preservation Services, 2243 B W. Alabama, Houston

View of SW corner of Franklin and Milam Streets, looking southwest

Photo 54


ONE WAY
DONT WALK
717
LA MARGARITA
LUNCH SPECIALISTS
COMPLIMENTARY SOUP OF
THE DAY SM MARGARITA-100
JAMES LEDOS
RYZ-858

Houston Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Harris County, Texas
Site No. 74, Magnolia Brewery, 715 Franklin

Photo 1983 by Minnette Boesel; neg. on file with her at Preservation Services, 2243 B. West Alabama, Houston.

View of NW Corner of Franklin and Milam Streets, looking northwest.

Photo 55


MAGNOLIA BREWERY
FRANKLIN
NO PARKING

Houston Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Harris County, Texas
Sites No. 75 (112-114 Milam) and 76 (110 Milam)

Photo by Minnette Boesel; neg. on file with her at Preservation Services, 2243 B W. Alabama, Houston

View of buildings on Milam Street, looking northwest

Photo 56



Houston Main Street/Market Square Historic District
Harris County, Texas
Site No. 76, 110 Milam

Photo 1983 by Minnette Boesel, neg. on file with her at Preservation Services, 2243 B. West Alabama, Houston

Oblique view of front (east) facade of Houston Ice and Brewing Co., looking north-by-northwest.

Photo 57

1/23/84

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SETTEGAST QUADRANGLE
TEXAS—HARRIS CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6943 IV NW (ALDINE)

6943 I NW (HARMASTON)

95°22′30″ — 29°52′30″ — 95°15′ — 29°52′30″

271 000m E — 272 — 273 — 274 — 20′ — 275 — 276 — 277 — 278 — 17′30″ — 279 — 280 — 3 180 000 FEET — 281 — 282 000m E

33 07 000m N — 760 000 FEET

ALDINE 4.1 MI. — CLEVELAND 36 MI. HUMBLE 10 MI. — 6943 IV NE (HUMBLE) — 1.3 MI. TO MT. HOUSTON RD.

2 MI. TO INTERSTATE 45

CONROE 35 MI. SPRING 18 MI.

6943 IV SW (HOUSTON HEIGHTS)

6943 I SW (JACINTO CITY)

SHELDON 8 MI.

SEALY 48 MI.

CHANNELVIEW 8 MI. BEAUMONT 78 MI.

6 MI. TO INTERSTATE 610 GALVESTON 50 MI.

(PARK PLACE) 6943 III NE — 2.6 MI. TO INTERSTATE 45

WASHBURN TUNNEL 5 MI.

(BELLAIRE) 6943 III NW

(PASADENA) 6943 II NW

Westfield Estates
Melrose Park
Hawthorne Place
Sherwood Place
Scenic Woods
Calgary Woods
North Shadydale
SETTEGAST
East Houston
HOUSTON
Halls Bayou
Buffalo Bayou
Lake Rittenhouse
Missouri Pacific
Houston Belt and Terminal
Southern Pacific
Pipeline
Houston Corporate Boundary
Oil Wells
Water Tanks
Sewage Disposal
Gaging Sta
Powerplant
Radio Towers (KPRC)
Radio Tower (KCOH)
Radio Towero
Channel Dredgings
Turning Basin
Settegast Yards
Hunting Bayou
Galena Park Corporate Limits
Barrick Sch
Patrick Henry Jr High Sch
Fire Station
Little York Hospital
Scarborough Sch
Fonwood Sch
Northwood Jr High Sch
Smiley High Sch
Smiley Sch
Scenic Woods Sch
Gleason Park
Scenic Woods Park
Kirby Jr High Sch
Lake Forest Park
Shady Lane Park
Gaging Sta
Ethel R Coop Sch
Mendel Sch
Warren Park
Drive-in Theater
Shadydale Sch
Tidwell Park
Tidwell Sch
YMCA
St. Charles Sch
Sam Houston High Sch
Luther Burbank Sch
Luther Burbank Jr High Sch
Water Tank
Dodson Lake Park
Oak Park Cem
Berry Sch
Crowden Park
Fire Station
Public Health Center
Easter Sch
Westcott Cem
Terrell Jr High Sch
Pelham Park
Janowski Sch
Bowie Sch
Sanderson Sch
Trinity Gardens Park
Houston Gardens Park
Houston Gardens Sch
Rosewood Park
Lakewood Park
East Houston Sch
Stanfield Park
Hillard Sch
Liberty Park
Elmore High Sch
Settegast Sch
Kirby Jr High Sch
Theodore Roosevelt Sch
Kashmere Gardens High Sch
McDade Sch
Keller Street Incinerator
Hutcheson Park
Lockwood Hospital
St Francis of Assisi Sch
Kashmere Gardens Sch
Thomas Jefferson Sch
Irvington Park
Betsy Ross Sch
Wayne 2
Ryan Sch
Loosan Sch
Isaacs Sch
Scott Sch
Tuffly Park
Hollywood Cemetery
Holy Cross Cem
Moody Park
Travis Sch
Jefferson Davis High Sch
Woodland Park
Carnegie Public Library
Marshall Jr High Sch
Sherman Sch
Robert E Lee Sch
Hogg Park
Our Mother of Mercy Sch
Atherton Sch
Hester House
Eliot Sch
Lathrop
Smith Jr High Sch
St Elizabeth Hospital
Kress Lyons Park
Cemetery
Wheatley High Sch
McReynolds Jr High Sch
Denver Harbor Park
Resurrection Sch
Finnegan Park
Brock Sch
Henneisey Park
Bruce Sch
Pugh Sch
Sam Houston Coliseum
Fire Station
City Hall
Courthouse Annex
Courthouse
Jail
Post Office
Civic Center
Civic Center Park
Main Library
Auditorium
Police Station
St Vincent Sch
Yates Sch
Rusk Sch
Astrodome Park
Ripley Foundation
Pleasantville Sch
Pleasantville Park
Pleasantville Jr High Sch
Port Houston Sch
Pleasantville Manor Park
Athletic Field
Wilke Park
Oil Well
Oil Wells
Oates Sch
Tower
Drive-in Theater
Channel Dredgings

MAIN STREET/MARKET SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT
CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
HOUSTON, HARRIS CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 15/
A: 27/1330/3294520
B: 27/1760/3295100
C: 27/1660/3294260
D: 27/2080/3294840

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1966. Topography enlarged from 1:31 680-scale AMS map of Settegast Quadrangle. Original map by planetable surveys 1943. Revised 1967

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, south central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 20 meters south and
22 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

UTM GRID AND 1967 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
GN 1°09′ 20 MILS — MN 8° 142 MILS

SCALE 1:24 000

1 MILE — 1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET — 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS NEGLIGIBLE

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

TEXAS
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

2995-431

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — U.S. Route — State Route

SETTEGAST, TEX.
N2945—W9515/7.5
1967
DMA 6943 IV SE—SERIES V882

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1980

rec'd Fed-Ex 7/28/83

TEXAS COMMERCE BANCSHARES, INC.

DAVID SENIOR
Senior Vice President

8-TCB-89
P.O. Box 2558
Houston, Texas 77252
(713)236-5090

July 27, 1983

Mr. Curtis Tunnell
Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Tunnell:

This letter is in response to the letter addressed to Texas Commerce Bank dated June 22, 1983, from Peter Flagg Maxson regarding nomination of the building at 202-204 Milam in Houston for the National Register of Historic Places.

Texas Commerce Bank is the sole owner of the property, and Texas Commerce Bank does not wish to have this building listed on the National Register. Texas Commerce Bank, therefore, does hereby object to the proposed listing.

I do understand that the State Historic Preservation Officer will submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for a determination of eligibility of the property for inclusion in the National Register. Upon that determination I would like to be informed whether this property is eligible.

Sincerely,

David Senior

DS:dh

xc: Peter Flagg Maxson

Texas Commerce Bancshares, Inc.

TEXAS COMMERCE BANCSHARES, INC.

THE STATE OF TEXAS &
&
COUNTY OF HARRIS &

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared David Senior, Senior Vice President of Texas Commerce Bancshares, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, in the capacity therein stated, and as the act of said Corporation in such capacity.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 27th day of July, 1983.

Notary Public in and for
the State of Texas

My Commission Expires: 4/11/84

Texas Commerce Bancshares, Inc.

GEORGE E. CHRISTIAN, AUSTIN
CHAIRMAN
MRS. H.L. LONG, KILGORE
VICE CHAIRMAN
DUNCAN E. BOECKMAN, DALLAS
SECRETARY

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BARNEY M. DAVIS, SR., SOMERVILLE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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JAMES S. NABORS, LAKE JACKSON
GAY RATLIFF, AUSTIN
LOUIS P. TERRAZAS, SAN ANTONIO
EVANGELINE LOESSIN WHORTON,
GALVESTON ISLAND
DR. DAN A. WILLIS, HOUSTON

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512) 475-3092

September 29, 1983

Dear Carol:

Enclosed is an amendment to the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Main Street/Market Square Historic District in Houston, Harris County, Texas. You will note that there is a notarized letter of objection from the owner of one of the seven affected properties.

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Curtis Tunnell
Executive Director

CT/mc
Enclosure

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register Division
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240

1/23/84

G Sachau
1-28-02

H30(2255)

January 28, 2002

Mr. Mike Melnik
Japhet Realty For 506 Main Partnership
P.O. Box 22957
Houston, TX 77227

PROPERTY: **Barringer-Norton Building, 506 Main Street, Houston, TX**
PROJECT NUMBER: **(8756)**
TAXPAYER ID NUMBER: **76-0522688**

Dear Mr. Melnik:

The National Park Service has determined that the subject property contributes to the significance of the Main Street/Market Square Historic District. This determination is made in response to the Historic Preservation Certification Application -- Part 1 submitted to this office.

While obtaining this certification of significance is the first step in qualifying for maximum tax benefits under federal laws, there may be an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issue. We understand that this property has been placed in service. Guidance we have received from the IRS states that "owners who wait until after all work is complete, and the building placed in service, before they file Part 1 of the application [with the State Historic Preservation Office]. . . do not qualify for a Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit." The basis for this opinion can be found in IRS regulation Section 1.48-12(d) (7) and Section 1.48-12(d)(1). The National Park Service cannot determine eligibility for use of the credit under IRS regulations. Therefore, we recommend that you contact the IRS for advice as to whether this project, if certified by the NPS, will meet the basic IRS eligibility criteria for the 20% investment tax credit. You may contact the following individuals at the IRS: Donna Richard, 512-499-5895; or Colleen Gallagher, 651-312-7904.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions, please call me at 202-343-9531.

Sincerely,

Gary Sachau
Technical Preservation Services Branch

cc: IRS
TX SHPO
Courtney Tardy, 2127 Milford Street, Houston, TX 77098

GEORGE E. CHRISTIAN, AUSTIN
CHAIRMAN
MRS. H.L. LONG, KILGORE
VICE CHAIRMAN
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BARNEY M. DAVIS, SR., SOMERVILLE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DR. ROBERT D. HUNTER, ABILENE
JAMES S. NABORS, LAKE JACKSON
GAY RATLIFF, AUSTIN
LOUIS P. TERRAZAS, SAN ANTONIO
EVANGELINE LOESSIN WHORTON,
GALVESTON ISLAND
DR. DAN A. WILLIS, HOUSTON

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512) 475-3092

September 29, 1983

Dear Carol:

Enclosed is an amendment to the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Main Street/Market Square Historic District in Houston, Harris County, Texas. You will note that there is a notarized letter of objection from the owner of one of the seven affected properties.

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Curtis Tunnell
Executive Director

CT/mc
Enclosure

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register Division
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240

1/23/84

G Sachau
1-28-02

H30(2255)

January 28, 2002

Mr. Mike Melnik
Japhet Realty For 506 Main Partnership
P.O. Box 22957
Houston, TX 77227

PROPERTY: **Barringer-Norton Building, 506 Main Street, Houston, TX**
PROJECT NUMBER: **(8756)**
TAXPAYER ID NUMBER: **76-0522688**

Dear Mr. Melnik:

The National Park Service has determined that the subject property contributes to the significance of the Main Street/Market Square Historic District. This determination is made in response to the Historic Preservation Certification Application -- Part 1 submitted to this office.

While obtaining this certification of significance is the first step in qualifying for maximum tax benefits under federal laws, there may be an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issue. We understand that this property has been placed in service. Guidance we have received from the IRS states that "owners who wait until after all work is complete, and the building placed in service, before they file Part 1 of the application [with the State Historic Preservation Office]. . . do not qualify for a Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit." The basis for this opinion can be found in IRS regulation Section 1.48-12(d) (7) and Section 1.48-12(d)(1). The National Park Service cannot determine eligibility for use of the credit under IRS regulations. Therefore, we recommend that you contact the IRS for advice as to whether this project, if certified by the NPS, will meet the basic IRS eligibility criteria for the 20% investment tax credit. You may contact the following individuals at the IRS: Donna Richard, 512-499-5895; or Colleen Gallagher, 651-312-7904.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions, please call me at 202-343-9531.

Sincerely,

Gary Sachau
Technical Preservation Services Branch

cc: IRS
TX SHPO
Courtney Tardy, 2127 Milford Street, Houston, TX 77098

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30(2255)

January 29, 2002

Memorandum

To: Keeper, National Register of Historic Places

From: Gary Sachau,
Technical Preservation Services Branch, Heritage Preservation Services Division

Subject: Request for National Register Review of Historic Preservation Certification Application

A Historic Preservation Certification Application--Part 1 for the Barringer-Norton Building, 506 Main Street, Houston, TX, in the Main Street/Market Square Historic District, was recently submitted to this office through the TX State Historic Preservation Office. The owner requests certification of the building. However, the National Register documentation contains a contradictory evaluation of this property.

We believe this building does contribute to the significance of the Main Street/Market Square Historic District, whose period of significance extends to circa 1933. At the time the district was listed in 1983, most of the façade was covered with modern panels. A pre-rehabilitation photograph was submitted with the Part 1 showing many of the panels removed. This photo reveals that the 1928 Tudor Revival facade has survived largely intact; therefore, the building possesses sufficient historic integrity to be classified as contributing. Since the SHPO has no plans at the present time to revise the National Register documentation, our office requests a Supplementary Listing Record be issued, revising the National Register nomination and listing this building as a contributing structure. We have already taken action on the owner's application for certification of significance, as recommended by the SHPO.

Enclosed please find copies of the Part 1 application, the State Review Sheet, and photographic documentation. Thank you.

Attachments

cc: TX SHPO

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30(2255)

January 29, 2002

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Attachments

cc: TX SHPO

Form 10-168d
Rev 1/2000

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JAN - 8 2002
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Historic Preservation Certification Application
State Historic Preservation Office Review & Recommendation Sheet
Significance – Part 1

Project Number: THC-969-02-005 8756

Number 1

Property: Barringer-Norton Building
506 Main
Houston, TX 77002

Historic District: Main Street-Market Square Historic District

[x] NR district [ ] Certified state or local district

Date initial application received by State: 7-27-01
Date(s) additional information requested by State 7-27-01
Date complete information received by State 12-03-01
Date transmitted to NPS: 12-20-01
Property visited by State staff? _____

PROJECT REVIEW SUMMARY

X Fully reviewed by SHPO
___ No outstanding concerns
___ Owner informed of SHPO recommendation
X In-depth NPS review requested
___ Recommendation different from applicant's request

Number 2

STATE RECOMMENDATION:

Gregory Smith, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, has reviewed this application.

X The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for the purposes of rehabilitation.

___ The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code.

___ The property does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
___ Insufficient documentation has been provided to evaluate the structure.
___ This application is being forwarded without recommendation.

Preliminary determinations:

___ The property appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will be nominated individually.
___ The property does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated.
___ The property appears to contribute to the significance of a:
___ potential historic district which appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.
___ registered historic district but is outside the period(s) or area(s) of significance documented in the National Register
___ nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS., and nomination will be amended.

___ The property is located within a proposed historic district
___ The property does not appear to the significance of the proposed historic district
___ The proposed historic district does not appear to meet the NR criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated

12-20-01 _____
Date State Official Signature

Number 3

ISSUES

X	Extensive loss or deterioration of historic fabric	____	Moved property
____	Substantial alterations over time	X	State recommendation inconsistent with NR documentation
____	Significance less than 50 years old	____	Functionally related complex or multiple buildings within an individual nomination
____	Obscured or covered elevation(s)	____	Other

Number 4

Complete items below as appropriate:

(1) _____ is the period(s) of significance for the district

(2) The property is mentioned in the NR or state or local district documentation Section 7 , Page 12

(3) For preliminary determinations, the status of the nomination for the property/historic district:

____ Nomination has already been submitted to the State Review Board, and will be forwarded to the NPS within _____ months. Draft nomination is enclosed.

____ Nomination was submitted to the NPS on _____

____ Nomination process will likely be completed within thirty months.

____ Other, explain:

(4)

____ The property is located in a registered district, but its current condition is inconsistent with the determination of its contribution to the district as stated in the nomination. Supplemental Listing Record requested.

Number 5

Describe problematic issues or other concerns.

This building was listed as noncontributing to the Main Street Market Square Historic District (NR 1983). The nomination text (Section 7, Page 12) describes it as "almost entirely refaced with plaster." SHPO staff has determined that enough fabric remains to make it recognizable to the period of significance as a unique example of Tudor Revival commercial architecture in downtown Houston. Certification of this building from the NPS would be consistent with recent determinations for properties within the district, most recently the finding that the adjacent property at 508 Main Street (Victory-Wilson Building) continues to contribute to the district despite similar changes to the ground floor. The Texas SHPO only has photocopies of the images included in the district nomination, and we recommend that the photos on file with the National Register be examined to determine if the building contributes to the district.

____ See attachments: ____ photographs ____ maps ____ other:

NPS COMMENTS: Concur w/ State -- property contributes to HD. (Needs SLR.)

some of the facade panels in the 1982 photo have been removed to show that there was sufficient integrity prior to rehab.

1-28-02 Gary Lachman

Date NPS Reviewer

69. Reiner's. 416 Main Street (ca. 1922). Non-contributing. This is a three-story corrugated aluminum front building. The original facade has been totally covered. See photo 22.

70. Stegeman Building. 502-504 Main Street (1879; 1890). Non-contributing. This two-story plastered building has large, paired, Italianate brackets supporting a metal cornice. In 1890 a mansard roof was added as a third floor, but has since been removed. The original second floor windows with deep pedimented hood molds and other Italianate elements have been obliterated in a refacing of both street facades. With extensive restoration this building would qualify as contributing. Now Church's Fried Chicken. See photo 25.

71. Barringer-Norton Building. 506 Main Street (1928); James Ruskin Bailey, architect. Non-contributing. This two-and-one-half-story building's Main Street facade has been almost entirely refaced with plaster. Part of the original half-timbered, Elizabethan-style facade remains at the top of the building in a cantilevered gable. A brick chimney and a steeply pitched roof top the structure. Photographic documentation of this building's original appearance would make it possible to restore its Main St. facade so that it could become a "contributing" building. See photo 25.

72. Southern Dental. 1014 Prairie (1940s). Non-contributing. This four-story commercial building has a textured concrete facade. There are no apertures except the ground floor entrances. See photo 52.

Excerpt from NR nomination:
Main Street / Market Square HD,
1983



Barringer—Norton Bldg.,
Houston, TX
(from NR nomination, photo dated 1982)

Barringer - Norton Bldg.
Part 1 Photo - 12/99
Facade



Barringer - Norton Bldg.
Part 1 Photo - 7/00
(2nd floor interior)



Form 10-168
Rev. 12/90

OMB Approved

RECEIVED
JUL 26 2001
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JAN - 8 2002
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 — EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

NPS Office Use Only

NRIS No:

NPS Office Use Only

Project No: 8756

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Type or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. **Name of property:** Barringer Norton Building

Address of property: Street 506 Main St.

City Houston County Harris State Tx Zip 77002

Name of historic district: Main Street / Market Square

☒ National Register district ☒ certified state or local district ☐ potential historic district

2. **Check nature of request:**

- ☒ certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district (or National Register property) for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- ☐ certification that the structure or building and, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
- ☐ certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
- ☐ preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
- ☐ preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
- ☐ preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

3. **Project contact:**

Name Courtney Tardy

Street 2127 Milford St. City Houston

State Texas Zip 77098 Daytime Telephone Number 713/942-9639

4. **Owner:**

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the property described above. I understand that falsification of factual representations in this application is subject to criminal sanctions of up to $10,000 in fines or imprisonment for up to five years pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Name MIKE MELNIK Signature [signature] Date 7-17-01

Organization JAPHET REALTY FOR 506 MAIN PARTNERSHIP

Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number 76-0522688

Street P.O. Box 22957 City Houston

State TX Zip 77227 Daytime Telephone Number 713-443-5020

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application — Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines that the property:

- ☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district (or National Register property) and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- ☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
- ☐ does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- ☐ appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
- ☐ does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
- ☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.
- ☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
- ☐ does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

Date | National Park Service Authorized Signature | National Park Service Office/Telephone No:

☐ See Attachments

5. Description of Physical Appearance

The Barringer-Norton Building is located within the Main Street/Market Square Historic District in downtown Houston. The building is located on Main Street in the center of the 500 block. (Attachment #1) A multi-story historic structure is located on the South end of the block; the remaining structures are two-story buildings. The majority of the structures on the blockface were built in the 1880s. (Attachment #2) The Rice Hotel was built in the 1910s. Others, including the Barringer-Norton Building, were refaced in the 1920s. None of the structures on this block face, with the exception of the Rice Hotel, are in original condition. Only two are currently occupied.

The Barringer Norton Building was built pre-1885 as a load-bearing masonry structure. It has a 1928 Tudor façade. The exterior is clad in plaster and wood in a half-timbering detail. The roof has intersecting gables clad with shingles. It is a two-story building with a rectangular plan. (Photograph #1)

The Barringer-Norton Building survives with only its second floor intact. This facade features a variety of Tudor features: a massive stucco chimney, vergeboard detailing, casement windows, and half-timbering. The front gable roof contains a projection over the second story windows. This projection features half-timbering and a metal ship ornament. The intersecting gable is set back from the front-facing gable and is covered in shingles. The four casement windows on the second story have divided lights topped by divided light transoms and are evenly spaced across the width of the building.

None of the first floor façade remains intact. What exists now is a metal and wire roll-down security fence. A canopy mechanism exists. A steel beam has been added across the front of the building.

The plan of the second floor is rectangular. (Photograph #2) The walls are covered with plaster. There is a brick room built in the rear North corner of the second floor; it has two punched openings for windows and a door. (Photograph #3)

The first floor interior has been altered many times. The entry of the building was pushed back in the 1940s when Zale's Jewelers occupied the building. A terrazzo floor was placed in the entry. The present owner cleaned the floor to reveal a detail of a

Tile mosaics and tile walls on the North, West and part of the South walls throughout the interior were uncovered when the present owner cleaned the decaying plaster from the walls. It is believed that they were added when J. Thompson Restaurant moved into the space in 1917.[1] The mosaics feature a flower pattern interspersed with a garland and urn pattern. The colors are in gold, blues, greens, and red; all are vibrant. The mosaics are intersected by vertical rows of green and white tile. The rest of the walls are clad with white tile. Other parts of the floor are clad with white and green tiles that complement the interior walls. (Photographs #4 & 5)

Two pastoral scenes created in tile and mosaics were also uncovered. They were previously unknown to the owner. These murals are indicative of the late American Arts & Crafts period. One of the murals features a tile mosaic of cows idly grazing by a small stream with a gambrel-roofed farmhouse in the background. The other depicts cows standing by a stream with farm buildings in the background. Both are bordered in mosaics. The craftsmanship is very good and both murals appear to be in excellent condition.

Along the top of the first floor ceiling is a short row (about 5 feet) of older 19th century pressed tiles. These feature a pattern of flower garlands and are executed in pastel colors. These likely pre-date the tile interior walls.

When James Ruskin Bailey remodeled the exterior for the building in 1928, it is probable that the interior first floor was not significantly remodeled, but the tile walls were most likely covered. The pastoral scenes would not be appropriate for a high-end gentlemen's clothing store. Although no pictures of the Barringer-Norton Co. store interior have been found, a picture was located of their shop interior in the 1910s at a different location. This interior shows floor-to-ceiling wood shelving, more in keeping with a men's store than pastoral tile murals. It is most probable that the interior walls at 506 Main were simply covered with another material.

Along the back wall two doors were punched in the tile walls to provide access to a concrete stairway and a restroom. In the center an opening had been punched into the tile wall for a safe, disrupting the mosaic border. Because of the materials used, it seems

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[1] Houston City Directories, 1900-1930. From 1900-1915, the building contained a variety of small businesses, including a barber shop, shoeshine establishment, manicurist shop, chiropodist office, and a clothes cleaners establishment.

Along the back wall two doors were punched in the tile walls to provide access to a concrete stairway and a restroom. In the center an opening had been punched into the tile wall for a safe, disrupting the mosaic border. Because of the materials used, it seems most likely that this alteration dates to the Zale's Jewelry period. (Photograph #3). A safe exists and is painted with the name of the jewelry store that once occupied the building. There is a mezzanine level in the rear North corner of the interior, added perhaps when the concrete stair was added. This mezzanine was most likely executed during the occupancy of Zale's Jewelers.

6. Statement of significance:

The Main Street/Market Square District is comprised of commercial structures that were built between the years of 1860 and 1940. It contains the site of Houston's founding and the site of Houston's early city halls and city markets. The variety of architecture in the district shows the periods of commercial growth and restructuring in the oldest commercial and civic district in Houston. The District is testament to the physical and economic growth during the period between Reconstruction and Houston's real estate boom of the 1920's.[2] The Barringer-Norton Co. 1928 remodeling of a 19th century building is an example of the real estate boom. By 1930, Houston had become the largest city in the South. Many Houston institutions were nurtured within the Main Street/Market Square Historic District, including the Barringer-Norton Company (now Norton Ditto).

Main Street is the historical commercial axis of the District. Major banks and retail institutions began on Main Street within the district. Foley's, Sakowitz and the Barringer-Norton Company, all major retail stores in Houston, had shops on Main Street in the early 20th century.

In 1928 the façade of 506 Main Street was reconstructed by Houston architect James Ruskin Bailey. Bailey was one of Houston's more popular architects of the early twentieth century. He designed residential, office, and hotel structures in Houston. He was born in Philadelphia in 1889. Educated at Carnegie Tech, he came to Texas in 1908 to be a draftsman for the Texas Company (later Texaco) in Port Arthur. In 1909, he moved to Houston and soon married Margaret Scott, the daughter of the President of First National Bank. He entered into partnership with Joseph Finger from 1911 to 1919. From 1919 to 1921, Bailey worked on his business interests, including a Ford Motor Company dealership. He reentered the architectural field in 1922, submitting his first design for the Public National Bank Building (also located in the Main Street/Market Square Historic District). In addition to the Barringer-Norton Building, he designed the John H. Kirby House (1928) in the Tudor style.[3]

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[2] Main Street/Market Square Historic District National Register Nomination, 1983.
[3] Houston Architectural Survey, Vol.4, 1980.

The Barringer-Norton Building is the only Tudor style building in the District. Despite its exuberant façade, its use a retail establishment and its massing hold it consistent to other structures within the district. Other buildings constructed in the district in the 1920s were mainly Classical revival bank structures or sensible commercial and retail structures. The Barringer-Norton Building is not the only Revival style structure in this area of downtown. The nearby 1929 National Cash Register Building by Joseph Finger is in a Mediterranean Revival style.[4] Its massing and size are comparable with the Barringer-Norton Building.

The Barringer-Norton Company is still one of the premiere men's clothing stores in Houston. The company is now known as Norton Ditto. While the Barringer-Norton Company had leased store space in other downtown buildings, 506 Main was reconstructed as their showplace. While in the 506 Main location, they advertised the store as "Norton's, Houston's Best Shop for Men,... furnishings, hats, clothing, tailors."[5]

The building's use as a gentlemen's shop lent itself nicely to the style of the façade. The 1920s were a period when many gentlemen's clubs, country clubs and large homes across the nation were built with an English Tudor influence in an attempt to reconnect with Anglo-Saxon traditions and heritage. It is not surprising that the Barringer-Norton Company chose such a style for their retail store given the quality of their clothes and the image the Tudor façade projected. This "gentlemen's" image can be seen clearly in the rendering by the architect, who places golf clubs in the store window and late model cars on the street.[6] (Attachment #3)

By the time the company left the 506 Main building to take a larger and more upscale shop in a downtown skyscraper, they advertised as "The Southwest's Finest Men Store, the finest ready-to-wear clothing, sportswear, furnishings and the very finest custom tailoring."[7] Their move to the Esperson Building in 1946, in the heart of the new commercial district, represents the company's growth and prominence.

Following the Barringer-Norton Company's abandonment of 506 Main in 1945 to move to the Esperson Building, 506 Main housed the first Houston Zale's jewelry store.

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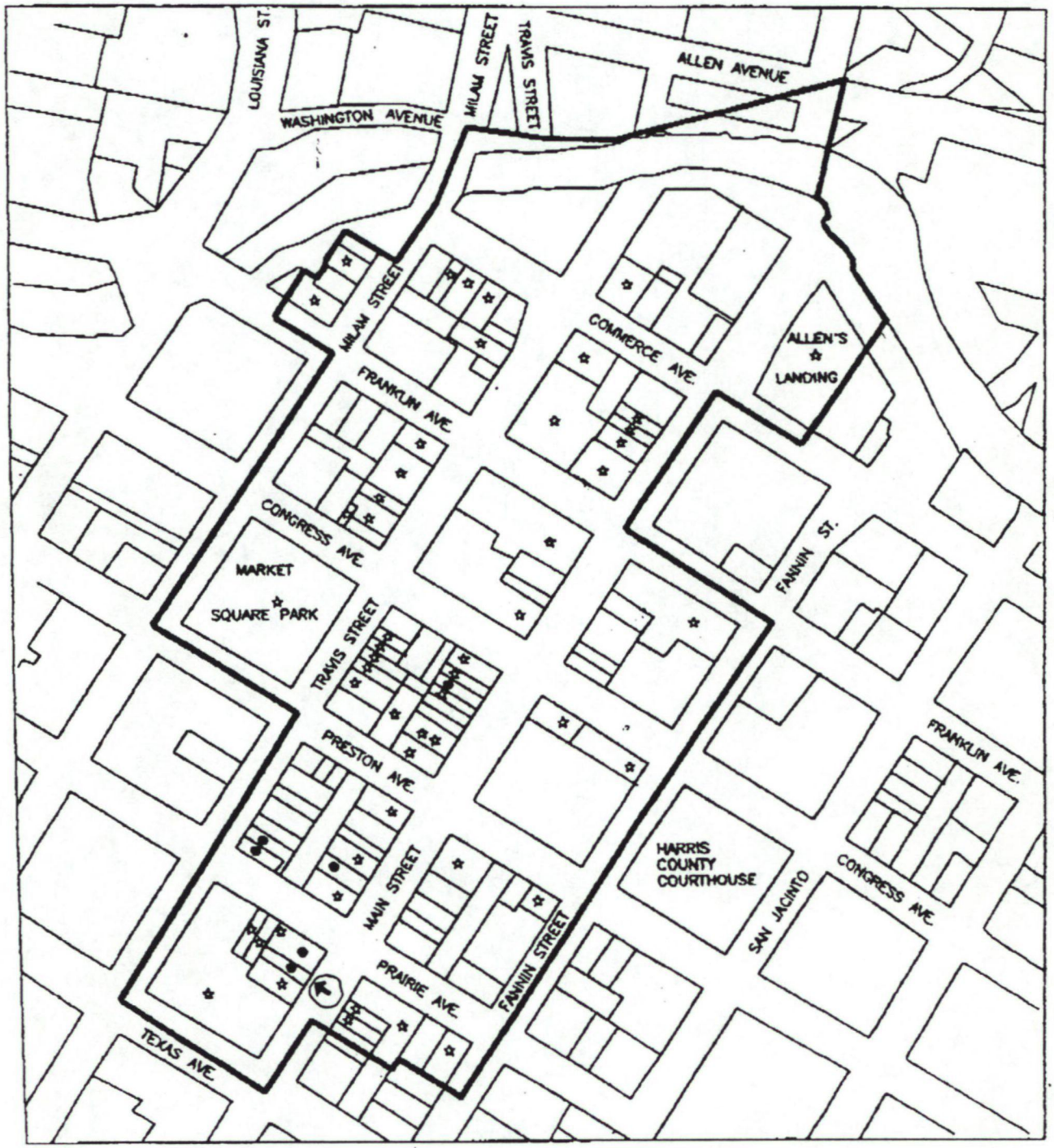
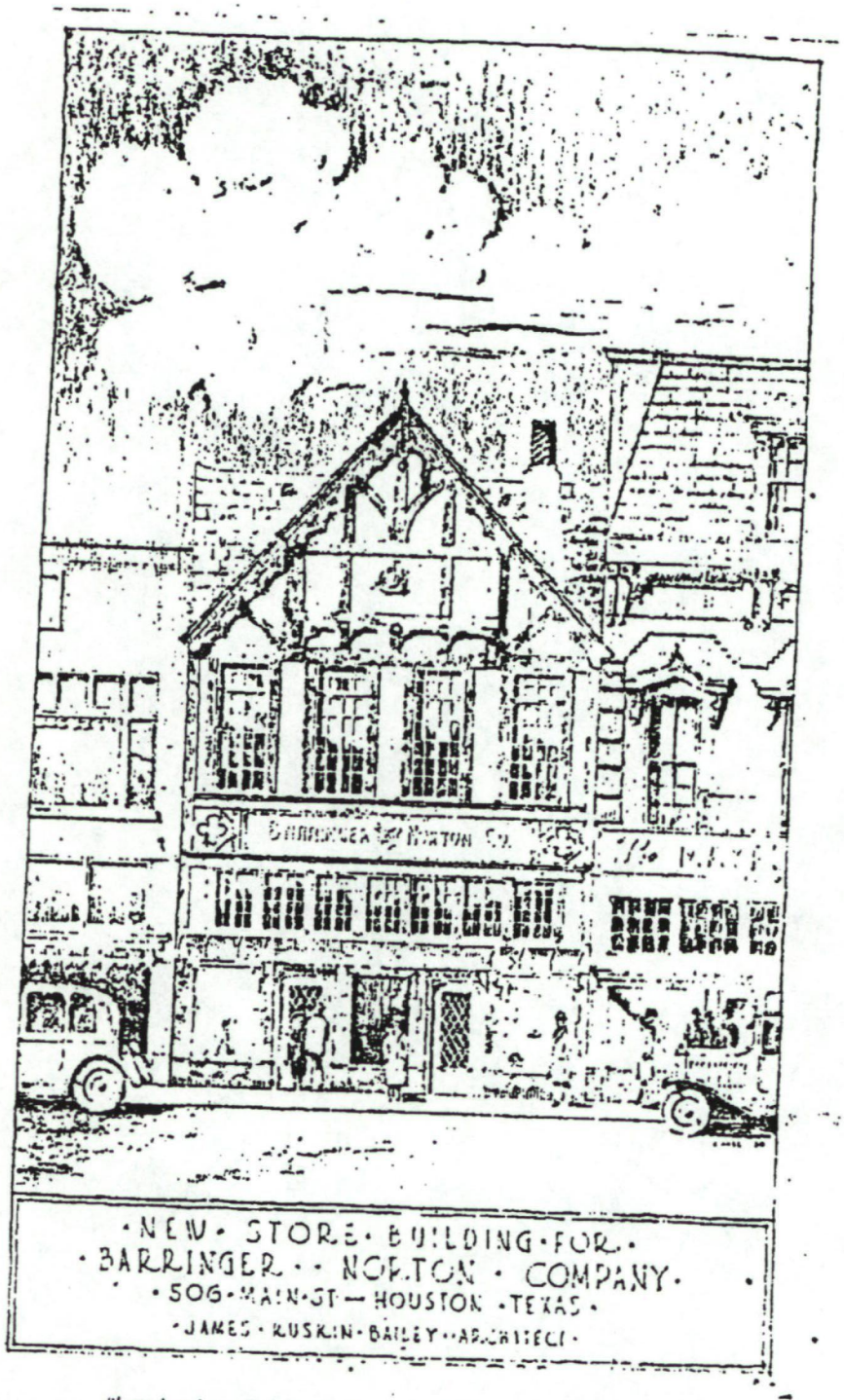
[4] This building is located just outside the Main Street/Market Square District.
[5] Houston City Directory, 1938.
[6] Rendering from The Book of Houston, 1928.
[7] Houston City Director, 1946.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Planning Commission **Meeting Date:February 6, 1997**

SITE LOCATION MAP
MAIN STREET/MARKET SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT
HOUSTON, TEXAS
NOT TO SCALE





Planned and erected by the Texas Mill Work Company, Houston, Texas