

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

3/29/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

all

Page

3

County Galveston USGS Quad 2994-231 Survey site no. 3  
City Galveston UTM's 325570/3242700  
Name Model Laundry Date: factual 1913-14; 1915 Est. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address 513-23 25th St. Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_  
2502 F & 2514 F Contractor Eubank & Dibrell (cont.)  
Owner Joe Celli Style/Type Commercial  
Original use Laundry  
Address 2420 Avenue C Present use Paint and body shop  
Galveston Present condition good  
Block/Lot 445/8-11: Less than 1 acre

Description 2-story reinforced concrete commercial structure with brick and tile facing; square shape with flat roof; shaped parapets define corners; facades divided into sections by groupings of 3 windows or 3 doors (latter on lower level) with flat pilasters; openings divided into smaller, usually vertical, panes; corbeling along roofline; contrasting tile brick frame, openings; colored diamond- and square-shaped tiles used as decoration; attached canopy on east facade; later rear addition of yellow brick also has slight variation in window treatment.

Significance Building represents type of later commercial architecture not common in Galveston. Also identified with laundry business that was considered progressive for the period. Sanborn Maps say "built in 1913" while tax records note improvements in 1914 with additional improvements in 1915. First listing of Model Laundry and Dry Works at address is in 1913 City Directory; same directory refers to "Our New Fire-Proof Home." Was only steam laundry in Galveston at time. Building continued in laundry-related use through 1970 directory. Wm. A. Johnson, responsible for building the structure, was known nationally in the laundry business. He came to Galveston back in 1909 to take over Model Laundry and Dye Works, a business dating back to 1888 but in a deteriorated state. Johnson was elected two terms as president of the Laundryowners' National Association of the U.S. and Canada. Model Laundry was first laundry in Texas and among first industrial institutions to provide life insurance for all employees.

Relationship to site: Moved \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ or Original site X Describe on busy street; major street into downtown, on corner across from Federal Building/Post Office  
Bibliography Sanborn Maps; County Tax Informant \_\_\_\_\_  
Records, City Directories; S.C. Griffin, Recorder Ellen Beasley  
History of Galveston, Texas: Narrative Date Nov. 1982  
and Biographical, 1931.

Continuations: \* Contractor: (1915 rear addition)



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Model Laundry (Central Business District MRA)

Galveston County

TEXAS

Working No. MAR 29 1984

Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Due: 4/26/84 - 5/13/84

Action: ACCEPT

RETURN 5/2/84

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Substantive Review**

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Return for change*

Recom./Criteria Return

Reviewer Grover

Discipline Historian

Date 5/2/84

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	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection



## 8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ 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

## X10. Geographical Data

Y Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_ *Please provide acreage*  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM 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 *Michael Zygar* Date *5/2/84* Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



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National Park Service

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 3

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Central Business District Multiple Resource Area

State Galveston County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Marschner Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

12. Model Laundry

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Beth Groves 8/14/84

13. Moser House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

14. Pix Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

15. Robinson Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

16. Rosenberg Library

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

17. Scottish Rite Cathedral

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Beth Groves 8/14/84

18. Shaw, M. W., Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

19. Star Drug Store

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84

20. Texas Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 8/14/84



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Model Laundry (Central Business District MRA)  
Galveston County  
TEXAS

Substantive Review

- ☒ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Working No. 3/29/84  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85  
Date Due: 8/19/84  
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 8-14-84  
☐ RETURN  
☐ REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Recom./Criteria Accept - A+C  
Reviewer G. D. Green  
Discipline Historic  
Date 8/14/84  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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  
☐ boundary selection



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Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
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- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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title

date

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- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_







Model Laundry, 513-23 25th  
Galveston Central Business District Multiple

Galveston Central Business District  
Multiple Resource Nomination  
Galveston, Galveston County, Texas

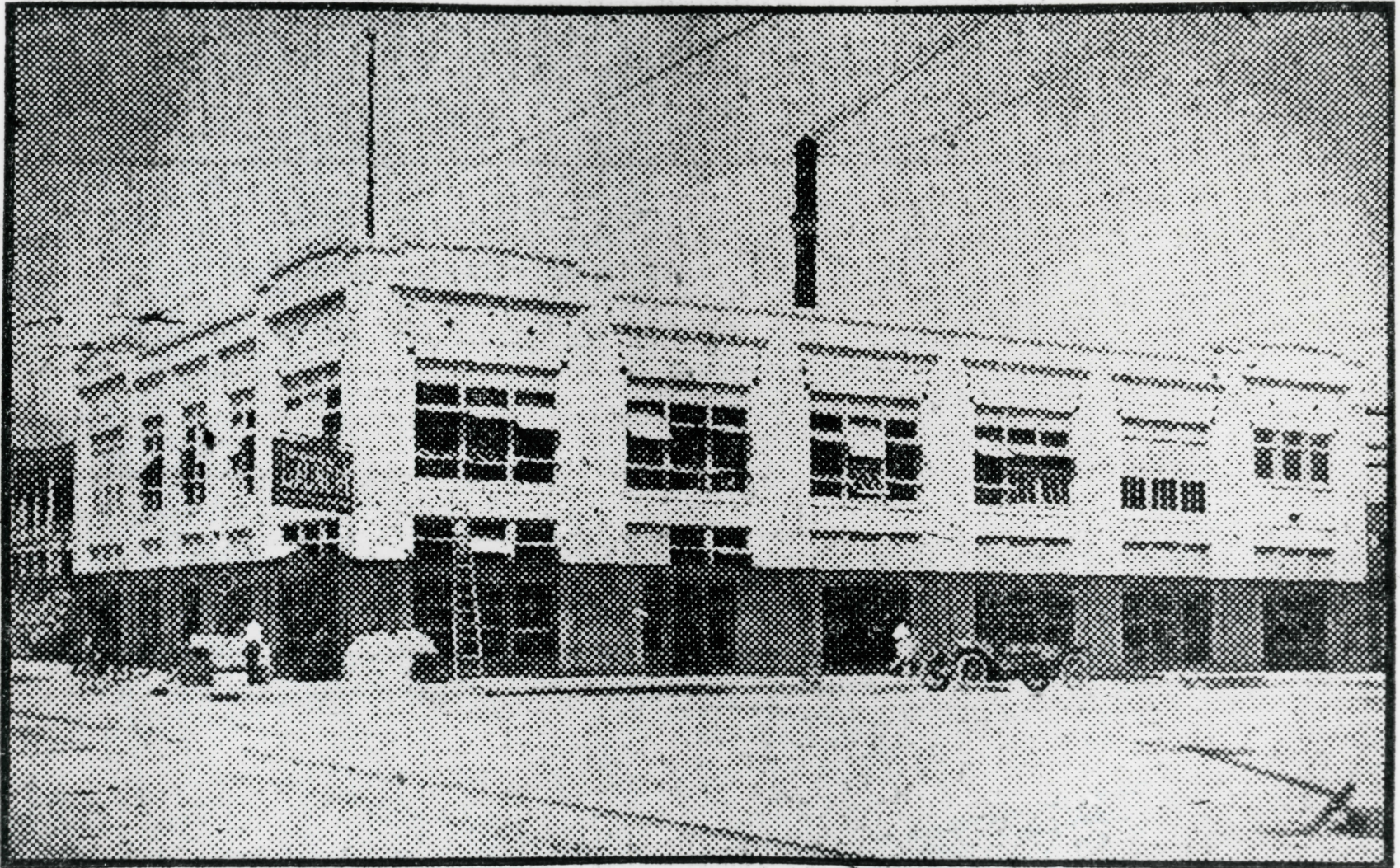
Photo by Ellen Beasley, May 1982; neg. on file,  
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

Site No. 3, Model Laundry, 513-23 25th Street;  
looking northwest.

Photo 8 of 32



# Reinforced Concrete Business House



The plant of the Model Laundry Company, on the northwest corner of Twenty-fifth and Church streets, is one of the most substantial business blocks erected in the downtown district during the past few months. The building and new machinery represent an outlay of \$50,000.



Galveston Central Business District  
Multiple Resource Nomination  
Galveston, Galveston County, Texas

Photo from Galveston Daily News, Sept. 1, 1913.  
Archives of Rosenberg Library.

Site No. 3, Model Laundry, 513-23 25th Street,

Photo 9 of 32

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Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000842