

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 3/28/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 14

County Galveston USGS Quad 2994/231 Survey site no. 14
 City Galveston UTMs 325980/3242820
 Name Scottish Rite Cathedral Date: factual 1928-29 Est. _____
 Address 2128 Church St. Architect/Builder A.C. Finn, Houston
 Contractor M.C. Bowden, Gal.
 Owner Scottish Rite Cathedral Style/Type eclectic
 Original use Scottish Rite Cathedral
 Address 2128 Church Present use same
Galveston 77550 Present condition good

Block/Lot 441/12-14

Description 2-story limestone and brick structure with raised basement; square shape with flat roof; three-story section on northwest side serves as entrance to auditorium; roofline on primary sides encircled by double cornice with low relief carved ornamentation; the top bank is pierced with repeated needle shape; lower band is foliated rinceau; double eagles are placed at the front corners of the cornice, primary entrance on southwest corner is defined by two-story arch on which four emblems of the order are carved; on southeast side is arcade with a side stairwell that serves as another entrance area; varied windows treatment, some with "art glass"; 1929 newspaper accounts include description of elaborate interior.

Significance Galveston is the "mother of Scottish Rite Masonry in Texas." It was established on May 15, 1867 and named San Felipe Lodge in honor of Austin's colony. This particular site has been associated with Scottish Rite activities since 1902 when it was acquired by the lodge. At that time, Harmony Hall, a building erected in 1881 and associated with a Jewish organization, was on the site. It burned in February, 1928. The lodge hired noted Houston architect and Scottish Rite member, A.C. Finn, to design the new cathedral. The latter is unique architecturally in Galveston as noted at the time of its dedication in 1929. Elaborate interiors were also noted. The contractor, M.C. Bowden, built many of the major buildings in Galveston during this period.

Relationship to site: Moved _____ date _____ or Original site X Describe On highly visible downtown block; half block from mall.

Bibliography RTHL Marker; The Masonic News, Oct., 1929. Informant _____
Recorder Ellen Beasley
Date Nov. 1982

Continuations:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Scottish Rite Cathedral (Central Business
District MRA)
Galveston County
TEXAS

Working No. MAR 29 1984

Substantive Review

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

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

Action: ACCEPT

RETURN 5/2/84

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 Return

Reviewer Grivona

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

excellent deteriorated unaltered original site

good ruins altered moved date _____

fair 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

10. Geographical Data

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 *Delores Byers* Date *5/16/84* Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 14

✓ County Galveston USGS Quad 2994/231 Survey site no. 14
 ✓ City Galveston UTMs 325980/3242820
 ✓ Name Scottish Rite Cathedral Date: factual 1928-29 Est. _____
 ✓ Address 2128 Church St. Architect/Builder A.C. Finn, Houston
 Contractor M.C. Bowden, Gal.
 Owner Scottish Rite Cathedral Style/Type eclectic
 Original use Scottish Rite Cathedral
 Address 2128 Church Present use same
Galveston 77550 Present condition good

Block/Lot 441/12-14. Less than 1 acre.

Description 2-story limestone and brick structure with raised basement; square shape with flat roof; three-story section on northwest side serves as entrance to auditorium; roofline on primary sides encircled by double cornice with low relief carved ornamentation; the top bank is pierced with repeated needle shape; lower band is foliated rinceau; double eagles are placed at the front corners of the cornice, primary entrance on southwest corner is defined by two-story arch on which four emblems of the order are carved; on southeast side is arcade with a side stairwell that serves as another entrance area; varied windows treatment, some with "art glass"; 1929 newspaper accounts include description of elaborate interior.

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Relationship to site: Moved ___ date ___ or Original site X Describe On highly visible downtown block; half block from mall.

Bibliography RTHL Marker; The Masonic News, Oct., 1929. Informant _____
Recorder Ellen Beasley
Date Nov. 1982

Continuations:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 3/29/84
date entered

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 Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

12. Model Laundry
Substantive Review

Keeper Beth Grovema 8/14/84
Attest _____

13. Moser House
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

14. Pix Building
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

15. Robinson Building
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

16. Rosenberg Library
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

17. Scottish Rite Cathedral
Substantive Review

Keeper Beth Grovema 8/14/84
Attest _____

18. Shaw, M. W., Building
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

19. Star Drug Store
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

20. Texas Building
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melona Byers 8/14/84
Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Scottish Rite Cathedral (Central
Business District MRA)
Galveston County
TEXAS

Substantive Review

Working No. 3/29/84

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85

Date Due: 5/19/84

Action: ACCEPT 8-14-84

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 - C

Reviewer: Grover

Discipline: Historic

Date: 8/19/84

_____ 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
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- 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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
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- 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 _____

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 _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2128 Church (F)
Galveston Central Business District
Multiple Resource Nomination
Galveston, Galveston County, Texas

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

Site No. 14, Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2128 Church (F)
looking northeast

Photo 22 of 32



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

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

Site No. 14, Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2128 Church (F)
looking northwest

Photo 23 of 32

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000842