

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

DEC - 2 1987

Continuation sheet

Item number 4,7,8,10

Page 124

Site No. 124

NAME Morton Brothers Grocery COUNTY Harris BLOCK 234  
ADDRESS 401 West 9th CITY Houston LOT 44' 17 & 18  
UTM 267880/3297420  
ARCHITECT/BUILDER Unknown DATE 1929 PERIOD 1900 -  
OWNER Robert H. Ziegler STYLE Commercial Vernacular  
401 West 9th, Houston, TX 77007 THEME  
DESCRIPTION One-story, brick veneer commercial building faces south on concrete slab; flat roof covers rectangular plan; principal facade consists of wooden kickplate below large glass storefronts extending almost the full width of the facade; slightly recessed double wooden doors with full-sized windows and screens are centered in the facade; a transom above the storefront runs the full width with vertical lights separated by muntins and mullions; the upper facade consists of a parapet front with squared arch and brick outline; a signboard background is centered in the facade with a  
Building material: wall brick veneer roof tar and gravel  
Physical condition excellent site: original ☒ or moved date  
Alterations none  
SIGNIFICANCE Morton Brothers Grocery is one of the few remaining one-story vernacular commercial structures in the Heights. It is significant because it represents a popular commercial and landmark feature of many neighborhoods, the corner grocery. Few of these remain as well. The building was originally owned by Curtiss I. Morton and his brother, William J. Morton, who operated a store here until 1949.

Area of significance architecture Level of significance local  
DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER HESI HSI OTHER  
ORIGINAL USE commercial PRESENT USE residence  
RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS Located on the corner of two residential streets; front parking with paved area; ten-foot wooden fence around rear yard; large trees on side  
ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION less than one acre  
BIBLIOGRAPHY Tax Rolls, Sanborn Maps  
RECORDED BY Bland Dansby INFORMANT  
DATE August 1987 PHOTO DATA 35 mm b/w & slides (4), THC  
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CONTINUATIONS:

Description cont.  
raised brick outline.

Relationship to Surroundings cont.  
of lot.



12/2/87

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic GroupName Houston Heights MRA  
State Harris County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

110. Copeland, Austin, House I  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

111. Copeland, Austin, House II  
**Entered in the  
National Register**Keeper Melvin Byers 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

112. Fluegel, William F., House  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

113. House at 1217 Harvard  
**Entered in the  
National Register**Keeper Melvin Byers 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

114. House at 1220 Harvard  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

115. House at 1435 Heights  
Boulevard  
**Entered in the  
National Register**Keeper Melvin Byers 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

116. Kennedy, Marshall W., House  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

117. Lindenberg, Emil, House  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

118. McCain, Henry Hicks, House  
**Substantive Review**Keeper Linda McClelland 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

119. Morton Brothers Grocery  
**Entered in the  
National Register**Keeper Melvin Byers 1/15/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_



87000255

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Morton Brothers Grocery (Houston Heights  
MRA)  
Harris County  
TEXAS

Working No. DEC 2 1987  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89  
Date Due: 12/31/87 - 1/16/88  
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 1-15-88  
☐ RETURN  
☐ REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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



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## 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

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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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## 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

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## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

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







Historic Resources of Houston Heights  
Site No. 124, Morton Bros. Grocery, 401 W. 9th  
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Bland Dansby, 1987, neg.  
with photographer, Houston, Texas Houston Heights,

401 W. 9th  
Front Facade, camera looking north Texas

Front Facade  
Photo 147 of 147 Facing North  
Photo: Bland Dansby  
Photo 1 of 2

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000847