

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**DATA SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED **OCT 17 1975**  
DATE ENTERED **JAN 11 1976**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **Leeds Iron Foundry**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER **923 Tchoupitoulas Street**

CITY, TOWN

**New Orleans**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

\_\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**2nd - Lindy Boggs**

STATE

**Louisiana**

CODE

**22**

COUNTY

**Orleans**

CODE

**071**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Delta Ship Service, Inc.**

STREET & NUMBER

**923 Tchoupitoulas Street**

CITY, TOWN

**New Orleans**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

**Louisiana**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Civil District Court**

STREET & NUMBER

**421 Loyola Avenue**

CITY, TOWN

**New Orleans**

STATE

**Louisiana**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE **Historic Site Inventory**

DATE

**March 31, 1969**

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

**Regional Planning Commission, 333 St. Charles Avenue**

CITY, TOWN

**New Orleans**

STATE

**Louisiana**

# 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

The exterior walls are stuccoed brick, with the first story of the front built of load-bearing, cast iron columns and lintel which support the masonry above. One column at its base has the letters "LEEDS" cast integrally. The interior is three equal bays wide running the length of the building, with two rows of wood columns supporting wood beams and wood floor. The roof is also three bays. The whole is typical commercial construction of its time and place. Fenestration was to the front and back. The back elevation had simple double hung sash on the second and third floors; the first floor wall at the back has been altered destroying the original work.

The main importance of the building is the street elevation in the Gothic style. Sited at the head of a long narrow park square, the building is conspicuously sited.

All of the Gothic columns, window frames and lintels are of cast iron. The lower cornice is of stucco. The existing sash on the first floor is later and non-descript. There is no record of the design of the original sash on the first floor. The casement sash on the second and third floors following the original drawing closely and is considered original.

A drawing in the Labrot Collection, Special Collections Division, Tulane University Library is undoubtedly the working drawing for this building. Another drawing shows a commercial building similar in design and detail; which drawing is earlier is not known. Both drawings are from the Gallier office; in 1852 the firm was Gallier and Turpin.

The Gothic style was fashionable in New Orleans for commercial and residential work from the very late 1840's through the early 1850's. Based on simple late Gothic flat headed openings, this is a fine example of early Victorian Gothic. A Gothic house out of the ones Gallier, Sr.'s office did exist on Prytania and Third Streets today.

The Leeds family tomb in Cypress Grove Cemetery is in the Gothic style.

*not  
checked  
in 2000*

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                      1852                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Gallier Turpin & Co.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Leeds Iron Foundry was constructed by Gallier Turpin & Co. in 1852. The foundry is significant because of its history and architectural design.

Charles J. Leeds, the thirty-third mayor of New Orleans, became the heir and partner with his brother C. T. and cousin Thomas in the foundry after his father's, Jedediah Leeds, death in 1844. The firm established in 1825 occupied the square bounded by Delord (now Howard), Foucher (now Constance), Tchoupitoulas and St. Joseph Streets just a few blocks from Lee Circle. According to The New Orleans Crescent City, the Leeds Iron Foundry was the second largest such concern in the South and the oldest in New Orleans. There were from 200 to 400 hands employed in the three separate departments; the casting, the forging and finishing for the manufacturing and repairing sugar and cotton equipment, as well as ornamental cast iron. Leeds was the largest maker of steel cotton bale presses. The latest time saving devices of the time were supplied to San Francisco, Destrehan, Edmee and Terre Haut Plantations and others.

In 1861 Leeds was manufacturing war materials like the Saunders rifled cannon and other guns for the Confederate Army. Finding New Orleans in danger from Farragut's Union Fleet, the Confederates ordered the construction of two iron clad men of war, the Louisiana and the Mississippi. The Leeds Foundry, the only concern equipped for the construction of these ships, secured the contracts.

The Leeds Iron Foundry is extremely significant because it served as the headquarters to Company D of the White League for the Battle of Liberty Place. The foundry fabricated the principal piece of artillery, a cannon in 1874. Recently repair work on the building revealed cannon balls under the later concrete floor. The Leeds Foundry is believed to have supplied more members than any other organization for the cause. On September 14, 1874 the battle was fought on the levee against the Metropolitan Police at the foot of Canal Street resulting in the overthrow of the carpet-bag rule, the Kellogg State Government. This event is commemorated by a monument at the foot of Canal Street.

Charles Leeds was elected the thirty-third mayor of the city of New Orleans from 1874-1976 during the Reconstruction Period. Leeds was instrumental in having the following acts passed:

- 1) the rights and property of the Mississippi Gulf and Ship Island Canal which enabled the city to control all drainage districts
- 2) A drainage canal was constructed on Nashville Avenue between St. Charles Avenue and Mississippi River.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The bibliography is attached on a separate sheet. Books, newspaper articles, magazine articles and surveys are divided into separate sections.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	5
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7	8	3	0	2	0
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3	3	1	5	8	6	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Miss Dana Williams

ORGANIZATION

DATE

August 1975

STREET & NUMBER

2203 Octavia Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

New Orleans

STATE

Louisiana

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

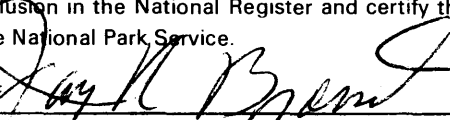
NATIONAL

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.

SIGNATURE



Jay R. Broussard

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

October 14, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

DATE

1/1/96

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:



DATE

1-7-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Leeds Iron Foundry

CONTINUATION SHEET 1

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- 3) A shell road formed on St. Charles Avenue running from St. Joseph to Toledano Streets.
- 4) Street railways were established on a line out to Lake Pontchartrain Summer Resort.
- 5) The Founding of the Fink Home and Asylum in 1875.

In 1896 Schwartz Foundry & Co., Ltd., Moss Schwartz, president, purchased and enlarged the business. The building works attractively into the St. Mary Market Park Area.

James Gallier, Jr., who had just taken over James Gallier, Sr.'s architectural practice, later designed the famed French Opera House which burned in 1917.

The Leeds Iron Foundry is the only remaining warehouse designed by Gallier Turpin & Co.

The structure is unique in New Orleans because it is a rare Gothic commercial structure.

According to the Times Picayune and Gallier House authority, the Foundry is one of seven authenticated Gallier, Jr.'s and Turpin's still in existence. The others are:

- 1) The Boston Club - 824 Canal Street
- 2) The Diocesan House of the Episcopal Church of Louisiana  
2265 St. Charles Avenue
- 3) The Gates and Gatehouses of the Fairgrounds
- 4) Gallier House - 1132 Royal Street, Vieux Carre
- 5) Luling Mansion - 1436 Leda Street (Formerly the Jockey Club)
- 6) 111 Exchange Place

In St. Louis Cemetery No. 3, a tomb was designed for James Gallier, Sr. by James Gallier, Jr.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 3

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PAGE 3

9. Bibliography (cont'd)

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C. Battle of Liberty Place

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9. Bibliography (cont'd)

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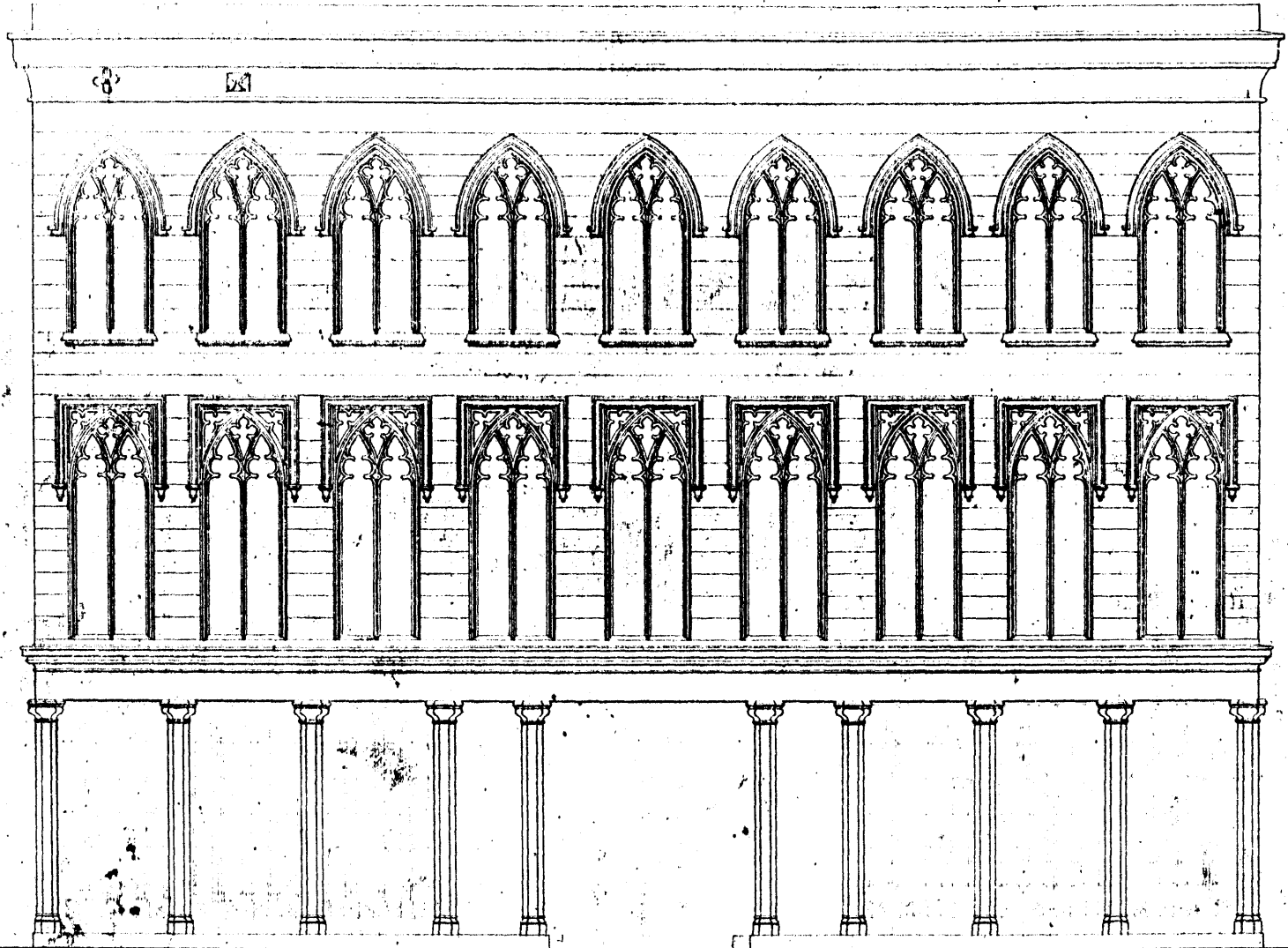
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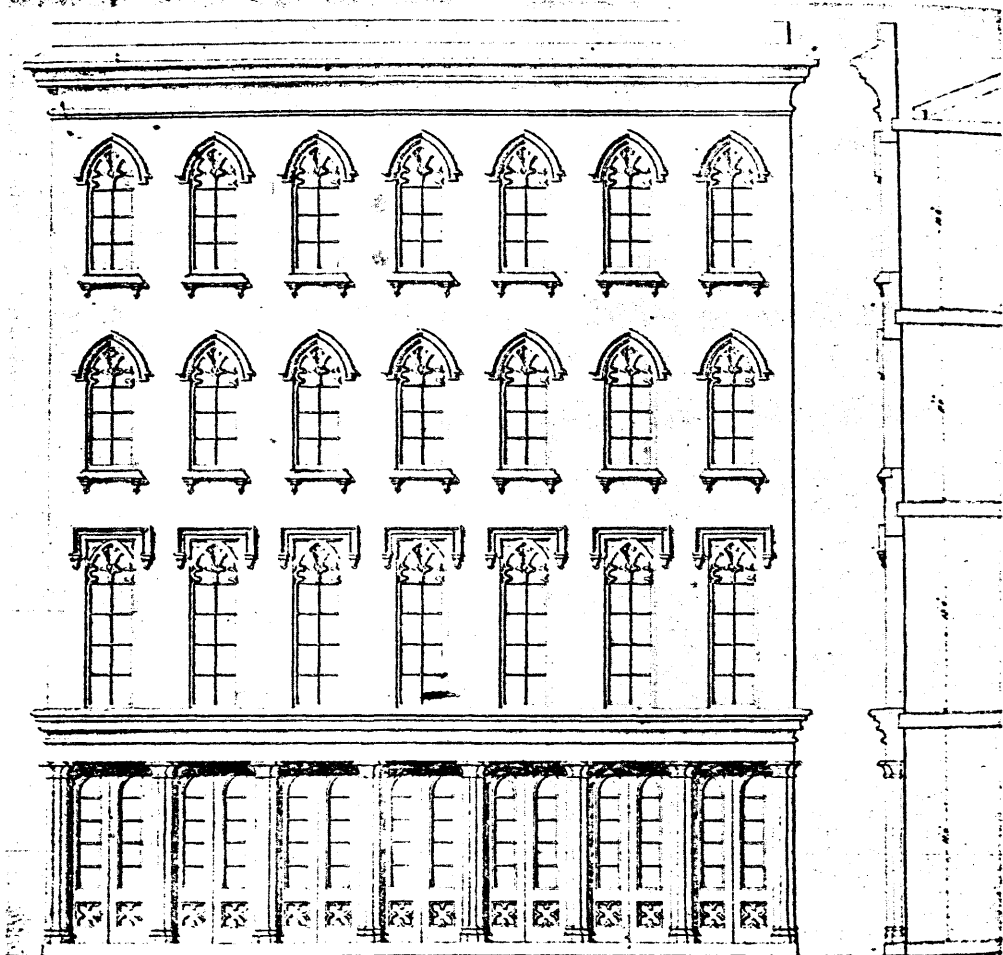
Acknowledgements

- Curators of Gallier House.
- Mr. Bill Cullison, Special Collections Division, Tulane University Library
- Mr. Henry Krotzer, Koch and Wilson Architects.





13-6



*Callier, Turpin & Co. Arch<sup>ts</sup>  
March 1, 1850*

34. Unidentified store. Elevation signed "Callier, Turpin & Co. Arch<sup>ts</sup>" and dated March 1, 1850. Tulane University Library, Labrot Collection.