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**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 Galveston-East End Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Galveston

---NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

--- VICINITY OF

9th

STATE

Texas

CODE  
048

COUNTY

Galveston

CODE

167

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Multiple ownership

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Galveston

--- VICINITY OF

STATE

Texas

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Galveston County Courthouse  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Galveston

STATE

Texas

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Historical American Buildings Survey

DATE

1966-67

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD generally	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The East End Historical District in Galveston is located in the eastern portion of Galveston Island. Established in the summer of 1970 by the adoption of an Historical Zoning District Ordinance, the district consists of thirty-two complete city blocks and portions of twenty other blocks. Although the boundaries meander somewhat, essentially, the district is bordered on the east by Eleventh Street; on the south by Broadway (the main east-west thoroughfare); on the west by Nineteenth Street to Ball and then Sixteenth Street; and on the north by Market and Post Office Streets. The area is primarily residential strategically located between the University of Texas Medical Branch on the east and the central business district on the west.

As a result of the combination of nineteenth century development and natural and man-made disasters, the East End Historical District contains structures exhibiting a variety of styles, forms, and purposes. Many blocks reflect the original layout of 14 narrow lots to a block, with seven dwellings on each side. There are 35 structures remaining from the Greek Revival Period (1840-1870), 333 buildings representing the late nineteenth century (1870-1900) Victorian homes, and 95 houses built between 1900-1917. The remaining 82 buildings were built between 1917 and 1970. There is a sampling of the two-story, wood frame, Greek Revival houses with double galleries and the large, ornate Victorian houses displaying a variety of materials. In addition, the district has a sampling of the small houses built in Galveston in the late nineteenth century including dormered cottages, gable end houses, and shot-gun houses, known locally as commissary houses. There is a sprinkling of two-story corner stores with chamfered entrances and canopies extending to the curb.

The district displays the designs of several architects; however, Nicholas Clayton is typically the most popular and prolific. After studying sculpture architecture, and structural engineering with the well-known architect, W. H. Baldwin of Memphis, Clayton moved to Galveston in 1872 and began practicing architecture. When the building boom began in Galveston in the 1870's, Clayton began his architectural career as Texas' first professional architect. The architecture of Galveston from 1873 through 1900 was dominated by Clayton's designs. Some of the other architects represented in the district are Alfred Muller who came to Galveston in 1885, George E. Dickey of the firm Dickey and Helmich, and Brother Jiminez, S. J.

Unsympathetic encroachments are not overwhelming and in many blocks are totally non-existent. There are examples where modern buildings interrupt the continuity of a street. Much of the district can be described as stable, although there are some deteriorated pockets within the area. The overall impression of the East End Historical District is one of a nineteenth century residential section which has been successfully adapted and rehabilitated for a viable and inviting twentieth century neighborhood.

(Continued)

# 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 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |   |

Outstanding  
community leaders

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Galveston, Texas largest and most prosperous city in the period of the Republic and early statehood, contains the most intact concentration of preserved nineteenth century buildings in Texas. The East End Historic District, a residential section of some fifty blocks, is the largest and most complete area of nineteenth century homes in the city. The district, a portion of Galveston's original residential area, contains numerous examples of Greek Revival and Victorian architecture and, as a result of the density of historic structures, retains the ambience of nineteenth century Galveston. The city's quantity and auality of 19th century buildings places Galveston among the most important cities in the United States in the study of architectural history.

The earliest settlement at the present city was that of the Jean Laffite commune of 1817 centered around Laffite's fort at the site of the present Medical School. Stephen F. Austin wanted Galveston established as a port as early as 1825, but there was no settlement until the Mexican customhouse was established in 1830. By 1832 there was a community of about 300 persons. In December, 1838, Michel B. Menard bought the site of the city from the first Congress of the Republic and organized the Galveston City Company to promote the settlement of Galveston. The harbor was recognized as a port of entry in 1837 and when the county was organized in 1838, Galveston had a population of approximately 3,000. In 1838 the city was plotted and mapped into blocks and lots.

By 1850 Galveston had become the trading center of the state. Along the Gulf Coast the Galveston seaport was second only to New Orleans in tonnage during the last half of the 19th century. The city possessed the finest deep-water harbor in Texas, as well as the state's leading banks and trading houses. The earliest known map showing the outline of structures in the city dates to 1865 and shows a sizeable number of dwellings in the East End, several of which are still in existence. An 1871 bird's eye view of Galveston illustrates that considerable building occurred in the area immediately after the Civil War, a prosperous period throughout the city.

(Continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 150 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	3 2 7 3 4 0	3 2 4 3 3 0 0	B	1 5	3 2 7 3 3 0	3 2 4 2 4 2 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1 5	3 2 6 3 4 0	3 2 4 2 4 3 0	D	1 5	3 2 6 3 5 0	3 2 4 3 3 1 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

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

Carolyn Pitts, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

January 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street NW.

TELEPHONE

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

## 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

<b>FOR NPS USE ONLY</b>	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Galveston-East End Historic District  
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Texas Historical Survey  
1969 State  
Texas Historical Commission  
Austin, Texas

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Structures included within the submission which provide a representative view of the district include:

1. J. Z. H. Scott House, 1721 Broadway . Ca. 1880. N. J. Clayton, architect. A one-story, raised, 5-bay cottage with a 3-bay pedimented portico over the central entrance. Two dormers project from a double pitched roof and chimneys rise from each end. This represents one of Clayton's more modest designs.

2. Lucas Apartments, 1411 Broadway. 1901. A three-story stuccoed brick apartment building. The entrances to the various apartments are at the first and second levels and are marked by different types of approaches: a straight central stair, paired curving and sinuous flights of stairs, and two ground floor doors. The facade is divided into three sections with pediments over the two end sections and a cresting at the top of the central section. The strange coral-and-shell window-boxed balconies are a provincial and spontaneous example of the art nouveau movement of the era.

3. Walter Gresham House or Bishop's Palace. N. J. Clayton, architect. 1887-1893. A three-story eclectic mansion of rusticated limestone with granite and sandstone trim. The blazed tile roof has a steeply pitched roof with a profusion of towers, dormers, and gables each separately roofed, creating a picturesque and irregular roof line. See National Register submission, "Bishop's Palace," August, 1970.

4. Thirteen-Hundred Block of Sealy. Ca. 1886. Two identical houses built by the same man in a late version of the Greek Revival style. The houses are two-story frame with double pedimented galleries and have a side hall floor plan.

5. John C. Trube House, 1627 Sealy. 1889-94. Alfred Muller, architect. A two-and-one-half story stuccoed brick, residence, scored to resemble stone. The mansard roof is intersected by numerous dormers and a prominent Jacobean chimney with double flue and elaborate detail. The building is encrusted with brackets, quoins, blind arches, elaborate hood molds, and a corbel table at the parapet of a corner tower. The main entrance is sheltered beneath a quarter circular porch with Ionic capitals below elaborate impost blocks.

6. Smith-Chubb House, 1417 Sealy. 1859. A two-story frame late Greek Revival house with three bays of very wide proportions. The front door has sidelights and transom and the detail, although simple, is merging with the Victorian style.

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7. Seventeen-Hundred Block of Ball. Streetscape revealing three similar one-story Victorian cottages raised above a full story basement.

8. Roensch House, 1517 Ball. 1882. A one-story, raised frame residence with attic dormers and a polygonal corner turret. An attached gallery supported by coupled columns and elaborated with Victorian detail shelters three bays of the main facade. The central door and two flanking windows display unusual architraves.

9. George Schneider House, 1208 Ball. 1888. Nicholas J. Clayton, architect. A large, two-story frame house with a double gallery across the main facade. The residence is a transitional style between the Greek Revival and Victorian. Notable features are the window hood molds and the floor length windows.

10. House at 602 13th Street. A typical Galveston two-story frame residence with low pitched hipped roof and captains walk. The inset double three-bay gallery has simple crossed stick brackets and stick balusters.

11. House at 1228 Church. This one-story Greek Revival frame cottage has a inset gallery with simple posts, crossed braced railing and door with side-lights and transom.

12. Wilbur Cherry House, 1602 Church. 1852-54. Typical of the less pretentious Greek Revival houses in Texas, the Cherry House is a two-story house with heavy braced-framed structure with weatherboard siding. A three-bay double gallery, supported by one-story square columns with simple antae moldings for capitals, extends across the main facade.

13. Fourteen-Hundred Block of Market. Streetscape revealing typical row of two-story, frame, Victorian houses.

14. Henry A. Landes House, 1604 Post Office. 1886. George E. Dickey, architect. The house is a two-story pressed brick structure with Romanesque details. It is symmetrically planned about the diagonal axis, with two dissimilar towers at each front corner. A curious pediment at the central corner is pierced by double sash windows. A double gallery connects the two towers and has graceful cast iron paired columns and lacy balusters and railings.

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15. Gus Reymershoffer House, 1302 Post Office. 1887. A two-story and a half frame gabled Victorian house with inset gallery along the front ell. The large front gable has an arched stenciled bargeboard above a bracketed window with quarter round sidelights.

16. Sacred Heart Church, 1400 Broadway. 1903-04. Brother Jiminez, S. J., architect. Nicholas Clayton's Sacred Heart Church was so damaged in the hurricane of 1900, that it was completely rebuilt and redesigned in 1903-04 by a Jesuit brother named Jiminez. He is said to have built a similar church in New Orleans, but the style is anachronistic for the 1900's. The dome was rebuilt by Clayton after a hurricane in 1915. The building gives a wedding cake effect with fleur de lis and pineapple finials, stilted, Gothic and ogee arches and vertical and horizontal bands. The massive ornamented interior columns and moorish arches echo the mood of the exterior.

17. Corner of 17th and Ball. Typical streetscape in the East End Historic District.



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The tempo of its trade and success of its businessmen indicated that Galveston would soon become the great seaport of the west. However, complex factors, in particular, the rise of Houston's port, prevented the city from attaining such a unique position. Following the tragic flood of 1900 in which 5,000 to 7,000 lives were lost, Galveston's population did not continue to increase in proportion to other major Texas cities and her preeminence as a port city and commercial center diminished. Such a decline, however, left a treasury of 19th century architecture in Galveston. The East End Historic District represents a mixture of the large elaborate dwellings, built by wealthy individuals in the mercantile and shipping activities as well as examples of more modest homes. Given historic zoning protection in the summer of 1970, the district is an amazing intact visual documentation of the importance of Galveston as a major regional port for Texas and the southwest since before the Civil War. The district contains many individually outstanding structures, but its unique quality is the visual continuity created by blocks of dwellings related in material, texture and scale.

Besides its architectural significance, the East End Historic District was the home of many of Galveston's outstanding leaders. One of the earliest houses remaining in the district is the house at 1602 Church built by Wilbur Cherry in 1852-54. After fighting in the Texas Revolution, Cherry moved to the newly formed city of Galveston and became known as a newspaper editor and publisher. The most outstanding example of Victorian architecture in the district was built in 1887-93 at 1402 Broadway by Walter Gresham. (See National Register submission, "Bishop's Palace" or "Gresham Home," August, 1970). Gresham, a prominent lawyer, Texas Legislator and Representative to the 52nd Congress, was one of the leaders in acquiring the charter for the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad for Galveston, as well as being active in securing a deepwater harbor for the city. Across the street from the Gresham home Thomas Lucas, a successful brick contractor, built the Art Nouveau apartment house, the Lucas Apartments, at 1407-09 Broadway. An earlier complex, reported to be the first apartment house in Galveston, was destroyed in the 1900 storm. Another prominent Galveston attorney, J. Z. H. Scott, built a home at 1721 Broadway in 1878. When the home burned in the 1885 Galveston fire, Scott bought a cottage from Walter Gresham and moved it to this site.

Other prominent figures continued to build in the popular East End. John S. Sydnor, the first Mayor of Galveston built one of the early East

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End homes in 1855 at 1604 Sealy. In 1884 Sampson Heidenheimer bought the Sydnor house and hired Nicholas Clayton to enlarge and remodel the Greek Revival house into a more stylish Victorian residence. Heidenheimer and his brothers owned one of the largest grocery houses in Texas. John C. Trube, a successful merchant and real estate dealer, commissioned the architect Alfred Muller to design a house at 1627 Sealy in 1890. One block away Captain Charles Clarke, a prominent figure in the local shipping interest, built his home at 1728 Sealy in 1895. Along Ball Avenue, George Schroder, owner of one of the largest wholesale grocery businesses in Galveston, George Schroder and Co., built a home in 1888 at 13th Street. Earlier in 1882, Bernard Roensch, a commission merchant, broker and cotton buyer, had built a home at 1517 Ball. In 1881 the elderly Menard, instrumental in forming the Galveston City Company with his Uncle M. B. Menard in 1837, bought a home at 1207 Winnie. Gustav and John Reymerschoffer, two of Galveston's early industrialists, erected houses in 1887 in the 1300 block of Post Office. The brothers had organized the Texas Star Flour Mills, which had quickly become one of the largest mills in the south. Also on Post Office H. A. Landes commissioned George E. Dickey to design a home in 1886 at 1604 Post Office. Landes was a wealthy wholesaler, cotton factor and shipper who owned his own fleet. Another interesting home at 519 15th Street was built by John L. Darragh, president of the Galveston Wharf Co. in 1886.

Although the greatest concentration of small houses is outside the district, the East End Historical District does contain examples of the smaller dwellings built during the late nineteenth century as well as back or alley houses, which frequently housed blacks or "tenants" as described on early insurance maps.

The East End Historical District is an area with which the Galveston community identifies and which is becoming a major tourist attraction. Despite the fact that the district was given historic zoning protection in the summer of 1970, the survival of the district is not totally assured. The University of Texas Medical Branch which was responsible for the demolition of many of the earliest structures in Galveston in an expansion program in the late 1960's and to which the establishment of the historic ordinance was a reaction, has expressed interest in more development in the East End. Also, the expansion program of the Galveston Wharves calls for a major access road on Fourteenth Street directly through the heart of the Historic district. An East End Historical District Association, consisting of individuals living in the district, formed in the fall of 1972, to address itself to these problems as well as to the general improvement and enhancement of the area.

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The district boundaries at the south extend behind the property lines of the houses on the south side of Broadway. To the west the line follows 19th Street to Ball and goes east until 16th Street including the structures on the north side of Ball, then goes north on 16th to Market, including the structures on the west side of 12th Street. At the north the boundary extends along Market to 14th including the structures on the north side of the street. The eastern boundary extends south from Market to Post Office then east to 11th Street including the houses on the north side of Post Office, then goes south along 11th to Broadway, excluding one block between Winnie and Ball.

This data was provided by Ellen Beasley, Architectural Historian, Galveston, Texas.