

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name

Main Street/Market Square
Historic District

County, State

Harris, Texas

Reference Number

84001811

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

Nomination Form

Photographs

USGS Map

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Main Street/Market Square Historic District
(Boundary Increase)
Harris County
TEXAS

Working No. 1.23.84

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85

Date Due: 2/23/84 - 3/8/84

Action: ACCEPT 2/23/84

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

- 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
- 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 _____

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: _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Main Street/Market Square Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Harris

DATE RECEIVED: 10/22/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/06/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 83004471

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10/29/92 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

10/22/92

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Main Street/Market Square Historic District

Harris County, TEXAS

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

Alton Byers 10/29/92



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OCT 22 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

October 16, 1992

Mrs. Carol Shull
National Park Service
National Register Division
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Carol:

Regretfully, the following properties should be removed from the National Register of Historic Places:

Louwien, A.C., Bakery, Port Lavaca - Calhoun County. Building was gutted and all that remains are the end walls (see attached letter to Mr. George Rhodes, Chairman of the Calhoun County Historical Commission).

Heights Telephone Company Building, Houston - Harris County. Demolished by owner (see confirmation by Margie Elliott, Greater Houston Preservation Alliance).

Knox, James W., House, Jacksboro - Jack County. Demolished by fire in November, 1991 (see newspaper article from Fort Worth Star-Telegram).

Baker, John, Building, Houston - Harris County. (Contributing property in the Main Street/Market Square Historic District) Demolished on April 13, 1992.

Schumacher Oil Works, 104-107 Duke St. and Old Schumacher Home, 306 Duke St., Navasota - Grimes County. (Contributing properties in the Navasota Commercial Historic District) Oil mill was demolished and the Schumacher Home was moved off site as confirmed by Jane Miller with the Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Curtis Tunnell

State Historic Preservation Officer

CT/MC/pc

Tearing Down HISTORY

First the Kennedy Corner, now the John Baker Building. Has Houston no shame?



JUST BY looking at the papers, a person could conclude that all the historic buildings worth saving in Houston have been demolished in the past two months. After the latest outrage during the wee hours of Saturday, April 11, I was convinced that we probably don't deserve any.

The John Baker building, corner of Travis and Preston, is gone, and the only reason the action was photographed *in flagrante delicto* is that *Chronicle* photographer Ben DeSoto was going home around midnight and saw the barricades, wrecking machines and cops.

The property belongs to the Pappas family, who initiated the demolition. Insiders at City Hall say that a demolition permit was denied in December because of the new moratorium on demolishing historic structures; the 124-year-old building within the Main Street-Market Square Historic District was a perfect example of the kind of building the ordinance was intended to protect.

But the Pappases are a determined and sophisticated group, and are accustomed to success. They received their demolition permit April 9 — legally. On March 25 the city received an anonymous call saying the building was



unsafe and asking the city to declare it dangerous (thereby qualifying it for demolition under the Dangerous Building Ordinance, which would supersede the historic-district moratorium). The process dictates that the city investigate all complaints and make a determination.

On April 9, a Pappas employee who is frequently at City Hall thrust a new demolition-permit application under the nose of a longtime employee of the Public Works Department. His computer did show, indeed, that a dangerous-building complaint had been filed. It did not show, however, that the city had neither completed its investigation nor made a determination — and that's where the human error came in. The permit was processed and signed on a fluke, and the John Baker Building is gone. Score one for the landlord.

Why do we care that another empty, derelict building is gone, the victim of neglect? The district's status, for one thing. Architects for the Department of the Interior, who monitor Historic Districts on the National Register of Historic Places, have warned city officials repeatedly that further loss of historic structures within the Market Square Historic District could result in a loss of Historic District status. In 1992 we've already lost two more — this one and the Kennedy Corner one block away.

Aside from the potential loss of legal Historic District status, I am most disturbed by the methodical action of the Pappas people. They are rightfully well known as exceptional restaurateurs who

give customers more than their money's worth. They have the resources, the sophistication and the organization to figure out how best to adapt a historic building and make it work as a restaurant. If the Old Spaghetti Warehouse can do it, why can't they? Apparently the thought hadn't crossed their minds.

Maybe there are enough of us who

If the Old Spaghetti Warehouse can put a restaurant in a historic building, why can't the Pappases?

value the past, who think owners should *maintain* heritage property instead of tearing it down, to stage an impressive boycott of the Pappas restaurants and let them know why. It may discourage this outrage from happening again.

Go ahead! Tell 'em what you think.

What do you bet they put up a new old-looking building? Outrageous! □

RECEIVED
MAY 11 1992
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION