


CAST IRON IN DOWNTOWN GALVESTON


Strand/Mechanic

National Historic Landmark District



Key:

 Cast Iron Buildings

 Historic District Boundary

Cast-Iron Facts

- Cast-iron in Galveston was imported from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans and a local firm, Lee Iron Works.
- Cast-iron fronts in Galveston are mostly decorative veneer, bolted onto the brick facades.
- In the interior of the Hendley (1859) building, cast-iron is structural.
- 44% of the buildings in the Strand/Mechanic National Historic Landmark District have cast-iron elements.
- There are 10+ other structures in the downtown area with cast-iron elements.
- Cast-iron store fronts were introduced in Galveston in 1856.



CAST-IRON IN DOWNTOWN GALVESTON

1. 2002-2016 Strand, *Hendley Buildings* (1859). This building might appear to be one, but it is actually four separate buildings. Used as a lookout during the Battle of Galveston, the Hendley Buildings are the oldest brick commercial buildings. The interior has cast-iron supports.
2. 2001-2011 Strand, *Rosenberg Building* (1876). Philanthropist Henry Rosenberg built this building as investment property. The interior has cast-iron supports.
3. Strand, *Adoue-Lobit Bank* (1890). Designed by N.J. Clayton.
4. 2109 Strand, *Clara Lang Building* (1878), 2111 Strand, *J.S. Brown and Company Building* (1878), 2115 Strand, *Opperman Building* (1878). These three facades are built with shallow layers of brick and cast-iron.
5. 2114-2116 Strand, *Mallory Building* (c. 1866-1879). Cast in Baltimore, by the Architectural Iron Foundry.
6. 2127 Strand, *First National Bank Building* (now Galveston Arts Center) (1878). The First National Bank Building was Texas' oldest chartered bank. It is a freestanding building, with a screen of cast-iron Corinthian columns.
7. 212 22nd Street, *H.M. Trueheart & Company Building* (1882). Designed by N.J. Clayton. Multicolored brick, tile and cast-iron details dominate the exterior façade of one of Galveston's most popular buildings.
8. 2202-2206 Strand, *W.L. Moody Building* (1883). Designed by N.J. Clayton. This cast-iron storefront adorns both Strand and 22nd street facades. The Moody Building was built to contain Col Moody's cotton and banking operations.
9. 2211-2223 Strand, *Blum Hardware Company Building* (now Old Galveston Square) (1858, 1871, 1911). Now organized as one building, it consists of four separate buildings. The Wood Building (4 bays closest to 22nd) was originally faced with full iron front, one of seven fabricated by Sanson & Farrand of Philadelphia.
10. 2301-2307 Strand, *T.J. League Building* (1872). The League Building is representative of Strand commercial buildings. The side-walk level storefronts are of cast-iron and glass. Southern Ornamental Iron Works of New Orleans were the fabricators of the cast-iron storefronts.
11. 2309-2311 Strand, *Rosenberg Building* (1870), 2313-2315 Strand, *Magale Building* (1870), 2317-2319 Strand, *Merchants Mutual Insurance Company Buildings* (1870). The Rosenberg and Magale buildings both prominently showcase cast-iron storefronts, window sills, and lintels; however they lost their cast-iron cornices.
12. 2310-2314 Strand, *Greenleve, Block & Company* (1882). Designed by N.J. Clayton. Clayton used cast-iron on this building as a sculptural element. Notice the oval and quatrefoil cutouts made from cast-iron.
13. 2326-2328 Strand, *Ball, Hutchings & Company* (1896). Designed by N.J. Clayton. The buildings' terra-cotta-encased steel frame was one of the earliest examples of steel frame construction in Texas. Cast-iron details surround the entrances.
14. 2410-2412 Strand, *James Fadden Building* (1898). Designed by N.J. Clayton. Cast-iron columns support the upper story.
15. 2325-2327 Mechanic, *Marx & Blum Building*, (1890). Designed by N.J. Clayton.
16. 2317 Mechanic, *John Berlocher Building* (1870).
17. 2309-2315 Mechanic, *John Berlocher Building* (1858, 1859). This building has a brick façade with cast-iron architraves above the windows. This building is notable for the 16-pane-over-16-pane double hung windows.
18. 219-223 23rd, *McDonnell Building* (1873). Cast-iron columns face 223rd Street, once downtown's most used North-South thoroughfare.
19. 213-217 23rd, *Rice, Baulard & Company* (1870).
20. 2220 Mechanic, *J.P. Davie Building* (1860). This building is almost identical to the Washington Hotel next door. It is in the conservative style typical of Galveston buildings in the 1850's.

21. 2010 Mechanic, *GHF Mechanic Street Warehouse* (1888).
22. 323 23rd. Historic Name Unknown (c. 1885).
23. 401-403 23rd Street, *T. E. Thompson Building* (1869).
24. 2221 Market, *E.S. Levy Building* (1896, 1900). Charles W. Bulger was the architect for this building. It marks a transition away from red brick and heavy Victorian detail. Yet, still using cast-iron in details along the first floor.
25. 2401 Market, *Central Hotel* (1870). A very rare example of wood construction in commercial buildings after the fire of 1869. Cast-iron can be seen in the details along the first floor.
26. 2415 Market, *Trube Building* (1894). This building has a delicate cast-iron storefront, resembling some of the work of N.J. Clayton.
27. 2425-2427 Market, *R.F. Martin & Company* (1878).
28. 2510 Market.
29. 2513-2315 Market, *Hughes Building* (1907). This area of town was Galveston's "other downtown", where retail and entertainment businesses catered to African-American patrons. Small cast-iron detailing can be found by the entrance.
30. 2221-2227 Post Office, *Mrs. Olympia Freybe Building*, (1886). Designed by N.J. Clayton. This building shows N.J. Clayton's use of cast-iron in a distinctive perforated pattern.
31. 2128 Post Office, *Pix Building* (1859). One of Galveston's few pre-Civil War survivors; this handsome building has cast-iron lintels and interior cast-iron detailing.
32. 502 20th Street. *Custom House*, (1861). Built in only 4 ½ months, the Custom House is the first civil building constructed in Texas. There is extensive use of galvanized cast-iron for architectural detail; all the columns are made from this material.
33. 402 20th Street, *Catholic Building*, (1888). Designed by N.J. Clayton. This building was built by Bishop Nicholas A. Gallagher to provide meeting rooms for lay organizations and to provide rental space.

Technical Information from *Galveston Architectural Guidebook*, by Ellen Beasley and Stephen Fox.