

The Jonthan Emanuel House (Now Shrine Home)
Mobile, Alabama

HABS No. 16-3

Mobile Co.

HABS
ALA,
49-MOBI,
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Ala. Polytechnic Inst., Auburn, Ala.

"Supplementary sheet to S.W.A.

JONATHAN EMANUEL HOUSE (Shrine Home)
Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama.

HABS
ALA,
49-MOBI,
3-

Ownership:

Present Owner: Order of Mystic Shrine.

Previous Owners: Jonathan Emanuel. From 1836 to 1875.

MRS. Isabella Emanuel. From 1875 to 1890.

Mrs. William Barnwell. From 1890 to 1894 (DAUGHTER OF EMANUEL)

Christ Church. From 1894 to 1923. WILLED BY MRS. BARNWELL.
Shrine. From 1923 to 1935.

Date of Erection: 1836.

Architect: Jonathan Emanuel.

Builder: Jonathan Emanuel.

Present Condition: Fine state of preservation.

Number of Stories: Three.

Materials of Construction: Brick ; smooth stuccoed; slate
roof; granite wood and ornamental iron trim.

Other Existing Records: Louisville & Nashville Railway
Employees' Magazine for April 1929. Article by
Elizabeth Fonde. The original photograph belongs
to Mr. Peter Brannon, State Historian, Montgomery,
Alabama.

Facts for Visitors. By Mobile.
Chamber of Commerce. Photograph, copy in the Department
of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.

See The Birmingham News for November
18, 1934. "The Charm of Ante-Bellum Interiors".
By E. Walter Burkhardt.

See The Birmingham News for September
16, 1934. "Wrought Iron Recreates Old Charm".
By Varian Peare, (Mrs. E. W. Burkhardt)

Water Color: By Edmond G. de Celle.

Additional Data: This building is the most pretentious type of residential building in Mobile. It is especially well proportioned and the entrance portico railing is one of the most exquisite pieces of wrought iron work in existence anywhere. The rosettes used in connection with the wrought iron work are bronze. The wrought iron entrance gates are also of rather unusual design.

As regards the interior, we now have only the first floor preserved to us, the second floor having been changed into a ball room. The plaster work in the parlor to the left is an unusual undercut use of a plaster cornice. The fireplaces are also interesting but seem to have been imported. A striking feature of this parlor is the elliptical ornamental plaster arch through the center of the room; and two immense gilded mirrors on each end of the room. The sliding doors between the original reception room and dining room, also other interior doors on the first floor, are of solid mahogany and of unusual treatment. The plan and elevations were restored as the building was in existence originally. The alterations having eliminated the two story porch, with exposure to the south, and the main stairs.

Source of Material: Miss Emma Roche
167 N. Lafayette St,
Mobile, Alabama.
Mr. G. Chaudron Jr.,
258 Stocking St,
Mobile, Alabama.
Mrs. M. T. Spague
154 S. Joachim St,
Mobile, Alabama.
Rev. R. A. Kirchhoffer
115 S. Conception St,
Mobile, Alabama.
Public Board of Health
Mobile, Alabama.

Compiled by: Katherine Floyd.
Auburn, Alabama.
Glennita Broach
401 Church St,
Mobile, Alabama.
Approved: E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, HABS.
Auburn, Alabama.
Date: 7-19-1936.

Addendum to
Jonathan Emanuel House (Shrine Home)
Mobile - 251 Government Street
Mobile County
Alabama

HABS No. ALA-3

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20001

ADDENDUM TO
JONATHAN EMANUEL
HOUSE (SHRINE HOME)
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY
JONATHAN EMANUEL HOUSE (SHRINE HOME)

See also HABS AL-7 for additional drawings.