

CONDUCTED TOUR SCHEDULE

Tours Daily
Open 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
May 31st to Labor Day

Sunday
Open 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

~~Winter Tours Daily
1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.~~

Group Tours By Appointment

Closed on Tuesday

*Open Seven Days a Week
During the Summer Season*

*Six Days 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Sundays 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.*

Income from Tours for Maintenance
of Palace and Support of
The Newman Center of the
University of Texas Medical Branch
and the Galveston Community College
Telephone 762-2475
Area Code 409

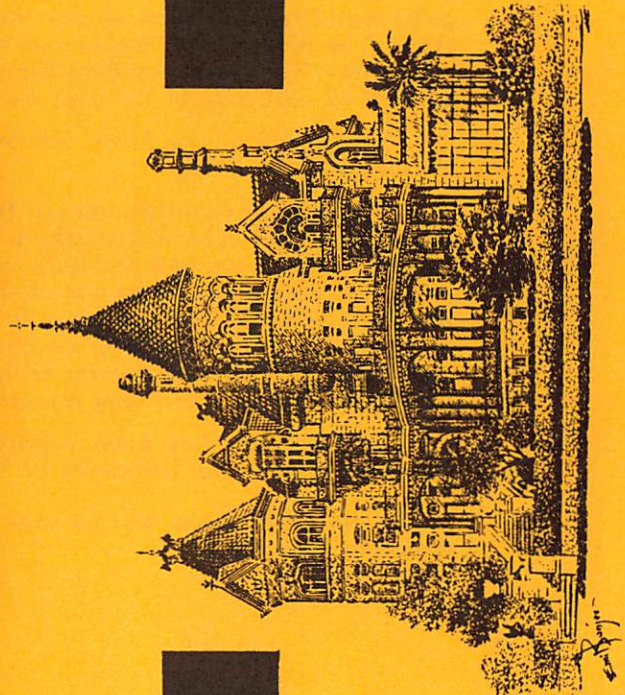
NEW HOURS
12:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
CLOSED TUESDAY

VISIT

The Bishop's Palace

1402 BROADWAY • GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550

The Most Famous Architectural Wonder
In Historic Galveston



The Bishop's Palace HAS BEEN DESIGNATED
BY THE TEXAS HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE AS
A POINT OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

THE Bishop's Palace was erected in 1886, at estimated cost of \$250,000, by Colonel Walter Gresham, a Galveston attorney who helped found the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway and served as a representative to Congress.

The Palace was purchased in 1923 for the late Bishop Christopher Byrne by the Galveston-Houston Diocese. Bishop Byrne lived in the Palace until his death in 1950. It is now Bishop John L. Morkovsky's residence when he visits Galveston.

The Palace was designed by the well-known architect, Nicholas Clayton. Native Texas granite, white limestone and red sandstone, all cut and shaped on the premises, were used in building the structure. The interior woodwork and grand staircase were fabricated in Cincinnati, of many rare woods, among them: rosewood, satinwood, white mahogany, and American oak and maple.

Imported features include a crystal chandelier from Venice, damask wall coverings from London and a marble fireplace from Italy. Colonel Gresham purchased fireplaces from all over the world and then built the rooms around them. The mantle and fireplace in the music room downstairs is lined with pure silver. The massive sliding doors downstairs are unique in that the wood surface on each side of the door matches the room it faces.

The mantle in the front ballroom won first prize at the Philadelphia World's Fair in 1876.

Architectural experts point out that only one other structure of Victorian design is comparable to the palace; the Biltmore House in Asheville, N. C. In 1956, the American Institute of Architecture gave recognition to the Palace by designating it as one of the one-hundred outstanding buildings in the United States. The residence is the only building in Texas included on this elite list of architectural masterpieces. It is also among fourteen other residences and civic structures which are included in the Archives of the Library of Congress as being representative of early American architecture.

The basement has been remodeled to serve as headquarters for the Newman Club at the University of Texas Medical Branch.

Income from tours will be used to support the Newman Center and to maintain the Palace.