

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Fred Gottschalk's Grocery Store

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 301 West Edwards not for publication

city, town Springfield, vicinity of 20th Congressional District

state Illinois code 012 county Sangamon code 167

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Boone's Saloon Partnership (Gary Strell, Wm. S. Foster, & Daniel J. Creedon)

street & number 301 West Edwards

city, town Springfield, vicinity of state Illinois 62704

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sangamon Co. Sup. of Assessments, Real Estate Records Division

street & number County Building

city, town Springfield, state Illinois 62701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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

The Fred Gottschalk Grocery Store Building is situated on the northwest corner of College and Edwards Streets in Springfield, a location that defines the southwest boundary of the Illinois State Capitol Complex.

The one story brick structure is built in two sections, the original front section (40'x60') dating from 1898, and the rear section (22'x45'6") which was added in the early part of the 20th century.

The building shares a kinship with Commercial Style buildings popularized in American cities in the late 19th century. The Gottschalk building, like its counterparts in other locales, is characterized by a cast iron front, corbelling along the cornice across the facade and east elevation, and unpainted, common bond brick walls.

Few structural changes have occurred since the building's construction by Fred Gottschalk in 1898. The brick walls are load bearing, as is an interior brick wall that runs through the middle of the store parallel to the side walls.

Originally, the cast iron store front framed four, large glass windows with glass transoms, and two double, wood doors with glass panels and glass transoms above. (One doorway was the entrance to the grocery area, while the second doorway served the meat market on the west side of the building.) The cast iron beam that runs over the front window/door openings is decorated with nine rosettes. There are three cast iron columns supporting the beam, a round corner column and two square shaped ones with decorative facings. The metal work is stamped with the name of the manufacturer, Aetna Foundry and Machine Co.

The only significant change to the facade since the building was constructed is the substitution of a window in the opening which contained the doors to the butcher shop. The double doorway to the grocery store area has been replaced with a single wood door with a glass panel. Also, the original glass transoms have been replaced with wood ones.

On the west side of the building, there were two window openings that have been filled in with masonry. The east wall had four openings at the first floor level, one high window and three doorways. Three of these openings are arched, as are two basement window openings. Two of the four doorways have been converted to windows with fixed sash.

The interior, which has been converted to a restaurant/bar, still has several original features, including hardwood flooring, a beaded wood ceiling, and the masonry bearing wall that runs down the center of the building. Plaster has been removed from some of the brick walls and several openings cut in the brick wall that divides the building in two lengthwise. An original opening with a wood lintel was used as a model for the other three openings.

The enclosed photos show various views of the exterior and interior of the structure as it presently exists, and as it appeared in 1898 and 1926. There is also a view of the frame structure that was used as a grocery store (on the same site) before the present structure was built in 1898.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion
1400-1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science
1500-1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture
1600-1699	X architecture	education	military	social
1700-1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian
X 1800-1899	X commerce	exploration settlement	philosophy	theater
1900-	communications	industry	politics government	transportation
		invention		other (specify)
				X Urban Design

Specific dates 1898-1910 Builder Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary:

Constructed in 1898-1910, the Fred Gottschalk's Grocery Store building typifies the modest, masonry, commercial architecture of the late 19th century. The structure's importance in the architectural, historical and present urban design fabric is underscored by the fact that it is one of the few remaining, neighborhood grocery store buildings still standing in Springfield. (See comments by Ed Russo, Exhibit 1). It is believed to be the best, and most well preserved, example of such a facility in the community. The structure is also an architectural node that marks the southwest corner of the State Capitol Complex. (A fine old Romanesque Revival style church that marked the northwest corner of the Capitol Complex was recently demolished). During the store's 73 years existence (in this building), it pioneered in providing a telephone shopping system and personalized service for its customers, including many of the city's leading families and the governor's mansion. As such it served as a cultural landmark as well as an architectural focal point.

Elaboration:

At the turn of the century, Springfield was honeycombed with neighborhood grocery stores. They supplied residents with a variety of foods as well as other items, depending on the needs of a particular area. One of these stores, which was more like a modern day delicatessen, was the Fred Gottschalk Grocery Company. The store was started by Gottschalk in 1887 at the corner of College and Edwards Streets. At the time he was 18 years old and lived with his parents (John and Mary) in a home a block east of the store. Since he was not of legal age, his mother had to sign checks for him, according to Mr. Gottschalk's granddaughter (See Exhibit 2).

Gottschalk's first grocery store was a frame building; it was replaced in 1898 with a masonry building with a cast iron front. The new store was divided into two parts, with the west side being a butcher shop and the east side a grocery store. It was highly regarded as a fine quality food store and it maintained charge accounts for, and provided personalized service to, Springfield's leading families - including the Bunns, Pattons Vredenburghs, and various governors. Older residents of the area fondly remember the store as a friendly place where you could send the kids for a loaf of bread and penny candy, or where you could watch the white aproned butcher cut fresh meat, or wrap a fresh fish that had been delivered earlier in the day.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 5

Elaboration of Statement of Significance: continued

In 1924, the Illinois State Register carried an article which said, in part:

"For almost half-a-century, the name Gottschalk has been synonomous in Springfield with quality foods, and in that time service departures have been introduced which are seldom found in the operation of food stores, placing the Fred Gottschalk Company in a class by itself. To point to the Fred Gottschalk Company as just another grocery store would do it a decided injustice....."

The store had customized services as pointed out in the same news article:

"Disregarding price competition, the Fred Gottschalk Company has inaugurated methods in the handling of food products which has made possible the supplying of the best a national market affords at a price comparative to any standard products. Indicative of its recognition in the world of foods is, that on February 1 of this year, this store was designated by Sprague-Warner, nationally known manufacturers of high quality foods under the label of Richelieu, a 'Super-Service Store.' This is a national movement for the purpose of instilling in the minds of the consumers an appreciation of the fact that such a store, as operated by Fred Gottschalk, is offering the highest quality foods, custom packed at prices competitive to other nationally known brands."

The store's motto was "Everything for the Table." The 1924 newspaper article also listed some of the specialty items handled by the store;

"pickled peaches, pears and apricots; spiced cantaloupe and watermelon, Grenadine pears, a special line of marmelades, Major Grey's chutney, sweet and sour pickled onions, anchovy sauce, black walnut sauce, melon mangoes, artichoke hearts, a complete stock of imported cheeses, Nova Scotia lobster, Japanese crab meat, Norwegian fish balls, Russian caviar, and a variety of fish pastes."

Most of the old, family operated stores such as Gottchalk's have all but disappeared from the scene. Those family stores that have survived have had to reorganize their businesses by expanding, offering special services, quality merchandise, or by joining with other retailers in cooperative groups.

Usually, however, the small neighborhood grocery stores have long ago given way to the popular suprtmarkets that sprang up in the 1950s and 1960s, whether developed by independent grocers or by supermarket chains. And now these early supermarkets are giving way to even larger stores, including the warehouse type store where customers bag their own groceries. And the place in the market once filled by neighborhood groceries is being filled, in part, by chain operated or franchised

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 6

Elaboration of Statement of Significance, cont.

convenience food stores such as White Hen Pantry, or other specialty sections of certain supermarkets.

The Fred Gottschalk Company survived until 1971 when Arthur Gottschalk, the founder's son died. Since there were no interested heirs to carry on the family tradition, the store was closed by Arthur Gottschalk's daughter and his wife. But in its heyday, it was "the" foodstore for the west side of Springfield, carrying quality food and meat. It even had a special vapor system to maintain proper temperatures and moisture content of the fresh fruits and vegetables.

As one of the few remaining, early, neighborhood grocery store buildings still standing, the structure adds a distinct, visual reminder of an earlier time when such places were community institutions, frequented by people of all ages and status for a variety of reasons - from a quick "fix" of peppermint candy, Russian caviar for a party, or to just chat about neighbors with the friendly proprietor.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Springfield, Illinois City Directory, 1890, 1894.
Evans, R. Kenneth, "Springfield's Model Quality Food Store Was Established Forty-five Years Ago by Fred Gottschalk", Illinois State Register, April 18, 1934.
Illinois State Journal Register, "Supermarket, Co-op-Old Gives Way to the New", June 23, 1968.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.14 Ac.

Quadrangle name Springfield West, IL

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 16 272440 4408340
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 14, Building 10, Edwards and Mather Addition to the City of Springfield.

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 Charles Kirchner

organization _____ date July 7, 1984

street & number 522 East Monroe, Suite 601 telephone (217) 789-1330

city or town Springfield, state Illinois 62701

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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Director date 9/24/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MAR 29 1985

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places beginning March 17, 1985 and ending March 23, 1985. For further information call (202) 343-9552.

STATE, County, Vicinity, Property, Address, (Date Listed)

ILLINOIS, Sangamon County, Springfield, Gottschalk, Fred, Grocery Store, 301 W. Edwards St. (03/18/85)

INDIANA, Allen County, Fort Wayne vicinity, Robinson, Horney, House, 7320 Lower Huntington Rd. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Delaware County, Muncie, Roots, Francis T., Building, 115-119 E. Charles St. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Knox County, Vincennes, Ebner-Free House, 120 Locust (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Madison County, Anderson, Carnegie Public Library, 32 W. 10th St. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Madison County, Chesterfield, Makepeace, George, House, 5 W. Main St. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Marion County, Indianapolis, Christamore House, 502 N. Tremont St. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Montgomery County, Crawfordsville, Saint John's Episcopal Church, 212 S. Green St. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, St. Joseph County, South Bend vicinity, Water Street/Darden Road Bridge, Over St. Joseph River at Darden Rd. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, St. Joseph County, South Bend, Leeper, Samuel, Jr., House, 113 W. North Shore Dr. (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Vigo County, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Foley Hall, St. Mary of the Woods College Campus, Off US 150 (03/21/85)

INDIANA, Washington County, Salem, First Baptist Church, 201 N. High St. (03/21/85)

MAINE, Androscoggin County, Durham, Osgood, Nathaniel, House, ME 136 (03/21/85)

MAINE, Androscoggin County, Lewiston, Holland, Captain, House, 142 College St. (03/21/85)

MAINE, Androscoggin County, Mechanic Falls, Elms, Elm St. (03/21/85)

MAINE, Cumberland County, Portland, Fort McKinley Historic District, Great Diamond Island (03/21/85)

MAINE, Cumberland County, Portland, Portland City Hospital, Brighton Ave. (03/21/85)

MAINE, Cumberland County, South Harpswell, Auburn-Harpswell Association Historic District, ME 123 (03/21/85)

MAINE, Sagadahoc County, Georgetown, Grey Havens Inn, Reid Park Rd. (03/21/85)

MAINE, Waldo County, Islesboro, Drexel Estate, The Bluff (03/21/85)

MISSISSIPPI, Copiah County, Hazlehurst vicinity, Mount Hope, Off Rt. 2 across from Mt. Hope Cemetery (03/21/85)

MISSOURI, Greene County, Springfield, Walnut Street Historic District, Roughly bounded by McDaniel, Walnut and Elm Sts. and Sherman Pkwy. (03/21/85)

MISSOURI, St. Louis (Independent City), American Theater, 416 N. 9th St. (03/18/85)

NEW JERSEY, Monmouth County, Cream Ridge vicinity, Coward-Hendrickson House, (03/21/85)

NEW YORK, Broome County, Binghamton, Dunk, Alfred, House, 4 Pine St. (03/21/85)