



270 King Street **Masonic Temple Building**

Constructed 1871-72; partially rehabilitated 1984

John Henry Devereux, architect

The Masonic Temple in the Tudor Gothic style was built of brick and stucco. Its architect, John Henry Devereux, though a Roman Catholic, took the Entered Apprentice Degree of Masonry to curb criticism that the building was designed by a non-Mason. The building has been remodeled several times and is slated to be converted to residential units on the upper floors, while maintaining retail use of the first floor.

273 King Street **Parish-Poincignon Building**

Constructed c. 1840; rehabilitated 1987-88

This three-story, stuccoed brick structure was built in the 1830s or '40s as a Greek Revival store and residence. The building was remodeled by clothing merchants Hirsch, Israel & Co. in 1885, only to be severely damaged in a hurricane that fall. It was again renovated, only to be severely damaged in the 1886 earthquake. Late 19th century photographs show the building with a two-story arch in the façade's center and a domed cupola on the street corner of the building, in addition to Victorian Italianate features that still survive after further remodeling in the 20th century.

274-276 King Street **Commercial Savings Bank Building**

Constructed 1908-09; altered 1953; renovated 1990s

John D. Newcomer, architect

Built by the Commercial Investment Co. as the home of the Commercial Savings Bank, this three-story masonry Renaissance Revival building acquired its present appearance in 1953, when it was remodeled by the South Carolina Electric and Gas Co. It has since been rehabilitated as a restaurant.

275 King Street **Hirsch Israel Building**

Constructed 1897-99; renovated 1933 and 1996

This three-story masonry Baroque Revival building with a high, elaborate dome, was built as a clothing store for the Hirsch-Israel Company. In 1919, it became the Dime Savings Bank, which merged to become the Peoples State Bank of South Carolina, which failed in 1932. Subsequently, the building was remodeled by taking it down to its first floor and modernizing the design in 1933. For a time it became a restaurant and was updated as a retail space again in 1996, revealing the surviving framing of the upper stories.

281 King Street **Kress Building**

Constructed 1931

The S.H. Kress & Company's Building was completed in 1931 in the Art Deco style then popular. It is typical of Kress department stores of the period throughout the country. Owner Samuel Kress was passionately interested in architecture and established an architectural division at his national headquarters in New York to produce designs for his chain of stores. Charleston's Kress store was located at the northwest corner of King and Beaufain streets for two decades before building at this location. Though Kress closed in the 1990s, the space continues to be used for retail purposes. The Williams-Sonoma signage on the first floor complements the original Art Deco Kress word mark above it. The building is protected through an easement donation to Historic Charleston Foundation.

286-288 King Street **George Miller Building**

Constructed 1839-40; altered 1883

George Norton Miller built this three-story brick double building with a redevelopment loan from the city after the Fire of 1838. Miller was a member of Miller, Ripley & Co., of Charleston and New York, dry goods merchants. The building was Victorianized in 1883 by the family of John Henry Steinmeyer who operated Steinmeyer's Mill on Gadsden Street.