

SCANLAN FOUNTAIN

Title: Scanlan Fountain

Artist: J. L. Mott Iron Works

Date: 1972

Type: Fountain

Medium: Cast Iron

Location: Sam Houston Park



Dating originally from 1891, the Scanlan Fountain has been in [Sam Houston Park](#) since 1972. It once graced the Scanlan family home on Main Street, but was moved, first, to their home in Rosharon, and then to the park, when it was given to the [Heritage Society](#).

The pool of the fountain is 30 inches tall, and the fountain inside it is approximately twelve feet tall. It is made of cast iron and is painted green. It underwent restoration in 1999.

[Thomas Scanlan](#) was a native of Limerick County, Ireland. He came to America as a child and to Houston in 1853, where he prospered as a merchant and took a prominent role in Reconstruction-era politics. The Union government appointed Scanlan alderman of the Third Ward in 1868 and mayor of Houston in 1870. His tenure in office saw significant infrastructure improvements in the city, and he went on to serve as postmaster and, as a private citizen, in executive roles in the Houston City Street Railway Company, the Houston Gas Light Company, and the Houston Water Works Company. He died in 1906.

