

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 9 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
* * * Opp Cottage
AND/OR COMMON
Opp Cottage

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
33 West Jefferson Davis Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Montgomery
STATE
Alabama
VICINITY OF
CODE
01
COUNTY
Montgomery
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Martha Ann McInnis
STREET & NUMBER
3422 Ridgefield Drive
CITY, TOWN
Montgomery
STATE
Alabama
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Opp Cottage is located on a corner lot in one of Montgomery's older residential neighborhoods, and is no doubt the work of a local carpenter. The structure is a raised cottage with a masonry ground floor and frame construction on the upper level, which is not apparent in viewing the front elevation, is free standing with an area way beneath the porch. The front of the porch rests on brick piers which stand on a brick retaining wall.

The house consists of a simple rectangular block with the long (five bay) side facing north onto West Jeff Davis. Construction of the main level is of wide clapboard, painted white. A half-hipped roof porch extends the length of the facade and is trimmed with unusually light, delicate fretwork between the porch columns and on the balustrade. Originally the balustrade detailing was carried through in a railing along the front steps.

The hipped roof has extended eaves and a well defined frieze. The two interior chimneys are covered with stucco and are proportionately very broad. All windows are double hung with 6 lights per sash, simple trim, and most have retained the original shutters. The four panel central door is flanked with side lights.

A front central hall gives access to a parlor on either side and a small room to the rear. The front rooms have simple wooden mantels and the windows have panel sections beneath the sill extending to the baseboard. The house is finished throughout with plaster walls and wideboard heart pine flooring.

The small room directly behind the entrance hall contains an enclosed staircase on the eastern wall, and gives access into a small room on either side as well as to a two story central rear portico. The rooms on either side have simple wooden mantels, and the room on the east is smaller than the western room.

The stairway descends to a small landing which has two steps descending into a long (27'4") room on the west, and two steps descending into the front room on the east. A door beneath the stair leads into a small (11'x9") room on the east. Neither of these two rear rooms has a fireplace, while the two front rooms (approximately 16' x 14½") have simple wooden mantels.

The remains of a one story frame kitchen is located directly behind the house. Originally there was also a two room frame servants house located on the grounds.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1860 - 1866

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Opp Cottage is one of Montgomery's few remaining ^{3d} raised cottages. A modest but well crafted structure, it reflects the taste and means of a middle class merchant who settled in Montgomery after the close of the Civil War.

In all likelihood construction of the Opp Cottage was started in 1860 by T. J. Wilson and his wife Eliza Deeds indicate that Valentine Opp and his wife Catherine purchased the property from Eliza C. Wilson on July 28, 1866 and according to family records the cottage was not fully completed at the time of its purchase.

Valentine Opp was a native of Austria who emigrated to Benton in Lowndes County where he met and married his wife Catherine Hart, an Irish immigrant. After the close of the Civil War Opp and his wife moved to Montgomery. Opp was a merchant tailor by trade and operated a successful tailoring business downtown on Court Square. Opp had seven children, two of whom distinguished themselves as lawyers.

Henry Opp, who received his degree from the University of Alabama in 1878, served as the county solicitor of Covington County, as the mayor of Andalusia, and as a delegate to the constitution convention of 1901. Opp was hired as an attorney by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to settle a dispute and in this capacity he was instrumental in that railroad being extended through the present day city of Opp, which was named in his honor.

Another son, Frederick Opp, also an attorney, resettled in Texas and was appointed by U. S. President Grover Cleveland as Consul to Breslau, Germany.

The Cottage remained in the Opp family until it was recently purchased by Martha McInnis who plans to restore the house for office use.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Miss Rebecca Agnew Hold (Representative of Montgomery Historical Development Commission and Advisory Board to the Alabama Historical Commission.
 Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd H. Roberts - 27 West Jeff Davis Avenue
 Interview with Mrs. Catherine Scott Sullivan - Louisville, Kentucky (granddaughter of Valentine Opp).
 Montgomery City Directory, 1859-60, 1866, 1873, 1880-81, 1883-84, 1887

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	56,49,20	3,58,10,0,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Alabama Historical Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

725 Monroe Street

(205) 832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Montgomery

Alabama

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

W. B. Woodward Jr.

TITLE

SAPD Alabama

DATE

Dec. 2, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

W. M. ...

DATE

3/4/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

5.3.76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE one

Owen, T.M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Chicago. S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1921.