

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 5 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 21 1979

**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

Tulane Building

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

800 High Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Montgomery

__ VICINITY OF

2

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Alabama

01

Montgomery

101

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

__PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

__MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

E. O. Wright

STREET & NUMBER

800 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Alabama 36104

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

none

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED

DATE _____

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tulane Building, a corner grocery store built between 1904 and 1908, is one of Montgomery's outstanding small Victorian commercial structures. Located at the corner of High and Ripley streets, it has served as an architectural and commercial landmark to the surrounding black neighborhood.

Facing west, the building is a two-story, rectangular, brick structure with a full basement and flat roof. The facade is highlighted by the ornamental turret which projects over the northwest corner entrance. Balancing the turret, on the south side of the facade, is a pedimented doorway which leads to the second floor. Two free-standing columns, whose crumbling capitals appear to have been Ionic, rest on brick pedestals and support a full entablature topped by a triangular pediment. At the ground level, a wide, triple window divided by metal posts has been partially sealed with cement blocks. At the second story are double-hung sash windows with vertical muntins or single panes. They are decorated with stone sills which are joined by a brick string course.

Featuring a variety of pressed metal motifs, the turret is the structure's most highly decorated element. It has four vertical panels alternating with three sash windows divided by vertical muntins. Contrasting this element are horizontal paneled bands, a wide projecting cornice, and a frieze. The cornice and frieze are decorated with dentils and garlands, and topped by a low parapet. They extend around the north and west sides of the building. Another cornice at the base of the turret is decorated with egg and dart moulding and supported by foliated brackets. The conical roof of the turret is crowned by a small finial.

Less ornate than the facade, the north elevation has the metal cornice and frieze and a variety of unevenly spaced rectangular windows. Those on the second floor are sash windows with vertical muntins, while those on the ground floor vary from small square openings to large display windows. One display window and a door have been boarded over. Still less ornate, the south elevation has only the unevenly spaced windows at the second floor. A section on the rear of the structure, formerly a two-story latticed porch, has been enclosed with brick, and a small frame storage shed is attached to it.

The interior of the building remains very near its original condition. The corner entrance leads to a large open room in which the merchandise is displayed. A smaller room at the back of the store contains the large meat blocks and built-in ice box used by Tulane in his grocery business. Though the upstairs apartments have been converted to offices, no major structural changes were made.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1904-1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tulane Building is a small corner grocery store constructed between 1904 and 1908 by Victor Tulane, a prominent black businessman. Distinguished by its ornamented turret, the brick structure is one of the few small, eccentric Victorian commercial buildings remaining in the city. It is additionally noted in being an important merchandising and social establishment in the black community.

Victor Tulane came to Montgomery from Elmore County around 1893 and opened a small grocery store. With a thriving business popular for its reasonable prices and special blend of "Tulane's Pride" coffee, Tulane soon expanded his business ventures. In the late 1890's he entered the real estate business and also served as a cashier of the Montgomery branch of the Penny Saving Bank, a Birmingham-based Negro banking firm. He was later elected the first black Trustee of Tuskegee Institute.

In the early 1900's, Tulane built the structure on the corner of Ripley and High streets to house his grocery business below and living quarters above. The ground floor continues to be used as a grocery store, having passed from Tulane to the A&P, and finally to Mr. E. O. Wright, a white, who operates a small neighborhood store. The second floor was occupied by Tulane and his wife, Willie, as their home. The Colored Alabamian remarked on October 10, 1908, that "Dr. Washington (Booker T.) stopped at Mr. and Mrs. Tulane's and met the Tuskegee Alumni in the beautiful Tulane apartments." When the Tulanes moved into a new home, the second floor was then used as a club house by two of Montgomery's prominent black social groups. When Wright acquired the property, he and his mother used the upper floor as an apartment. At the present time, it is rented as office space.

No significant structural changes have been made on the building, and several fixtures used by Tulane in his grocery business remain. There are two large meat blocks and a built-in ice box on the main floor and coal shed in the basement.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alexander, Mrs. J. T. Interview by Mary Ann Neeley, Fall, 1978.

Colored Alabamian. 1907-1910.

Members of the Annie M. Duncan Club. Interview by Mary Ann Neeley.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.22 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Montgomery South

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 566080 3581660

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southeast corner of the intersection of High and Ripley streets, proceed in an easterly direction along the southern boundary of High approximately 191.55 feet; thence in a southerly direction approximately 80 feet; thence in a westerly direction

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

Sally Moore and Mary Ann Neeley (Montgomery Landmarks Foundation)

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Alabama Historical Commission

January 23, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

725 Monroe Street

(205) 832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Montgomery

Alabama 36130

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

Wils B. Howard Jr.

TITLE

SNPD Ala.

DATE

Jan. 25, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
 KEEPERS OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 OFFICE OF REGISTRATION

DATE

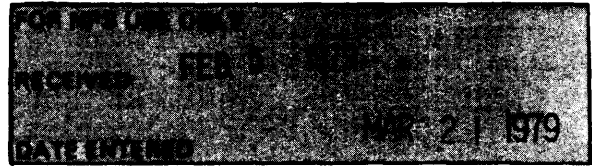
3.2.79

DATE

3/20/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

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Montgomery Advertiser. December 10, 1948; February 4, 1951.

Neeley, Mary Ann. Proposed nomination form.

Nixon, Mrs. Tessie. Interview by Mary Ann Neeley.

Tax Records, Montgomery County, 1900. Microfilm in possession of Alabama Department of Archives and History.

Wright, E. O. Interview by Mary Ann Neeley, Fall, 1978.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 2

approximately 50 feet; thence in a northerly direction approximately 40 feet; thence in a westerly direction approximately 141.55 feet to the eastern boundary of Ripley; thence in a northerly direction along said boundary line approximately 40 feet to the point of beginning.