

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Brame House

and/or common Brame-Cody-Neal House

**2. Location**

street & number 402-404 South Hull Street      not for publication

city, town Montgomery      vicinity of      congressional district 2

state Alabama code 01 county Montgomery code 001

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Neal

street & number 402-404 South Hull Street

city, town Montgomery      vicinity of      state Alabama

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number 142 Washington Avenue

city, town Montgomery      state Alabama

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible?      yes  no

date 1970-present      federal  state      county      local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery      state Alabama

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## 7. Description

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|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Facing East on the corner of Scott and South Hull Streets, the Brame House is located four blocks from the downtown business district. A large structure, it almost completely covers the lot on which it stands.

The irregularly massed house, covered by narrow lapped siding, embodies Neo-classical details. Four fluted Corinthian columns support a full entablature with a dentiled and modillioned cornice above which rises a segmented hipped roof. A central balcony with a dentil course and a fretwork balustrade spans the space between the two central columns. The main body of the house is flanked by one-story sunporches. The southern porch which has been entirely enclosed from the inside (leaving the multi-paned windows visible from the exterior) is finished with a cornice similar to that of the main block, and is extended to form the roof of a porte-cochere which is supported by Corinthian collonettes on brick piers. The northern porch windows have been replaced with glass louvers. The building rests on a full basement which contains three modern apartments.

The double front door has beveled glass lights and wood surrounds and is topped by rectangular transom divided into small lights. The door is framed with Corinthian columns supporting a full entablature with a heavy dentil course. The central entrance is flanked by French doors -- two on the north and one on the south. These doors have simple enframements and transoms similar to the front door. A single transomed door leads onto the balcony. Windows are irregularly spaced and have 12/12 and 1/1 lights. One small stained glass window is located on the north side of the house, corresponding to an inside bathroom.

Interior: The interior has been altered to accomodate its use as apartments. The ground floor, occupied by the owners, has kept much of its original plan although an interior staircase has been enclosed. Exposed beams and a high plate rail adorn the large living and dining rooms in which there are tile fireplaces set off by Corinthian columns. There are three sets of French doors with sidelights and transoms on the interior. Other elements are narrow-planked hardwood floors, reeded windows and door surrounds with corniced architraves and reeded one-foot high baseboards. Some of the light fixtures are original. The door hardware is original, and the door knobs are crystal. The house contains eleven bedrooms and eight bathrooms.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce    | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900–                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications         | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

**Specific dates** 1897 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Brame House is significant as one of the city's earlier examples of late 19th century Classical Revival and for its associations with W. W. Brame, a prominent cotton broker. Brame's turn-of-the-century prosperity reflects the commercial basis of Montgomery's wealth. Additionally the structure is one of the few large, frame structure of its period still standing. The surrounding streets and avenues were once one of the city's finest residential neighborhoods, but proximity to the center of town has resulted in commercial encroachment. The structure occupies a strategic location on the corner of Scott and South Hull and the recent decision of the owners to restore it for commercial use, rather than raze it, has generated similar plans for adjacent buildings. A district nomination is in the planning stages.

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Mrs. Margery Brame, wife of James Yancey Brame, purchased property on the corner of South Hull and South Alabama (now Scott) Street in 1862 from Charles G. Gunter. Mr. Brame, who had been sheriff of Montgomery County from 1855-1861, was a relative of the famed southern orator William L. Yancey. At Mrs. Brame's death in 1866, her property was sold at public outcry in order to settle the estate, and her son, W. W. Brame, a cotton broker purchased the house which he promptly put in trust for the other heirs. In 1874, the heirs gave quit claim deeds to Mary Jane Brame, the wife of W. W., for the lot and a house which at that time faced Scott Street. In 1896, further quit claim deeds were given to Mrs. Brame. Both tax records and city directories indicate that the present house was built about 1897. Assessments on Mrs. Brame's property jumped from \$1800 in 1896 to \$3,000 in 1897. The city directory does not show a house at the address in 1895, but the next available volume (1899) lists W. W. Brame at 402 South Hull.

Mary Jane Brame had, before marrying Brame, been married to a Hunter, and at her death her children, Larry W. Hunter and Camilla Brame Cody inherited her property. In 1916, Hunter sold his interest in the Hull Street House to his half-sister, Mrs. John D. (Camilla) Cody. In 1943, the widowed Camilla sold the property to H. W. Jackson who in turn sold, in 1944, to Mrs. J. C. Brock whose daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Neal, own and occupy the house today (1979). The property is a city designated Landmark.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract

Blue, Matthew P., City Directory and History of Montgomery.  
City Directories of Montgomery, 1878-1901.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Montgomery South

Quadrangle scale 1:2400

UMT References

A 

|      |   |   |         |   |   |   |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 1    | 6 | 5 | 6       | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0        | 3 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 0 |
| Zone |   |   | Easting |   |   |   | Northing |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

B 

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C 

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| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

G 

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| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

H 

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|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      |  |  |         |  |  |  |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zone |  |  | Easting |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Verbal boundary description and justification

East 81' 2" of lot #16, Square 1 Goldwaite Plat. 75' x 81' 2" includes House and lot.

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 Mary Anne Neeley (Landmarks Foundation) Ellen Mertins

organization Alabama Historical Commission date July 11, 1980

street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 832-6621

city or town Montgomery state 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Miss B. Howard, Jr.

title JAPD date July 14, 1980

For HCRS use only

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

W. Ray Luce  
Keeper of the National Register

date 9/17/80

Attest: Ann Duxie

date 7/15/80

Chief of Registration