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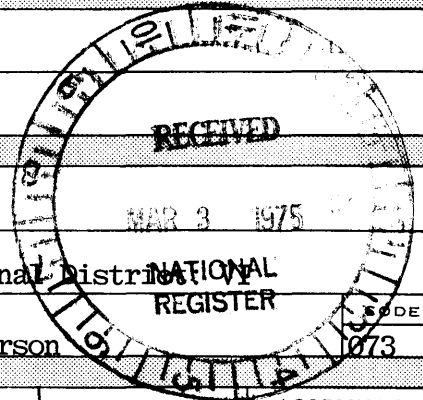
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: ALABAMA	
COUNTY: JEFFERSON	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 13 1975	



1. NAME

COMMON:
Enslin House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2737 Highland Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Birmingham

STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01** COUNTY: **Jefferson** STATE CODE: **073**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Vera B. Stewart, M.D. and R. L. Stewart, M.D.

STREET AND NUMBER:
2737 Highland Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Birmingham** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
716 21st Street, North

CITY OR TOWN: **Birmingham** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Site Survey, Jefferson County, Alabama

DATE OF SURVEY: **December, 1972** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Birmingham Public Library, Southern History Department

STREET AND NUMBER:
2020 Seventh Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: **Birmingham** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 13 1975

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Enslin House, a two story brick structure faced with two inch thick marble, reflects the Neo-classical Revival trend of the early 20th Century. Constructed in an era of great prosperity for the city, the house makes extensive use of mahogany, finely executed woodwork, and art glass.

The L-shaped structure consists of a central block measuring 53 feet by 36 feet and a rear (southwest) section measuring 42 feet by 28 feet. A central two-story portico has four Roman Doric columns supporting an entablature and pediment. The frieze is ornamented with triglyphs and the modillioned cornice encircles the building. An oval light is located in the center of the pediment.

A full length balcony is ornamented by a heavy wooden balustrade and is supported by paired columns. Similar columns support a one story portico which runs the length of the eastern elevation.

The interior is asymmetrically divided by a foyer and stair hall both noted for their fine woodwork. A large living room to the left and a parlor and dining room to the right make up the central block of the first floor. A side entrance hall to the rear of the living room gives access to the western portico through a leaded, beveled glass entrance way. Matching leaded, beveled glass windows line the southern wall of this hall.

The rear section of the building consists of a back stair, a kitchen and a small parlor which contains oak cabinets with leaded, beveled glass doors which match the windows of the room.

The front stairway contains a semi-circular recessed landing with a three panel window of handpainted figure work.

The house has changed hands several times and when it was acquired in 1962 by Vera Stewart it was in deteriorated condition, but had not been altered. Extensive restoration was undertaken, with the only major alterations being the renovation of kitchen and baths and the enclosing of an upstairs sleeping porch.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Enslen House is one of the few surviving large homes built along Highland Avenue during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Constructed shortly after the turn of the century, the home is one of the finest Neo-classical Revival residences in the city and is notable for both the high quality of its craftsmanship and the lavish use of fine materials.

The Enslens were among the early citizens of the town and in part helped promote the phenomenal growth of the town through their Jefferson County Savings Bank.

Highland Avenue was a development of the Elyton Land Company, the original promoters of the city of Birmingham. The two mile long Avenue was laid out with several small parks and a wide median strip in 1884 and by 1900 was the principal upper class residential section. The Enslen Home was among the largest and most elaborate of the many homes which lined the Avenue.

Eugene Enslen was born in Wetumpka, Alabama in 1858 and moved to Birmingham in 1871 where he worked as a clerk in his father's mercantile business. In 1885 Enslen along with his father and brother organized the Jefferson County Savings Bank and later (1911) built a 22 story structure, until recently the tallest building in town, to house it. His home on Highland Avenue was completed in 1910 and served as a monument to his prosperity.

Highland Avenue has suffered heavily from commercial encroachment along the first few blocks and most of the larger and more elaborate homes have been demolished. The Enslen Home which is threatened by demolition has become the focal point of restoration efforts in the area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Armes, Ethel, The Story of Coal and Iron in Alabama. Birmingham: Chamber of Commerce, 1910. (Reprinted, Birmingham: Book-Keepers Press, 1972.)
 Cruickshank, George M., History of Birmingham and Its Environs. Chicago; Lewis Publishing Co., 1920.
 DuBose, J. W., Jefferson County and Birmingham, Alabama. Birmingham: Caldwell Printing Works, 1887.
 Henley, J. C., Jr., This is Birmingham. Southern University Press, 1960.
 Mann, Mrs. Constance, personal interview and photographs; November, 1974. Southern History Department, Birmingham Public Library, vertical files.
 Stewart, Dr. Vera, personal interview; November 1974.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

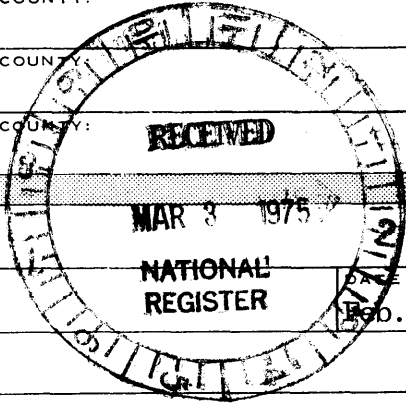
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
				16	520080		3706960		
				Zone	Easting		Northing		

HR
UTM
OK

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director
 ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: 725 Monroe Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:
 National State Local
 Name Milo B. Daward, Jr.
 Title SHPO Alabama
 Date February 26, 1975

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
A. R. Mortenson
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 2/13/75
 ATTEST:
W. Mortenson
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 3-12-75

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
ALABAMA	
COUNTY	
JEFFERSON	
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(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References (continued)

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

