

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 Phillippi (Phillipi) House

and/or common Mastin House

2. Location

street & number 53 N. Jackson Street N/A not for publication

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of congressional district 01

state Alabama code 01 county Mobile code 097

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Howard Barney

street & number Barney and Patrick Advertising, Inc., 306 St Francis St

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of state Alabama 36602

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Mobile County Court House, Probate Division

street & number 109 Government Street

city, town Mobile state Alabama 36601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nineteenth Century Mobile Architecture;
an Inventory of Existing Buildings has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1974 federal state county local

depository for survey records Mobile City Planning Commission

city, town Mobile state Alabama 36633

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Phillippi House rises directly from the sidewalk. It is a two-story brick building with a deeply recessed entrance reached by five steps. A cast iron gallery overhangs the sidewalk, the first level of which is supported by thin iron pipes standing at curb level. A delicate frieze in rinceau design accents both the deck level and the cornice. Brackets of the same design fill the corners between post and frieze. The balustrade is of a heavier cast iron pattern and is more geometric in nature. A slightly projecting water table marks the level of the first story. Below the water table, grilled vents aerate the substructure. Three 6/6 wood sash windows are present on the second story with smooth lintels. The two 6/6 windows on the first story have roughly textured lintels and smooth sills. The outer framing of the recessed stairway is formed of bricks with wide, slightly battered jambs and a capped lintel with a large keystone accenting the center of the entrance. The door is enframed by Tuscan pilasters which rise through the transom and has a large glass light in the upper section with molded panels below.

Attached on the south side of the building is the old carriage entrance with a second story overhanging the narrow bay. The opening to the carriage way has louvered garage doors that are now permanently closed by interior crossbars. A modern brick landing and steps now lead from the front room to the carriageway and to the rear courtyard beautifully planted with trees, shrubbery and a pool. The rear wall of this courtyard is of glass which opens into a passage formed by the old stable which has the original beamed ceiling exposed.

The interior of the house has been adapted for office space and ingeniously connected to the main office space through the old stable. The new material used is kept simple and does not intrude on the original fabric. The stairhall has retained its original fabric which includes the entrance framing, stair railing with round railing and square balusters and 6 inch wide flooring. The front windows have their original framing and molded panels beneath. The front and rear offices of the first floor have dropped ceilings and do not show the original baseboards. The second story retains the original plan with the exception that the front of the hall has been turned into a small office. Three rooms on this level have embossed tin ceilings (probably added c. 1900) which all have the same cove and frieze design but whose flat ceiling areas vary in design. The ceiling on the front office has been dropped. Front windows on this level are original and have their original panels below with the central window having a jib door.

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 1850 **Builder/Architect** Antonio Phillippi

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Architecture:

The Phillippi House is significant as the only remaining example of a mid-nineteenth century two-story brick townhouse with cast iron balcony over the sidewalk. Although buildings of this type were once numerous, no other residences remain in the city which fall into this category.

As a residence, the Phillippi House displays a typical plan having a side hall with double parlors only on one side, a plan found in many mid-nineteenth century urban houses. The deeply recessed entrance shows how a main doorway was designed to provide protection against the elements while not encroaching upon the sidewalk area. A traditional feature of the house is the Greek Key framing around the outer entrance although, in this instance, a large keystone has been placed in the center of the horizontal lintel. An unusual feature for Mobile is the high water table marking the level of the first story.

Three commercial buildings which have cast iron balconies over the sidewalk are still extant in the city. These included the La Clede Hotel at 150-164 Government Street, 7 S. Joachim Street and the Antomanchi Store at 200 St. Emanuel Street. Unlike the Phillippi House which has undergone relatively little alteration over time, these commercial buildings have been substantially altered since the time of their construction.

Integrity:

On the exterior, the Phillippi House remains unchanged since the time of its construction except for the infilling of the carriageway at the left. This carriageway is now used as a passage between this building and another building on St. Francis Street. The bay above the carriage way on the second story may not be original; however, there is no photodocumentation to either prove or refute this.

On the interior, the first story space has been altered by partitions although the original detailing remains intact. Of particular interest are the pressed tin ceilings which are present on the second story and were probably added c. 1900.

* * * * *

Antonio Phillippi (Phillipi) had this building constructed. He emigrated from Corsica and operated a coffee saloon on the corner of Royal and Conti Streets. He was a friend of Charles Antomanchi who had built a store at 200 St. Emanuel Street and also operated a coffee saloon. Phillipi was guardian of Antomanchi's children after the latter's death. At the turn of the century, the building was owned by a well-known physician, Dr. Claude Mastin.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Deeds and Records from the Mobile County Court House, Probate Division; 1878 City Atlas; Sanborn Maps; Tax Assessments; City Directories; Nineteenth Century Mobile Architecture, an Inventory of Existing Buildings, Mobile City Planning Commission, 1974.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property (.04 ac.) less than one

Quadrangle name Mobile

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	3	9	9	8	6	0	3	3	9	5	7	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point 60.83' north from the north-east corner of St. Francis and Jackson, running north for 33.35' with a depth of lot of 55', being the second lot north of the northeast corner of St. Francis & Jackson.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth B. Gould, Architectural Historian

organization Mobile Historic Development Commission date November 2, 1982

street & number P.O. Box 1827 telephone (205) 438-7133

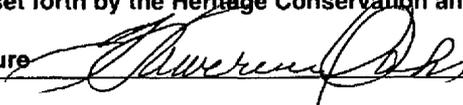
city or town Mobile state Alabama 36633

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

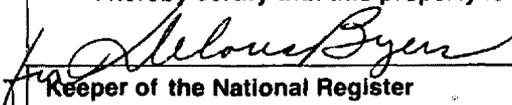
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/29/83

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	Entered in the National Register date <u>1/5/84</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	