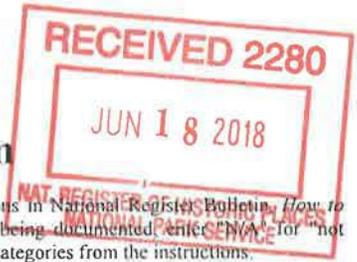


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Booker T. Motel
Other names/site number Booker T. "Colored" Motel and Restaurant, Armour's BBQ
Name of related multiple property listing N/A

2. Location

Street & Number: 607 West Main Street
City or town: Humboldt State: TN County: Gibson
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A Zip: 38343

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Claudia L. Starn 6/14/18
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting Official: Date

Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Joe Fisher
 Signature of the Keeper

7.25.2018
 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
	1	objects
3	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: CONCRETE

Narrative Description

The Booker T. Motel in Humboldt (pop 8,452), Gibson County, Tennessee, is located near the intersection of three U.S. highways on 607 West Main Street. The Booker T. Motel's property consists of three contributing buildings and one non-contributing building, and a non-contributing object. Historically significant from 1954-1970, as a motel and restaurant that served African-American travelers who had few options during segregation and as a Black-owned barbeque restaurant, the Booker T. Motel is a simple pair of single story, gable-front motel buildings constructed of concrete block, one with a L-plan (2-C). West of the motel buildings is a larger building that served as the office and a barbeque restaurant (C). Faced in brick, it is composed of a larger gable front section and a flat roofed extension that housed kitchen space and pit or meat smoking area. A small 1920s house in poor condition east of the motel buildings and c. 1970 sign and payphone stand are also located on the parcel (NC, NC). Located just blocks west of downtown Humboldt, the property is located in the heart of the historically African-American community and retains its original roadside setting. The property retains its historic integrity including the motel room configuration and interior details of the restaurant.

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1. Office and Restaurant (1940s, contributing building)

The building that once held the motel's office and restaurant is a one-story brick-veneer building in an "L" shape plan with a combination of a flat and gable roof. Noted in accounts of the Booker T. Motel's opening as already on the property, the building was adapted in 1955 for use as the hotel office, barbeque restaurant, including a beauty shop and coffee shop. After 1970, beauty shop was removed and the building was used as the motel office, barbeque restaurant with a lounge in the rear of the building. The majority of the exterior windows and some doors appear to be in their original state.

The original section of the building has a gable-front plan covered with a metal roof. The façade (south elevation) of the original section has a central modern metal and glass door and series of three large one light windows painted to advertise its former use as a barbeque restaurant. A metal vent is located in the gable peak. A metal sign is attached in the middle of the gable field that is faded but once read Armour's Barbeque Lounge. A flat-roofed extension is attached on the west elevation of the original section with a shingled awning covering two-thirds of the facade. On the façade the extension has a wood door, two sliding windows (one smaller, one larger), that appeared to have been used to order and receive food. At the end of the extension is a portion of a chimney that has not been used in some time but was part of the barbeque smoking pit.

On the west elevation of the building is another entrance as well as a rear entrance to the north on the original building. The exterior siding is brick-veneer; however, on the north elevation there is a portion of the building that was not covered in the brick siding thus showing the concrete block construction of the extension. Since this area of the building housed the barbeque pit, it was a safe building material. The brick veneer and shingled awning over the extension appear to date from around 1970. This elevation has two chimneys both on opposite ends of the building but the chimney on the right end no longer stands at its original height.

On the north elevation of the building's addition is another door and near the door, additional bricks were added in a square shaped spot to cover up where a window may have existed at one time.

The east elevation has an entrance door centered to the building, two single hung windows and a more modern heat and air unit.

The interior of the building holds the Booker T. Motel's office, pit area, the barbeque restaurant kitchen, and bar lounge and two restrooms with storage space in the rear of the original building. The restaurant area is covered in original bead board paneling on the walls and ceiling and the floors are covered in blue vinyl composite tile. Just right of the entry door is a decorative wood and glass door that leads to a paneled office and a six-paneled swinging door that leads to a kitchen area. In between the two doors is a window to receive food from the kitchen that has been boarded over. The kitchen area has painted wood paneling and acoustic tile ceiling. The office retains its original stained paneled walls, ceiling, and trim.

In the restaurant area, two square wood posts support a large wood beam that runs the length of the building. This area has an L-shaped bar covered with white laminate counters with blue trim. There is a glass storage case near the window. Ten original barstools surround the bar. Two 1980s paneled folding doors provided access from behind the bar and from the restaurant area to the lounge space. The wall that is connected to the extension/barbeque pit area has a paneled metal and glass door possibly to seal in the smoke.

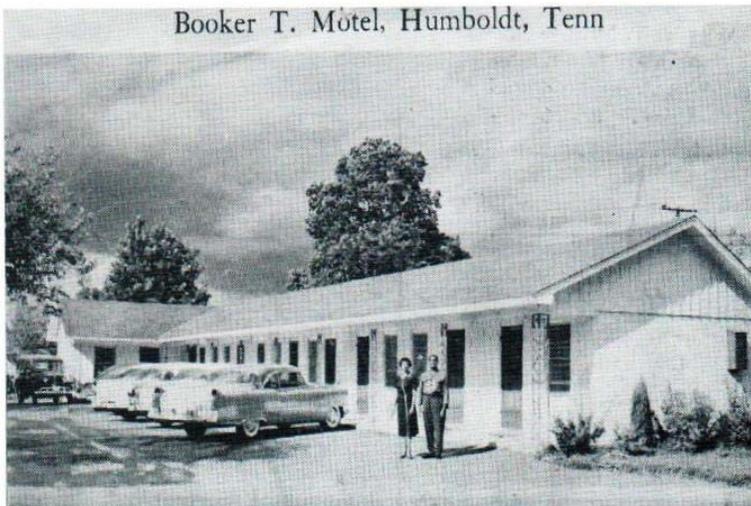
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The lounge space is open with two of the square wood posts supporting the large central beam. A 1980s bar runs the length of the far side of the space. The rest of the interior, such as in the lounge, holds various storage items from the motel. Since the building has been vacant for a few years, signs of weather damage and other signs of neglect are visible in the lounge and restroom areas.

2-3. Motel unit buildings #1 and #2 (c. 1954 and 1955s, contributing buildings)

Originally, the motel started out with only one building holding ten units however the owners soon expanded the motel adding the smaller building directly west of the other with five units. The original building has an overhead porch cover over all the openings facing east and supported by three iron and seven wood support posts. Each living unit was equipped with electric heat and a private bath. The rooms were fully furnished throughout with a modern appearance for its time.¹ The motel had only one double room equipped with two twin beds. The double room is located in the original (left) unit building where the building extends in an L-plan.



Early image of the Booker T. Motel and the Pulliams

Building #1 1954- The property has two buildings which contain its guest rooms. Both are one-story concrete block buildings with gable roofs. The buildings are parallel to each other with the left building, built in 1954 in a rear L-plan with ten units and the right building, built in 1955 is half the size with five units (see historic photo right).² The façade (west elevation) of the first unit building on the left has eighteen openings (ten six panel wood doors and eight two-over-two double hung sash windows). The west elevation also has the gable end of the L plan with board and batten style wood paneling and a square metal vented opening in the gable field. The north elevation has one two-over-two double hung sash and one smaller two-over-two bathroom window for the one double room. On the east rear elevation, is a series of two-over-two double hung sash windows, one for each room. One of the windows has been covered with plywood. The south elevation is the gable end with no openings but board and batten style panels in the gable field and a square vented opening in the gable peak.

Building #2 1955-The façade (east elevation) of the right building has ten openings (five two-over-two metal windows and five metal doors). Overall the materials on this building were not the same quality or have been replaced (windows, doors, and gable field coverings). The gable fields on the north and south elevations have triangular metal vents in the gable peak and thinner pressed wood panels in the gable fields of the north and south elevations. The west elevation contains a single two-over-two metal window for every room.

¹ Hotels on the Highway: Tourist courts worth millions beckon to Negro vacationers on U.S. highways. *Ebony*, May 1955: 94, 96, 99, 103.

²“Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams,” Photo of Motel’s original appearance. Exhibit at the Tom & O.E. Stigall Ethnic Library and History Museum, Humboldt, Tennessee.

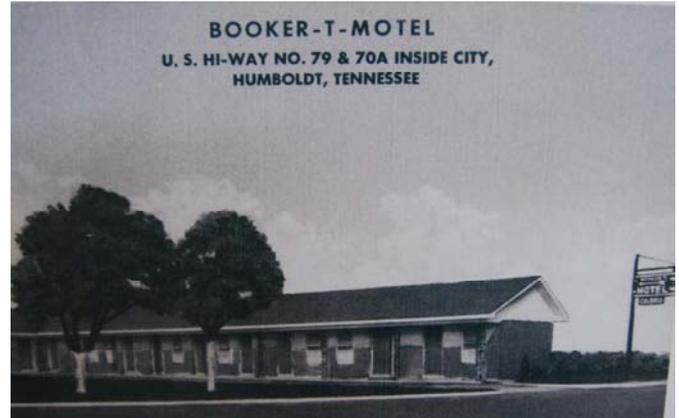
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The interior of the rooms have had some slight changes. Modern tile was added to the floors in the early 2000s and some of the rooms in unit building #1 had sheetrock added covering the original paneled walls. Other rooms, however, still expose their original wood paneling.³ Scattered throughout the rooms, remain pieces of furniture with some dating back to the 1950s along with a few original fixtures.

4. Motel Sign Post & Phone Stand (c. 1990s, non-contributing object)

The Booker T. Motel sign is located on the south elevation of the property on a small plot of grass centered in front of the restaurant building and the unit buildings. The sign is approximately 16ft in height with the top in a rectangular shape for the signage and near the bottom resides a pay phone stand attached to the rear. The pay phone stand is no longer in use and where the sign frame once held a panel that read Armour's BBQ is now left unfilled. The current sign and phone stand appears to date to the 1990s. The current sign is not the original that can be seen a late 1950s postcard image. This image (right), shows the motel's original sign located in front of the unit buildings in the 1950s.⁴



Postcard featuring the original sign

5. House (1920s, non-contributing building)

The small house on the Booker T. Motel parcel east of the motel units was likely used as rental property or possibly overnight accommodations for those working at the hotel. Oral history denotes that the Pulliam's famous barbeque sauce was made in this house by Lavern Armour (a.k.a. Lavern Johnson) at an unknown time. It is thought that she had lived in the house at one time and was hired by the Pulliam's to make the barbeque sauce.⁵ The house is a one story building with a hip roof and non-original composite siding. The façade (east elevation) originally had two front doors with two windows flanking the pair of doors. The northern door has been infilled with composite siding and the southern door is a modern replacement. The rear elevation has a series of small additions or porch areas that have been enclosed that has left a small integral space to access the rear five panel wood door. With ten openings (two doors and eight windows) on the building, three of these are boarded over keeping the house non-accessible. The building is missing sections of siding and the roof and front porch is failing in places. The building is non-contributing due to its deteriorated condition and unknown use during the period of significance.

Setting

Trees and other vegetation once stood between the original unit building and the motel's restaurant, however now a small parking lot resides intersecting the two buildings. Another parking lot is located on the east side of the property to access the right unit building. The Booker T. property is surrounded by streets on all four sides of its parcel boundary. North 7th Street and Saint James Baptist Church are on the east, Crenshaw

³Glenn, Eliga. Telephone interview conducted by Jessica Baker, January 26, 2018.

⁴ "Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams,"

⁵Glenn, Eliga.

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Street is to the north with open fields, and a residential street, North 6th Street, is to the west. The facade or south elevation faces West Main Street. The property is four blocks from Humboldt's downtown core and placed directly within the town's historically African-American neighborhood, the property retains its roadside setting.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
 (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

Areas of Significance
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American
 COMMERCE

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Period of Significance
 1954-1970

Significant Dates
 1954

Significant Person
 (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Criteria Considerations
 (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is: N/A

Cultural Affiliation
 N/A

Architect/Builder
 unknown

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Booker T. Motel is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significance in African-American history and commerce in Humboldt, Tennessee. The period of significance for the Booker T. Motel extends from 1954, the year the motel was constructed through 1970, when ownership changed hands from Mr. Alfred Pulliam to Mr. Ollie Armour. During the period of significance, accommodations for traveling African-Americans were few and far between. Strategically, the motel was located near the intersection of U.S. Highways 79 and 70A in the midst of Humboldt's business district. The establishment became one of the few places African-Americans could stop and stay while traveling between Memphis and Nashville. The motel had the distinction of being advertised in the Green Book and featured in *Ebony* magazine. The motel's barbeque restaurant was also one of the only places in the area where African-American guests did not have to enter through a segregated back door and is an important example of a Black-owned barbeque restaurant.

Narrative Statement of Significance

“The Crossing” and the African-American Community in Humboldt

During the antebellum era, Humboldt was a rail crossroads and important the shipping of farm produce. In 1857 and 1859 two railroads were constructed: the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio Railroad (GM&O) and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad (L&N). These railroads crossed in Humboldt, Tennessee and the trains could change directions. Historically, this area where the trains intersected in Humboldt became known as “the Crossing.”⁶ These railroads were the outlet for the shipping and distribution of the various fruit and vegetable producers grown in the region. The Crossing in Humboldt became the area where the produce was processed. Large manufacturing industries including the Humboldt Canning Co. and cotton mills located their businesses near the crossing on Main Street which created many jobs for the community. Soon Main Street had also become the center for many retail establishments in Humboldt.⁷ “The Crossing” made Humboldt a town of progress and industry in West Tennessee.

The availability of industrial work led to the development of a substantial segregated African-American community on the west side of town. Humboldt's African-American community is represented in the Sanborn maps that documented downtown Humboldt in the early twentieth century. In 1910, out of eight churches, two were identified as “negro.” By 1925, the map identified nine churches with three shown as “colored” along with one “colored school.”⁸ In the strictly racially divided small-town, the Booker T. Motel was within the heart of the African-American community.

Sanborn maps from 1910 show the primary road in Humboldt a local road known as Main Street rather than it being part of a larger network. However, by 1930 the state highway department had designated a corridor, which included this segment, as State Route 76 from t Brownsville northeastward to Clarksville. A 1930 map shows portions of this corridor under construction.⁹ By 1947, the Sanborn maps had been updated to

⁶ “Two Trains Intersect,” Tom & O.E. Stigall Ethnic Library and History Museum, Humboldt, Tennessee.

⁷ “Around the Crossing,” Tom & O.E. Stigall Ethnic Library and History Museum, Humboldt, Tennessee.

⁸ Sanborn Map Index Page, Humboldt, Tennessee 1910 and 1925.

⁹ Gulf Refining Company, "Office Road Map No. 11 Kentucky and Tennessee," 1930, Available at Tennessee State Library and Archives, #1675, Nashville.

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show Main Street Humboldt as both the combined US70A/79/State Route 76, part of an interstate corridor that crossed Tennessee from Memphis to Clarksville making the route well-traveled before Interstate 40 was completed through West Tennessee in the early 1960s and an ideal place to site a motel to meet an unfilled demand for African-American travelers.¹⁰ A early account of the Booker T. Motel described its location as West Main Street at the point where the motel is located is also U.S. Highway 70-A; U.S. Highway 79, and State Highway 76. U.S. Highway 45, the main thoroughfare from Chicago runs right through Humboldt only a few blocks east of the Booker T. Motel.¹¹

Early Twentieth-Century Auto Travel

By the 1920s, Americans were using automobiles to travel farther from home with relative ease that did not depend on railroad schedules or routes. As automobiles became more in demand, citizens advocated for better roads to travel the country-side. This revolutionary movement changed the built environment and highway-oriented businesses became enterprising in providing goods and services for travelers.¹² During this time one would stop for gas and find a “grab and go” meal from diners. Businesses would stand out with colorful signage and unique designs; they were also configured and operated to provide customers quick and accessible service.¹³ Overnight accommodations for travelers prior to the advent of the automobile generally consisted of inns at stage stops or hotels in more urban areas. However, once automobiles became affordable for the middle class, their numbers greatly increased. Entrepreneurs sought to find ways to meet the new demand for travelers and

Convenient accommodations soon began to develop across the country for this touring public. Called cabin camps or tourist camps in the early state--and later many names, including auto court, tourist court, motor hotel, motor lodge, autel (sic), and, most commonly, motel--the number of roadside accommodations along America's highways increased from six hundred to more than forty thousand between the late 1920s and 1950.¹⁴

¹⁰ Joint Board on Interstate Highways, "Map of Tennessee Showing the Interstate Routes Adopted by Joint Board on Interstate Highways" 1927, Available at Tennessee State Library and Archives, #1287, Nashville.

¹¹ "Humboldt's New Motel Dedicated," *The Pittsburgh Courier*, February 13, 1954, 17.

¹² John Jakle, John A and Keith A Sculle. *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2011), 62-79.

¹³ Jakle and Sculle. 79.

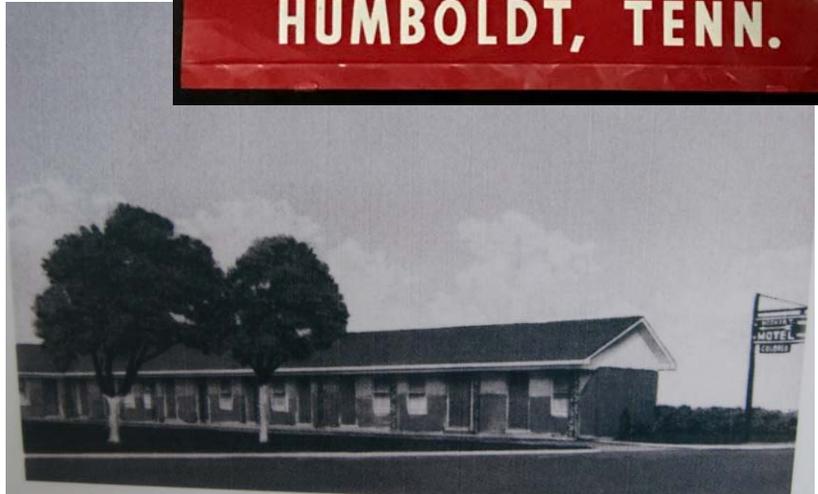
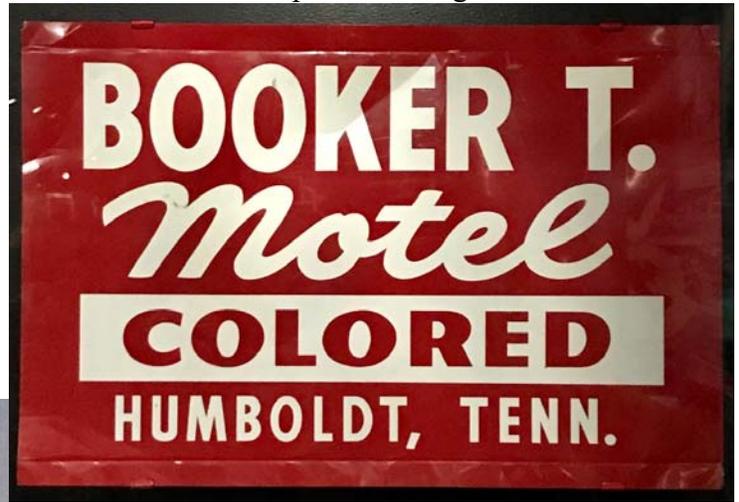
¹⁴ Mary Anne Beecher. "The Motel in Builder's Literature and Architectural Publications: An Analysis of Design" within *Roadside American: The Automobile in Design and Culture*. Jan Jennings, editor. (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press for the Society for Commercial Archeology), 115.

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By the early 1930s, "the term 'camp,' was still associated in the public's mind with run-down lots full of auto gypsies, was generally dropped in favor of the word 'court.'"¹⁵ Shortly after World War II, the term "motel" replaced the term "court."¹⁶ At first these overnight accommodations reflected haphazard design and relatively temporary construction materials, but by the 1930s, their design had begun to reflect planned layouts and sturdier facilities.¹⁷ Although the design of overnight accommodations varied widely, it changed from fairly informal and crude efforts by owners to more consciously designed facilities. Gas rationing and limited automobile production during World War II paused much non-essential travel, but after the war, small, carefully designed motor courts flourished until the mid-1950s when motels began to dominate the field.¹⁸ According to roadside historian John Jakle, motel construction "boomed in the late 1950s and early 1960s to a high of over 61,000 establishments by 1964."¹⁹

Architects designed their complexes to make a quick and positive impression on the motorist and they used a variety of methods to insure that the motorist noticed them. First impressions were what it was all about: where the business was located and situated, and what motorists could see from behind the wheel through their windshield. Attractively maintained landscaping, flower beds, a fresh coat of paint, even a swimming pool provided cosmetic amenities to bring in tourists. Since the first impression a passing motorist might have of a motor court or motel would be the sign, owners often used elaborate, well lit, and creative



Above: Roadside Booker T. Motel advertising sign on display at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, photo by Patrick McIntyre

Below: Early postcard for the Booker T. Motel with neat landscaping and not a not ostentatious but bold sign with arrow detail that noted "COLORED" under the name "BOOKER T MOTEL"

¹⁵ Chester H. Liebs, *Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture*, (Boston: Little, Brown, 1985), 175.

¹⁶ Ibid, 182.

¹⁷ Ibid, 179.

¹⁸ Beecher, 116 and Liebs, 179.

¹⁹ John Jakle Motel by the Roadside-America's Room for the Night, 1980. *Journal of Cultural Geography*, Vol. 1, Issue 1, 43

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signage.²⁰ The original owners of the Booker T. Motel, who followed these tenets, chose a streamlined design, bold signage, and attractive landscaping, to draw in travelers.

African-American Travel

Unfortunately, much of the early-twentieth century roadside history does not hold much truth for African-American travelers who, due to segregation nationwide, were forced to plan trips carefully as accommodations and even places to stop and eat could be hard or impossible to find. The National Historic Landmarks theme study *Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations* provides a context and bibliography for segregation and the fight for equal access to public places like bus stations, restaurants, hotels.²¹ Up until 1964 and even later, African-Americans feared traveling because of the possible dangers that awaited them on their route. Stopping to use the restroom or grabbing a bite to eat was out of the question. Meals had to be packed in ways so not to ruin and roadside restroom stops were very unpleasant.²² Finding motels they could stay in made travel for African-Americans more enjoyable.

The Negro Travelers Green Book originated in New York by mail carrier Victor H. Green in 1937 to give African-American's direction on where they could stop or stay along their route to avoid unwanted dangers. This book became a survival guide to direct those individuals to "havens" along their journey.²³ While Jakle documented that motels for white travelers were multiplying by the thousands in the 1950s and 1960s, by 1956, the *Green Book* listed only one motor court in Topeka, Kansas and 46 motels nationwide.²⁴ According to Jakle, tourist homes in the eastern United States met a need for white travelers filled by the auto court in the West.²⁵ Enterprising African-American homeowners used Tourist Homes to meet a need nationwide. Indeed, most entries in the *Green Book* in the 1940- were for these homes such as the Mrs. E. Brown Tourist Home on E. 8th St. in Chattanooga, where local women would offer travelers or families a safe room in their private home for the night in their home, like a boarding house or bed and breakfast.²⁶ In Tennessee,

²⁰ John Margolies, *Home Away from Home: Motels in America*. (Boston: Little, Brown, 1995), 50.

²¹ Susan Cianci Salvatore, *Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations* accessed 20 April 2018 available from: https://www.nps.gov/nhl/learn/themes/CivilRights_DesegPublicAccom.pdf National Historic Landmarks Program, Revised 2009. See also *Civil Rights in America: A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites*, accessed 20 April 2018 available from: https://www.nps.gov/nhl/learn/themes/civilrights_framework.pdf, National Historic Landmarks Program, Revised 2008.

²² Colvin, Rhonda. "Traveling While Black," *Washington Post*, January 26, 2018.

²³ Colvin.

²⁴ *The Negro Travelers' Green Book*, 1956 Search and Filter Listings, from University Libraries Digital Collections, <http://library.sc.edu/digital/collections/greenbookmap.html> Accessed April 5, 2018.

²⁵ Jakle, 37.

²⁶ Kelli M. Gibson, "Jim Crow and the American Road Trip: Tennessee *Green Book Sites*, an Interactive Map," Center for Historic Preservation MTSU, <http://dsi.mtsu.edu/trials/greenbook> Accessed April 20, 2018.

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throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s, accommodations remained hard to find for African American travelers staying outside urban areas. In the 1942 "Travel Guide of Negro Hotels and Guest Houses," there are only sixteen entries for the entire state. In the *Green Book* complete Tennessee listing for 1949 takes up less than a page with 12 tourist homes and 16 hotels spread throughout the state.

Booker T. Motel

An October 8, 1953 Jackson Sun article announced that Humboldt "will shortly have the only Negro tourist court between Memphis and Nashville." The article said that the motel would be "for the accommodation of colored people only" and would be located "on lower Main St."²⁷ The Booker T. Motel opened with a formal dedication ceremony on January 31, 1954. According to an announcement in the *Jackson Sun*, the "general public, white and Negro," were invited to attend the event which marked "another 'first' for Humboldt and probably also a first for the entire state." The Green Book documents that there were other at least eighteen hotels throughout the state that served African-American visitors, but none were described as a motel.

Built for \$39,000 by white investors Dr. Geo. E. Spangler and M.C. Carter who saw a need for such accommodations in their community divided strictly by racial lines. According to the *Jackson Sun*, Mayor Howard J. Foltz spoke at the dedication along with "prominent Negroes of the state including Dr. H. V. Harper of Tennessee State University; C.A. Rawls, business man and leader among the colored citizens of this section; and L. O. Swingler, Memphis, publisher of the *Tri State Defender*."²⁸ *The Pittsburgh Courier*, a weekly African-American newspaper, provided a more detailed account of the dedication, describing Mayor Foltz's description of the opening as "another classic example of what his community stands for in regard to commercial and industrial progress and a high standard of interracial good-will."²⁹ The interracial goodwill, of course, did not extend to just allowing African-American visitors to stay in all Humboldt hotels. At the dedication ceremony the management was formally handed over to Oscar and Annie Mae Collins, an African-American couple. Oscar Collins was a 25 year old former serviceman from Miami, Florida.³⁰

The *Jackson Sun* article attributed the "unique name of this latest addition to the local business institutions is in honor, of course, of the founder and first president of the Tuskegee Institute, Dr. Booker T. Washington." The article continued to a glowing description of the motel, stating it contained nine units, three of which are family units, each equipped with electric heat and private bath. Furnishings throughout are of modernistic blonde oak. It is of concrete and concrete block

²⁷ "Negro Tourist Court Slated at Humboldt" Jackson Sun, October 8, 1953, The article said the motel would be located on a lot "where for many years the barn and barn lot of B.C. Jarrell and Co. was located." B.C. Jarrell and Co was a manufacturer of fruit and vegetable wooden boxes and packaging established in 1887 and in operation through the 1950s.

²⁸ "First Motel to Serve Negroes Dedicated at Humboldt Today" *Jackson Sun*, January 31, 1954.

²⁹ "Humboldt's New Motel Dedicated," This and other articles in the Jackson Sun "Negro Motel to be Dedicated Jan. 31" indicate that this was the first motel to serve African

³⁰ In the January 24, 1954 *Jackson Sun* article "Negro Motel to Be Dedicated Jan. 31" Oscar and Annie Mae Collins were described as "of TSU and recently of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co."

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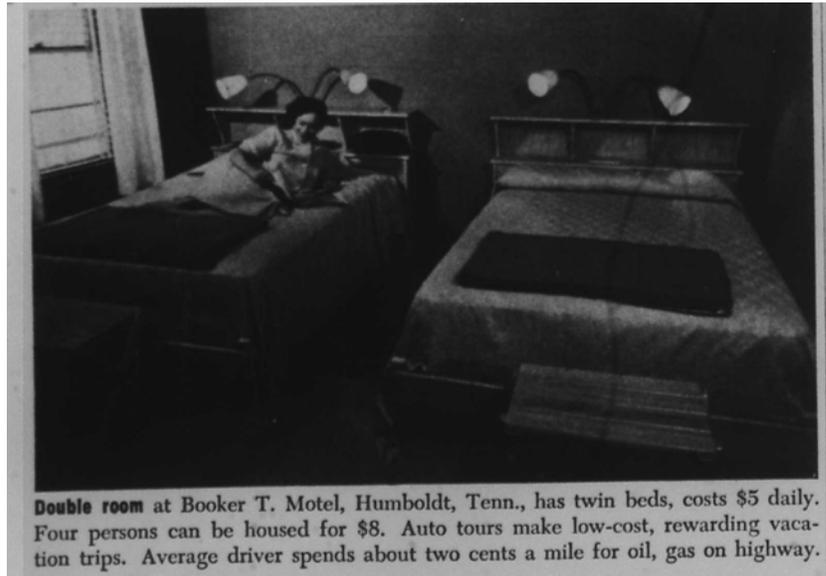
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construction, is painted bright yellow with green and red trim...And there is sufficient space on the site to more than double the size if ever needed...Also on the property is a large building which will soon be converted into an attractive restaurant which will be operated in connection with the motel.”³¹

The Pittsburgh Courier account added that there “are three sets of lights including a floor, table, and bed lights.” It continued “predominant colors, alternating by rooms, are gray, green, and brown. Accessory colors in each room are red and yellow to give beauty and a cheerful atmosphere.” Rather paternalistically the *Jackson Sun* concluded its article pronouncing that “Humboldt is proud of the splendid progress the Negro population here is making especially along religious, educational and civic lines.”

The motel was quickly a success because by May 1955, owners had added the second motel building bringing the motel up to fifteen rooms, and completed the coffee shop, restaurant, and beauty shop as mentioned as coming soon in the articles when the motel opened.³²

According to a 1955 *Ebony* article “Hotels on the Highway,” the Booker T. Motel advertised rooms for a reasonable cost of \$3.50 a day and \$5 a day for their double room with twin beds.³³



Double room at Booker T. Motel, Humboldt, Tenn., has twin beds, costs \$5 daily. Four persons can be housed for \$8. Auto tours make low-cost, rewarding vacation trips. Average driver spends about two cents a mile for oil, gas on highway.

Left: Interior view from “Hotels on the Highway,” *Ebony*, May 1955

With the Booker T. constructed by white investors in the mid-1950s, it appeared to be part of the equalization effort seen in schools all over the south, where throughout the 1950s new segregated schools were built to replace decidedly unequal schools for black children rather than accepting the Supreme Court’s *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision to desegregate schools. These schools remained unequal, much like the Booker T. Motel with its concrete block walls, small rooms, and no pool was unequal to the motels designed for whites only dotting the state highways and newly built interstate system.

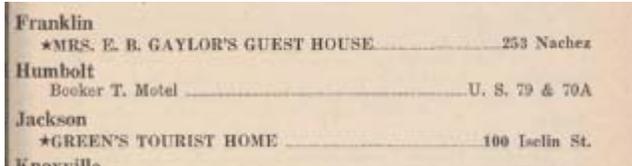
³¹ “First Motel to Serve Negroes Dedicated at Humboldt Today”

³² “Hotels on the Highway” *Ebony*,.

³³ *Ibid.*

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1959 *Green Book* entry for the Booker T.

It is the case of the Booker T., it met such a strong demand in the deeply segregated South, that it was lauded as a positive step forward for African-Americans in national magazines like *Ebony* and a prominent northern African-American publication like the *Pittsburgh Courier*. Historian Ridley Wills II has an extensive personal postcard collection that includes a rare copy of a 1950s

postcard of the Booker T. Motel. He noted the card demonstrated how “difficult it was for an African American ... before the days of interstates and before the days of integration—to find a decent place to stay. And this *was* the decent place to stay.”³⁴

In West Tennessee, in the 1956 *Green Book*, there were a total of eight hotels with seven of those located in Memphis and the other one the Booker T. in Humboldt.³⁵ In 1956, the Booker T. was the only motel listed in the *Green Book* in Tennessee but there was soon a small push to meet the demand for motels for African-American travelers. By the 1957 edition, the Morocco Motel and Grill had opened in Bristol, Fayetteville had Jean & Bobby’s Motel, and the former Larriane Hotel in Memphis had been updated with a modern two-story motel design and was now known as the Lorriane Motel (NR Listed South Main Historic District, 09/02/1982).³⁶ By 1960, the new Eldorado Motel in Nashville, Paradise Motel and Restaurant in Ooletwah, and the Miller’s Modern Motel & Resort took out a featured or full-page advertisement in the *Green Book*. The *Green Book* did not list all establishments which accommodated African American travelers, however. During this period, for example, the Colored Hotel in Union City (no longer extant, NR delisted 06/22/216) did not choose to advertise in the *Green Book*. The Booker T. Motel was listed in the 1956 edition and most editions including the 1964 edition.³⁷ The *Green Book* ceased publication in 1966, two years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of



1960 *Green Book* entry for the Paradise Motel & Restaurant in Ooletwah, Hamilton County

³⁴ Scribner, Christopher & Stengel, Marc. “Making History” *Nashville Scene*, Weekly Wire, December 1, 1997, http://www.weeklywire.com/ww/12-01-97/nash_8-books.html Accessed April 5, 2018.

³⁵ Green, Victor H. & Company. “*The Negro Traveler’s Green Book*,” New York, spring 1956: p. 59-60. https://issuu.com/dafiyab.benibo/docs/negro_traveler_s_green_book.

³⁶ The Morocco Motel & Grill is listed in the 1955 *Green Book* in Virginia and the smaller 1955 *Go-Guide to Pleasant Motoring*, the Official Directory of the Nationwide Hotel Association, Inc. This guide did not list the Booker T. Motel with only fifteen entries for hotels, motels, and tourist homes in the entire state.

³⁷ *The Green Book*, The New York Public Library Digital Collections, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/the-green-book/#/?tab=about&scroll=10> Accessed 20 April 2018. *Green Book* issues from 1954 through 1964 were checked for the Booker T. Motel.

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1964 that made segregation in public places illegal, but unfortunately segregation was still practiced, particularly in the South throughout the 1960s, which provided the Booker T. with business through this period.

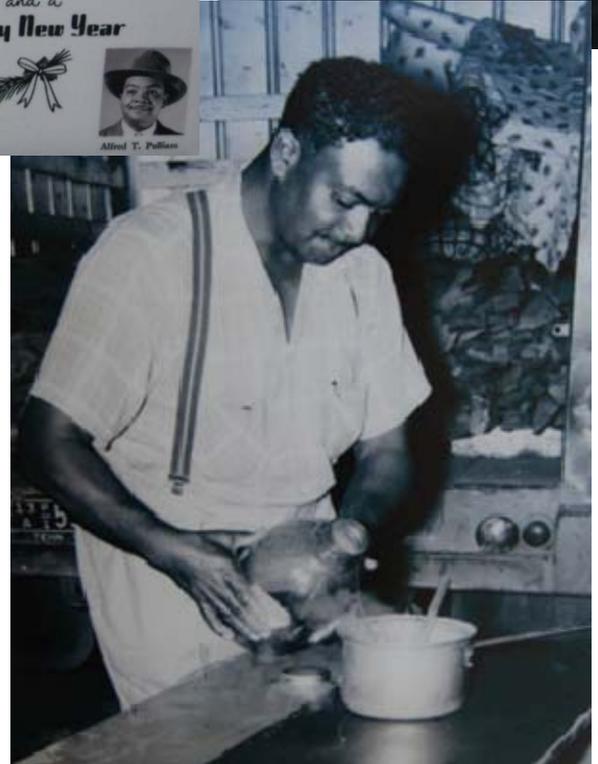
The Pulliams

Mr. Alfred T. Pulliam and his wife Velva took over management and eventually ownership of the Booker T. around 1957. Mr. Alfred Pulliam was originally from Mississippi but moved to Humboldt. Pulliam eventually met and married Humboldt native Velva Donald, a school teacher. Mr. Pulliam had previously worked at the Milan Arsenal, and he and his wife founded many new successful businesses.³⁸ They began with a storage company he opened called A. T. Pulliam Movers, which continued to be in operation until the early 1970s.³⁹ In the early 1950s Alfred and his wife opened Amoco Service (Gas) Station on West Main Street and they eventually took over ownership and management of Booker T. Motel. Mr. Pulliam became well-known for pit barbeque and his special barbeque sauce that was sold in the motel's restaurant/coffee shop space.⁴⁰ The restaurant became such a hit it eventually "drew people from across the country" and Mr. Pulliam would even ship out orders for customers.⁴¹

Mrs. Velva Pulliam also added to her husband's success in the Humboldt community. Mrs. Pulliam had continued her education after high



Images of Alfred and Velva Pulliam from "Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams," – Exhibit at the Tom & O.E. Stigall Ethnic Library and History Museum, Humboldt.



³⁸ 2017 Hall of Fame inductees to be honored festival week, clipping file available at Tennessee Historical Commission.

³⁹ "Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams"

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Jackson, April. "Cooper, Pulliam, Adams inducted to Hall of Fame" Milan Mirror Exchange, May 16, 2017. <https://www.milanmirrorexchange.com/2017/05/16/cooper-pulliam-adams-inducted-to-hall-of-fame/> Accessed 05 April 2018.

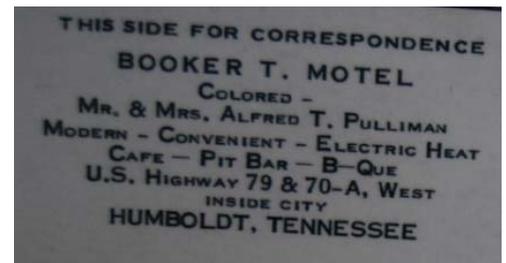
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school and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and even pursued graduate studies at three other institutions including Tennessee State University.⁴² She taught for a school in Trenton, and later transferred to the Humboldt City School where she eventually retired after a long career. Teaching however, did not exhaust all her time for she also “worked alongside her husband in all his businesses.”⁴³ In the small town of Humboldt, the Pulliams were important entrepreneurs in the African-American community.

Booker T. Motel in the Community

The Booker T. Motel was a safe refuge for guests who stayed there. During this time, it also provided a welcoming refuge for area residents as it was one of the only places where it was described that “coloreds could go in and sit down without going to the back door.”⁴⁴ The Booker T. was also a part of the local community participating in events like the 1958 giveaway of “4 Beautiful Two Toned Chevrolets” at the white West Tennessee District Fair and the black Madison County A & M Fair.⁴⁵ In 1961, the Booker T. was one of four locations that residents could pick up entrance blanks for a “Christmas Lighting Contest in the colored communities of this city” sponsored by the Gloxinia Art and Garden Club.⁴⁶ These community events show that the Pulliams made sure that the Booker T. was a vital part of the local African-American community.



Above: Detail of Booker T. Motel postcard noting “colored” along with the other amenities including Pit Bar-B-Que

The Booker T. and Bar-B-Que in West Tennessee⁴⁷

In an article titled “Tennessee BBQ” the authors use the example of Bozo’s Barbeque Supreme Court fight against Bozo the Clown to illustrate that Tennessee barbeque is “serious business, with a long history that is intimately wrapped up in local identity and authenticity.”⁴⁸ Barbeque is known as the culinary technique of

⁴²“Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams.”

⁴³Ibid.

⁴⁴ Jackson.

⁴⁵“Shop at the Stores—With Yellow Discs On The Doors,” *Jackson Sun*, August 19, 1958. It appears typical of the time that attendees of the white-only fair had a chance to win three of the cars, but guests of the shorter black A & M Fair only had a chance to win one.

⁴⁶“Lighting Contest Will Be Held,” *Jackson Sun*, December 11, 1961.

⁴⁷ This section is adapted from the Bozo’s Hot Pit Bar-B-Que National Register Nomination, written by the co-author of this nomination. “Bozo’s Hot Pit Bar-b-que.” National Register of Historic Places Inventory/Nomination Form. Tennessee Historic Commission, Nashville, March 27, 2018.

⁴⁸ James R. Veteto and Ted Maclin “Tennessee BBQ” from Southern Foodways Alliance <https://www.southernfoodways.org/oral-history/southern-bbq-trail/tennessee-bbq/> (accessed 02 December 2017).

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cooking meat at low temperatures for long periods of time and in the American south represents a long and varied tradition. It is now something of a popular culture phenomenon with television shows, blogs, and barbeque themed road trips showing that it has “a long history of permeation perhaps best experienced by the ongoing barbeque feud that plagues the South.” The area from the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico bordered by Texas and Kansas City is known as the ‘barbeque belt’ and encompasses four distinct traditions: Carolina, Memphis, Texas, and Kansas City.⁴⁹

Many argue that to be real bar-b-que the meat must be pork, unlike the Texas and Kansas City varieties which rely on beef. The reliance on pork stems from the southern colonies dependence “on the cheap, low-maintenance nature of pig farming. Unlike cows, which required large amounts of feed and enclosed spaces, pigs could be set loose in forests to eat when food supplies were running low. The pigs, left to fend for themselves in the wild, were much leaner upon slaughter, leading Southerners to use the slow-and-low nature of barbecue to tenderize the meat.”⁵⁰ Southern reliance on pork eventually became a point of pride and Southerners eventually took greater care raising their pigs and “the relationship between the barbecue and pork had been deeply forged.”⁵¹

Regional variations in barbeque styles are also thought to stem from “the influence that colonial immigrants had on the flavor and preparation of the meat.” From the British colonists in Virginia and North Carolina came the method of saucing the meat while cooking and a flavor for tart vinegar based sauces. In South Carolina, with a large population of French and German immigrants, the mustard-based sauce was developed based on traditional flavor preferences.

In Tennessee, a state with its own three distinct regions, barbeque traditions will vary from the Appalachian Mountains in the east where barbeque takes the form of “smoked hog shoulders or hams served with a thick and sweet sauce.” In Middle Tennessee the small town of McEwen has held a barbecue as a part of St. Patrick’s Irish Picnic since 1854, with a “secret sauce rumored to have originated in Ireland or developed locally in the 1920s.”⁵²

In West Tennessee a tradition of whole hog barbeque developed which was distilled in Memphis to focus on perfectly smoked pork shoulder and ribs. In Memphis, the slightly sweet, tomato-based barbeque sauce is thought to have stemmed from the city’s river based location. As a busy river port on the Mississippi River, area residents could more easily obtain goods like molasses, which influenced the preparation of barbecue.⁵³ But no matter the sauce, the smoking of meat often relied on “pit bosses” that were often African-American

⁴⁹ 20 Natasha Geiling, “The Evolution of American Barbecue,” Smithsonian.com 18 July 2013, <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/the-evolution-of-american-barbecue-13770775/#pAj9mofBaCIHd76Z.99> Accessed 02 December 2017.

⁵⁰ Geiling.

⁵¹ Geiling.

⁵² Veteto and Maclin.

⁵³ Geiling.

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men that used techniques passed down through generations and developed over decades of experience to perfect smoked pork to an art form. At the Booker T., Alfred Pulliam continued to cook whole hogs in the West Tennessee tradition and smoked shoulders with a sauce that became locally famous, sharing his skills with his brother-in-law.

The restaurant at the Booker T. Motel is an important example of Black owned barbeque in West Tennessee. The pit and famous sauce first developed by Alfred Pulliam was designed to serve Black customers and not for the benefit of a white restaurateur. The barbeque tradition started at the Booker T. restaurant lives on today at Sam's BBQ at 500 N. Main in Humboldt. In an interview with Sam Donald, brother-in-law to the Pulliams, he said:

Now my brother-in-law used to run the place up here at the motel up here. And when I started to cooking for him, he had one little pit. When I quit him, we had two pits...facing each other. And they had both of 'em running. And then we'd, sometimes we'd run out of meat.⁵⁴

Donald went on to state that the art of barbeque was something he picked up working for his brother-in-law at the motel "just through, just taking your time and learn how to cook." After the Booker T. was sold and used as Armour's BBQ, the Pulliams with Sam Donald built a new pit at their Pulliam's Super Market and Amoco station. After the passing of Alfred Pulliam, Donald opened his own restaurant in the former Pulliam's Super Market location that remains in operation by his children.⁵⁵

In *Fast Food, Roadside Restaurants in the Automobile Age*, John Jakle and Keith Sculle identify the regional variations, long cooking methods, and "a bit frowzy" appearance of even the best barbeque restaurants as reasons why barbeque never became a national fast food commodity like the ubiquitous burgers found *en masse* at establishment's along the nation's the nation's highways and interstates.⁵⁶ It is for these reasons that blogs and television shows now feature out of the way barbeque places and why travelers will make authentic places like Sam's BBQ a destination rather than stops along the way.⁵⁷ The Booker T. Motel restaurant that retains its pit chimneys and 1950s restaurant space is an important example of black-owned West Tennessee barbeque.

⁵⁴ "Sam's Bar-B-Que (2003) Oral History Interview with Sam and Mary Donald," Southern Foodways Alliance, <https://www.southernfoodways.org/interview/sams-bar-b-q-2003/> Accessed 10 April 2018.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ John A. Jakle and Keith A. Sculle. *Fast Food Roadside Restaurants in the Automobile Age*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press), 171-173

⁵⁷ For an example see Rebecca Strassberg, "The Only Regional Barbecue Guide You'll Ever Need," The Thrillist 03 August 2016 <https://www.thrillist.com/eat/nation/the-only-regional-barbecue-guide-youll-ever-need> Accessed 05 December 2017.

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After 1970

After 1970 when the Pulliams sold the Booker T., the couple opened Pulliam's Hickory Smoked Barbecue Pit and operated it until Mr. Pulliam's death in 1981.⁵⁸ Ollie Armour and his wife Shirlene took over operation of the Booker T. Motel and adjacent restaurant and changed the restaurant's name to Armour's Bar-B-Que. Once ownership changed in 1970, some of the motel's original functions were also altered with the beauty shop space in the rear of the building converted into a bar/lounge area. In 1993, Armour's BBQ was recognized with the "Black Business Award" by the Black Heritage Awards of Rural West Tennessee.⁵⁹ By 2000, their sauce was so famous that the couple began marketing it in area grocery stores.



Ollie and Shirlene Armour in the Booker T. Motel Restaurant, then known as Armour's BBQ from the *Jackson Sun*, March 17, 2000

As African Americans were largely no longer denied access to most motels by the 1990s, the Booker T. Motel lost its market. The Armours thus converted the guest rooms into transient apartments. Some of the rooms at the motel were treated almost like rental properties because travelers chose to stay in Humboldt and rent out a room for weeks, months, and even years while they endeavored to get on their feet.⁶⁰ According to Rev. Charles King for "most of the people who lived at his motel, it was the last stop they had before having to sleep in the streets" and Mr. Armour "was very lenient with them paying him. He would give them break after break."⁶¹ After Mr. Armour's death in 2002, the property has been vacant. Eliga Glenn and his wife Berlie HiEagle purchased the property in 2008 and have plans to reuse the property in a way to help the community and honor the property's past.

Conclusion

The Booker T. Motel was a safe haven for travelers to stay, a home, a place where African-Americans could go to have a good time while socializing over a barbecue making it significant for African-American commercial history. Featured in *Ebony* magazine and advertised in *The Green Book*, the property was the heart of the African-American community in Humboldt, Tennessee from its construction in 1954 through

⁵⁸ "Alfred Pulliam" *Jackson Sun*, August 23 1981, page 19.

⁵⁹ "Black Heritage Awards recognize area leaders" *Jackson Sun*, February 21, 2018.

⁶⁰ Glenn, Eliga. Telephone interview conducted by Jessica Baker, January 26, 2018.

⁶¹ "Friends recall restaurateur's kind heart, spirit," *Jackson Sun*, October 26, 2002.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
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1970. Even after segregation ended and the ownership changed in 1970, the motel went on to house, feed, and entertain people in the town while retaining most of its integrity including the original motel room plan and barbeque restaurant building. An original Booker T. Motel advertising sign is in the National Museum of African American History and Culture to tell the story of African-American travel in the mid-twentieth century. In Tennessee, there are no properties related to African-American travel or barbeque listed in the National Register (the Colored Hotel was previously listed and is no longer extant).⁶² There are no other known African-American motels in Tennessee, rendering the Booker T. Motel a rare surviving monument to the struggle African-Americans endured during segregation and a historically significant, vital commercial enterprise in Tennessee's African American history.

⁶² In Tennessee, no motels, pre-or post-segregation, are listed in the National Register.

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- "Humboldt Business and Civic Pioneers – Pulliams"
- "Two Trains Intersect"
- "Around the Crossing"
-

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	<input type="checkbox"/>	State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<input type="checkbox"/>	University
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: Museum: Tom & O.E. Stigall Ethnic Library and History Museum, Humboldt, Tennessee.
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.0 **USGS Quadrangle** Humboldt, TN

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84:

1. Latitude: 35.820337 Longitude: -88.922210

Verbal Boundary Description

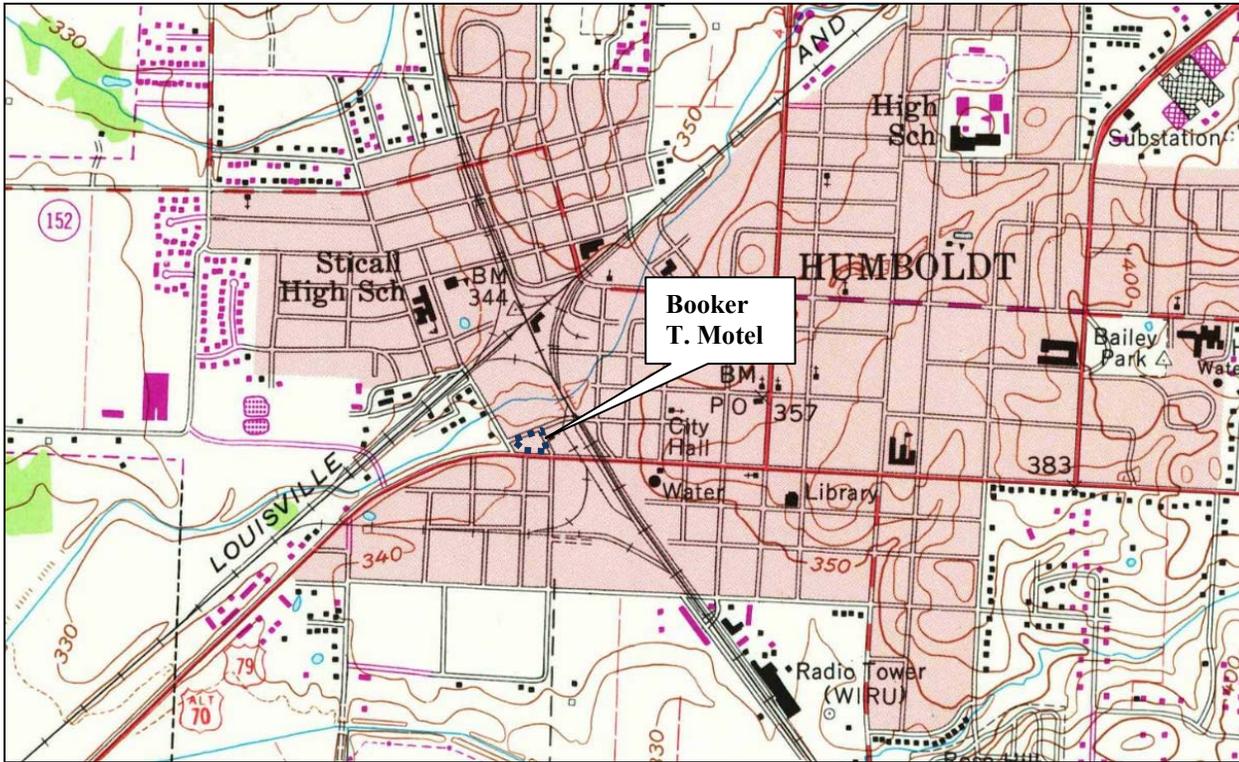
The Booker T. Motel is at 607 West Main Street Humboldt, Gibson County, Tennessee. It is located on Gibson County tax map parcel: 170H G 015.00. The 1.0 acres parcel is bounded by U.S. 79/East Main St on the south, N. 6th Ave to the west, Crenshaw St. to the north, and N. 7th Ave. to the east.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire nominated 1.0 acre property , which contains all of the property historically and currently associated with the Booker T. Motel.

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Location Map
Humboldt Quadrangle,
Latitude: 35.820337 Longitude: -88.922210
Scale 1:24000



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National Register Boundary Map
Gibson County Parcel #170H G 015.00



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11. Form Prepared By

Name Jessica Baker, Historic Preservation Planner and Holly Barnett, HP Supervisor

Organization Northwest TN Development District and Tennessee Historical Commission

Street & Number 124 Weldon Drive Date 2/26/2018

City or Town Martin Telephone 731-587-4213 (X228)

E-mail Jessica.baker@nwtd.org State TN Zip Code 38237

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. should be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Booker T. Motel/Restaurant
City or Vicinity: Humboldt
County: Gibson State: TN
Photographer: Holly Barnett
Date Photographed: September 6, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. of 14. Facade of unit buildings, facing northeast
2. of 14. Facade of unit building #1, facing northeast
3. of 14. Office and restaurant facade, facing northwest
4. of 14. Office entrance, facing northwest
5. of 14. Restaurant entrance, facing northeast
6. of 14. Unit building #1, facing east
7. of 14. Rear elevation of house and unit buildings, facing southeast
8. of 14. Unit building #2, facing northwest
9. of 14. House facade, facing southwest
10. of 14. Sign and phone stand, facing northeast
11. of 14. Dining room/restaurant, facing northwest
12. of 14. Dining room/restaurant, facing north
13. of 14. Lounge Bar, facing northwest
14. of 14. Rear elevation of office/restaurant, facing southeast

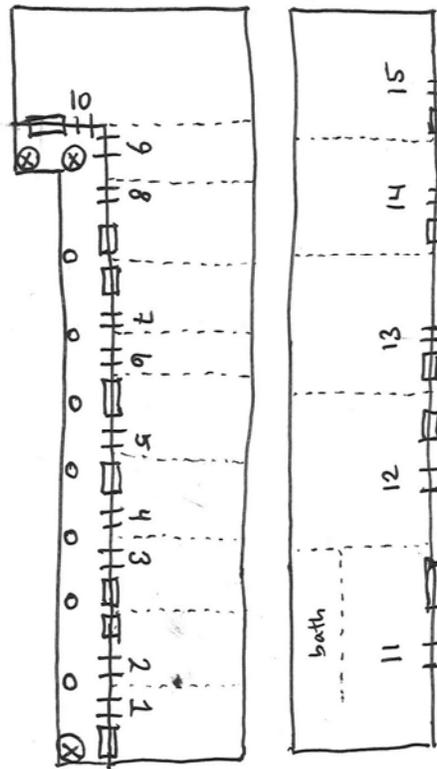
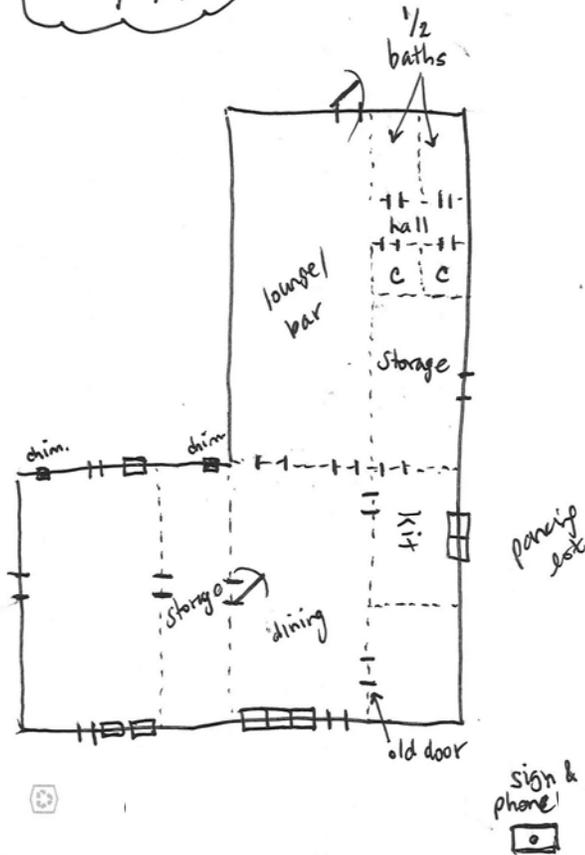
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Gibson County, Tennessee
 County and State

Site Plan (insert site plan with photo locations keyed to plan)

Booker T. Motel
 Humboldt, TN
 CE 9/6/17

→ #10 only double room
 → rooms/baths all similar floor plan



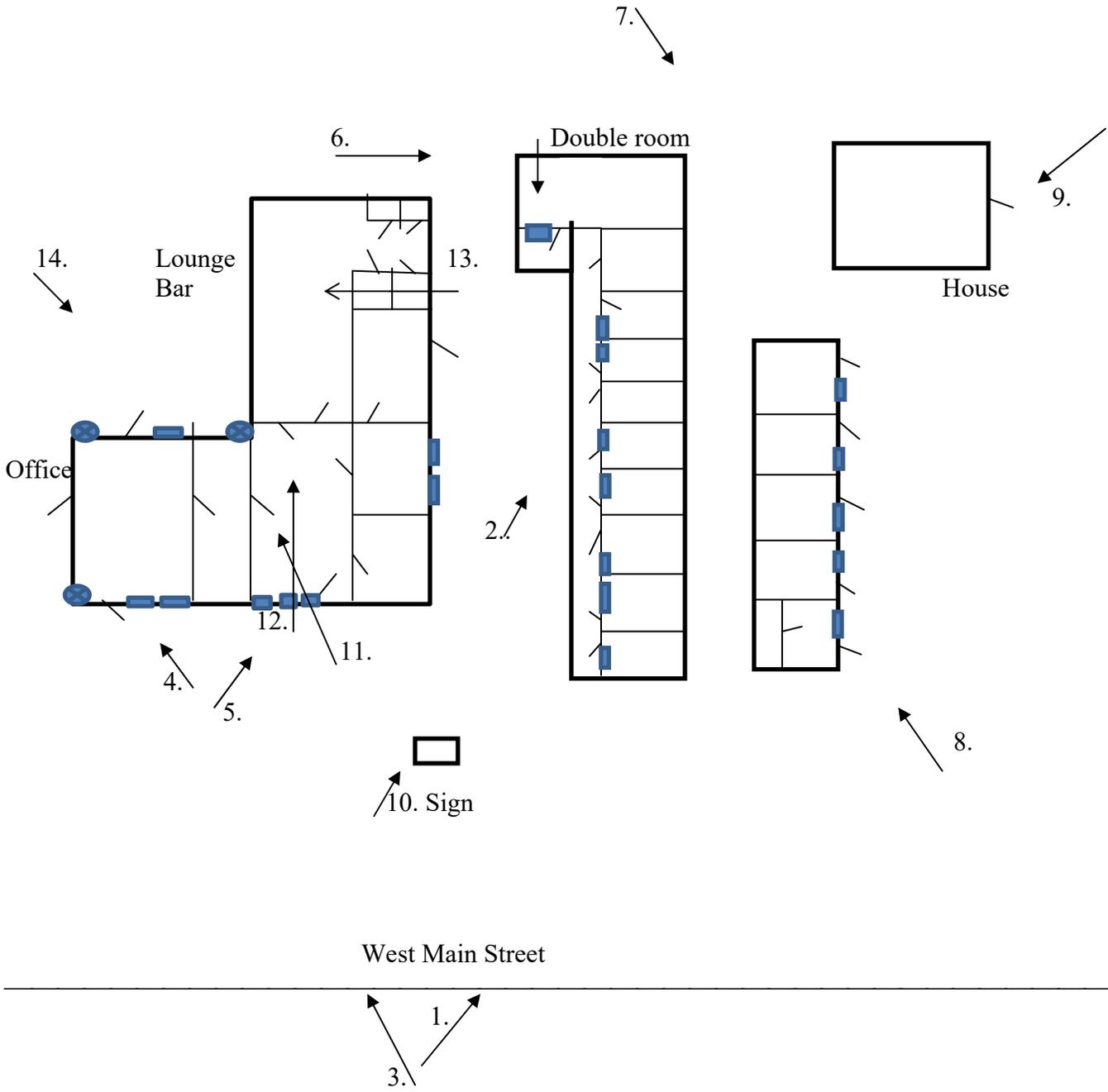
⊗ Iron support
 ○ Wood post

Booker T. Motel
Name of Property

Gibson County, Tennessee
County and State

Floor Plan with photo locations keyed to plan

N↑









Baskin-Robbins

Advertisement sign structure

Long white building with multiple doors



Barbeque Lounge

CHEESE BURGERS
HOT WINGS
BBQ CHICKEN
HOT DOGS
FISH PLATES
BBQ RIBS

BAR-B-Q
MY PLACE
107 WEST MAIN

MY PLACE
631-781-8664
SUNDAY













Barbecue House









Systems
UNLIMITED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/18/2018 Date of Pending List: 7/9/2018 Date of 16th Day: 7/24/2018 Date of 45th Day: 8/2/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 7/25/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON PIKE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov
(615) 770-1089



June 7, 2018

J. Paul Loether
Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

National Register Nomination

- *Booker T. Motel, Gibson County, Tennessee*

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct nomination for listing of the *Booker T. Motel* to the National Register of Historic Places. We received no comments.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, please contact Holly Barnett at (615) 770-1098 or Holly.M.Barnett@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:hb

Enclosures(2)