

**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 Cavellero House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 7 N. Jackson Street N/A not for publication

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of congressional district 1

state Alabama code 01 county Mobile code 097

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<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 Victor Stanton

street & number 955 Church Street

city, town Mobile N/A vicinity of state Alabama

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Probate Division, Mobile County Courthouse

street & number 101 Government Street

city, town Mobile state Alabama

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

Nineteenth Century Mobile Architecture: An Inventory of  
title 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

## 7. Description

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

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

Constructed in 1835, the Cavellero House is located in Mobile's Central Business District and is directly adjacent to the Lower Dauphin Street Commercial District. The building occupies the small 31 foot front lot and is 2 1/2 stories in height rising directly from the sidewalk. There is a one story right rear wing.

The Cavellero House is Federal in style and is constructed of brick with 5 rows of stretchers alternating with one row of headers. Federal characteristics include the gable roof with ridge running parallel to the street set between low fire wall parapets; a left hand chimney rises from the parapet; a dentil frieze at cornice level is present above a brick string course. The facade is four bays wide and essentially symmetrically arranged. At the second story level four windows are present. They have been modernized through the substitution of 1/1 lights for the standard 6/6 lights that would have been originally present and is still present in the dormer and end gable window. Flat brick arches are still visible above the window openings and there is a very narrow wood sill beneath each window. At the right hand side, the window has been sealed in the lower half.

On the first floor, the original entrance way was located in the north bay with its dimensions indicated by the flat headed brick arch still visible in the wall. A smaller door, added at some point over the years, has resulted in the partial bricking in of the original entrance. A secondary entrance, also added at an undetermined date, has resulted in the alteration and enlargement of what was originally a window opening.

One of the most distinguishing features of the Cavellero House is the dormers which exhibit refined detailing. These dormers have broken pediments supported on pilasters which form the framing for 6/6 light windows. The upper window lights have segmental headings. At the rear slope of the roof are two additional dormers which also have the broken pediment detailing. However, repairs appear to have eliminated the pilasters and replaced them with plain boards.

On the basis of available maps, it appears that a two story wood gallery had been added to the building between the years 1873 and 1880. However, by 1925, this gallery had been removed. No information has been uncovered to date that sheds any light on the design of this gallery.

#### Interior:

The interior of the first floor is a single open space with no evidence of any original hardware, baseboards, molding or lighting. The entrance door is not original. The floor has been covered with linoleum tiles.

The upper story and a half has not been viewed.

# 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**      1835                      **Builder/Architect**      Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

**ARCHITECTURE:**

The Cavellero House is architecturally important to the City of Mobile. It is the oldest surviving Federal style building in the downtown area. Despite alterations along the facade--which include changing window lights, eliminating one window to install a doorway, and altering the original entrance--the overall massing, scale, and exterior details illustrate the buildings Federal origins. The treatment of the parapet walls, the dentil table at the cornice and the regular organization of the facade are all in keeping with the Federal style.

The building is typical of much of the commercial property in Mobile's nineteenth century business district. While commercial enterprises were conducted on the first floor, shopkeepers maintained their residences on the floor(s) above. This was a common practice in the buildings in the Lower Dauphin Street Commercial District, which is directly adjacent to the Cavellero House.

**INTEGRITY:**

The exterior modifications to this building are not so severe that the original integrity of the building could not be restored. Fine features such as the dormers with their broken pediments have been retained. Dimensions of the original doorway can still be ascertained by examining the brick work.

On the interior, little calls to mind this building's 1835 construction date. The large open space of the first floor does not appear to retain any original architectural features such as hardware or moldings.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Deeds and mortgages from the records of the Mobile County Probate Court; Maps including the 1840 Troost Map, 1873 Krebs' bird's-eye-view map; Pillans Map of 1868 and Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Tax Assessment Records; City Directories.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Mobile

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

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3	9	9	0	0
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3	3	9	5	6	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** Commencing at a point on the west side of Jackson Street 87' north of Dauphin Street, thence north 31.45' to a point, thence west 72.37' to a point, thence south 31.45' to a point, thence east 72.37' to the beginning (c. 31.5' x 72')

### 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 Anne Bantens, Chief Research Historian & Ellen Mertins, Alabama Historical Commi

organization Mobile Historic Development Comm. date July 13, 1982

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

city or town Mobile 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 

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9-2-82

### For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 10/7/82

  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration