

**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 McBryde-Screws-Tyson House

and/or common Tyson House

2. Location

street & number 433 Mildred Street not for publication

city, town Montgomery vicinity of congressional district

state Alabama code 01 county Montgomery code 101

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Judge John C. Tyson III, Executor

street & number P. O. Box 351

city, town Montgomery vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number 142 Washington Avenue

city, town Montgomery vicinity of state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title HABS has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1935-present federal state county local

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington vicinity of state D. C.

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Set well back from the street on a slight elevation, the McBryde-Screws-Tyson House is situated at the end of Goldthwaite Street at its intersection with Mildred Street. Large, three-shaded, terraced grounds are well-tended and abound in older plantings such as sweet shrubs, crepe myrtles, and japonicas. A low rusticated stone retaining wall extends across the front of the property, a walk leads to the front portico, and a brick driveway lined with thick hedge provides access to the rear of the house.

A parapet tops the extended two-story front porch with a wide entablature supported by four boxed wooden columns. The front door, handsomely embellished with carved anthemions, is protected by louvered screens. It has textured glass sidelights and transom of a later date. The entrance is framed by squared Doric pilasters supporting a lintel embellished with heavy dentil molding repeated from the cornice.

A small balcony with turned wooden balustrade is centered above the main entrance. The door leading to the balcony is also louvered and is surrounded by ruby glass sidelights. The two story house has six over six windows all shuttered, and four exterior brick chimneys. To the east side of the house is a one-story open porch with fretwork trim and balustrade. Evidence indicated that this is an addition, possibly during the 1890's. The rear of the house features a two-story latticed porch with exterior stairs. The two acre grounds also include a one-story clapboard servants quarters and a brick carriage house. The servants quarters, evidently original, has been partitioned to create one room and a garage.

While the exterior of the house retains its 1850's appearance, the interior has been thoroughly Victorianized. Indications are that upon his purchase of the house in 1890, John Tyson renovated the interior completely. All of the floors downstairs are parquet over the original 6" pine. Further evidence of this renovation exists in the fireplaces which feature Victorian mantels, some quite ornate, and glazed tile hearths and surrounds.

The two main downstairs rooms on the west of the house were apparently one grand hall when the house was built. The rooms appear to have been separated by four hexagonal columns which are now partially concealed in a wall between the two rooms.

The central hall features a stairway which breaks at the landing with one set of risers leading to the second story front hall and another leading to the rear bedrooms. The stairway is wide and graceful with a Victorian newel, turned balusters and curving banister. The house has four-panelled doors with Victorian hardware including porcelain knobs. Further turn of the century touches include the darkly stained panelled wainscotting and the elaborately beaded and paneled ceiling in the dining room. The latter is repeated in the rooms above the dining room and is one of the most notable features of the house.

8. Significance

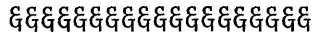
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- 1930	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1850's **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The McBryde-Tyson House is architecturally significant as one of the five remaining large Greek Revival mansions in Montgomery. It is an elegantly detailed building with a projecting front pavillion and a paneled parapet not commonly found on buildings in this area.

Historically it is significant for its associations with two prominent Montgomerians - William Wallace Screws, editor and publisher of the Montgomery Advertiser, and John Caius Tyson, a local politician - and two early families - the McBrydes and the Allens.



The house was constructed in the 1850's by Ann McBryde, the widow of Dr. Andrew McBryde and daughter of an early entrepreneur - Wade Allen. Allen was a South Carolinian who came to Alabama in 1817. After first contracting the mails between Mobile and Montgomery, Allen operated a stage coach service between the same points and also had an interest in a steamboat line. His daughter married Dr. Andrew McBryde, a son of another early settler, merchant Andrew McBryde.

In May, 1853, McBryde died and in June, Ann purchased a large lot on Mildred Street from M. I. Bilmer. The property, a part of the Clayton Tract, had been originally acquired by Georgian George R. Clayton in 1818 and after his death in 1840, it had been divided among his heirs. The Gilmers had bought the property from Clayton's son Patrick Henry Clayton. In August, 1854, Mrs. McBryde married druggist Benjamin S. Thiess. Although it is not known whether she built the house before or after her marriage, the Thiess were living in the house on Mildred Street in 1859. Ann had three McBryde children and, before her second husband's death in September, 1862, she had three others. In 1866 she gave two lots on the western part of her property to two of her daughters, one a McBryde and the other a Thiess. In 1885, Mrs. Thiess sold her home to William Wallace Screws for \$7,000.

A native of Barbour County, Screws had come to Montgomery prior to the Civil War and prepared for a career in law. Following service in the Confederate Army, he returned to the capital city where his battlefield letters to the Montgomery Advertiser had so impressed readers and publisher Samuel G. Reid that the latter offered him not only a position on the paper but also in interest in it. From 1865 until his death in 1913, Screws exerted a witty, urbane and conservative voice in the affairs of the city, state, and region through the paper which he edited and later published. Screws also served as Alabama's Secretary of State from 1878 to 1882 and as Montgomery's Postmaster in 1895. During Cleveland's first administration, Screws held a position in the Library of Congress.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama.. Family Folders: Tyson Family, Screws Family Montgomery County Tax Records: 1861, 1859, 1853, 1886, 1877, 1888, 1889 Owen, T. M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Vol I. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1921

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 2

Quadrangle name Montgomery South

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot R.17, Donaldson Plat. Includes house and outbuildings and lot under one ownership. (175'x430')

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Ann Neeley/Marilyn Sullivan/ and Ellen Mertins
(Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery) National Register Coordinator

organization Alabama Historical Commission date October 16, 1980

street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 832-6621

city or town Montgomery state Alabama

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.(Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Wils B. Howard Jr.

title JHPO Alabama date October 17, 1980

<p>For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register</p>	
<p><i>[Signature]</i> Keeper of the National Register</p>	<p>date <u>11-28-80</u></p>
<p>Attest: <i>[Signature]</i> Chief of Registration</p>	<p>date <u>11/28/80</u></p>

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

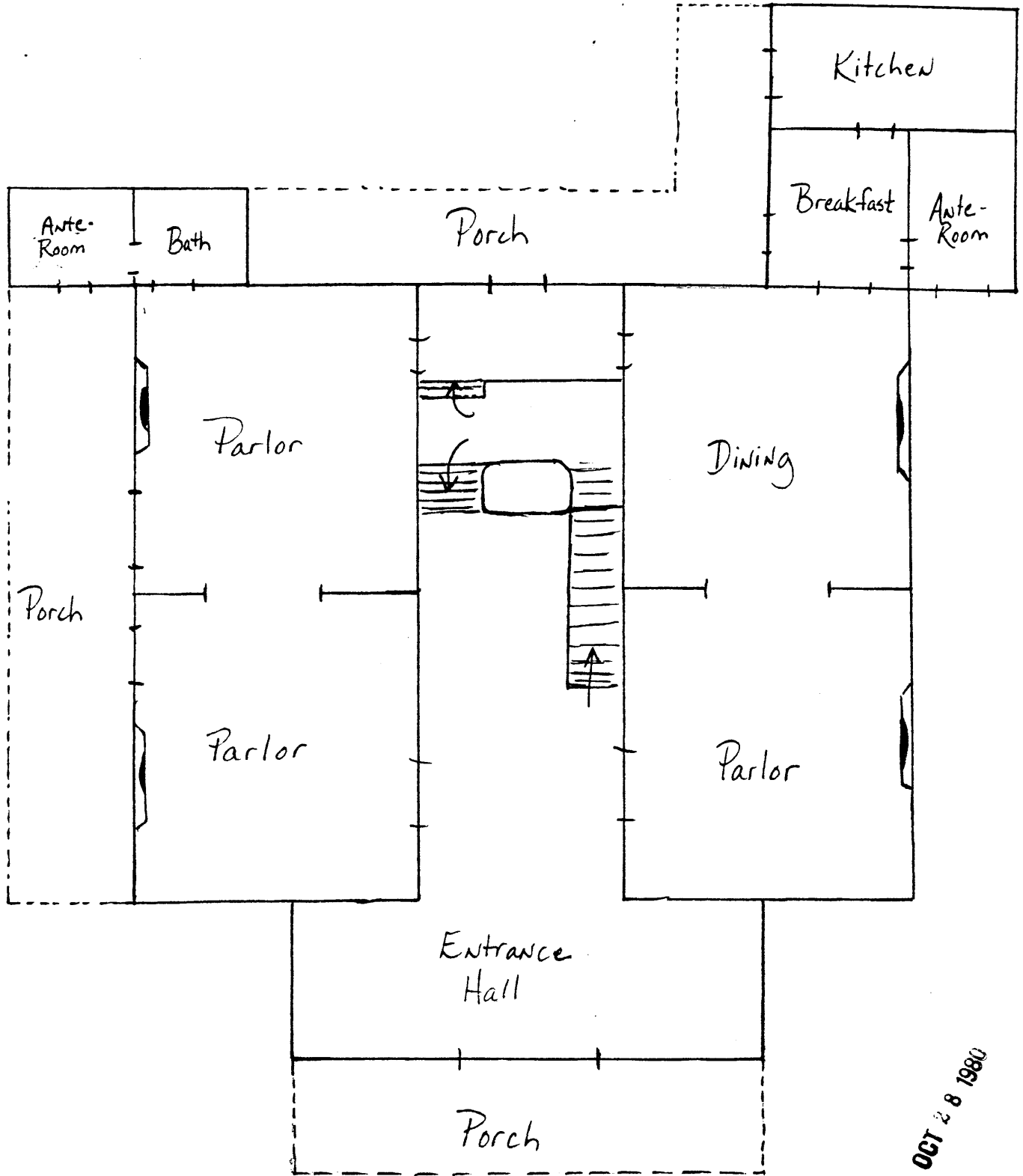
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William Screws only owned and occupied the house for five years, for in 1890 he sold it to John Caius Tyson, a native of Lowndesboro who came to Montgomery in that year. Born in 1863, Tyson had been educated in Montgomery, the Tutwiler School at Green Springs, and the Bingham School in North Carolina. After coming to Montgomery, Tyson engaged in the real estate and brokerage business and took an active part in city politics. Following several terms as Alderman from Ward Two, he was elected to the new City Commission in 1914 and served on it for four years. He was in charge of city finances and administrator of the water works during his stint in city government. Upon his death in 1914, Tyson's home was inherited by his son and daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Tyson Martin, the wife of Alabama Power Company president, Thomas W. Martin.

Although the house had not been permanently occupied for many years, it had been well-maintained by the family until recently when vandals removed some of the fixtures and neglect began to take its toll. The house is at present on the market (9-80).

McBryde-Screws-Tyson House
433 Mildred Street
Montgomery, Alabama

First floor

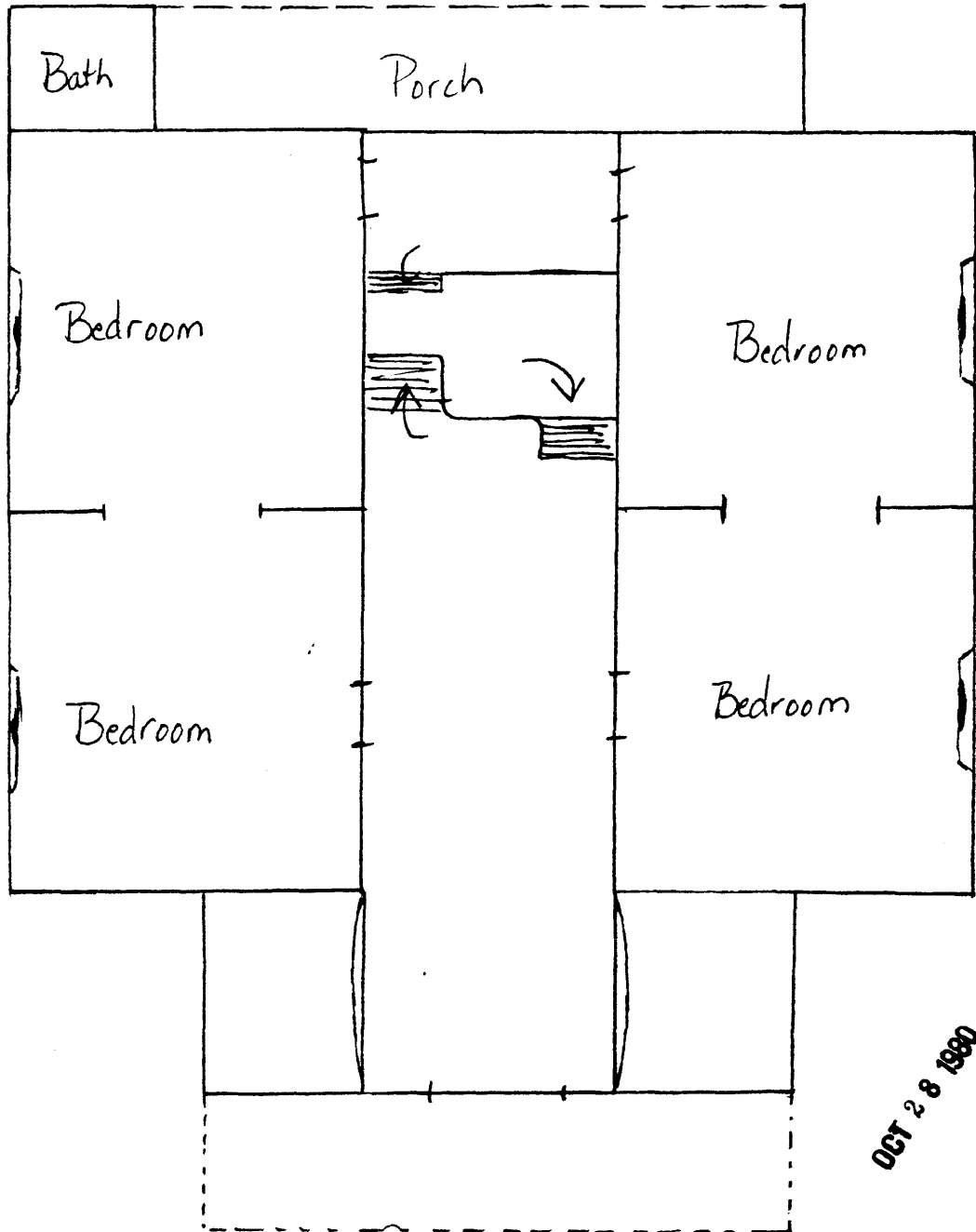


OCT 28 1980

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N

McBryde - Screws - Tyson House
433 Mildred Street
Montgomery, Alabama

Second story



OCT 28 1980