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### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

#### Name 1

and/or common

Greene-Marston House historic Termite Hall

#### Location 2.

2000 Dauphin Street street & number

city, town Mobile

N/A\_ vicinity of

01

code

Alabama state

#### 3. Classification

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

county

Mobile

#### **Owner of Property** 4.

r Marston Benz	and Adelaide	Marston Trigg				
2000 Dauphin	Street					
oile	N/A	vicinity of	stat	e 1	Alabama	
tion of L	egal Des	scription				
try of deeds, etc.	Mobile Coun	ty Courthouse,	Probate Cour	rt		
109 Governm	ent Street					
Mobile			stat	e	Alabama	
			rveys			
			been determined	eligib	ole? ye	s <u>×</u> no
resent			federal s	state	county	X_local
vey records Cit	y Planning Co	mmission Office	e, Box 1827			
	2000 Dauphin Dile tion of L try of deeds, etc. 109 Governm Mobile esentation of Existing resent	2000 Dauphin Street Dile N/A tion of Legal Des Try of deeds, etc. Mobile Count 109 Government Street Mobile esentation in Exit n Century Mobile Architectury of Existing Buildings	bile N/Avicinity of tion of Legal Description try of deeds, etc. Mobile County Courthouse, 109 Government Street Mobile esentation in Existing Sup n Century Mobile Architecture y of Existing Buildings has this property resent	2000 Dauphin Street         Dile       N/Avicinity of       stat         tion of Legal Description         try of deeds, etc.       Mobile County Courthouse, Probate Cour         109 Government Street         Mobile       stat         esentation in Existing Surveys         n Century Mobile Architecture         v of Existing Buildings         has this property been determined         resent	2000 Dauphin Street         Dile       N/Avicinity of       state         tion of Legal Description         try of deeds, etc.       Mobile County Courthouse, Probate Court         109 Government Street         Mobile       state         esentation in Existing Surveys         n Century Mobile Architecture         n of Existing Buildings         has this property been determined eligit         resent	2000 Dauphin Street         Dile       N/Avicinity of       state       Alabama         tion of Legal Description         try of deeds, etc.       Mobile County Courthouse, Probate Court         109 Government Street         Mobile       state       Alabama         eseentation in Existing Surveys         a Century Mobile Architecture         a of Existing Buildings       has this property been determined eligible?ye         resent

Mobile city, town

Alabama state

#### Description 7.

Check one \_\_ unaltered deteriorated excellent X altered \_ ruins \_ good X fair \_ unexposed

### **Check one**

X original site 8/25/81 moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

2000 Dauphin Street is a complex structure formed by a 2 1/2 story main building of central hall plan with a  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  story attached cottage on the west. In 1851 the Greene family of farmers built a 1 1/2 story cottage that faced on Old Shell This early cottage is incorporated into the first story of the present main Road. house. What remains visible of it can be seen in the clapboarding of the sides and rear of the house, the presence of porches front and rear and an original window on the present rear porch that is a double sash over jib doors.

Information obtained from a study of the deeds of sale, from the County tax records and from family history establish that in 1903 Martin Van Heuval enlarged the house, making it into the 2 1/2 story building it is today. At this time the house seems to have been reoriented to face on to Dauphin, the front porch was enlarged by a bay wrapping around the southeast corner. Late Victorian details are used in the construc-The porch columns are heavy, of round section with incised lines decorating tion. the shafts near the top and bottom. The decorative brackets are solid with an applied motif in low relief. A pendant centers the bay where the brackets join. Other Victorian Queen Ann characteristics can be seen in the shingle siding of the attic story and in the jigsaw work in the gables. It seems that it must have been at this time that the small 1 1/2 story cottage was attached to the main house for its porch and gable decoration match that of the 1903 period of the house itself. The interior wall treatment of the attic of the main house and the attached cottage is the same, a narrow beaded wood siding. A small photograph of the building was included in the Mobile Daily Register of 1906 and establishes the fact that the basic massing and major decorative elements of the existing building were present at that date.

The third period of change was in 1910. William Syson, an Englishman, was President of a local (?) lumber company. His alterations of the exterior were limited to the replacement of most of the porch windows by French doors and the infilling of two of the western bays of the porch with glass. A small porch was added on the northeast side of the house. It has since been removed with only the foundation remaining intact. It was the interior of the first story that received major renovations. High panelled oak wainscoting was installed in the central hall and dining room on the left. The same oak lumber was used in the library wall bookcases on the right. A heavy molded cap crowns the wainscoting that rises to within about a foot of the ceiling. Heavy oak beams crisscross the ceilings of the dining room and hallway. An impressive oak stairway rises in a double flight with a leaded window at the landing. The resulting effect of the Syson renovations recalls a Jacobean Manor House. Fireplaces survive in many rooms. The one in the dining room, carved from the same oak as the wainscoting continues the panelled design of wall and doors.

Foundations of outbuildings from the Syson period survive, though the buildings have been removed. Memory of an elaborate child's playhouse is still vivid to a friend of the Syson's daughter who still lives in Mobile.

In conclusion, the house complex is a rich record of the various styles of architecture appearing in Mobile over a period of 130 years, and the various uses which the building served, from simple farm house to home of a wealthy family.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below		
	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture	community planning conservation economics	landscape architectu     law     literature	re religion science sculpture
	agriculture X_ architecture art	education engineering	military music	social/ humanitarian
_ <u>X_</u> 1800–1899 _X_ 1900–	commerce communications	exploration/settlemen industry	t philosophy politics/government	theater transportation
		invention		other (specify)

Specific dates 1851, 1903, 1910 Builder/Architect Unknown

. . . .

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

ARCHITECTURE: Termite Hall is a good example of a small antebellum farmhouse updated and expanded in the early years of this century. The late Victorian detailing of the partial wrap-around porch, the gable decorations and the chimneys are good local examples. The fine oak paneling of the interior, added during the second decade of the 20th century, is possibly the finest example of Jacobean paneling in the city.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Mobile County Courthouse: Deed Books from 1831-1952; County Tax Records from 1881 through 1919; City Directories from 1840-1916; Sanborn Maps, 1925, 1956; Mobile Daily Register, Sept. 1, 1906; oral history of the Marston family.

Interest 2       State Historic Preservation Officer Certification         Interest 2       State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated         State Historic Preservation Officer State Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 866), Interest promised in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated	10. G	Geographic	al Data	3				
Lip 3 [1] [1] [1] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2]         Zone Easting         Northing         C         Jane Easting         Northing         C         G	Quadrangle	name <u>Mobile</u>	1.50			C	Quadrangle scale <u>1</u> :	24000
C       Image:	1101				L		Northing	
G       H       H         Verbal boundary description and justification Beg. N/S Dauphin St. 75 ft. E of the SE cor.         Michaeloffskys add. to Dauphin Heights, Dbk. 137, pg. 36, then N 150 ft. Then W 75         Then N 175 ft. then E 70 Ft. then N 35 ft. then E 76.4 ft. then N 15 ft. then E 25         then S 25 ft. then E 55 Ft., then S 338.5 Ft. to N/S Dauphin then W 145 ft. to Pt.         List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries         state       N/A       code       N/A       code       N/A         state       N/A       code       N/A       code       N/A         state       N/A       code       N/A       code       N/A         name/title       Elizabeth B, Gould, Mobile Historic Development Commission & Ellen Merting         organization       Alabama Historical Commission       date       October 27, 1981         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:					- 1			
Verbal boundary description and justification Beg. N/S Dauphin St. 75 ft. E of the SE cor.         Michaeloffskys add. to Dauphin Heights, Dbk. 137, pg. 36, then N 155 ft. then W 75         Then N 175 ft. then E 70 Ft. then N 35 ft. then E 76.4 ft. then N 15 ft. then E 25         then S 25 ft. then E 55 Ft., then S 338.5 Ft. to N/S Dauphin then W 145 ft. to Pt.         List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries         state       N/A         code       N/A         code       N/A         state       N/A         code       N/A         state       N/A         code       N/A         code       N/A         code       N/A         code       N/A         code       N/A         state       N/A         code       N/A         commercial commission	E				F			
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state       N/A       code       N/A       code       N/A         11. Form Prepared By         name/title       Elizabeth B. Gould, Mobile Historic Development Commission & Ellen Mertins         organization       Alabama Historical Commission       date       October 27, 1981         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:					•			N/A
11. Form Prepared By         name/title       Elizabeth B. Gould, Mobile Historic Development Commission & Ellen Merting         organization       Alabama Historical Commission       date       October 27, 1981         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:								
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<b>12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification</b> Image: State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 85 565), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.         State Historic Preservation Officer signature       Image: State Historic Preservation Officer         Itele       Itele         Itele       Itele         Ite	street & nun	nber 725 Monroe S	Street			telephone	832-6621	
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: 	ity or town	Montgomery				state	Alabama	
	12. S	State Histo	ric Pres	ser	vatio	n Offic	er Certific	ation
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665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.         State Historic Preservation Officer signature         title       State Historic Preservation Officer         date       12-8-52         For NPS use only         I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register         Entered in the         Mathematical Park         State Mistoric Preservation Officer         date       12-8-52         For NPS use only         I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register         Entered in the         Mathematical Park         Mathematical Register         Mathematical Register         Mathematical Register         Mathematical Register         Mathematical Register		national	state	<u> </u>	local			<b>_</b>
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