

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0685259

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 27 1978
DATE ENTERED	DEC 8 1978

# 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

~~Governor~~ Thomas G. Jones House  
AND/OR COMMON

## LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

323 Adams Avenue (nw corner Adams and Hull)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Alabama

VICINITY OF

CODE  
01

COUNTY

Montgomery

CODE

101

## CLASSIFICATION

### CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

### OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

### STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

### PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. James W. Webb and Mr. Robert B. Crumpton, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

122 South Hull Street

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

VICINITY OF

STATE

Alabama

restoration for office use ✓

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

142 Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama 36104

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 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	1892	

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located two blocks south of the main business district in Montgomery, the Governor Jones House faces south and occupies a corner lot in what was once a fashionable residential neighborhood. The house is situated close to the sidewalk and is surrounded by a retaining wall. Originally a one-story cottage constructed around 1855, the house received extensive alterations in 1892 when a second story and a rear addition were added. The current simple Victorian character dates from this late 19th century remodeling.

The two-story frame house is roughly rectangular, measuring approximately 46' x 63'. A two-story wing on the northeast and a one-story wing on the northwest flank an enclosed central rear porch. The house rests on a foundation of brick piers with later brick infilling and wooden lattice. A variety of metal ventilators pierce the brickwork. The lot slopes and consequently the foundation ranges from approximately 2' in front to 4½' in the rear, allowing for a small basement beneath the 20th century extension of the northwest wing. The exterior of the house is covered with weatherboarding and is painted white. A high-pitched hipped roof with a west gable is covered with composition shingles and finished with a fine built-up cornice. Originally a small tower (approximately 2' high) with decorated gables was located on the southeast corner of the facade. Beneath this tower two bays on the south and east elevations are projected 6", giving some variety to the otherwise symmetrical five-bay facade. A row of small brackets support the projection of the eastern elevation. Three interior chimneys, two on the east and one on the west, have corbled caps.

A one-story, half-hipped roof veranda with a central, decorated pediment, turned posts and spandrels laced with spoolwork crosses the facade. Windows throughout are 2/2 with simple trim. The double front door, topped by a transom, has arched frosted upper lights, wooden paneled lower sections and a heavy molded surround. A small covered stoop on the west was added around 1920 when several other changes were made. The expansion of the house in 1892 consisted of the addition of the second story and a one-story rear wing which enclosed and extended the rear porch. At a later date, the rear porch was extended further and glassed in, a second story projection attached to the existing two-story northwest wing, and a flat-roofed extension added to the north-east.

INTERIOR: The central front hall is separated by an arch from a slightly wider rear wall which contains the three-quarter turn stairway. The stair has simple Victorian newels and step treads decorated with scroll motifs. Two rooms flank either side of the halls and measure approximately 18' x 18' for the front rooms and 17' x 15' for the rear rooms. The rooms to the right of the entrance serve as a double parlor and have sliding paneled doors. Rooms to the rear of the main block have been somewhat altered by the numerous additions. Trim throughout the house is restrained. Simple 6" beaded baseboards, mitered backband trim, four panel doors and Victorian hardware characterise the ground floor. The upper floor is similar in detailing and floor plan, but there slightly more elaborate Victorian baseboards were used. A variety of marble, metal and wooden mantels from various periods remain. The original wideboard hardwood floors are still exposed in two of the ground floor rooms, while the remainder are covered with narrow hardwood, probably added in the early 20th century. Bathrooms, added in the 1920s, were placed in the upper central hall and in rear additions. The original semi-attached kitchen was removed in the early 20th century.

# 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES      c. 1855, 1892      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas Goode Jones, twice governor of Alabama and an influential figure of the Bourbon era in Alabama history, occupied the house at 323 Adams Avenue during his long political life. First elected as a city alderman in 1876, Jones later successfully ran for the Alabama Legislature where he served two terms as Speaker of the House of Representatives. From 1890 to 1894, he was governor and ended his political career as a federal judge. His home served as the executive mansion during his gubernatorial years and later, on occasion, functioned as a federal courtroom.

In 1879, shortly after beginning his political career, Jones purchased the small but fashionably located cottage from Daniel Troy, a local lawyer. Troy had acquired the house a few days earlier from the widow of Edward N. Grant who had constructed the house around 1855. During his term as governor, Jones enlarged the house with the addition of a second story and a wing which extended across the rear.

Born in Macon, Georgia in 1844, Jones came to Montgomery as a boy and received his early education there. A student at Virginia Military Academy when the Civil War started, he left in 1862 to join the Confederate Army. After a distinguished service, he returned to Montgomery and later read law in the office of the noted lawyer, John Archer Elmore. Jones early political activities as city alderman (1876-1884) won him respect as an "able and public spirited citizen." From 1884 to 1888 he served in the Alabama Legislature and was elected Speaker of the House during the latter two years. In 1890, as the standard-bearer of the conservative wing of the Democratic Party, Jones defeated Rueben Kolb, a Populist backed by the Farmer's Alliance, for governor. In an election which pitted established forces against restive and newly activated farmers and lower income groups, Kolb gained both followers and power. The 1892 campaign, also fought between Jones and Kolb, resulted again in a Jones victory; but only after allegations made by Kolb of fraud at the ballot box.

Accomplishments of Jones' administrations included an education funding bill, establishment of the Alabama School for Negro Deaf Mutes and Blind, Montevallo College, and two agricultural schools. A needed increase in taxation and the initiation of reform in the convict system were other achievements. Following his years as governor, Jones served as a delegate to the 1901 State Constitutional Convention, where he spoke against those sections of the constitution which effectively disenfranchised the black voters of the state. In the same year, he was appointed as a federal judge by President Theodore Roosevelt on the strong recommendation of Booker T. Washington. Jones died in 1914.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Thomas Goode Jones Property (In the possession of Webb and Crumpton Law Firm).  
 Jones, Walter B. "Off the Bench." Montgomery Advertiser, March 19, 1965.  
 Owen, Thomas M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1921.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Montgomery north

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 565480 3582040  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

New Philadelphia Platt: lots 25 and 26 on the south side of the block which is bounded on the east by Hull, on the west by McDonough, on the north by Washington and on the south by Adams.

## LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Ellen Mertins, Alabama Historical Commission

Mary Ann Neeley, Landmarks of Foundation, Montgomery

ORGANIZATION

Alabama Historical Commission

DATE

September 11, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

725 Monroe Street

TELEPHONE

(205) 832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama 36130

# 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Miss B. Howard Jr.*

TITLE

SHPO - Alabama

DATE

Sept. 15, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Signature]*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12-8-78

ATTEST:

Jann H. Gilmore  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12/6/78

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One of his sons, Walter Burgwyn Jones, became a well-known lawyer and served as a circuit judge in Montgomery County for many years. He continued to live in the family home and inaugurated Jones Law School, now an adjunct of the University of Alabama Law School, in a house behind his own. Since his death in 1966, the house has been empty, but the law firm of Webb and Crumpton has recently purchased it and plan to restore it for offices.

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Society of Pioneers of Montgomery. A History of Montgomery in Pictures. Montgomery: The Society of Pioneers of Montgomery.