

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

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

For NPS use only

received **MAR 16 1984**

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Felix Grundy Norman House

and/or common The Norman House

2. Location

street & number 401 North Main Street

NA not for publication

city, town Tuscumbia

NA vicinity of

5th congressional district

state Alabama

code 01

county Colbert

code 033

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Bob Love

street & number 301 North Montgomery Avenue

city, town Sheffield

NA vicinity of

state Alabama 35660

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Probate Office, Colbert County Courthouse

street & number North Main Street

city, town Tuscumbia

state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1970 - present

federal state county local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery

state Alabama

7. Description

Condition
 excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Norman house is located on the northwest corner of North Main and Second Streets and adjacent to the Colbert County Courthouse National Register District. Two large magnolia trees provide the only unique landscape features.

The structure appears to have originally consisted of an "L-shaped" one-story frame dwelling with a central pedimented portico supported by four boxed columns of the Tuscan style on both the east and south sides. A detached kitchen and other auxiliary buildings were located in the back yard. The floor plan consisted of four main rooms and the central entrance hall on the east side. Soon after the house was constructed, a shed-roofed "L-shaped" addition approximately 11 1/2' in width was added on the north and west sides at the rear. Probably around 1922 when the property changed hands the roofline was changed with the south and east main roofs being extended and the crest raised so that the new roof covered the later "L-shaped" addition. Around the same time the north and south walls of the east entrance hall were moved so as to widen the space by almost 7'; narrow heart pine floors were laid over the original 4" width boards; many doorways, including the east and south entrances, had French doors installed to replace the solid panel doors; the multi-paned lower sashes of most windows were replaced with solid panes; and a shed-roofed porch was added on the north side at the rear door. The last addition saw the construction of a shed-roofed bathroom in the west side of the rear "L".

The recent restoration removed the latest "L-shaped" addition consisting of porch and bathroom, but retained practically all of the remaining changes the house had undergone through the years.

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 c. 1851 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

ARCHITECTURE

The Norman house is one of, if not the finest surviving one-story Greek revival cottage in Tuscumbia, where many formerly existed. It is the only one with porticoes on two sides--both street sides--and the only one with tri-partite windows--flanking each portico. The interior retains most of its original woodwork consisting of: Greek-ear door and window facings for the rooms on the east side; simple raised mouldings surrounding plain board facings for the two rear rooms; one original mantel of the Greek-ear design; five doors, one having two vertical panels, the other four having three horizontal panels in the upper part and two vertical panels in the lower; baseboards in all original spaces appear to be of multi-layered mouldings, but were constructed of one large board. While the 20th century changes in the roofline and the entrances alter somewhat the appearance of the Norman house, it still retains most of its original elements and sustains its architectural integrity.

* * * * * *

It was probably built around 1851 for Felix Grundy Norman. Mr. Norman was a well-known practicing attorney in Tuscumbia from 1841 until his death in 1885. He was mayor of Tuscumbia for many years and a state legislator for the years 1841-45 and 1847-48. From 1845 to 1847 he was Master of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Alabama. Mr. Norman's wife, Jane L., was a sister of Mrs. Amanda Barton, who with her husband Armistead Barton, built Barton Hall near Cherokee. The father of these sisters was Henry Cook, the U. S. Land Agent who handled the sale of all the lands in the Chickasaw Cession of 1833.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Tuscumbia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	4	3	5	5	7	0	3	8	4	3	7	3	0
Zone		Easting					Northing							

B

Zone		Easting					Northing							

C

Zone		Easting					Northing							

D

Zone		Easting					Northing							

E

Zone		Easting					Northing							

F

Zone		Easting					Northing							

G

Zone		Easting					Northing							

H

Zone		Easting					Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot #116 and the eastern 15' of lot #115 together fronting 132' on the West side of Main Street and including that North side of 2nd Street of uniform width being 180' according to the present map of the City of Tuscumbia. House and lot.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jackson R. Stell

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date February 8, 1984

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone 205 261-3184

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.

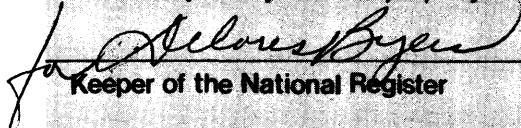
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 3-12-84

For NPS use only

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


Keeper of the National Register

Entered In The
National Register

date 4/12/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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- Colbert County, Alabama. Probate Office, Deed Book E, 575.
- Garrett, William. Reminiscences of Public Men in Alabama.
Spartanburg, S.C.: The Reprint Company Publishers, 1975.
- James, R. L. "Colbertians." Alabama Historical Quarterly, Vol. 7, No. 4 (Winter, 1945),
519-520.
- Owen, Thomas M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography.
Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Company, 1921.