

Beale Street Historic District
Memphis
Shelby County
Tennessee

HABS No. TN-60

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE TENNESSEE		COUNTY SHELBY	TOWN OR VICINITY MEMPHIS
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) BEALE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT			HABS NO. TN-60
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Beale Street			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Late 19th and early 20th centuries		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The Beale Street Historic District is the birthplace and home of the blues. The district includes the Palace and Daisy Theaters, the Hole-in-the Wall Saloon, and Peewee's Saloon, headquarters of W.C. Handy, who wrote the "Memphis Blues". It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The buildings, largely commercial, are found in the four blocks of the district. One block of buildings has been demolished. They are usually rectangular in plan and have many windows and storefronts.			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register of Historic Places, Washington, D.C. Inventory-Nomination Form for Beale Street Historic District.			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Susan McCown, HABS Architectural Historian			DATE June 11, 1985