

# Through the Eyes of an Activist: Dixon v. Alabama (1961)

## Locations Based on Importance to Story

-  Activist Housing
-  Trenholm's Office
-  Trenholm's Home
-  Location of Sit-In
-  Meeting Location
-  Original Entrance ASC
-  Rallying Point

Mary Bennett  
Montgomery 1960 Project  
10/15/2020

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Swatch, INCREMENT P, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

## Map Locations

1. Abercrombie Hall: One of the main dormitories at the time of the sit-in movement.
2. Bibb Graves Hall: One of the main dormitories for female students at the time. Built in 1928, it is ASU's oldest dormitory.
3. Cafeteria & Cafeteria Steps: The steps were described as a natural stage for the activists to speak on campus. Also used for social events like step shows.
4. Veteran's Barracks: Now McGehee Hall, many of the male activists lived in the Veteran's Barracks; notice the proximity to the cafeteria.
5. President Trenholm's Office: Located on campus, just a short walk from his home across University Drive.
6. President Trenholm's Home: Notice the proximity to campus of the President's home on University Drive.
7. Original Entrance to ASC: Located on University Drive, the original entrance to ASC shows the importance and proximity of the meeting locations, such as the Hornet Grill and the Cabin Inn, to campus and student life.
8. Lockhart Gym: Location of multiple meetings and rallies. There were also social events held here, such as the dance where Mr. and Mrs. McFadden met.
9. Unnamed Restaurant: A short walk from the main entrance to ASC, this restaurant was one of the favorite spots for activists to meet and strategize. Mr. McFadden said that the location has changed names several times over the years and that he cannot remember the original name.
10. Hornet Grill: Just off of the ASC campus, the Hornet Grill was a very important location to the activists. According to Mr. McFadden, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Reverend Ralph Abernathy used to meet here. Mr. McFadden also stated that the Hornet Grill was his personal favorite meeting location.
11. Cabin Inn: Similar to the Hornet Grill, the Cabin Inn was a meeting location. Like many of the students, James McFadden and John Dixon lived just down the road. The morning of the sit-in at the Montgomery County Courthouse, several of the activists met at the Cabin Inn to march together.
12. McFadden's Home: McFadden pointed out his home at the time of the demonstrations – notice the proximity to the Cabin Inn.
13. Dixon's Home: McFadden also pointed out John Dixon's apartment building at the time – also very close to the Cabin Inn.
14. Montgomery County Courthouse: The activists marched down South Jackson to the Montgomery County Courthouse Café to sit-in at the lunch counter where they were refused service. The students stood peacefully in the hallway, protesting their unjust treatment.
15. Negro First Baptist Church: Located on Perry and Adams, the church (now the First Presbyterian Church) was a popular meeting location for the community. Many meetings were held there before and after the initial sit-in by both students and community activists alike.

## Mentioned by McFadden but Not Depicted on Map

- Hutchinson Street Baptist Church: Location of two bombings, one of which caused Mrs. McFadden to be thrown from her bed in the middle of the night. The building was demolished to make way for the interstate and the Hutchinson Street Baptist Church congregation has since relocated.

## Not Mentioned or Listed but Important

- Downtown Tuskegee and Montgomery Rally: While there was no official or formal student involvement, this was an important event as there were several assaults on black citizens during this rally.
- State Capital Building Rally: A 9am meeting at the State Capital Building where participants sang and gave speeches. They spoke of a student strike if there were expulsions.
- Beulah Baptist Church: Location of multiple meetings attended by MLK, Reverend Abernathy, and students from all over. The community expressed their support for the students at these meetings.