

Morrison G. Tucker

A Banking Icon Dedicated To Beautifying Oklahoma City

A successful banker known as a true innovator in his field, Morrison G. Tucker also dedicated his time and his talents to Oklahoma City Beautiful as a volunteer for more than 20 years. He was one of the organization's founders, serving as its first president.

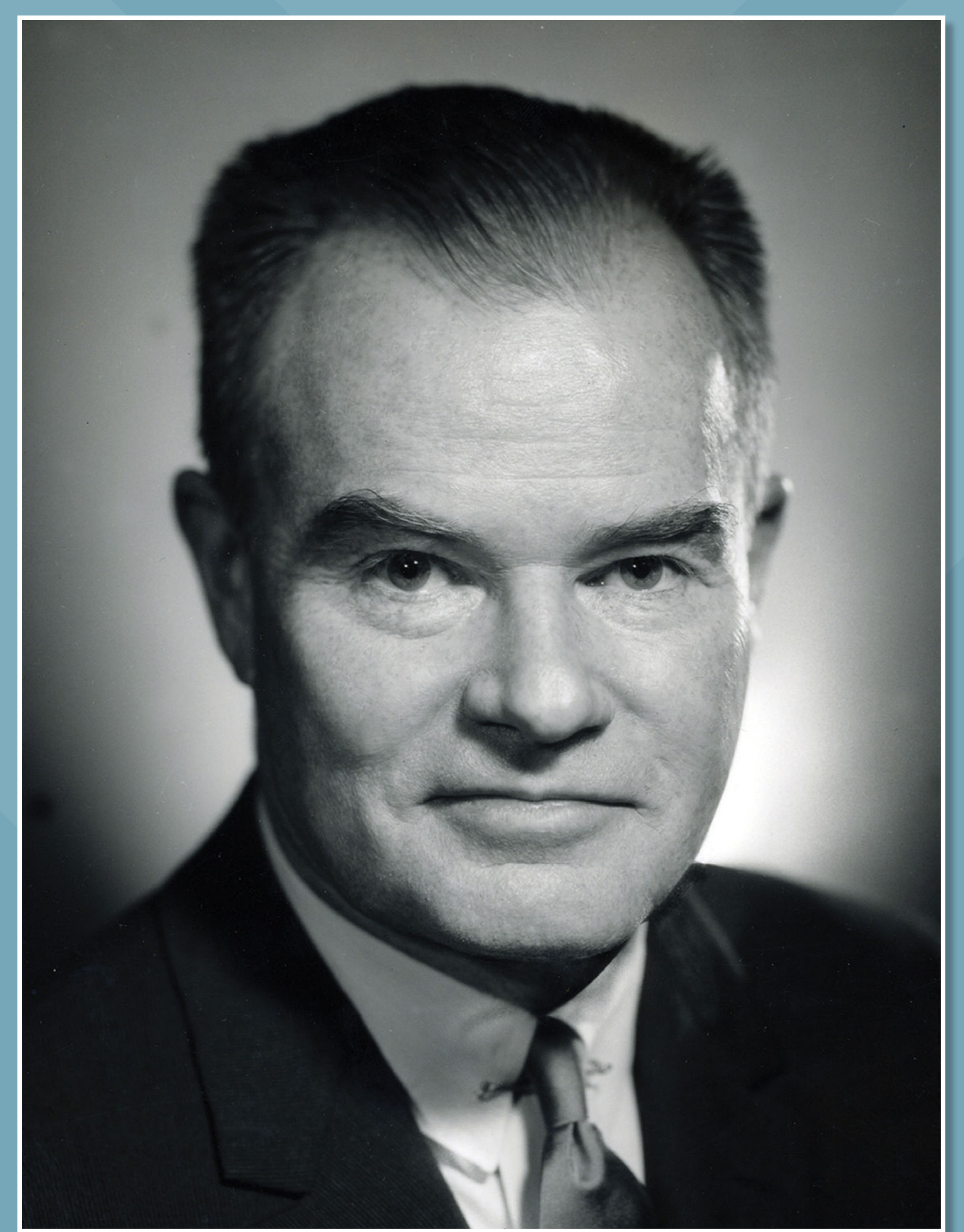
Mr. Tucker first got involved in beautification in 1951, when he noticed three sadly neglected blocks near Couch Drive in downtown Oklahoma City. After visiting every single business owner in the area, he garnered enough support to start a beautification effort.

"It was those early Oklahoma City leaders who had the vision, had the dream and participated that made an impact," says Janie Dupree, Oklahoma City Beautiful executive director. "Mr. Tucker knew how important it was to have a clean and beautiful community to attract more residents."

A Trustee of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation from 1979 to 1989, Mr. Tucker's long banking career included helping to design the banking system in the Philippines following World War II, and the founding of American Bank Systems, a company that designed forms and software systems for the banking industry. A member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, he died after a day of work in 1994, at the age of 82.

It was his longtime support of beautification efforts in Oklahoma City that moved his family to establish the Morrison Graham Tucker Beautification Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation following his death. Annual distributions from the fund support an award to an Oklahoma City Beautiful board member.

"He didn't just ask other people to do the hard, unglamorous work," says Dupree. "He got out and did it himself. His legacy ensures that Oklahoma City Beautiful will keep going."



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Will Rogers Park

