

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 30 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Dr. Andrew D. McLain Office and Drug Store

and/or common

2. Location

street & number S. E. corner of Main & Crawford Streets

N/A not for publication

city, town Salem

N/A vicinity of

state Alabama

code 01

county Lee

code 081

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 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
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Salem Community Improvement Association c/o Mrs. C. K. Dunn

street & number P. O. Box 12

city, town Salem

N/A vicinity of

state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lee County Courthouse

street & number South 9th Street

city, town Opelika

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The one-story structure faces north on Main Street and was originally a rectangular building measuring approximately 48' long (north to south) by 23' wide (east to west). The gable roof extended the length of the building approximately 6 more feet on each end in order to cover a front and rear porch. The plan consisted of one large room at the front (approximately 31.5 feet by 22 feet) which was used for a drugstore and two smaller rooms at the rear (approximately 14.5 feet by 10.75 feet each). These two rooms were apparently used as an exam room and office by Dr. McLain. Both rooms had corner fireplaces which shared a common chimney with a fireplace in the drugstore. The three fireplaces form a triangle which, being located near the center of the building, created a very efficient means of heat. The original structure rests on stone piers.

Between 1922 and 1924 the building was remodeled to include a Post Office. This work was done by a Mr. Wilson Pruitt and was accomplished by tearing the rear wall out of the back room on the southwest corner of the building and expanding the room out to include the space on the rear porch behind the room. The top plate for this removed wall can still be seen across the ceiling. Also, a continuous joint can be seen across the floor and up each wall at this location. This room was used as the mail processing room. A patron area and store room were added by building a wing on the west side of this expanded room. This wing with its hipped roof extended approximately 8' from the original building. A window for a counter approximately 10' long was cut in the original wall between the mail processing room and the patron area. A door was also added in this wall. The foundation for this wing consists of brick piers. The original building and the later wing are wood frame construction with weather board siding and are painted white. The gable roof on the original building has an approximate slope of 10 to 12" and is roofed with tin. The hipped roof on the wing portion is also covered with tin roofing.

Around 1940 the drugstore room was subdivided into five exam rooms with a 5.5-foot-wide hall down the center and across to an original door on the west side of the building. The space was further divided by putting toilets in the two front corners of the building. The partitions for all these rooms consisted of wood studs with 4-foot-wide painted fiber board panels with the joints unfinished.

Interior: All of the original interior walls and ceilings of this spartan structure were finished in 3-1/4" bead board with a bead occurring every 1-1/2". This bead board was applied horizontally to the walls. These walls were crowned with a simple 7/8" quarter round mould which was also used vertically at all inside corners. No baseboard was used on any of these walls. The interior walls of the Post Office addition were paneled with 1 x 8 boards applied horizontally with no baseboard being used. The walls of the 1940 remodeling, as said earlier were fiber board with a 5-1/2" baseboard. The original windows are 2/2 with a 4-1/2" trim. When the Post Office work was done, two original windows were relocated; and one new 2/2 window was added. In 1940 two 6/6 windows were added. The original doors are 6 panel with the panel being raised. When the post office work was done, 3 new doors

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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were added; and one original door was relocated and the opening closed up. Two of these new doors were made of 1 x 8 boards, and the third is identical to the 8 doors added in 1940. These doors are 5 panel with the panel being un-raised (appears to be plywood.) These doors are trimmed with 3/4 by 5-1/2 inch boards. Nearly every door has surface mounted carpenter lock sets.

Two Victorian mantels remain on the fireplaces in the two back rooms. The mantel for the drugstore fireplace is missing. Flooring throughout the house is 1 x 4 pine. Exterior trim is limited to boxed-in eaves that overhang approximately 12 inches on the gabled and hipped roofs. The only profiled trim is an ogee cornice mould which is used at the drip line. These boxed-in cornices return at the gabled ends.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 late 19th century **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Andrew McLain Office and Drug Store is significant as a representative example of small-town commercial and professional architecture during the late 19th century and for its associations with Dr. Andrew D. McLain, a locally prominent physician who was the primary source of professional medical care for rural communities in the southeastern part of the county from 1903 until his death in 1954. During this period there were few other doctors in Lee County serving primarily rural areas; the large majority were located in the major towns. Dr. McLain was locally noted for promoting the use of screened windows and doors to prevent the transmission of disease by insects. The building served as his office and drug store and from 1922-1955 as the town Post Office.

* * * * *

Dr. Andrew Demetrius McLain graduated from the University of Alabama Medical School in Mobile in 1901. For one year after his graduation, he practiced medicine in Five Points, in neighboring Chambers County. In 1902 he moved to Salem, most likely to replace Dr. M. D. Shelton, who moved his seven-year practice from Salem to Bullock County in that year. In 1913, he bought his office and drug store from W. C. and Sarah H. Bradley. The structure may have been occupied by Dr. McLain prior to his purchase and was probably constructed in the late 19th century. Like many small town doctors in the 20th century, Dr. McLain served as the local Druggist and his office served as the community drugstore. Dr. McLain was active in local civic affairs, having served as a member of the local School Board and the Lee County Board of Education (c. 1916-1932).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Jeane, D. Gregory. The Architectural Legacy of the Lower Chattahoochee Valley in Alabama and Georgia. University of Alabama Press, 1978.
 Birmingham News. "Doctor Wants to Retire But Stork Doesn't" March 12, 1952.
 Transactions of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, 1880-1932.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Bleeker

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	6	6	5	3	4	0	3	6	0	7	6	8	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

See sheet #10

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen Mertins & Paul Wetherington (James H. Johnson, AIA, Opelika)

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date March, 1982

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone (205) 832-6621

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

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 *Therese Johnson*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12-16-82

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

for Delores Byer
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
 National Register

date 2/3/83

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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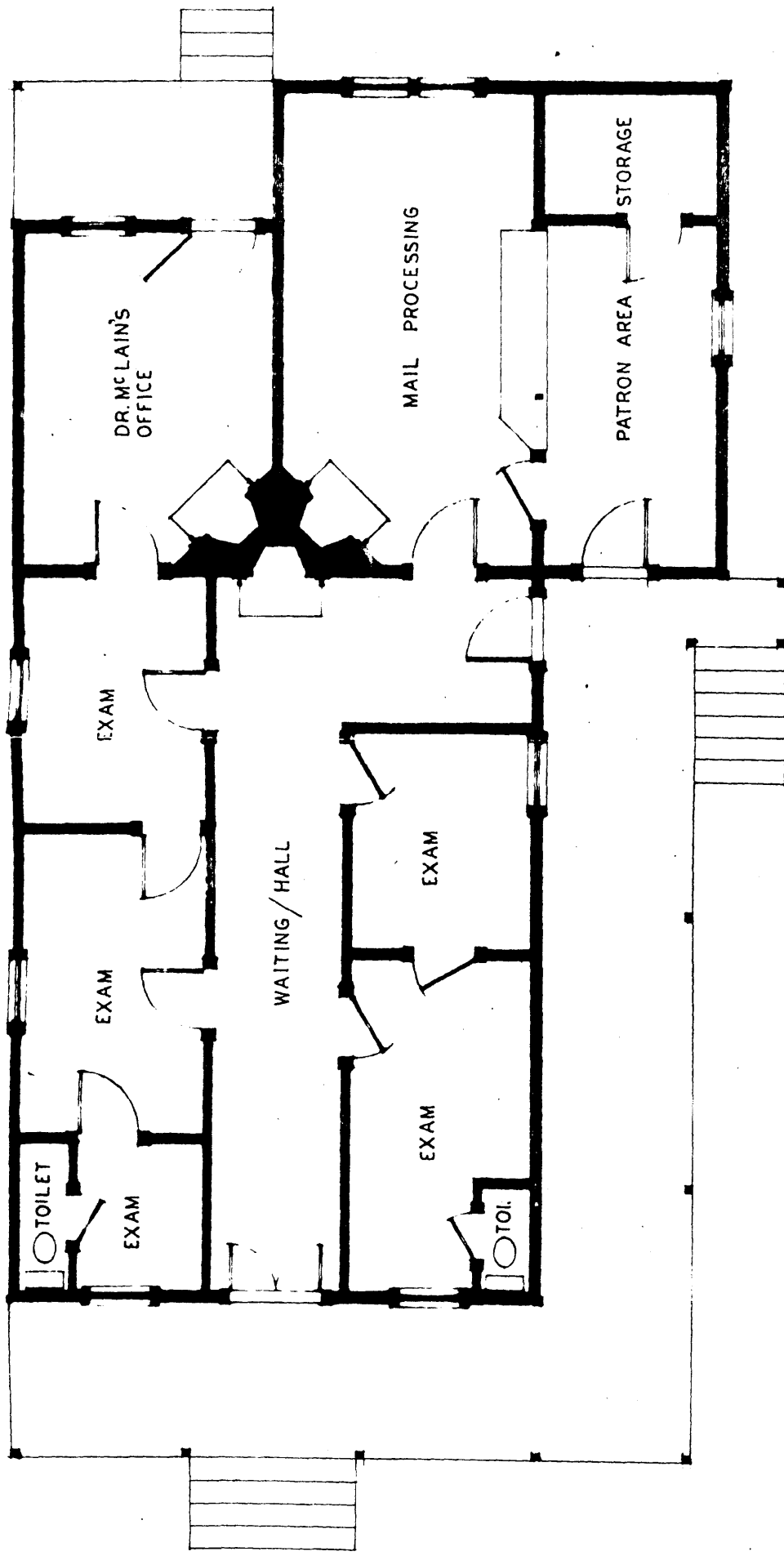
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Commence at the Northeast Corner of Section 33, Township 19 North, Range 28 East, in Lee County, Alabama; run thence South for 1656.6 feet; run thence West for 1339.8 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land to be here described and conveyed: From said point of beginning, run South 0 degrees 04 minutes East, for 80.0 feet; run thence South 89 degrees 00 minutes West for 42.7 feet, to the Easterly margin of a paved street; run thence North 1 degree 00 minutes West, along said paved street, for 80.0 feet, to the Southerly margin of another paved street; run thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes East, for 44.0 feet, to the said point of beginning. Together with the old drug store thereon.

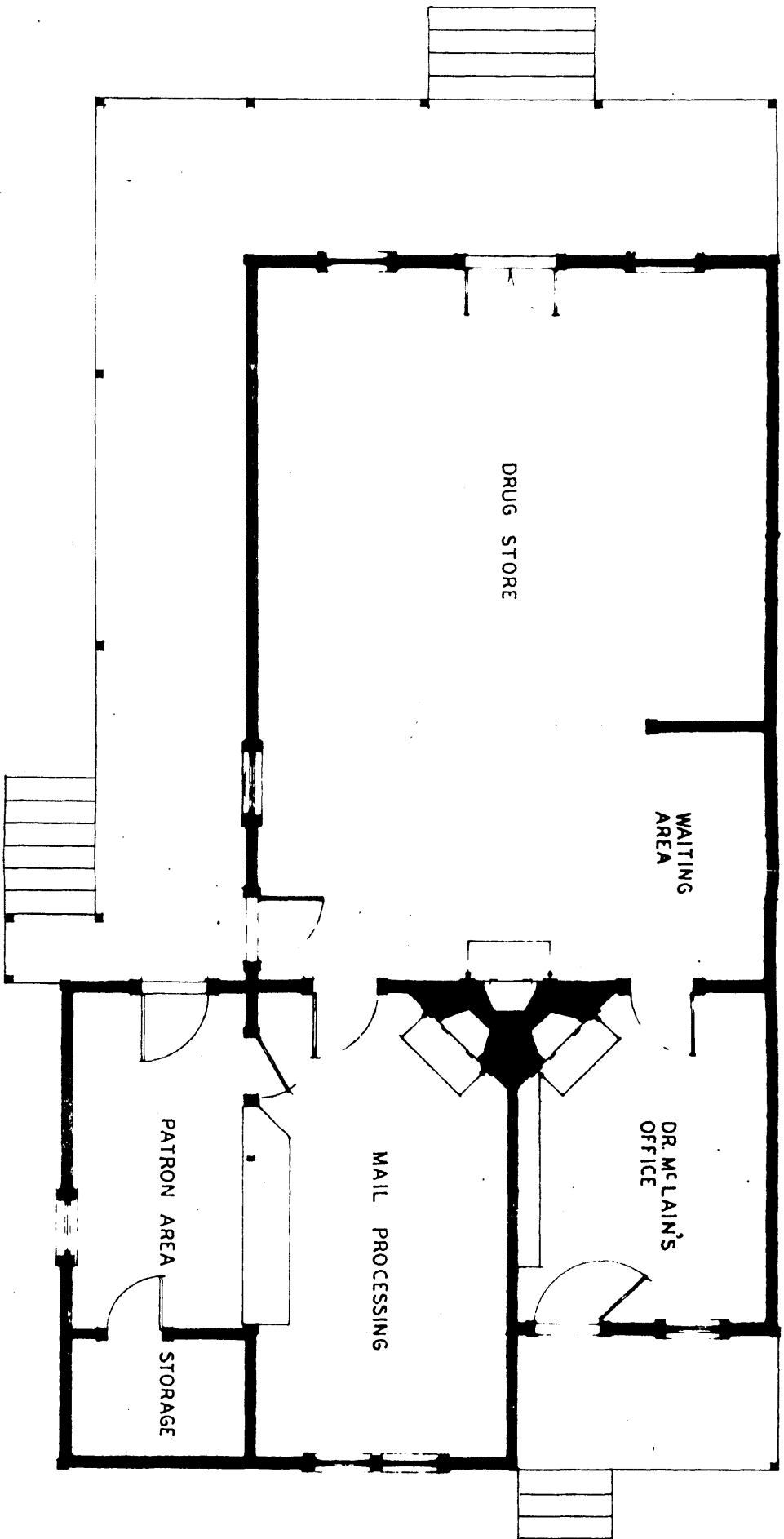


FLOOR PLAN
(1940 - PRESENT)



SCALE 3/16" = 1' - 0"

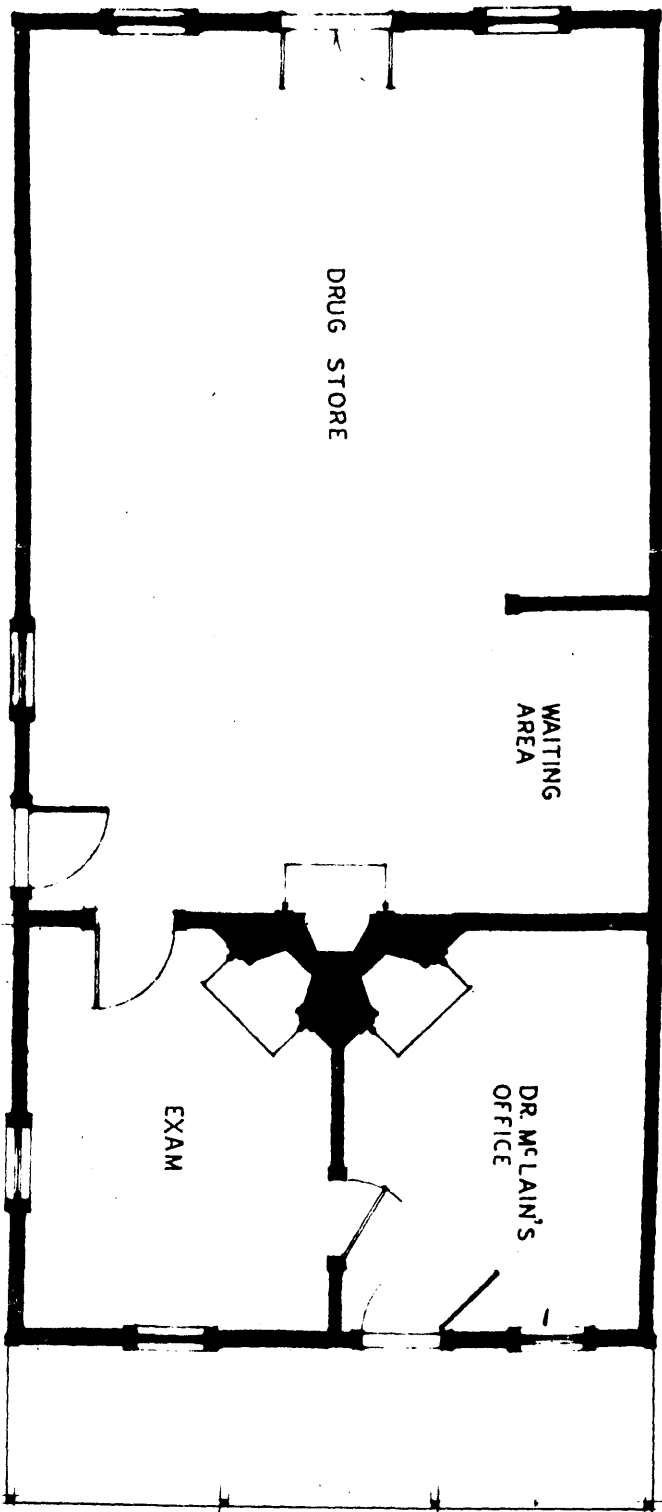
FLOOR PLAN



SCALE 3/16" = 1' - 0"



FLOOR PLAN
(1890 ? - 1922)



SCALE 3/16" = 1' - 0"