

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000526

Date Listed: 6/3/94

**Barron, Sydney, House
Property Name**

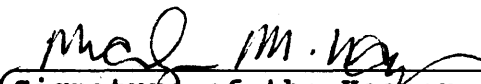
**Upson
County**

**GEORGIA
State**

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for 
Signature of the Keeper

6/9/94
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination is amended to show that the period of significance extends from 1830 to 1938, to include all of the significant dates listed.

This change has been cleared by phone with the Georgia SHPO (6/8/94).

DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sydney Barron House
other names/site number Charles Wilson House

2. Location

street & number 505 Stewart Avenue
city, town Thomaston () vicinity of
county Upson code GA 293
state Georgia code GA zip code 30286

() not for publication

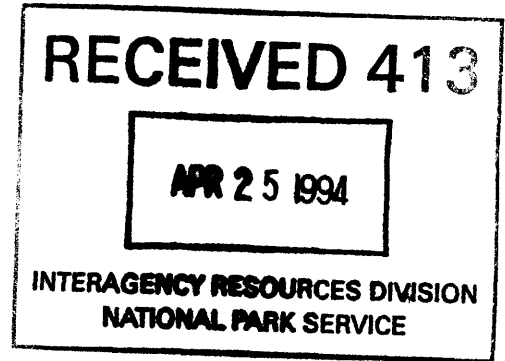
3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object



Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: n/a

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

4/20/94
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Mary M. [Signature] 6/13/94

() determined eligible for the National Register

() determined not eligible for the National Register

() removed from the National Register

() other, explain:

() see continuation sheet

[Signature]
Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

Materials:

foundation	stone/brick
walls	wood
roof	asphalt
other	n/a

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Sydney Barron House is in west central Georgia in Upson County, four blocks from the center of downtown Thomaston. The house faces west on a flat half acre lot on Stewart Avenue (photo #1). The current owner completed a rehabilitation of the property in 1992 according to the Secretary of Interior Standards for the purpose of Georgia's property tax assessment program.

The Sydney Barron House is a one-story, wood-frame, c. 1830 house built using mortise-and-tenon construction with hand-hewn sills and beams (photo #2). Exterior features include an asphalt shingle roof, weatherboarding, three exterior end chimneys, and a stone pier foundation with brick infill. The windows are double-hung, 4/4 and 9/6. There are small four-light windows in the attic. The front entrance portico has a pedimented gable, two square columns, two pilasters, and side balustrades. Originally a central entrance house, the main entrance is now off center with a wood panelled door.

The interior was originally a hall-parlor plan with two rooms--the hall and the parlor--and a detached kitchen. In c. 1840, the north side and rear portion was added to double the size of the main house. In 1870 the original exterior wall (now interior wall) on the north side of the house was moved to increase the size of the dining room. The only other change was to create a bath and closet in 1938 to the original main hall.

The original detached kitchen burned in c. 1930 and the present kitchen was built at the same time (photo #3). It was built as a detached, side gable building with double-hung, 6/6 windows situated perpendicular to the main house. In 1938 a bathroom and hall was added to the rear of the main house which then connected the kitchen

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to the main house (photo #4). The fireplace and chimney were added to the kitchen portion in 1991 (photo #5).

The interior features 20" wide tongue-and-groove walls and ceilings, heart-pine floors, simple wood moldings, and paneled wood doors (photo #6). The most elaborate room in the house is the parlor which retains its original wainscoting with faux graining and its original mantel with Federal-style detailing and faux graining (photo #7). The other two mantels are simpler with classical detailing and faux graining (photos #8 and #9). On what was the original back porch, now the den, are steps and a door leading up to the attic which was once a sleeping loft (photo #10).

The building sits on a level city lot surrounded by mature landscaping including native fruit bearing and ornamental plants (photo #11).

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance:

C. 1830

Significant Dates:

c. 1830 - Date of Construction
c. 1840 - Expansion
c. 1930 - Kitchen Rebuilt
c. 1938 - Addition of Bathrooms

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

n/a

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OMB approve. no. 124-0013

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Sydney Barron House is significant under architecture as an intact example of early 19th-century residential architecture using the early 19th century building technology of mortise-and-tenon construction. One of the oldest houses in Thomaston, the c. 1830 building contains Greek Revival and Federal style design elements. The simple exterior with the front pedimented porch with square columns and cornice returns characterize the vernacular adaptation of the Greek Revival style. Such detailing was common to the more modest Greek Revival influenced homes. The intact parlor mantel, wainscoting, and faux graining demonstrate the Federal influence.

The house is also architecturally significant as a representative example of a hall-parlor house form as identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings. Although one of America's earliest house types, the Georgia hall-parlor was most commonly built in the second half of the 19th-century, which makes the Sydney Barron House an early example of this house form. With the expansion in c. 1840 and the 1930s alterations, the Sydney Barron House illustrates the evolution of an early 1800s house to a 20th-century home that has remarkably retained its historic integrity and detailing.

The builder of the Sydney Barron House is unknown. Although the house has had many owners, it is named after Sidney Barron (1850-1927) who resided in the house longer than any other resident. Barron, who was a farmer, purchased the house in 1892 and divided the original 10 acres into city lots and sold them. The house lot was sold by Sydney Barron's wife Mollie Barron in 1938. The current owner purchased the property in 1991.

National Register Criteria

The Sydney Barron House is eligible under Criterion C as a good example of an early 19th-century hall-parlor house with Greek Revival and Federal style influences.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

n/a

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Period of significance (justification)

The house was constructed c. 1830.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

n/a

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

Note: The following history was written by Vance Fallin, the owner of the Sydney Barron House. On file at the Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

The home located at 505 Stewart Avenue, Thomaston, Georgia has a diverse history. It was built some time around 1830 when Thomaston was first established. In 1830 the population of Upson County was 7,013 and the City of Thomaston, which was founded in 1825, was not far from the wilderness. Although the city was young, it attracted many people that wanted to take advantage of land grants and other opportunities. The area has many creeks and it soon had several mills that also aided in the growth of Thomaston. By 1834, as seen in "the Backwoodsman and Upson Yeoman" (July 30, 1834; vol. 1, no. 12), Thomaston could boast of two taverns, a hotel, several merchants, doctors and lawyers.

It is unclear by whom and exactly when the home was built. Certain elements, such as a Federal style mantel, suggest that the home was built shortly after 1821, but written records suggest a date closer to 1834. The house is noted on a survey dated December 10, 1836 so the house was definitely built prior to that date. Structural evidence shows that the home was enlarged shortly after it was first constructed.

In 1821, a man named Azariah Richards received by land grant the property which consisted of all of Land Lot 218. Richards was from Greene County and there is no record of him ever living in Upson County. The next person on record that owned the property was Edward D. Alfriend. Alfriend was also from Greene County and is shown on record as owner in 1833. When and how he obtained the property is unknown. Alfriend might have bought the land grant rights from Richards in 1821. It is not known if there was another owner of the property between 1821 and 1833 that could have built the home. There is no record of Alfriend ever living in Upson County. Records show him living in Greene County as early as 1828 and as late as 1850. He did buy two parcels of land in the city in 1828 from the Inferior

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Court but it is unlikely that he built the house unless it was used as a second home. In December of 1833 Edward D. Alfriend deeded all 202.5 acres of Land Lot 218 to Obadiah C. Gibson.

Obadiah C. Gibson was a local lawyer who later practiced law in Barnesville. At the time Gibson bought the property, he had a wife, two small children, and owned several slaves. In addition to being a lawyer he was listed as farmer in the 1830 census. He was also an original stockholder in a local railroad, a State Senator in 1837-1838, a Confederate artillery Captain and a respected public speaker. In 1845 he was asked to deliver a speech at Thomaston's memorial for Gen. Andrew Jackson. The home could have been built by Obadiah Gibson early in 1834. One of his ancestors feels this is true.

Another possible builder of the home was Benjamin W. Clark. Clark, who later became a Thomaston area Methodist minister, bought the property from O. C. Gibson in August of 1835. The 1830 census states that Clark had a wife, one daughter, owned six slaves, and was a farmer. In January of 1837, Clark deeded to Samuel S. Crute for \$800 the house and 10 acres of land. Also related to this sale, Clark sold Crute a lane 12 feet wide that extended from the house to the gate of the Methodist-Episcopal Church, which stood on the knoll in what is now Glenwood Cemetery. Clark sold the balance of his land to Simeon Rogers and then moved to Russell County, Alabama. He later came back to Upson County. In March of 1840, Samuel Crute sold the house, ten acres of land, and the lane to William D. Woodson.

William Woodson and his wife Epatha were twenty-five years old when they bought the home. The 1850 census states that he was born in Virginia and was a merchant. He was also County Treasurer in the mid-1840s and an Inferior Court Justice in the late-1850s. In August of 1842, Woodson deeded the property and house to Thomas Thweatt, Jr.

Thomas Thweatt, Jr. lived in the house for only a short time. His father, Thomas Thweatt, Sr., had several slaves and was a stockholder of the Thomaston railroad. In December of 1843, Thweatt deeded the house and property to Obadiah Gibson as Trustee for Elizabeth W. Collier. Gibson and Collier then rented the house to James W. Green. James W. Greene was the name of an 18th-century Green family patriarch and many of his descendants bear his name. There were two men in Upson County in the mid-1800s that had this name. The elder one was probably born prior to 1800, was a lawyer and was an Upson County State Representative in 1829-1831. The other James W. Green, son of Thomas B. Green, was born in 1818. He was also a lawyer and served as Superior Court Judge from 1868 to 1873. It was most likely the younger James W. Green that lived in the home with his wife Sarah and their first two children. In November of 1849, O. C. Gibson, as

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trustee for Elizabeth W. Collier, deeded the house and property to John Thompson.

John Thompson was a doctor who graduated from Augusta Medical College. His office stood on the courthouse square in Thomaston on the spot now occupied by the R. A. Fincher building. He was a Town Commissioner in 1857. He lived in the house with his wife Elizabeth A. and his first three children, Victoria L., Mary F., and John L. They lived in the house only a short while and it was sold to Davis T. Richardson in July of 1850.

The 1850 census states that Richardson was born in 1830 and was a merchant. He was an Inferior Court Justice from 1854 to 1857. The First Baptist Church history states that he was church treasurer from 1855 until he resigned in 1857. In that same year, he was reprimanded by the Church for misconduct. Davis Richardson lost his house due to foreclosure and it was sold at public outcry in July of 1858 to Nathan Respass.

Nathan Respass was a wealthy man. In addition to being a farmer, he was a stockholder in the local railroad and he owned part interest in a cotton mill called Flint River Manufacturing. It is doubtful that Nathan Respass ever lived in the home. In legal records, it is never described as his place of residence. He probably rented it out, possibly even back to Davis Richardson. Nathan Respass sold the house to Charles Wilson as trustee for Martha Wilson in July of 1863.

Charles and Martha Wilson and their three children lived in the house for over ten years. This is longer than any of the previous owners and may explain why the home is referred to in some records as the "Charles Wilson Place." Charles Wilson's profession is listed as tailor in the 1850 census. He served as Clerk of the Superior Court for most of the 1860s. His name shows up on many records of this decade. In 1865, Union soldiers are said to have stayed in the home and stored supplies in the upstairs loft. Charles Wilson eventually lost the home, most likely due to hardships brought about by reconstruction after the Civil War. It was sold at public outcry on January 12, 1874 to William T. Cowles. On that same day, Cowles deeded the house and property for the same purchase price to his first cousin Richard Reviere.

Richard Reviere was born in 1845 and was widowed before he bought the home. He lived there with his two daughters and his mother who kept house. He was a city alderman in 1879 and the 1880 census states that he was a farmer. In December 1881, Richard Reviere sold the house to Sterling C. Pritchard. Pritchard was born in 1848 and the 1880 census states that he was a grocer. He lived in the home with his wife Lora

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B. who was fourteen years his junior. In November of 1882, Pritchard sold the house and property to Robert L. Trussell.

Robert Trussell lost the house due to foreclosure brought about by a suit filed against him in 1888 by A. J. Cheney. Cheney was a prominent merchant and was Board of Education President from 1876 to 1880 and a County Commissioner from 1879 to 1881. Following foreclosure Cheney bought the property at public outcry in April of 1888. In April of 1890, Cheney deeded the property to Isaac C. McCrary as trustee of A. J. Cheney McCrary, the grand nephew of A. J. Cheney. A. J. McCrary died as an infant and the property reverted to Isaac McCrary. Isaac McCrary, who was born in 1854 and presumably was A. J. McCrary's father, was a store clerk in Cheney's store. In December of 1892, McCrary sold the house and ten acres to Sidney K. Barron.

According to the 1900 census, Sidney K. Barron was a farmer born in 1850. He lived in the house with his wife Mollie, his son Benjamin and his daughter Clyde. It was Sydney Barron that divided the ten acres in to city lots and sold them. According to one of his descendants, S. K. Barron was a little eccentric. Mr. Ted Perdue states, "whenever Uncle Sydney came to visit he would bring all of his money in a suitcase and we would have to lock it up in a closet." S. K. Barron died in 1927 and is buried one block away from the home in Glenwood Cemetery. It was shortly after his death when the home's original detached kitchen burned down. His wife Mollie, who was twelve years his junior, later suffered a stroke and her niece, Addie Lee Trice, and her niece's husband William Howard Trice, moved in and took care of her in exchange for rent. Mrs. Barron died in 1938 and Addie Lee Trice bought the home for the Barron heirs.

Mrs. Trice was a homemaker and Mr. Trice was a farmer, a mule trader and even a constable. His daughter said that he was "a jack of all trades." Their daughter, Ruth T. Currie, and her four children moved into the home with them. Upon the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Trice the home went to their four children, Ruth T. Currie, Mattilu T. Woodson, Leonard Trice, and Truman Trice. Leonard and Truman in turn deeded their interest to Mattilu and Ruth. Upon Mattilu's death Ruth inherited sole interest in the home. Ms. Currie in turn deeded her interest to her four children, Rebecca C. M. Shaffer, Warren Currie, William T. Currie, and Mary Jane C. Johnston. Ms. Currie now lives in the home located next door to 505 Stewart Avenue which was her sister's home. In June of 1991, Vance Fallin bought the house from the Currie children and completed a rehabilitation of the property in 1992 according to the Secretary of Interior Standards for the purpose of Georgia's property tax assessment program.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Fallin, Vance. "Sydney K. Barron House," Historic Property Information Form, January 1992/August 1992. On file at the Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia,

Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources. Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings. Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1991.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () previously listed in the National Register
- () previously determined eligible by the National Register
- () designated a National Historic Landmark
- () recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- () recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Up-T-222 (1988 Upson County Survey)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.5 acres

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 750560 Northing 3641220

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses the 0.5 acres as indicated by a heavy black line on the enclosed tax map. The original 10 acres associated with the house was subdivided and redeveloped in the early 20th-century.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the current legal property associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie N. Sharp, National Register Specialist
organization Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** April 20, 1994

(OHP form version 12-08-93)

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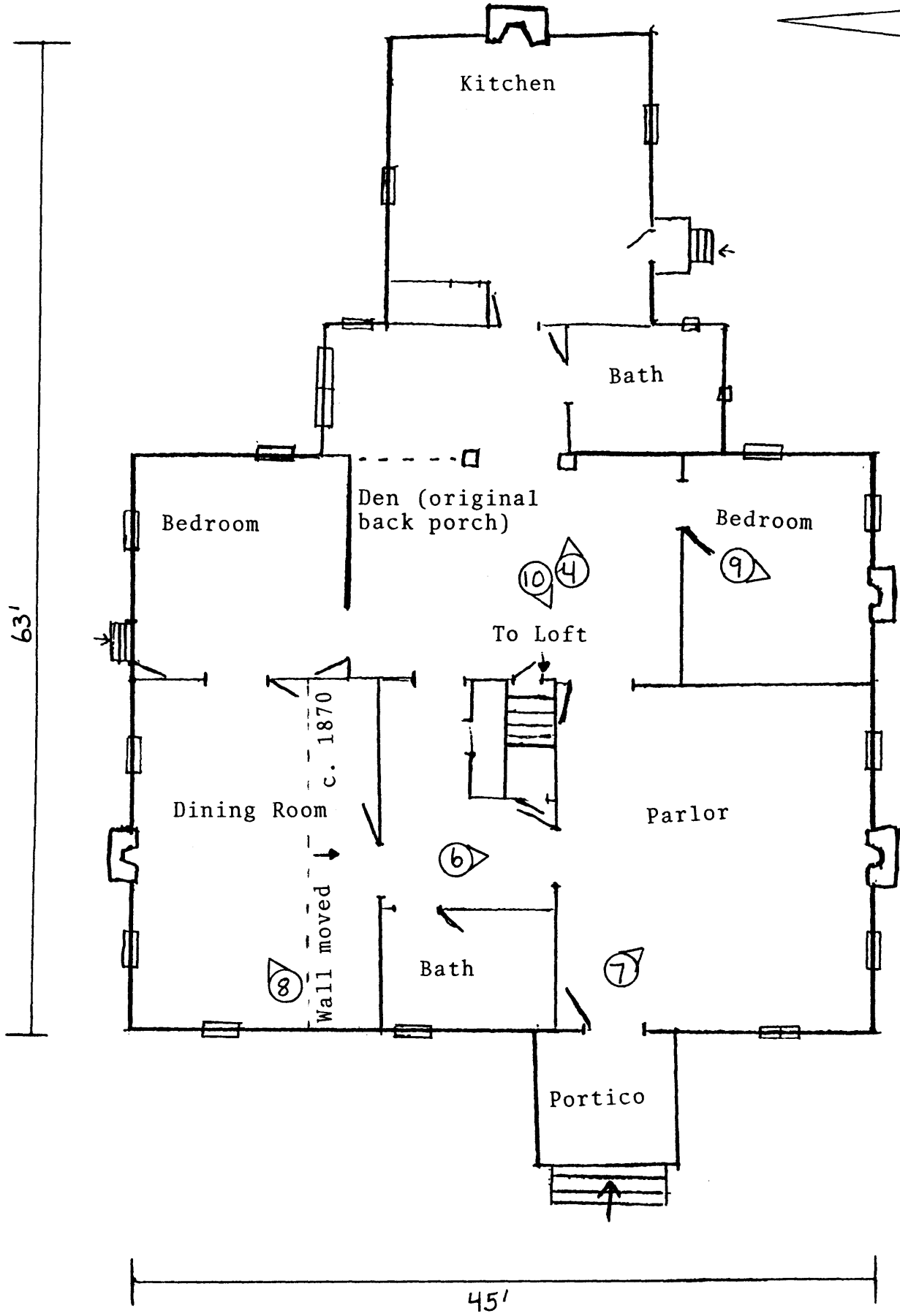
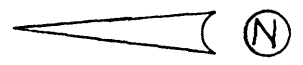
Photographs

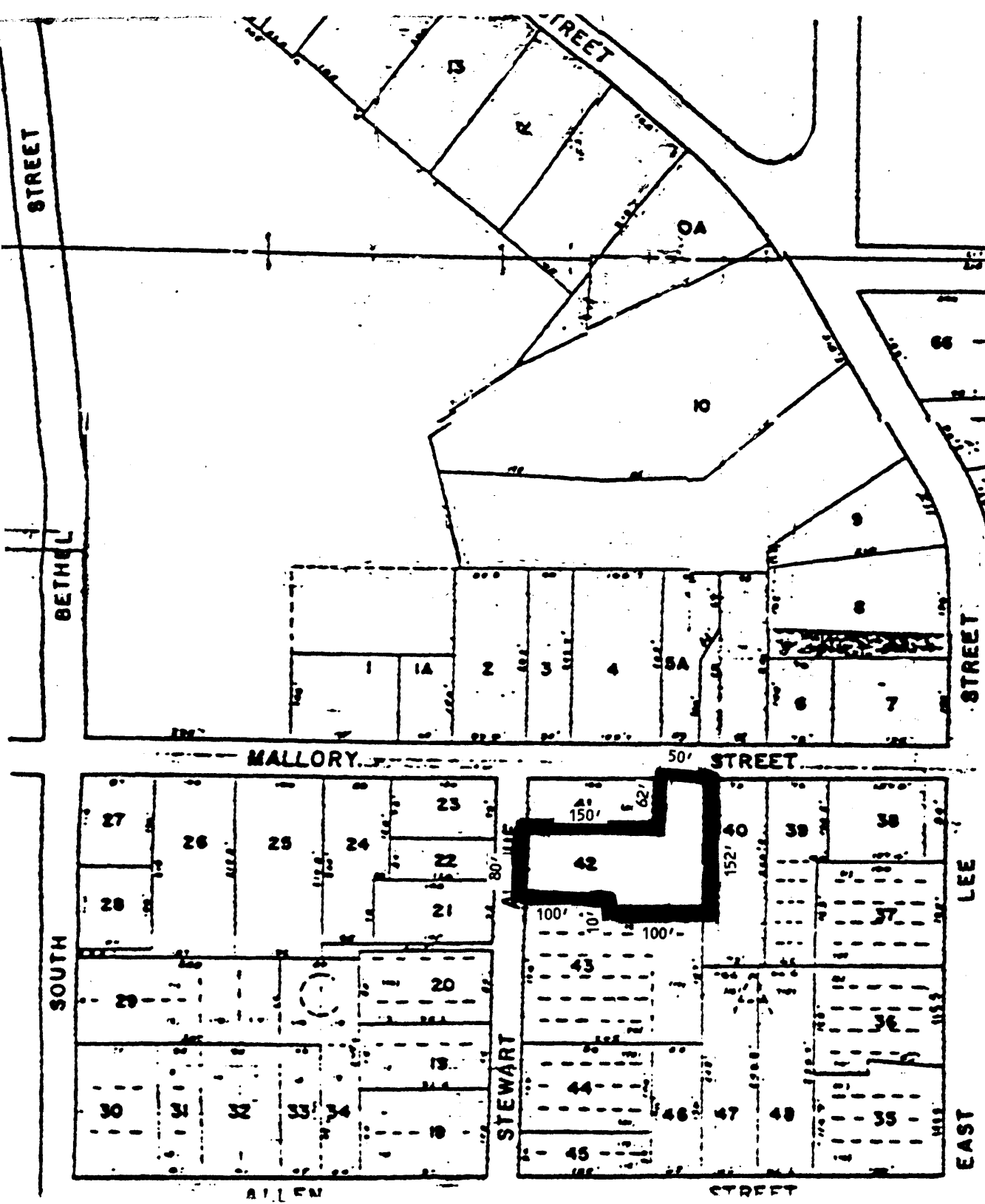
Name of Property: Sydney Barron House
City or Vicinity: Thomaston
County: Upson
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: March 1993

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 11: Front facade of Sydney Barron House; photographer facing east.
- 2 of 11: Northwest corner of house; photographer facing southeast.
- 3 of 11: Kitchen and southeast corner of house; photographer facing north.
- 4 of 11: Bathroom and hall addition, looking into kitchen; photographer facing east.
- 5 of 11: Kitchen and east facade of house; photographer facing west.
- 6 of 11: Main hall looking into parlor; photographer facing south.
- 7 of 11: Parlor; photographer facing southeast.
- 8 of 11: Dining room; photographer facing northeast.
- 9 of 11: South bedroom; photographer facing south.
- 10 of 11: Den looking into parlor; photographer facing southwest.
- 11 of 11: Southwest corner of house; photographer facing northeast.

Sydney Barron House
Upson County, Georgia
Floor Plan
Photograph/Direction of View:
Scale: none





Sydney Barrow House
 Upson County, Georgia
 Tax Map
 National Register Boundary: ———
 Scale: 1" = 150'

