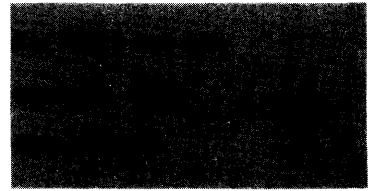


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic White-Turner-Sanford House

and/or common Lewis-Sanford Home, Herstein Place, H. L. Clay Residence

2. Location

street & number 601 Madison Street NA not for publication

city, town Huntsville NA vicinity of congressional district 5th

state Alabama 35801 code 01 county Madison code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Thomas H. Sanford

street & number 601 Madison Street

city, town Huntsville vicinity of state Alabama 35801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Madison County Courthouse

street & number The Square

city, town Huntsville state Alabama 35801

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 36130

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated along Madison Street, the White-Turner-Sanford House was originally a one-story Federal style cottage with a "center-hall" and ell plan arrangement. Just prior to the Civil War, the home was modified by the addition of a two-story wing, adding to the elegance of the original residence.

Essentially, the one-story section, constructed of common bond brick, retains most of its exterior Federal details. Two single shoulder chimneys, flush with the gable ends, are located on each side, although the one to the southeast is incorporated into the wall of the addition. The rake-fascias, still visible on the gable slopes of the northwest side, are tapered in width toward the ridge and beaded on the bottom edge. Above the original six-paneled front door is a small rectangular transom, typical of the period. A small, classical tetrastyle portico, moreover, compliments the entrance by adding grace and balance. Possibly an original appendage, a porch with mortice, tenon and peg joint connections, but without ornamentation, is located on the southeast side of the ell. Most windows in the Federal part of the house, additionally, are square, and a few in the rear of the ell retain their early cylinder glass with noticeable ripples, waves, and bubbles. These earliest windows, nine over nine, have most of their original muntins.

The only major change to the one-story section has been the alteration (ca. 1858) of the two front windows. Originally square, they have been modified into segmental arch windows, matching the ones in the two-story addition for a more uniform frontal appearance.

The two-story wing, added to the original house by Hugh L. Clay, is Greek Revival; though the Italianate segmental arch windows, mostly six over six, give the addition an eclectic quality. Constructed of common bond brick, it has a hip roof with a centrally-located corbeled chimney.

The wing's interior contains plain, wide doorway trim, mantelpieces, and baseboards, capped with ornamental mouldings. Its second floor, entered by an enclosed stairway, opens directly into an upper back bedroom, where a railing, consisting of a heavy newel post and turned balusters, is situated along the side of the staircase opening. This original railing, Victorian in character, denotes the popularity this type of architecture enjoyed in the Tennessee Valley in the 1850's. Floor boards in the two upstairs rooms, as well as those on the first floor, are also original, except for a hardwood surface, covering the one in the first floor front room. The only other major modification has been the addition of a wall in the ground floor back room; although this alteration, as well as the modern floor covering, is neither injurious nor destructive to the structure.

Interior modifications to the original house have been more extensive to include the incorporation of Greek Revival trim around the two front windows, changed when the wing was constructed. Additionally, a wall and bathroom were built into the rear bedroom in the 1940's, necessitating the removal of a less ornamental Federal mantelpiece. Otherwise, Adamesque mitered window and door trim, beaded baseboards, and mantels with deep, flaring molds are all intact. The original front door and some interior ones with

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

White-Turner-Sanford House

CONTINUATION SHEET

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rimlocks have survived as well. Furthermore, an original exit, with a door of a later period, leads from the ell to a one-room storage building of post-and-beam framing. It appears to be Federal with Greek Revival modifications, consisting of interior wide door trim with unadorned corner blocks.

Also on the property is a small garage, built ca. 1920. Located in the back yard, it is used to shelter the family car.

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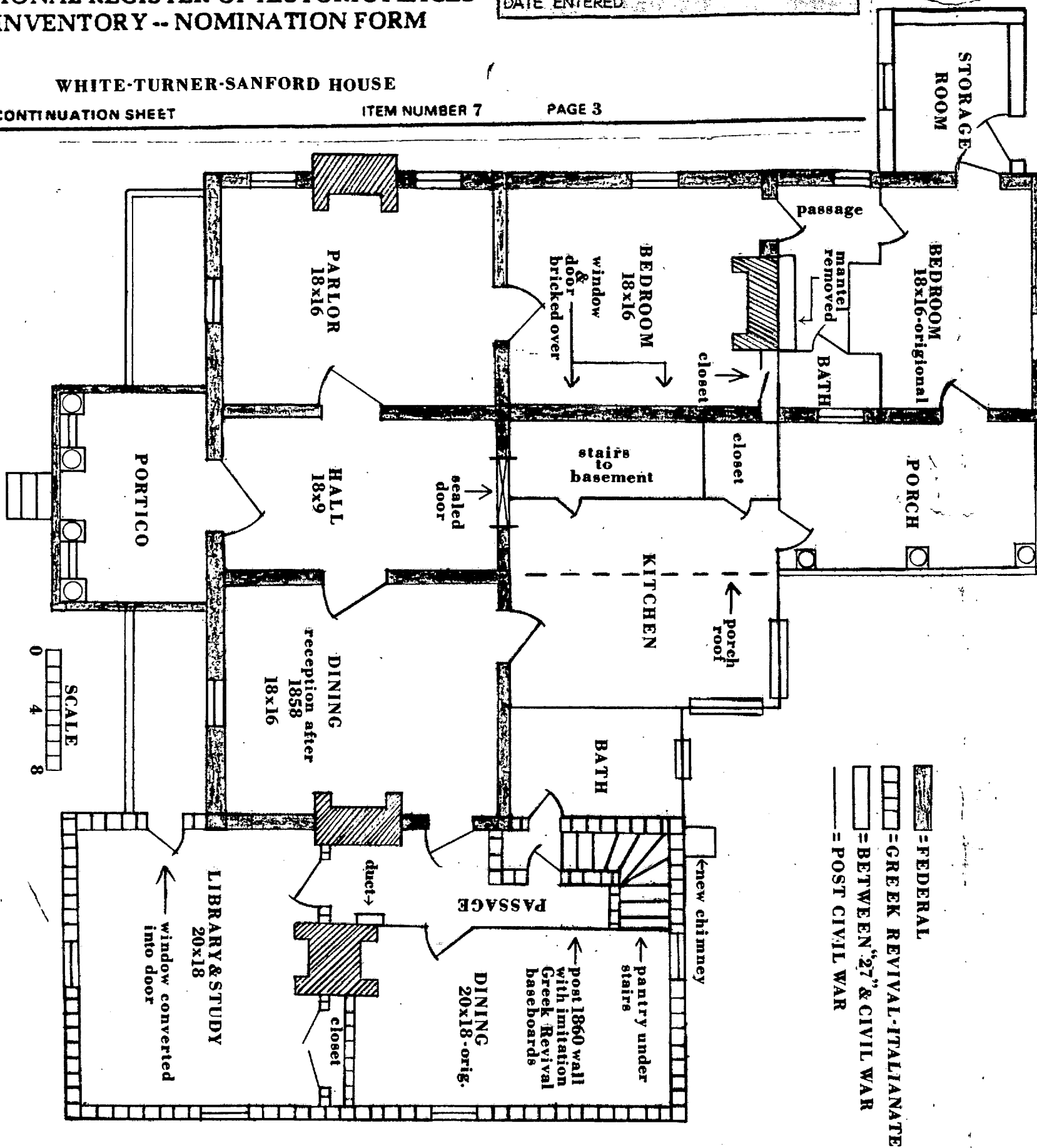
WHITE-TURNER-SANFORD HOUSE

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FIRST-FLOOR PLAN



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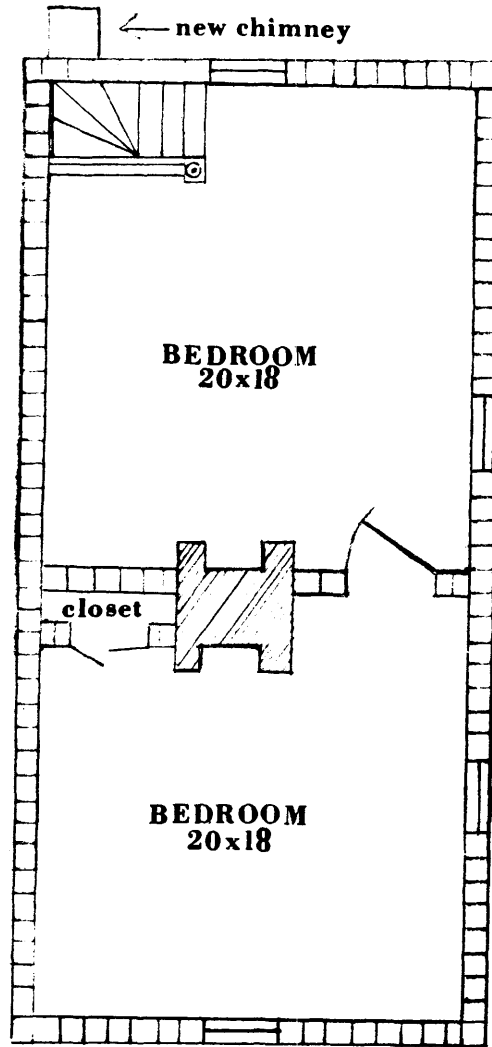
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WHITE-TURNER-SANFORD HOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

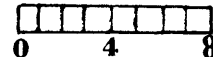
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SECOND-FLOOR-PLAN

SCALE



S.W. →

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			Local History

Specific dates 1827 and ca. 1858 **Builder/Architect** James White and H. L. Clay

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The White-Turner-Sanford House, built in 1827, is significant for its association with various residents who played an important role in the history of Huntsville. The house, moreover, is an excellent example of well-preserved Federal and Greek Revival architecture, once common to the area.

James White, the builder of the home, was a merchant from Virginia who came to Huntsville in the middle 1820's. In 1827, he bought a lot on Madison Street from LeRoy Pope who owned land in the vicinity. According to deeds, court records, and contemporary newspapers, White built the house on the lot the same year. Eventually, he became indebted and mortgaged his house and lot various times to meet his creditors' demands. Unfortunately, he could not pay his debts and fled to Decatur, Alabama, in 1829. Subsequently, on February 23, 1830, the house was sold at auction to Benjamin F. West, owner of a commission business in New Orleans. Shortly after the sale, John Bradley, a local businessman who shipped planters' cotton down the Tennessee River to New Orleans, tried to acquire, through extensive litigation, title to the house. Bradley, who rented the residence, was unsuccessful.

In 1831, West deeded the house to Preston Yeatman, an industrialist and land speculator, who sold it the following year to John H. Lewis, a local attorney. Lewis, from Tennessee, was mayor of Huntsville from 1826 to 1828. Elected again in 1829, he resigned to enter private law practice. Upon his retirement in 1841, he sold the home to George W. Lane.

Politically active at an early age, Lane was elected from Limestone County to the Alabama State House of Representatives in 1829. He later became a Limestone County Court Judge and eventually a Circuit Court Judge, the position he held when he moved to Huntsville in the early 1840's. Resigning from the bench in 1846, the jurist continued to maintain a law office in town, although the pinnacle of his career would not come until the Civil War when his Unionist sympathies prompted President Abraham Lincoln to appoint him Federal District Judge.

In 1848, Lane conveyed the house and lot to William G. Sellick, a merchant, who sold it in 1854 to William P. Bedlock, a clerk who recently moved to the community from Louisiana. Three years later, Bedlock deeded the house to Hugh L. Clay.

Clay, a former captain in the Mexican War, was the son of former Governor Clement C. Clay and brother of U. S. Senator Clement C. Clay, Jr. A graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, the young counselor practiced law in Huntsville before the Civil War.

9. Major Bibliographical References

CENSUS RECORDS: Washington, D.C., National Archives, various dates.

"Cheap Groceries." Southern Advocate, 12 January 1827, p. 4.

(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .95 acre

Quadrangle name Huntsville, Alabama

Quadrangle scale 1:2400

UMT References

A

1	6	5	3	8	2	6	0	3	8	4	2	5	0	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 continuation sheet)

The lot, upon which the White-Turner-Sanford House stands, is the identical acreage that LeRoy Pope conveyed to James White in 1827. Originally measured in rods, the

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

state	code	county	code
NA			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William J. Stubno, Jr., B.A., M.A./Historian & Ellen Mertins

organization Private Endeavor date March 5, 1982

street & number 4701 Sparkman Drive telephone (205) 852-7141

city or town Huntsville state Alabama 35810

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

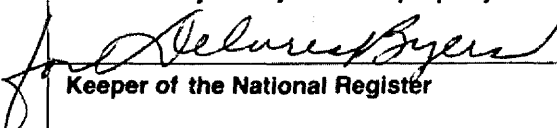
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title S.A.P.O. date 3-12-84

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	Entered in the National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>4/12/84</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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In 1860, Clay, who would eventually serve as a Confederate Colonel in the coming struggle, sold the residence to James B. Turner for \$6,500.00, an increase of \$2,500.00 over the 1857 purchase price, reflecting the improvement to the property of a two-story addition. Turner, a country physician, rented the home for two years and then sold it to Mrs. Rosa Herstein, wife of a prominent Jewish merchant, Robert Herstein. The home remained in her name until she passed away in 1909.

On the advent of the First World War, the Herstein heirs sold the property to J. William Turner, an automobile dealer, who later deeded it to his daughter, Nellie Mae, and her husband, Thomas H. Sanford. Sanford, a well-to-do pharmacist, lived in the house until his death in 1964, when his widow, who still resides there, became sole owner of the property.

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"Col. Hugh Lawson Clay." The Daily Mercury, 30 December 1890, p. 4.

"Cotton Freighting." Southern Advocate, 14 September 1827, p. 4.

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Owen, Thomas M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography Vol. IV. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1921; reprint ed., Spartanburg, S.C.: The Reprint Co., 1978.

Record, James. A Dream Come True Vol. II. Huntsville, AL: By the Author, 1978.

"Robert Herstein." The Huntsville Advocate, 25 September 1878, p. 3.

Rogers, William W. "Montgomery as the Confederate Capital: View of a New Nation." The Alabama Historical Quarterly 26 (Spring 1964): 74.

Stewart, John C. The Governors of Alabama. Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Co., Inc., 1975.

"T. H. Sanford, Druggist, Dies." The Huntsville Times, 24 February 1964, p. 3.

"Town Property For Sale." The Democrat, 6 February 1829, p. 4.

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property is now described in feet with the original degrees, corresponding exactly to the 1827 boundaries (the lot also contains a small garage).

The property nominated is located as follows: All that part of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section one, township four south, range one west of the Huntsville Meridian Line, Madison County, Alabama. Particularly described as being on Madison Street, Huntsville, Alabama, beginning at the intersection of the south side of Neals Alley with the east side of Madison Street, thence south 40° east 269 feet along the east margin of said Madison Street, thence north 50° east 152 feet to a stake, thence north 40° west 269 feet to the south margin of Neals Alley, thence south 50° west 152 feet along the south margin of said alley to the beginning, containing .95 of an acre more or less.