



### Historical Summary:

During the boom year of 1887, J. R. Draper, W. G. Ledbetter, and C. D. Woodruff organized the Bank of Anniston with a capital stock of \$100,000. They constructed the elaborate stone-and-brick structure and occupied it from 1888 until the bank failed in 1898 because of non-revenue-yielding real estate capital stock. The bank's failure resulted in a lengthy period of litigation pitting the creditors against the depositors.

The Anniston Banking and Loan Association occupied the first floor thereafter for a few years while upstairs was Sanders, Swann, and Company. Maximilian B. Wellborn served as president of the loan company. He also was a president of the First National Bank and later served as one of the first governors of the Federal Reserve Bank. At the time of the interior renovation in the late 1960s, the tellers' cages were still intact on the southside of the building.

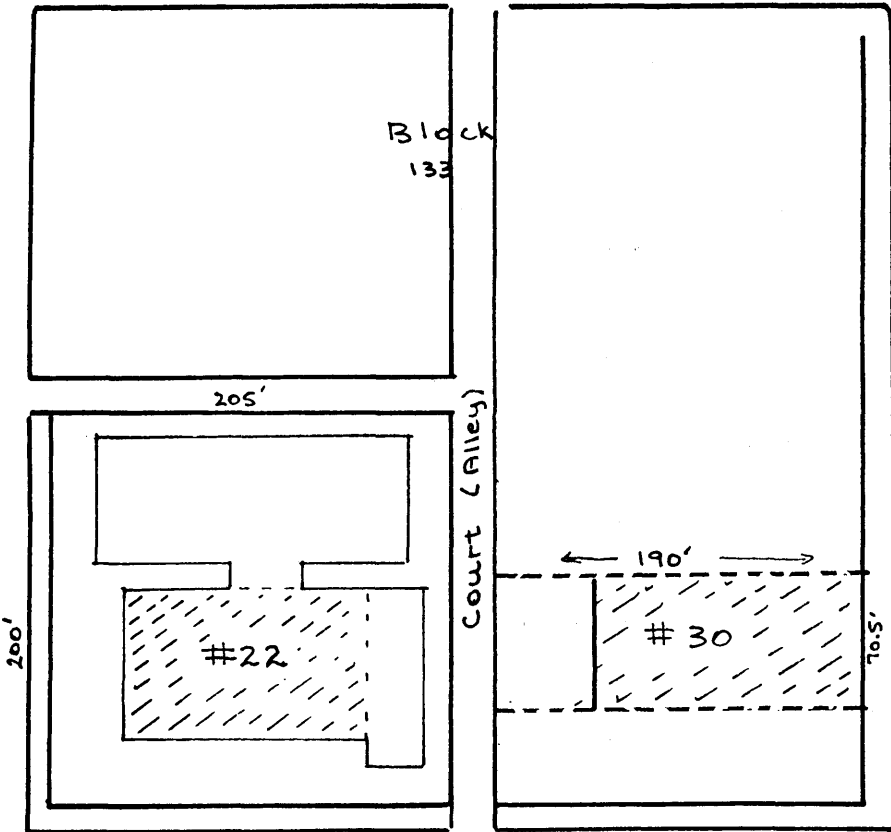
The structure housed a cotton exchange and then an insurance office between periods of being vacant until the 1920s when C. D. Boutwell's Mercantile Company took over the space. In the early 1930s Western Union Telegraph Company became the occupant until 1953, then a clothing store until 1967 when Couch's Jeweler's rented it. A variety of groups met on the second floor before 1967, including the Odd Fellows and Alcoholics Anonymous. Today Couch's Jewelry repair, business office and storage are found upstairs.

The building stands today as both a monument to and a remnant of the model city's standard of architectural excellence in the exuberant late 1880s.

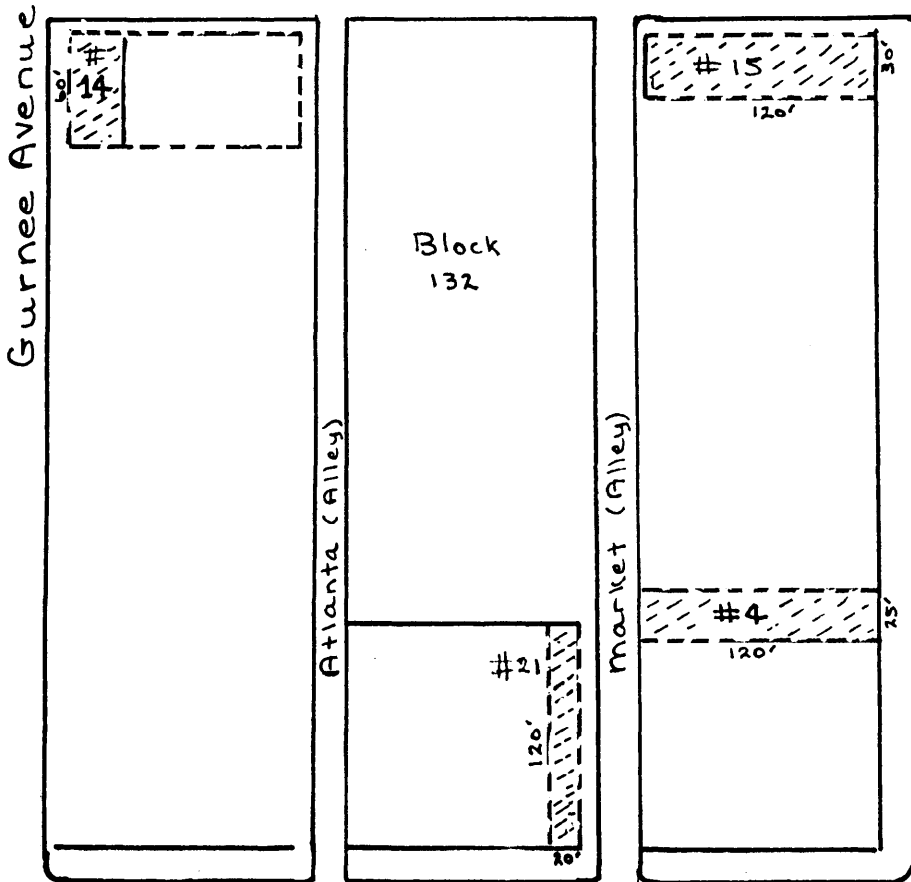
12th Street

Rough Sketch Map  
Down Town Area,  
Anniston, Alabama

- #4 Wikle Drug Store
- #11 Old Bank of Anniston
- #14 Nonnenmacher Bakery
- #15 Security Bank
- #21 Peerless Saloon
- #22 Calhoun County Court House
- #23 Cater-Rhodes Furniture
- #30 Kress Building



11th Street



10th Street

