



Transomed multi-light French doors serve as first-floor windows on the front while sash windows in the back and on the second floor are either six-over-six or eight-over-eight. Three round-headed arched dormers have nine lights with curved panes in the arches. Two chimneys rise from the main part of the house. The exterior shutters have been removed.

The interior features a wide foyer with formal rooms to the right and left, each with large mantels embellished with fluted columns and applied classical designs: swags, urns, garlands. The closed stringer stairs with square balusters and newel posts are to the back of the hall and have two landings.

The interior has been compromised since being occupied by Anniston High School. The house was first turned into the home economics department and now is being used for special education classrooms. All rooms in the house are now either classrooms or teachers' offices.

The setting has also been compromised. The estate stretched to Eleventh Street and Woodstock, with lavish landscaping, grazing horses, a stable, and other outbuildings. Now all that remains is the house itself, surrounded by the modern, totally unrelated architecture of the high school.

#### Historical Summary:

The Kilby House was the home of the only Annistonian ever to become Governor of the State of Alabama, Thomas E. Kilby. He built the house while serving as lieutenant governor.

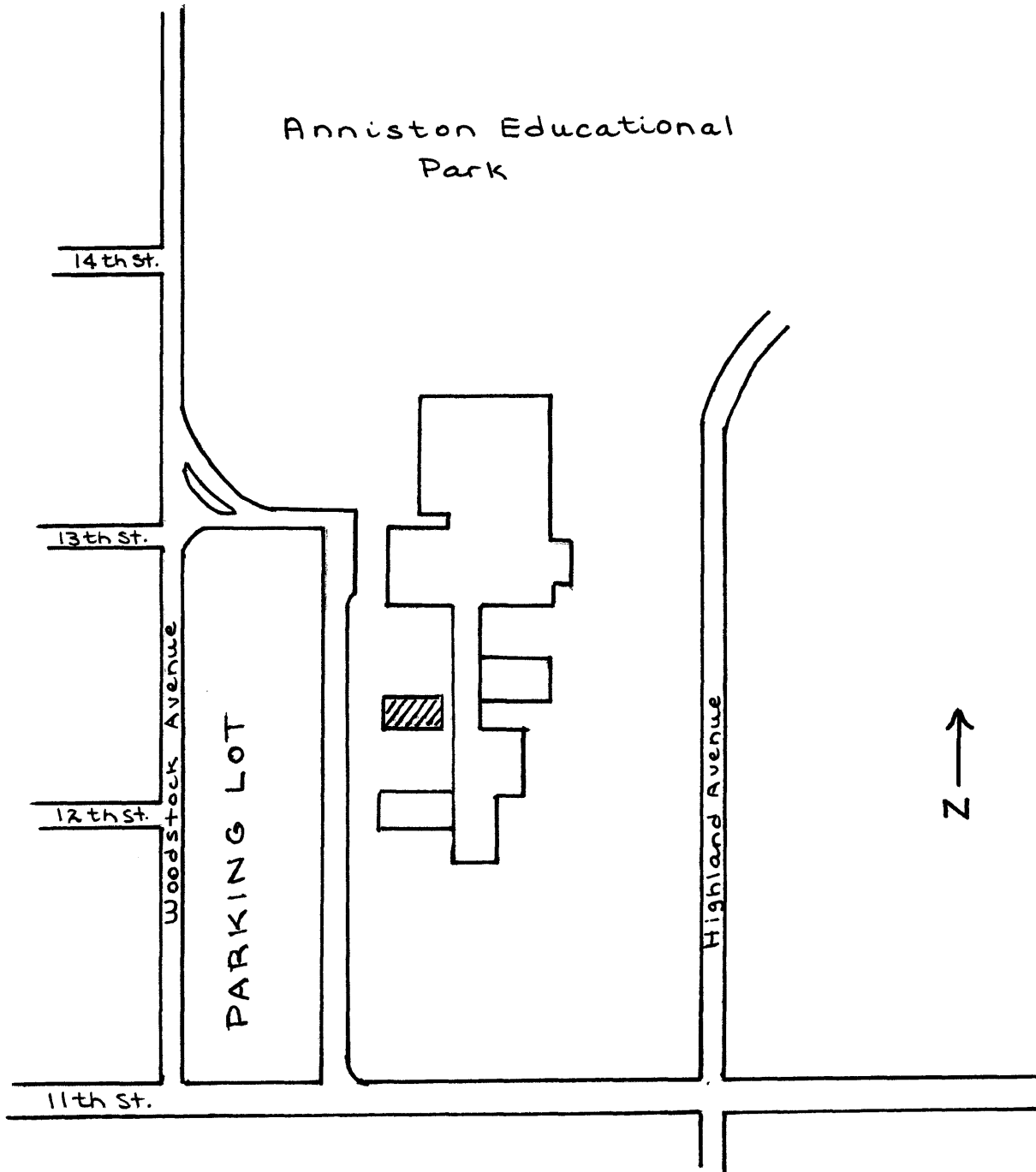
Kilby moved to Anniston as a young man in 1887 and worked as a clerk for the Georgia Pacific Railroad. He became in time both an industrial builder and a politician. He helped to found and became the president of the Kilby Car and Foundry Company. Meanwhile, he served on the City Council in 1898, then as mayor of Anniston from 1905 to 1909 during the years liquor was voted out and gambling closed down in the town. He went to the state senate in 1911, was elected lieutenant governor in 1914, and served as governor in the years 1919-1923. As chief of the state he was remembered for road building, humanitarian reform, social progress, and sound administrative practices. He set up the State Board of Education, strengthened the Public Service Commission, created the Child Welfare Department, and worked on reforming the state prison system.

Kilby lived in the house which was known as the "Queen of Anniston" until he died in 1943. Mrs. Kilby continued to reside there until her death in 1962. The Anniston Board of Education acquired the property in the 1960s between Eleventh and Fifteenth Streets and stretching from Woodstock to Highland Avenue. Most of the homes, including the one built by Samuel Noble, were razed for the high school, but this house was saved because of its connection to Anniston's only governor. Moreover, a codicil to the deed requires that the school board preserve and maintain the house.

Kilby House, Anniston, Alabama

□ Anniston High School

▨ Kilby House



Rough Scale 0 ————— 200'