

**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 Albany Housefurnishing Company

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number 226 West Broad Avenue

N/A not for publication

city, town Albany

N/A vicinity of

congressional district Charles  
Second - Hatcher

state Georgia

code 013

county Dougherty

code 095

**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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Frank Faulk, III, Manager  
Albany Housefurnishing Company, Inc.

street & number 226 West Broad Avenue

city, town Albany

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 31701

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Dougherty County Courthouse

city, town Albany

state Georgia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records None

city, town

state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

Albany Housefurnishing Company is a four-story brick commercial building built in 1922 specifically to display furniture. Designed in no pure style, the building is a transition between the nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century commercial row structures in small Southern towns, and the simpler, more clear-cut forms of the twentieth century.

Constructed of brick with common bond, the building is supported by steel "I" beams and cast-iron columns which reach from the first to the third floor. The storefront facade is decorated with an ornamental brick veneer laid in patterns to create a very linear effect. The dentils, lintels, and other ornamentation on the facade are made of molded concrete. The show windows are of leaded glass, with copper molding and marble slabs. Diffusion glass is found above them. The flooring of the long entrance hall is made of white octagonal tile with a fret work border. The wording "Ivey's Place" is in the exterior entrance way tile.

The interior arrangement consists of three floors with a mezzanine on the first. A balcony over the entrance is suspended from the floor above. The first floor, mezzanine, and second floor have open rooms partitioned off to make displays. The mezzanine is surrounded by a wooden balustrade and lines three walls, leaving open the central section of the first floor. The third floor is open space used for storage but has one room formerly used for embalming.

The original "Otis Electric Worm Gear Traction Elevator" is still in use. It is reached from the exterior at a loading dock as well as from the inside.

The Albany Housefurnishing Company is in a row of commercial buildings on the major retailing street in the central business district. It is one of only three buildings in the block which retains its original character due to a "Mall Atmosphere" added to most of the buildings in the 1970s. The building is very structurally sound and has had no alterations to the exterior. The only interior alterations have been changing partition walls in order to change furniture displays.

### Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in July, 1980 still provide an accurate view of the property. No significant changes have been made since this date.

## 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1922 **Builder/Architect** J.T. Murphey, Architect; J.C. Hind, Builder

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Albany Housefurnishing Company is significant in terms of architectural and commercial history. Architecturally, it is significant as a building built specifically as a furniture store. Its style is a transition between older and new building techniques. It has retained the same function since its construction, showing that the original design and methodology has continued to be appropriate for the furniture business. It is significant in local commercial history, having been heralded at its opening in 1922 as "Georgia's Finest Furniture Store." It is one of the few storefronts from the early-twentieth century still unchanged in the downtown business district. It has continued to operate in the same function as originally conceived with only minor adaptations to the changing times, something that can be said about few other stores in the city.

Albany Housefurnishing Company was built in 1922 for Mr. B.B. Ivey and dubbed "Ivey's Place." Plans and specifications were drawn by Albany architect J.T. Murphey in 1919, but revisions were made in 1922, adding a third floor. J.C. Hind, a local builder, was awarded the contract to construct the store, which when completed was proclaimed the finest furniture store in Georgia. This building has remained the home of Albany Housefurnishing Company since its completion and today is one of three buildings in the 200 block of Broad Avenue which retains its architectural character.

Albany Housefurnishing Company was established in 1904 by J.M. McIntosh and was located at 218 Broad Avenue. In the same year, Benjamin Bourbon Ivey came to Albany from North Carolina and worked with McIntosh as office manager. Ivey began to buy stock into the company and by October 1, 1910, owned at least sixty-seven shares. Apparently more and more control of the company continued to shift out of the hands of McIntosh and into the hands of Ivey until January 1, 1921, when, by a decree of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, the corporation was authorized to surrender its charter to the latter.

Anxious to expand his business and provide the best merchandise in its line for Albany, Ivey began planning for a new facility even before actual control was gained. On August 18, 1919, he purchased the lot at 226 Broad Avenue where the new building would be located, and on October 18, 1919, J.T. Murphey had completed the architectural plans for the building. Construction was delayed approximately two years while control of the company was being secured by B.B. Ivey. On January 25, 1922, the original plans were revised, adding a third floor, and construction apparently began soon thereafter. The two buildings which previously occupied the site were razed. Materials were purchased directly by Ivey and included white pine, yellow

[continued]

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Albany West, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	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

The nominated property is the town lot #38 that has always been associated with the property. It is a rectangle fronting 52.0 feet on West Broad Avenue and running back 210 feet.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
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state		code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title a) Erick D. Montgomery, Historic Preservation Planner  
b) Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historic Preservation Section contact

organization a) Southwest Georgia APDC  
b) HPS, Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources date October 10, 1980

street & number a) P.O. Box 346  
b) 270 Washington St., S.W. telephone a) (912) 336-5616  
b) (404) 656-2840

city or town a) Camilla  
b) Atlanta state a) Georgia 31730  
b) Georgia 30334

# 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 Elizabeth A. Lyon  
 Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/21/82

For HCERS use only

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

Delores Byers Entered in the National Register date 6/17/82  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief of Registration

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pine, spruce, steel "I" beams, cast-iron columns, and locally manufactured brick.

Although the opening date of the new store was scheduled for October, 1922, it was delayed until November 3rd, with the formal opening set for December 6th. "Declared by people who ought to know, Georgia's Finest Furniture Store," proclaimed an advertisement on opening day in the Albany Herald. This three-page spread listed a wide range of products from fine china and kitchen cabinets to baby carriages and luggage.

In addition to the furniture store, between the years 1922 and 1944, a mortuary was located on the fourth floor which was managed by the Ivey family. This was discontinued during World War II due to the unavailability of workers.

After B.B. Ivey gained control of the business, Albany Housefurnishing Company became quite a family affair. Four nephews of Mrs. Ivey, the former Lyda Hughey, were affiliated with the business. Frank and Henry Faulk, and Joe and Thad Hughes all have held various positions in the company through the years.

Albany Housefurnishing Company has struggled through three major calamities, but has continually been able to survive. The Great Depression caused a financial hardship on the business, and just as the economy began to improve, a devastating tornado hit downtown Albany on February 10, 1940. Fortunately, only minor damage was done to Albany Housefurnishing Company, involving some roof and water damage, and broken windows. The third calamity continues to exist, which involves the deterioration of the central business district.

In 1945, B.B. Ivey sold a total of seventy-four percent of the company's stock to other members of the family. In 1949, he gave the building to his nephew, Frank F. Faulk. Ivey apparently retired about this time, and died in 1961. Frank F. Faulk became president of the company until his death in 1975. Presently, ownership is in the hands of his widow, with the majority of the stock in the hands of his son, Frank Faulk, Jr.

The architectural significance of the Albany Housefurnishings Company is due largely in part to its being designed and built as a furniture store. It was one of the first buildings in the community to provide specific elements related to the company's function, in this case, display areas for furniture, as if they were rooms in a home. The building remains intact and thus these innovative features have proved functional for over fifty years. The building contains most all of the original fine building materials. Of especially fine quality are the tile entranceway and main hall, the copper front window frames, and the diffusion glass above the front windows (now hidden from view). The mezzanine's suspended effect makes the entranceway especially eye-catching. The original elevator, an "Otis Electric Worm Gear Traction Elevator," is still in use. It is cable-hoisted and controlled by a pull rope. As one of the few intact commercial structures in Albany dating from the early-twentieth century, its intactness exemplifies what a store of that era was like.

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Continuation sheet

Bibliography

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Narrative History of Albany Housefurnishing Company. Unpublished manuscript by Laurie Faulk.

Private manuscripts in possession of the Faulk family (indentures, stocks, clippings of advertisements)

Albany Herald, issues of November 3, 1922, December 6, 1922, and June 27, 1937.

Photocopies of the original plans in files of Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, entitled "Store Building, Albany, Georgia."

