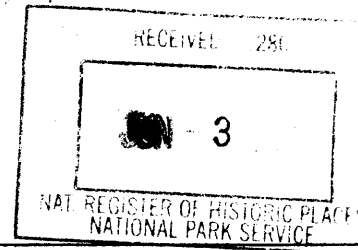


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**



650

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Hightower Brothers Livery Stable

Other Names/Site Number: NA

2. Location

Street & Number 413 Norton Avenue

Not for Publication: NA

City or Town: Sylacauga Vicinity: NA

State: Alabama Code: AL

County: Talladega

Code: 121

Zip Code: 35150

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official

5/30/97
Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

 determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the
National Register

 removed from the National
Register

 other (explain):

[Signature] Date of Action
Edson H. Beall 7/3/97

Hightower Brothers Livery Stable
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.):

N/A

Number of contributing resources
previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Category:

COMMERCE/TRADE

Subcategory:

Specialty Store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Category:

VACANT/NOT IN USE

Subcategory:

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: One-Story Commercial Block

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

other Tar and Gravel

walls Brick

other Steel

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is a one-story, brick commercial building with a flat roof of tar and gravel and a concrete slab floor. The facade, east wall of the building, features a corbeled brick parapet and

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thirteen bays of varying dimensions, configurations, and uses. A combination name and date plate inscribed "Hightower Bros. 1914" is positioned near the base of the facade. A single, large entry way with a double door punctuates the south wall. However, a number of openings with segmental arch tops have been enclosed with brick. The top of the wall steps down in three sections. Seven windows with thirty panes each constitute the fenestration on the north wall of the building. The west wall of the building is mostly inaccessible as several non related buildings stand adjacent to it. Interior wise, the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is divided into three compartments. For the most part, the compartments are empty; however, a few fixtures, such as lights, heaters, and fans, are present in the north compartment. Steel trusses, beams, and steel poles support the roof. The middle and south compartments feature several wood stables, or bins, along the west wall. Brick walls separate the three spaces. With the exception of one modernized entry way on the facade and a partial roof collapse in the middle section, the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable maintains a high degree of integrity.

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is located in downtown Sylacauga, which is approximately fifty miles southeast of Birmingham, Alabama. Sylacauga lies at the hub of a railway and road crossing (Figure 1). At the center of town, the Louisville and Nashville (L & N) Railroad, the Southern Railroad, and Broadway Avenue (Highway 21) cross paths. Broadway Avenue serves as the main thoroughfare. Many commercial buildings dating from the late nineteenth century to the present line either side of this vital artery. Constructed of brick, wood, metal, glass, and concrete block, these commercial buildings and those on adjoining streets, such as Norton Avenue, form the downtown core.

At Third Street and Broadway Avenue, commerce merges with public affairs. City Hall, a three-story, brick building built in 1937, stands on the south side of Third Street between Norton and Broadway Avenues. It faces a municipal complex of recent construction that houses a fire department on the north side of Third Street. A small, one-story, vacant, brick building occupies a triangular-shaped island of real estate between Norton Avenue, Third Street, and the L & N tracks, which cut a diagonal path to the immediate northeast of the intersection of Third Street and Norton Avenue.

A small, one-story, vacant, brick building of brick construction occupies a triangular-shaped island between the railroad and the intersection of Third Street and Norton Avenue. The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is situated just north of this vacant building.

Contained within a polygonal shaped lot, the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is bounded to the south by the vacant building, the L & N railroad tracks, and Third Street; Norton Avenue to the east; Fourth Street to the north; and several adjacent buildings, which extend along the east side of Anniston Avenue between Third and Fourth Streets, to the west. A polygonal-shaped lot associated with the Hightower property serves as an intermediary space between the L & N line and the stable (Figure 2). The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable rests

(See Continuation Sheet: Section 7 Page 1).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce
Transportation

Period of Significance

1914-1947

Significant Dates

1914

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect/Builder:

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

(See Continuation Sheet: 8 Page 6).

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

Primary Location of Additional
Data: N/A

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested.

State Historic Preservation Office

previously listed in the National Register

Other State agency

previously determined eligible by the National Register

Federal agency

designated a National Historic Landmark

Local government

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

University

Other

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Name of repository: N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: Acreeage less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	16	569490	3670480				3

2	_____	_____	_____				4
---	-------	-------	-------	--	--	--	---

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Gene A. Ford and Trina Binkley, AHC Reviewer

Organization: Private Consultant

Date: January 20, 1995

Street & Number: #10 Lakeview

Telephone: (205) 752-4599

City or Town: Tuscaloosa

State: Alabama

Zip Code: 35401

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Bernice W. Hightower Street & Number: 3 North Main Avenue Telephone: (205) 245-5195

City or Town: Sylacauga State: Alabama Zip Code: 35150

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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on the space between the open lot and Fourth Street. The Foote Bros. Furniture Building lies between the west side of the livery stable building and Anniston Avenue. Constructed of aluminum, this modern building occupies the greater portion of its associated lot with the exception of a small space on Third Street reserved for customer parking and a smaller, older, metal building used for storage. This later building is sandwiched between Foote Bros. and Fourth Street.

The immediate surroundings of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable resume on the north side of Fourth Street. A used car lot is situated across from the Hightower Brothers' business. To the west side of the car lot is a metal building with a gable roof. A circa 1960s municipal building with a flat roof and neo colonnade stands diagonally across from the livery stable at the northeast corner of Norton Avenue and Third Street.

A triangular-shaped piece of vacant real estate is situated opposite the stable building between Fourth Street, Norton Avenue, and the L & N Railroad. The lot is currently used as parking space.

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is a one-story, brick commercial block building. It features a flat roof, multiple bays, and a concrete slab floor. The interior is subdivided into three compartments.

A flat roof covers the entire building. This roof is composed of tar and gravel. With the exception of a section over the middle compartment, which has collapsed, the roof is structurally sound. A parapet with a corbeled string course fronts the roof on the east side of the building; it is concealed from view on the south side by a three-stepped parapet and on the west side by an adjoining building; it is exposed on the north side. Steel trusses, which extend parallel with the north and south walls, and steel beams, which run parallel with the east and west walls, carry loads from the roof to intermittently placed steel poles and ultimately to the concrete slab floor.

The facade, the east wall, of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable runs along the west side of Norton Avenue. A corbeled string course of brick surmounts this side of the building. "Cash and Carry Building Materials" is painted above a series of openings toward the south end of the facade. Thirteen bays punctuate this wall.

The five southernmost openings of the facade coincide with the south compartment of the building. A large entry with a recessed arch top for vehicular access is oriented in the center of this section of the facade. It is flanked on either side by two smaller windows with segmental arch tops. These openings have stone sills and are enclosed with plywood.

The middle compartment features two rectangular openings. The smaller of the two openings has a wood door.

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To its south side is a sign entitled "Shipping." The larger opening, which features a retractable door, permits vehicular access into the interior of the livery stable building.

The north section of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable claims the largest number of facade openings with a total of six. The central opening appears to have been modified using materials of recent construction and design. It features two single wood and glass paneled doors. These doors are flanked and surmounted by plywood. This entry is flanked on either side by two multipane windows. These windows feature twenty-four panes arranged in four columns of six panes each. The two southernmost windows are pierced at the top by some form of heating/cooling unit. Many of the panes of these four windows have been painted. A door stands between the two northernmost multipane windows. A name and date plate inscribed "Hightower Bros. 1914" is positioned below the northernmost window.

Multipane windows abound on the north wall of the building. Seven such windows with thirty panes arranged in five columns of six panes pierce this brick wall. Almost all of the panes have been painted.

The fenestration of the south wall of the commercial edifice consists of a lone entry way. This entry features two large wood doors that open inward to allow vehicular access to the south compartment of the building. This side of the building once featured a number of openings with segmental arch tops, but they have been enclosed with brick. The enclosure may have been done early in the history of the building.

The west wall, a large portion of which is bounded by an adjacent building, has only four piercings. Multipane windows with ventilator fans occupy three of the piercings. The remaining opening features a retractable door for vehicular access.

The interior plan of the building is relatively open, as is befitting a former livery stable. The north compartment is bare save for some suspended lighting fixtures, heating and cooling units, and a counter. Constructed of plywood and glass, the counter stands near the west wall. A concrete slab serves as flooring for the entire space. A bay, which is essentially a cut out in the brick wall that separates the northern compartment from the middle section, provides internal access to each space.

The middle and southern compartments are open; however, there are several wood stalls placed against the west wall of the building. A brick wall separates the two spaces. A cut out in the wall, which is aligned with that in the wall between the middle and north compartments and the lone bay in the south wall, permits internal travel between the three spaces.

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable has undergone a number of transformations through

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its history. The evolution of the Hightower Brothers' business and associated business houses can be traced through deed records, Sanborn maps, correspondence, and photographic reproductions.

The earliest documented owner of the property on which the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable currently rests was Elisha C. Wilson. Wilson's ownership of this real estate is recorded on a United States Patent (Certificate No. 1996) entered on August 12, 1835 (Ogletree 1996). The next known document, Deed Book SS, Page 244, records the conveyance of the property from E. F. Cooley to S. E. Noble on April 9, 1891. That a building was located on this real estate from 1835 to 1891 is unknown.

S. E. Noble, who was the President of the Sylacauga Land Company, conveyed the real estate to Albert H. Wilson on November 15, 1892 as recorded in Deed Book UU, Page 438. According to Deed Book 59, Page 248, Wilson transferred ownership of the subject property to John Judge Hightower and Milton Graham Hightower on November 1, 1905. This property has remained in the Hightower Family ever since.

Founded circa 1896, the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable occupied a building on the east side of Broadway Avenue. As depicted by a photograph taken around 1900, this business house was constructed of brick and had a hip roof (Figure 3).

In November 1905, the Hightower Brothers acquired real estate along the west side of Norton Avenue between Fourth and Third Streets. Sometime afterwards, the two merchants moved their livery stable to the new address on Norton Avenue. It is unknown if the Hightowers erected a new edifice, or merely moved into an existing building. Nonetheless, they set up shop on the location historically associated with their livery business.

A photographic reproduction of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable, circa 1910, and a 1909 Sanborn map provide some clues to the early appearance of the building on Norton Avenue. As indicated in the photographic copy, the livery stable featured wood frame construction, a stepped parapet, weatherboard siding, and numerous openings (Figure 4). A 1909 Sanborn map depicts the livery stable at 332 and 333 Norton Avenue as a business of wood frame construction (Figure 5). The building was subdivided into two spaces by a partition wall with two openings for cross traffic. The livery stable was bounded to the south by two smaller buildings; one housed a tailor shop, the other a restaurant. An L & N spur runs parallel to the west side of the building.

The wood frame version of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable did not become a permanent fixture in the Sylacauga business community, though. It was razed by fire between 1910 and 1914 (Thurman 1971). The Hightower Brothers rebuilt in brick in 1914.

The third (and present) Hightowers Livery Stable exceeded its antecedent (Figure 6). It

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featured brick construction. It was larger than than the previous building in order to accommodate the needs of a growing business. Subdivided into three sections, the new and improved livery stable provided for the division of functions with a salesroom in the north section, carriage storage in the middle, and auto storage in the south end. Unlike its antecedent, the third version of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable was punctuated on its west side by a series of six openings, presumably for access to the railroad spur. The 1923 Sanborn map shows raised, rectilinear shaped ventilation sections on the end compartments. They are raised three feet above the roof line.

A comparison between 1923 and 1931 Sanborn maps reveals little change in the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable (Figures 6 and 7). The address was in transition, changing from 403, 405, 407, 409 and 413 to 701 and 703 Norton Avenue. The middle section of the building was designated as a hardware warehouse in 1931 rather than carriage storage. The south compartment no longer had a stable, having been converted to a space for automobile repairs some time before 1931. The north compartment still featured a stable.

A photograph taken between the 1930s and 1940s provides some insight into the appearance of the livery stable interior (Figure 8). The photograph depicts the northeast corner of the north section or salesroom. The area had a wood counter that extended parallel to the north wall. There was a mantel in front of the chimney. There were a number of these chimneys located along the exterior walls throughout the building (The chimneys were bricked up when heating units were installed). Office furniture was spread around the area. A wood partition was situated perpendicular to the north wall. There was no doubt a number of these partitions throughout the livery stable. John J. Hightower (front) and Virgil Solley, the bookkeeper, are also depicted in the photograph.

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable operated until 1955. At that time John J. Hightower elected not to continue the business, preferring instead to lease the building to other parties. A car dealership was in the south and middle sections of the building until West Cash and Carry took over in the 1960s. The building has been vacant since West Alabama Cash and Carry closed its doors in the early 1990s.

There are plans to renovate the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable in keeping with its historical appearance. This appearance is rendered in Figure 9. The owners are considering the donation of the renovated building to the City of Sylacauga. Suggestions of adaptive reuse include maintaining its tripartite division and using one compartment for a large banquet hall and general purpose meeting room, another room for conference rooms, and the other space for a business office and a small museum dedicated to the history of the building.

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Archaeological Component

Although no formal archaeological reconnaissance has been conducted on the the livery stable property, there is the potential for subsurface remains.

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Statement of Significance

Commerce/Transportation

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is significant under Criterion A for Commerce/Transportation as an example of a twentieth-century small town livery stable. The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is important as a business that provided individuals and businesses with horses, mules, buggies, and wagons in addition to various other miscellaneous services from 1914 to 1952 in the existing building. The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable supplied the muscle power that fueled the daily activities of Sylacauga for over half a century. Mules, horses, wagons, and automobiles from the livery stable formed the basis of the Sylacauga transportation system.

Historical Summary

The history of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable begins in the late nineteenth century.

In 1890, the Marble City Land and Furnace Company laid out a new section of Sylacauga near the intersection of the then recently constructed Anniston and Atlantic (A and A)(now the Louisville and Nashville) and Central of Georgia Railroads named simply New Town (Luttrell 1964). The Marble City Land and Furnace Company established the Bank of Sylacauga in New Town. By May of 1890, the business district began to shift from its location along Ft. Williams Street and Broadway to the vicinity of the Bank of Sylacauga and railroads (Luttrell 1964). A hotel, blacksmith shop, development company, gin, brick yard, charcoal yard, saloon, and livery stable completed this new business district in the 1890s.

Fledgling businessmen, John and Milton Hightower established themselves as indispensable entrepreneurs by recognizing and fulfilling one of the most vital needs of a fast growing community. The Hightower Brothers went into the livery stable business in 1896 (Turner 1996).

Prior to the automobile revolution which radically and forever changed the character of transportation and work, the livery stable played an integral role in the daily activities of a community. The local livery stable provided horses and vehicles for sale or rent and maintained them. Farmers, merchants, industrialists, and the general public alike relied on these agents to provide them with the means to transport people and goods and perform work.

The Hightower Brothers sold and leased horses, mules, wagons, and buggies. The livery stable carried farm wagons, delivery wagons, cotton wagons, and ice wagons manufactured by

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Studebaker (the largest manufacturer in North America) and Owensboro (Kentucky)(Turner 1996). Additionally, the livery stable provided carriages and carts; sold feed; offered blacksmith services; and boarded mules and horses. In a 1931 *Sylacauga News* article entitled "Hightower Brothers Big Factors In The Growth Of This District," the Hightowers were credited with supplying many local farmers with the resources to conduct their affairs and are the moving spirit of many agricultural developments. They likewise served business and industry. For recreation, Sylacaugans hired horses and buggies from the Hightowers and took jaunts in the countryside on Sunday afternoons (Thurman 1971).

The adjacent railroad spur and proximity to two major railroads greatly benefited the Hightowers' operation. The A and A and Central of Georgia linked the livery stable to major markets throughout North America. Through this means, the Hightowers were able to economically and efficiently transport wagons from Studebaker, the largest wagon manufacturer in North America which was located in Canada, and offer them to the public at competitive and affordable prices. Additionally, the Hightowers relied on the railroad to move great numbers of mules from Columbia, Tennessee, one of the largest suppliers in the nation (Turner 1996).

Mules figured prominently in the affairs of the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable. Providing mules for sale in large quantities was probably the most important facet of the Hightowers' business (Turner 1996). During World War I, the Hightowers furnished Ft. McClellan in Anniston with large numbers of the beasts of burden (Hightower 1996).

For a time, John and Milton Hightower faced competition. A 1909 Sanborn map records the presence of another livery stable near the Central of Georgia Depot between Broadway Avenue and Fourth Street. According to Bernice Hightower, this livery stable was owned by S. P. Hagan (Personal Interview 1996). The Brothers Hightower bought out Hagan, and thus eliminated their competition. This livery stable building was razed in 1928 (*The Sylacauga Advance* 1928).

Although the livery stable remained the central focus of the Hightowers' mercantile interests for over a half a century, they gradually expanded their operation to include other pursuits. A Talladega County Corporation Record, which was recorded in 1913 when the Hightowers incorporated their business, reveals that the brothers had intentions of buying, selling, and exchanging horses, mules, and cattle; developing and selling real estate; constructing, selling, and leasing buildings; dealing in goods, wares, merchandise, grain, and hay; and loaning money. A 1924 livery stable letterhead did not reflect the diversification of the business. It was merely headed "Hightower Bros. Sales, Stables." However, 1927 stationery indicates that the diversification of their empire was no longer a mystery. It read: "Hightower Bros. Sales Stables, Dealers in Scrap Iron, Sacks and Metals, Hides, Mules, Wagons and Farming Implements."

Enterprising, the Hightowers added automobiles to their repertoire early in the development

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of their business. According to a 1917 *Sylacauga News* advertisement, they sold Buicks. A 1928 Sanborn map indicates that the south part of the livery stable housed the automobile end of the Hightowers' commercial enterprises (Figure 6). A 1931 Sanborn map evinces continued interest in the automobile with the addition of repair services (Figure 7). Car sales and repairs remained in the south part of the building until the Hightowers closed their doors in 1952 (Turner 1996).

Two letters from the Hightower Brothers suggest that the emphasis of their business did not change in the 1940s. The top of a 1940 letter reads: "Hightower Bros. Sales Stables, Dealers In Mules, Cattle, Wagons, and Farming Implements, Hides, Metals and Scrap Iron." The heading of a 1947 letter reads thus: "Dealers In Mules, Cattle, Wagons, Farming Implements, Hides, Metals And Scrap Iron."

Unfortunately, the very business that was responsible for much of the early transportation of goods and people in Sylacauga did not make the transition into the late twentieth century. The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable stock of horses, mules, and wagons was eclipsed by the advent of motorized vehicles. By the 1950s, there was little or no need for horse drawn power and transportation. Milton Hightower died in 1951. John Judge Hightower, who did not die until 1965, closed the doors of the livery stable in 1952, and began leasing the building to other businesses.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The Hightower Brothers Livery Stable is described thus:

Lots numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Block 48; all according to the map and plat of the Marble City Land & Furnace Company survey as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Talladega County, Alabama, in Plat Book 1 on Page 34 on the attached city tax map 61-27-09-29-03 (Figure 2).

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries contain all of the historic property associated with the Hightower Brothers Livery Stable.

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Hightower Brothers Livery Stable
Name of Property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Talladega, Alabama
County and State

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Hightower Brothers Livery Stable, Talladega County, Alabama

Photographs

Hightower Brothers Livery Stable, Sylacauga, Talladega County, Alabama

Photos by: Gene A. Ford
10 Lakeview
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Negatives: Alabama Historical Commission
468 South Perry Street
Montgomery, AL 36130-0900

Date: October 1996.

General View of Hightower Brothers Livery Stable Looking Northwest.
1 of 21

General View of Hightower Brothers Livery Stable Looking North on Norton
Avenue.
2 of 21

Looking East Across Norton Avenue From Hightower Livery Stable.
3 of 21

Looking Northeast at Fire Department From Hightower Livery Stable.
4 of 21

Looking South On Norton Avenue At City Hall (Left).
5 of 21

Vacant Building Just South of Hightower Livery Stable.
6 of 21

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Looking Southwest From Hightower Livery Stable.
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Looking West From Hightower Livery Stable.
8 of 21

Facade and North Side Looking Southwest.
9 of 21

South side and Facade Looking Northwest.
10 of 21

South Compartment and Associated Bays.
11 of 21

Middle Compartment Bays (Two Central Rectangular Bays).
12 of 21

North Compartment and Associated Bays.
13 of 21

Detail of Entry Bay of North Section.
14 of 21

Detail of Name and Date Plate.
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North side Looking Southwest.
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South side Looking Northwest.
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Detail of South Side Entry Bay.
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Detail of Enclosed Bays.
19 of 21

Interior of North Compartment Looking at West Wall.
20 of 21

Interior of North Compartment Looking at North and East Wall Corner.
21 of 21

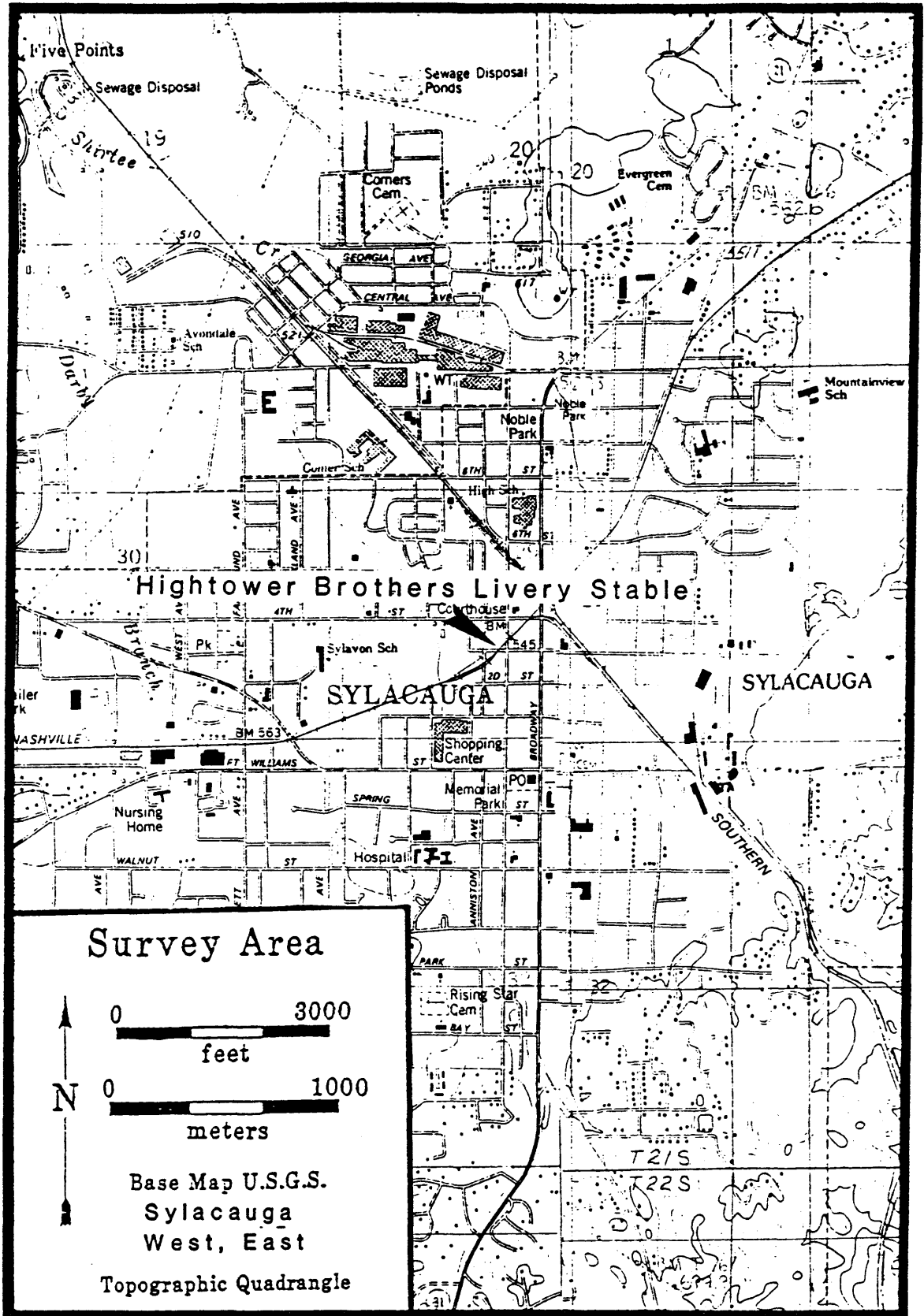


Figure 1. Map of Downtown Sylacauga.

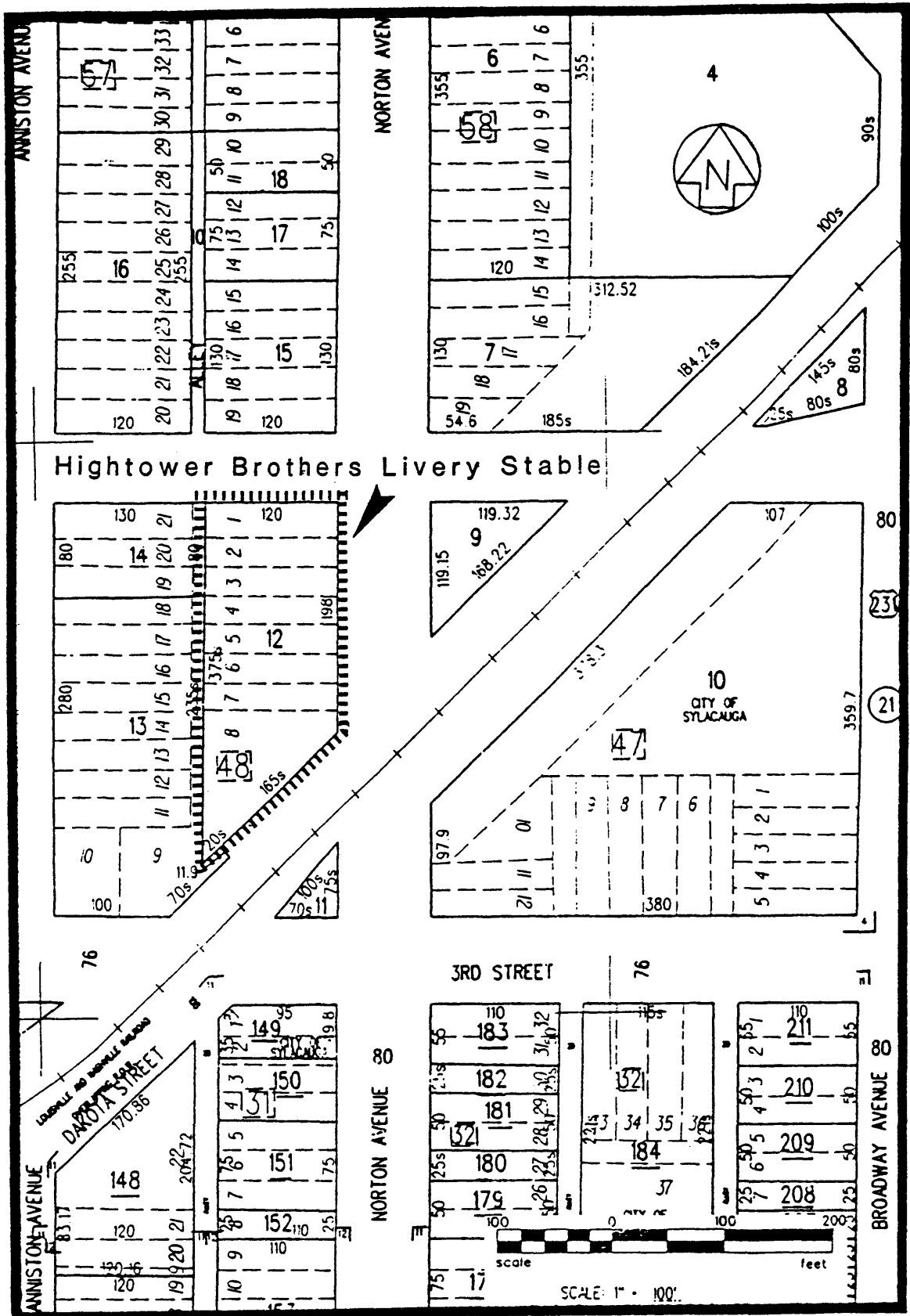


Figure 2. Boundaries of Hightower Brothers Livery Stable.

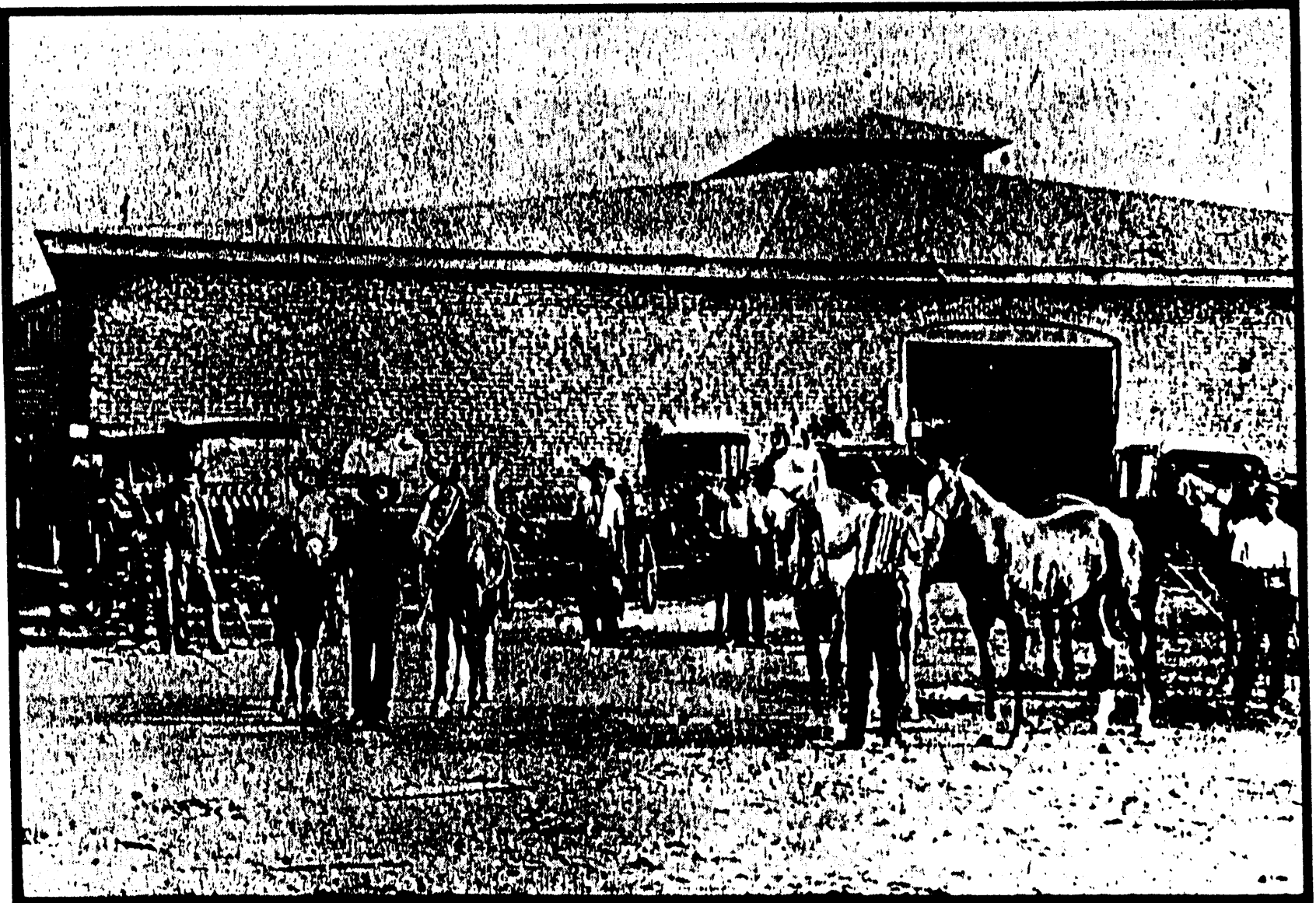
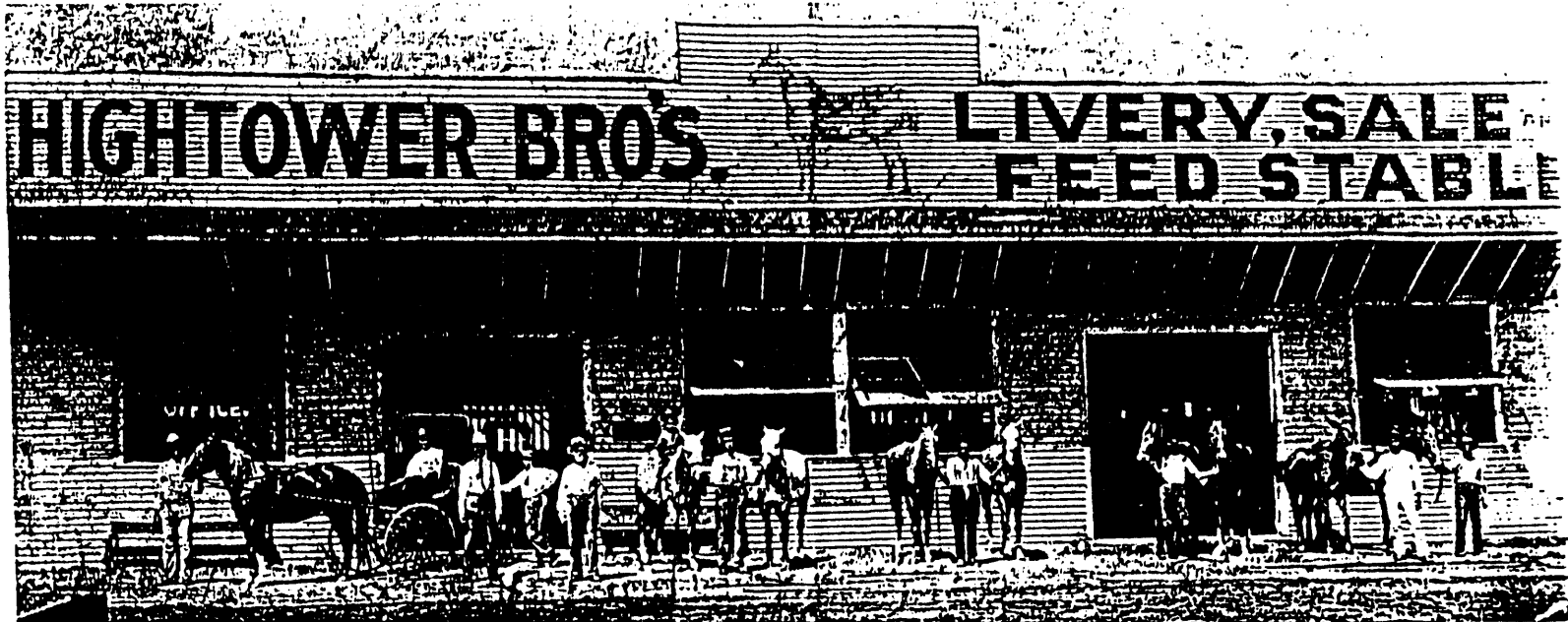


Figure 3. Circa 1900 Photograph of Hightower Livery Stable on Broadway Avenue.

Sixty-One Years Ago In Sylacauga-

Hightower Brothers Livery Stables Was A Flourishing Business In 1910



HIGHTOWER BROTHERS LIVERY STABLES: was a flourishing business here in Sylacauga for many years. They began their business on the East side of Broadway, North of Third Street. The building stood some distance away from the Street, just North of where the Old Theatre building stood prior to the coming of Urban Renewal.

The business was moved from that location to the corner of Norton Avenue and Fourth Street. They erected a frame building as seen in the photo. This picture is said to have been made about 1910. It is told that this building was destroyed by fire, possibly not long after this picture was made, and several horses are said to have perished in the fire. The brick building that stands there today replaced the one that was destroyed. The business

was owned and operated by two of Sylacauga's pioneer citizens, Messrs John J. and Milton G. Hightower. Several of their children live in Sylacauga today. We are unable to correctly identify the people in this picture, would be glad to receive the names of the people if you can identify any of them.

For the convenience of those who never visited a "livery stable", it was a business where horses and buggies and wagons were kept for hire. Young people would hire a horse and buggy to go for a Sunday afternoon ride. Or maybe, someone wanted to go to Sycamore, Chaldersburg, Goodwater, or some other place, would hire horse and buggy for the trip. Hightower Brothers also were dealers in horses, mules, wagons and buggies, etc.

Our thanks to Morris (Doc) Hightower, son of Milton G. Hightower for making this picture available. 157.
by Marion Thurman

Figure 4. Circa 1910 Photograph of Hightower Livery Stable On Norton Avenue.

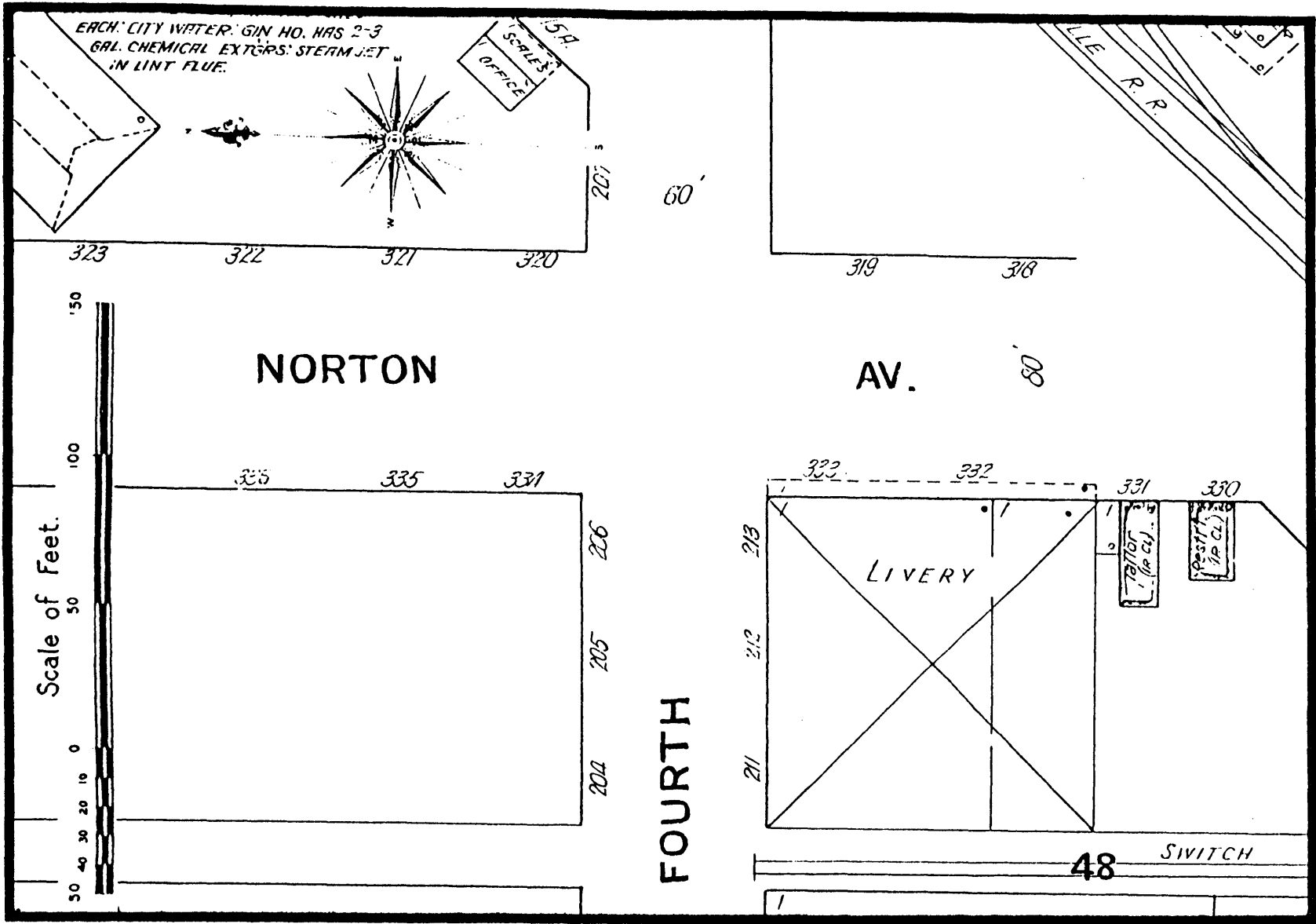


Figure 5. 1909 Sanborn Map.

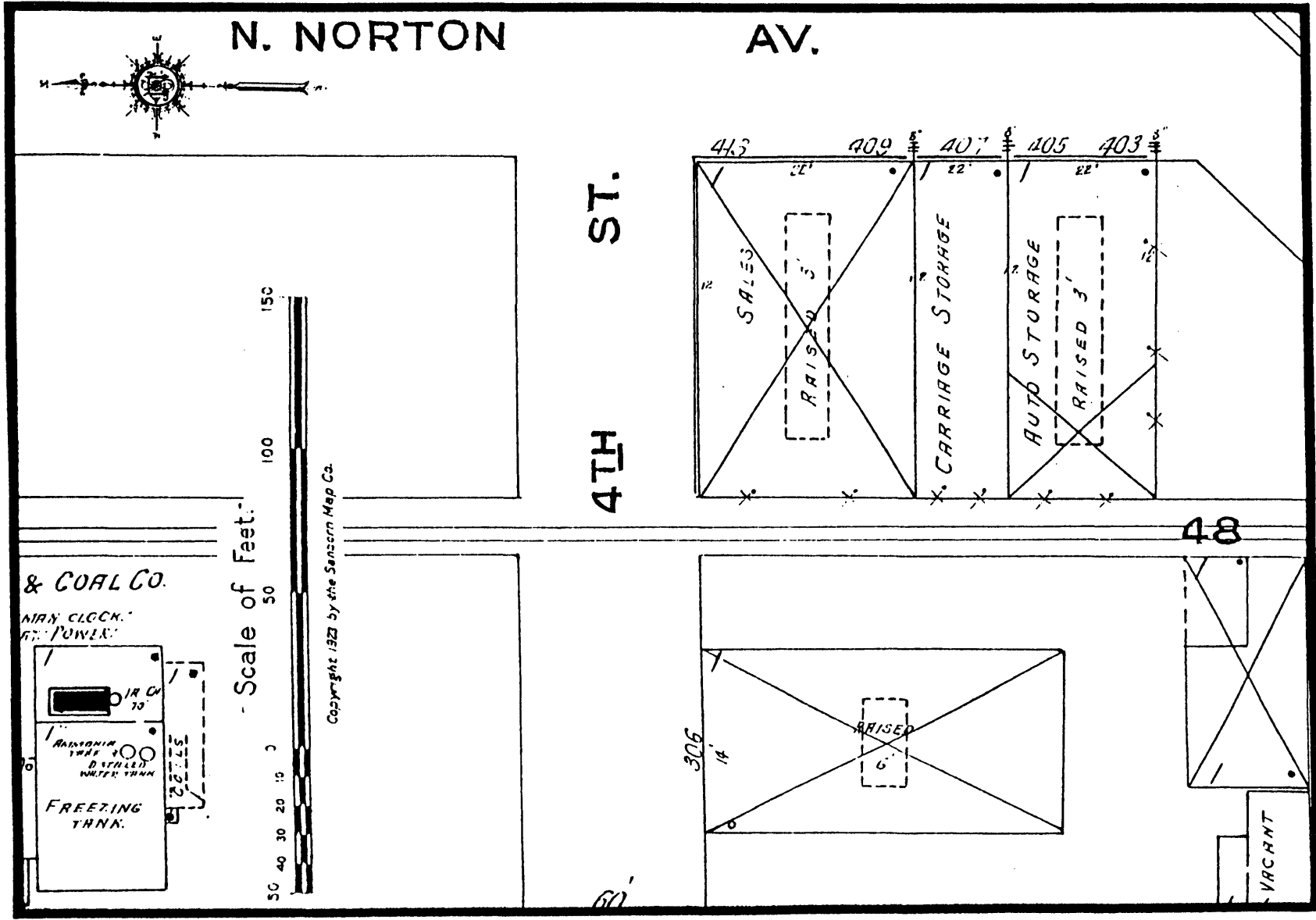


Figure 6. 1923 Sanborn Map.

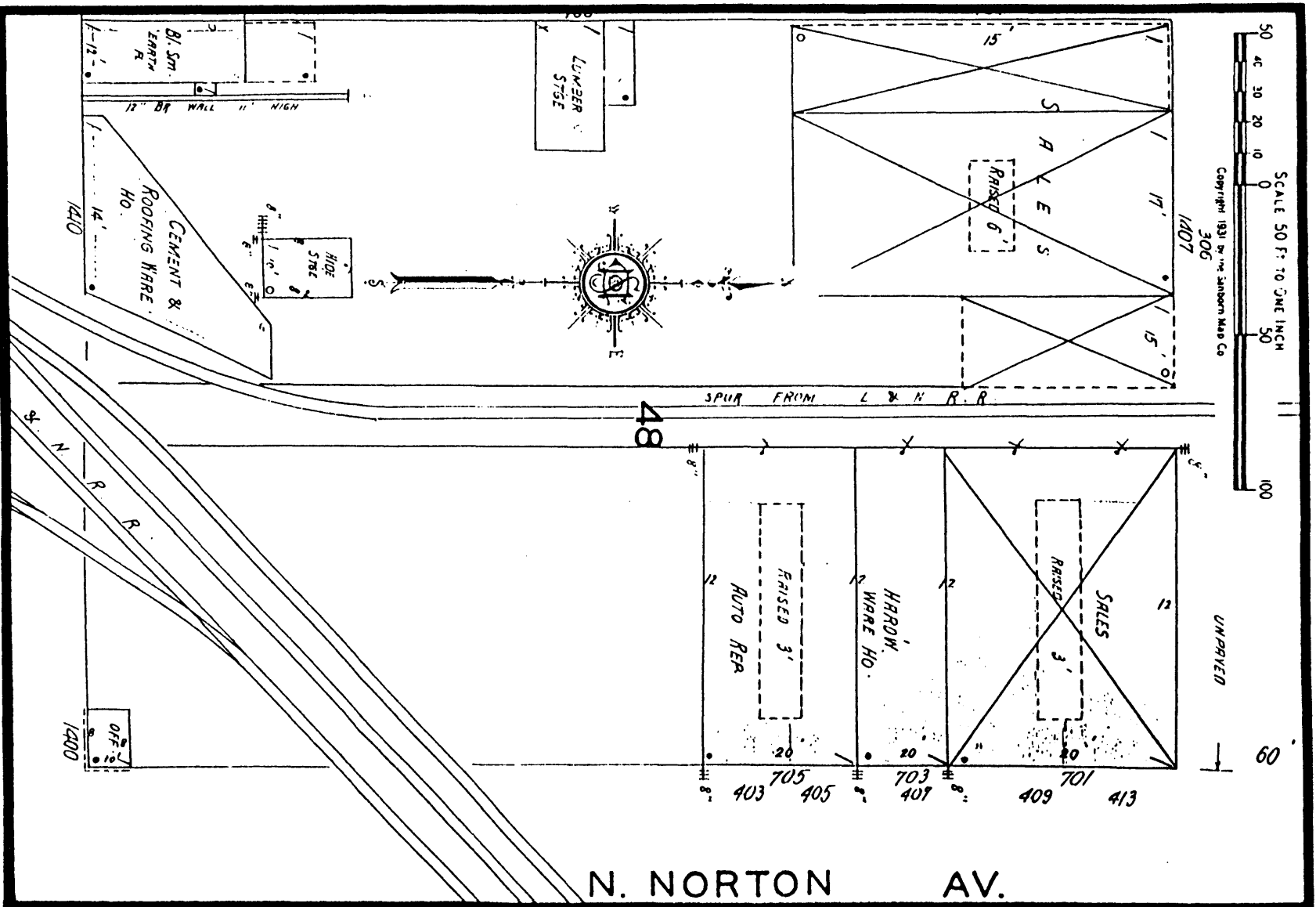


Figure 7. 1931 Sanborn Map.



Figure 8. Interior of Hightower Brothers Livery Stable.



Figure 9. Architect's Drawing of Restored Hightower Brothers Livery Stable.