

UPPER TWENTIETH STREET RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name: Upper Twentieth Street Residential Historic District, Phenix City,  
Russell County, Alabama

Location:

~~12th-13th West 20th Street; one block.~~

Acreage: Approximately 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

This one block district goes from 12th Avenue to 13th Avenue on the left side of the road, including only nine houses. See line on attached scale tax map.

UTM:

- A. 16 687000 3595140
- B. 16 637000 3595100
- C. 16 687900 3595100
- D. 16 686900 3595140

Description:

The Upper Twentieth Street Residential Historic District consists of nine single-family dwellings. Styles represented are shotguns and bungalows. Many of the houses are plain in detailing, while others have elaborate porch trimming. This district has no intrusions, however, some of the bungalows have altered porches. The houses in this area are on small rectangular lots and sit toward the front of the yard. Due to the small size of the lots, landscaping is almost non-existent.

Significance:

Architecture: Upper Twentieth Street Residential Historic District is architecturally significant as a well preserved microcosm of Phenix City's residential development between 1880 and 1930. Though trim modifications have been made on some of the shotguns, their original form can be easily reconstructed from their neighbors.

Local History. The Upper Twentieth Street Residential Historic District is significant to the local history as an example of the evolution of intown residential property. Originally part of S.M. Ingersoll's vast land holdings, the area was acquired in 1880 by John Baird, a Scottish merchant and mill employee who married Ingersoll's daughter. On the 85 prime acres which were his wife's inheritance, Baird developed in 1881, the first public cemetery in Phenix City, Pine Grove Cemetery. The extension of the street through the Upper Twentieth Street District was apparently the original access route to the cemetery. In 1882, Baird deeded his two daughters and their husbands two lots composing the eastern two-thirds of the district. They in turn built houses on their lots, so the neighborhood began to develop as a family home place. The ravages of time forced family members to sell out and the majority of the property since the 1930's has become rental. On the west end of the street, the family of M.E. Edwards, a merchant and land investor of local pioneer stock, built in the 1900-1910 period. As financial demands forced bankruptcy, property was subdivided and sold. Shotgun homes filled in the space between the two houses, and the existing streetscape created, leaving a guide of family and architectural history for future generations.

STRUCTURES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARACTER OF THE UPPER TWENTIETH STREET  
RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. McDaniel House (1201 20th Street): c. 1885; Greek Revival Cottage; one-story, wood frame; hip roof; transom and sidelights; Victorian full facade porch with turned gingerbread; altered windows.
2. Rental house (1203 20th Street): c. 1925; Bungalow, one-story, wood frame, gable roof, battered pier columns with screened porch.
3. Tillery House (1205 20th Street): c. 1925; Bungalow, one story, wood frame, gable roof, battered pier columns with screened porch.
4. Kushmar House (1207 20th Street): c. 1910; Shotgun; one-story, asbestos siding, gable roof with return eaves; screened porch.
5. Rental house (1209 20th Street): c. 1910; Shotgun; one-story, asbestos siding, gable roof with return eaves; screened porch.
6. Johnson house (1211 20th Street): c. 1910; Shotgun; one-story, asbestos siding; gable roof with return eaves; altered porch.
7. Rental house (1213 20th Street): c. 1910; Shotgun; one-story, asbestos siding, gable roof with return eaves; altered porch.
8. Hampton House (1215 20th Street); c. 1895; Victorian Cottage with Greek Revival elements; one-story, wood frame; hip roof; transom and sidelights; gingerbread brackets; altered windows and porch posts; large, deep structure.
9. Dorrill House (1217 20th Street): c. 1925; Bungalow; one-story; wood frame; hip roof with front intersecting gable, battered pier columns on full porch.

Thirtieth Avenue

Twentieth Street



■ Contributing

# Upper Twentieth Street Residential Historic District

Scale

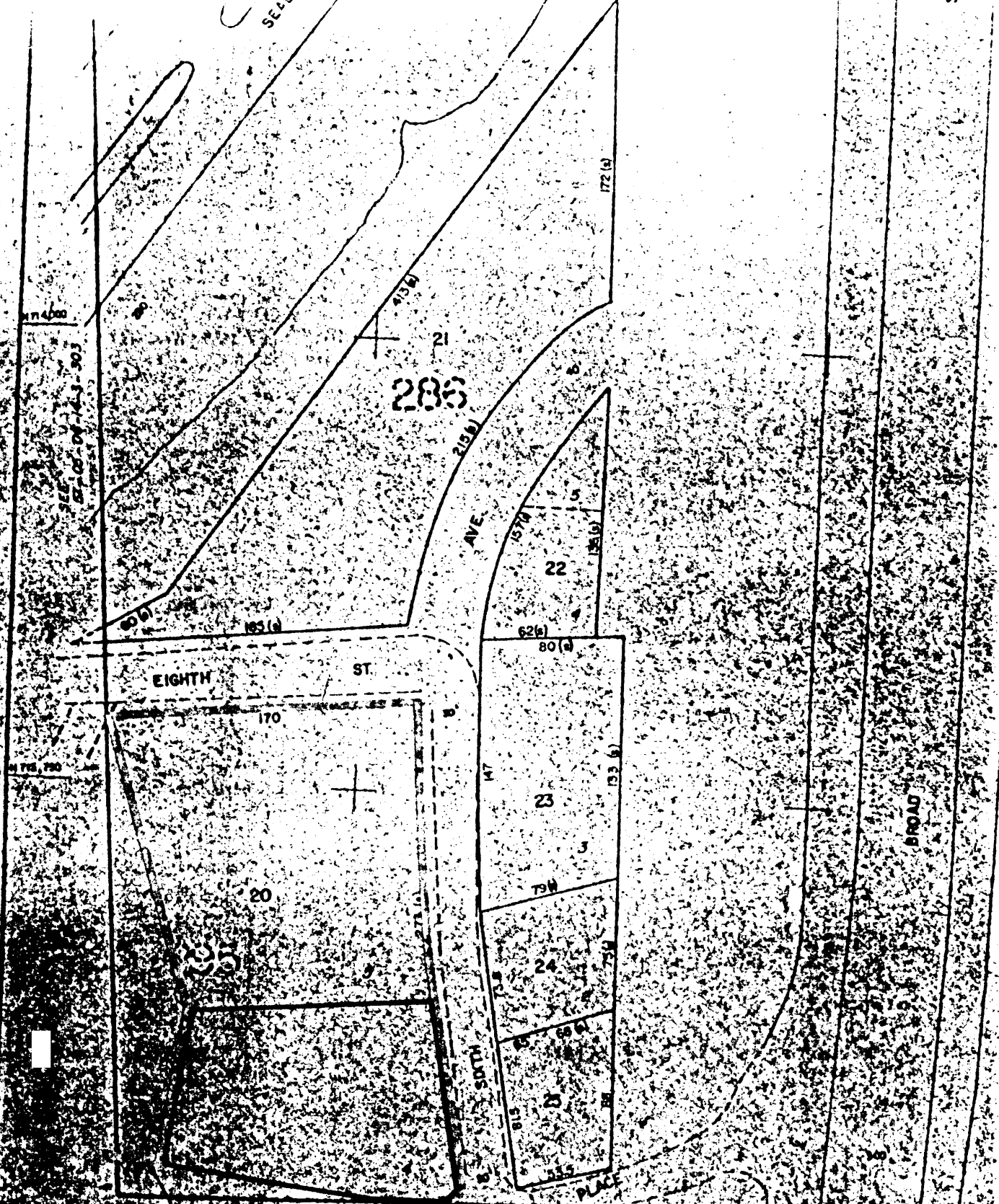


INCLUSIVE STREET NUMBERS FOR UPPER TWENTIETH STREET RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

20th Street - odd 1201-1217

SEAL

S



174.00

SEE CO. OF 143-303

283

AVE

EIGHTH ST

170

20

SIXTH ST

23

24

25

PLACE

80 (a)

79 (a)

66 (a)

38

3

62 (a)

135 (a)

172 (a)

BROAD

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY - NOT TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE