

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 Brown-Proctor House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 208 South-Houston Street NA not for publication

city, town Scottsboro NA vicinity of congressional district 5

state Alabama code 01 county Jackson code 071

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

## 4. Owner of Property

name City of Scottsboro

street & number Scottsboro Heritage Center P. O. Box 53

city, town Scottsboro vicinity of state Alabama

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson County Courthouse

street & number City Square

city, town Scottsboro state Alabama

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1970-present  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

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## 7. Description

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<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Brown-Proctor House is a two-story, masonry structure with a partially raised full basement beneath the original 1-room deep structure. A full-width, two story portico is supported by four Ionic columns. Applied pilasters are aligned with the columns. A balcony with ornamented end brackets spans the central bay and is reached by an upper floor door. The door is wood paneled and surrounded by square sidelights. The main floor entrance is simple and features double rows of sidelights set above paneling. The lower half of the door is wood paneled, while the upper half has a single glass pane. Windows are double hung with 6/6.

Originally, the house featured a central double portico with Tuscan columns on the ground floor and Ionic on the second. The present portico was constructed between 1909 and 1911 when the house was extensively remodeled. The central hall plan, which allowed a kitchen and dining room in the basement, a bedroom and parlor on the ground floor and two bedrooms on the upper floor, was expanded to include two rooms, a rear stair hall and a kitchen on the ground floor and three rooms and a rear stair hall on the second. At this time the original mantels were replaced with simple neo-classical mantels, pocket doors were added between the front parlor and front hall, and the wide heart pine of the ground floor replaced with very narrow heart pine flooring. The simple window and door trim remained. Notable features include the beamed ceilings of the front parlor and 1907 dining room and the original closets of the two south bedrooms.

The house is being restored for museum use, retaining all the 1907 modifications.

# 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1881, 1907-11      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** major alterations

The Brown-Proctor House is primarily significant for its associations with John F. Proctor, a local politician who purchased the house in 1907 and gave it its current appearance. Proctor was a prominent attorney who served in the Alabama House of Representatives from 1892-1895 and in the Alabama Senate from 1896-1899, holding the office of Secretary of the Senate. He was a member of the Alabama Constitutional Convention and later served as a court-appointed attorney in the first trial of the Scottsboro Boys in 1931. After his death in 1939, the house continued to be occupied by his family until the early 1980s.

\* \* \* \* \*

Completed in 1881 for John A. Brown at a cost of \$3200, the house was advertised for sale in the following year and with one interim owner was purchased in 1884 by General John R. Coffey for his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Brown. The couple occupied the house sporadically until its sale to John Franklin Proctor in 1907. Between 1907 and 1911, Proctor extensively remodeled the house, giving it its present appearance. The house remained in the Proctor family until 1981, when it was acquired by the Scottsboro Museum Commission.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Gist, W. Jerry. The Story of Scottsboro. Nashville, Rich Printing Co., 1968.  
 Hammer, Walt. A Pictorial Walk Thru Ol' High Jackson. Collegedale, Tennessee, The College Press, 1967.  
 Kennamer, J. R. The History of Jackson County, Alabama. Winchester, Tennessee, Southern Printing and Publishing Co., 1935.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Scottsboro

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 1,6 5,8,8 1,8,0 3,8 3,6 9,0,0  
 Zone Easting Northing

B                    
 Zone Easting Northing

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

### Verbal boundary description and justification

One house and lot bounded on north by lots of J. W. Moody and lot belonging to estate of Harris Coffey, on the east by Railroad Street (Houston) on the South by Peachtree Street and on the West by South Street.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen Mertins, National Register Coordinator & Judith Proctor

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date July 23, 1982

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone 832-6621

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

## 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 *[Signature]*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 9, 1982

For HCERS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date

9/16/82

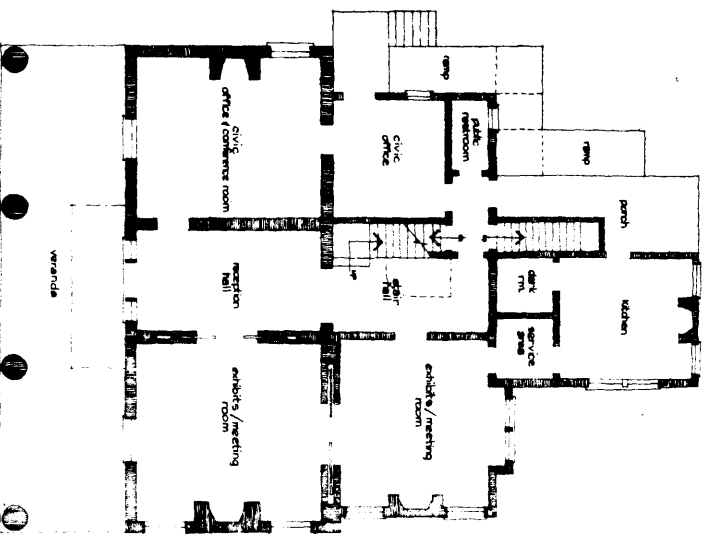
for *[Signature]*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

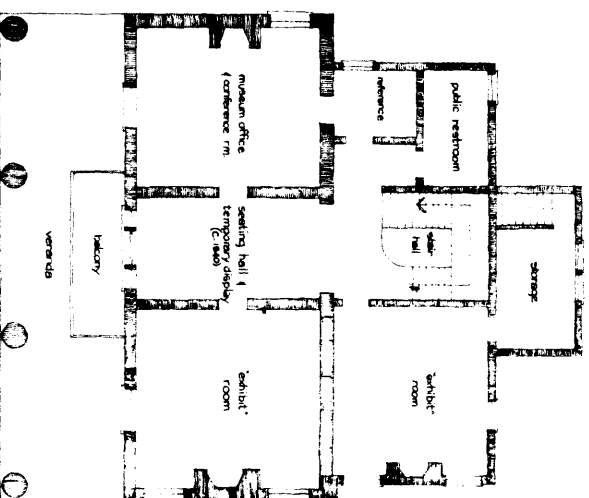
- Storage
  - Butler's pantry
- Second Floor**
- Exhibits; waiting area
  - Central stair hall
  - Exhibit rooms (2)
  - North bedrooms (2)
  - Storage
  - Dressing room for northwest bedroom
  - Museum office and library
  - South bedroom
  - Reference room genealogy, oral history
  - Dressing room for south bedroom
  - Restroom
  - Bath



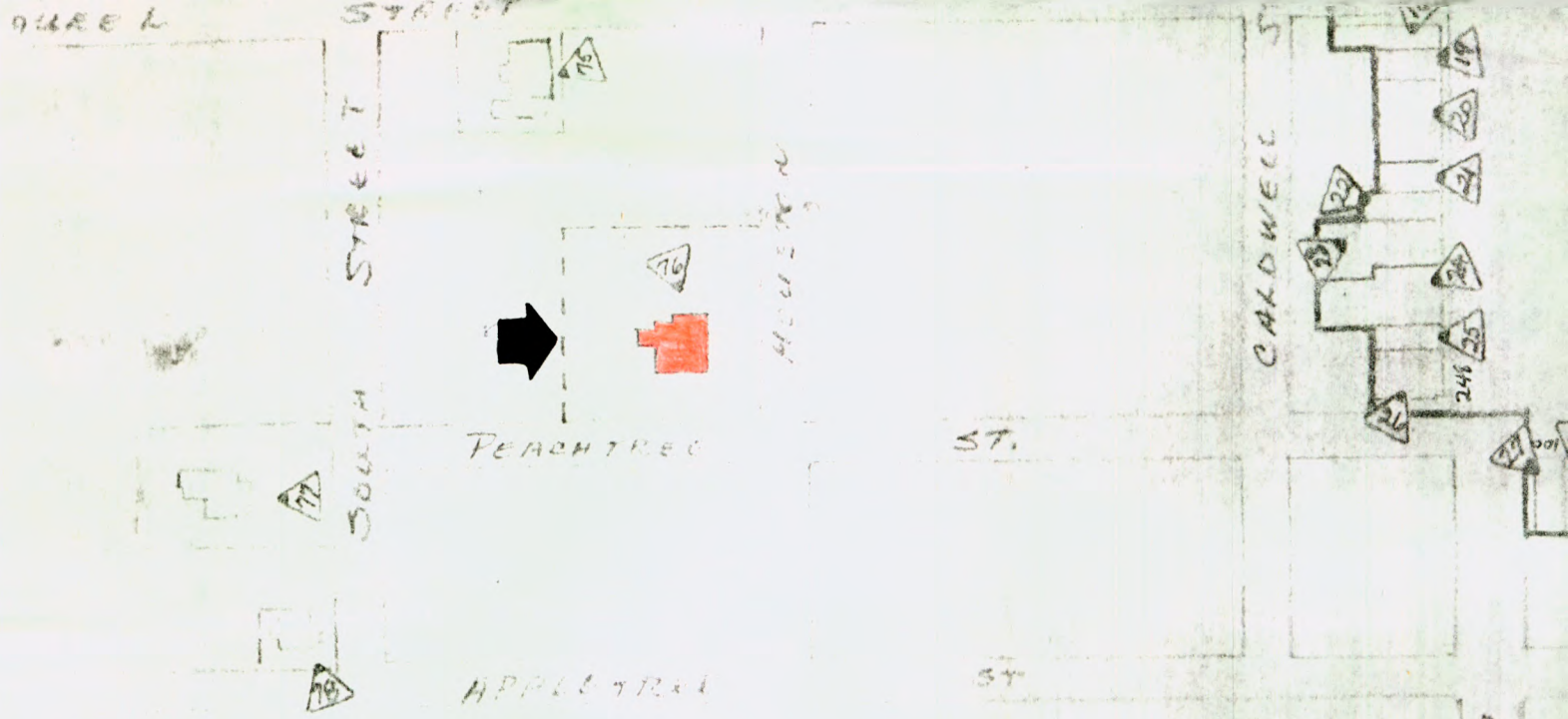
**FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

The renovation of the Brown-Proctor house will be accomplished in phases as funds permit. While no major structural changes or improvements appear to be necessary, repairs and modernization are necessary. Major items are: a climate control system to regulate temperature and moisture, new wiring and plumbing, and a new roof. Some decorative and functional elements, such as the balusters supporting the stair rail, must be replaced as a result of age or vandalism.

Donations of historical materials concerning the area will be solicited. Funding needs for the museum are outlined in the budget for the Brown-Proctor house. Decor items will be provided through gifts or monetary donations. Major expenses include the assembling of an historical collection and repair or preservation of documents, artifacts, and furniture.



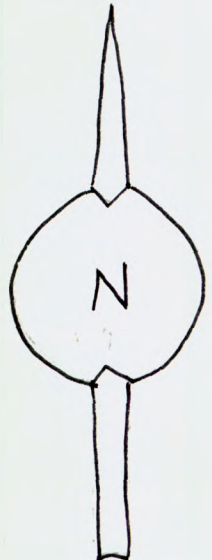
**SECOND FLOOR PLAN**



NOTE: ENTERED SURVEY AND LINES  
 DENOTE SURVEY BOUNDARY

Survey

ALABAMA



SCALE 1 in. = 200 FT.

Brown-Proctor House  
 208 S. Houston St.

Area