

**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 Caldwell Building

and/or common Caldwell-Knox Building

2. Location

street & number 1001 Noble Street _____ not for publication

city, town Anniston _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 3

state Alabama code 01 county Calhoun code 015

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Caldwell Building - Progressive Anniston, Inc.

street & number P. O. Box 1470

city, town Anniston _____ vicinity of _____ state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calhoun County Courthouse
Deed Record Book 413, p. 223, deed book 1226, p. 525

street & number 25 W. 11th Street

city, town Anniston _____ state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Anniston Historical Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1981 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery _____ state Alabama

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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	* First floor facade altered slightly	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The building, constructed in 1889, is three-story, red brick with russet colored stone trim. The facade is divided essentially into three units, with the middle unit being one bay and the flanking units being three bays, actually a band of triple windows. The windows on the second floor are arched, while those at the third level are segmentally arched. All the windows are trimmed in russet stone, which has been vermiculated. The same vermiculation is found on quoins at the corners of the building and also articulating the middle bay of the facade.

At the first floor level the original modillioned cornice is still present. At the third floor level there is an ornate cornice, consisting of paired acanthus leaf consoles and intervening brackets. The middle bay, which is slightly projecting, is crowned by a pediment, then there is a slightly roofed parapet above the cornice. The cornice extends around the side of the building and essentially repeats on the south side the same elements found on the front of the building.

Only the first floor facade has been altered.

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

Specific dates 1889 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Situated at the major business intersection of 19th-century Anniston, the Caldwell Building is one of the few early commercial structures in Anniston which has survived with only ground floor alterations. Architecturally, it is noted as one of the best examples of the Victorian Italianate style in the city, with russett colored stone trim and an elaborately detailed cornice providing a rich contrast to the red brick walls. A slight projection of the central bay and a pediment in the cornice above break up the facade and create a more imposing presence on Noble Street.

The structure is also significant for its associations with two prominent political figures: John Caldwell and John B. Knox. Caldwell, who constructed the building in 1889 to serve as his own office and rental space, served as the attorney for the city of Anniston (1879-1884) and one term as a state representative (1886-1887). Knox, who had his offices in the building for nearly twenty years (moving in sometime between 1901 and 1905 and remaining there until 1925), was a prominent corporation lawyer who served as president of the Consitutional Convention of 1901 and was a major proponent of disfranchisement of blacks. Knox's association with the building was so strong that during the second decade of the 20th century, the building was known as the Knox Building.

* * * * *

The building was erected on the first lot that was sold to the public after the Town of Anniston opened to the pulbic in 1883. Prior to that time the town was a privately owned estate, founded by Daniel Tyler and Samuel Noble, principle stockholders in the Woodstock Iron Company. Outside pressures forced the company to open the town to the public and the first land sales were held in a public auction that year.

Lot 1, Block 1, the site of the Caldwell Building, is considered to be the hub of the business district. John Caldwell, attorney for the Woodstock Iron Company, purchased the lot, and eventually constructed the present building for use as his office space.

The first floor has been used by various drygoods and clothing firms, including the Kohn Brothers, Globe Clothing and most recently, Mangels. The third floor was used in the early years as a meeting place for Masons.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Gates, Grace Hooten, The Model City of the New South; Anniston, Alabama, 1872-1900,
(Strode, 1978)
Northern Alabama, Historical and Biographical, (1888)

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property One Lot - less than one

Quadrangle name Anniston

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	6	0	8	5	4	0	3	7	2	4	5	4	0
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 South 50' of Lot 1, in Block 1, as shown on the Anniston City Land Company's map of the City of Anniston, Alabama 50' x 100'

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julian W. Jenkins, AIA Architect & Ellen Mertins

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date November 20, 1981

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 *Shirley Oaks*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1/14/82

For HCRS use only

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

entered in the
National Register date 3/1/82

Janice Selous Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration