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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAR 14 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Henry, Albert G., Jr. House
other names/site number Henry House

2. Location

street & number 308 Blount Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Guntersville N/A vicinity
state Alabama code AL county Marshall code 095 zip code 35976

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: none

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 3/6/89
Signature of certifying official 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.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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] Entered in the National Register 4/13/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
domestic/single dwellingCurrent Functions (enter categories from instructions)
vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brickwalls woodroof asphaltother brick chimneys

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Henry House in Guntersville is a two-story, frame house in the Queen Anne style. The house has a rambling plan, typical of the Queen Anne style, with a wrap-around porch and tower room. The building has one-story front and rear additions and sits in a large tree-filled lot. The house was built c.1895 for the residence of a wealthy Guntersville merchant.

The red clay foundation brick piers were originally bridged by brick lattices, 18 to 29 inches in height. Presently, the piers are bridged by brick walls with a stucco finish, painted red. There are no ventilators. The wood siding is a 1" X 6" drop siding, shiplap pattern. The heavy window and door casings are plain. Some corners are beaded. The eaves are graced with simple wood brackets on the side and a decorative spindle work bracket on the front gable. Simple banding is done on the 3-story, octagonal room.

The large two-story porch with spindle work, turned balusters, sawn brackets, and turned columns wraps around the tower room to the north side making a 7-bay first-floor porch and a 1-bay second-floor balcony. The balcony is centered over the front entry and porch roof gable. Turned balusters and columns, brackets and spindle work of the balcony repeat the style of the first-floor porch on a smaller scale. Deteriorated columns and railings are in the attic now. The porch roof gable is decorated with the fan motif with 14 fans. The floor is tongue and groove and the ceiling is beaded board. The porch has a shed roof with one gable. Cornices are boxed and some original "cyma recta" molding exists on the front. Most of the roof trim has been replaced.

The roof consists of intersecting gables with a raised, hipped central portion. The tower room originally had a "witches hat," but has been modified to a shallow pitch. The later additions have shed-style shingles. Thomas A. Wright cut the framing in after others had failed and continued to work on the house until it was completed. The head carpenter was known as "Daddy Maine."

There are three red clay brick chimneys with stucco finish. The south interior central chimney may have been the only original one. The chimneys on the north and west sides are part of early additions.

The front or main entrance is on the east side. There are double doors consisting of a single panel below with a glass light above, and a double transom window. Original ornate doorknob and backplate, which appear to be brass, are on the left door, and a door ell with a turn-key bell ringer is on the right door. Screen doors

See continuation sheet

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were added later. The second-story porch door is a fifteen-panel, glass door which leads into the upstairs central hall. The rear door in the first-story central hall is an exterior door, size (35 3/4"), and style indicating it was originally the rear exit of the house. It is a single door with three panels below two glass lights. The doorknob and backplate are simply decorated. Typical windows are 2'6" X 6'5", two panes per sash, trimmed with plain, heavy casings, and a simple molded heading. There is some original glass but most is broken. The tower room double-hung windows are 2' X 6'5" (narrower) and have one pane per sash with unmolded trim. Windows on the late additions differ (see alterations). The house sits 35 feet from Blount Avenue and is surrounded by overgrown boxwood, hollies and other shrubbery. There are two large live oak trees in the west rear corner and are most likely original. A huge pecan tree and beech tree shade the north side yard. A white picket fence is visible in an early photograph. Mr. Henry's business was in the same block facing Gunter Avenue.

The interior consists of a large central hall 12' X 14' plus the stair and rear exit to make 12' X 27' overall, flanked by one 15' X 15' room, in front and a 15' X 15' room with 3' bay extension to total 18', on the south side; and flanked by the tower room, a new addition, roughly 14' X 14', and a 15' X 24' room to the rear which was originally about 15' X 11½' on the north side. The three rooms on the rear of the house are additions done at various times in the history of the house. The present kitchen, 14' X 16', and the first-floor bathroom, 7' X 8', are most certainly early additions. The bathroom floor joists have been recently replaced, but the bead board ceiling and exterior siding indicate this may have been a partially enclosed porch at one time. The plumbing fixtures are later, 20th century. The kitchen floor joists are early and partially span what appears to be a partial basement, old porch foundation, or coal bin. Some of the joists under the center, rear room, (now laundry room), are going diagonally, which indicates an octagonal porch was here. A trap door leads into this basement area from the laundry room.

Almost the entire plastered interior walls have either been papered or paneled with recent 20th-century materials. It is not known what is under the paneling, but under some of the paper exist layers of paint, one layer being green, over cracked plaster. There exists a two-tone blue damask design wallpaper hung on cheesecloth in the closet on the north room, north wall.

The central hall has a bead board dado with a molded dado cap. The doors and windows have turned corner blocks, and molded casings, plinth, and baseboards. The tower room has a window seat. The stairway has a closed stringer, turned balusters, shaped hand rail, and molded newel posts. The floor is presently carpet over 3 1/4" pine wood strips. The ceiling is 10'8" and is a modern ceiling tile over bead board, over plaster. Originally it was plastered.

The front, south room has a "Louis XV"-styled coved plaster cornice and ceiling height of 10'8". The ornate mantel has Corinthian columns, beveled glass mirror,

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green tile hearth and face, applied Adam-style embellishments, and is 8', overall height and 5', overall width. The mantel is white painted oak and the fireplace is for coal burning. The plaster walls are paneled which partially conceals a turned corner trim at the 6" baseboard. French doors with 15 panes each, with paneled side-lights and transoms, open into the central hall. A closet has been added. The floor is 2" oak strip with an area rug "shadow" 9'10" X 8'8". The original floor was probably 3 1/4" pine similar to the central hall.

The rear, south room also has oak strip flooring. A closet has been added, and the door trim to the bathrooms is plain which indicates this was opened later. The fireplace is brick with a metal cover and projects into the room. The outside end of the room is an angled bay, the width of the room.

The opposite side of the house also has angled corners in the north room, which has been somewhat concealed by a closet, corner cupboard, and fireplace. Only the front angle has a window. This room also has a bead board dado on two walls. The floors are sheet vinyl over particle board, over pine flooring. The mantel has small scaled, fluted Ionic columns; it is painted oak, and the opening boarded up. There is a 6" tile hearth. The ceiling is textured sheet rock and is 10'7 1/2" high.

The five-panel doors are about 31" X 79" and 1" thick and appear to be oak. The knobs vary from ornate brass to porcelain and glass. The upstairs oak doors have four beveled panels.

The kitchen, laundry, and bathrooms all have sheet vinyl over plywood, as do the upstairs bathrooms which have raised floors to accommodate plumbing. The upstairs floors are sheet vinyl over pine floors in the bedrooms and the central hall is carpeted. The upstairs mantels are shallow and austere. The walls in the bedroom are modern paneling. The walls in the central hall are papered with a vinyl wall covering.

An inspection of the crawl space revealed 6" X 8" timber beams and 2" X 10" floor joists, cut with a circular saw. Original subfloor is rough on the bottom, and the kitchen subfloor is smooth with back relief, 3 1/4" W. The original foundation was an open brick lattice between brick piers, with the piers being an integral part of the lattice design. Some lattice is still standing under the porch at the steps which were probably wood at one time but are now concrete.

There is evidence of an old heater/cook stove in the center of the kitchen ceiling where an 18" square chimney support plate exists. There are original lighting fixtures which are wrought iron in the upstairs bedrooms.

Behind the house there is an old well or cistern made of stone.

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Alterations include an addition of a room on the front porch about 1974, with 12" clapboard siding, metal windows, and wood paneled door. A porch column stands in the center of the room. The addition has caused major deterioration to the original structure and conceals part of the porch, from the tower room north. Early pictures show that the north gable was extended and angled, and a chimney was added. The dates of alterations are unknown. The kitchen and bathroom are early additions, indicated by the exterior siding not matching up with the original. The laundry has a smooth exterior wood siding and metal window, indicating a later alteration.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1895 to 1904

Significant Dates

c. 1895

Cultural Affiliation

none

Significant Person

none

Architect/Builder

none

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Criterion C: Architecture

The Henry House is a fine example of the Queen Anne style architecture in Guntersville. A large wraparound porch, tower room and spindle work are its major architectural features. Steeply pitched and intersecting gables along with a rambling plan create an impressive profile. It is located across the street from the only National Register home in Guntersville, the Jordan House, built by Pat Henry, brother of Albert, Jr. The frame, Greek Revival building now houses the Chamber of Commerce.

Integrity

The house maintains its integrity of location, workmanship, setting, and feeling. Although the house is in poor condition, features such as the coved, plaster cornice, ornate mantels, heavy casings around doors and windows, and bead board wainscoting indicate the house was at one time a Victorian showplace.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other _____

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 1/2 acre

UTM References

A

1	6
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5	6	5	1	2	0
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3	8	0	2	1	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Lot 131 in the Old Town of Guntersville, Alabama, beginning at a point on the Westerly margin of Blount Street 93 feet Southwesterly from the intersection of the Southern margin of Scott Street and the Westerly margin of Blount Street; thence in a Southwesterly direction along the Westerly margin of Blount Street 92 feet and 8 inches; thence Northwesterly and parallel with the margin of Scott Street 134 feet; thence Northeasterly parallel with the Blount Street 86 feet and 8 inches; thence South-easterly parallel with Scott Street 22 feet; See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries reflect the original lot of the Henry House.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Mason Shell/Cultural Resources Coordinator
organization Alabama Historical Commission date January 1989
street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 205 261-3184
city or town Montgomery state Alabama zip code 36130

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Historical Summary

Albert G. Henry was born in Sevier County, Tennessee in 1816. He moved to Marshall County, Alabama, with his father, Hugh Henry, in 1828. Hugh established a mercantile business on the north bank of the Tennessee River. Hugh Henry's customers were mostly Indians for many years, since he was the first white merchant in Gunters Landing in 1829. Hugh married a daughter of the town's founder, John Gunter. Albert became a clerk in his father's store, learned the trade, and opened his own store in 1841 in Guntersville. His business was estimated at \$50,000 a year.

Albert operated his store continuously except for two years during the Civil War. He was opposed to secession and became a member of the Alabama Constitutional Convention in 1865. He utilized the credit system in northern Alabama and advanced credit to people in distress after the war. Before the war he had control of almost the entire patronage of the Guntersville area. At the close of the war, his patrons being nearly all financially broke, he advanced about \$50,000 of goods to his patrons by using the crop mortgage law.

Albert had two wives, Mary Ann Henry of Tennessee who died in 1884, and Julia Wait of Waco, Texas. Albert's son, Albert, Jr., also became a prominent merchant in Guntersville. In two Marshall County histories he is cited as the only millionaire in Alabama in 1880. County histories also credit him with owning the second largest store in the state. Albert, Jr., enjoyed major success as a merchant due to his father's tutelage and the family's use of the credit system.

Albert Henry, Sr., purchased the property for the Queen Anne house in 1853. Albert, Jr. acquired the property in 1893 and built the Queen Anne style house c.1895. Albert Henry, Jr., lived there with his wife, Abigail Moss of Guntersville, until 1904 when the house was sold to Sara Bell Miller. The house passed to John T. Graden and Julia C. Graden in 1920, to Sally Bell Horton in 1938, to Floyd and Lila Mae Walls Smith in 1964, to Otha and Doris Harbin in 1975, and to the present owners, Susan Henderson, and Michael and Jane Rutland in 1987. The present owners plan to restore the house and use it as rental property.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Sudder, Stephen, Visual Inspection, May, 1988.
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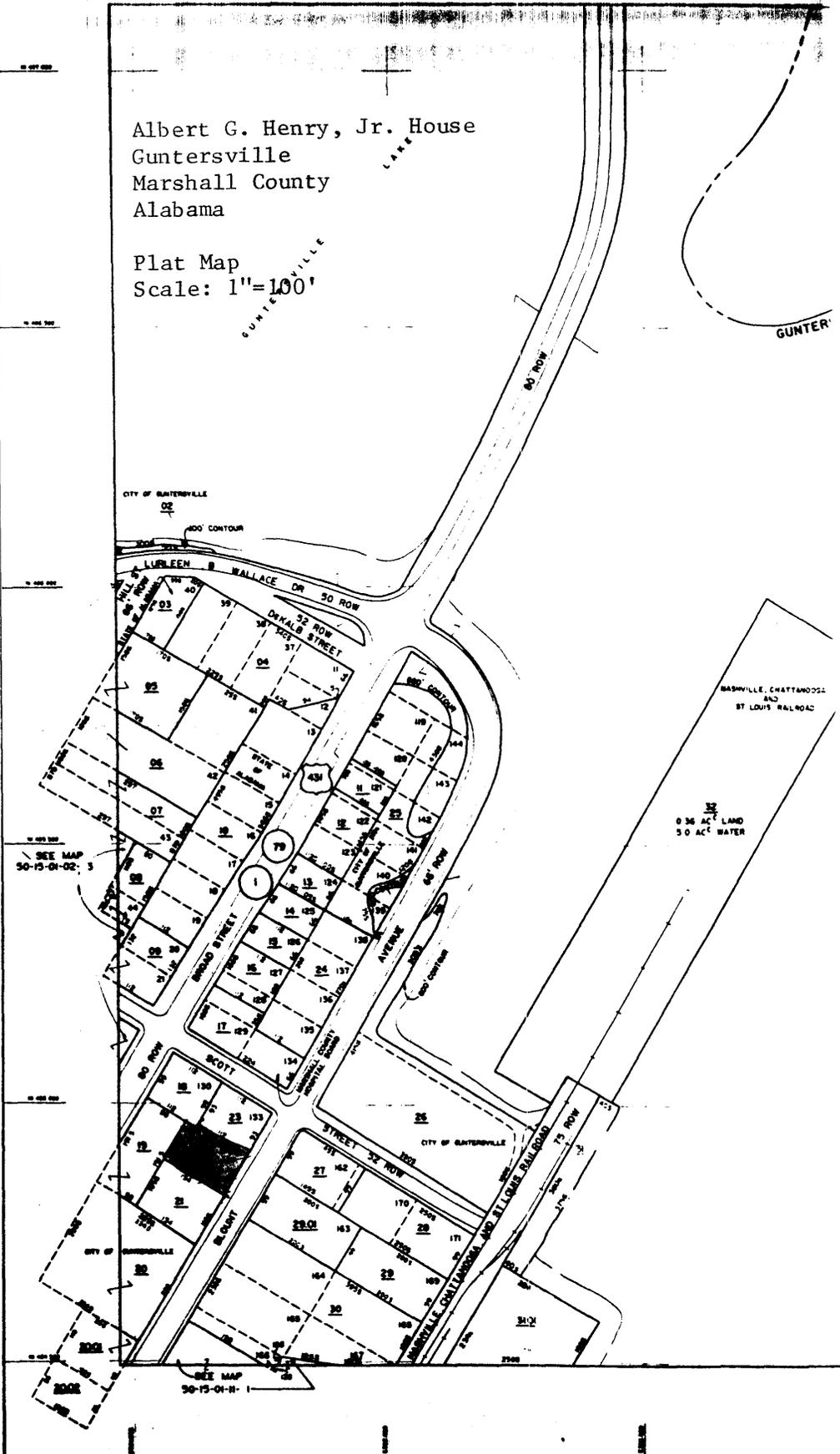
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Verbal Boundary Description continued

thence Northeasterly parallel with Blount Street 6 feet; thence Southeasterly parallel with Scott Street 112 feet to the point of beginning.

Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
Guntersville
Marshall County
Alabama

Plat Map
Scale: 1"=100'



THIS MAP TO BE USED FOR ALL PURPOSES ONLY - NOT TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE

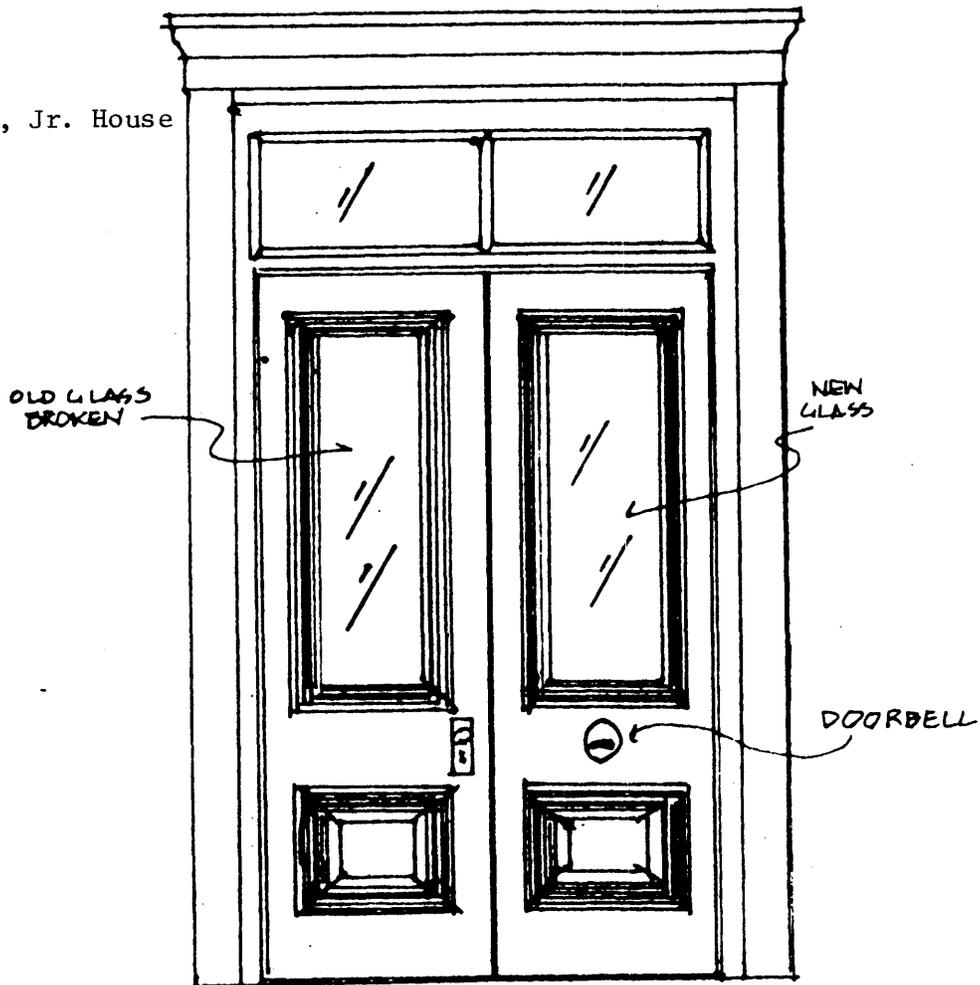
Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
Guntersville
Marshall County
Alabama

EXTERIOR SKETCHES

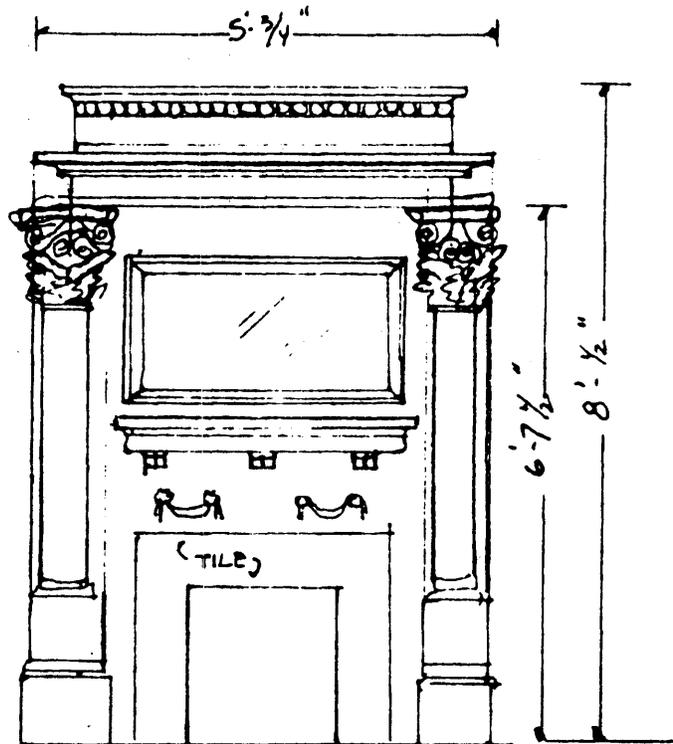


FRONT EXTERIOR SKETCH
VISUALIZATION

Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
Guntersville
Marshall County
Alabama



FRONT DOORS

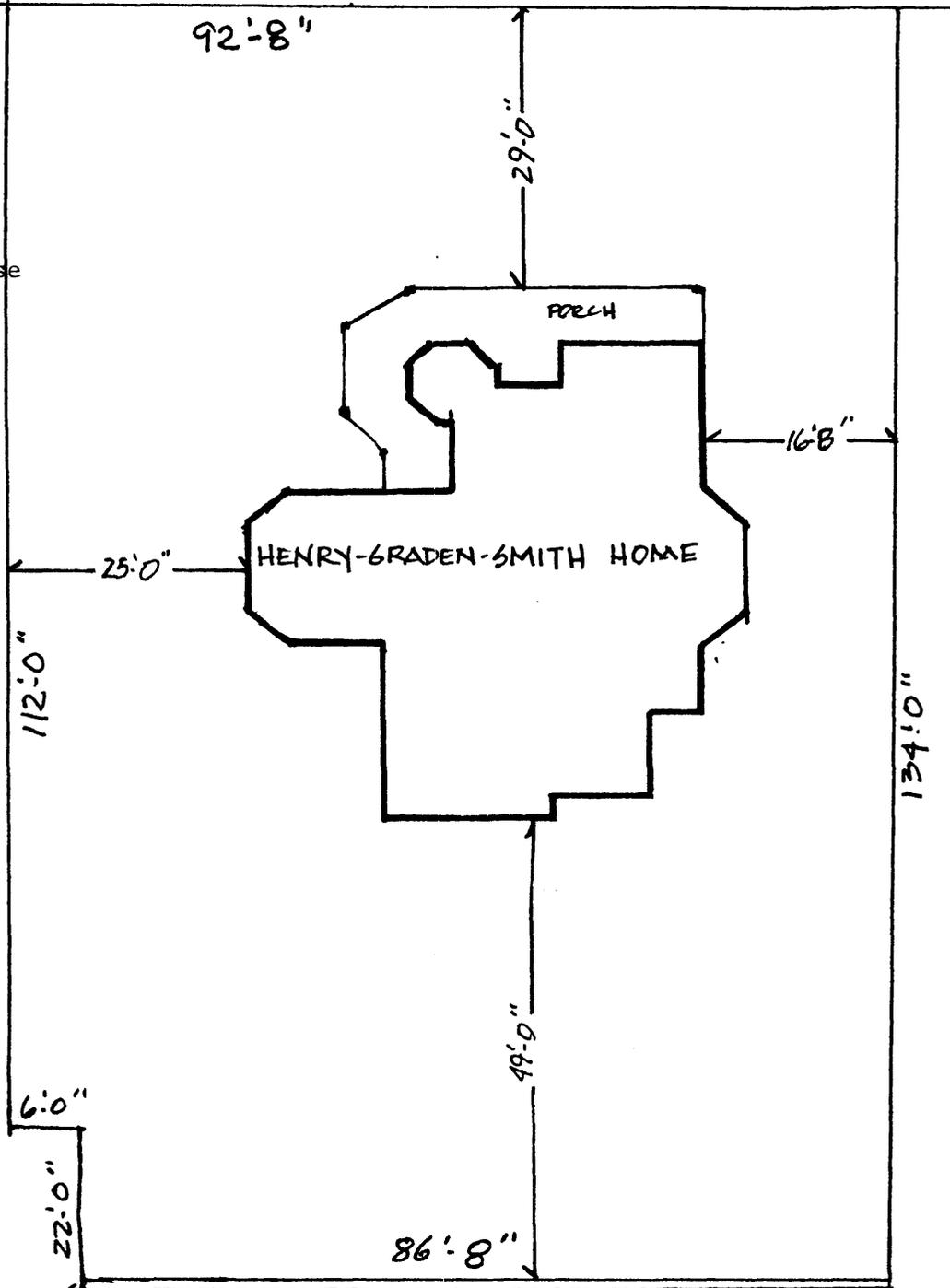


MANTEL SKETCH
SOUTH ROOM

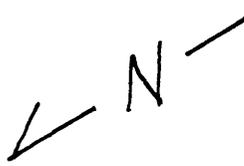
BLOUNT AVENUE (U.S. 431)

93.0
←
TO SCOTT ST.

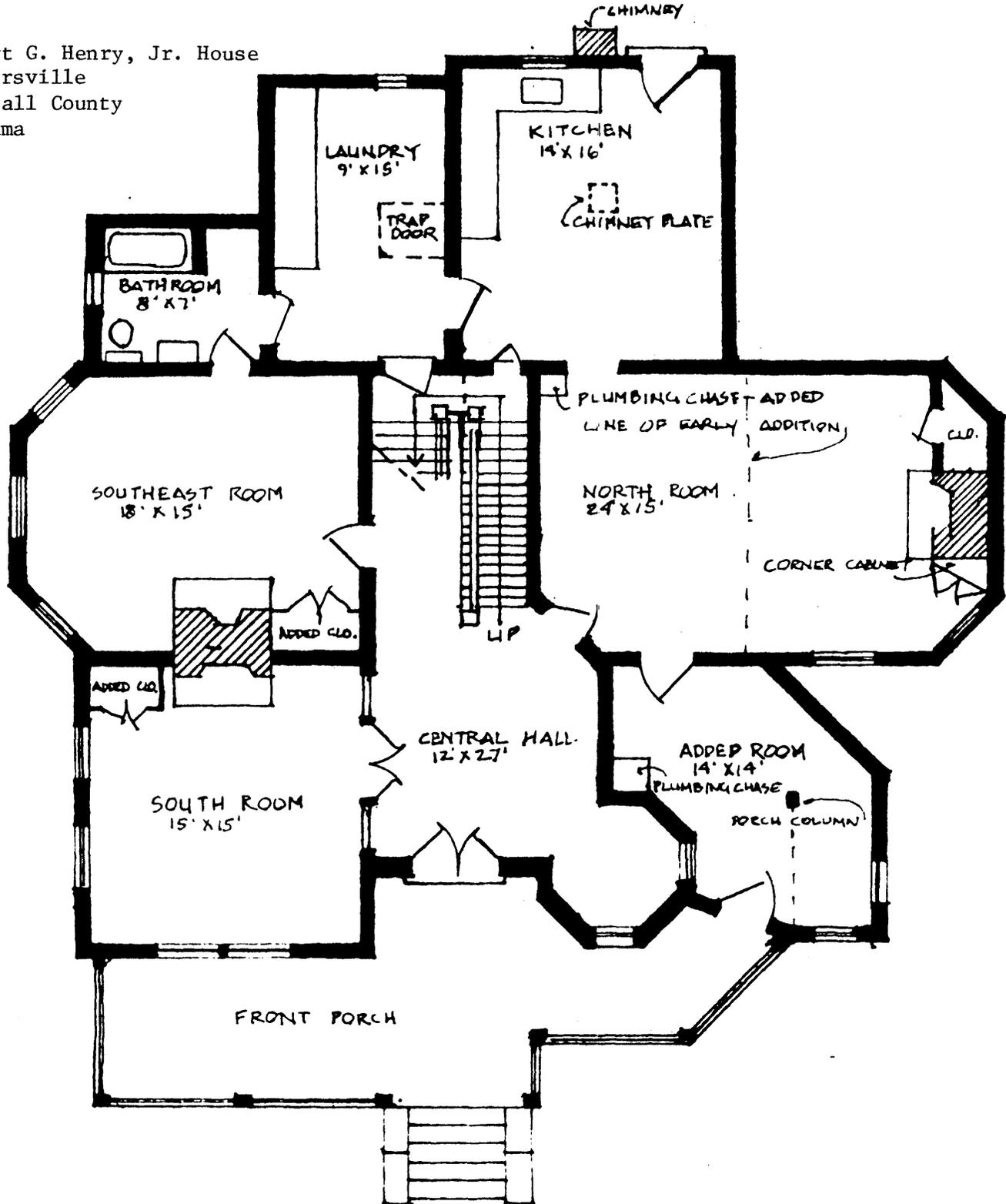
Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
Guntersville
Marshall County
Alabama



8" BLOCK WALL ON OTHER PROPERTY



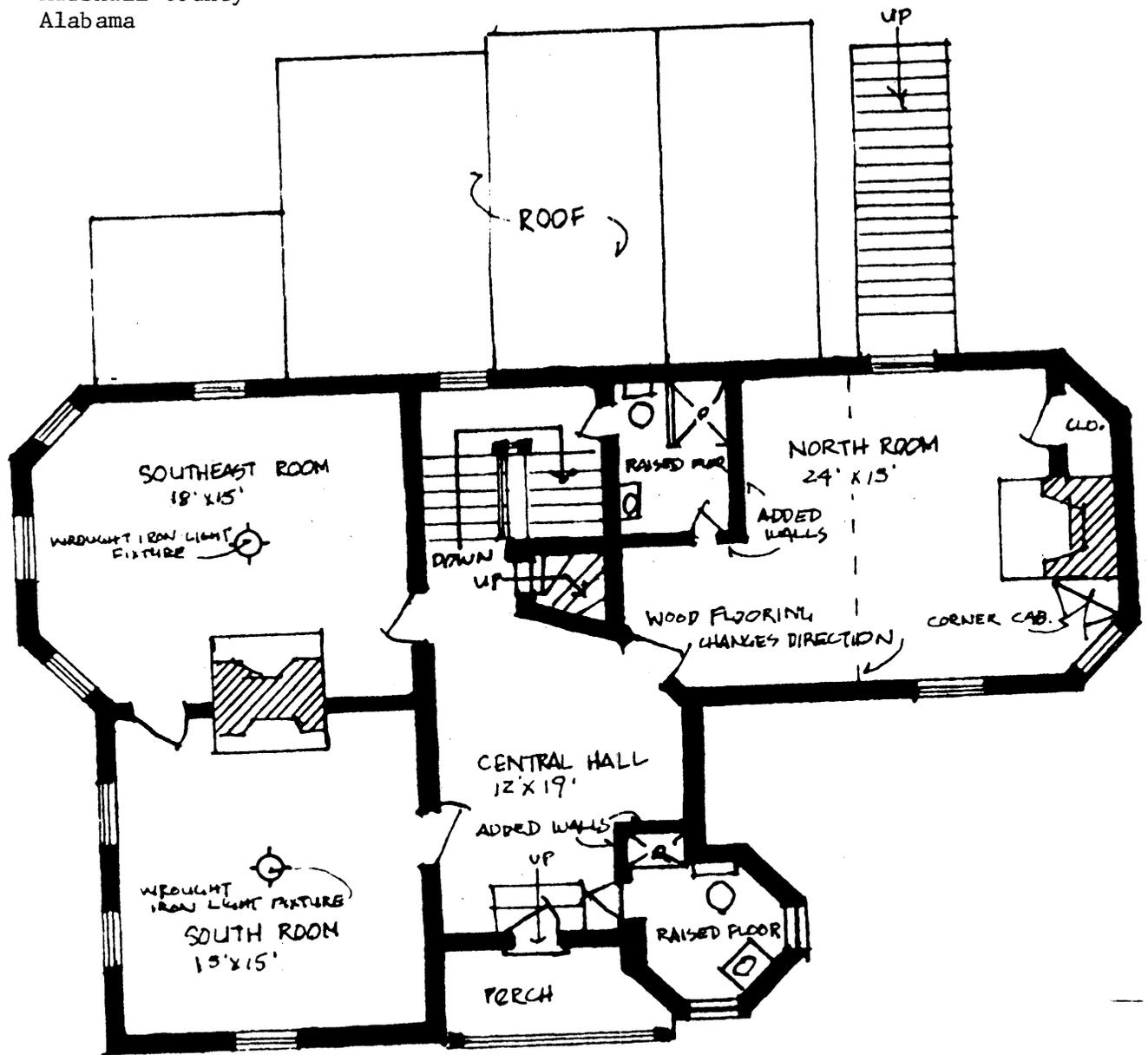
Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
Guntersville
Marshall County
Alabama



FIRST LEVEL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

FLOOR PLAN SKETCHES

Albert G. Henry, Jr. House
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SECOND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

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graphs Page 1

Information in items 1-5 is the same for all photographs listed.

1. Albert G. Henry, Jr. House, 308 Blount Avenue
2. Guntersville, Alabama, Marshall County
3. Susan Henderson
4. May 1988
5. Alabama Historical Commission
6. front entrance, facing NE
7. Photo #1

6. north elevation and cistern, facing south
7. Photo #2

6. mantel in south room, first floor
facing east
7. Photo #3

6. interior stairway, facing NE
7. Photo #4

6. facade of house, facing NE
7. Photo #5

6. SE elevation, facing NW
7. Photo #6

6. exterior stairway on N elevation, facing SW
7. Photo #7

6. facade, facing NE
7. Photo #8