MULTIPLE RESOURCES OF ANNISTON CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Historic name: Common name:

Bagley-Cater Building Cater-Rhodes Furniture

Company

Owner: Fred O. Couch, Jr.

3805 Afton Brae Drive Anniston, Alabama 36201

Address:

15 East Tenth Street

Acreage:

less than one acre

UTM: 16/608580/3734540

Verbal Boundary: Anniston City Land Company Map, Block 1, Lots 38, 39, and the Eastern most 55 feet of lot 42, described as beginning at the northwest intersection of Tenth Street and Williams Street, running thence north along the west side of Williams Street 120 feet, thence west parallel with Tenth Street 55 feet; thence south parallel with Williams Street 120 feet to the north line of Tenth Street, thence east along the north line of Tenth

Street 55 feet to the point of beginning.

Architectural Design: Neoclassical commercial

Date of Construction: 1908

Statement of Significance:

Criterion C - Architecture:

The Bagley-Cater Building is significant as a well-developed local example of early 20th -century neoclassical commercial architecture. Distinguishing features of the building include the composition of Ionic pilasters and end pavilions with quoining and the fully detailed entablature embellished with swags.

Description:

The large, neoclassical commercial building stands on the north side of Tenth Street adjacent to the alley that bisects the block immediately east of Noble Street. The three-story brick structure is unaltered except for the installation of larger plate glass in the storefront at the street level. The upper two floors are very ornate. Ionic pilasters separate the middle four bays from the slightly projecting end pavilions, which are articulated by brick quoining. pilasters and end pavilions carry a breakfront entablature which is embellished by swags above the window openings in the frieze. A well-developed cornice with dentils and egg-and-dart molding is above the frieze, and a parapet crowns the entire entablature.

The second-floor windows on the street facade have flat stone lintels, while the third-floor windows in the middle four bays are arcuated, with hood molds enriched by egg-and-dart and bead-and-reel banding with a bold raised acanthus leaf keystone. The spandrels of the arches are decorated with an applied palmette motif.

The end-pavilion design wraps around the east side for one bay. The rest of the east side is plainer, with the remaining six bays having pairs of segmentally-arched windows (except for the first single window) interspersed with plain brick pilasters. The two-over-two double-hung sash windows appear to be original.

The building is remarkably unaltered and sound. Formerly unpainted red brick, it was recently painted a beige color with the architectural details highlighted in darker shades. The interior of the building has been altered by the addition of new ceilings and wall treatments; however, it is possible that some of the original interior may exist beneath. The original round, iron ceiling support posts, as well as some original door and window moldings (the same type molding as found in many of Anniston's remaining commercial buildings of the period) are still intact.

Historical Summary:

The building, the second one on the lot, has always housed a furniture store: first the Bagley Furniture and Undertaking Company until 1917, then the George Cater Furniture Company until recent years when it became the Rhodes Furniture Company.

