

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Darden, Dr. J. W., House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1323 Auburn St.

not for publication N/A

city or town Opelika

vicinity N/A

state Alabama code AL county Lee code 81

zip code 36801

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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 of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling
HEALTH CARE Clinic

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK
roof: ASPHALT
walls: WOOD
other: _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☒ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or a grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

ETHNIC HERITAGE	Black
ARCHITECTURE	

Period of Significance	1906-1949
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Significant Dates	1906, 1925, and 1944
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Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) Darden, Dr. J. W.

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder	<u>Parks, Clifford</u>	<u>Clayton, Nelson</u>
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Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

- ☐ 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 # _____

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>16</u>	<u>651640</u>	<u>3612102</u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	5	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	6	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Yvonne Phillips/David B. Schneider (reviewed by Susan Enzweiler, AHC NR Coordinator)organization Darden Fdn./Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC/Alabama Historical Commission date 9/10/2008street & number 411 E. 6th Street telephone 256-310-3620city or town Anniston state AL zip code 36207

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name J.W. Darden Foundationstreet & number 19 Jeter Avenue telephone N/Acity or town Opelika state AL zip code 36801

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7. Narrative Description

The John W. Darden House is a two-story frame dwelling with a hipped composition shingle roof with cross pedimented gables and three interior brick chimneys. The house is centrally located on a relatively flat lot that fronts along Auburn Street and measures one hundred-fifty by two hundred feet. Grassed lawns surround the house with a concrete drive and parking area at the south side of the parcel. The city sidewalk extends across the street line and intersects a perpendicular sidewalk that leads to the front of the house. Arched sidewalks flank the front of the house. The surrounding neighborhood is residential and is typified by small-scale early to mid twentieth century dwellings.

The house faces west and has a rectangular two by two bay core with projecting bays at the front bay of its north elevation and the rear bay of its south elevation. A two-story rectangular rear wing with a hipped roof extends from the north end of the rear elevation and has a one-story rear pedimented gable extension. A hipped porch supported by wood supports on tall brick pedestals extends the full width of the façade and wraps across the west bay of the south elevation. The southern portion was enclosed circa 1944 with a frame and glass enclosure. A simple modern iron balustrade has been installed along the open portion of the porch. The porch is accessed by a single flight of concrete steps flanked by low apron walls and with simple modern iron handrails. A compatible modern handicapped access ramp was constructed along the north elevation circa 2004 and is minimally visible from principal street vantages. The porch has a roofed balcony at its southern bay supported by tapered wood supports on wood pedestals and with a simple wood balustrade. Porch roofs are covered with modern raised seam metal approximating the appearance of original raised seam metal roofs that had been lost prior to the restoration of the house that occurred between 2000 and 2006. A modern compatible one-story enclosed porch is located along the rear elevation of the core and the south elevation of the rear wing. The enclosure replaced a former modern rear addition (circa 1960) that had partially collapsed prior to the restoration of the house. The house is clad with wood weatherboards and has a simple boxed cornice with plain frieze boards and simple corner boards. Tympanums at the pedimented cross gables are clad with decorative wood shingles. The house has a brick pier foundation with brick infill.

The principal façade has elaborate entrances with geometric transoms and sidelights at each level of its southern bay. A single historic wood window with a geometric upper sash over a single-light lower sash flanks the first floor entrance. A single one-over-one light window flanks the upper level entrance. The western bay of the first floor of the south elevation is enclosed by the porch enclosure. The upper level of the western bay is blank. The eastern bay projects one-half bay and has a pair of single one-over-one windows at each floor level. A similar projecting bay is located at the western bay of the north elevation of the core and is flanked to the east by single one-over-one windows. Two similar windows are located at the first floor level north elevation of the rear wing and a series of grouped casement windows are located at the upper level. The new enclosed porch covers the first floor of the southern bay of the rear elevation and there is a single off-center 1/1 window at the upper floor. A simple iron railing surrounds a deck atop the enclosed porch. A single one-over-one window is centered at the pedimented extension to the rear wing and a group of similar casement windows is located at the upper level.

The interior plan consists of a large open-well foyer at the southwest corner of the building that is flanked to the north on the first floor by a rectangular parlor. Pocket doors lead from the hall to the parlor and from the parlor to a dining room to the east. A narrow rear hall extends to the east along the north wall of the foyer and a room

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that was historically used as Dr. Darden's office is located to its south. A narrow pantry and a kitchen are located within the rear wing. Interior walls and ceilings are finished with smooth plaster or modern sheetrock approximating the appearance of historic plaster. Flooring is typically exposed hardwood. The interior retains its historic staircase with decorative newel posts and turned balustrades, historic mantelpieces with glazed tile inserts, simply molded window and door surrounds, crown moldings, and molded baseboards. A flat archway framed by Corinthian pilasters on paneled bases separates the foyer from the rear hallway. The porch enclosure to the west of Dr. Darden's office is finished with beaded board ceilings and walls and porch deck flooring. Dr. Darden's office also has a Craftsman style paneled wood wainscoting and mantelpiece. The parlor and dining room have elaborate decorative beaded board ceilings. The upper level is similar in plan with bedrooms surrounding the open foyer. Decorative finishes at the upper level are similar to the first floor.

Prior to its recent restoration, the house had seen minimal alteration over the years. Dr. Darden replaced the front porch and added a covered balcony at its second level circa 1925. The original porch is shown in a circa 1912 photograph with a curved southwest corner, Corinthian columns, and no covered balcony. He later enclosed the side bay of the porch to serve as his waiting room circa 1944. Mrs. Darden had asbestos shingle siding added to the house in the late 1950s and replaced the rear porch with a small incompatible frame addition (circa 1960). The house had fallen into state of considerable disrepair by the time it was acquired by a local foundation in 1999. Restoration work completed since 2002 has restored the house to its circa 1944 appearance, retaining Dr. Darden's waiting room and restoring its exterior weatherboard siding. The restoration was completed with partial funding and oversight provided by the Alabama Historical Commission. Interior alterations have been limited to the conversion of the former pantry into a bathroom and the addition of the enclosed rear porch, both of which occurred as part of the recent restoration program.

A former one-story frame garage was located to the southeast of the house but was torn down many years ago.

Archaeology

While no formal archaeological survey has been made, potential subsurface remains could provide additional information about the historical development of the site.

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Significance

The Dr. John W. Darden House is significant under criterion A and B in the areas of ethnic heritage and health/medicine for its association with prominent local African-American physician Dr. John W. Darden and the role he played in the early-twentieth century history of Opelika, Alabama. As the town's first African-American doctor and its most prominent black citizen, Dr. Darden was a pivotal civic and business leader in the community. The house is also architecturally significant under criterion C as an excellent example of an early-twentieth century dwelling designed and constructed by African-American builders. The house is largely unchanged from its original 1906 appearance with the exceptions that a balcony was added atop the front porch in 1925 and one bay of the porch was enclosed for use as a waiting room in 1944. The period of significance for the house is 1906 to 1949, the years of its construction through the death of Dr. Darden while still residing and practicing medicine there.

Historical Narrative

A native of Wilson, North Carolina, John William Darden (September 27, 1876-January 10, 1949) was the oldest son of Charles Henry Darden and Dianah Scarborough Darden.¹ The elder Darden was a former slave who relocated to Wilson, North Carolina in 1868 at the age of fourteen. After starting a successful business as a blacksmith and wheelwright, the elder Darden became North Carolina's first African-American mortician.² The Dardens wanted their children to be educated and to take advantage of every opportunity that they could provide. As a result, three of their sons became doctors, two became lawyers, two became morticians, and two daughters became teachers and one became a nurse.

John W., the eldest son, "from the age of ten, when he was unable to find medical assistance for his unconscious sister Annie, ...had one driving goal, and that was to become a doctor."³ After attending the graded schools in Wilson, Darden attended high school in Salisbury, North Carolina. Upon graduating from high school, he attended Livingstone College in Salisbury, from which he graduated in 1895. He enrolled in the Leonard Medical College of Shaw University in 1897 and received his M.D. degree in 1901. After graduating from medical school, Darden completed post-graduate work at the Long Island Hospital in Brooklyn, New York.⁴

Darden decided to open his own medical practice in 1903. He wanted to return to Wilson, but another black physician was already practicing there. Dr. John Andrew, a friend of Darden's, was at the time working in the hospital at Tuskegee and suggested that Darden come to Opelika where he would be the only black physician in town. Darden opened his medical office in his first house on South Third Street. In June 1904, he and his brother John Benjamin Darden, a druggist known as "J.B.," purchased a building on Jefferson Street near the commercial center of town.⁵ The Dardens operated a pharmacy in the front of the building with Dr. Darden's medical office to the rear. "The two brothers dispensed prescriptions, cosmetics, ice cream, and a lot of good cheer, and the store became a meeting place for the community. Local residents tell us that their Sundays were not complete without a stroll to the drugstore for a chat and a scoop of John's homemade ice cream."⁶ The location of the office adjacent to the drugstore was a common pattern for black physicians in the rural south. According to Thomas J. Ward, Jr., in Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South: "Still, the most popular office location was in or above black-owned drugstores. Often in partnership with the store's pharmacist, who was usually also its owner, the drugstore physician became a familiar institution in southern hamlets."⁷ The

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Dardens' younger brother Bud came to live in Opelika at the age of nine after the death of their mother and "became the ace soda fountain man, specializing in a tutti-fruttie sundae."⁸ Dr. Darden's brother-in-law, Dr. John Clark, a dentist, also operated his practice from the building.

In 1905, Darden married Maude Jean Logan of Montgomery who was the pianist and a Sunday school teacher at Thompson African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church where he attended services. The Dardens purchased a 0.68-acre tract of land from G.N. Hudmon and his wife Ida on November 20, 1906 for \$350.⁹ According to local tradition, Darden employed two local African-American contractors, Clifford Parks and Nelson Clayton, who were members of his church and had built the church, to build the present house.

Dr. Darden and his wife were active in the social and religious life of the community. Mrs. Darden was in charge of Christian Education at Thompson Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church and Dr. Darden served as a trustee, steward, and member of the choir. Dr. Darden was a member of Mega Psi Phi fraternity and a Mason. While the Dardens had no children, they often entertained children from the community at their home. Mrs. Darden hosted teas and parties for girls and gave etiquette lessons. The Dardens also entertained notable African-Americans including Booker T. Washington and Washington Carver, who were then associated with the nearby Tuskegee Institute, and noted Birmingham businessman A. G. Gaston.¹⁰

After he moved to his new house, Darden converted his South Third Street house into an infirmary for African-Americans, the first of its kind in the city.¹¹ "Long outraged by the lack of public medical facilities for black people, he established a private hospital. It was a simple one-story wooden building, but many complicated operations were performed there and many lives saved."¹² In addition to his private practice and running the infirmary, Dr. Darden served as a conscription doctor and also treated inmates at the Lee County Jail. As the only African-American doctor within a thirty-mile radius, Dr. Darden's practice extended to nearby Auburn and the rural areas of Lee County. In the strictly segregated south, Dr. Darden neither treated nor employed whites, although on certain occasions he consulted with Dr. Jim Bruce, a white physician in Opelika.

Darden also gained a local reputation as "the guardian of minority rights."¹³ His medical work with the local jail allowed him to witness firsthand the effects of the violence and intolerance that befell many blacks. On at least one occasion the pharmacy became a sanctuary for an innocent visitor from Chicago who, being unaware of the local prohibition against blacks patronizing white restaurants, had incited a lynch mob. The man first sought refuge from Dr. Clark until Dr. Darden recruited the white Republican postmaster who armed himself and was able to delay the mob long enough for Dr. Darden to get the man out of town. Afterward, Dr. and Mrs. Darden were harassed but there was no further violence. Dr. Darden also persuaded his brother J.B. to move away from Tuskegee when he ran afoul of the local Ku Klux Klan leader.

The plight of black physicians in the rural south is documented in Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South:

While there were undoubtedly regional differences in the severity of racial discrimination that they confronted in everyday life, African-American physicians throughout the segregated states encountered similar problems, as their professional lives were constantly marred by racial discrimination and a lack of opportunity. Barred from public hospitals, they lost patients to white physicians who could provide more complete care. Excluded from professional associations, they often failed to keep abreast of modern medical and surgical techniques. Furthermore, they

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had to battle the pervasive attitude of white supremacy that poisoned the South, affecting both black and white citizens and costing them both patients and respect.¹⁴

Despite the racial discrimination that was prevalent in the community at the time, local tradition holds that Dr. Darden was able to gain the respect of citizens of both races by his friendly manner and natural leadership abilities.

As his health began to decline, Dr. Darden gradually began practicing from his house and he moved most of his practice there by 1944. A portion of the porch that extended along the south side of the house was enclosed to serve as a waiting room for his patients. Some of the house was outfitted with medical furnishing and equipment. Dr. Darden practiced exclusively from the house for about two years prior to his death on January 10, 1949. The Opelika Daily News of January 12, 1949 carried the following obituary:

Dr. J.W. Darden, negro physician who passed away here Monday following a lingering illness was a good citizen and an excellent example for members of his race. For 47 years, Dr. Darden had practiced his profession in Opelika. He started making his livelihood as a Pullman porter and being ambitious soon found a means of acquiring a medical education by working his way through college. The effort paid off, not only in a material way but in the respect of both white and colored which he alone earned. By emulating his life and his conduct, members of Dr. Darden's race could better themselves as he did, all the while becoming more useful citizens of the community. The news of this deceased physician belies completely the scandalous reports emanating from northern sections regarding the limited opportunities of colored people in the south. Dr. Darden spent the greater part of his life here in the very deep south. He wrought well and prospered. His life should be an inspiration for other members of his race.¹⁵

In the racially segregated community of the time, it was notable that the newspaper covered the passing of Darden. The small one-column obituary appeared on the second page of the paper; the next day, news of a peaceful visit to the city by the Ku Klux Klan warranted a two-column article atop the front page.¹⁶ Still, the respect Darden garnered amongst both races in Opelika was real and in 1951 the city's new black high school was named in his honor.

Mrs. Darden continued to live in the house until her death in 1976. Mrs. Darden's estate rented the house for a short time and it later stood vacant. The house was used for the filming of the television motion picture *Sister, Sister* starring Diahann Carroll and Paul Winfield that aired in 1982. Dr. Darden's niece, Norma Jean Darden, was a friend of screenwriter Maya Angelou and, according to family tradition, convinced Angelou to film portions of the movie at the Darden House. While most of *Sister, Sister* was filmed in North Carolina, parts of the interior of the Darden house and its Auburn Street streetscape appear in the film.

Lindsay and Mae Sistrunk purchased the house in 1980 and lost it to a bank foreclosure in 1999.¹⁷ During their ownership, the house fell into an advanced state of deterioration and the City of Opelika condemned it. The house was included in the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's list of threatened local landmarks in 1999. A local group, the J.W. Darden High School Alumni Association, was formed to save the house and raised \$2,500 from former students and the school and the East Alabama Medical Society with which to purchase the house from the bank in October 1999.¹⁸ The association immediately stabilized the house and formed the J. W.

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Darden Foundation, Inc. in 2000 to continue restoration work. In the ensuing years, the Foundation raised money from the local community, the Alabama Historical Commission, the Opelika Chamber of Commerce, the Opelika Preservation Commission, and the city's planning department, as well as receiving donated services from architects, contractors, the Auburn University College of Engineering, and Auburn University's College of Architecture, Design and Construction's Historic Preservation Guild. In all, approximately five hundred thousand dollars has been expended on the restoration of the house, which was reopened in June 2006 as a community center.¹⁹

The Darden House remains as the most tangible remainder of Darden's contributions to the community, having served as his residence for most of his life in Opelika and as his office for several years prior to his death. Of the other buildings that Dr. Darden owned or operated, only the former infirmary building still stands. The building is a simple gable-front form dwelling that was extensively altered during its conversion for use as an infirmary by Dr. Darden and has seen subsequent alterations. The relatively nondescript character of the building does not illustrate Dr. Darden's prominence in the community the way his 1906 residence does. His former office downtown was demolished in recent years for parking and the site is now incorporated into the courthouse square.

Black Businesses in Opelika

Dr. Darden was the first black physician in Opelika. Some years after he opened his practice and drug store, another black doctor, Dr. E. A. Lindsay, also came to town and opened a medical practice and pharmacy. A third doctor, Dr. Steele, came to the community in the early 1950s. Other black professionals included W.F. Clarke, Darden's brother-in-law, who was a dentist, and Williams and Peterson, morticians. No black lawyers are documented in the community until the latter twentieth century. Dr. Darden's prominence among this select group of African-American professionals is evidenced by the naming of the black high school in his honor in 1951 and the recent naming of a street in his honor. He is the only local black physician referenced in John Andrew Kenney's 1912 book The Negro in Medicine.

In addition to the few professionals, Opelika's black business community in the early twentieth century included a barber shop, a beauty salon, a café, two grocery stores, and a shoe shop.²⁰ Three life insurance companies are also referenced in the 1938 city directory, one of which, the Pilgrim Life Insurance Company, operated out of Dr. Darden's building. The others included the Atlanta Life Insurance Company and the Booker T. Washington Life Insurance Company. The black businesses were generally concentrated in the blocks to the east of the Lee County Courthouse surrounding the site of Dr. Darden's building. One of the grocery stores, Stitt's Grocery, was located on East Street within one of the primarily African-American neighborhoods. Mr. Stitt also operated what locals describe as a honky tonk and was the regional sales representative for Wurlitzer juke boxes.²¹

Architecture

The John W. Darden House is an excellent example of an early-twentieth century dwelling designed and constructed by African-American builders. According to Darden family history, the house was designed by Dr. Darden in association with two African-American contractors Clifford Parks and Nelson Clayton. The two were responsible for the construction of Thompson Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church and are thought to have built other

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houses for Opelika's black community in the early 20th century.²² Typical of the Foursquare form of residence popular in the early 1900s, the house features a four room plan with an open foyer. Interior trim and detailing is refined and is transitional in style, exhibiting aspects of late Victorian, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival styles. Architectural features include elaborate molded and beaded board ceilings in the parlor and dining room, an archway with Corinthian pilasters on paneled pedestals in the hallway, paneled wainscoting in Dr. Darden's office, mantelpieces with over-mantels, simple molded window and door surrounds, pocket doors, and molded baseboards. No other early-twentieth century houses relating to Opelika's African-American doctors are extant. Only one other Alabama residence relating to an African-American doctor, the Dr. A.M. Brown House in Birmingham, has been listed in the National Register.

Notes

¹ Family sources indicate that Darden's name was John Wesley Darden. However, the 1918 draft registration he completed lists his name as John William Darden.

² Norma & Carole Darden, Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine (New York: Broadway Books, 1994), p. 4.

³ Ibid., p. 39.

⁴ John Andrew Kenney, The Negro in Medicine (Tuskegee, AL: Tuskegee Institute, 1912), p. 24.

⁵ Deed Book 246, p. 554.

⁶ Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine, p. 40.

⁷ Thomas J. Ward, Jr. Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 2003), p. 111.

⁸ Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine, p. 40.

⁹ Opelika, AL, Lee County Judge of Probate, Deed Book 81, p. 72.

¹⁰ Dr. Yvonne Phillips, Ed.D. and Shirley Dixon, Remembering the Legacy, Preserving Our Heritage (Opelika, AL: J.W. Darden Foundation, Inc., 2007), n.p.; Dr. Yvonne Phillips, Ed.D. Opelika, Alabama, interview.

¹¹ Dr. Yvonne Phillips, Ed.D. Opelika, Alabama, interview, September 12, 2008; the house still stands and retains its overall historic appearance.

¹² Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine, p. 41.

¹³ Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine, p. 41-41.

¹⁴ Thomas J. Ward, Jr. Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South (Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 2003), p. 111.

¹⁵ "Dr. Darden, Colored Physician, Passes," Opelika Daily News, January 12, 1949.

¹⁶ "Klan-Filled Auto Caravan Makes Brief 'Tour' City," Opelika Daily News, January 13, 1949.

¹⁷ Deed Book 1091, p. 587.

¹⁸ Deed Book 2187, p. 772.

¹⁹ Donathon Prater, "A House That Love Built," Opelika-Auburn News, June 25, 2006.

²⁰ Opelika City Directory, 1938.

²¹ Dr. Yvonne Phillips, Ed.D. Opelika, Alabama, interview.

²² Dr. Yvonne Phillips, Ed.D. Opelika, Alabama, interview; no specific examples of their other works have been documented.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Buckner, Brett. "History Lessons." Opelika-Auburn News, November 14, 2001.

_____. "Rebuilding broken promises, Opelika landmark enters second phase of restoration." Opelika-Auburn News, February 28, 2001.

Cipperly, Ann. "Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine – Local Family Roots," undated clipping in the local history files, Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library, Opelika, Alabama.

Darden, Norma & Carole. Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine. New York: Broadway Books, 1994.

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National Park Service

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10. Geographic Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundary includes the entire parcel recorded in the Assessor's Office for Lee County, Alabama as parcel number 14-04-18-2-001-066.000.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire current parcel only, which represents the total remaining acreage historically associated with the resource.

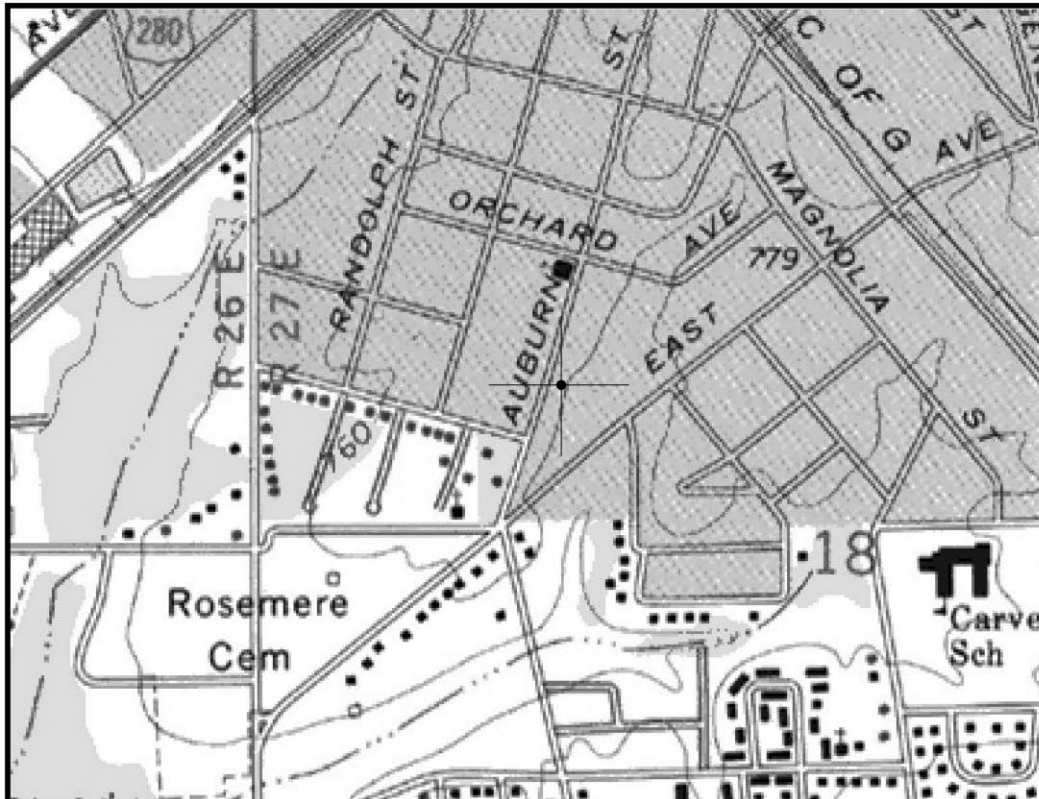
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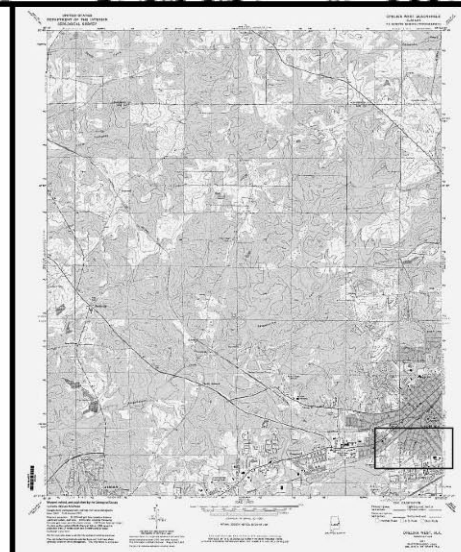
name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
county and State Lee County, AL

U.S.G.S. Topographic Map



U.S.G.S. Topographic Map
Opelika West Quadrangle

Zone Easting Northing
16 651640 3612102



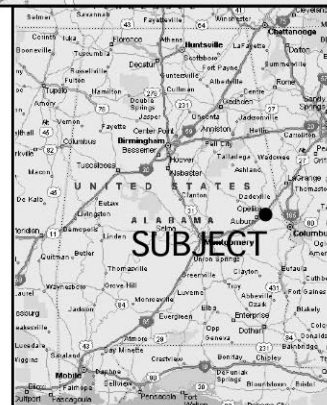
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name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
county and State Lee County, AL

Location Map



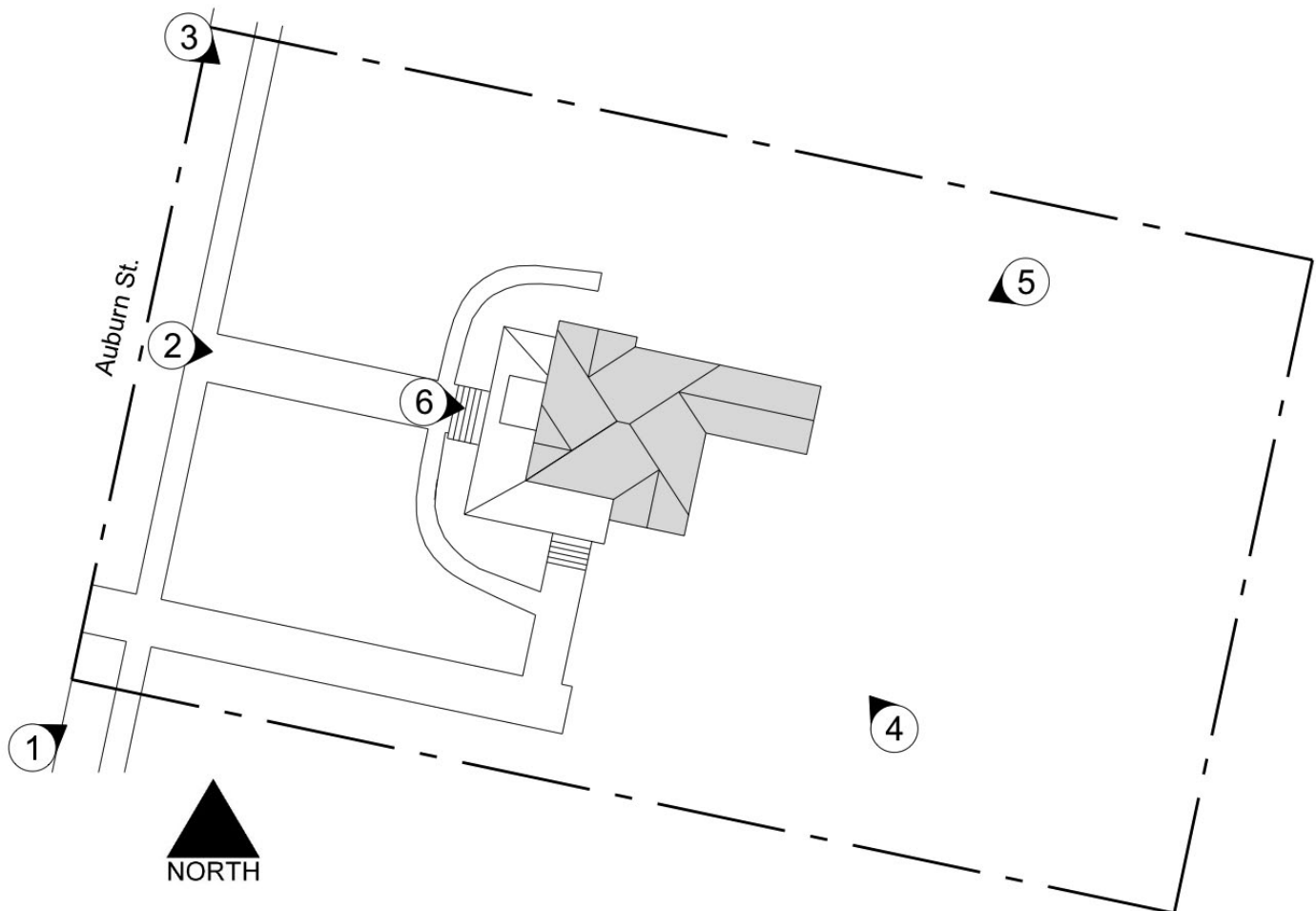
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name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
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Siteplan (with Photo Directions Indicated)



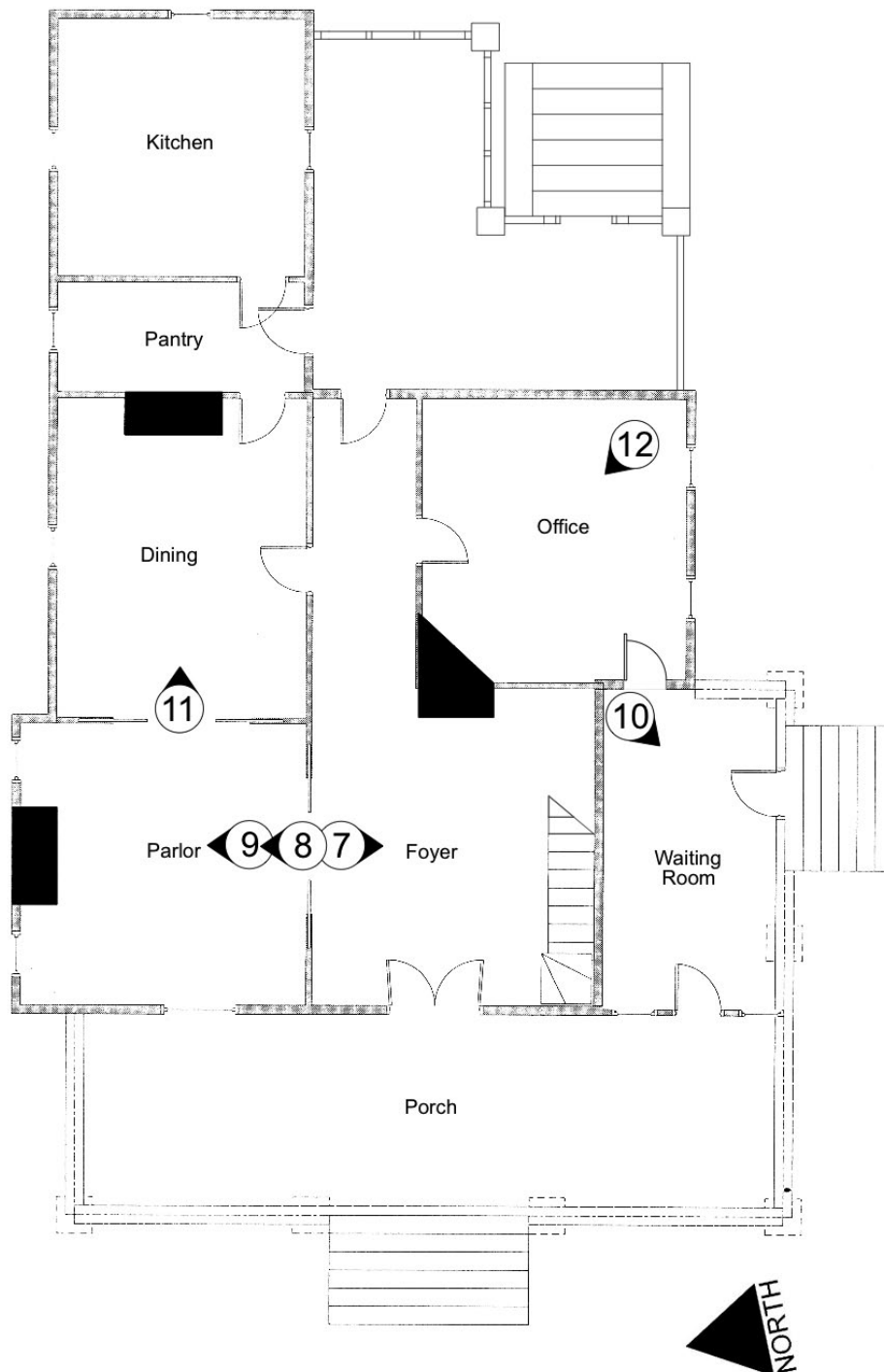
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name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
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First Floor Plan (with Photo Directions Indicated)



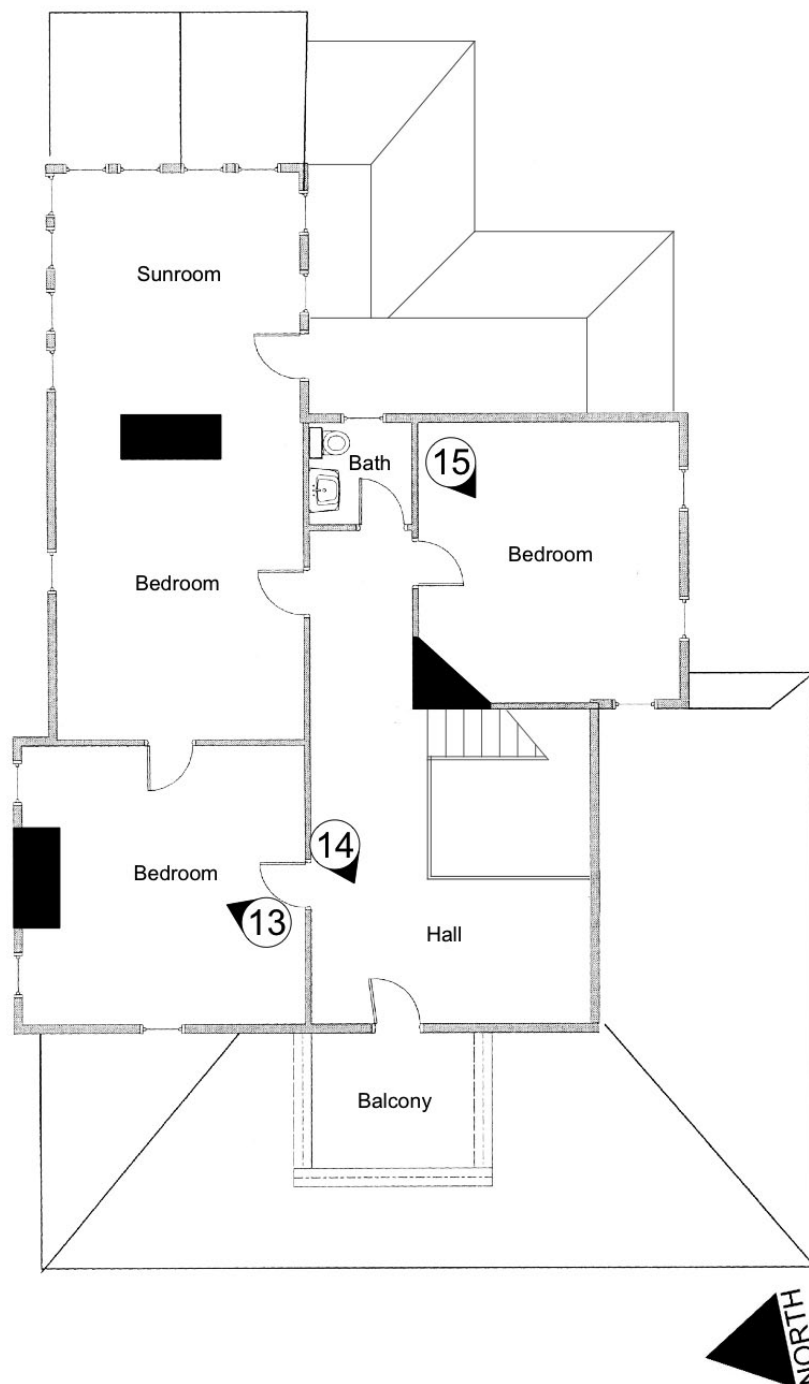
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name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
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Second Floor Plan (with Photo Directions Indicated)



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name of property: Darden, Dr. J.W., House
county and State Lee County, AL

Photographs

1. Darden, Dr. J. W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider, Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th Street, Anniston, AL 36207
6. West facade (left) and south elevation (right), camera facing northeast
7. Photo #1 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0001.tif)
6. West facade, camera facing east
7. Photo #2 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0002.tif)
6. West facade (right) and north elevation (left), camera facing southeast
7. Photo #3 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0003.tif)
6. South (left) and east (right) elevations, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #4 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0004.tif)
6. East (left) and north (right) elevations, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #5 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0005.tif)
6. West facade, detail of entrance, camera facing east
7. Photo #6 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0006.tif)
6. Interior, stairhall, camera facing south
7. Photo #7 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0007.tif)
6. Interior, parlor, camera facing north
7. Photo #8 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0008.tif)
6. Interior, parlor, detail of ceiling, camera facing north
7. Photo #9 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0009.tif)
6. Interior, waiting room, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #10 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0010.tif)
6. Interior, dining room, camera facing east
7. Photo #11 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0011.tif)
6. Interior, office, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #12 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0012.tif)
6. Interior, 2nd floor, northwest bedroom, camera facing northeast

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name of property:

Darden, Dr. J.W., House

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county and State

Lee County, AL

- 7. Photo #13 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0013.tif)
- 6. Interior, 2nd floor hallway, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #14 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0014.tif)
- 6. Interior, 2nd floor, southeast bedroom, camera facing northwest
- 7. Photo #15 (AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0015.tif)



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. West facade (left) and south elevation (right), camera facing northeast
7. Photo #1

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0001.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. West facade, camera facing east
7. Photo #2

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0002.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. West facade (right) and north elevation (left), camera facing southeast
7. Photo #3

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0003.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. South (left) and east (right) elevations, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #4

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0004.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. East (left) and north (right) elevations, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #5

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0005.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. West facade, detail of entrance, camera facing east
7. Photo #6

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0006.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, stairhall, camera facing south
7. Photo #7

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0007.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, parlor, camera facing north
7. Photo #8

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0008.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, parlor, detail of ceiling, camera facing north
7. Photo #9

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0009.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, waiting room, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #10

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0010.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, dining room, camera facing east
7. Photo #11

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0011.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, office, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #12

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0012.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, 2nd floor, northwest bedroom, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #13

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0013.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. John W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, 2nd floor hallway, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #14

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0014.tif
 Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper



1. Darden, Dr. J. W., House
2. Opelika, Lee County, AL
3. David B. Schneider
4. September 2008
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207

6. Interior, 2nd floor, southeast bedroom, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #15

Image: AL_LeeCounty_DardenDrJohnWHouse_0015.tif

Print: Epson Ultrachrome Ink on Premium Glossy Photo Paper