



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130
PHONE: 261-3184



ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE
Nomination Form

COUNTY Butler

NAME: Present Watson Memorial Center Historic J.C. Watson home - Watson Hospital

LOCATION: Street and Number 101 Miranda Street

Town (Give directions if rural) Georgiana

\*A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM\*

CATEGORY: Building (X) Structure ( ) Object ( ) Site ( ) District ( )

USE: Present Vacant Historic Home and hospital

OWNERSHIP: Public (X) Private ( )

Owner's Name City of Georgiana

Mailing Address P.O. Box 206
Georgiana, Alabama 36033

INTEGRITY: Original Site (X) Moved ( ) When?

From where? (Give details in significance.)

CONDITIONS: Excellent ( ) Good ( ) Fair (X) Ruins ( )

TREATS: No ( ) Yes (X) By What? City wants to tear it down.

RESTORATION WORK: Being considered (X) Underway ( ) Completed ( ) Not planned ( )

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open land ( ) Woodland ( ) Scattered buildings ( )
High building density ( ) Commercial (X) Industrial ( )
Residential (X) Rural ( )

Acreage Less than one

For all categories other than a district and object give a site plan with a North arrow. Show related buildings.

For a district give a verbal boundary description and attach a sketch map of the district.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Why is this landmark significant? (X) associated with events, persons, or movements  
Local (X) State ( ) National ( )  
( ) a good example of a type or style of structure  
( ) other

Explain: (Briefly state why the above is true)

One of the first hospitals in Butler County. Housed the family of Dr. Watson while also serving as hospital. Outstanding workmanship and attention to detail in portion used as family residence. Elaborate compared to other homes in the area.

Date of Construction or Period of major importance. Constructed 1913

Architect or Builder (Give name and biographies, if known) Supposedly designed by Dr. Watson. Probably aided by local carpenters, as there are several other houses in the city which have some of the same exterior details.

Give a complete but concise history of the Landmark. Include information on important people and events associated with the landmark. (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

Built by Dr. James Crawford Watson and wife Edna as a residence in 1913. Also served as infirmary for Dr. Watson, a medical doctor. First appendectomy in Georgiana performed there in 1913, shortly after building was completed. After Dr. Watson's death in 1926, Mrs. Watson continued to live in the building, and rented out rooms to boarders. In 1966 the property was sold by Mrs. Watson to A.E. and Jean Booker. The property was purchased from them by the City of Georgiana in 1982. Dr. J.C. Watson was a member of a noted family in the area, which produced several physicians. Several persons who were later prominent in the business life of Georgiana boarded in the home of Mrs. Watson when they first arrived in the city.

State sources of information, giving full bibliographical data: From conversations with Dr. Watson's daughters, Mrs. Eleanor Watson Lewis and Mrs. Louise Watson Sapp, both of Panama City, Fla., and Mr. Clive Shell of Georgiana (first appendectomy patient), and other local residents.

DESCRIPTION: PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LANDMARK MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM.

Complete as directed below for each category.

BUILDING:

Number of stories 2 Foundation Masonry pillars Basement No

Wall Material: (Note changes from one floor or wing to another)  
(clapboard, brick, stone, wood shingle, board and batten, stucco over wood or brick, metal, logs)

Clapboards

Structural System: (If known)  
Wood frame (X) Load-bearing masonry ( ) Iron or Steel ( )

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Roof Type: (Gable, Gambrel, Mansard, Flat, Hipped, Combination)  
Combination

Roof Covering: (Wood shingle, Asphalt, Tile, Metal, Slate)  
Asphalt shingles

Roof Trim: (Cornices, bargeboard, brackets, etc.) Enclosed cornices on front (residential) section; open cornices on infirmary section.

Porches: Front (type and description) Wide, one-story gallery, extends across front and down left side. Roof supported by brick and wood pillars.

Rear (type and description) None

Side (type and description) Sleeping porch, screened, on south (left) side of house.

Doors: Main entrance (location, description)

Center Front. Wooden with 12 lights, one wooden panel at bottom.

Other entrances (location, description) Left front: Wooden, one panel, one light

Back: 2-panel wood, one light.

Kitchen area: 6-panel solid wood.

Windows: Types and number of each floor of facade First floor: three, 1 over 1, double hung. Second floor: five, frosted diamond panes over single pane, double hung.  
Types and number per floor for sides and rear 1st floor: 1 over 1, 10; hung. 2 over 2, 7; 4 over 4, 13. Second floor: diamond panes over one, 9; 2 over 2, 9; 4 over 4, 8; 1 over 1, 1.

Interior: Describe mantels, stairways, wainscoting, plasterwork and any unusual feature

Wainscoting, stairway, door and window frames and mantels in residential section of dark-stained heart pine. Terra cotta tiles around fireplace in reception room; yellow glass tiles around parlor fireplace; green glass tiles around dining room fireplace. Dining room mantel has leaded glass doors. Dentil molding-type plate rail in dining room. Stairway has catwalk landing. Residential area wallcovering of painted muslin. Infirmary has tongue-&-groove horizontal board walls, stairway, and floors all of heart pine. Pine flooring in residential part; has four pocket doors; beamed ceiling in reception room; chimneys enclosed within walls. Original piping for carbide lights remains in residential portion.

Other: Use this space to describe any additions, alterations, outbuildings or other features of the structure and its surroundings.

Small upstairs porch over front entrance has been removed. Former back porch was enclosed and three rooms added above for surgery. After Dr. Watson's death, structure was converted to apartments and baths and kitchenettes added.

On an additional sheet make a sketch of the floor plan of the building, showing dimensions if possible.

THIS IS NOT REQUIRED!

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

- STRUCTURE: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the structure. (See examples)
- OBJECT: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the object. (See examples)
- SITE: On a separate sheet of paper give the present description of the site and how the site is believed to have looked during its period of importance.
- DISTRICT: On a separate sheet of paper give a general description of the district. Also needed is a numbered list of the structures in the district corresponding to the sketch map. This listing should include a name for the structure, a date of construction, a brief description, a statement of why the structure is significant, if it is.

**\*A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED AND PHOTOGRAPHS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM\***

Map: A U.S. Geological Survey Map is preferred, but if you are unable to obtain one a county highway map may be used.

Photographs: Black and white, glossy finish, 5 x 7, or 8 x 10, is preferred.

FORM PREPARED BY

Name Sherry M. Bowers Date October 1, 1984  
 Address P.O. Box 26 Telephone 376-2076  
 Town Georgiana, Alabama 36033  
 Organization Watson Memorial Center Renovation Committee

For Alabama Historical Commission use only

STAFF COMMENTS:

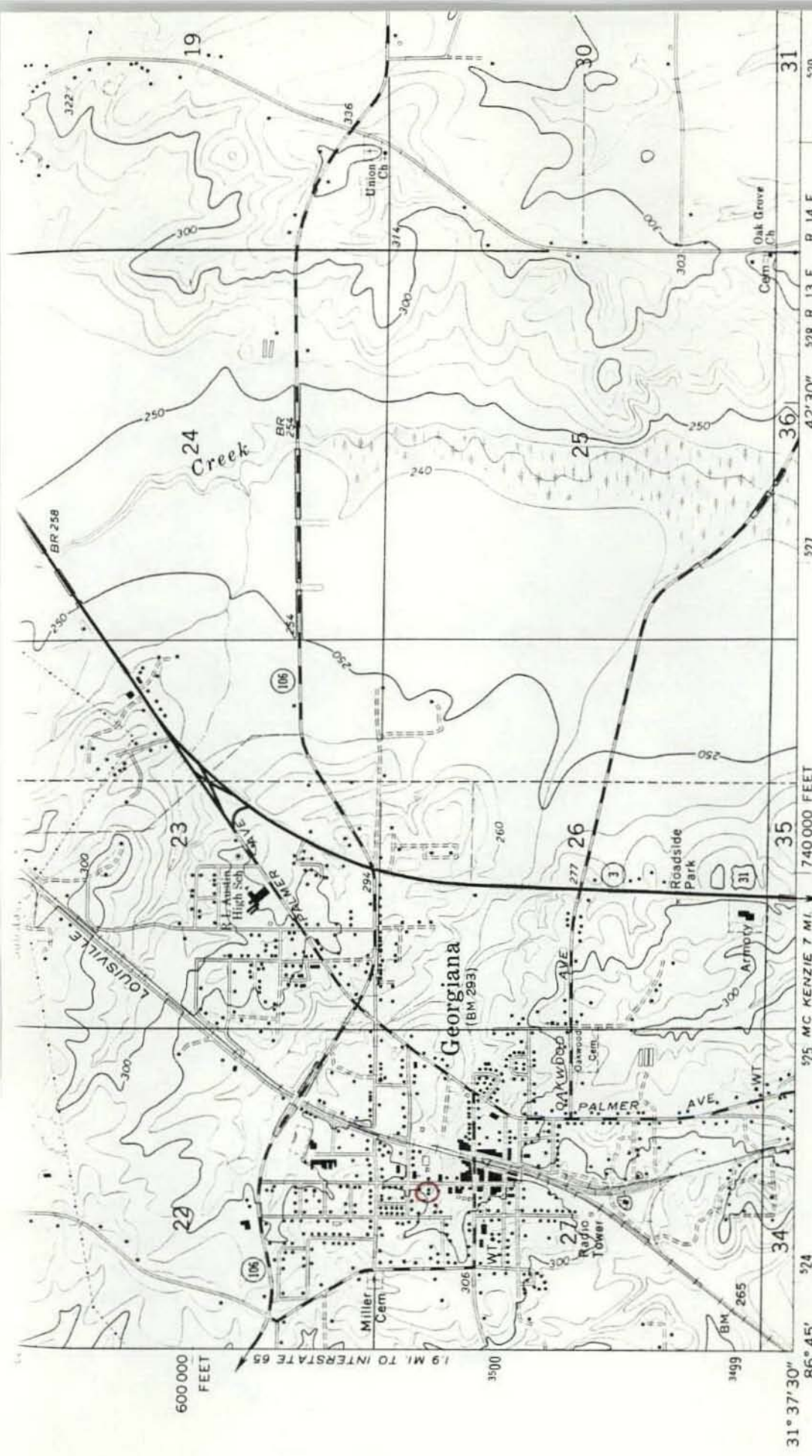
MAP REFERENCE: MAP \_\_\_\_\_

U. T. M. Reference Zone Easting Northing

Thematic Category \_\_\_\_\_

Added to ALABAMA REGISTER \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER Potential



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

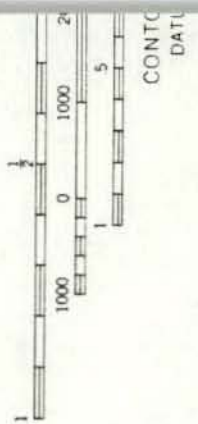
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1971

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Alabama coordinate system, west zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH THE ACT OF MARCH 3, 1909 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AT A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC DATA