

514 Lindsey Lane (House)
Jefferson Ashby Redevelopment Area
Americus
Sumter County
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2288²

HABS
GA
131-AMER,
11-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

514 Lindsey Lane (House)

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Location: 514 Lindsey Lane, Americus, Sumter County Georgia

Significance: Example of Cottage-style house typical of the area ca. 1920.

Description: This gabled ell house has a front porch across the front; the ell is at the rear but has an addition obscuring it across the entire rear. It is raised on block piers, with one brick pier remaining. The wood siding has a half straight profile. The porch is enclosed halfway up. The only remaining window is 6/6; the roof is metal standing seam.

History: This house and lot under the old numbering system of the City of Americus was 103 Lindsey Alley. This house and lot was bought sold, or conveyed over the years until it was deeded to Annie Cannon. This house will be demolished pursuant to the Jefferson/Ashby Urban Redevelopment Project.

This house was located in the McCoy Hill neighborhood, encompassing Academy, McCoy, Poplar, Winn, Jefferson, and Ashby streets. It was originally the residential property of a prominent antebellum attorney and Confederate general, Henry Kent McCay. The modern misspelling results from the name's pronunciation not matching its own spelling.

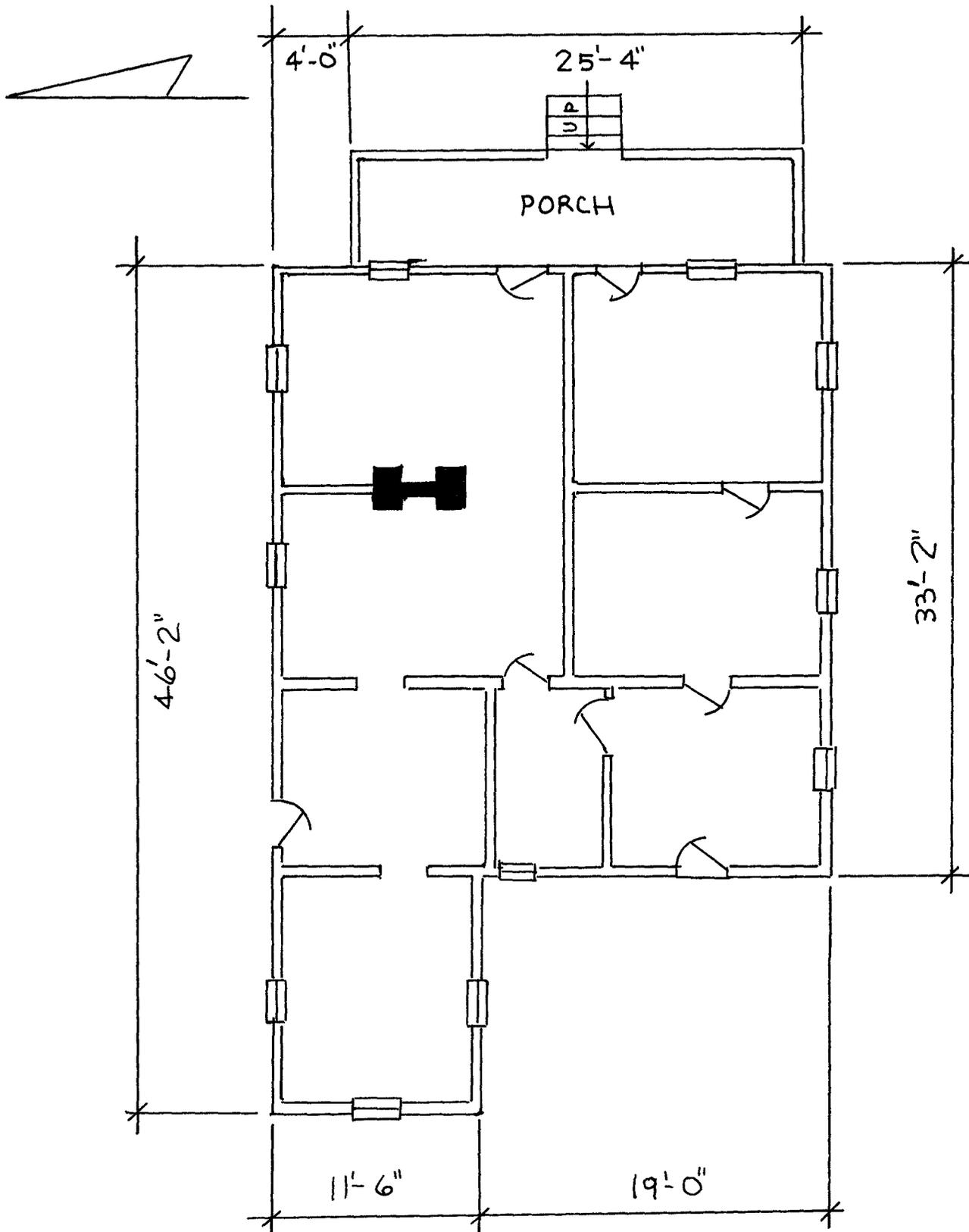
During the Reconstruction Era in the 1870's the site was used for public executions even as freedmen were establishing a black residential neighborhood in the immediate vicinity.

After the destruction of the old McCay home in the early 1880's, the site became the location of the city's first public school for blacks, McCoy Hill School, built in 1884. With the earlier addition of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in 1882, the neighborhood boasted the residences of many of the black community's professional class. For example, two of the city's preeminent black educators, Professors George W.F. Philips and Alfred S. Staley, were homeowners there.

For almost 130 years, the McCoy Hill neighborhood has nurtured generations of Americus' black citizenry.

Sources: Sumter County, Georgia. Superior Court. Deed Book 87 (1889), p.529
Sanborn Fire Maps (1912,1924)

Historian: Alan Anderson, Sumter Historic Preservation Society Historian and Archivist
Meda Krenson, Architect
Desi L. Wynter, Acquisition and Relocation Coordinator



4 NOVEMBER 1994

TIM LITTLEFIELD