

PH0664383

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 8 1978
DATE ENTERED SEP 13 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

**

HISTORIC

Marion Military Institute (Chapel and Lovelace Hall)

AND/OR COMMON

Same

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

AL 14

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Marion

VICINITY OF

7

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Alabama

01

Perry

105

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

__PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

__MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

X EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

__YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

X YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Marion Military Institute

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Marion

VICINITY OF

Alabama

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Perry County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Marion

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED DATE _____

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated at the west end of the quadrangle, the 1857 Marion Military Institute Chapel is the focal point of the campus. Flanking it at the south end is the oldest structure on the campus, Lovelace Hall, which was constructed in 1854. Both are designed in the Classical style which was so popular in antebellum Southern architecture, and they have served as models for the school's later buildings.

The Chapel is a two-story hipped-roof brick structure, and its facade is divided into three main bays which are dominated by the gabled center pavillion. The central two-story portico features four Doric columns supporting a plain entablature and pediment. A square clock tower surmounts the gable of the pavillion.

The dominant center pavillion is subdivided into three minor bays, featuring a main entrance through recessed double doors surrounded by a transom and sidelights. The window above the doorway is flanked by side panels which create a symmetrical arrangement with the entrance. The outer second-floor windows are 6/6 double hung sashes, while those on the ground floor are commemorative stained glass windows. All the windows have a plain lintel above and a slip sill below. Brick pilasters are attached at the corners of the center bay, and first floor doors and second floor windows appear on the sides of the bay projection.

Cohering to the symmetry of the center section is the subdivision into three minor bays and the treatment of the windows and doors of the side bays. Also, brick pilasters corresponding to those of the portico are attached at the ends of the side sections. A horizontal effect is strengthened by the extension of the entablature across the facade and by a one-story gallery supported by small Doric columns. One-story wings were added at each end in 1962 to provide additional classroom space, and the gallery was extended the length of these to establish a stylistic conformity.

In 1972 the interior of the Chapel underwent a complete interior renovation which included remodeling the entranceway into a lobby, enlarging the balcony, and replacing the theatre-type seats with pews. The two stained glass windows on the front were also added at this time, though the exterior was otherwise unchanged.

Similar to the Chapel, Lovelace Hall is a two-story brick structure with a hipped roof. A central gable creates a pediment-effect and corresponds to the dominating pavillion of the Chapel. Six brick piers are attached on this center section, as well as one at each end of the building. The flat-roof portion at the north end was added around 1920. The dominant lintels, pedimented gable, pilasters, entablature, and facade symmetry create a Classical effect which is in harmony with the style of the Chapel. Lovelace Hall has continued to be used as a barracks throughout the years, so the partitioning of the dormitory rooms has been the only notable alteration.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *1854-58* BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The campus of Marion Military Institute contains two of West Alabama's most noted antebellum educational landmarks, the Chapel and Lovelace Hall. They are the two remaining structures dating from the 1854-58 Howard College campus, and they depict the quadrangle arrangement and Classical style which were so popular for nineteenth century college campuses.

Founded in Marion in 1841 by the Alabama Baptist Convention, Howard College was one of the three antebellum schools which led that Black Belt community to be considered one of the leading educational centers in the state during the mid-nineteenth century. When a fire in 1844 destroyed the original campus, the school rebuilt on the site now occupied by Marion Military Institute. The structures which remain, however, date from a building program which began in 1854 following another fire.

The Civil War interrupted the momentum of construction, the enlargement of the faculty, and the increase in enrollment, and it completely destroyed the endowment fund. In spite of this, the school remained open for students too young to enlist, and between 1863-65 it was used as a Confederate hospital. Regular sessions resumed after the war, and in 1887, in response to the school's rapid growth, the Alabama Baptist Convention decided to remove Howard College to the "young and flourishing city of Birmingham". This left only the two female schools in Marion.

Colonel James Thomas Murfee, long-time president of Howard College, perceived a rising demand for a private male academy to fill the educational vacuum in the area, so he remained behind to become the first president of Marion Military Institute. The new school opened to 79 students in 1887, and in 1889 it received a charter from the State of Alabama. Though over 100 such private schools offering "Classical" curricula received charters around the turn of the century, Marion Military Institute soon achieved the notoriety of being one of the State's finest. As a junior college, it offers college study through the junior class, and, except for the period 1907-15, it has maintained a Military Department offering complete training in preparation for enrollment in the nation's service academies.

In recent years, Marion Military Institute has implemented campaigns for expansion of enrollment and construction. During the 1960's, the academic wings were added to the Chapel and a new barracks was constructed adjacent to Lovelace Hall. While this filled in three sides of the quadrangle area, other recent structures on Polk Street filled in the area behind the Chapel. In 1970, the school expanded its enrollment to admit women and blacks into the high school department. When the Military Department was temporarily abolished between 1907-15, the name had been changed to Marion Institute, but finally the school was renamed Marion Military Institute in 1975 in

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Berney, Saffold. Handbook of Alabama. Spartanburg, S.C.: the Reprint Co., 1975.

Harris, Dr. W. Stuart. "A Short History of Marion, Perry County, Alabama: Its Homes and Its Buildings." Camden, Alabama: Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Planning Commission, 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1.6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES - see continuation sheet

A 16 141691805 136091425

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director and Sally Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Alabama Historical Commission

February 23, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

725 Monroe Street

(205) 832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Montgomery

Alabama 36130

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Miss B. Howard Jr.

TITLE

Alabama SHPO

DATE

March 3, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. B. Pethig

DATE

9/13/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST *William Velouch*

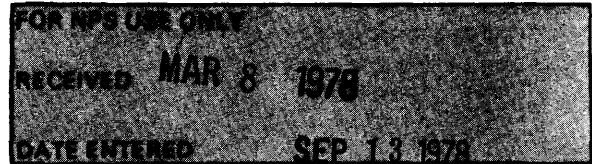
DATE

Sept 14, 1978

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

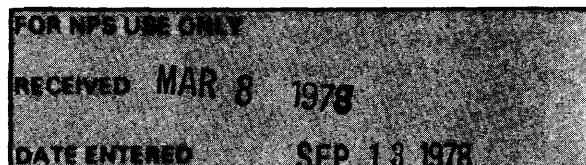
order to emphasize the military training program. The Alabama Military Hall of Honor was also established on the campus at this time.

Today, overlooking the spacious parade ground from the west end of the quadrangle, the Chapel continues to be the nucleus of the campus. It was constructed in 1857 according to a plan submitted by Dr. Noah K. Davis, one of the Howard College's early faculty members. Though the 1972 renovation work resulted in several interior alterations, the exterior still retains its original appearance. The wings which were added in 1962 are attached at either end, and their style aims at imitating the Classical feeling of the main structure.

Lovelace Hall, commonly known as the "Old South Barracks" was also designed by Dr. Davis and depicts the same Classical influence. It has served as a pattern for two other barracks, Wilkerson Hall and New South Barracks, both situated on the quadrangle. The exterior of Lovelace is basically unchanged, though a small section on the east end was added around 1920.

Though the Chapel and Lovelace Hall are the only two structures remaining from the old Howard campus, their Classical style has been carried out throughout the campus.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

History of Education in Alabama. Bicentennial Intern Project Conducted by the
Alabama State Department of Education. Bulletin 1975, No. 7.

Jordan, Weymouth. "Early Ante-bellum Marion, Alabama: A Black Belt Town."
Alabama Historical Quarterly, Vol. 5, No. 1, Spring, 1943.

Moore, Mrs. Woody S. Personal communications, Dec., 1977 - Feb., 1978.

Owne, Thomas McAdory. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography.
Vols. I & II. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1921.

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

LATITUDE 31° 42' 29"

LONGITUDE 87° 46' 18"

Beginning at the southeast corner of the intersection of Cobb and Church Streets, and going 480 feet in an easterly direction to the true point of beginning; thence turning in a northeasterly direction for 360 feet; thence southwardly for 450 feet; then westwardly for 185 feet; thence northwardly for 160 feet; thence westwardly for 50 feet; thence northwardly for 33 feet to the true point of beginning.