PHOO20389
Form 10-300
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (July 1969)

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| Alabama |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| COUNTY: |  |
| Lee |  |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |  |
| entry number | DATE |
|  | 95 |

I. NAME COMMON:

## Loachapoka Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
2. IOCATION

| CITY OR TOWN: |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loachapoka |  | 3rd Congressional District |  |  |
| State | CODE | COUNTY: |  | CODE |
| Alabama | 01 |  | Lee | 081 |

3. ELASSIFICATHON


4 OWYER OF PROPERTY

Multiple private \& public
STREET AND NUMBER:

| CITY OR TOWN: |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| LOachpoka | STATE: | Alabama | CODE |

S. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Lee County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:




The Loachapoka Historic District consists of 17 structures that show Greek and Victorian influences with the exception of the trading center. The trading center, now a museum, is a two story structure with 12 to 14 inch walls of field stone set on a concrete foundation.

The Methodist Church is a single story frame Greek Revival structure topped by a square steeple above the gable roof. The front portico has four square wood columns and two pilasters. There are doors on each side of the porch instead of a central entrance. Originally, the men and women sat on separate sides of the church.

The old hotel is a multi-gabled frame Victorian structure that is presently used as a residence. The remainder of the homes are one story frame buildings that can best be described as either Greek Revival cottages or a Victorian cottages. They are unified by their dates of construction and by their location.



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## ADDENDUM

Structures in Loachapoka Historic District

1. Trading Center/Historical Society Museum (1845) - Two story stone rectangular building.
2. Methodist Church (c. 1859) - One story frame Greek Revival with square steeple.
3. Havis Hotel/Ward House (c. 1850) - One story frame Victorian house.
4. Fielder-Waller-John Jun House (1850s) One story frame with unusually high roof.
5. Howell Webb-Webb Carlisle House (c. 1850) - One story frame originally ell shaped but enlarged c. 1890.
6. Sanford-Rowe11 House (are 1860) - One story frame with Greek Revival influence.
7. Grimes-Jim Wooten-Hill-Nunn House (c. 1850) - Plain one story frame with Greek Revival influence.
8. Trammell-Ward House (1850s) - One story frame Greek Revival
9. Edward-Finley-Robinson-Woodrow Rowel House (Late 1840s or early 1850s) - One story frame originally square but now ell shaped.
10. Martin-Francis House (c. 1850) - One story frame. Unoccupied for last forty years.
11. Mary \& Martha Station House (Late 1840s or early 1850s) - Four room frame house has stucco walls on front porch.
12. Section Foreman-Conway House (c. 1850) - Plain one story frame with two gables in front.
13. Warren-Dr. Green-Vinson House (c. 1850) - One story frame with Greek Revival and Victorian influences.
14. Lewis Peddy House (c. 1850) - One story frame Greek Revival.
15. Lucas-Webbie Rowell House (1850s) - One story frame four room cottage with simple columns.

| STATE Alabama |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| COUNTY |  |
| Lee |  |
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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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## ADDENDUM (Page 2)

16. Bill Wooten House (c. 1850) - One story frame Greek Revival.
17. Webb Rowell House (early 1850s) - One story frame Greek Revival.


## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

| STATE | Alabama |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COUNTY |  |  |  |  |
| Lee |  |  |  |  |
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| ENTRY NUMBER |  |  | DATE |  |
| MAY 11 |  |  | 1 |  |

(Continuation Sheet)

ADDENDUM (Page 3)
Legal Description of Loachapoka

Loachapoka was first incorporated in 1905 but it seems that no records were ever kept, "due to the neglect of certain county officials". It was incorporated for a second time in 1926, with this description as to area:
"The boundary of said proposed corporation is as follows: begin at the NE corner of the SW quarter of the NE quarter of Section 30, Township 19, Range 25 , thence run $W$ along the quarter section line $9,240 \mathrm{ft}$. to the section line between sections 25 and 26 , T 19 R 24 ; thence $S$ and along the section line $2,640 \mathrm{ft}$; to the NW corner of the SW quarter of Section 25, T 19, R 24; thence $E$ and along the quarter section line $9,240 \mathrm{ft}$, to the SE corner of the NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 30, T $19 \mathrm{R} \mathrm{25;} \mathrm{thence} \mathrm{N}$ along the quarter section line $2,640 \mathrm{ft}$. to the point of beginning in Lee County, Ala."



Loachapoka in Lee County, Alabama, has a large number of structures that predate the War Between the States. From the 1840's when the railroad was built through this area until the $1870^{\prime}$ s, Loachapoka was one of the more important trading centers in East Alabama. From 1845 to 1847, Loachapoka was the terminus of the Montgomery and West Point Railroad running east from Montgomery and therefore became the marketing center of a large area. In 1847 the railroad line was extended to Auburn and in 1848 it was extended on to Opelika. Loachapoka remained a prosperous commercial center through the $1850^{\prime}$ s but gradually declined in importance with completion of railroad which connected Montgomery and Atlanta and when the larger portion of the business district burned in the early $1870^{\prime} s$, it was never rebuilt.

One of the more interesting buildings in town is the trade center which was probably built in 1845 in anticipation of the arrival of the railroad. The plain, two story structure has housed numerous types of businesses in its various rooms. These businesses included a millinery shop, a drug store with soda fountain, hardware store, grocery, tailor shop, and a whiskey store. At present, the building serves as the headquarters and museum of the Lee County Historical Society.

The Loachapoka Methodist Church is nearly identical to the Baptist Church, no longer standing, that was included in the Historic American Building Survey. Bill Ellis served as the contractor for both structures. This wooden structure built in the 1850 's still contains the original pews.

Another important structure is the old hotel which is now used as a residence. The building was constructed around 1850. The first known owner was Minor $W$. Havis who also operated a cabinet shop and a livery stable. The Phillips family, who also operated the trading center, ran the hotel at one time. The hotel, which could accommodate 35 overnight guests, has been modified considerably since it was originally built.

The Trammel1-Ward home is located next to the hotel. The Trammell family operated a granite quarry on Sougahatchee Creek between Notasulga and Loachapoka. On the lawn is a post oak tree that is estimated to be over 200 years old. The house was probably built by Bill Ellis in the 1850's as was the Grimes-Wooten-Nunn home. There are numerous other homes in the district that date from the 1840 's and 1850's which are listed in the addendum list.

# Boyd, Frank \& Taylor, The Boys of Boyd's Tank, 1970 

Nunn, Alexander, Yesterdays in Loachapoka, Alexander City, Outlook Publishing Co., 1968
Wright, Peavy, Glimpses into the Past from My Grandfather's Truck, 1969
lo. geographical data



