

12-18-73

PH0021253

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>ALABAMA</b>	
COUNTY: <b>PERRY</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>OCT 4</b>	<b>1973</b>

#### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Old Perry County High School**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Marion Female Seminary**

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**202 Monroe Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Marion**

STATE: **Alabama**      CODE: **01**      COUNTY: **Perry**      CODE: **105**

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Marion City Board of Education**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**200 Monroe Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Marion**      STATE: **Alabama**      CODE: **01**

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Perry County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: **Marion**      STATE: **Alabama**      CODE: **01**

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

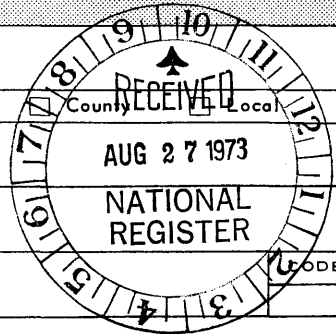
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Building Survey (1934)**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1934**       Federal       State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**National Park Service**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington**      STATE: **D. C.**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY NUMBER: **OCT 4 1973**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

✓ The Marion Female Seminary Building is at present a two-story red brick building designed in the Doric order of the Greek Revival style.

The structure, which faces south, measures 105 feet in length across the facade, 52 feet in height, 35 feet on the west and 70 feet on the east, due to an ell wing which projects to the rear.

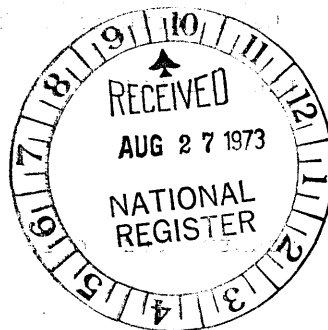
✓ Material consists of brick, wood and plaster. The roof is hipped and covered with metal. Four Doric columns across the facade support a pedimented gable faced in wood, in the center of which has been set a circular louvered ventilator.

When constructed, the interior of the building was divided into three stories. A renovation in 1930 removed the third floor and raised the ceilings of the second story, converting the building to two stories. At the same time six interior chimneys across the front, and six across the rear were removed. Although the building has been somewhat altered, it was added to the Historic American Building Survey after these alterations were made.

The original fenestration consisted of double-hung sashes (nine over nine) fitted with louvered blinds. These were removed in 1930 during renovation and larger windows were installed. The present windows, nine on the second floor and eight on the first, have stone lintels and sills.

While the original floor plan is not fully known, the present arrangement probably follows the original closely. Downstairs, a hall bisects the building giving access to four classrooms. A stair leads to the second floor hall. On the second floor, six large rooms give onto a central hall, at the rear of which is a large studio.

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**5. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Marion Female Seminary is one of the oldest educational landmarks in West Alabama. Established as a non-denominational academy for girls in the early 19th century, the school is also notable as the site where Nicola Marschall, an art instructor at the Seminary in 1861, designed the first flag of the Confederacy as well as the Confederate uniforms. The present structure was the second to be used by the school and was constructed in 1852.

The school was founded in 1836 by a number of Marion residents impressed with the value of a Seminary of learning for girls. A joint stock company was organized and a Board of Directors was elected. After completion of the first building in 1837, the Board of Directors was dissolved and a Board of Trustees elected.

In 1840 the Seminary building and furnishings were sold to pay a balance due on the original building contract. A new company of stockholders purchased the building and reorganized the institution. Two years later The Marion Female Seminary was incorporated by the Alabama Legislature, which granted to the Trustees "the rights and privileges of conferring diplomas upon those pupils who honorably and successfully complete the course of studies prescribed." In 1850 the first building was declared unsafe and consequently the students were moved to other accommodations until a new building, the present one, was constructed in 1852.

It was in this new building that Nicola Marschall designed the first Confederate Flag and the Confederate uniforms. Marschall, a native of St. Windel, Prussia, came to the United States in the late 1840's. He was employed at the Seminary to teach art, music and languages.

The Seminary continued to flourish until 1907 when classes were suspended. The school was then taken over by the Presbyterians and operated as a denominational school until 1916. In 1917 the property was deeded to the City of Marion for educational purposes, and has served as the Marion Elementary School and the Perry County High School. At present the building is threatened with demolition.

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Auburtin, Mary G. Ante-Bellum Marion Cultural Center of the Plantation South - Mimeographed booklet. 1969  
 Darden, Minnie Rhodes. The History of Marion, Alabama, 1817-1940. Unpublished M. S. Thesis. Auburn, Alabama., 1941.  
 Harris, W. Stuart. A Short History of Marion, Perry County, Alabama, Its Homes and Its Buildings. Mimeographed booklet. 1970.  
 Smith, Mrs. Marius J. Marion: 1830-1860. Mimeographed notes. Undated.

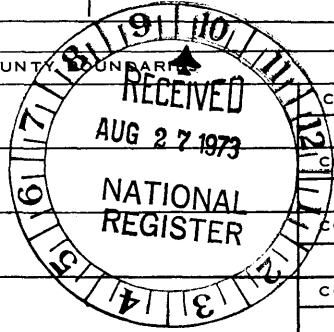
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 37' 54"	87° 19' 09"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission      DATE: March, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
305 S. Lawrence St.

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery      STATE: Alabama      CODE: 01

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/>    State <input type="checkbox"/>    Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Phil B. Howard, Jr.</u></p> <p>Title <u>SHPO - Alabama</u></p> <p>Date <u>August 17, 1973</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert K. Utley</u>                  Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>10/14/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:  <u>Wm J. Huntley, Jr.</u>                  Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>10-3-73</u></p>
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