UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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


## CLASSIFICATION



## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Ownership
STREET \& NUMBER

CITY. TOWN

## VICINITY OF

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS; ETC.
Registry of Deeds, Probate Office, Pike County Courthouse
STREET \& NUMBER
Church Street
CITY. TOWN STATE
Troy
Alabama
6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
title

DATE
_FEDERAL — STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN

CONDITION
_EXCELLENT
XGOOD
FAIR

CHECK ONE
_unaltered
X_altered

CHECK ONE
Xoriginalsite
-moved date

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
The College Street Historic District contains seventeen houses, one church, and a cemetery. With the earliest intact structures dating from the $1870^{\prime}$ s, these buildings and their immediate surroundings offer an easily accessible record of the uninterrupted development of a key neighborhood in the southeastern Alabama community. With only one intrusion within the boundaries, the compatible 1965 McCrary House, the district retains its architectural integrity to a remarkable extent.

The historic district is highly compact, being confined to approximately three tenths of a mile of West College Street running in a westerly direction from Cherry Street to Pine Street. Parallel to College Street on the north is Murphree Street and to the south, Walnut Street. One side street cuts through the district. This is China Street which gives access to lot sides of four houses on College Street. Within these boundaries the architecturally and historically compatible extant structures represent the evolution of a residential area from a rural plantation setting to a central urban neighborhood.

At the Cherry Street boundary the historic district begins on the north side of College Street with the Murphree family cemetery. The site was originally part of the farm of James Strother Murphree, who brought his family to Troy in 1845. Though no longer in active use, the cemetery is maintained by a trust fund. Immediately adjacent to this plot is the New Murphree House (1), a hip roof structure built in 19041905. The house is of a type that was popular in this area during the last quarter of the 19th century and the first part of the 20th century. Narrow lapped board siding, simple rectangular fenestration with side shutters, a front porch unmarked by decorative detail, and a shallow single room projection to the side of the porch with simple flat scroll work in the apex of the gable. Situated next to this house is the O1d Murhpree House (2), a late Gothic Revival building constructed in the 1870's. A red brick first story with shallow brick butresses or pilasters on the side walls give way to a frame second floor whose gable roof is broken by three joined and gabled dormers enclosing arched windows. To the sides of this story are strongly projected bay windows. The exterior brick walls are twelve inches thick and the interior room walls are of brick construction as well. Following the floor plan of the house, these 1atter walls extend to the ground.

The Henderson-Jones House (3) is separated from the 01d Murhpree House by an expanse of lawn and garden. Of stucco masonry construction, this building was erected by a prominent businessman whose sons were to become leaders in the business, banking and political community. According to local tradition, the construction of this house c. 1913-15 involved the enclosing and assimilation of an earlier frame farm house of c. 1869. The present house is of sand colored stucco with four double French doors and a center single door with sidelights running across a simple facade topped by a shallow hipped roof. The portico utilizes Doric columns and an architrave topped by bold dentils. The portico lacks a balustrade and any kind of railing on the floor leve1.

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The next house is the Henderson-O'Neal House (4), built in 1905 by Charles Henderson who served twice as mayor of Troy and one term as governor of Alabama. Primarily Mission style in concept and details, the house is of pebble textured masonry stucco with three broad arches establishing the portico. A porte cochere and a red tile roof further accentuates the four square dignity of the structure.

Across China Street, which bisects the district at this point, is the Wood-Spahn House (5), a c. 1895 Queen Anne structure. Of frame construction, it is a two-story structure embossed with elaborate decorative detailing. The architrave and off center pediment of the front portico are enhanced with swags and garlands, as is the course immediately beneath the upper story eaves. Stained glass windows, modified Ionic capitals on the porch columns, and a series of projecting bays combine with a roofed but open tower projecting above the roof line to create an impression of Queen Anne motifs synthesized with an eclectic array of other Victorian elements.

The Wiley-Brasher House (6) adjoins the lot of the Wood-Spahn House. Erected in 1874 by Oliver Cicero Wiley, the house is a combination of decorative motifs that derive from a number of stylistic sources. Of frame construction, the building utilizes quoining at the front corners, an Italianate doorway, simple pedimented dormers with double rectangular windows set in a gable roof, and restrained decorative woodwork reminiscent of the Stick style.

The Gardner-Adams House (7) is a simple house of little extraneous decorative detail. Dating from c. 1920-30, it combines a narrow board first floor with a stucco section above. Its hip roof with its deep eaves suggests a Prairie style derivation while a course of dentils around the entablature of the front porch lends a classical detail. A small veranda extends from the portico to the corner of the house.

The Knox-Cahpman House (8) seems to date from the 1880's but may in fact be of a much earlier origin. Remodeling c. 1946 and perhaps earlier as well tends to obscure the original design. What remains as a result of whatever alterations took place is a well proportioned structure with Greek Revival detailing such as guttae and dentils around the eaves and the entablature of the portico. Corinthian capitals accentuate the front porch with its balustrade rising to the level of the second floor. This house is reputed to have had the first indoor plumbing in the community.

Next on the northern side of the street is the Bashinsky-Fowee House (9), a Classical Revival mansion built by L.M. Bashinsky in 1902-03. Of frame construction, the house has a two-story portico with columns of heart pine topped by terra cotta Corinthian capitals. Columns on the one-story flanking porches to the front are made of cypress. These porches are accented by balustrades. Stucco relief work in the central pediment combines garlands with a torch motif. A hip roof and projecting room size bays on both sides mesh with a second floor central balcony backed by a Palladian window to flyom a feeling of large scale Classical Revival dignity. This house stands at the eastern terminus of the historic district.

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Across the street from the Bashinsky-Fowee House is the McCrary House (10), the newest structure in the district. Dating 1965-70, this building was erected gradually, making use of material salvaged from demolished 19th century houses in various Alabama communities. A one-story brick house with shuttered windows and a twin columned portico, the building includes columns and capitals, a stucco plaster shield motif on the pediment, and a great deal of interior molding taken from houses slated for destruction in Eufaula, Montgomery and Troy. The style is a variation of simplified Greek Revival derivation.

To the west of the McCrary House is the Baptist Pastorium-Brantley House (11), which was built in 1926. It is a typical eclectic "colonial" style house of the 20's. A brick first floor topped by a slightly projecting frame second story, shuttered windows, a small Doric columned porch with a simple pediment, and a screened side porch integrate with a plain gable roof to create a house typical of its time.

Still moving in a westerly direction the Wiley-Trotman House (12), is reputed to have an enclosed mid-19th century frame house within its walls. Strongly suggestive of the Second Empire style with some feeling of the Chateauesque, the building may date from the $1870^{\prime}$ s to the $1890^{\prime}$ s. A heavy masonry first floor with a porte cochere and a portico which is also of stucco composition lead to a steeply pitched mansard roof broken by three evenly spaced dormers. Pairs of wood brackets lend visual support to the slightly projecting roof story.

Following next on this side of the street is the Henderson-Denison House, built by J.C. Henderson in the latter part of the 19th century. Possibly dating from the 1880's, the structure is an exercise in late Victorian taste. Its two floors are capped at a front corner by a three-story fully enclosed octagonal tower with a high cone roof. A portico with lacy Eastlake derived fret work wraps the corner of the house enclosing the lower bay of the tower. To the other side of the facade a large round window encloses a framed rectangular window in a room wide frontal projection.

Somewhat dwarfed by its neighbor, the Tolbert-Arthur House (14), is a smaller onestory frame dwelling with a main hip roof and two smaller projecting gable roofs. Dentils under the main eaves lend a classical detail. The portico is not original, having been added a few years ago. It is of simple unembellished design except for lacy iron supports. Fret work over each window and a projecting bay to one side further define this house.

On the other side of the Tolbert-Arthur House stands the Murphree-Wilkes House (15). It may date as early as the $1880^{\prime}$ s, with a possibility that later changes may have been made. Of a two-story formally balanced design it has a high third floor hipped roof broken by a single large dormer to the front. This dormer contains a Palladian window. Beneath this is a two-story rounded portico with unembellished architraves and plain columns topped by flat carved Ionic derived capitals. The doorway is framed by sidelights and pilasters. One-story porches extend to either side of the central portico.

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China Street runs beside the Murphree-Wilkes House. Across this street is the Murphree-Sprott House (16). Stylistically linked to the Henderson-Denison House, this structure also remains intact. Built by James Murphree seemingly in the 1880 's. A three-story front corner tower divided into three zones according to floors is topped by a steep cone roof. Eastlake derived detailing and scroll work enlivens the front portico which curves on one side to meet the corner of the tower. Scroll work brackets angle across the corners of gabled roofed pedimented room wide projection. Dentils and pedimental scroll work further accentuate this area as it rises to intersect the central hip roof.

Adjacent to this house is an open space formerly occupied by two houses. This area serves as a parking lot and playground for the Cherry Street Elementary School. Following this open area is the Folmar-Eason House (17) built in the early 1900's. This structure is primarily Prairie style in derivation, having wide eaves terminating three hip roof sections. The front windows of this two-story house are tripartite. The porch runs across the entire facade and is chiefly characterized by large heavy brick piers which extend above the portico roof line to tie in with a balustrade of simple rectangular members. The door is flanked by plain rectangular lights.

The First Baptist Church (18) terminates the historic district at the southwest corner of College Street and Cheery Street. With the main auditorium structure dating from 1889, an addition to the rear of the structure was made in 1905. The building combines elements of Romanesque Revival and High Victorain Gothic in a structure that is characterized by a gable roofed central auditorium flanked by two towers with tall narrow roofs opened by single shallow dormers on each side, each dormer containing three small windows. The western tower contains simple rounded arches, one to a side at about the height of the ridge line of the central roof. The eastern tower is broken by a vertically staggered line of rectangular windows of narrow dimensions. Immediately below the eaves of the tower roofs crenellated buttressing flares out to support the slight projection of the tower entablatures. Of red brick construction, the building's facade is characterized by a central Romanesque window flanked by two smaller windows of the same type. Beyond these, two frame porches with steep pediments and gable roofs are supported by a brick and stone foundation. Four columns reminiscent of Eastlake porches support an entablature which has its architrave opened with a gently curved shallow arch.

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CONTINUATION SHEET
ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN THE COLLEGE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. NEW MURPHREE HOUSE (205 College Street): Turn-of-the-century, 1904-05, one-story frame with high hip roof.
2. OLD MURPHREE HOUSE (209 College Street): 1870's, late Gothic Revival, brick and frame, two stories, heavy brick interior walls extending to ground.
3. HENDERSON-JONES HOUSE (215 College Street): 1913-15. remodeling, enclosed older house c. 1869, masonry stucco, Doric portico, two stories.
4. HENDERSON-O'NEAL HOUSE (219 College Street): 1905, Mission style, two-story of textured masonry stucco, red tile roof, porte cochere.
5. WOOD-SPAHN HOUSE (301 College Street): c. 1895, Queen Anne, frame construction, projecting bays, three-story tower.
6. WILEY-BRASHER HOUSE (305 College Street): 1874, eclectic including Stick style motifs, frame, two stories.
7. GARDNER-ADAMS HOUSE (309 College Street): c. 1920-30, simp1e frame and stucco, two-story.
8. KNOX-CHAPMAN HOUSE (313 College Street): c. 1880 's, Greek Revival details, dentils, Corinthian columns on portico, frame, two-story.
9. BASHINSKY-FOWEE HOUSE (317 College Street): 1902-03, Neo-Classical Revival, heart pine and cypress columns, terra cotta capitals of Corinthian order, two-story frame.
10. MCCRARY HOUSE (314 College Street): c. 1965-70, simple traditional, incorporates material from demolished houses, small portico, one-story, brick.
11. PASTORIUM-BRANTLEY HOUSE (312 College Street): 1926, 20's Colonial Revival, brick ground floor, frame second floor, pedimented stoop.
12. WILEY-TROTMAN HOUSE (308 College Street): c. 1870's -1880's, Second Empire, reputed to enclose mid-19th century farmhouse, mansard roof, porte cochere, two stories.
13. HENDERSON-DENISON HOUSE (304 College Street): 1ate 19th century, Eastlake and Queen Anne detailing, frame, tower, scroll work, two-story.

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14. TOLBERT-ARTHUR HOUSE (302 College Street): c. 1900, dentils, remodeled porch, frame, one-story with high hip roof.
15. MURPHREE-WILKES HOUSE (300 College Street): c. 1880's, Greek Revival and Classical Revival details, curved center portico, two-story with attic dormer with Palladian window, frame.
16. MURPHREE-SPROTT HOUSE (220 College Street): 1880's, Eastlake derivation with Queen Anne implications, tower, two-story, frame.
17. FOLMAR-EASON HOUSE (210 College Street) : early 1900's, Prairie style, brick and shingle, two stories.
18. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ( 200 College Street): 1889, addition in 1905, Romanesque Revival and High Victorian Gothic influences, towers, frame porches, brick.
19. CEMETERY

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CONTINUATION SHEET
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Correction: Paragraph 1, lines 4-6
With only two intrusions within the boundaries, the compatible 1965 McCrary House and two vacant lots, now used for parking space and a playground area, the district retains its architectural integrity to a remarkable extent.

Additional information on boundaries:
The district is bounded on the north, west, and south by residential areas composed of structures dating from the late 1920's to the present, with the majority of the structures dating from more recent years. The district is terminated on the east by commercial structures fronting along U. S. 31.

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| _Prehistoric | -Archeolugy-prehistoric | _community planning | __landscape architecture | -religion |
| -1400-1499 | -ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | _conservation | _law | __science |
| -1500-1599 | -Agriculture | -economics | -literature | __sculpture |
| -1600.1699 | Xarchitecture $^{\text {a }}$ | -education | -military | -socialhumanitarian |
| - 1700.1799 | -ART | -engineering | -music | -theater |
| - $\times 1800-1899$ | -commerce | _exploration/settlement | _PHILOSOPHY | -transportation |
| X1900- | _communications | -industry | _POLItics/government | __OTHER (SPECIFY) |

SPECIFIC DATES
BUILDER/ARCHITECT
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
The College Street Historic District contains a collection of late 19th and 20th century residences ranging from a finely proportioned Gothic Revival house of exceptionally solid construction through a massive Classical Revival mansion to the Colonial Revival of the early 20th century. The eighteen structures create a compact and homogenous district which reflects the lifestyles of the most prosperous and prominent citizens of this southcentral Alabama town during the late 19th century. With one exception the structures date from the mid-1870's to the first decade of the 20th century and were constructed as the homes of the towns leaders in commerce, politics and education.

The Henderson-Jones House represents an economically advantageous incorporation of an older and smaller structure into a larger and then currently more fashionable house. Dating from c. 1869, the older building had its role as a plantation or farm home voided in favor of an updating of style and considerable expansion of space c. 1913-15. Originally constructed by Jeremiah Augustus Henderson, one of the wealthiest merchants and landowners in southeastern Alabama who also served as the Troy representative to the constitutional convention of 1861, the house was the birthplace of Charles Henderson who was governor of the state of Alabama from 1915 to 1919. Charles Henderson also served as mayor of Troy from 1886 to 1891 and from 1901 to 1906. A business leader as we11, he became the first president of the Troy Bank and Trust Company in 1906. Two brothers served respectively as president and vice president of the First Farmers and Merchants Bank of Troy.

The Murphree House, built in the 1870's by William Hilliard Murphree, documents the reluctance of some builders to place their full trust in the balloon frame of Chicago construction. Its heavy brick interior walls testify to the felt need for obviously solid bearing walls. This Gothic Revival house exemplifies continuity of occupancy in that members of the Murphree family still reside in the house. Further evidence of continuity is evident by the fact a great deal of effort has been expended to insure that the building remains true to its original design concept. Toward this end various stages of remodeling have been done to insure greater adherence to the original plan.

The Henderson-0'Neal House, built by Charles Henderson in 1905, immediately adjacent to his family home, the Henderson-Jones, remains essentially unchanged. With its porte cohere and expansive Mission style derived lines, it represents an ideal or architectural dignity as envisioned by a highly successful business and government leader of the early nineteen hundreds. The heavy pebble textured stucco exterior is topped by what is reputed to be the frijst tile roof in Troy.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farmer, Margaret Pace. One Hundred Fifty Years in Pike County, Alabama, 1821-1871. Anniston: Higginbotham, Inc., 1973.
Interviews with William Murphree, 209 College Street, Troy, Alabama, 1975.

## 10GEOGRAPHICAL DATA



VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
Beginning at the intersection of Pine Street and the rear (northern) property lines of the houses facing south on College, proceed east for approximately 1350 feet to the eastern property boundary of the Murphree Family Cemetery; then south along the eastern boundary of the cemetery to College Street; then west approximately 10 feet to the intersection of Cherry and College streets; then south along Cherry for approximately 250 feet to the rear (southern) boundary of the houses facing north on College; then west along this line for approximately 1340 feet to Pine Street; then north approximately 500 LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

name/title

| W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director and Ellen Martins |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| ORGANIZATION |  |
| Alabama Historical Commission | DATE |
| STREET \& NUMBER | March 16, 1976 |
| 725 Monroe Street | TELEPHONE |
| CITY OR TOWN | (205) 832-6621 |
| Montgomery | STATE |

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL _ STATE L 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.


TITLE SAD
Ala.
DATE


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The Wiley-Brasher House was built in 1874 by Oliver Cicero Wiley, youngest son of James McCaleb Wiley. The elder Wiley was a physician noted for his courageous and innovative work in fighting yellow fever and cholera epidemics in Mississippi, New Orleans and Mexico. In Mexico he became surgeon general of the Mexican army and founded the first Masonic Temple in Mexico City. He came to Troy in 1849. His son, O.C. Wiley, was an organizer of the Troy Fertilizer Company, supposedly the first fertilizer and acid plant in the state. He was elected its president and general manager. He was also an incorporator and the first president of the Midland Railroad, serving until 1892 when the Midland line merged with the Plant System. O.C. Wiley was a director of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Troy and in the educational sphere served as a member of the Board of Directors of the State Normal College of Troy for seventeen years, five of which he acted as president of the board.

The Wood-Spahn House was built c. 1895 by F.S. Wood, a wealthy businessman. Built in a modified Queen Anne style, the large frame house incorporates stained glass windows, friezes of garlands and swags, massive decorated chimneys, and bay towers into an excellent example of the growth of the Queen Anne style. It remains basically intact and generally well preserved.

Gardner-Adams House, reputed to have been built in the $1920^{\prime}$ s, is a simple lined two-story structure with a frame first story topped by a window wide course of plain stucco. The house was built by Lucien D. Gardner whose son, Lucien Gardner, Jr., became Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court.

The Knox-Chapman House dates most likely from the 1880's. It is reputed to have been built by a member of the Knox family, quite possibly John B. Knox, a merchant in millinery and dry goods, who moved to Troy in 1880. It is difficult to assess this house as to original style, due to modifications that have taken place at unspecified times. There are a number of verbal accounts that refer to gingerbread ornamentation having been part of the original design. The most notable current features are Greek and Classical Revival details such as dentils under the eaves and on the entablature of the front portico. The porch also utilizes a balustrade and columns topped by Corinthian capitals.

The Bashinsky-Fowee House was built in 1902-03 by L.M. Bashinsky, a German immigrant cotton broker. This massive Classical Revival house was the scene of stylish parties on the early nineteen hundreds and was the setting for lavish entertainments, according to local sources. This structure remains virtually intact, with its massive two-story Corinthian columns, first floor porch balustrade, Palladian window, and decoratec pediment of the front portico all vestiges of original appearance.

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Across the street from the Bashinsky-Fowee House is the McCrary House, which also marks the junction of College Street with Pine Street. This house dates c. 1965, having been constructed over a period of two or three years from timbers and other materials salvaged from older demolished houses. Its brick exterior is simple and low key with a restrained porch of Classical Revival derivation being the main decorative feature. This structure replaces a previous house which was demolished. Despite its relative newness the structure fits its environment, having been specifically designed to maintain the visible integrity of the neighborhood. Thus, it can be said to represent a commitment to continuing the viability of the area as a prime residential zone.

Next to the McCrary House is the Baptist Pastorium-Brantley House, dating from 1926. With its brick ground floor exterior, frame second floor siding, shutters, and small pedimented porch or stoop, it too maintains the basic architectural integrity of the neighborhood.

Adjacent to the Pastorium-Brantley House is the Wiley-Trotman House, which is reputed to have incorporated a mid-19th century farm house into a masonry structure with a mansard roof, broken by shallow dormers. Basically derivative of the Second Empire style, the house was likely remodeled or rebuilt in the $1870^{\prime}$ s or 1880 's. It too affirms the tradition of continuity that marks this street.

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PAGE 4
Correction: paragraph 1, lines 6-8.
With one exception the structures date from the mid-1870's to the first quarter of the 20 th Century and were constructed as the homes of the town's leaders in commerce, politics and education.

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feet to the point of origin.

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$N$
College Street Historic District


