

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Montezuma Depot

and/or common Southern Railway Depot

**2. Location**

street & number South Dooly Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Montezuma \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 3rd -- Jack Brinkley

state Georgia code 013 county Macon code 193

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ museum</span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ park</span>
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ private residence</span>
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ religious</span>
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ scientific</span>
	___ being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	___ industrial <span style="margin-left: 100px;">___ transportation</span>
		___ no	___ military <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: (storage)</span>

**4. Owner of Property**

name J. C. Cook, Manager, Industrial Property Section  
Southern Railway System

street & number 99 Spring Street, SW

city, town Atlanta \_\_\_ vicinity of state Georgia 30303

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Macon County Courthouse

city, town Oglethorpe state Georgia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title none has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

4

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Montezuma Depot is a one story brick structure located on the northern fringe of the Montezuma Central Business District. Fifty feet wide and one hundred and seventy-five feet long, it is surrounded on three sides by a raised wooden loading platform and on the fourth side by a sidewalk. Business structures are located south of the depot, while the railroad tracks parallel the building to the north.

Architecturally, the building is rather simple. It is situated on a concrete foundation. The brick walls are laid in common bond, and the depot has one brick chimney. Paired wooden brackets, which top brick pilasters, are utilized under the wide eaves and the building is covered with a standing seam metal roof. The window and door openings are rather plain, capped by stone lintels. A wooden bay on the north wall is one of the few signs of ornamentation. Rounded arches with large wooden doors are the entrances to the freight area.

The interior of the depot is divided into four rooms. Waiting rooms on the western side feature high ceilings and extensive woodwork. The central room and bay served as the ticket agent's office. Most of the depot, however, was utilized for freight storage.

The only alterations have been the addition of the concrete platform and floors, added in 1924, and the building of the brick firewall in 1932.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

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**Specific dates**    1890                      **Builder/Architect**    unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Montezuma Depot is significant in architectural and transportation history. In the latter it symbolically represents the importance of the railroad to the development of the county, while in the former it represents the functional Victorian design of a late 19th century depot in the hub of this small town.

Montezuma was founded in 1851 when the Southwestern Railroad Company of Macon extended its tracks to Oglethorpe, an older settlement just across the Flint River. Seeking business opportunities, settlers on the east side of the river began to cluster inns, small shops, a livery stable, and homes about the tracks on a location, the gift of Shadrack Felton, that became Montezuma.

In 1870, the Central of Georgia Railroad Company leased the Southwestern line for 99 years. This brick depot was built in 1890 by the Central at a cost of \$14,886.83, replacing an earlier depot on the same site.

The town's fortunes have been closely linked with those of the railroad. When the tracks were extended from Oglethorpe southwest to Albany, Oglethorpe declined and Montezuma grew. The late 19th century saw a sharp rise in the shipping of farm products such as cotton and fruits from Macon County's rich farmland. Passenger traffic, especially to the city of Macon, was also heavy. Montezuma declined, as did other railroad towns, with the coming of the automobile. The depot stands as one of the last remnants of the railroad's heyday.

Architecturally, the building's significance rests in its rather simple design that adequately fulfilled its purpose. The paired brackets, bay ticket office, and standing seam roof are all elements of the Victorian era. It has been relatively unaltered and still conveys its original design intent. Since the majority of Montezuma's late 19th century buildings have been altered, the depot is important locally as a visible link to the town's Victorian heritage.

Passenger service ended in the early 1970's and the building is currently used as a warehouse. Plans are underway to convert it to a community center and welcome center under the auspices of the county historical society.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Hays, Louise Frederick. History of Macon County, Georgia. Originally published 1933. Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1979.  
 "An Insurance Map of Montezuma, Georgia." New York: Sanborn Map Company. February 1885.  
 "An Insurance Map of Montezuma, Georgia." New York: Sanborn Map Company. April 1890.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**  
 Quadrangle name Montezuma, Ga. **UTM NOT VERIFIED** Quadrangle scale 1:24000  
 UMT References

A	<u>16</u>	<u>779730</u>	<u>3577440</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is marked on the enclosed space lease map. The property is all that is owned by the railway and under consideration for transfer to the historical society.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title David J. Brown, Historic Preservation Planner Historic Preservation Section contact: Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.  
 organization Middle Flint Planning Commission date April 29, 1980  
 street & number P. O. Box 6 telephone (912) 937-2561  
 city or town Ellaville state Georgia

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

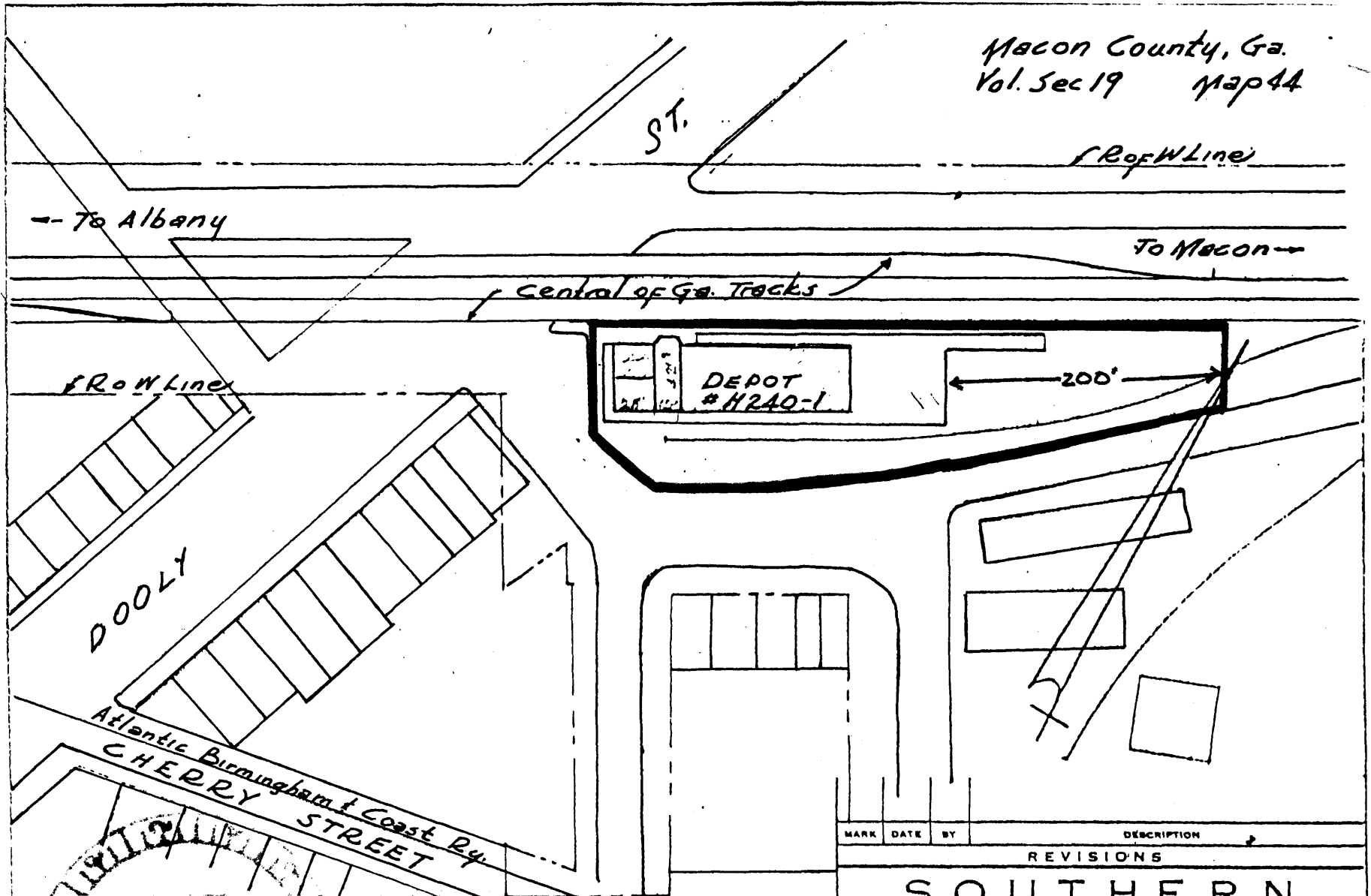
national  state  local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon  
 Elizabeth A. Lyon  
 title Acting State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/30/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>W. Ray</u>	date <u>6/12/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Carol Dubois</u>	date <u>6/8/80</u>
Chief of Registration	


Macon County, Ga.  
Vol. Sec 19 Map 44



MONTEZUMA DEPOT  
Montezuma, Macon County, Georgia

Space Lease map 44  
Date: August 24, 1969  
Scale: 1" = 100'  
North: ↑

The boundary is indicated by a heavy black line

MARK	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION
REVISIONS			
<b>SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM</b> 			
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER			ATLANTA, GA.
<u>MONTEZUMA, GA.</u> <u>PROPOSED LEASE OF SPACE TO</u> <u>CITY OF MONTEZUMA, GA.</u>			
U.S.			
DM	M. P.	SCALE 1"=100'	FILE NO. 155-2131
TR			
CH	VAL. MAP	DATE 8-24-69	LOG NO. A-69098

DO NOT SCALE THIS DRAWING FOR DIMENSIONS NOT GIVEN