

PH0010014

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:	ALABAMA
COUNTY:	DALE
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 13 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Oates-Reynolds Memorial Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Girl's Dormitory, Baptist Collegiate Institute

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Oates Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newton

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Alabama	01	Dale	045

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) vacant	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Town of Newton

STREET AND NUMBER:
Town Hall, Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Newton	Alabama	01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Office of Probate Judge, Dale County

STREET AND NUMBER:
Dale County Courthouse, Court Square

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Ozark	Alabama	01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

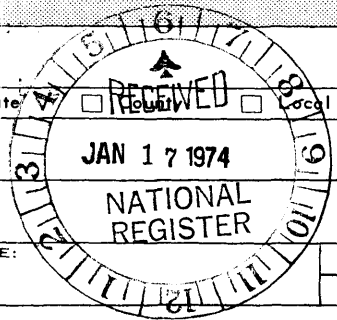
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE



STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

ENTRY NUMBER: _____

DATE: JUN 13 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

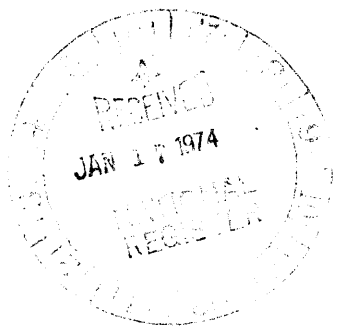
Oates-Reynolds Memorial Dormitory, a large two-story brick and masonry structure built along classical lines, consists of a front or main portion with gables on three sides and a long rear wing which contained the living portion of the dormitory.

On the front elevation stairs lead to a two-story portico with a pediment supported by four large columns. The frieze of the entablature which encircles the house is unadorned except in front where the name of the building is inscribed. A row of dentils beneath the cornice is repeated under the cornice of the pediment in all three gables. The pediments which are covered with shingling have a semicircular window with triangular lites.

The central double front door has a transom with rectangular lites and side lites. The balcony at the second floor of the front portico links the four columns and is rimmed by a wooden bannister. A central double door similar to the main entrance gives access to this balcony. Windows on both floors are similar consisting of four sets of paired windows.

Pilasters which appear on each of the corners have capitals formed by projections of the architrave. Two similar pilasters appear on the south-east and northwest walls. These walls have 10 windows each, eight of which are paired. At the first floor level these windows are spanned by a single row of vertical bricks.

The building consists of 36 rooms, 18 of the first floor including the large lobby, and 18 upstairs which include a general bath and storage area. Much of the first floor has been repaired and partially renovated for residential use.



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) 1922

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Oates-Reynolds Memorial Dormitory is the only remaining building of the Baptist Collegiate Institute, one of the oldest educational landmarks in Wiregrass, America, an area which includes some 25 counties in southeastern Alabama, southwestern Georgia and northern Florida. This area, whose character was formed in large part by small farmers and sharecroppers, consequently had few large mansions. As late as 1930, brick buildings were still rare. The institute, founded in Newton in 1898, was an archetype of the schools which sprang up in this era. It made a significant contribution to education in the Wiregrass.

In the late 1800's, Alabama's public school system was still inadequately organized and operated, with slightly over fifty percent of the population being illiterate in 1880. Adding greatly to the difficulty of improving the public educational system was a severe shortage of trained teachers. The University of Alabama and a few other state and denominational schools were beyond popular reach and were thought of by the majority of the people as existing for the benefit of the children of the favored few. To meet the educational needs of the rural people, numerous private schools began to spring up.

Education during these years was vaguely divided into two parts: common and collegiate. But many of the common schools offered advanced subjects, and several of the colleges offered at least one year of high school.

Between 1880 and 1900, more than 100 of these private and denominational high schools, academies, colleges, and institutes were chartered to meet the educational needs of the people. Offering everything from religious training to several years of college level work, these private schools represented an honest effort among the people to establish schools which would furnish them with an adequate education.

The Baptist Collegiate Institute, organized in 1898, was one such school. It offered regular academics on the elementary and high school levels and two years of college. In addition, it offered business training, accounting, speech, and music. Tuition was \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50 per month, and the school was dedicated to "Christian education." Organized under the leadership of the Reverend Mr. Laudermilk, pastor of the Newton Baptist Church, the school was built on land donated by Mrs. Carrie Jones

more

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Moore, A. B., History of Alabama. University, Ala.: Alabama Book Store, 1950.
 Owen, Thomas M., History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Co., 1921.
 Summersell, C. G., Alabama History for Schools. Montgomery, Ala.: Viewpoint Publications, Inc., 1970.
 Watson, Fred S., Forgotten Trails: A History of Dale County. Birmingham, Ala.: Banner Press, 1968.

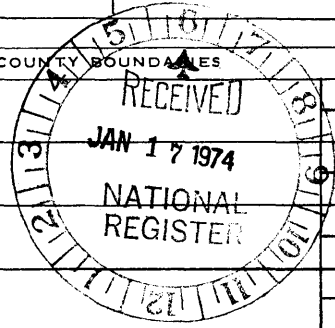
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	31	19	51
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	85	35	46
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 square 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: 12-7-73

STREET AND NUMBER:
Garrett Coliseum

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name Nils B. Howard Jr.

Title SHPO

Date January 10, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Conet Allen Connolly
 Chief, Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation
 Associate Director
 Professional Services

Date JUN 13 1974

ATTEST:

Charles A. [Signature]
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 6/12/74

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
ALABAMA	
COUNTY	
DALE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 13 1974

(Number all entries)

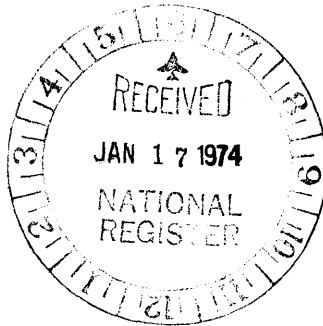
8. Significance of Oates-Reynolds Memorial Building

Haley. The sponsorship of the school was assumed by the Southeast Alabama-Northwest Florida Baptist Association, and it was named the Baptist Collegiate Institute. Within nine years the school had to be enlarged three times, and by 1918 it had 250 students drawn from all over the Wiregrass.

After the entire school burned in the early 1920's, a new classroom building and a new girls' dormitory, Oates-Reynolds Memorial, were constructed. In 1929, the school like many others of its kind, closed for lack of funds. The dormitory was sold and used for room rentals. The other building was used for the public school system until it was razed to make way for an auditorium.

The Baptist Collegiate Institute had made a commendable contribution to the cause of education, providing training for hundreds of students from Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, who otherwise would have had little opportunity for higher education. Graduating over 650 teachers, it helped to fill the need for qualified teachers in the Wiregrass area.

Local groups are raising funds for the restoration of their landmark as a library and museum.



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

STATE New York	
COUNTY Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 13 1974

9. Major Bibliographic References ^(Continuation Sheet) 2

(Number all entries)

History and Biography of Washington County and The Town of Queensbury New York:
with Historical notes on the various towns. Gresham Publishing Company, Rich-
mond, Ind. 1894.

Stone, William L., Historian and Editor-in-Chief and Hon. A. Dallas Wait, Associate
Editor. Washington County New York: It s History to the Close of the Nine-
teenth Century. New York History 6., New York, 1901.

--Deeds in the Washington County Office Building, Fort Edward, NY.

--Reports of interviews with owners supplied by Doris Morton, Town Historian and
Carol B. Greenough, Photographer, both of Whitehall.

