

RECEIVED

JUN 18 1990



Alabama Register Property Information

Ala. Historical Commission

1. Name

historic ONEONTA COMMUNITY HOUSE

and/or common COMMUNITY HOUSE

2. Location

street & number #112 JACK FENDLEY DRIVE

city, town ONEONTA — vicinity of

state AL county BLOUNT

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name CITY OF ONEONTA

street & number 202 3RD AVE EAST

city, town ONEONTA — vicinity of state AL 35121

5. Please use space below to sketch floor plan/site plan.

"SEE ATTACHED"

6. Description

Condition
 excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Oneonta community house is a one story building of native sandstone veneer situated on top of a hill overlooking the town. The elevation allows a partial basement so that the building appears to be two story in the rear.

The roof is of asphalt shingle, simple gable except in rear where it is modified gambrel. There are two small stone chimneys placed midway on each side of the building.

There are two front entrances of two french doors each with 12 panes each. They have been boarded over with plywood panels. They are set in 5 feet from the front wall in matching entrances that are at each side of the front separated by 12 feet. Right wing has french door of 12 panes. Originally the front entrances were not set in the wall but flush with the wall and each entrance contained four french doors with a transom.

Windows are all large casement type. There are no windows on front. On each side of the front (main) room there are 5 arched windows containing 50 panes each. The two side wings each have 3 rectangular windows of 35 panes. The back has 2 rectangular windows of 36 panes, one on each side of the loading bay. The loading bay has been sealed off with wood. There are a total of 18 windows on the main level. Many window panes are missing. The front gable and the back gambrel have palladian style vents of louvered wood.

The interior is largely original except for several spaces that have been closed in for storage areas in the front and in the stage area. There is a small ticket room on the left side. All rooms have hardwood floors. Originally there were 2 pot bellied stoves to heat the main room but these have been removed. There are handsome beams overhead with a ceiling height of 15 feet. The only other original rooms were the 2 restrooms in the right wing and the small office/dressing room in the left wing.

The back portion of the building has a basement. There are 3 small double pane windows and 1 single pane window. There are two entrances at each end but both doors are missing. The basement contains 4 small rooms with cement floor and rock walls and a restroom.

7. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1933-1934 **Builder/Architect** HORACE MILLER WEAVER

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Oneonta Community House was constructed in 1934 by the Civil Works Administration (CWA) Project #5-C-378, to provide a place for community recreational activities for the county. It was a place where both young and old could go for entertainment and socializing. There were wrestling matches, dances, basketball games, plays, political rallies and other activities held there. It was a place to go in the time of the depression when there was little entertainment and recreation available. Briefly from 1950-1955 it served as a National Guard Armory building until an Armory building could be built.

The city of Oneonta in order to bring a National Guard unit here deeded the Community House property to the Alabama Armory Commission in 1950. After the Armory was built in 1955 the Community House was used by the National Guard for storage. It was leased to the Blount County Commission in 1972 and served as a central storage and distribution center for commodities. In 1988 the Armory Commission deeded it back to the City of Oneonta.

An Oneonta Park and Recreation Board was organized November 28th, 1933 by the Civil Works Administration. Original plans called for a community house 40 by 80 feet constructed of stone, a swimming pool and a park of 5 acres at an estimated cost of \$30,000.00. Work was completed by fall of 1934. Both the American Legion and the Civitan Clubs sponsored recreational programs for the community including wrestling matches, basketball games, plays dances, beauty pageants etc. The recreational programs sponsored by the WPA were employed and the Community House served to provide healthy recreation and entertainment in those dark days of the depression. It served as a social and recreation center to 1950. In 1950, Mr. Nick Carter who had served on the Park and Recreation Board convinced the city of the need for a National Guard unit. The city of Oneonta deeded the Community House and property to the Alabama Armory Commission in 1950 to entice them to locate a unit here. The National Guard used the building as their armory until 1954 when a new armory building was completed close by. During this period the only alterations the building suffered were new more secure entrance replacing the original french doors and several small storage rooms were partitioned off inside. The National Guard continued to use the building for storage until 1972, except for the basement which they leased to the American Legion in 1951 to use for its meeting place. In 1972 The Armory Commission leased the building to the Blount County Commission and it operated it as a commodities storage and distribution center. In 1988 the Armory Commission deeded the building back to the City of Oneonta and it has since used it only for storage.

The community center is the only CWA building in the county. It is a visually pleasing building. The native stone in combination with the large arched casement windows gives the building a unique lightness and at the same time a feeling of strength and endurance. Except for the Oneonta Post Office, which is a WPA building, it is the most beautiful government building in the county.

The architect was Horace Miller Weaver, born 1885, Collinsville, Al. A registered architect, he practiced from 1920 to 1947. His field was commercial architecture. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects. Only other known example of his work in Blount County is the annex building to the Lester Memorial Methodist Church in Oneonta.

8. Major Bibliographical References

BLOUNT COUNTY DEMOCRAT 1933-1934

CITY OF ONEONTA MINUTE BOOK 1

INTERVIEW WITH NICK CARTER 2-21-90

PICTORIAL REPORT CIVIL WORKS ADMINISTRATION OF ALABAMA

INTERVIEW WITH JACK FENDLEY, FORMER MAYOR
OF ONEONTA, AL

WPA RECORDS FOR ALABAMA, ROLL 794

9. Geographical Data

1933-1934, VOLUME ONE

Acreage of nominated property 6½

Quadrangle name ONEONTA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE COPY OF DEED ATTACHED

10. Form Prepared By

name/title C. WARREN WEAVER, COUNTY RECORD CLERK AND ARCHIVIST

BLOUNT COUNTY COMMISSION

organization BLOUNT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

date

street & number P. O. BOX 45
220 2ND AVE E

telephone 274-9111 EXT 306

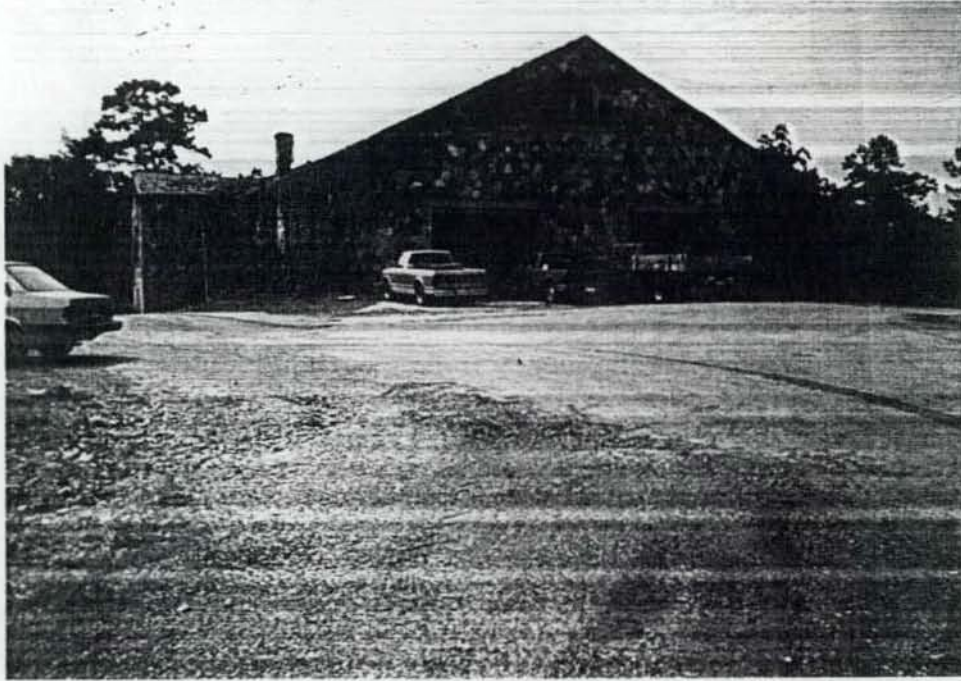
city or town ONEONTA

state AL

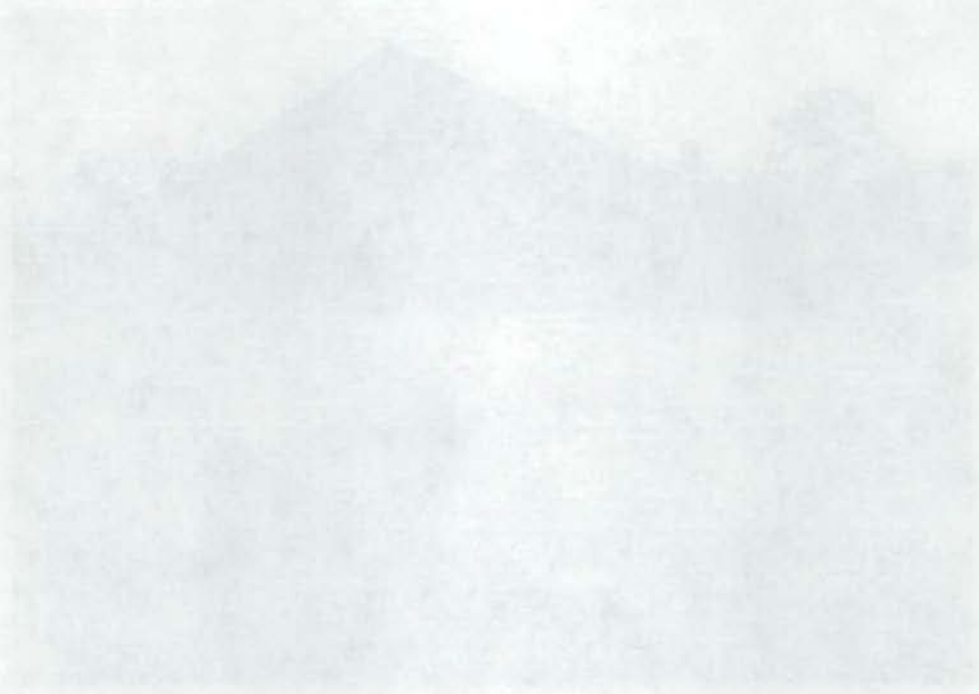
11. Please submit color slides of the property with this form.

12. Please return ALABAMA REGISTER form to:

ALABAMA REGISTER COORDINATOR
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY ALABAMA 36130



Oneonta Community House



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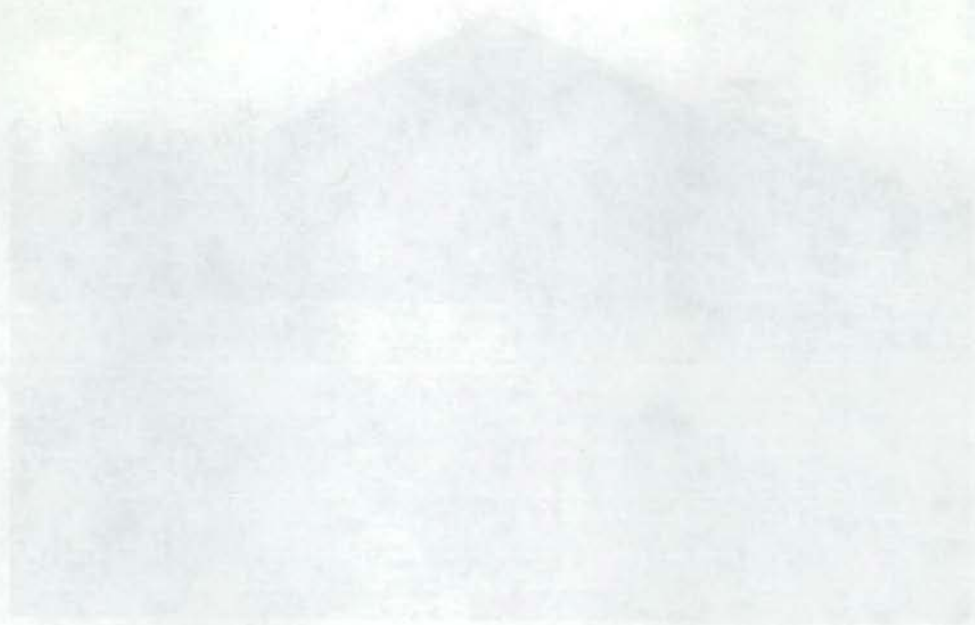


Front view of Oneonta Community House
(Constructed 1933)

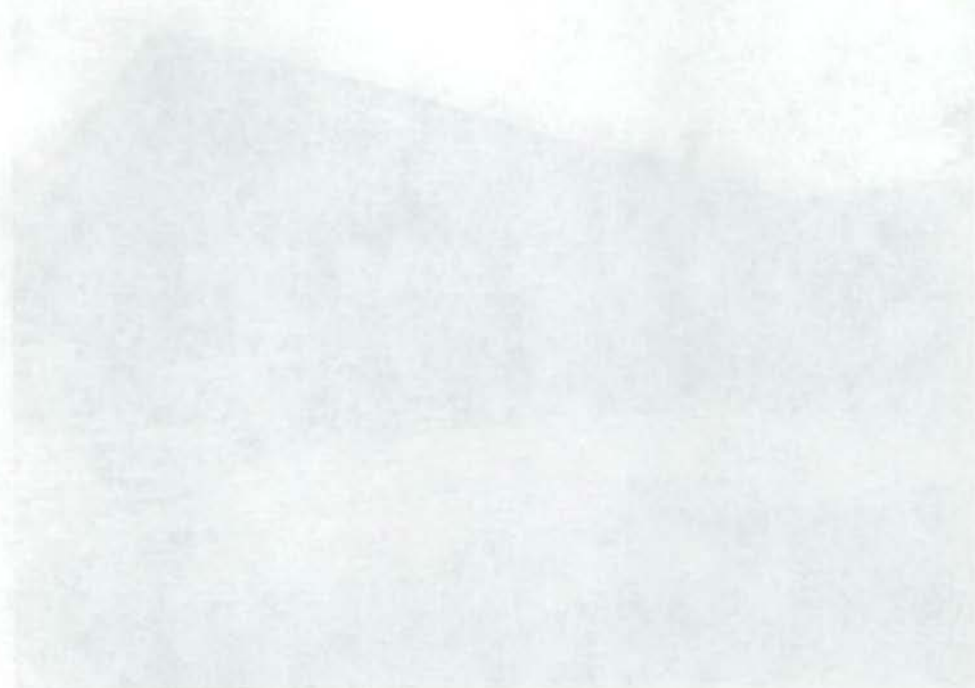


Side view of Oneonta Community House

originals in TG tea file

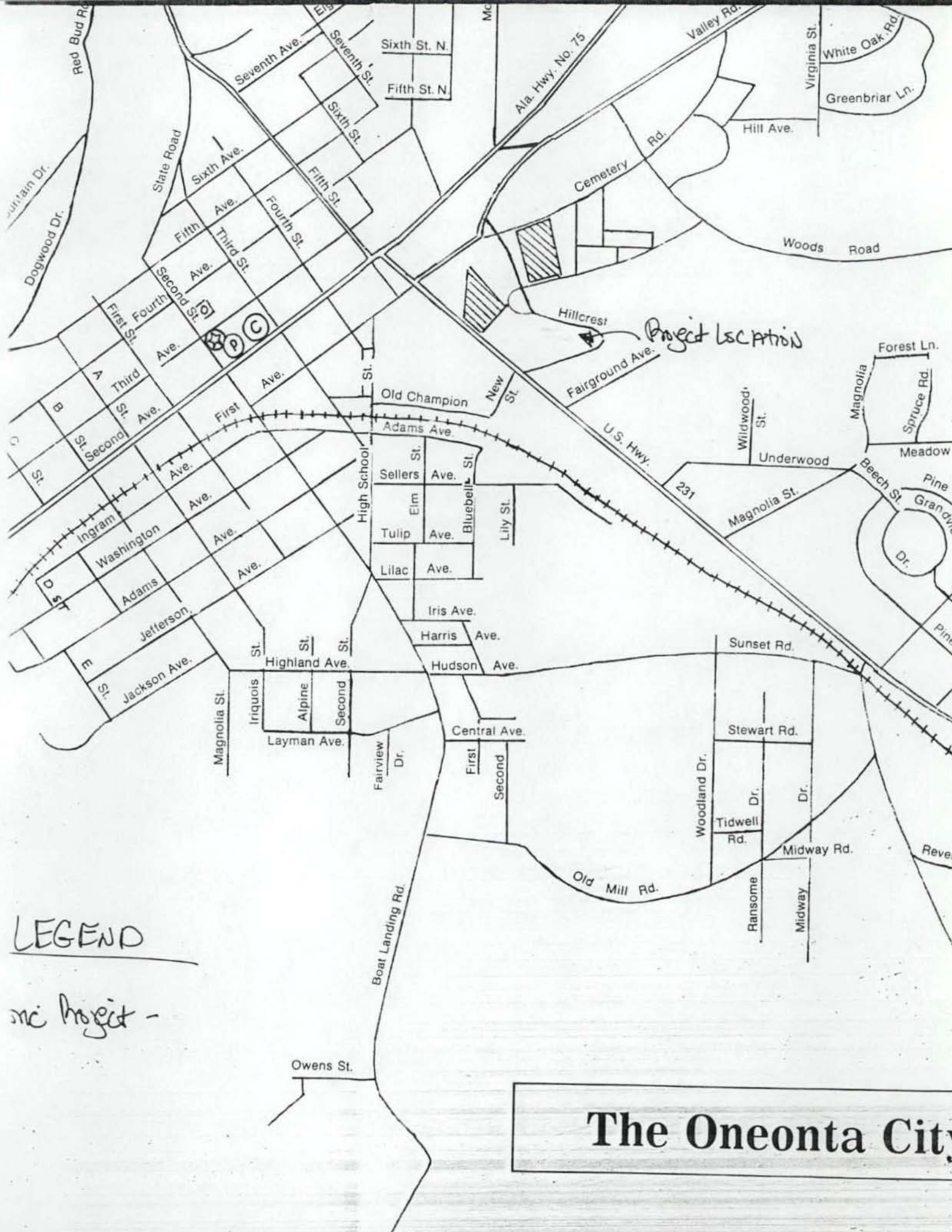


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LEGEND

mc Project -

The Oneonta City

CITY LIMITS



St. James Street

St. George Street

St. Andrew Street

St. David Street

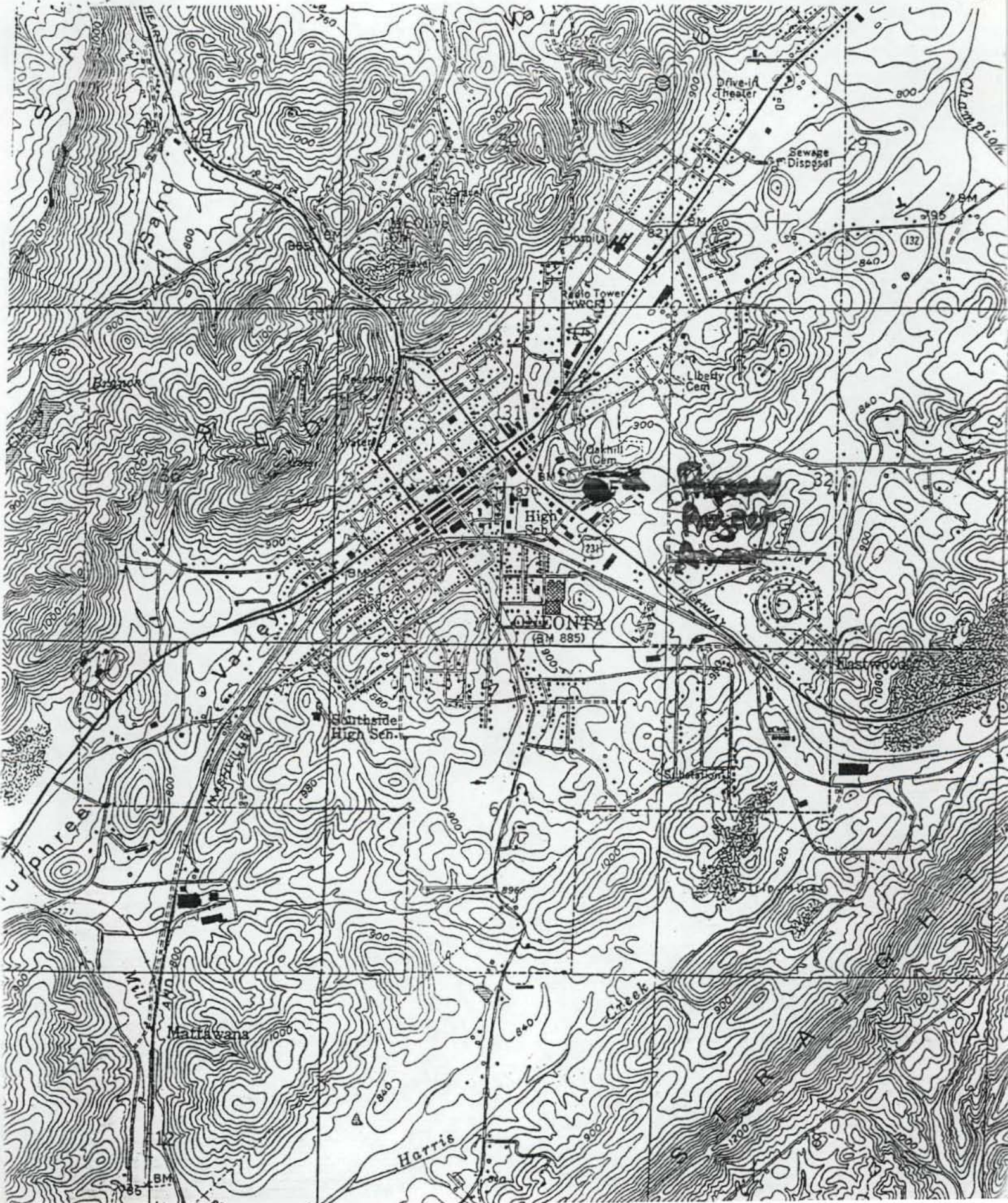
St. John Street

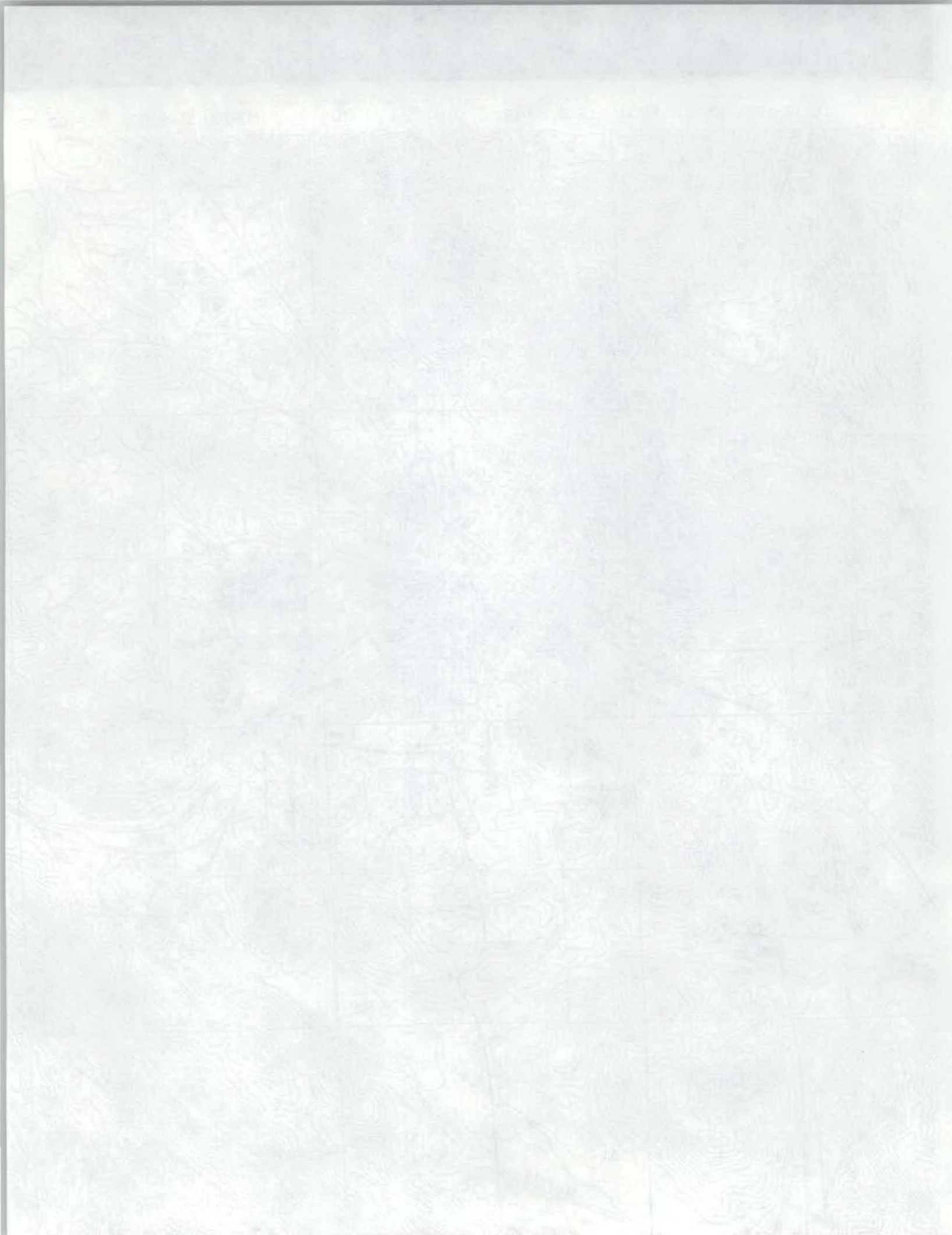
St. Peter Street

LEGEND

St. James Street

The Queen's City





ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130
September 6, 1990

Media Contact:
Melanie Betz
Phone: 205/242-3184
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

The Alabama Historical Commission announced recently that the **Oneonta Community House** has been added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage.

Situated on top of a hill overlooking the town, this building was constructed in 1934 by the Civil Works Administration to provide a community recreational center during the Great Depression. Horace Miller Weaver, a local architect from Collinsville, Ala., was responsible for the design.

"Both young and old utilized the facility for such diverse activities as wrestling matches, dances, basketball games, plays, political rallies and beauty pageants," said Melanie Betz, Alabama Register coordinator. "The building then served as a National Guard Armory from 1950 until 1955."

Primarily used for storage since 1955, the building has retained most of its original exterior and interior features including its native stone veneer and large arched casement windows.

The Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage is a prestigious statewide listing of buildings, structures, objects and districts that possess architectural and historical associations.

The Alabama Historical Commission is the official state agency responsible for preserving Alabama's historic resources.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
1100 SOUTH EAST ASIAN BLDG
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Political Science at the University of Chicago is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. [Name]** as the new [Title]. Dr. [Name] will be joining the department in [Month/Year].

Dr. [Name] received a Ph.D. from the University of [Country] in [Year]. He/She has held positions at [Institution] and [Institution]. His/Her research interests include [Topic] and [Topic].

Dr. [Name] will be teaching the following courses in the Department of Political Science:

- [Course Name]
- [Course Name]
- [Course Name]

Dr. [Name] will also be serving as the [Title] of the [Center/Program].

For more information, please contact [Name], [Title], at [Phone Number] or [Email Address].

STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-5101

F. LAWRENCE OAKS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE NUMBER
261-3184

August 1, 1990

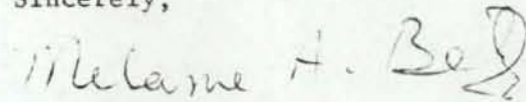
Mr. C. Warren Weaver
County Record Clerk and Archivist
P.O. Box 45
Oneonta, AL 35121

Dear Mr. Weaver:

Thank you for submitting the nomination for the **Oneonta Community House** in Oneonta to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. The information that you provided is complete and ready for review at our next Alabama Register meeting. After this meeting, you will be informed of the decision of the Review Committee. Please let me know if you have any questions before that time.

Your interest in historic preservation is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Betz
Alabama Register Coordinator

mab

STATE OF ALASKA
ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DATE: 10/15/1971

FILE NO. 100-100000

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

On 10/15/71, [Illegible] advised that [Illegible] had been located at [Illegible].

The [Illegible] was found in a [Illegible] area near [Illegible]. The [Illegible] was in good condition and contained [Illegible].

The [Illegible] was returned to the [Illegible] office for further processing.

Very truly yours,

[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible Title]