City of Madison, Alabama Historical Marker Dedication, October 15, 1989

Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society

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The historical marker for the City of Madison was dedicated by the Madison Station Historical Society in the Roundhouse Park in downtown Madison on Sunday afternoon, October 15, 1989. The marker program was an Alabama Reunion event.

The marker names the first public officials elected by the citizens to serve Madison. Madison was incorporated on November 30, 1869, and the first public officials elected were: Mayor William R. Johnston; five aldermen—William Barham Dunn, first depot agent; Thomas J. Clay, first postmaster; George W. Martin, first merchant; James Henry Bibb, planter; and Dr. George Richard Sullivan, physician.

Participating in the program were Ms. Pat Brown, President, Madison Station Historical Society; Percy B. Keel, 2nd Vice President; unveiling of the marker—Joe Allen Brewer, great grandson of George W. Martin; reading of the inscription—Marian Johnson, wife of Robert Wiggins Johnson who is the grandson of Judge Robert Emmett Wiggins, Justice of the Peace in Madison and also the great nephew of William B. Dunn; dedication of the marker—Pat Brown; accepting of the marker—Dr. Frances C. Roberts, member of the Alabama Historical Association Marker Committee. Speakers included Mayor Teague Cuddeback, Commissioner Grady Abernathy, and State Representative Tom W. Butler.

Special guests included Dr. and Mrs. James R. Record, members of the Madison City Council, Dr. Thomas Wren, President of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, former Madison Mayor Burwell L. Wilbanks, and descendants of the early settlers of Madison.
Music was furnished by the combined choirs of the Madison Baptist and Methodist Church choirs, under the direction of Dr. Delbert Bailey.

Following the program, refreshments were served under the Roundhouse.