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Part One: Madison Station

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RANDALL RIVERS

The Madison Station Historic Preservation Society was incorporated in 1984 to promote the renovation, rehabilitation and preservation of historic properties in the city of Madison. The Alabama Legislature in 1987 granted the City of Madison the authority to establish the Madison Historic District after the area was surveyed by the State of Alabama Historical Commission and certified compliant with its guidelines. The Madison Historic District that the Preservation Society strives to protect covers approximately fifteen city blocks and was created by the City of Madison in 1989. Most of the historic homes and buildings in the district were constructed between the 1880s and the 1940s. Architectural styles include Victorian, Colonial Revival, Craftsman bungalow, Queen Anne, Greek Revival and vernacular.

The city ordinance that created the historic district also created an Architectural Review Board that approves exterior changes to the historic structures and any new construction within the district.

The Preservation Society's fundraising activities have contributed to many improvements in the district since its creation. In 1986, it built a full-scale replica of the town's original meeting hall called the Round House. This distinctive structure sits downtown on the village green and serves as a local museum and meeting place for the society. The museum houses an extensive collection of artifacts, photos and information about the history of Madison compiled by the society's members. A compact disk containing photos and information about historic sites in Madison and the surrounding environs, and copies of Lloyd Lanphere's book *The Affair at Madison Station* (story of a Civil War battle here) are available to the public. In 2002, the society purchased beautiful gas streetlamps that were placed along Church Street. The society hopes to install these gaslights throughout the historic district. The Preservation Society meets monthly, participates in the city's annual street festival and other downtown events, and hosts an annual Christmas

tour of homes. The society is currently participating in the city's Downtown Redevelopment Committee. Madison has contracted with Auburn University's Center for Architecture and Urban Studies to develop a master plan to reinvigorate the downtown area. The society's participation will help to ensure that new development will enhance and complement the historic character of the district and not endanger any of the historic structures.

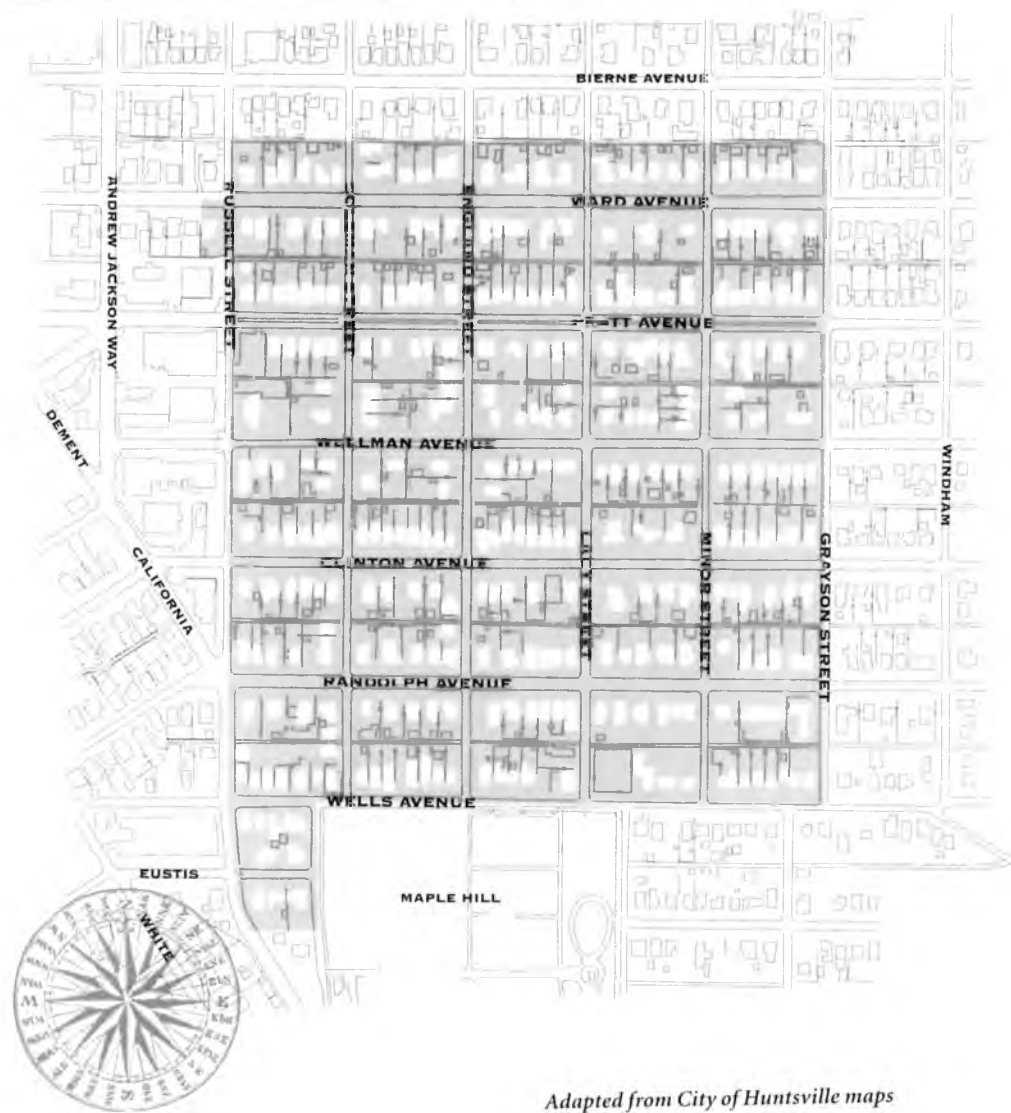


*19 Front Street, ca. 1895 and 1904
Courtesy Richard Perszyk*

Huntsville Historic Districts



Five Points Historic District



Adapted from City of Huntsville maps