

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

Mississippi

COUNTY:

Adams

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

MAY 6 1977

1. NAME

COMMON:

Elizabeth Female Academy (No. 101-3X)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Elizabeth Female Academy *site*

2. LOCATION

STATE:

Mississippi 39120

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Adams

CODE

1001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☒ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Comments

4. AGENCY

U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Natchez Trace Parkway

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Southeast

CITY OR TOWN:

Atlanta

STREET AND NUMBER:

3401 Whipple Avenue

STATE:

Georgia 30344

CODE

13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Chancery Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Natchez

STATE:

Mississippi 39120

CODE

28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, United States Government Printing Office

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941

☒ Federal☐ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

District of Columbia

CODE

001

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

RECEIVED

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Adams

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ Excellent☐ Good☐ Fair

(Check One)

☐ Deteriorated☒ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Preservation recommended

Building (No. 101-3X)

Only one brick wall is standing at the site of Elizabeth Female Academy.

[REDACTED]. The proposed Natchez Trace Parkway will be to [REDACTED] where an interpretive pulloff is planned. The area is covered with a very heavy, dense growth of vines and trees.

The wall that is standing is 13 inches thick and 12 feet 1 inch high. Two fireplaces are located between two windows, and measurements from brick to brick in one window are 3 feet 3 inches by 8 feet 11 inches. The outline of the building is visible, and measured 49 feet 9 inches by 36 feet 2 inches.

Bishop Charles Galloway visited the site just before the turn of the century when the site was in ruins because of a fire, circa 1875-1880. He said the architecture style was Spanish and the structure was two and one-half stories high. There were other buildings but nothing is known of them.

Recommended treatment: Preservation

Preliminary cost estimate for above: \$1,000.00

Significance - 2nd Order

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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) 1818-1845

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☒ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | |
| ☐ Architecture | ☐ Landscape Architecture | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Literature | ☐ Theater | |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Military | ☐ Transportation | |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Music | | |
| ☐ Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One author (Galloway) states that Elizabeth Female Academy, chartered on February 17, 1818, is the first chartered institution for the higher education of young women in the South, if not in the United States.

Though called an academy, it did full collegiate work, had a high standard of scholarship, and conferred degrees. The institution was located at Washington, Mississippi, six miles east of Natchez. Washington had been the brilliant and busy little territorial capital and was then the center of social and political influence.

Galloway made a visit prior to 1898 and said the style of architecture was borrowed from the Spanish of colonial times, the structure was two and one-half stories high, the first of brick, the others in frame. A fire consumed the building some 20 years prior to his visit leaving only the solid masonry.

The school was Methodist operated, and the grounds and buildings were donated to the Mississippi Conference by Mrs. Elizabeth Roach in 1818. The institution was called Elizabeth Female Academy in her honor. The academy opened its doors to pupils on November 12, 1818.

The spiritual culture of the students was the supreme concern of the faculty rather than training for a profession. Some studies of the senior class included chemistry, natural philosophy, moral philosophy, botany, Latin, Aesops Fables, etc. From 1819 to 1829, boarders at the school annually amounted in number from 28 to 63. One of the better known faculty members was John James Audubon.

The removal of the capital to Jackson, the shifting of the center of population, several epidemics of yellow fever, and other causes of varying fortunes forced the academy to suspend operation in 1845.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Galloway, Bishop Charles P. "Elizabeth Female Academy - The Mother of Female Colleges." Publications of Mississippi Historical Society, Oxford: Mississippi. Vol. 11. (1899). 169-178.

Braden Guy B. "Elizabeth Female Academy." (October 1957). Report on file at Natchez Trace Parkway Library, Tupelo, Mississippi.

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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William E. Cox, Assistant Chief Park Interpreter		DATE: 09/11/74
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Natchez Trace Parkway		
STREET AND NUMBER: R. R. 1, NT-143		PHONE: (601) 842-1572
CITY OR TOWN: Tupelo	STATE Mississippi 38801	CODE 28

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☒ None

Elmer B. Hilliard
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☒ State ☐ Local

✓ Bennis G. Grabelle 3/23/76
Federal Representative Signature Date
for the Deputy Assistant Secretary
Title

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Acting Chief

Date 5/6/77
ATTEST:

[Signature]
Acting Keeper of The National Register
Date 5.6.77

SEE INSTRUCTIONS