

COMMUNITY DATA

PELL CITY, ALABAMA

LOCATION:.....East Central Alabama in  
St. Clair County

NEAREST LARGE TOWN.....Birmingham (31) miles

POPULATION.....CITY.... 5,000  
PERCENT WHITE..... 77%

POPULATION.....COUNTY..... 26,000  
PERCENT WHITE..... 83%

ESTIMATED POPULATION IN IMMEDIATE TRADE AREA..... 33,000

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (Census figures)  
CITY..... 2,837  
COUNTY..... 7,843

CLIMATE.....Annual average temp. 62  
Monthly.. Jan..45..  
July..80... Rain (55) in.

PELL CITY IS 567 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL:

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES:

GOVERNMENT..... MAYOR & COUNCIL

POLICE..... (6) Two vehicles

FIRE..... (18) Three full time,  
fifteen volunteers,  
two engines, one  
tanker.

FIRE INSURANCE CLASSIFICATION:.....NB 8

TAX LEVY.....State of Ala 6.5M  
St. Clair Co.23.5M  
School 8.0M  
City 5.0M  
43.0M

OTHER TAXES..... Gross receipts tax 1¢  
per dollar  
Gasoline tax 1¢ per gal.  
Cigarette tax 2¢ per pack

UTILITIES:

Electric Power Supplier.....Ala Power Co.  
Approximately...4,000 meters

UTILITIES: (Continued)

NATURAL GAS SUPPLIER..... City of Pell City  
SEWAGE..... Sanitary sewer & disposal  
plant  
WATER SUPPLIER..... City of Pell City  
(Source...two wells &  
spring (Capacity..855  
G.P.M.)  
TELEPHONE.....Coosa Valley Telephone Co.  
Approximately... 3,000 phones

FINANCIAL INSTUTIONS:

Deposits..June 29, 1968

THE PEOPLES BANK..... \$4,257,253.78  
UNION STATE BANK..... \$3,666,941.67  
ST. CLAIR FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION....\$5,940,695.00

MAJOR INDUSTRIES:

AVONDALE MILLS (CLOTH) 480 EMPLOYEE'S  
VALK MFG. CO. (PATROL BLADES) 18 EMPLOYEE'S  
RIVERSIDE CLAY CO. (CLAY) 12 EMPLOYEE'S  
CLOW CORPORATION (PLASTIC PIPE) 50 EMPLOYEE'S

PRINCIPAL INCOME.....Textiles, timber &  
agriculture.

ESTIMATED PER CAPITA INCOME.....\$1,204.

FAMILY INCOME (3½ TO FAMILY).....\$4,214.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS..... 300

TOTAL AMOUNT OF SALES (CITY)

PREVIOUS YEAR (TOTAL).....\$7,809,492.00  
CURRENT YEAR (FIRST FIVE MONTHS).....\$3,222,394.00

COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

CHURCHES: (WHITE).....(18) Seventeen Protestant,  
one Catholic

SCHOOLS.....(8) Three Elementary, two  
Sr. High, two Jr. High &  
St. Clair Co. Training  
School.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES: (Continued)

COLLEGES:.....(WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE)...Howard College &  
University of Ala (31  
miles) Birmingham

Jacksonville State Univ-  
ersity (40 miles) J'ville.

University of Ala (40)  
miles, Gadsden, Ala

TRADE SCHOOLS..... Ala School of Trades  
Gadsden, Ala (40 miles)

(BUS SERVICE DAILY TO CHILDBERSBURG  
& GADSDEN FURNISHED BY STATE)

N. F. Nunnaley Trade  
School (28 miles) Childersburg, Ala

TELEVISION:.....Two channels from B'ham.  
(PROPOSED CABLEVISION WITHIN THE YEAR)

TELEGRAPH..... Western Union

NEWS PAPER:.....(LOCAL)..... St. Clair News Aegis  
Circulation...4200

OTHER..... B'ham News & Post Herald  
Circulation (approx. same  
as above)

RADIO..... WFHK

LIBRARIES.....CITY..... 5,500 Volumes  
COUNTY.....24,415 Volumes

MOTELS..... (6)

MARINAS..... (10)

RESTAURANTS..... (10)

REAL ESTATE AGENCIES..... (3)

RECREATION:

THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD provides year-round recreation for the youth of Pell City. Facilities available includes two recreation center buildings with pools and lighted tennis courts, lighted Little League and Pony League fields and a modern football stadium. A well equipped and modern 9 hole golf course and practice green is maintained by the local Country Club.

RECREATION: (Continued)

A feasibility study now underway is being conducted to determine the possibility of the development of a complete recreation complex to be constructed in the immediate area.

BEAUTIFUL LOGAN MARTIN LAKE, a marine wonderland has made Pell City the "Fun Hub" of North Central Alabama.

Boating, skiing, swimming and other water sports can be enjoyed approximately 6 to 8 months of the year. Fishing is excellent throughout the year.

Numerous modern marinas, motels, restaurants and campsites are available within a few minutes drive of downtown Pell City.

Logan Martin Lake has a total Reservoir Area of 16,650 acres with 326.4 miles of Shoreline.

LOGAN MARTIN AMPHITHEATRE INC., sponsored principally by the local Chamber of Commerce, provides low cost entertainment for the entire family on Saturday nights during the summer season. Performances by the Alabama Symphony Pops Orchestra are among the wide and varied programs presented for the pleasure of local residents and visitors to the Logan Martin area.

MEDICAL SERVICES:

- HOSPITALS.....(1) Construction will start on a modern 68 bed hospital in the very near future.
- CLINICS.....(1)
- NURSING HOMES.....(2)
- PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS.....(4)
- DENTIST.....(6)
- CHIROPRACTORS.....(1) 2
- OPTOMETRISTS.....(1)

TRANSPORTATION:

- HIGHWAY.....U.S. 78 & 231 - I-20
- RAIL.....Southern Railway, trips per day (2) East & West
- MOTOR FREIGHT.....6 regular & 5 erregular

TRANSPORTATION: (Continued)

BUS.....Greyhound & Trailway

AIR.....Local Air Port 4200 ft. runway. New runway in excess of 5,000 ft. in planning stage. Charter service available to all points. Charter to B'ham (31) miles, 6 Airlines, 64 flights daily.

REMARKS: (Future Growth)

The Chamber of Commerce is presently completing the necessary requirements for the development of an industrial park on property already acquired. Plans are now being formulated to provide utilities and railway facilities to the site.

An A&P, a new Union State Bank building and a new Ala Power Company office are now under construction. A new Peoples Bank and a new 68 bed hospital will be under construction the very near future. A complex of new apartments will also be under construction very soon, and numerous other commercial establishments have plans for either new buildings or remodeling.

The new Alabama Speedway, comparable to Daytona, is now under construction, and will be only 15 minutes from downtown Pell City. The first national race will be held in September, 1969 and it is estimated that 100,000 spectators will attend the first race.

Beautiful Logan Martin Lake, with numerous motels, restaurants and modern marinas, has made Pell City the "Fun Hub" of North Central Alabama, and recreation has become a very profitable industry for this immediate area.

The general atmosphere is reflecting good business and the future of this area is very encouraging. Adequate power, gas and communications coupled with a good labor supply make the community ready for progress.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Total Effective Buying Income.....	\$34,122,000
Total Population.....	26,000
Total Retail Sales.....	16,992,000
Effective Buying Income per Household.....	4,214

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS ( Ages)

14 and Under.....	8,445
15 to 24.....	3,863
25 to 34.....	2,896
35 to 44.....	2,998
45 to 64.....	4,911
65 and Over.....	2,275

RETAIL SALES CHARACTERISTICS (million)

Food.....	\$ 5,494
Eating and Drinking.....	623
General Merchandision.....	1,372
Apparel.....	762
Furniture - Appliances.....	1,134
Automotive.....	3,049
Gas Stations.....	1,692
Lumber - Building - Hardware.....	907
Drugs.....	518

EFFECTIVE BUYING INCOME BY HOUSEHOLDS:

Breakdown.....	% Households
\$0-2,999.....	38.2
\$3-4,999.....	23.7
\$5-7,999.....	26.6
\$8-9,999.....	6.1
\$10,000 & Over.....	5.4

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION:  
(Actual figures to 1967)

Passenger.....	12,411
Trucks.....	4,108
Other.....	356
Total.....	16,875

FARM PRODUCTION CHARACTERISTICS (million)

Value of all farm products.....	4,034
Crops.....	760
Livestock and livestock products.....	3,266

Sources of above information:

The Sales Management year book of 1966. The United States Department of Commerce. Bureau of Census 1964. The Ala Press Association Vital statistics by counties. The Sun Newspapers marketing data files.

Pell City Census

1950	1,189	
1956	3,644	Special Census
1960	4,165	
1967	4,859	
1970	5,381	5,602 Corrected
1980	6,616	

Estimates

1975	6,066	RevenueSharing
1976	6,191	
1977	6,424	
1978	6,417	RevenueSharing
1982	6,796	



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Bureau of the Census**  
Washington, D.C. 20233

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

JUL 16 1971

According to the official count of the returns of the NINETEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES, on file in the Bureau of the Census, the population of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama was 5,602 as of April 1, 1970.

CONRAD T. AEUBER  
Associate Director  
Bureau of the Census



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20233

July 17, 19 67

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That according to the official count of the returns of the Special Census, taken as of June 26, 1967, the population of the City of Pell City

County of St. Clair State of Alabama

was 4,859

The population was distributed as follows:

	<u>Both Sexes</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total Population.....	4,859	2,320	2,539
White.....	3,636	1,755	1,881
Nonwhite.....	1,223	565	658

*A. Ross Eckler*

A. Ross Eckler  
Director  
Bureau of the Census

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
WASHINGTON 25

October 24, 1956

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That according to the official count of the returns of  
the Special Census, taken as of October 10, 1956 the population of  
the city of Pell City,

County of St. Clair State of Alabama

was 3,644.

The population was distributed as follows:

	<u>Both Sexes</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total population .....	3,644	1,715	1,929
White .....	2,898	1,371	1,527
Nonwhite .....	746	344	402



Robert W. Burgess  
Director  
Bureau of the Census

ANY ALTERATION VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

1955

Industrial Development Department  
Alabama Power Company  
Birmingham, Alabama

PELL CITY DATA SHEET

<p><b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b></p> <p>Location: East Central Alabama in St. Clair County and 37 miles east of Birmingham.</p> <p>Elevation: 567 feet above sea level</p> <p>Type City Government: Mayor-Council</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL DATA (1951)</b></p> <p>Union State Bank Total Deposits: \$1,924,482.20 Total Resources: 2,101,803.24</p>																																	
<p><b>POPULATION</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Pell City</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Clair County</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1940</td> <td style="text-align: center;">900</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27,336</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1950</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,189</td> <td style="text-align: center;">26,687</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Pell City</u>	<u>St. Clair County</u>	1940	900	27,336	1950	1,189	26,687	<p><b>TAXES</b></p> <p>Ad Valorem (Rate per \$100 of Assessed Value)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">State</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ .65</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">County</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">City</td> <td style="text-align: right;">.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3.10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	State	\$ .65	County	1.95	City	.50	Total	\$3.10																
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<p><b>CHURCHES</b></p> <p>Number of White: 12 Number of Colored: 3</p> <p>Baptist, Free Will, Church of God, Church of Christ and Wesleyan Methodist</p>	<p><b>FUEL AND UTILITIES</b></p> <p>Power and Light: Alabama Power Company Natural Gas: Southern Natural Gas Company Water: City Water Works (Dunlap Spring) - 350,000 gallons daily Avondale Lake - 100,000 gallons daily average Sewage: Outfall to Coosa River</p>																																	
<p><b>SCHOOLS</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>White</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Colored</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Enrollment - City:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Grade</td> <td style="text-align: center;">601</td> <td style="text-align: center;">264</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">High</td> <td style="text-align: center;">613</td> <td style="text-align: center;">167</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">County:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Grade</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,124</td> <td style="text-align: center;">840</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">High</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,855</td> <td style="text-align: center;">376</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>White</u>	<u>Colored</u>	Enrollment - City:	Grade	601	264	High	613	167	County:	Grade	3,124	840	High	1,855	376	<p><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></p> <p>Highways: Federal - No. 78 Railroads: Southern Airport: Birmingham - 37 miles distant</p>															
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<p><b>HOSPITALS</b></p> <p>Number: 1 Beds: 42 Clinics: 1 Beds: 3</p>	<p><b>INDUSTRIES IN PELL CITY</b></p> <p>Avondale Mills (denim) Dixie Pipe and Foundry Syrup Factory</p>																																	
<p><b>POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION</b></p> <p>Number on Police Force: 4 Number of Firemen: 10 Paid Number of Fire Trucks: 1</p>	<p><b>WAGE RATES</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Non-Skilled</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ .75</td> <td style="text-align: right;">per hour</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Semi-Skilled</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ .85 - \$1.10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Skilled</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ .90 - \$1.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Non-Skilled	\$ .75	per hour	Semi-Skilled	\$ .85 - \$1.10	" "	Skilled	\$ .90 - \$1.50	" "																								
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	<p><b>MOTELS</b></p> <p>Lewis Motel - 10 units Lewis-Davis Motel - 12 units - air conditioned Pell City Motel - 21 units - air conditioned Leis Motel - 30 units - air conditioned</p>																																	



Each Probate Judge, Sheriff, and the Clerk and Register of the Circuit Court is required by law to preserve this slip or pamphlet in a book kept in his office until the Act is published in permanent form.

## ALABAMA LAW

(Regular Session, 1965)

Act No. 88

H. 175—Holladay

### AN ACT

To alter, rearrange and extend the boundaries and corporate limits of the city of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama, so as to annex certain territory to the city.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of Alabama:*

Section 1. The boundaries and corporate limits of the city of Pell City, St. Clair County, Alabama, are hereby altered, rearranged and extended so as to include within the corporate limits of the city the following described territory in addition to the area now embraced within such boundaries and corporate limits, to-wit:

Section 13, except the north half of North half; Sections 24, 25, and 36, all in Township 17, Range 3, East. Also Section 18, except the Northwest quarter of Northwest quarter; Sections 19, 30 and 31, all in Township 17, Range 4, East, all situated in St. Clair County, Alabama. LESS AND EXCEPT that part of the above lands lying below the 465 foot contour elevation line as last established by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or upon its otherwise becoming a law.

Approved June 30, 1965.

Time: 11:59 A. M.

I hereby certify that the foregoing copy of an Act of the Legislature of Alabama has been compared with the enrolled Act and it is a true and correct copy thereof.

Given under my hand this 1st day of July, 1965.

JOHN W. PEMBERTON

Clerk of the House

FINAL POPULATION COUNT

1970 Census of Population				
Rank	Municipality	1970	1960	%
4	Ashville (Town)	986	973	1.3
12	Branchville (Town)	225	...	...
11	Leeds--St. Clair (City)	257	321	-19.9
6	Margaret (Town)	685	715	-4.2
8	Moody (Town)	504	...	...
7	Odenville (Town)	533	300	77.7
1	Pell City (City)	5,381	4,165	29.2
2	Ragland (Town)	1,239	1,166	6.3
13	Rainbow City--St. Clair (Town)	8	...	...
9	Riverside (Town)	351	159	120.8
3	Springville (Town)	1,153	822	40.3
5	Steele (Town)	798	625	27.7
10	White's Chapel (Town)	334	...	...
	St. Clair County	27,956	25,388	10.1
	State of Alabama	3,444,165	3,266,740	5.4

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Remarks made at Library Board Meeting, March 10, 1964. F. Wilbur Helmbold, President  
Alabama Library Association and Librarian, Howard College.

This summer I am to speak to a group of college librarians in Virginia and yesterday I had to give ~~my~~ their program committee a title for my little talk. I finally decided to call my address, "UNFILTERED OLD GOLD". Tonight I think that you might be more interested in what I have to say if I told you that I will talk about "LOST JEWELS." These jewels are the human resources of St. Clair County, the men and women, boys and girls, that are here tonight, that you have in your homes, that you meet on your streets and in your front yards.

Let us look at some statistics. St. Clair County in the latest census had 25,397 people residing within its bounds. Of these, nearly 21,000 are white residents. Nearly 24,000 of the people in the county were born in Alabama, only 1500 having been born outside the state. St. Clair County has a lot of people.

Now let's look at the workers among the people. There were 7,468 workers reported in the county, 4,130 of whom worked within the county and 3,090 worked outside the county.---- St. Clair County is a working county. Nearly one out of every three persons, including all children and aged persons, works at a gainful occupation. *(a few did not indicate where they work)*

How do our people get to work? 842 of them walk to work, but 5,573 ride in their automobiles or in a car pool, while 598 work at home.---- St. Clair County is a travelling county.

There are 2,548 veterans in the county.----St. Clair County does its share in defending our country.

There are 3,366 couples with children under 18 years old, and there are 10,000 children under 18 yrs. of age. ---St. Clair County has a lot of young people and children. It is a young county from the standpoint of the age groups within its population.

These children attend our schools. 4,921 were in elementary schools, 1,803 in high schools, and 61, in colleges.----St. Clair County is a learning county. 6,785 of its residents are going to school; ONE-FOURTH of the residents of the county attend school!

The men of St. Clair County, who provide most of the income for the residents, are

gaged in various occupations. The largest group (1648) work as operatives of simple machine, liverymen, etc., but the second largest group (1311) are skilled or semi-skilled craftsmen. Other groups work in professional, technical and kindred work (221), or as managers, officials, etc. (340). There are 393 farmers in the county, that is full-time farmers.-----  
Clair county is a working county, in a special sense. The fact that there are 1311 men who work as craftsmen is indicative of the ability of the people. These are the men who build our homes, our machines, our tools, and our hard goods. These are the men who form the hard core of our real economy, pay our taxes, clothe our children, buy our newspapers, build our communities.

It would be nice to go on talking about the jewels of St. Clair County. St. Clair has lots of jewels like these. I know you like to hear me talk about these wonderful things, and these wonderful people. You are some of those wonderful people I am talking about.

But I need to really talk about LOST JEWELS, not the ones that we have already found. Let us think a little about the real needs of the people of St. Clair County.

Our Saviour said that "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." We all know that this applies first of all to the importance of divine truth in the life of every person. Nothing can ever change that emphasis. This is the basic truth.

But we can also apply, as it often has been applied, to say that man is not a mere creature needing food and clothing. He must also have food for the mind, something to feed his God-given intellect, something to sharpen the talents that are his gifts to be used for the benefit of his fellow-citizens.

I'd like to tell a little story here that may show what I mean. When I came back to Howard College to become the librarian in 1957, I needed a little house to take care of my family and the college had a house vacant at the time. A man, somewhat older than I, who had worked around the college for a number of years was given the job of painting that house right after we moved in. I was in the midst of supervising the moving of the library books from the old campus to the new campus, and I was a pretty busy fellow.

One morning when I hurried out the door, I happened to notice that my friend had a worried

look on his face. I stopped to ask if there was something the matter and he said there ~~wants~~ wasn't at first, but he finally admitted that something WAS "bugging" him. He said, "I am an old man and I've never amounted to anything at all. All I know how to do is paint and fix up old buildings and that's about all."

I stopped him right there, and told him to think about this more carefully. He was painting the house in which I then lived. It had to be painted (Partly, to keep it together for a couple more years!) If he didn't paint it, then another member of the crew would have to, or else the supervisor would have to do it.

I pointed out that my job right then was to move that library from the old campus to the new campus. If I didn't do it, someone else would have to. It might require the supervision of the business manager or the president. I was needed to save their time. He was needed to save their time or mine. His work, in this sense, is worth just as much as mine, and we don't live to ourselves. We need each other.

I guess the real point comes a little later though. Some months later on that new campus, we happened to see each other one day and he asked me if I knew where he could find an old unabridged dictionary! Now, he needed me just as I then needed him. He was a laborer, actually, but he needed some food for his mind, too.

Every one of us needs food for the mind. We live in a day when the food that is offered comes in different forms. If you have read the magazines and newspapers these past few years, you may have become somewhat disturbed about things. We are so susceptible to mass psychology through the magazines that pour out over our land. So many of our people are reading without thinking. The problem is not "Can Johnny Read?" It is rather, "What Does Johnny Read/?" If it is magazines, it is a pretty skimpy diet. (I am not belittling magazines, as such: our library subscribes to more than 600 of them.)

Maturity of reading is revealed largely by the amount of book reading that is done. Writing a book is a stern discipline for most people and it is generally conceded that books are much more dependable sources of basic information.

One of the great paper companies, has a series of advertisements running in these magazines that I've been talking about. The important line is, "Send me a man who reads." And, they

now a man who is reading BOOKS. While there are a few people who read and do nothing, the majority of people who read also lead!

Let us go back over a few facts about St. Clair people. If just 100 of the people move from jobs as deliverymen or machine operators to skilled or semi-skilled crafts, and 100 move up from semi-skilled to skilled crafts, and 25 move from skilled crafts to technical work, there would be 225 people with vastly increased buying power, tax-paying powers, home-building power, and community-improvement power. If each had only an increase of \$25.00 monthly in their pay check, this would be \$67,000 more in the total income of the county in one year, or more than a half-million dollars in ten years, not counting in other raises or pay which they might receive.

In ten years time, their children will be similarly improved in their ability to buy, to save, and to contribute in the total life of the county. And on and on down the line, this story will unfold.

We might say that half-million dollars will buy a lot of bread! But more important perhaps is what this would mean to the community. A man who is working at a job he enjoys and which is a challenge to him is a better citizen. He is a better father and husband. He is a better person to know and to live with. He is a better employee, or a better boss.

Now, you ask, "How does this come about?" Well, let's see. If you let a man who works a machine, read all there is to read about that machine, how to operate it efficiently, how to use it to best advantage, how to prevent it from depreciating too rapidly, he will generally tend to be more productive and actually happier because of his sense of accomplishment. He has done something himself, which is actually tangible. He has a sense of pride in what he has done. He gains confidence in himself, not by the tall tales he can spin or the long streak of rubber he can lay down with his tires when he leaves the plant, but by the quiet accomplishment of a real job.

As he gains confidence and performs better, a result of reading about his machine and its operation, he thinks about another machine that he occasionally or regularly uses. He decides that there must be something to read about that too. So he borrows a magazine or a book for that purpose. So it goes.

Now the real point is this: he begins to realize that the sky's the limit on this improvement

business. He gets a vision of what he can do and what he can BE. And there he gets the real point. What he IS in the community is so much more important than what he DOES, in the long run.

As a better informed person he wants to help bring about better schools, better roads, better government, better industry, etc. He is a contributor to the community, not a drain on its resources. Best of all, he is a jewel whose light now shines since it has been found.

Now, libraries are important to the accomplishment of all these things. Here in St. Clair on January 31, 1964 the library had 13,902 books. It circulated books 8,165 times in January from the bookmobile, and circulated books a total of 10,812 in January at the branches and bookmobile combined.

Forty hours a week at Pell City, Subgville and Ashville, and very limited schedules at Ragland, Odenville, and Steele, provided this service on a truly county-wide basis. Through volunteer and sacrificial services performed by several people, these libraries and these activities have begun to reach the lives of hundreds of St. Clair folk. The people are becoming more familiar with these services and finding these books useful and LOST JEWELS are coming to light.

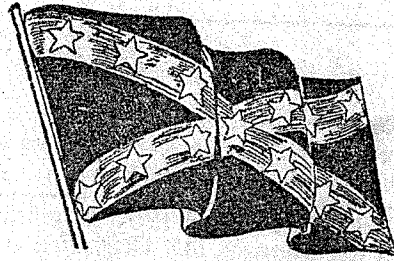
They tell me that the County Library Board has requested each municipality to contribute to this important work at the rate of 30¢ per capita for the year 1963-64. The needs of the libraries are really urgent and it is essential that adequate support be given to carry on the work. May I point out a very important fact. The signing into law of the library services act just a few weeks ago means that every dollar invested by the municipalities will bring in several dollars to match it. The development of adequate collections of books can come about rather quickly IF the funds are appropriated and paid as planned.

May I also suggest something else. The budgets of the coming fiscal year are in preparation throughout the county. These budgets need to include generous provisions for the library needs of the people. These are investments in the lives of the people. I am sure that if you have any question or desire any information about these needs, a word to any member of the Library Board will be all that is necessary.

If I, in this feeble and somewhat hit or miss way, have been able to uncover some of the LOST JEWELS of St. Clair, then I have accomplished my task and I will be satisfied.

# -AEGIS

1873



\$2.50 A YEAR

5¢ COPY

PELL CITY GOES OVER 5,000 MARK

## Pell City, Ashville Show Sharp Population Gains

Preliminary but probable correct figures on population of cities and towns of St. Clair show Pell City and Ashville to have had the greatest population gains of any county municipalities.

County population figures were not received in the release from the Census Bureau.

Pell City's population count jumped from 1189 in 1950 to 5,324 in 1960. These figures include the Eden and Oak Ridge population, the two municipalities merged with Pell City since the 1950 census.

However, the three-town area, Pell City-Eden-Oak Ridge, showed overall gain of over two thousand people since 1950. In the last census 10 years ago the Eden population was 621, Oak Ridge 474 and Pell City 1189, or a total of 3,234. The 1960 figures for the three merged towns shows 5,324. This is an overall gain of 2,040 people.

In 1956 after the voters of the three towns voted overwhelmingly for the merger mayor and city council asked for and got a special census by the bureau of the census.

The 1956 special count showed the three town popula-

tion to be 3,644. The 1960 census reflects a population gain of 1,680 in the past four years.

Ashville's gain was from 494 in 1950 to 974 in 1960. The Ashville figures also reflect a gain brought about in part by the merger of some adjacent territory.

Ragland ranks as the second size municipality in the county but shows a gain of only 155 people in the 10 year period. The 1960 Ragland population is shown as 1,163, the 1950 figures were 1,008.

Census figures show the 1960 population of Springville to be 813. In 1950 there was 553 residents, reflecting a 10 year gain of 260 for Springville.

Other census figures of towns in St. Clair were as follows; Margaret 712, Steel, 624, Odenville 300 and Riverside 158.

The 1960 head count also showed that 321 people living within the north city limits of Leeds, lived in St. Clair county.

## County Zip Code Numbers

Below is listed ZIP code postoffice numbers for postoffices in St. Clair County.

ZIP code goes into effect next Monday, July 1. It is the post-office departments' revolutionary new system of improved mail dispatch and delivery.

Numbers of St. Clair postoffices are as follows; Acmar 35005; Ashville 35953; Cropwell 35054; Margaret 35112; Odenville 35120; Pell City 35125; Ragland 35131; Riverside 35135; Springville 35146; Wattsville 35182; Cook Springs 35052.

As we go to press we do not have ZIP code numbers of Steele and Whitney.

The News-Aegis suggests that you cut these numbers out for future information. Everyone will be expected to put the ZIP code number of their postoffice on the return address of all mail.

---

# New Population Count Slated For Pell City

A new census is to be taken of the residents living within the limits of Pell City within the near future.

Mayor Otis Perry said this week the city council had decided to take this action so that the city would get in line for a greater amount of the state tax distribution under the new gas tax distribution law.

Under the law the state distributes a certain amount of gasoline tax to all cities in Alabama. This distribution is based on population and municipalities and cities with over 5,000 population get a far larger slice of the state-distributed money than those with less than 5,000 people.

A little over 4,000 residents were counted in Pell City during the 1950 census. Most observers are sure that a new count will show Pell City with a population of well over 5,000, possibly near 6,000 population.

The city limits of Pell City have been extended on two separate occasions since the 1960 census, taking in a large area. Extensions of the city limits plus the natural increase in population and the increase because of the Lake Logan Mar-

tin development, have brought about a large number of residents and these need to be counted to get new funds in the city treasury.

With this in mind the city council decided to go ahead with a new population count now instead of waiting for the regular nation-wide census next coming up in 1970.

Additional tax money from the state will far off-set the cost of the new census. Mayor Perry said formal application had been made to the United States Department of Commerce and the initial cost had been paid.

He said correspondence with the Department indicated the census would get under way in possibly 60 days and would be completed in a short time.



July 13, 1969

## Census Fails To Reflect Expected Gain

Pell City's special census, conducted recently at the request of the mayor and city council, failed to produce the expected gain over the 1960 census mark.

The preliminary report figure on the June 26 count was 4,834. The 1960 figure was 4,165.

Mayor Otis Perry pointed out that census regulations prevented the counting of persons away at school or in the service (even if for limited tours of duty).

He said that new residents in the Logan Martin Lake area, if they maintained a second home elsewhere, also could not be counted.

The special nose-count had been called to determine whether the city was eligible for a bigger share of the state's tax distribution.

# NEW CITY LIMITS TAKE IN WATERFRONT AREA

Pell City's city limits have been extended southward by an act of the legislature.

The new limits line is roughly parallel to new highway 231, going a short distance south of the Brothers 4 Motel. Pine Harbor Marina, the Fraim property, the W. H. Harmon property and other holdings in the lake area are included in the new boundary lines.

Nearly all of the Cropwell community is included and the east boundary line will be a short distance of the old Cropwell school building. Much of the lakeside property will be well within the city limits.

Additional population of Pell City will be between 500-600 people according to conservative estimates.

Mayor Otis Perry said the city was making plans to ask the Department of Commerce to make a special survey so the exact population can be counted. It is believed the extension will bring the city's population to well over the 5000 mark. City's with a population of over 5000 get a much better pro rata share of state tax money than do those city's who have under 5000

population.

There will not be another official census until 1970 and tax gained by showing more than 5000 people will off-set the cost of an additional population count, officials have pointed out.

Residents of the newly incorporated area will gain immediate police protection. Garbage disposal will also be started at once. Fire insurance will drop 15 to 20 percent. Engineering surveys will be made of the new part of the city in a short time and tentative plans made for city water and gas distribution.

Thursday — Friday  
JULY 1 — 2

"THE MOONSPINNERS"  
Haley Mills

*Approved News-Argus - July 1965*

**To Get New Industry And New Pay Roll**

# Pell City Fails To Vote In Sufficient

Pell City voters stayed away from the polls in sufficient numbers Tuesday to cause the loss of a fine industry for this city.

In a referendum designed to give the city authority to issue bonds in the amount of \$395,000 which would be loaned to the Boehmer Company who proposed a new plant in Pell City. Other funds furnished by

the company in the amount of \$100,000, and the Area Redevelopment Administration in the amount of \$399,100 would have been used to build and equip the new plant.

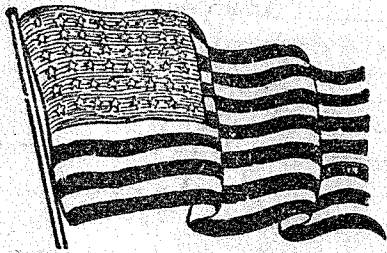
Under the law in this situation more than 50 per cent of the qualified voters living within the city limits must take part in the voting, the poll list showed 1484 were eli-

gible. On this basis at least 743 voters would have had to vote and at least the same amount voting for the proposition.

A total of 724 voted in the three city polling places, Eden, City Hall and Avondale Mills. This figure was slightly shy of the necessary number.

However, those voting gave

the proposition a majority of better than 7 to 1. The total vote was 641 for, 83 against. Broken down the vote in the 4 boxes was as follows: Eden: For 113, against 14, one city hall box totalled 190 for, 36 against, the other 189 for and 22 against. Totals at Avondale box were: 149 for, 11 against. Mayor Sam Burt and Cham-



# ST. CLAIR NEWS

ALABAMA'S BIG WEEK

91ST YEAR NUMBER 22

PELL CITY, ALABAMA

HEARTLAND

ACROSS FROM THE

# t Numbers

ber of Commerce President here J. D. Abbott were disappointed at the result. Both worked hard for the new industry and what it would mean for Pell City. Mayor Burt said "naturally I am disappointed at the result. We had great hopes that the people of Pell City would approve this bond issue and that this plant of

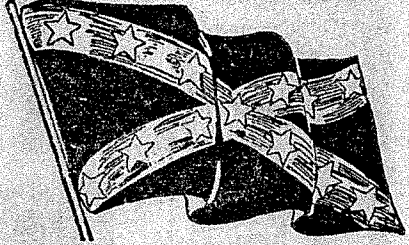
which we were assured of getting would be the beginning of other heavy industry moving into our city. Now we can not be sure as to how others seeking new plants or sites for expansion will look at us. All our civic clubs, Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees and other civic groups worked with us are deeply disappoint-

ed at the result. I feel that misinformation given to the voters helped to defeat the proposition at the polls". Mayor Burt added "I would like to reassure our citizens that our quest for new industry will continue and we are confident that within a few years Pell City will be reaping the work done by the Chamber of Commerce and other civic

groups". Chamber of Commerce President J. D. Abbott said "We are very sorry that a group of our leading citizens whom we had counted on for help opposed our efforts to bring new industry and new payrolls to Pell City. I just hope there will be another day and another chance for us to grow and prosper as we should". (eb)

# NEWS—AEGIS

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



ND OF DIXIE'S FUTURE WATER WONDERLAND

THURSDAY JUNE 18, 1964

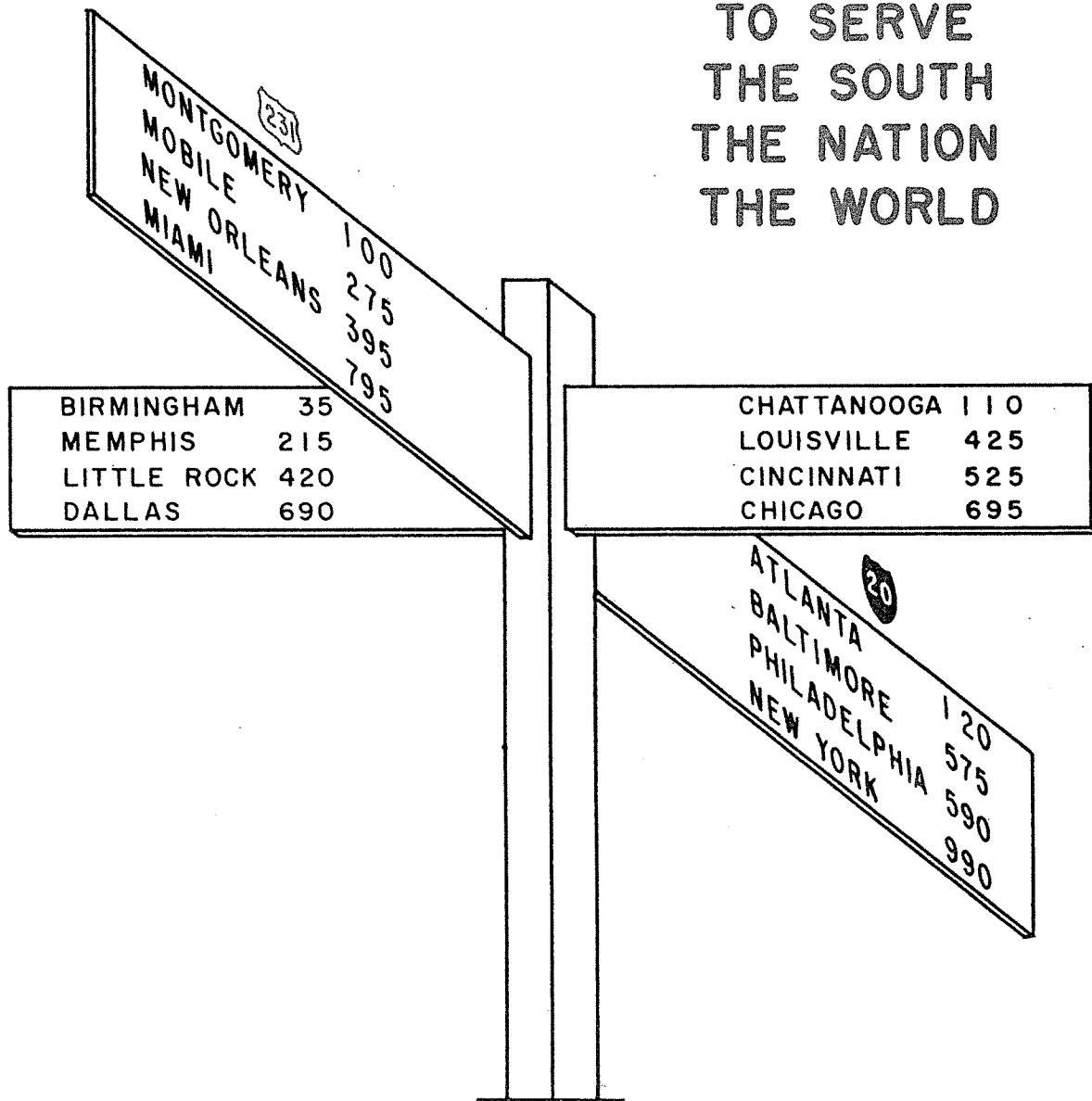
# PELL CITY

"THE CITY WITH A CONSCIENCE"

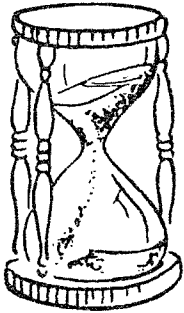
## ALABAMA

### STRATEGICALLY SITUATED

TO SERVE  
THE SOUTH  
THE NATION  
THE WORLD



# *LOOK US OVER*



**A**  
**60-Second**  
**View**  
**of**

**PELL CITY, ALABAMA**

**POPULATION**

Pell City (1960 Census) 4,165  
(1940-900; 1950-1,189; 1956-3,644)  
St. Clair County (1960 Census) 25,388

**MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**

Mayor and Council  
Police.....5; 1 vehicle  
Fire.....18 volunteers; 2 vehicles  
Insurance rating: Class 8

**AD VALOREM TAXES**

State of Alabama	6.5 Mills
St. Clair County	11.5 Mills
School	8.0 Mills
City	<u>5.0 Mills</u>
Total	<u>31.0 Mills</u>

**SCHOOLS**

City Elementary.....2; Enrollment.....903  
City Junior High.....1; Enrollment.....435  
City Senior High.....1; Enrollment.....405  
St. Clair County Training School (Colored)  
Grades 1-12; Enrollment.....522

**LIBRARY**

Coosa Valley Regional; 30,000 volumes

**MEDICAL SERVICES**

Hospitals.....1;	Beds.....42
Clinics.....1;	Beds.....6
Doctors.....4;	Dentists.....4
Chiropractors.....2;	Optometrists.....1

**MOTELS.....3; Units.....57**

**RESTAURANTS.....8**

**RECREATION**

Municipal park with swimming pool, 2 tennis courts, carpet golf course and recreation building; theatre; bowling alley; country club with golf course; recreation building for colored; excellent hunting, fishing, boating, water skiing facilities in county

**TRANSPORTATION-COMMUNICATIONS-UTILITIES**

Rail - Southern Railway  
Truck - Baggett Transportation, 2 trucks scheduled daily; on main truck route between Birmingham and Atlanta  
Bus - Greyhound and Trailways  
Air - Birmingham, 31 miles distant; 6 airlines; 64 flights daily  
Local Airport; 4,000' runway

Telephone - Coosa Valley Tel. Co.  
13 toll circuits  
Telegraph - Western Union  
Radio - WPHK  
Newspaper - St. Clair News-Aegis  
(weekly, circulation 4,400)  
Electricity - Alabama Power  
Natural Gas - Southern Natural  
Water - Municipal, spring

**LABOR FORCE**

Males....937; Females....732  
(Only 55.3% of the labor force work in the county; 49.5% of these are employed in local manufacturing)

**Rates:**

Skilled:	\$1.75 - \$3.00
Semiskilled:	\$1.25 - \$1.75
Unskilled:	\$1.15 - \$1.25

**BANKING**

Union State Bank  
Assets: \$3,196,000  
The Peoples Bank  
Assets: \$1,195,000  
St. Clair Federal Savings & Loan Association  
Assets: \$2,600,000

**CHURCHES**

Baptist; Methodist; Wesleyan  
Methodist; Church of God;  
Church of Christ; Seventh Day  
Adventist; Jehovah Witnesses

**CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS**

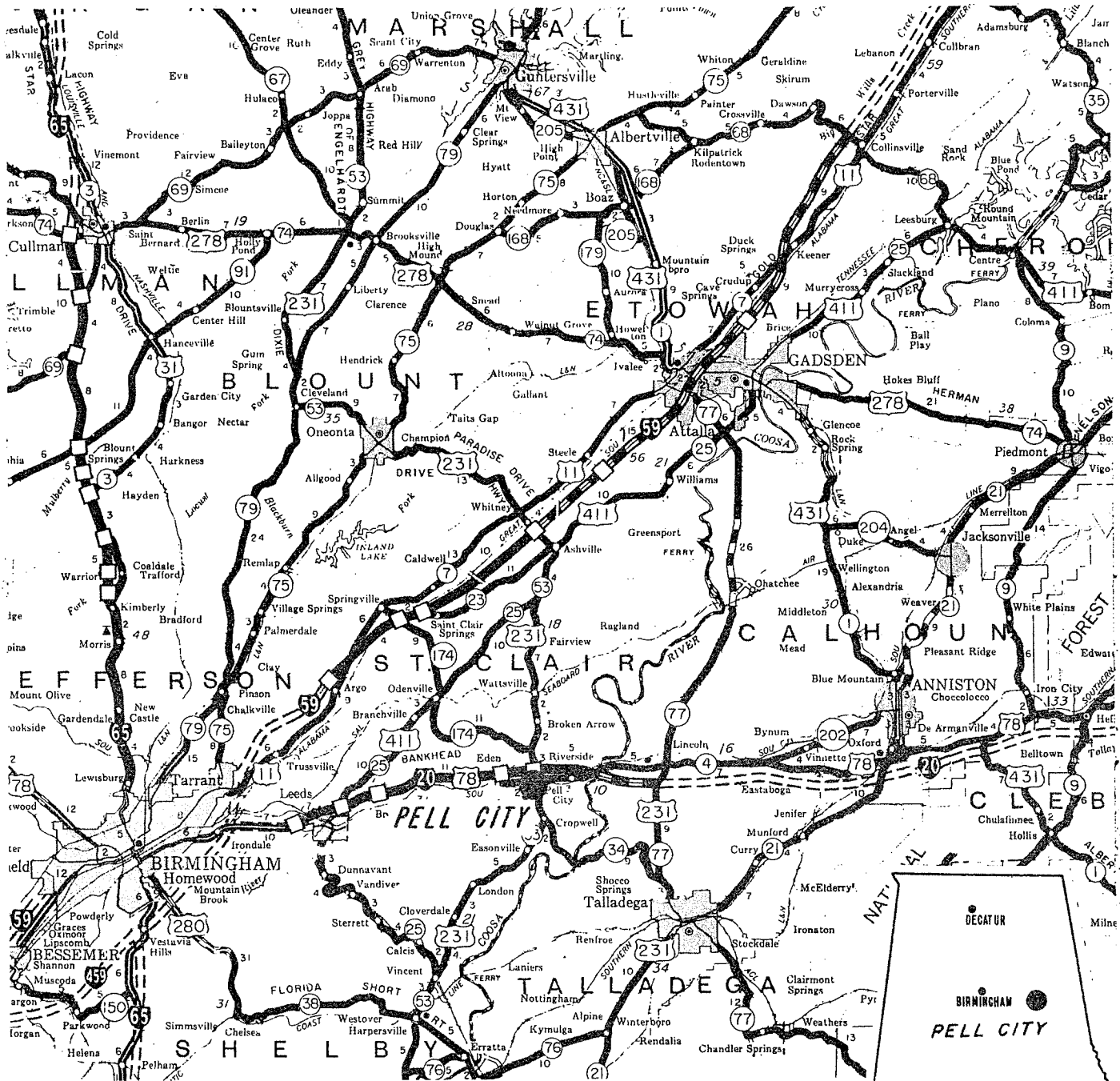
Lions; Civitan; Chamber of  
Commerce; Masonic Lodge; Garden  
Club; Business & Professional  
Women's Club

**COLLEGES**

Alabama College, Montevallo,  
57 miles; Auburn University,  
Auburn, 111; Birmingham  
Southern College, Howard Col-  
lege, University of Alabama  
Center, Birmingham, 30; Hunt-  
ingdon College, Montgomery,  
102; Jacksonville State Col-  
lege, Jacksonville, 40; Uni-  
versity of Alabama, Tusca-  
loosa, 90

**TRADE SCHOOLS**

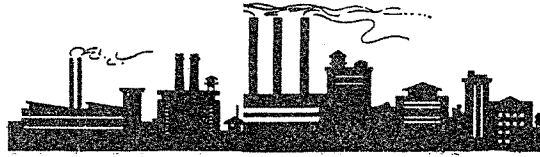
Alabama School of Trades and  
Gadsden State Vocational  
Technical School (Negro),  
Gadsden, 40 miles; Tennessee  
Valley State Vocational Tech-  
nical School, Decatur, 90  
miles; John M. Patterson  
State Vocational Technical  
School, Montgomery, 102  
miles



# PELL CITY

is located 30 miles east of Birmingham, youngest of the world's great cities. Birmingham has one of the finest medical centers in the South; Southern Research Institute; a civic symphony, art museum; ballet; little theatre; outstanding athletic events; air, rail, truck and water transportation to world markets. Interstate 20 (now 4-lane to Birmingham) and U. S. 78 connects Birmingham and Atlanta, running through Pell City. U. S. 231, running north and south, bisects Pell City. The Coosa River flows just four miles east of Pell City and the shoreline of the beautiful Logan Martin Lake is less than one mile from the city limits. The Coosa joins the Tallapoosa River further downstream to form the Alabama River. The Alabama River descends about 315 miles, joining the Tombigbee River to form the Mobile River, emptying into Mobile Bay.

Present



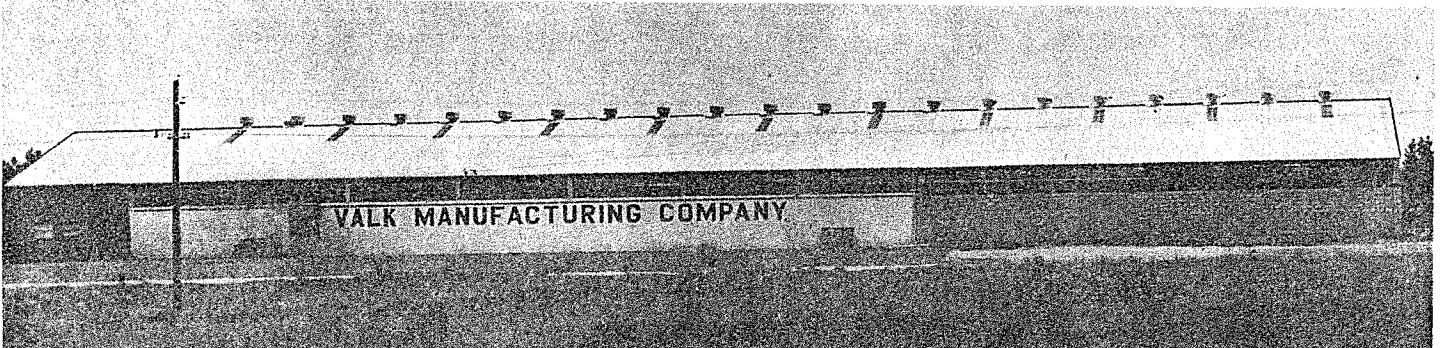
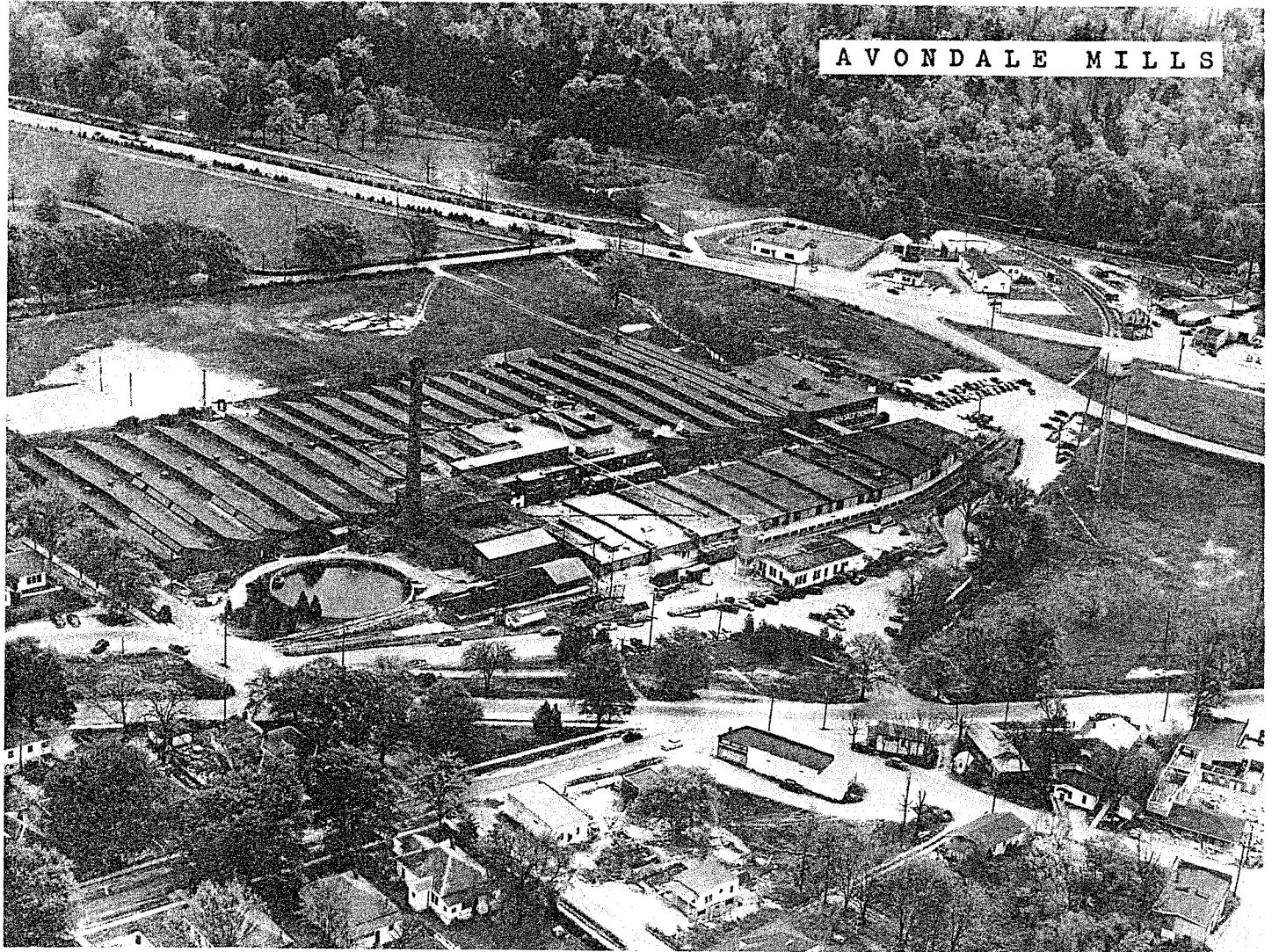
INDUSTRIES

FIRM

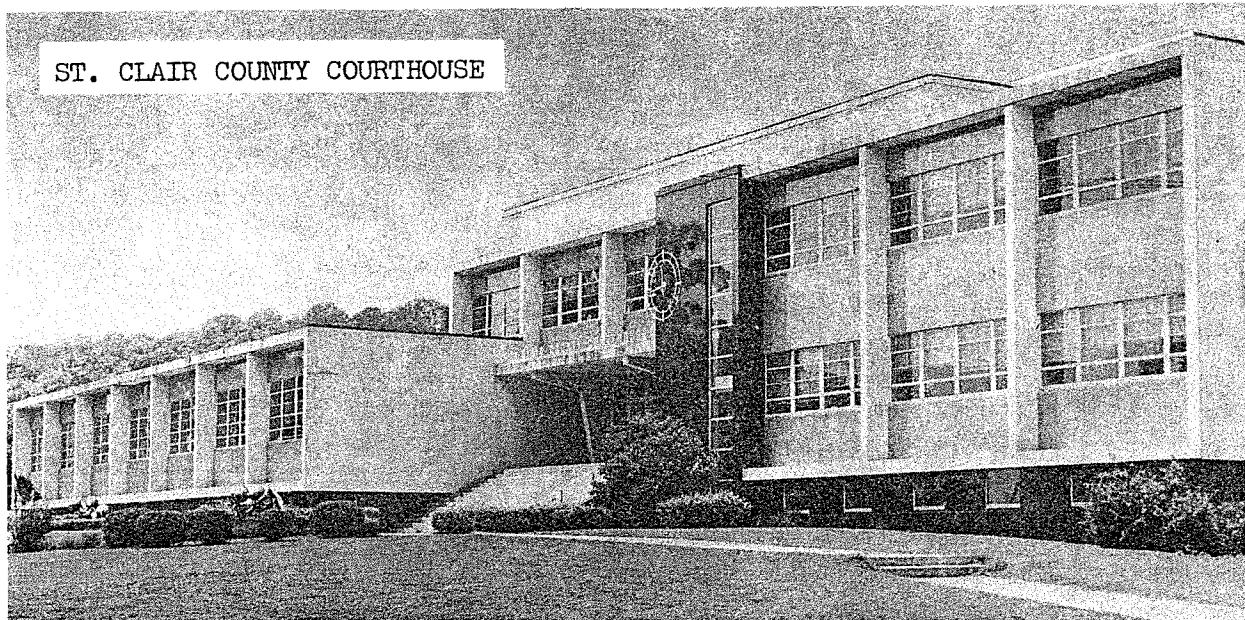
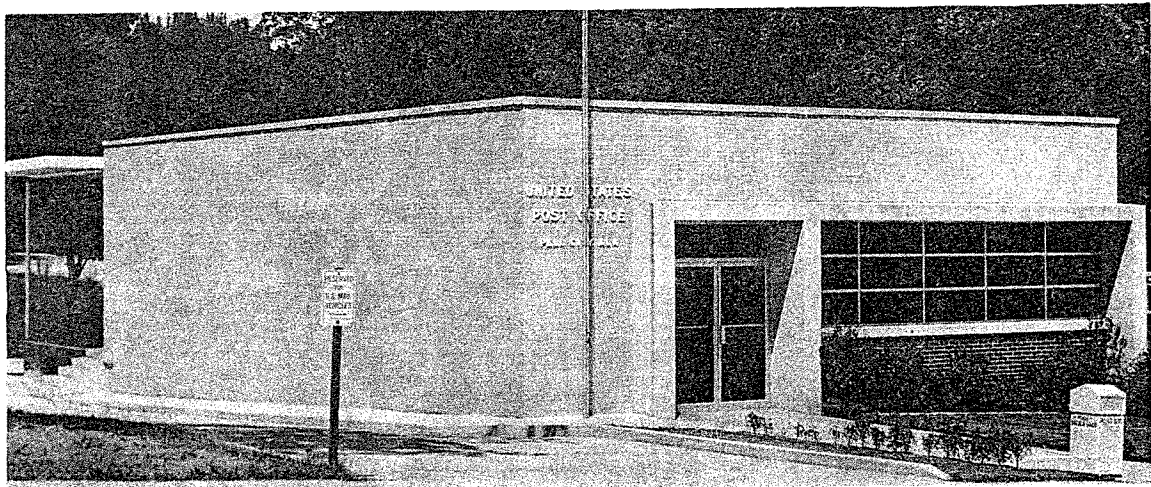
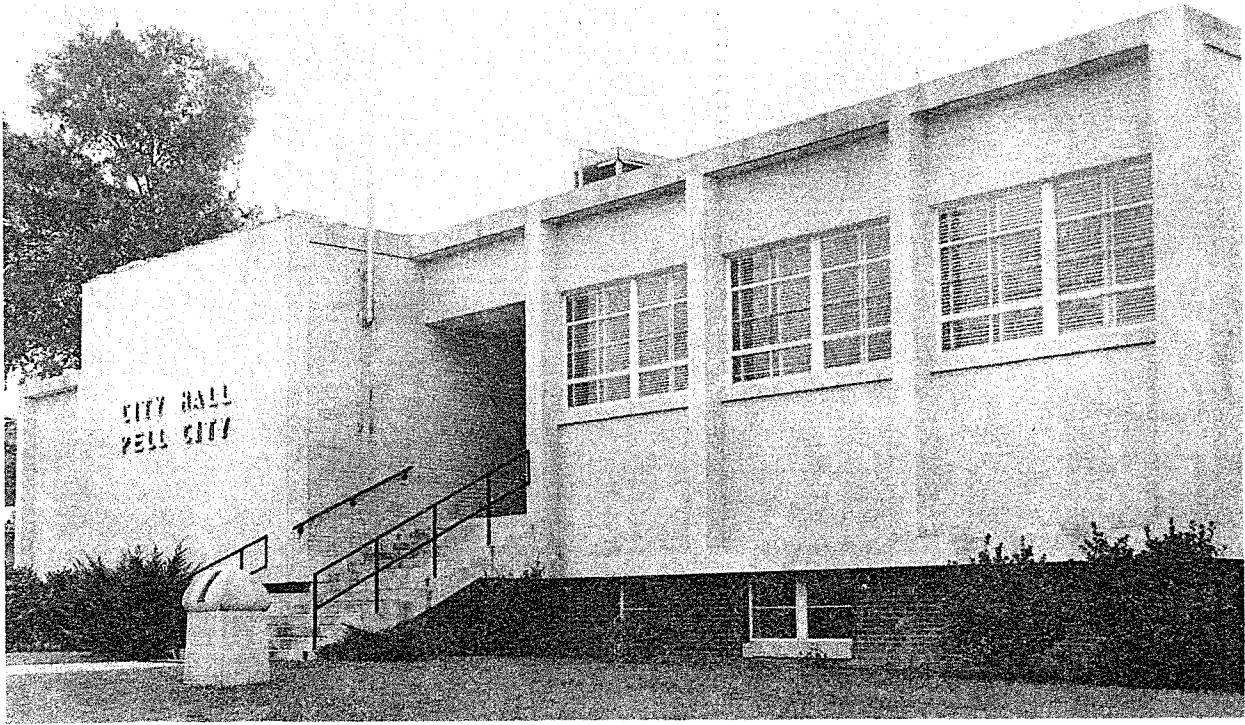
Avondale Mills  
Custom Fabricators, Inc.  
Eden Pew Company  
Quality Overhaul, Inc.  
Valk Manufacturing Co.  
Wilkins Lumber Co.

PRODUCT

Textile mill; bleachery and dye works; cotton denims  
Prefabricated homes  
Church pews; church and school furniture  
Modification  
Special machinery  
Lumber





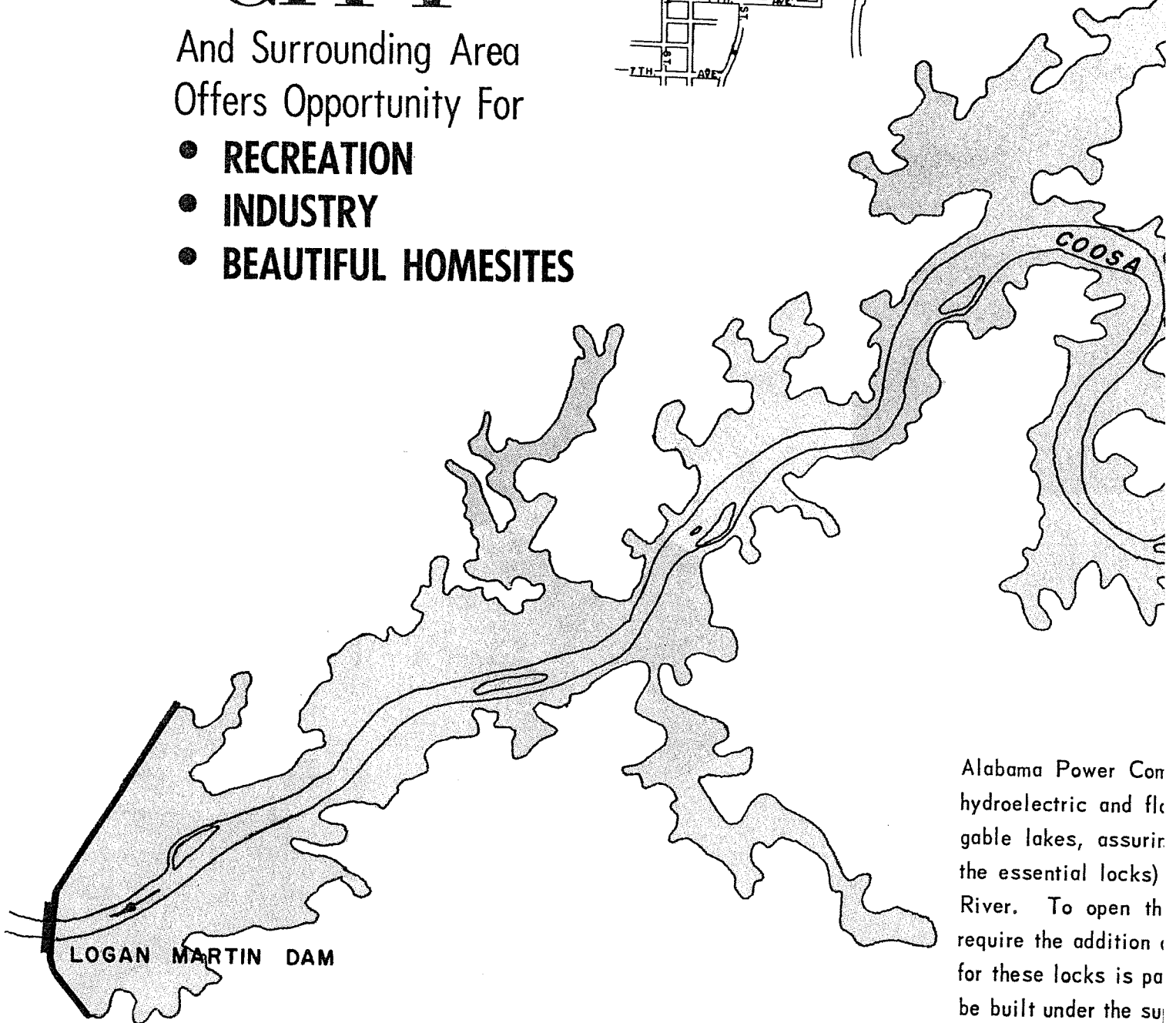
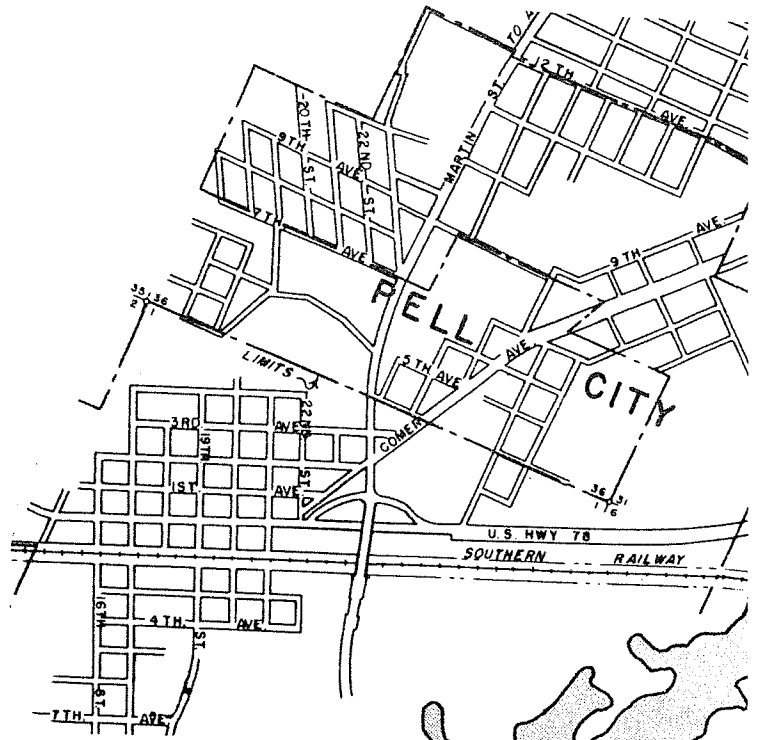


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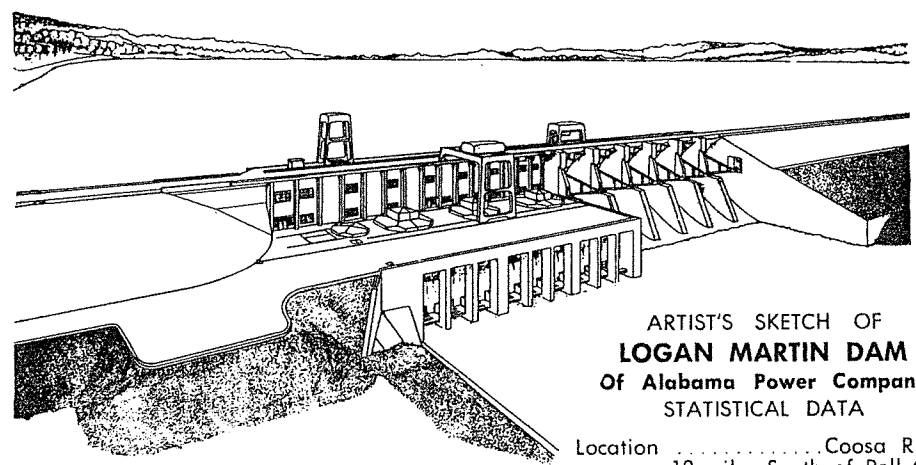
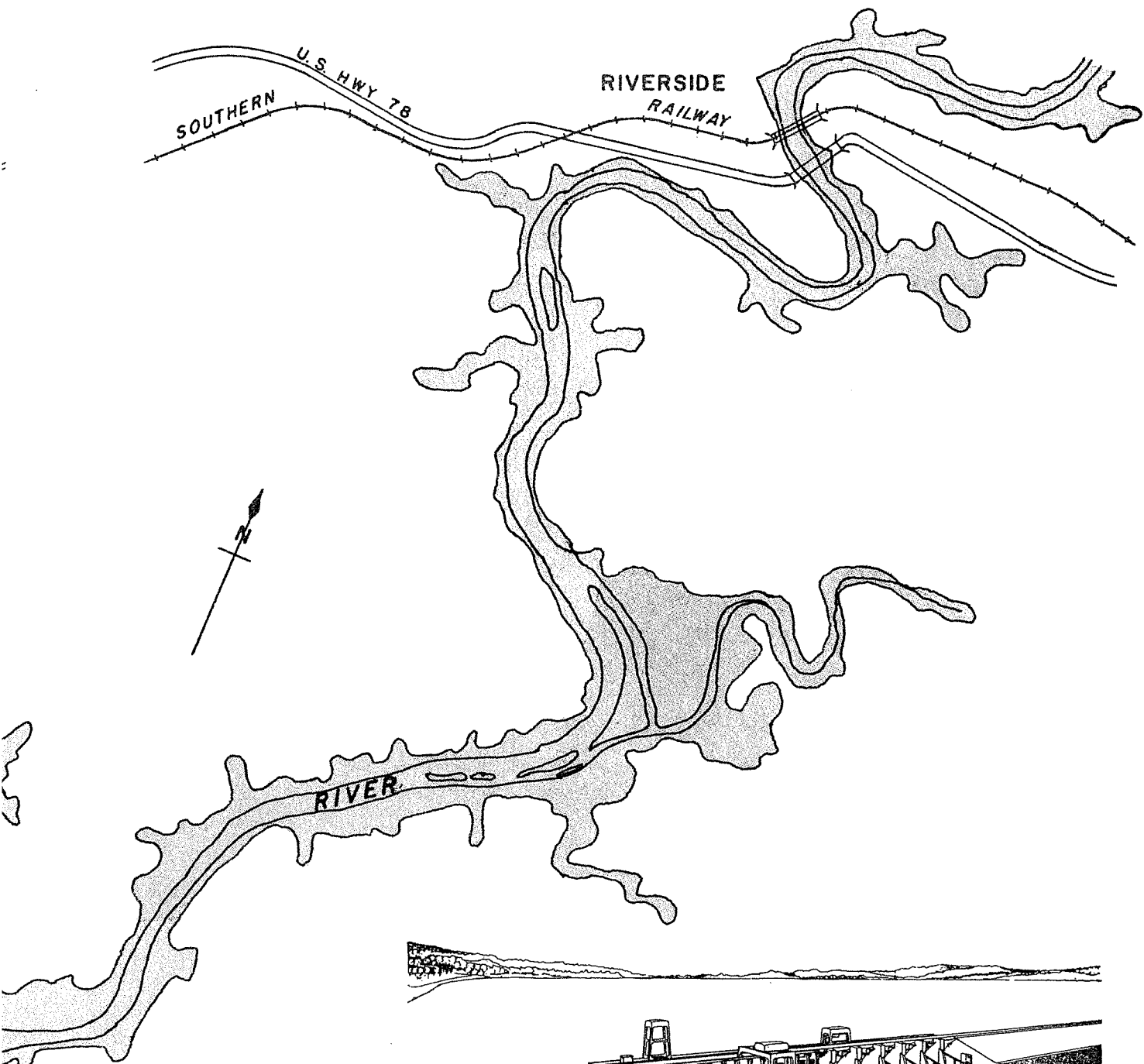
# PELL CITY

And Surrounding Area  
Offers Opportunity For

- RECREATION
- INDUSTRY
- BEAUTIFUL HOMESITES



Alabama Power Company hydroelectric and floodable lakes, assuring the essential locks) River. To open the require the addition of for these locks is possible built under the support



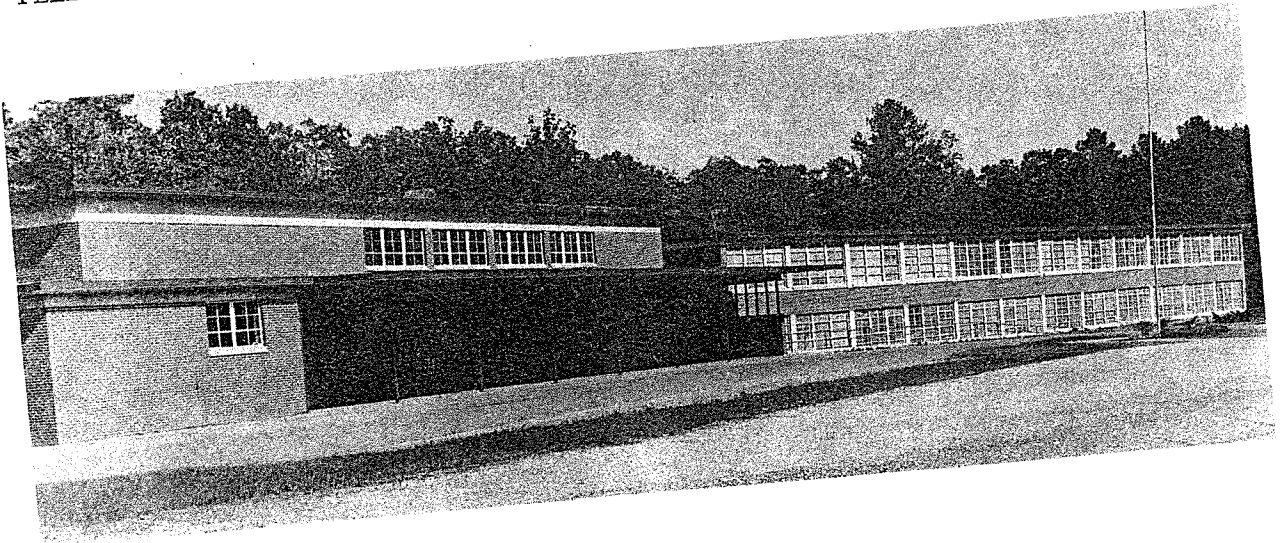
ARTIST'S SKETCH OF  
**LOGAN MARTIN DAM**  
 Of Alabama Power Company  
 STATISTICAL DATA

Location	..... Coosa River 12 miles South of Pell City
Maximum Height of Dam	... 100 Ft.
Length of Dam	..... 6,150 Ft.
Number of Gates	..... 6
Area of Reservoir	... 16,650 Acres
Drainage Area	... 7,700 Sq. Miles
Average Annual Rainfall	54 Inches
Length of Shoreline	... 326.4 Miles

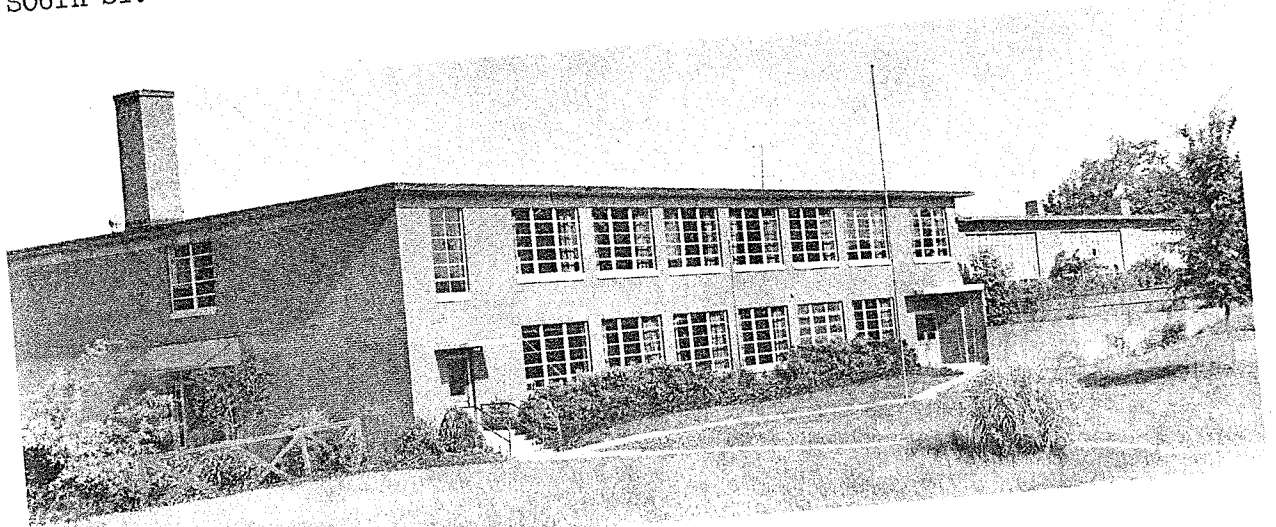
s now in process of constructing  
 control dams which will create navi-  
 gation channel (minus  
 entire distance along the Coosa  
 stretch to barge navigation will  
 in the dam structures. Provision  
 in the planning of the dams, which will  
 on of the Corps of Engineers.



PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

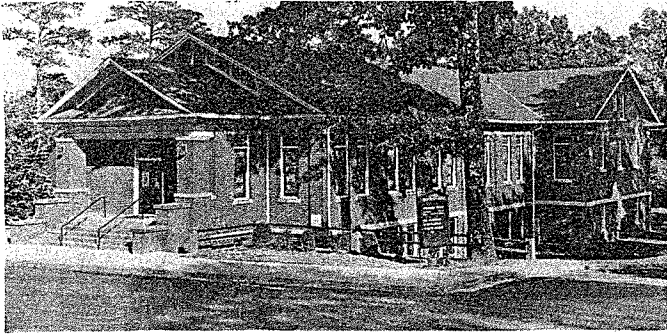


SOUTH ST. CLAIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

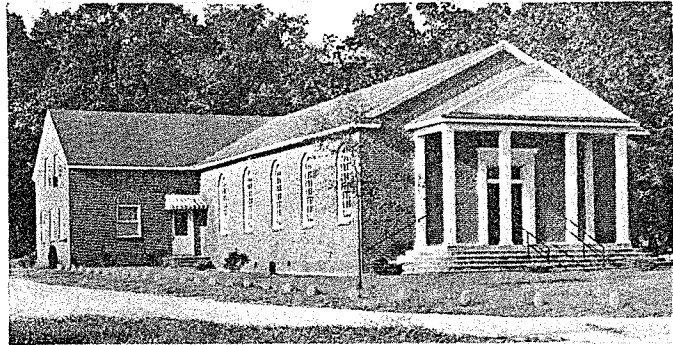


ST. CLAIR COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL

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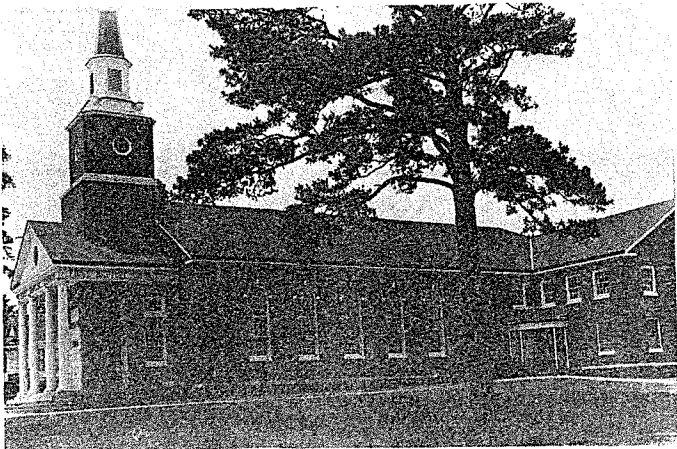
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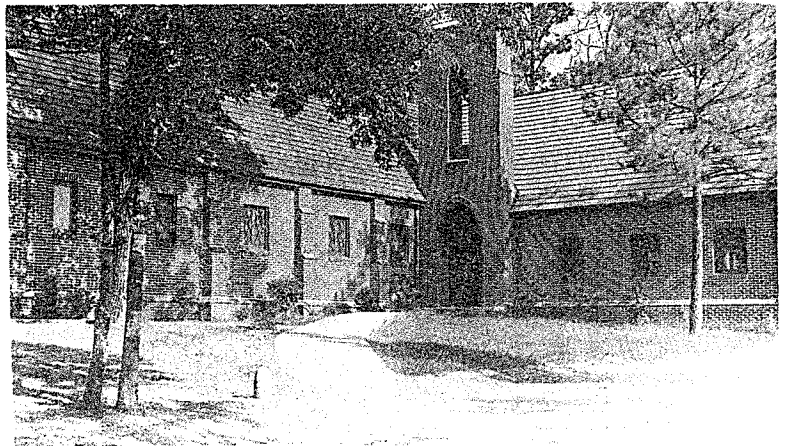
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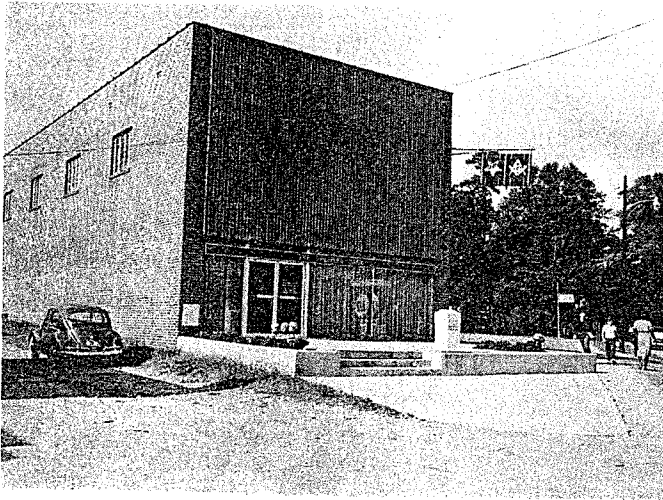
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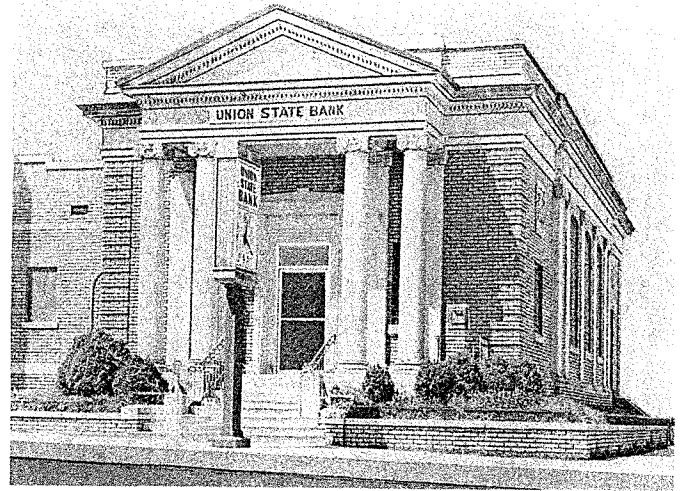
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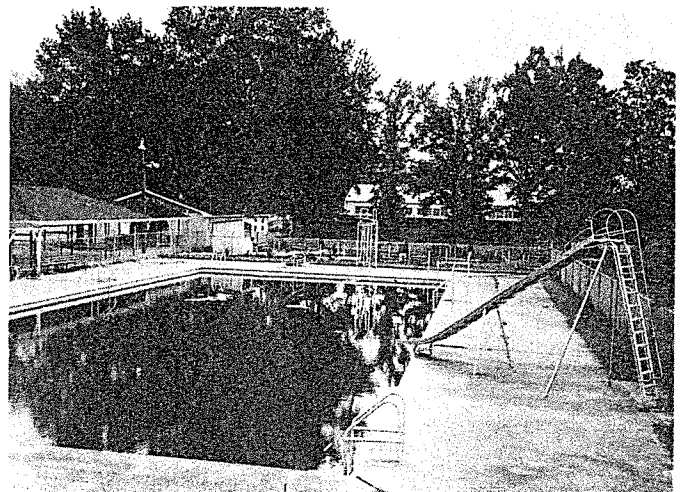
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MODERN SHOPPING CENTER

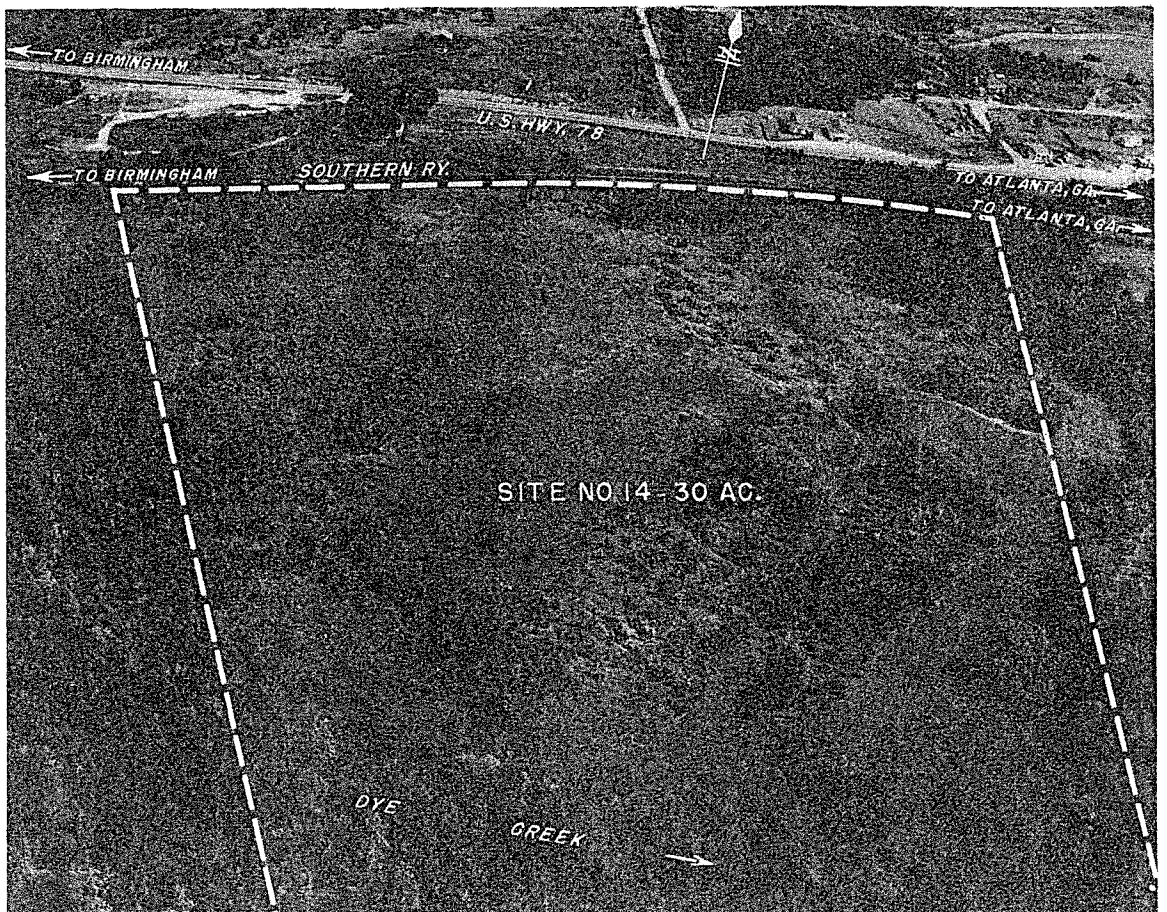
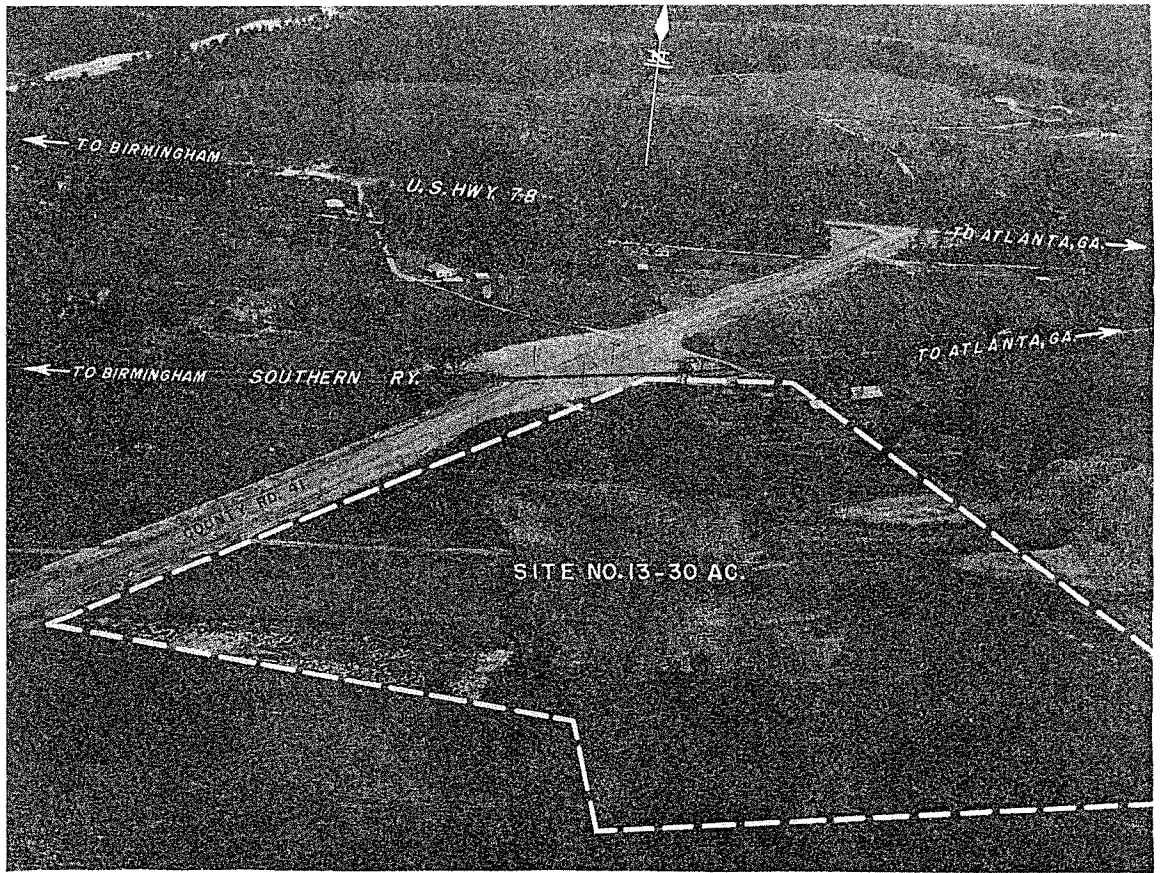


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RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY,

AND

PROGRAM DESIGN

PELL CITY, ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
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RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY AND PROGRAM DESIGN

PELL CITY, ALABAMA

RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY AND PROGRAM DESIGN  
PELL CITY, ALABAMA

Birmingham Regional Planning Commission  
2121 Building -- Room 1524  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

April, 1972

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>		<u>Page</u>
	INTRODUCTION	1
1	GOVERNMENT	5
2	PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS	6
3	POPULATION AND ECONOMY	8
	Population	8
	Economy	13
4	EXISTING LAND USE	20
	Residential	21
	Commercial	21
	Industrial	21
	Public and Semi-Public	22
	Recreation	22
	Transportation, Communication and Utilities	22
	Undeveloped Land	23
	Adjacent Land Uses	23
5	COMMUNITY FACILITIES	24
	Education	24
	Public Safety and Consumer Protection	24
	Health	26
	Recreation and Culture	27
	Library	28
	Public Water Facilities	28
	Storm Drainage Facilities	28
	Sanitary Sewerage Facilities	29
	Solid Waste Disposal Services	30
	Social Services	30
6	TRANSPORTATION	32
	Highways and Roads	32
	Railroads	33
	St. Clair County Airport	33
	Transport of Energy Sources	33
7	PLANNING PROGRAM DESIGN	34

TABLES

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
1	MONTHLY TEMPERATURES	7
2	AVERAGE MONTHLY PRECIPITATION	7
3	ST. CLAIR COUNTY POPULATION 1920-1970	9
4	1970 COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX	9
5	ST. CLAIR COUNTY RACIAL COMPOSITION (1960-1970)	10
6	PELL CITY POPULATION (1960-1970)	10
7	1967 SPOT CENSUS	11
8	PELL CITY RACIAL DISTRIBUTION (1960- 1970)	11
9	PELL CITY POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX (1970)	12
10	ST. CLAIR COUNTY CIVILIAN WORK FORCE (MARCH, 1970 AND 1971)	14
11	ECONOMIC INDICATORS, PELL CITY, ALABAMA 1964-1969	15
12	ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMERCIAL BANKS TOTAL DEPOSIT AND ASSETS	16
13	COMMERCIAL BANKING ACTIVITY IN PELL CITY	18
14	SAVINGS AND LOAN ACTIVITY IN PELL CITY	19
15	COMMERCIAL BANKING IN PELL CITY AS PERCENT OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY	19
16	EXISTING LAND USE	20
17	ST. CLAIR COUNTY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (1960)	25



ILLUSTRATIONS

<u>Figure</u>		<u>Following Page</u>
1	ST. CLAIR COUNTY	6
2	EXISTING LAND USE	20
3	EXISTING WATER SERVICE AREAS	28
4	EXISTING SANITARY SEWERAGE SERVICE AREAS	29

## INTRODUCTION

The Planning Reconnaissance Survey and Program Design are studies designed to identify a locality's problems; analyze its physical, social, and economic characteristics; determine its assets and potentials; and outline a planning program aimed at finding solutions to these problems. This report is not in itself a plan, but should be considered as the basis for a continuing planning program.

### Goals and Objectives

The first step in the development of a Planning Reconnaissance Survey is the adoption of a set of goals and objectives. Used as guiding principles, they express the desires and aspirations of the people of Pell City. The goals reflect the direction that is desired, while the objectives are a means by which the goals may be attained.

The primary goal of the Reconnaissance Survey is to provide a basis for continuing planning studies designed to promote the most orderly and efficient future growth of Pell City. Toward this end, the Reconnaissance Survey seeks to present a detailed picture of the existing physical development and social and economic conditions in the city.

Objectives related to this goal include:

1. analyze the physical, social, and economic characteristics of Pell City;
2. locate and determine the amounts of land devoted to various land use activities in Pell City;
3. discuss the public services offered by various agencies to the residents of Pell City;
4. outline the various modes of transportation in Pell City.

The Planning Program Design seeks to implement all of these program objectives by:

1. defining a scope of planning work required to solve the problems of Pell City as identified in the Reconnaissance Survey and Program Design; and

2. outline a three year planning program, including necessary studies and their approximate cost.

By serving as a means of direction to the activities of the various agencies and governmental leaders of Pell City, these objectives contribute to the attainment of the over-all goals of the planning program creating a better living environment for the residents of Pell City.

### Statement of Previous Planning Activities

There has been no formal municipal planning program in Pell City. The formation of the Pell City Planning Commission in February of 1972 represents the first effort to establish and maintain a continuing planning program. Recent planning reports have been developed which include some information on Pell City, or St. Clair County, and were written by agencies such as the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission, the St. Clair County Commission and the St. Clair County Resource Development Committee. Following is a list of these reports and a description of their content.

1. The Economy of Blount, St. Clair, Shelby and Walker Counties, Alabama

This report was prepared in 1970 by Hammer, Greene, Siler and Associates for the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission. It analyzes the past, present and future economic conditions in each of the four counties.

2. Birmingham Region - Water and Sewer Needs Study

In 1971 the firm of VFW, Inc. developed for the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission a water and sewer needs study covering Blount, Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair and Walker Counties. This report analyzes the existing and potential capabilities of water and sewer facilities within these counties. The study also evaluates proposals for future systems.

3. Regional Air Facilities Plan

This report, prepared in 1971 by R. Dixon Speas and Associates for the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission, includes airspaces analysis, airport capacity analysis, and estimates of future aircraft activity of all the airports and aircraft facilities in five of the counties in the Commission's planning jurisdiction.

4. Regional Housing Study

The Birmingham Regional Planning Commission is involved in a three phase housing study for Blount, Chilton, Jefferson,

Shelby, St. Clair, and Walker Counties. This study surveys the housing market in this region and, when completed, will provide guidelines for a housing program aimed at meeting the future needs of this region.

5. Community Inventory St. Clair County (Overview)

This report was prepared by the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission but has not been published. It contains an inventory of governmental services provided by each municipality in the county. It also analyzes the county's growth factors and estimates its potential for future growth.

6. Over-all Economic Development Program for St. Clair County, Alabama

This report, prepared in 1970, by the Cooperative Extension Service, Auburn University in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the St. Clair County Resource Development Committee, presents a detailed look at the resources, opportunities, problems and needs of St. Clair County.

7. Final Engineering Report on a Comprehensive Plan Covering Water and Sewerage Facilities for St. Clair County

This report was prepared by Kennoy and Company, Incorporated, a consulting firm. This report prepared in 1966 delineates the existing water and sanitary sewerage service areas within the County. It also presents recommendations for the future expansion of these facilities.

8. Industrial Site Survey

This report was written by the Alabama State Planning and Industrial Development Board in 1962. It lists existing facilities and services including potential industrial sites available in Pell City.

9. St. Clair County Solid Waste Management System

This report was prepared in 1971 through the cooperation of the St. Clair County Resource Development Committee, Auburn University Cooperative Extension Service, Birmingham Regional Planning Commission, Alabama Development Office and the St. Clair County and Alabama Department of Health.

The purpose of this study was to devise a system of county-wide collection and disposal of solid waste.

10. An Appraisal of Potentials for Outdoor Recreational Development

This report was written in 1968 through the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service, Alabama Department of Conservation and the Farmers' Home Administration. This report was written in an effort to plan for the county's recreational needs.

11. Tourism and Recreation Potential

This report was written in 1963, by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, to define the county's recreational potential particularly in the area around Logan Martin Lake.

12. Building Program Study

This study was written in 1967 by the St. Clair County Library Staff to analyze the county's library needs.

## Chapter 1

### GOVERNMENT

Pell City has a Mayor-Council form of government. There are five city council members each serving concurrent four-year terms. The Mayor also serves a four-year term of office.

The city has two independent boards; the Pell City Park and Recreation Board which is charged with the provision of municipal park and recreational facilities and the Pell City Industrial Development Board. The Park and Recreation Board is composed of a five member body serving staggered terms appointed by the city council with one city council member serving on the board. The Industrial Development Board is composed of ten members appointed by the council serving staggered terms.

Municipal services provided by Pell City are as follows:

1. Municipal Water Service
2. Police Protection
3. Fire Protection
4. City Planning
5. Park and Recreation Facilities
6. Public Library
7. Municipal Building Code
8. Sanitary Sewer Service
9. Solid Waste Disposal Services
10. Street Maintenance
11. Industrial Development

It should be recognized that as a municipal incorporation, Pell City is a subordinate department of State government and was created as a convenient agency for exercising the governmental powers of the State which are entrusted to the City. Since all municipalities derive their power from the State they are limited as to the type and scope of services which they may provide.

## Chapter 2

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Pell City is located in the southeastern portion of St. Clair along the Coosa River. The city is thirty-seven (37) miles to the east of Birmingham on Interstate 20. Other boundaries include Riverside to the northeast and Logan Martin Lake on the south.

Figure 1 delineates the city's location within St. Clair County.

#### Topography

Parallel ridges and valleys traverse the northwestern half of Pell City. Two primary ridges having slopes of 20 percent and above and some ridges with slopes of 10-20 percent run from the northeast to the southwest. Although their elevation is generally 600 to 700 feet the close spacing of the ridges produces a sub-mountainous effect.

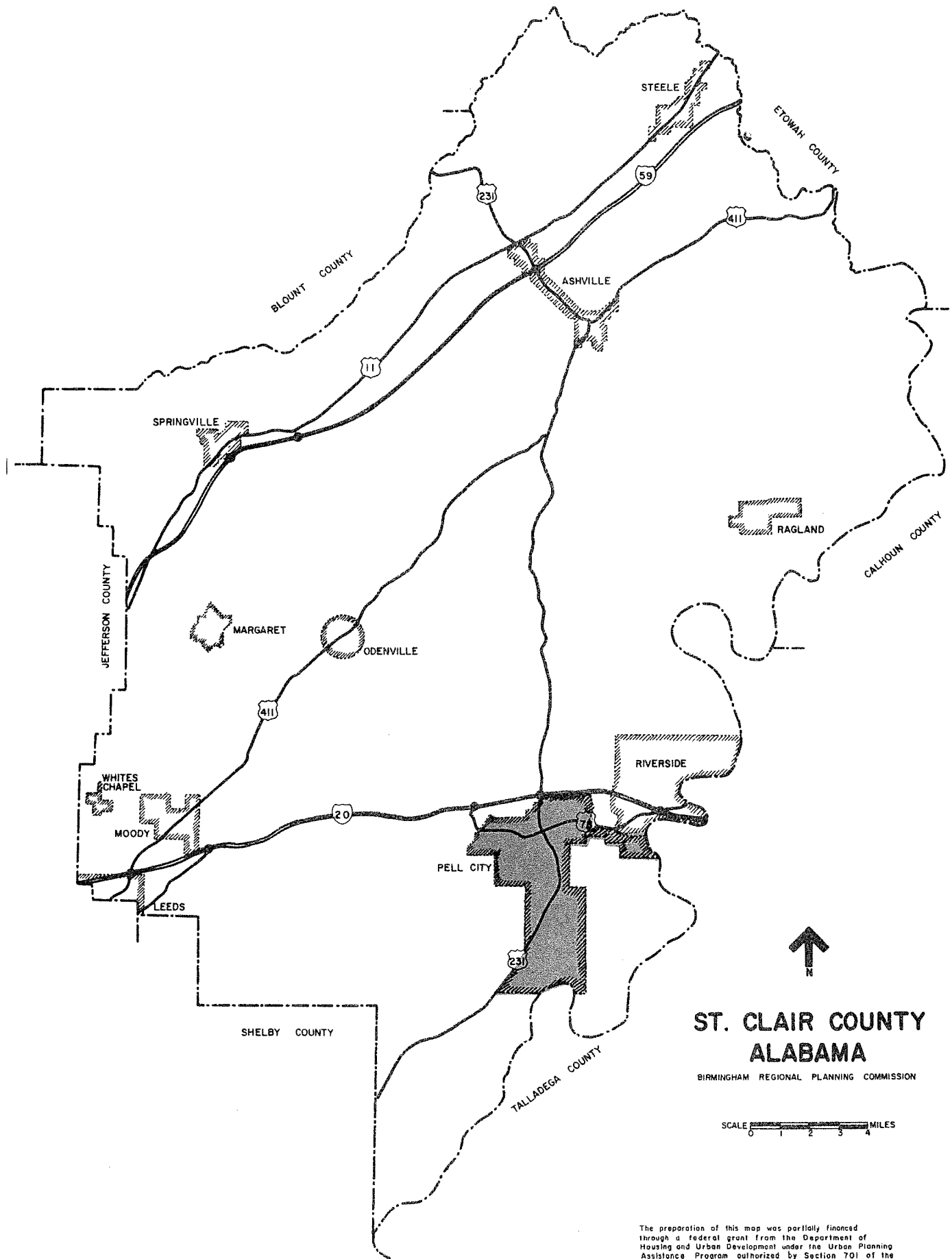
There is a wider valley with slopes of less than 10 percent in the north-central and northeastern area and most of the development has taken place in this area. An extension of this gently rolling area in the northeastern corner of the corporate limits is currently undeveloped and appears to be suitable for industrial development. Portions of the land along West Branch Fishing Creek appear to be susceptible to flooding, however a more detailed study will be needed to verify this fact.

The eastern strip of Pell City extending to the Coosa River is relatively level in its entirety.

The southern half of the city limits, characterized by gently rolling land and except for a marsh east of Cropwell, appears conducive to development. The buildable land area generally ranges in elevation from 450 to 550 feet above sea level.

#### Climate

The climate of Pell City is of the warm temperature type prevailing throughout most of the "Gulf States". The annual average daily mean temperature is 60.7 degrees. The monthly average daily mean temperature ranges from a low of 42.3 in January to a high of 78.8 in July. Table 1 lists monthly temperatures for the average daily mean, the mean daily minimum and the mean daily maximum. Summers are generally hot and humid,



**ST. CLAIR COUNTY  
ALABAMA**  
BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SCALE 0 1 2 3 4 MILES

The preparation of this map was partially financed through a federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended; administered by the Office of State Planning, Alabama Development Office, Office of the Governor.

FIGURE 1



and winters are of short duration and mild. Annual rainfall averages about 50.63 inches with fairly good seasonal distribution which Table 2 shows. The heaviest rainfalls are experienced from December through March.

Table 1

MONTHLY TEMPERATURES (DEGREES F.)

	<u>MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM</u>	<u>MEAN DAILY MINIMUM</u>	<u>AVERAGE DAILY MEAN</u>
January	53.6	31.0	42.3
February	57.7	34.1	45.9
March	63.3	38.2	50.9
April	74.4	46.4	60.5
May	82.3	55.0	68.6
June	89.0	62.7	75.8
July	91.3	66.2	78.8
August	91.9	65.5	78.7
September	85.6	59.7	72.7
October	74.0	48.2	61.6
November	62.5	36.0	49.0
December	55.6	31.9	43.8
Annual	73.4	47.9	60.7

Source: Department of Commerce: Decennial Census of United States Climate

Table 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRECIPITATION (INCHES)

January	5.60	July	4.70
February	5.19	August	3.25
March	5.42	September	3.41
April	4.43	October	2.41
May	3.61	November	3.66
June	3.52	December	<u>5.43</u>
		Annual Average	50.63

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce: Decennial Census of the United States Climate - Climatic Summary of the United States - Supplement for 1951 through 1960 for Alabama.

## Chapter 3

### POPULATION AND ECONOMY

The town Charter granted to the Pell City Land Company is dated October 28, 1887. The town site was surveyed, streets were laid out and a few houses were built. During 1887, three railroads -- the East and West, the Coosa Valley, and the Southern Railroads served the town. The East and West Railroad was later sold to the famous New York Family of Pell from whom the town derives its name.

Probate minutes indicate the town was incorporated on May 6, 1891. In 1890, the Pell City Land and Iron Company acquired the holdings of the Pell City Land Company, had the town re-surveyed, and brought in the Hercules Pipe Company, the first soil pipe plant erected in the south.

A constitutional convention provided for the establishment of a second Courthouse for St. Clair County, to be located on the southside of Blackbone Mountain which was a significant physical barrier in those days. To eliminate the long trip to Ashville, the original County seat, Pell City was chosen over Eden, Coal City and Riverside.

In 1902, construction on the cotton mill began and was completed in 1903 and upon completion about 1,500 new people moved into town. In 1956, the towns of Eden and Oak Ridge merged with Pell City. The Avondale Mill Village also became part of the town.

From this historical sketch it is apparent that the city was founded due to its proximity to the three railroad lines.(1) As a result of the promotion of the two land companies, the Soil Pipe Company and Avondale Mills located there and provided employment. Development of the city was also assisted when the county's second courthouse located there. The city's recent growth can be attributed to two new locational factors, (1) the development of Logan Martin Lake in 1964 and (2) the extension of Interstate Highway 20 from Birmingham to Pell City.

#### Population

The St. Clair County population has increased from 23,000 in 1920 to 27,956 in 1970. Table 3 indicates the county's

---

(1) Source: Miss Bettie Scott, City Clerk, Pell City, Alabama.

population as recorded by the Census of Population from 1920 to 1970. During the previous decade the county's population increased by 2,568 persons which signifies the growth currently taking place. Table 4 indicates the 1970 county population by age and sex.

Table 3

ST. CLAIR COUNTY POPULATION 1920-1970

1920	23,383
1930	24,510
1940	27,336
1950	26,687
1960	25,388
1970	27,956

Source: Census of Population

Table 4

1970 COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Under 5	1,329	1,285
5	305	287
6	261	278
7-9	882	863
10-13	1,229	1,138
14	306	295
15	300	268
16	290	270
17	280	260
18	265	241
19	202	230
20	189	226
21	134	196
22-24	526	634
25-34	1,667	1,715
35-44	1,516	1,551
45-49	1,416	1,591
50-59	657	713
60-61	278	304
62-64	384	390
65-74	773	960
Over 75	433	639
Total	13,622	14,334

Source: Census of Population, 1970

Table 5 presents the county's racial distribution which indicates a decline in the Negro population. This decline appears to be representative of similar declines in other rural counties in this region.

Table 5

ST. CLAIR COUNTY RACIAL DISTRIBUTION (1960-1970)

<u>RACE</u>	<u>1960 NUMBER</u>	<u>1970 NUMBER</u>	<u>1960 PERCENT</u>	<u>1970 PERCENT</u>
White	21,116	23,940	83.2	85.7
Negro	4,263	3,999	16.8	14.3
Indian	2	7	.0	.0
Oriental	3	8	.0	.0
Other	4	2	.0	.0
Total	<u>25,388</u>	<u>27,956</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

Source: Census of Population, 1960 and 1970

Pell City Population

Table 6 presents Pell City's population as recorded during the previous decade by the Bureau of the Census.

Table 6

PELL CITY POPULATION (1960-1970)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>
1960	4,165
1967	4,859 (spot census)
1970	5,381
1970	5,602 (final adjusted figure)

Source: Census of Population

In 1960, there were 4,165 people living within the city's original boundaries. By 1967, the municipality had substantially increased its boundaries and city officials requested that the Bureau of the Census conduct a spot census to obtain an official count of municipal residents. This spot census resulted in a count of 4,859 persons and is presented in Table 7. In 1970, the Bureau's enumeration indicated a municipal population of

5,381 persons, however, this figure was adjusted by the Bureau of the Census at a later date to 5,602 persons which represent the city's official count as recognized by the Bureau of the Census.

Table 7

1967 SPOT CENSUS

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Population	2,320	2,539	4,859
White	1,755	1,881	3,636
Non-White	565	658	1,223

Source: Bureau of the Census and Miss Bettie Scott, City Clerk, Pell City, Alabama

The 1970 Census indicated that 1,039 persons were living in the city's recently annexed areas. In 1970, there were 4,342 persons living within the 1960 corporate boundaries which makes a net population gain of 177 persons over the 4,165 persons living in Pell City in 1960.

The racial distribution for Pell City is presented in Table 8 and indicates that the city has one-third of the county's negro population. The Negro population in Pell City registered numerical increase during the previous decade, however, due to the recent annexation a two percent decline from 1960 to 1970 is indicated.

Table 8

PELL CITY RACIAL COMPOSITION (1960-1970)

	<u>1960</u> <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>1970</u> <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>PERCENT</u>	<u>1970</u> <u>PERCENT</u>
White	3,204	4,035	77.0	75.0
Negro	959	1,346	23.0	25.0
Total	4,165			

Source: Census of Population, 1960 and 1970

Table 9 presents the 1970 municipal population by age and sex.

Table 9

PELL CITY POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX (1970)

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Under 5	245	275
5	45	46
6	54	48
7-9	168	138
10-13	202	203
14	50	66
15	51	54
16	60	49
17	50	45
18	48	52
19	37	56
20	52	38
21	29	39
22-24	90	122
25-34	298	318
35-44	319	331
45-49	270	328
50-59	104	171
60-61	57	58
62-64	73	80
65-74	141	200
75 and over	71	150
Total	<u>2,514</u>	<u>2,867</u>

Source: Bureau of the Census

Pell City gained more than 1,200 new residents (or 77.5 percent of the County's total increase) during the decade of the sixties. In 1970, about one in five St. Clair residents lived in Pell City compared to one out of six in 1960. Mutually agreed upon population projections made by the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency estimate the county's 1980 population at 33,000; by 1990 the county's population has been estimated to be 38,800.(2)

Pell City's growth is closely related to the development of Logan Martin Lake and the attendant recreation and service oriented activities. The availability of an adequate supply of industrial land will also stimulate the city's development as will the availability of public water and sanitary sewerage

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(2)The Economy of Blount, St. Clair, Shelby and Walker Counties, Alabama by Hammer, Greene, Siler Associates .

services. New residential subdivisions have developed all along the Lake Logan Martin shoreline. Within the Pell City-Riverside area, 28 tourist recreation oriented businesses have been estimated. These firms employ an estimated 250 full-time and 70 part-time workers. The average age of these firms is estimated to be about five years, which means that in the last five years, the Lake has directly contributed to the creation of more than 300 new jobs.

### Economy

A survey of St. Clair County's labor force and employment status was used as a tool to gain insight into the city's economic condition, and is presented in Table 10.

Table 10 indicates countywide gains in the civilian work force, total employment and the estimated non-agricultural employment. Table 10 indicates total employment within the county at 5,450, however, it has been estimated that an additional 3,200 county residents are employed outside the county creating an estimated total employment of 8,650. These positive changes along with the corresponding declining unemployment rate indicate that the county's economy is on the up-swing.

Pell City. Pell City is the largest municipality in the county and provides a major share of the county's employment opportunities. At this time, employment in Pell City appears to be stable. There are approximately 800 persons employed in industrial activities located in Pell City.(3) In recent years, the city has acquired approximately 400 acres of land for use as an industrial park, which will enable it to attract new industries thereby broadening its base of industrial activities.

Table 11 lists some of the indicators of the city's economic conditions from 1964-1970. The year, 1964, was selected as a starting point because that was the year the two dams, Logan Martin and Lock Three, were scheduled for completion. These dates show that the most noticeable changes occurred between 1965 and 1966.

The financial sector of the business community is a good indicator of an area's economic health. St. Clair County's commercial banking activities are shown in Table 12. Between 1962 and 1969 assets (expressed in constant dollars) more than

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(3)Community Inventory, St. Clair County (Overview), Birmingham Regional Planning Commission, Page 9.

Table 10

ST. CLAIR COUNTY CIVILIAN WORK  
FORCE (March, 1970 and 1971)

	<u>CIVILIAN WORK FORCE</u>	<u>TOTAL UNEMPLOY- MENT</u>	<u>UNEMPLOY- MENT RATE (%)</u>	<u>TOTAL EMPLOY- MENT</u>	<u>AGRICUL- TURAL EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>ESTIMA NON-AG EMPLOY</u>
1971	5,860	410	7.0	5,450	430	5,
1970	<u>5,360</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>8.0</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>4,</u>
Change	+500	-20	-1.0	+520	-10	+5

Source: Alabama Department of Industrial Relations



Table 10

ST. CLAIR COUNTY CIVILIAN WORK  
FORCE (March, 1970 and 1971)

AN	<u>TOTAL UNEMPLOY- MENT</u>	<u>UNEMPLOY- MENT RATE (%)</u>	<u>TOTAL EMPLOY- MENT</u>	<u>AGRICUL- TURAL EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>ESTIMATED NON-AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Total)</u>
	410	7.0	5,450	430	5,020
	<u>430</u>	<u>8.0</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>4,490</u>
	-20	-1.0	+520	-10	+530

a Department of Industrial Relations

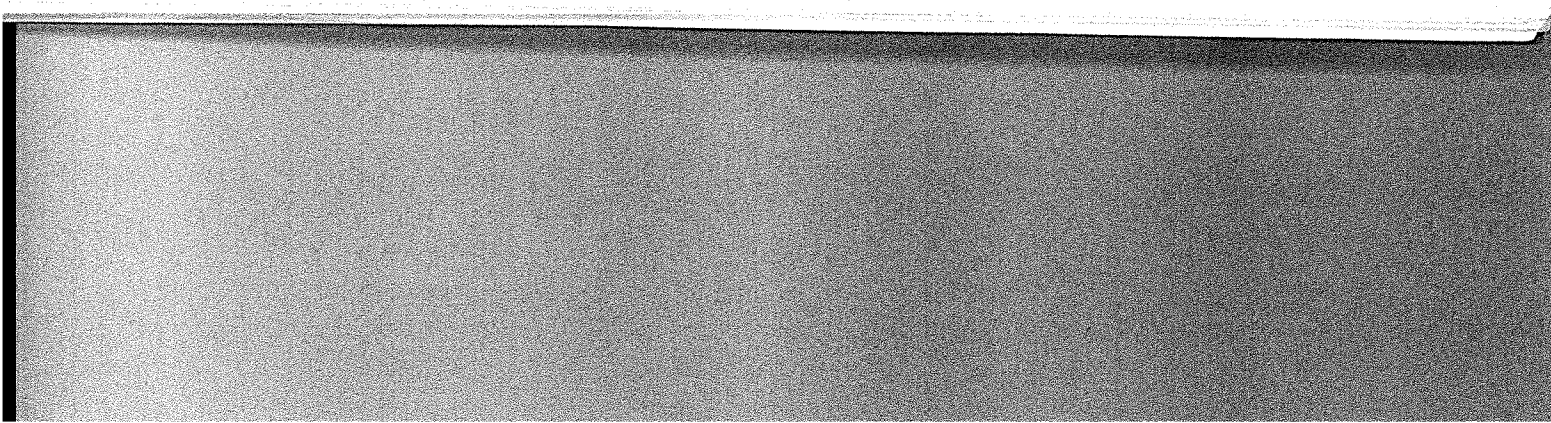


Table 11

ECONOMIC INDICATORS, PELL CITY, ALABAMA  
1964-1969

Gross Receipts Tax

	<u>Current Dollars</u>	1969 <u>Constant Dollars</u>
1964	\$ 60,528.26	\$ 71,504
1965	64,130.65	74,519
1966	75,196.89	84,901
1967	77,697.10	85,206
1968	82,201.24	86,609
1969	97,542.88	97,543

Privilege License

	<u>Current Dollars</u>	1969 <u>Constant Dollars</u>
1964	\$ 27,172.91	\$ 32,100
1965	29,123.28	33,840
1966	33,523.07	37,849
1967	32,607.55	35,805
1968	35,581.23	37,489
1969	37,305.95	37,306

Water Customers

1964	1,488
1965	1,494
1966	1,607
1967	1,638
1968	1,649
1969	1,747
1990	3,430

Gas Customers

1964	1,178
1965	1,202
1966	1,239
1967	1,250
1968	1,283
1969	1,295
1990	1,900

Telephone Services

Dec. 1968	2,451
Dec. 1969	2,635
July 1970	2,936

Source: St. Clair County (Overview)

Table 12

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMERCIAL BANKS  
TOTAL DEPOSITS AND ASSETS\*

		<u>CURRENT</u> <u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>1969</u> <u>CONSTANT DOLLARS</u>
1962	Total Deposits	7,169,922	8,686,602
	Total Assets	7,879,120	9,545,820
1963	Total Deposits	7,803,183	9,338,419
	Total Assets	8,479,983	10,148,376
1964	Total Deposits	8,936,689	10,557,222
	Total Assets	10,024,627	11,842,441
1965	Total Deposits	10,524,813	12,229,622
	Total Assets	11,715,135	13,613,752
1966	Total Deposits	11,417,822	12,891,297
	Total Assets	12,772,249	14,420,513
1967	Total Deposits	13,331,880	14,639,156
	Total Assets	15,100,587	16,581,296
1968	Total Deposits	14,471,035	15,247,113
	Total Assets	16,161,862	17,028,618
1969	Total Deposits	17,140,951	17,140,951
	Total Assets	19,733,107	19,733,107

Source: St. Clair County (Overview)

doubled and deposits were very close to exhibiting this same rate of growth. These data were adjusted to constant dollars in order to find a truer picture of over-all growth.

As indicated in Table 13, banking activity in Pell City shows a similar high rate of growth, although proportionally the city's rate is slightly less than that of the county. The only savings and loan bank in St. Clair County is located in Pell City. Assets of this bank increased by nearly 90 percent during the seven years, 1962 to 1969, and are illustrated in Table 14.

It is safe to say that Pell City accounts for 60 percent of the commercial banking activities in St. Clair County. Table 15 shows that Pell City's share of the county's commercial banking activities vary from year to year, but the city has not fallen below the 60 percent mark.

These tabulations indicate that Pell City dominates or at least significantly influences the economy of St. Clair County. This appears to justify the use of countywide data since it will reflect a similar trend taking place in Pell City in most cases.

Table 13

COMMERCIAL BANKING/ACTIVITY IN PELL CITY

		<u>CURRENT DOLLARS</u>	<u>1969 CONSTANT DOLLARS</u>
1962	Total Deposits	\$ 4,703,000	\$ 5,698,000
	Total Assets	5,073,000	6,146,000
1963	Total Deposits	5,020,000	6,008,000
	Total Assets	5,744,000	6,874,000
1964	Total Deposits	5,913,000	6,985,000
	Total Assets	6,614,000	7,813,000
1965	Total Deposits	6,812,000	7,915,000
	Total Assets	7,571,000	8,797,000
1966	Total Deposits	7,528,000	8,499,000
	Total Assets	8,372,000	9,452,000
1967	Total Deposits	8,202,000	9,006,000
	Total Assets	9,374,000	10,293,000
1968	Total Deposits	8,687,000	9,153,000
	Total Assets	9,705,000	10,225,000
1969	Total Deposits	10,622,000	10,622,000
	Total Assets	12,442,000	12,442,000

Source: St. Clair County (Overview)

Table 14

SAVINGS AND LOAN ACTIVITY IN PELL CITY

	<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	1969 <u>CONSTANT DOLLARS</u>
1962	\$ 2,998,053	\$ 3,632,242
1963	3,513,073	4,204,252
1964	4,177,778	4,935,354
1965	4,715,369	5,479,164
1966	5,042,012	5,692,686
1967	5,656,448	6,211,099
1968	6,220,202	6,553,789
1969	6,850,233	6,850,233

Source: St. Clair County (Overview)

Table 15

COMMERCIAL BANKING  
PELL CITY  
AS A PERCENT OF  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY

	<u>DEPOSITS</u>	<u>ASSETS</u>
1962	65.6	64.4
1963	64.3	67.7
1964	66.2	66.0
1965	64.7	64.6
1966	65.9	65.5
1967	61.5	62.1
1968	60.0	60.0
1969	61.9	63.1

Source: St. Clair County (Overview)

## Chapter 4

### EXISTING LAND USE

The starting point for any planning program is a thorough knowledge of existing conditions. Today's community represents a considerable investment and is the nucleus around which future growth will occur. In addition, existing land use information reveals the extent, location, and environment of all currently undeveloped land. This is one of the urban community's basic resources and will have a considerable conditioning influence on its growth. This portion of the study provides an up-to-date inventory and analysis of existing land use information.

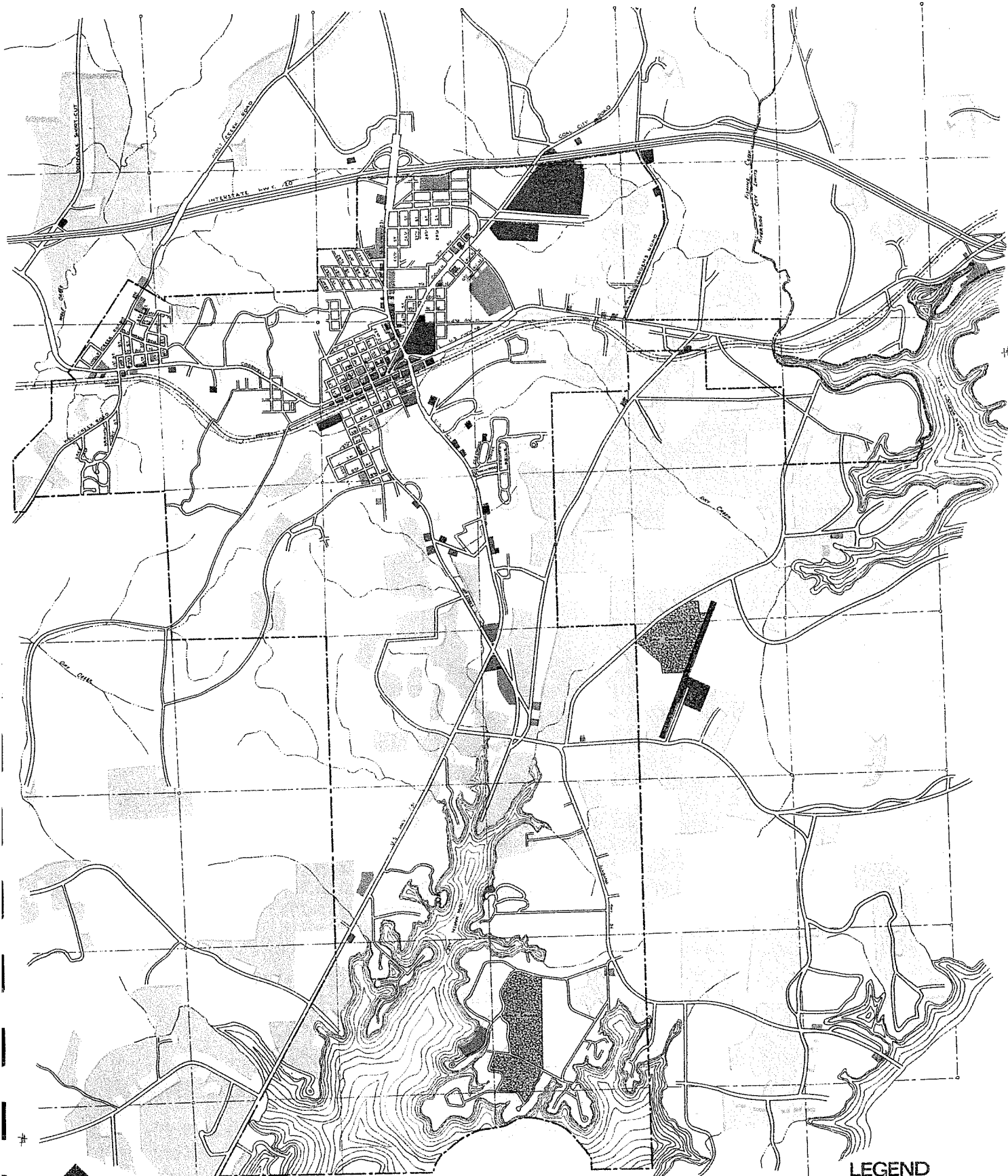
A parcel-by-parcel, block-by-block, detailed land use survey was undertaken in February, 1972 with the type of land use on each lot recorded. Detailed land use information obtained in the field survey was then summarized into ten land use categories. These data are presented in Table 16 and is illustrated in Figure 2.

Table 16

### EXISTING LAND USE

	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>PERCENT OF DEVELOPED AREA</u>	<u>PERCENT OF TOTAL AREA</u>
Residential	1,152.5	37.4	10.9
Single Family	1,121.0	36.4	10.6
Multi-Family	31.5	1.0	.3
Commercial	97.5	3.2	.9
Public and Semi-public	94.0	2.4	.7
Industrial	128.5	4.2	1.2
Transportation, Com- munication, Utilities	1,481.5	48.0	13.9
Parks and Recreation	145.5	4.8	1.4
UNDEVELOPED	7,539.0	0	70.9
Agricultural	1,193.5	0	11.2
Woodland	4,290.5	0	40.4
Vacant	682.5	0	6.4
Water	1,372.5	0	13.0
TOTAL	10,618.5	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, Birmingham Regional Planning Commission, 1972




**LEGEND**

- SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
- ▨ MULTI FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
- ▩ COMMERCIAL
- ▧ INDUSTRIAL
- ▦ PUBLIC & SEMI PUBLIC
- ▥ RECREATIONAL AREAS
- ▤ T.C.U.
- ▣ AGRICULTURE
- ▢ WOODLAND
- WATER
- VACANT LAND

**EXISTING  
LAND  
USE**

The preparation of this map was partially financed through a federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended, administered by the Office of State Planning, Alabama Development Office, Office of the Governor.


  
 FEBRUARY, 1972
   
 SCALE 0 200 400 600 800 FEET

BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
**PELL CITY, ALABAMA**

FIGURE 2



## LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS

The total area within Pell City is approximately 10,484 acres or 16.6 square miles. Of this total, 3,079.5 acres or 29 percent of the total area is developed. Undeveloped land, (including agricultural land, forest and woodland, vacant land and water), accounts for 7,539 acres or 71 percent of the city's land area.

### Residential Land Use

Of the city's developed land residential uses occupy 1,152.5 acres which is 10.9 percent of the total area and 37.5 percent of the developed land area. Most of the dwellings in Pell City are single family structures, however, 31.5 acres of land is used by multi-family housing units. Most of the multi-family units are owned by the Pell City Housing Authority.

Residential density patterns vary considerably. The highest densities are found near the center of town and the lowest occur along the roads leading into town.

### Commercial Land Uses

Approximately 97.5 acres or .9 percent of the total area is used for commercial purposes such as retail, wholesale and office activities. These activities occupy 3.2 percent of the developed land in Pell City.

The major concentration of land developed in commercial activities is located along Cogswell Avenue. The area between First Avenue North and First Avenue South between 16th Street and U. S. Highway 231 contains the Pell City Central Business District. While other commercial activities are located outside the CBD the major commercial activities have located in this area in the center of town.

Other business activities are scattered throughout the city particularly along U. S. Highways 78 and 231. Water oriented businesses have also developed in several locations around Logan Martin Lake.

### Industrial Land Uses

Existing industrial activities utilize 128.5 acres of land in Pell City, which is 1.2 percent of city's total area and 4.2 percent of the city's developed land. Scattered industrial activities are located alongside the tracks of the Southern

Railroad, which traverse the city in an east-west direction. The major industrial activities are located in three large sites.

The city's dominant industry is the Avondale Mills Facility located adjacent to the CBD in the center of town. North of the CBD between Comer Avenue and Spanish Gardens Roads there are two large tracts of the land in industrial use. These two tracts are part of a 350 acre planned industrial district.

#### Public and Semi-public Land Uses

Approximately 74 acres or 2.4 percent of the developed land is devoted to public and semi-public uses. This land use category includes schools, fire and police protection facilities, hospitals, churches, fraternal lodges, and all other government facilities which provide public service functions to the community (e.g. city and county government offices, etc.). The largest concentrations of land in public and semi-public use are schools and churches and the St. Clair County Hospital.

#### Recreational Land Use

The city contains 145 acres of recreational land, however most of it is privately owned and includes such recreational facilities as the 18-hole golf course at the Pine Harbor recreational complex on Logan Martin Lake and a large open area on Fourth Avenue North that contains several baseball fields and is owned by Avondale Mills. Adjacent to the city limits is the Pell City Country Club having a 9-hole golf course.

The city owns three recreational sites. One is a small mini-park on Comer Avenue and First Avenue North. The second is a neighborhood park containing a swimming pool and a recreational hall and is located on Fourth Avenue South and 19th Street. The third neighborhood park, which contains similar facilities is located on Ninth Avenue South and 16th Street.

#### Transportation, Communication and Utilities

Approximately 1,481 acres or about 48 percent of the developed land, or 13.8 percent of the total land area, is used for facilities classified as transportation, communication and utilities. This category includes roads, and railroads, along with easements used by large electric transmission lines, telephone cables, and pipe lines. Other uses such as municipal wells, water storage tanks and sanitary sewerage treatment facilities are also included.

## Undeveloped Land

Undeveloped land as identified in this study is all other land and water which contains no physical development and consists of the following uses: agricultural land, woodland, vacant land and water. These uses occupy 7,539 acres or almost 71 percent of the city's total area. While this land contains no physical development some of it definitely contains an economic use or value such as agricultural land.

Agricultural land occupies 1,193 acres of land or 11 percent of the city's total area.

Vacant land consists of unused city lots and other tracts of land not in agricultural use or in woodlands. There are approximately 682 acres of vacant land.

There are approximately 1,372 acres of water in Pell City. Most of this water is created by Logan Martin Lake, however, numerous small streams flow through the city and are also included in this calculation.

## Adjacent Land Uses

A land use survey was made of the land adjacent to the municipal boundaries in an effort to determine the compatibility of adjoining land use activities. In general the surrounding land uses were found to be consistent with the Pell City land uses. However, several factors which will affect future municipal growth are in this area.

The map indicates two interchanges on Interstate Highway 20 in Eden and Pell City. A third interchange is not shown, but is located in Riverside. All three interchanges provide access into Pell City and will influence development patterns.

The St. Clair County Airport is located just outside the city limits near the community of Cropwell.

## Chapter 5

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

#### Education

Public schools in Pell City are part of the countywide school system which is operated by the St. Clair County Board of Education. There are four schools servicing Pell City's elementary school age children. Coosa Valley Elementary School, located in the Cropwell area, has an enrollment of 239 in grades one through six and is the only school in which all of these grades are accommodated in one location. Five hundred and fifty-four students are presently attending Iola Roberts Elementary School in grades one through three. Eden Elementary School has 155 students. Pell City Intermediate School has grades five and six with 406 students enrolled.

Students in grades seven through nine are assigned to O. D. Duran Junior High with an enrollment of 744. Pell City High School has 500 students enrolled.

Bible Methodist School has an enrollment of 89 pupils in grades one through twelve. The Seventh Day Adventest Church School has 13 pupils in seven grades.

A County Vocational-Technical School which is in the planning stages will serve Pell City and St. Clair County. When this school is opened it should meet the need by offering the county's young people and adults a technical training program oriented to the provision of skills which they can market upon graduation. It is hoped that offering students the opportunity to acquire skills applicable to immediate employment will result in the decline of the county's high rate of unemployment. The number of students leaving school at the Junior and Senior High School level is relatively high. At the present time, the Pell City High School offers some Home Economic and Vocational-Agricultural course work but not a full time technical-vocational program.

Table 17 indicates the educational level of St. Clair County's population 25 years old and over.

#### Public Safety and Consumer Protection

Police Protection. The Police Department consists of seven full time policemen, one of which is the chief, and ten auxiliary policemen. The department has four marked automobiles, two of which were recently purchased to replace two aging cars. There is also one motorcycle. All are equipped with a police

Table 17

ST. CLAIR COUNTY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (1960)

## Years of School Completed:

Male, 25 years old and over	6,277
No School Years Completed	266
Elementary:	
1 to 4 years	1,203
5 and 6 years	1,198
7 years	720
8 years	680
High School:	
1 to 3 years	1,162
4 years	727
College:	
1 to 3 years	176
4 years or more	145
Median School Years Completed	7.7
Female, 25 years old and over	6,771
No School Years Completed	193
Elementary:	
1 to 4 years	819
5 and 6 years	1,179
7 years	875
8 years	819
High School:	
1 to 3 years	1,179
4 years	962
College:	
1 to 3 years	203
4 years or more	142
Median School Years Completed	8.4

Source: 1960 U. S. Census of Alabama

radio, a siren and warning lights. A working agreement between the city and the county enables the Pell City Police Department to coordinate its activities with those of the County Sheriff's Department. There appears to be no significant crime problem in Pell City.

Fire Protection. Pell City is provided fire fighting services by the municipal Fire Department which has two fire stations. One is located at the City Hall and serves the entire city limits. It is equipped with a 750 gallon pumper truck, a 250 gallon pumper truck, a brush fire truck and a car for the fire chief. All of the equipment is in good operating condition. A second station is located in the Cropwell Community which provides service to the southern portion of the city including the rapidly developing area around Logan Martin Lake. There is one 550 gallon pumper truck providing service at station number two.

Both stations are manned twenty-four hours per day by a force of six full-time firemen. A capable group of twenty-nine volunteers is available when the need arises.

Consumer Protection. Pell City does not have a building code. Building permits are issued if requested, for a five dollar fee. It is not necessary to obtain a permit for construction. The police chief makes unscheduled general site inspections as buildings are being constructed. There is no qualified inspection made on electrical, plumbing or the general structural quality of the homes and other structures built in Pell City which presents an obvious deficiency.

### Health

There are three doctors in Pell City (two general practitioners and one surgeon). A fourth doctor who is presently in military service is scheduled to begin practice in the near future. Need has been expressed for two additional doctors, ideally a Pediatrician and a Gynecologist. Three dentists now practice in Pell City.

St. Clair County Hospital, a new modern facility near I-20 and U. S. Highway 231, contains 68 beds and is equipped to handle most medical needs. Hospital facilities are considered adequate for present needs. There is, however, a shortage of nurses, particularly Registered Nurses; in the Pell City area.

The one nursing home within the city limits is located on Wolf Creek Road, however, two others are within ten miles of the city. More facilities for the aged will definitely be needed in the future.

St. Clair County Health Association offers a number of health services. Among these are Home Health Aids, Family Planning, Maternal-Child Hygiene, Pre-Natal care for indigents, testing for tuberculosis and X-Ray examinations, a dental clinic is also held.

There are no organized provisions for free health examinations or for free medical care. The County Health Clinic is located at Second Avenue and 10th Street.

### Recreation and Culture

Three public recreation sites are maintained in Pell City. One, which is of the playlot type, is located at Comer Avenue and 22nd Street. This small triangular lot contains a slide, a jungle gym and two swing sets.

On 19th Street immediately south of 4th Avenue is situated one of two neighborhood parks. This park contains a recreation hall, a fenced swimming pool and adjacent bath house, fireplaces, picnic tables, four paved fenced tennis courts, a wading pool for small children and a play area with swing sets, slide and jungle gym.

A second neighborhood park is located at 16th Street and Ninth Avenue. A fenced swimming pool with a bath house is provided at this site. The bath house appears to be in need of repair. A recreation hall is also provided but is not in good condition. There are swing sets, jungle gym and a slide for use by young children. An asphalt area is adjacent to the recreation hall.

There are several civic clubs which meet regularly at the recreation halls. The buildings are also used for ballet classes designed particularly for younger girls. Except for these two occasional functions, the recreation halls are put to very little use. The smallness of the two halls is definitely a limiting factor in their use.

The Pell City Park and Recreation Board is involved in a summer program in which the Pell City High School Gymnasium is opened for organized use by children in grades one through nine. The city helps fund a Little League Baseball program during the summer with Avondale Mills providing the use of their fields to the league. There is a citywide football league for fourth, fifth and sixth grade boys which is sponsored by the Pell City Park and Recreation Board. Three churches have basketball teams for Junior and Senior High boys.

Two nights per week the Pell City High School Gymnasium is available to the adults of the community for their personal

use. This is the only city sponsored recreational activity available to adults. There are no city sponsored activities for the elderly.

### Library

The library in Pell City is one of six branches of the St. Clair County Library system and is located in the City Hall. It is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. two days per week, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. two days, and from 12:00 noon to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Approximately 15,000 books are housed at this location. Any of the County's 45,000 books may be borrowed by a Pell City resident. The present facility is overcrowded. The city just recently purchased the old post office building which, when renovated, will become the new library facility. The new library is expected to have ample space for future expansions. The site on which the building is located is of sufficient size to provide off-street parking.

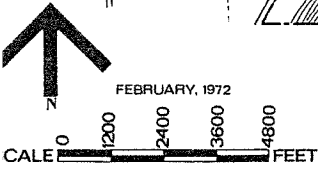
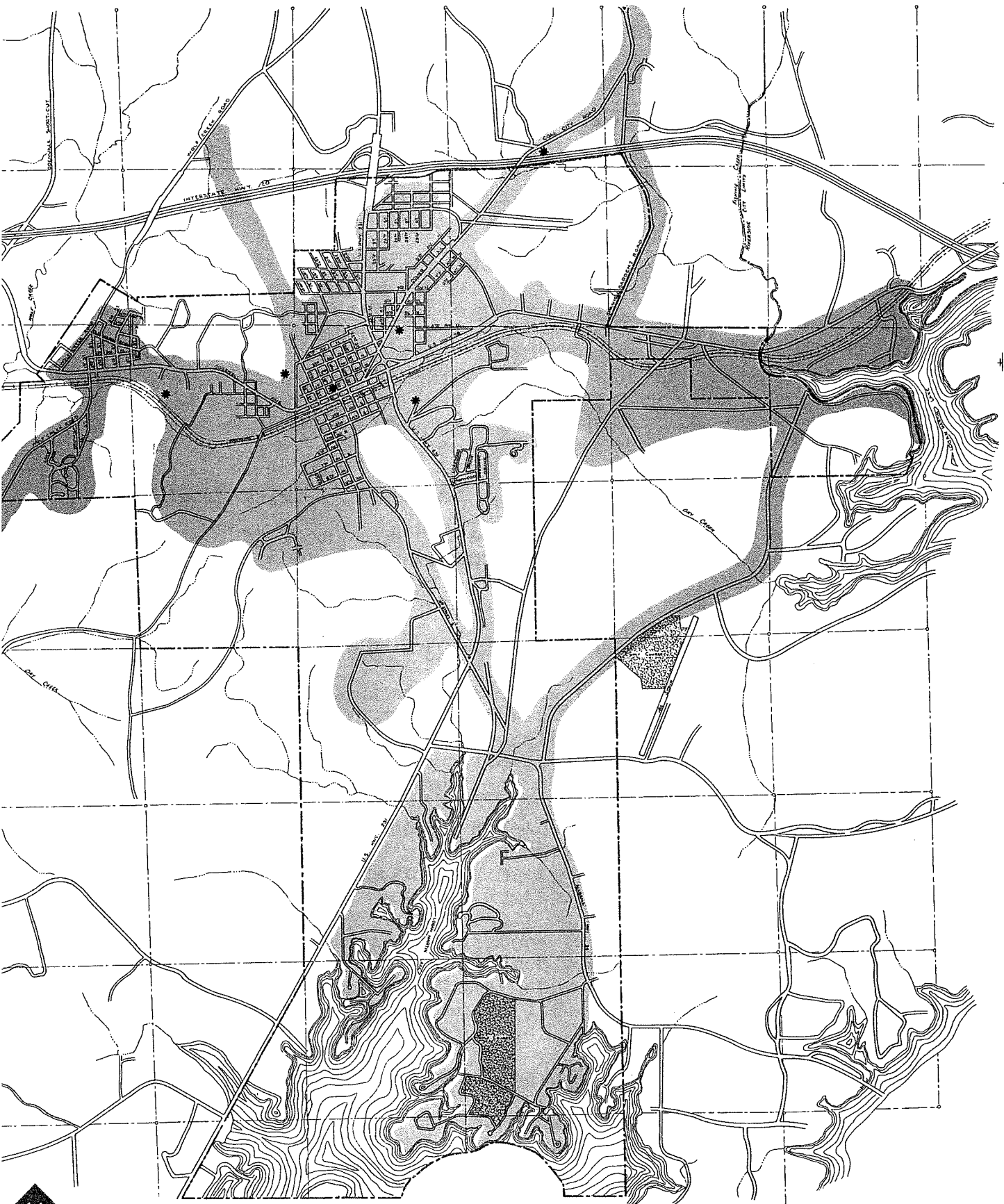
### Public Water Facilities

The Pell City water supply system serves 1,901 customers. Service is adequate except in the lake region and in the north-east where no water service exists. Two wells produce a combined total of 750 gallons per minute. The Eden community also has separate water supply facilities operated on a stand-by basis. In order to better equip the city to handle immediate industrial demands, a new well capable of pumping three to four hundred gallons per minute is needed. Water storage capacity appears adequate for present needs. There is a 500,000 gallon steel tank at Pell City and a 30,000 gallon steel tank at Eden, however, the smaller tank is not in use. The water distribution system consists of six and eight inch cast iron water mains, and some two inch lines which should be replaced. Expansion of the water system is anticipated to take place to the north due to the three interchange points provided by Interstate Route 20. Expansion is also anticipated to the south due to water-front development. These anticipated expansions along with the new industries which are also expected will probably tax the system's ability to produce an adequate supply of water. The water system is administered directly by the city rather than by an independent board. Figure 3 illustrates the existing water service areas.

### Storm Drainage

At the present time, Pell City has no facilities to accommodate storm water runoff. Since the city has no development controls, provisions have not been made which will require





The preparation of this map was partially financed through a federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended; administered by the Office of State Planning, Alabama Development Office, Office of the Governor.

**LEGEND**  
 \* Reservoir  
 [Shaded Box] Service Areas

IRMINGHAM REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PELL CITY, ALABAMA

FIGURE 3

WATER SERVICE AREAS<sup>†</sup>

storm drainage facilities in all of the city's future developments. Presently this water is carried off by open ditches and local streams.

It should be noted that the flood limits of the Dunlap Spring Branch could inundate the spring which supplies potable water. Immediately north of Eden the flood limits of this branch endanger several homes.

Just west of Eden, the Wolf Creek potential flood limits endanger a radio tower and U. S. 78 which should be on a road bed eight or nine feet above flood stage if an adequate, unclogged drainage structure is to be maintained.

Due to the city's sparse development the potential flooding of existing development is minimal, however, all future development should consider these potential hazards.

### Sanitary Sewerage Facilities

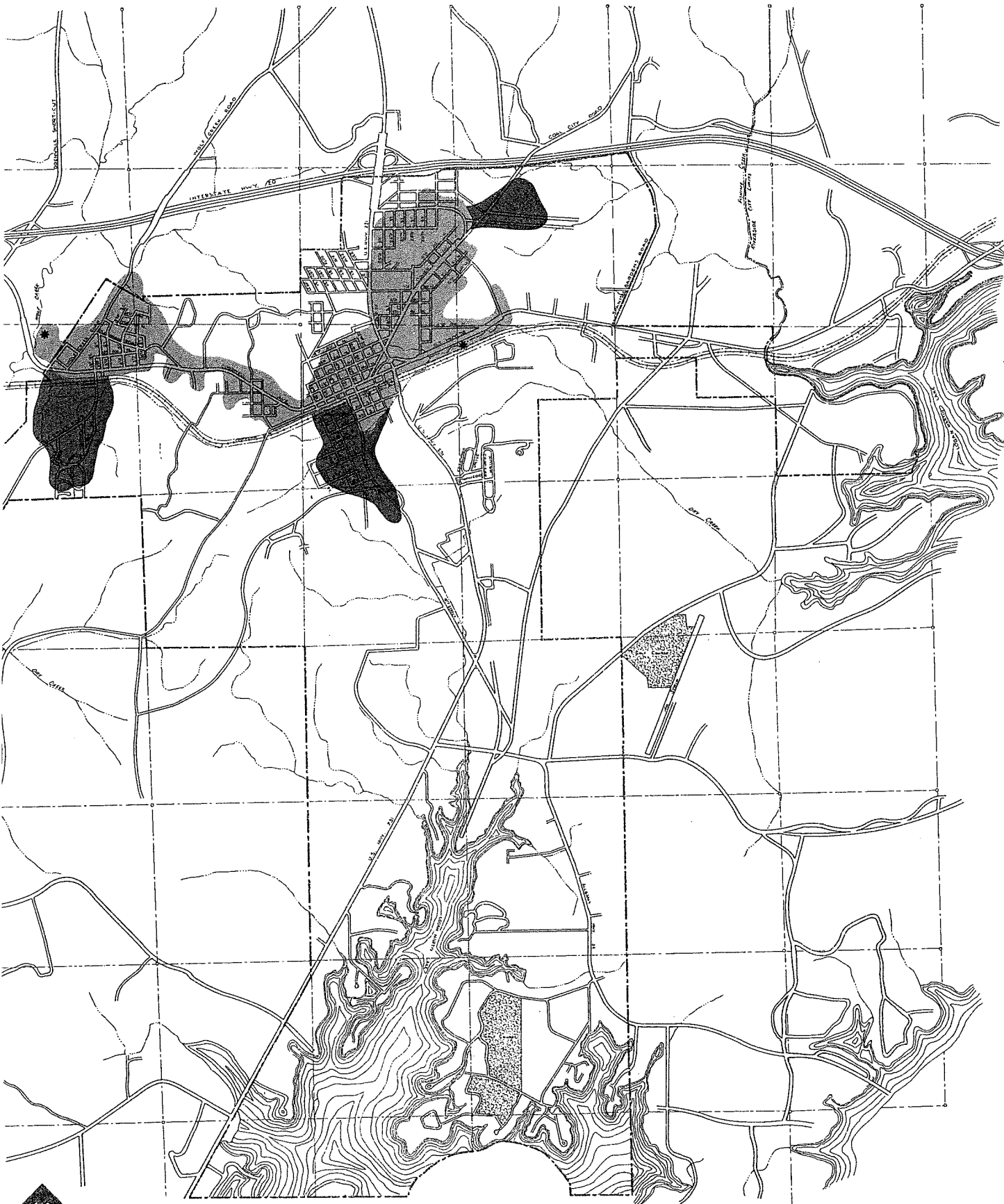
The city maintains two sewage treatment facilities having a total design capacity of 580,000 gallons per day. In dry weather neither facility is forced to operate at the upper levels of its design capacity, however, in wet weather water apparently leaks into the system at a rate almost three times as great as the normal dry weather flow.


The largest treatment plant in terms of capacity is the Dye Creek Plant. In dry weather this facility treats from 350,000 to 400,000 gallons of sanitary sewage per day. In wet weather the plant has to treat from 1,000,000 to 1,200,000 gallons of sewerage and water which leaks into the system.

The treatment plant in Eden has a .12 million gallon per day (MGD) capacity and provides both primary and secondary treatment. This facility has been estimated by the Alabama Health Department to have an average daily flow of .07 (MGD).



Since the Dye Creek Treatment Plant provides only primary treatment, it is being upgraded to provide secondary treatment, in order to conform to Alabama Water Quality Control Commission standards. It is also being enlarged and will have a 600,000 GPD design capability.

The collection system is characterized by six, eight and ten inch diameter mains. It is obvious that some of the lines and manholes need to be replaced or patched. Efforts should also be made to decrease the high wet weather flows by instituting both subdivision regulations and a building code which will enable the city to demand that all new development meet acceptable standards. Figure 4 illustrates the existing sanitary sewerage service area.



  
 FEBRUARY, 1972  
 SCALE 0 1200 2400 3600 4800 FEET

The preparation of this map was partially financed through a federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended; administered by the Office of State Planning, Alabama Development Office, Office of the Governor.

**LEGEND**  
 EXISTING SERVICE AREAS  
 PROPOSED SERVICE AREAS  
 \* EXISTING TREATMENT PLANT

BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

**PELL CITY, ALABAMA**

FIGURE 4

**EXISTING & PROPOSED SEWER SERVICE AREAS**

The Farmers Home Administration has indicated that it will not finance any more new homes in Pell City until the city's sewerage collection system is expanded. This is due to the fact that several subdivisions have been constructed in areas not suitable for septic tank use.

### Solid Waste Disposal Services

Pell City provides solid waste disposal pick-up service to every household in the city twice a week and to commercial establishments every day at no charge. The total solid waste disposal program is funded out of city taxes.

Seven employees are used in carrying out the present service. Two flat bed trucks and only one garbage truck are in operation. An immediate need exists for the purchase of two new garbage trucks.

The city presently uses an open dump located on Dry Creek Road. The lease on this property expires during 1972. This location has been used to capacity and thus a new site is necessary. A new site for a landfill has been selected and has been approved by the Health Department. Financing will be necessary for acquiring the lease to the new property, for the purchase of a forty to fifty thousand dollar bulldozer and for employing someone to operate the bulldozer.

### Social Services

Five government agencies provide social services to areas which include Pell City. Perhaps the most prominent is the Alabama State Department of Pensions and Security which is supported by State, Federal and local funds. This agency administers all public assistance and the commodity food program. Free food is provided to the low income households of St. Clair County and Pell City. Financial assistance is rendered in the following forms; aid to the blind, aid to the permanently and totally disabled, limited temporary emergency aid, aid to children in foster care, and aid to children in day care. A wide variety of special services, are provided as well. Included among these is the placement of children in adoptive homes, the investigation of adoption petitions filed in probate court, and the licensing and supervising of private child care institutions and agencies, private child placement agencies, and foster and day care homes for children. Also, protection and care is provided to children in need of such care.

Various other services are provided in cooperation with other agencies. For example, the Department of Pensions and Securities certifies for the Public Health Department those eligible for Medicaid.

The Alabama State Employment Service offers job placement and employability development services. A list of job vacancies is maintained. The Employment Service program includes testing, counselling and job placement.

The Alabama State Unemployment Compensation Agency provides unemployment insurance benefits to eligible unemployed workers. Those able, willing and available to accept a job and who lost their previous job due to circumstances beyond their control, are covered by the program.

The Alabama State Vocational Rehabilitation Service is for those with mental or physical disabilities which handicap their employment possibilities. Through evaluation, counselling, guidance, training and physical restoration, the Service seeks to prepare the disabled for employment, to place them, and to follow up with on the job assistance.

## Chapter 6

### TRANSPORTATION

As indicated earlier, Pell City's original growth and development resulted from the area's proximity to two railroad lines. Later in the town's history the construction of U. S. Highway 78 connecting the town with Birmingham and Atlanta served as another stimulant to municipal growth. Pell City's present growth is being influenced by yet another transportation facility, Interstate Highway 20.

Since Pell City's growth is closely tied to the availability of good transportation, the city serves as an excellent example of the value of these facilities. Other transport facilities such as airports, pipe lines or electrical transmission lines are also important; this importance will probably grow in the future so that they may also be classified as major stimulants of municipal growth.

#### Highways and Roads

In general, the Pell City street system appears to be adequate. However, there are several streets which are substandard, i.e. either unpaved, too narrow or lack curbs, gutters or sidewalks. Most of these substandard streets are in the Eden Community, and the Glen City neighborhood south of the Central Business District.

The major portion of the city's street system is built around U. S. Highways 78 and 231. U. S. Highway 78 is the old east-west route which connects Birmingham and Atlanta, however, it is slowly being replaced as Interstate Highway 20 nears completion. U. S. Highway 231 provides access to the north to Oneonta, Huntsville and Tennessee. It also provides access to Interstate Highway 59 which connects Birmingham, Gadsden and Chattanooga; the Highway continues in a southerly direction and provides access to Logan Martin Lake and to Montgomery and Northern Florida.

State Highways. State Highway 34 serves the community of Cropwell and affords access to the eastern side of Logan Martin Lake. State Highway 53 connects Pell City and Ashville and utilizes the U. S. 231 right-of-way as it traverses St. Clair County. State Highway 4 uses the same right-of-way as U. S. Highway 78 as it passes through the center of Pell City.

## Railroads

The city is served by the Southern Railroad which connects the area with the many distribution facilities available in the Atlanta area and the industrial facilities in the Birmingham area. This main-line rail facility enhances the community's ability to attract new industries.

## St. Clair County Airport

The St. Clair County Airport is located three miles southwest of the Pell City CBD. The airport is owned by St. Clair County and consists of approximately 45 acres. It is attended on a 24 hour schedule. The 4,200 foot by 80 foot runway comprises the operational area. Low intensity runway lighting and a rotating beacon are normally operated on a dusk to dawn time schedule. A lighted wind tetrahedron and an unlighted wind cone are located on the airport for wind and traffic information.

## Transport of Energy Sources

A natural gas pipeline traverses the city in an east-west direction just south of Interstate Highway 20. An electric power transmission line also traverses the city in an east-west direction, and the right-of-way is located south of the Central Business District.

## Chapter 7

### PLANNING PROGRAM DESIGN

The primary objectives of the Planning Design are to: (1) summarize the planning studies necessary for the orderly future growth of Pell City; (2) define a scope of work and sequence of studies required to solve the problems of Pell City as identified in the Planning Reconnaissance Survey; and (3) outline a planning program.

In addition to analysis of the results of the Reconnaissance Survey, an evaluation of the City's planning needs was made through meetings with city officials and the Pell City Planning Commission. Based on the expressed needs and desires of city officials and interested citizens, an outline for a planning program has been developed. It is recommended that this program outline be followed as closely as possible to arrive at studies designed to alleviate the problems facing Pell City and to realize the full advantage of the city's potential.

1972-1973

#### Comprehensive Plan

The first year program is designed to produce a comprehensive plan along with a recommended zoning ordinance and subdivision regulation for use in implementing the plan. These recommendations are based on preliminary data from the Reconnaissance Survey. Detailed studies will be carried out for all elements of the Comprehensive Plan including:

Base Mapping. A reproduceable base map delineating municipal boundaries, the street pattern and city blocks should be produced. It should also include the street pattern and major physical features of the area beyond the corporate limits where municipal services such as water and gas are provided on a contract basis.

Population and Economy. Detailed analysis of past population and economic trends, survey of present population composition and economic base, and projections of future population and economic growth.

Land Use Plan. Analysis of existing land use patterns and recommendations for orderly physical growth and development in the future.

Public Facilities Plan. Evaluation of existing services offered to the residents of Pell City and recommendations for future expansion and improvement of facilities.



Transportation Plan. Analysis of existing transportation patterns for all modes of transportation in Pell City and recommendations for an efficient transportation system in the city.

Capital Improvement Program. Analysis of city revenue and expenditures and establishment of priorities and methods of funding proposed programs.

Housing Element. Detailed inventory of existing housing conditions and recommendations for upgrading housing stock in Pell City.

Subdivision Regulations. Subdivision Regulations will be developed to guarantee an acceptable quality of development in new construction of residential, commercial, industrial areas and the installation of public utilities, and the provision of numerous public service functions such as fire and police protection.

Zoning Ordinance and Map. The Zoning Ordinance and Map are also tools for implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. Proper application of the Zoning Ordinance assures a community that the Land Use Plan will be followed as the community develops in the future. It also helps to eliminate scattered development or mixed and incompatible land use, and will be prepared upon completion of the Comprehensive Plan.

A tabular summary of these programs and their approximate cost is as follows:

	<u>MAN-MONTHS</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE COST</u>
Base Map	0.3	\$ 900
Population and Economy	0.5	1,500
Land Use Plan	0.4	1,200
Community Facilities Plan	0.2	600
Transportation Plan	0.2	600
Capital Improvements Program	0.2	600
Housing Element	1.0	3,000
Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Ordinance and Map	<u>1.0</u>	<u>3,000</u>
TOTAL	3.8	\$11,400

It is also recommended that the city undertake a Soil Interpretation Analysis of the city. If this is too expensive, the study could be reduced to include those areas defined by the Farmers Home Administration as unsuitable for residential construction due to the adverse sub-soil conditions. This study will assist future planning activities, and will enable reasonably accurate land development decisions to be made.

1973-1974

It is recommended that the main objective of the second year planning program should be the implementation of the plans and studies completed during the first year program. It should be pointed out that a great deal of work will be necessary to carry out the proposals and recommendations in each element of the Comprehensive Plan. Coordination of efforts between Pell City and the St. Clair County government may be necessary to achieve results in such projects as solid waste collection and disposal and police protection.

It is recommended that the proposals and recommendations for the five year housing program, outlined in the first year housing plan, be carried out and followed as closely as possible since the housing situation in the city is of critical importance. The program should be closely followed and updated as it becomes necessary.

1974-1975

Efforts in the third year of the planning program should be directed toward completion of programs in the housing plan. The possibility of expanding the municipal housing authority should be investigated.

It would be desirable to review and analyze the city's regulatory ordinances - building codes, a zoning ordinance, and subdivision regulation - the enforcement of which would ensure orderly physical development of the city in the future, maintain quality standards in new construction, and adherence to established standards in subdivision practices.

It is also recommended that efforts should be concentrated toward providing a wider range of social services and increased economic opportunities to the residents of Pell City.

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