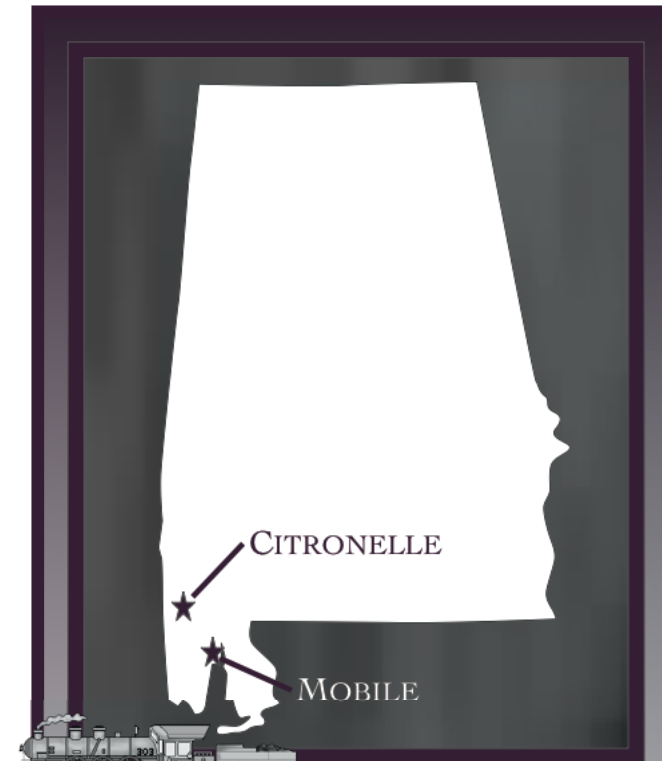




**THE CITRONELLE DEPOT MUSEUM &  
BAGGAGE AND FREIGHT CARS**

The Citronelle Depot, completed in 1903, was an integral part of the development of Citronelle as a resort and commercial center. Much of the original building remains. Our intent is to preserve the original to the fullest extent possible; duplicating only where necessary and installing contemporary work where conditions warrant. Except for the turret, the restoration of the depot is completed.

The Baggage Car and Freight Car have been placed on tracks at the South end of the museum grounds. The Baggage Car is used to display the extensive collection of railroad tools and memorabilia connected with the Mobile and Ohio, and the Gulf Mobile and Ohio Railroad.



The Citronelle Depot Museum is located 34 miles north of Mobile. From I-65, take Exit 15 north toward Citronelle. The museum is approximately 25.5 miles from Exit 15, on the right.

The museum is open every Saturday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Please contact the museum to schedule a visit by special request at all other times. Admission is free.

**19000 CENTER STREET**

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**CITRONELLE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

# CITRONELLE

## DEPOT MUSEUM



**CITRONELLE, AL**





#### THE HYGEIA HOTEL COTTAGE

In the late 1890's, Citronelle had four hotels. The Hygeia Hotel was the most noted. The hotel was completed in 1882 and consisted of sixteen rooms, a large dining hall, a bowling alley and many galleries. The hotel was so popular that it was necessary to erect three two-bedroom cottages and a two-story eight bedroom annex. The Mobile and Ohio Railroad provided a pavilion near its tracks where all passenger trains stopped on flag, or to deposit passengers at the hotel.

# Citronelle Historical Preservation Society

Excerpts from the Chicago Clinic Pure Water Journal - Volume XVI, No. 1 - January 1903

In 1777, William Bartram, a botanist, took a canoe trip of thirty miles up the river from Mobile to find a plant which his Indian allies assured him would cure him of malaria. He found the plant and named it "Citronella" and to this day it is still a favorite domestic remedy in Alabama households. Citronella then grew in profusion on a plateau thirty miles from Mobile, through which the Mobile and Ohio Railway passed and where they appropriately named a station Citronelle.

There is one long wide street, after the fashion of Southern towns, on either side of which are ranged the stores, churches, residences and hotels, two of which, the Hotel Citronelle and the Hygeia, we can speak of with pleasant memories, not the least of which was the surprise which greeted our eyes on waking the next morning. Instead of the conventional railroad and one long street of the previous night, we found ourselves looking from our chamber down into a gigantic bowl on whose eastern rim is perched Citronelle. As far as the eye could reach the horizon bounds the upper margin of this Titan's chalice, filled to its uttermost rim with piney woods, live oaks and red earth, and redder earth we have never seen.

#### CITRONELLE THE LAND OF HEALING WATERS

There are several chalybeate and other mineral springs near Citronelle, one of which is of great diuretic value, but the water that chiefly induced the representative of the The Chicago Clinic and Pure Water Journal to take a journey of nearly a thousand miles, is the one supplying the Hotel

Citronelle. The American water which most closely approaches the Citronelle water is that of the Poland Springs of Maine, which owes its deserved reputation to its comparative freedom from mineral salts. For many years the value of these springs and the salubrity of the Citronelle climate have been known to the American people. Alabama -- "Here We Rest" -- perpetual Alabama in Citronelle. Its climate and the beauty of its location where tired women and weary men learn again that life is, after all, worth living.

Citronelle, Alabama is on the main line of the Mobile and Ohio Railway, about thirty miles from Mobile. The situation is one on a high elevation, reputed the highest point at similar distance from the Gulf of Mexico, overlooking the great basin of the gulf. The country is covered with pine, the air is salubrious, the climate good at all times of the year and well suited to disorders of the respiratory tract. The mineral springs are many and interesting, ferruginous and remarkably lightly mineralized waters being found. The value of a water with so small a percentage of mineral salts is apparent to any physician.

