

1125-M1-43

Ronald L Merritt* (ronald.merritt@athens.edu), Athens State University, Dept. Mathematical, Computer and Natural Sci., 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611. *The bicentennial history of the Athens State University Department of Mathematics: Its structure, curriculum and influence.*

Athens State University, located in Athens, Alabama, will celebrate its bicentennial in 2022. While it is known regionally for its historical significance, such as surviving threats of being burned to the ground during the American Civil War, little has been researched or documented specifically regarding the impact of the Department of Mathematics. Currently, the Department of Mathematics is a part of a broader division named the Department of Mathematical, Computer and Natural Sciences. This report examines the evolution of the Department of Mathematics from 1822 to 2016. During the past 200 years, who provided leadership for the department, who did the faculty teach and what were their research initiatives? What was the scope of influence the department has had locally, regionally or nationally? How has the curriculum modified over the last two centuries based on input from industrial or educational entities? Finally, what research foundation might the current department wish to invoke in order to perpetuate the research on the Department of Mathematics at Athens State University in the future? (Received June 16, 2016)