



Photouring Florida

By HAMPTON DUNN



QUAINT RAILROAD DEPOT TO BE PRESERVED

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PENSACOLA --- The odd looking structure that catches the eyes of visitors to the Pensacola waterfront is the old Louisville and Nashville freight office. The building is in fair condition and the Pensacola Historical Preservation and Restoration Commission is investigating the possibility of restoring and using it as a marine museum. It is owned by the City of Pensacola but its fate will largely depend on the Pensacola Port Authority which is developing the port.

The L. & N. depot on Commendencia Wharf on Pensacola Hay was built about 1891 at the climax of the Northwest Florida timber boom. Millions of feet of virgin, long-leaf yellow pine lumber cut from nearby forests were shipped from Pensacola's busy port to the four corners of the globe in the 1880s and 90s. The lumber was loaded on four-masted schooners which packed the harbor year-round.

The building is designed in the Swiss architecture adapted by many American railroads in the last half of the 19th Century. It is built of virgin yellow pine and locally made brick and was in use until a few years ago.

Ironically, nowadays ships from Central America unload mahogany logs by it which are rafted and pushed down the bay to the worlds largest producer of mahogany lumber.

