



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEDIA RELEASE

The Alabama Historical Commission **protects, preserves, and interprets**
Alabama's historic place and is the State Historic Preservation Office.

www.ahc.alabama.gov

Lisa D. Jones, Executive Director

468 South Perry Street
P.O. Box 300900
Montgomery, Alabama
36130-0900
Voice: (334)242-3184
Fax: (334)262-1084



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Contact: Jacquelyn Kirkland, 334.230.2690 or jacquelyn.kirkland@ahc.alabama.gov

CHEROKEE COUNTY PROPERTY ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER

The Hatcher High School in Centre was listed in the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage on June 23, 2016.

The Hatcher High School, listed for its association with African American history and education in Bay Springs, was completed in 1949 as the first high school for African American children in Centre.

The school was named after Revered J.H. Hatcher, a Methodist church minister, who worked diligently to bring a school to Centre.



Prior to the opening of Hatcher School, all African American children in Cherokee County attended a school in Cedar Bluff at the Cherokee County Training School. The elementary school children were taught in various churches throughout the county.

This structure was used as a high school until 1956 when a new high school was built. Hatcher was then utilized as an elementary school.

All schools in Centre closed in 1968 due to federally mandated desegregation laws. The school has since been purchased by the City of Centre and used for community events.

The Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage is an official listing of buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts worthy of preservation. These properties may be of national, state, and local significance. The designation is honorary and carries no restrictions or financial incentives. The Alabama Historical Commission created the Alabama Register to provide the public with a quick and easy way to document and recognize historic places, such as houses, schools, churches, and commercial buildings that are at least 40 years old.

A [list of properties in the Alabama Register](#) is available alphabetically by county

What is the process for getting your property listed? Start by completing the [Alabama Register Form](#) (refer to the [instructions](#)).

About the Alabama Historical Commission

Located in historic downtown Montgomery at 468 S. Perry Street, the Alabama Historical Commission is the historic preservation agency for the State of Alabama. The agency was created by an act of the state legislature in 1966 with a mission of safeguarding Alabama's historic buildings and sites. The Commission is tasked with the acquisition and preservation of historic properties and educating the public about historic sites in Alabama. For a complete list of historic sites, hours of operation, and admission fees please visit <http://preserveala.org/>

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