

# preserve

## ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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***To be awarded on Friday—***

### **ALA WHITEHEAD RECEIVES PRESERVATION AWARD**

The Alabama Historical Commission's Black Heritage Council presented its annual preservation awards on Friday (Sept. 21) during the Alabama Preservation Conference held in Huntsville.

Ala Whitehead received the Idella Childs Distinguished Service Award for helping preserve one of the state's oldest remaining law offices and the oldest surviving building on Tuskegee's square.

Her donation of the circa 1840 building, historically known as the Segrest Law Office, and one-third of the money needed to move the structure allowed organizers to save it. The building was moved to a site not far from the town square next to the Curtwright House on North Main Street.

The structure dates from a period in American history when attorneys constructed their offices within walking distance of the county courthouse. In fact, the Segrest Law Office originally formed part of Tuskegee's historic "Lawyers' Row."

Mrs. Whitehead, a business owner, is also active in the life of the community through the historic Butler Chapel AME Zion Church, the Zion Hill Historical Society, the Tuskegee Planning Commission, the George Washington Carver Arts and Crafts Festival, and the Chamber of Commerce. In 2005 the Zeta sorority nominated her as "Citizen of the Year."

The Alabama Preservation Conference is sponsored by the Alabama Historical Commission, the Black Heritage Council, the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Historic Huntsville Foundation. The three-day conference focused on the historic Tennessee Valley.

*To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places is the mission of the Alabama Historical Commission.*

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