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## **NAN GREY DAVIS HOUSE ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Nan Grey Davis House in Theodore to the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage.

The Alabama Register is a prestigious listing of historic, architectural, and archaeological landmarks. The AHC considers the notable historic properties in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition.

Built for Albert Hand, c. 1910-1915, the Nan Grey Davis House may be a kit house sold by Sears and Montgomery Ward in the early twentieth century. It is a typical four square with simple Craftsman touches. Albert Hand came from Meridian, Mississippi and was drawn to the area at the prospect of being able to grow Satsuma oranges. He developed a Satsuma orchard, but the crop was lost in a terrible freeze. At that point, he switched to growing pecans. After the death of Albert Hand, Lewis and Mary Hand Dowdle lived in the house. Currently, Billy Bolton of Mobile has taken on the preservation of the house as a memorial to a beloved school teacher, Nan Grey Davis, who boarded for many years with the Hand family. It is now the focus of an annual pecan festival.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Register program, which gives the public a simple way to bring recognition to historic properties.

The Alabama Register officially recognizes and honors buildings, sites, structures, objects, and historic districts that are at least 40 years old.

The Alabama Register designation is honorary and carries no restrictions on property and offers no financial incentives.

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

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