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PICKENSVILLE ROSENWALD SCHOOL ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Pickensville Rosenwald School 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.

The Pickensville Rosenwald School in Pickens County, constructed in c. 1925, is believed to be the last remaining of six schools in Pickens County built with assistance from the Rosenwald School building fund.

In the early 20th century, Booker T. Washington developed a matching grant program at Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) to help rural communities construct school buildings for African American students. In 1912 significant funding from Julius Rosenwald, CEO of Sears and Roebuck, expanded the program throughout the south. From 1912-1932, the program helped construct more than 5,000 African American schools in 15 states. Alabama had 389 Rosenwald fund assisted schools. Six of these schools were constructed in Pickens County.

The Pickensville school building, which closed in the late 1960s, includes original walls and ceilings in the two rear classrooms along with original chalkboards, wooden floors, wooden doors and a stage.

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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