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## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S CECIL ROSENWALD SCHOOL ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Cecil Rosenwald School near the Town of Pike Road 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 Cecil Rosenwald School building is listed in the Alabama Register for its significance as one of few remaining schools in Alabama constructed with assistance from the Rosenwald School Building Fund. Between 1912-1932, Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute and Julius Rosenwald, CEO of Sears and Roebuck teamed up to provide matching grants to African American communities to help build school buildings. Matching Rosenwald's funding, African Americans in the South constructed more than 5,000 schools in 15 southern states. Alabama had 389 buildings with 13 being constructed in Montgomery County.

The Cecil School, built in c. 1925, is one of only two of the Rosenwald Schools constructed in Montgomery County found to be still remaining. The building is privately owned and looks much like it did when it was constructed.

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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