



468 S. Perry Street ♦ Montgomery, AL 36104  
334.242.3184 ♦ [preserveala.org](http://preserveala.org)

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**Contact:** Lee Anne Wofford, (334) 230-2659  
[LWofford@preserveala.org](mailto:LWofford@preserveala.org)

## **SHELBY COUNTY'S DON H. LOVELADY MEMORIAL BRIDGE ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Don H. Lovelady Memorial Bridge in Montevallo 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 Don H. Lovelady Memorial Bridge is listed in the Alabama Register for its engineering significance. "This bridge created an important intersection of Alabama Highways 155 and 25 and spurred commercial, residential, and industrial development," said Lee Anne Wofford, Alabama Register Coordinator for the Alabama Historical Commission.

The bridge is a fine example of the engineering and architectural knowledge of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Built between 1932 and 1936, the structure bears the distinction of being the first project begun in the United States under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Works Program Grade Separation Plan. The bridge construction cost \$87,000 and provided more than 80,000 hours of work for hundreds of Depression-era workers. The bridge is unusual for that time period in that it spans three modes of transportation: water, rail, and roadway.

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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