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PIKE COUNTY'S M.K. PAUL STORE ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the M.K. Paul Store in Pine Level 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.

Constructed c. 1855-1870, the M.K. Paul Store is the oldest surviving commercial building in Pine Level. It also served as the community post office for many years. The original owners, the Shaver family, came to the area around 1855. The building was later sold to the Adams family and then to the Paul family, who ran the M.K. Paul Store for many years.

The building is also significant as a rare surviving example of a mid-19th century rural commercial building. Although it was expanded later to the side and rear, the store still retains many of its original architectural features. These include mid-19th century Greek Revival molding around the windows and doors, classical 'dentals' and saw-tooth molding along the eaves, and, on the inside, the original mail cubicles, grained drawers and wide plank floors. The current owner hopes to renovate the building for use as a feed store.

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.***