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## **MACK M. MATTHEWS SCHOOL IN DALE COUNTY ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Mack M. Matthews School (Pinckard Colored School/South Dale Middle 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 oldest part of the school was constructed in 1961 as the second building to house the Pinckard Colored School, an all-black segregated school. In 1964, the Dale County School Board voted to change the name of the Pinckard School to the Mack M. Matthews School in honor of its longtime principal whose career as an educator spanned over 50 years. In 1971, the school integrated and the name changed to South Dale Middle School. Although there have been a few additions to the campus, it looks much as it did when it operated as a segregated black school from 1961-1969. The campus also includes the 1962 cafeteria building, now a shop building, and the 1964 gymnasium.

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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