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ARTHUR HAROLD PARKER HIGH SCHOOL ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the 1927 building associated with the Arthur Harold Parker High School in Birmingham 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.

In 1899, a group of African-American citizens petitioned the Birmingham Board of Education for a tax-supported school for African-American children. In September 1900, the board of education established a high school and Arthur Harold Parker was appointed to serve as the principal and only teacher. The new school was named "Negro High School." The school was located in one room on the second floor of the Cameron Building on the southwest corner of Avenue H and Fourteenth Street South. The school opened with 18 students and ended the school year with 45 students.

In 1920, land where the school stands today was purchased by the board of education and construction began on the new school complex. In 1927, a two-story building was built and it stands today as the only remaining part of the original architectural plan. In 1939, Dr. Arthur Harold Parker retired after 50 years of service and the school which had been known as Industrial High was renamed A.H. Parker High School in honor of Dr. Parker.

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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