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BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church & Cemetery in LaPine 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.

Bethlehem Church was organized in 1833 by members who withdrew from Bethel Baptist Church at Pintlala. It was one of a few churches that welcomed both white and black members. The original building was constructed of logs and had a dirt floor. It was soon replaced with a structure resembling the current building. Construction of the existing church building was completed in 1932 and like the two previous structures was built from timber on the property.

The church cemetery is approximately 6.5 acres and was enclosed by a fence in 1942. Bethlehem Church continues to be a special place for community, religious, historic, patriotic, family and educational events that celebrate our rich heritage.

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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