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OLD KEENER HOUSE & BARN ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the Old Keener House and Barn in Keener 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 Old Keener House and Barn were listed in the Alabama Register for their architectural and historical significance. Both built in the 1850s by John T. Keener, these structures exhibit unique construction types of the pre-Civil War era. The area, now known as Keener, was populated by Cherokees until the Treaty of New Echota. The treaty and the Trail of Tears that followed opened up land and drew settlers to the Little Wills Valley between 1840 and 1850.

John T. Keener's son, James Polk Keener, ran the post office and a mercantile store in the growing community, then known as Greenwood. On August 22, 1888, the community's name was officially changed to Keener, in honor of the Keener's family prominence in the area.

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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