



468 S. Perry Street ♦ Montgomery, AL 36104
334.242.3184 ♦ preserveala.org

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Contact: Lee Anne Wofford, (334) 230-2659
LeeAnne.Wofford@preserveala.org

CLARKE COUNTY'S JAMES LANDING CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added James Landing Cemetery to the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

"The cemetery register is a prestigious listing of historic cemeteries in Alabama," said Lee Anne Wofford, cemetery program coordinator. "The AHC considers the notable historic cemeteries in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition."

There are now three cemeteries in Clarke County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 372 cemeteries statewide.

James Landing Cemetery at Barlow Bend was established in one of the oldest portions of what is now Clarke County. The oldest marked grave is that of Noah Agee who died in 1823. Agee was a white plantation owner and is the only white person known to be buried in this African-American cemetery. The cemetery contains 46 identifiable graves and approximately thirty unmarked graves. James Landing Cemetery is still in use and is preserved and maintained by the area's African-American residents and members of James Chapel Baptist Church.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Historic Cemetery Program that gives aid to the general public, government officials, civic groups, and others in identifying, documenting, registering, and conserving Alabama's historic cemeteries.

The Alabama Historic Cemetery Register officially recognizes and honors family and community cemeteries that were established at least 40 years ago.

Listing in the state cemetery register is an honorary designation imposing no restrictions on property owners. State law protects all cemeteries from willful desecration and destruction.

*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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