

# PRESERVATION

Alabama Historical Commission

## REPORT

VOL. 37, NO. 5

JULY-AUGUST 2010

## GOVERNOR RILEY SIGNS LANDMARK BURIAL BILL

Now Native American burial sites are fully protected by Alabama law. On April 30, Governor Riley signed into law Senate Bill 71, which gives Native American burials the same protection all other burials in the state have. The bill amends Alabama's burial law and it passed unanimously in both the Senate and the House.

"The Indians of the state are ecstatic that a law was finally passed that made the burials of American Indians equal to those of every other citizen in this state," said Eloise Josey, executive director of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission.

Sponsored by Senator Wendell Mitchell of Luverne, the new law makes it illegal to "willfully or maliciously injure, deface, remove, or destroy any tomb, monument, structure, or container of human remains, burial mound, earthen or shell monument containing human remains or associated burial artifacts, and invade or mutilate the human corpse or remains." This provision now applies to all American Indian burials and related funerary objects.

A violation of the law could result in a Class C felony conviction, punishable by up to

10 years in prison and a fine of \$15,000.

The previous law made it a Class C felony to maliciously desecrate American Indian burials or funerary objects, but it exempted property owners who knowingly disturbed burials or funerary objects on their own property. It also allowed property owners to direct others to disturb burials on their property. With the passage of this bill, property owners are now subject to prosecution if they knowingly desecrate or disturb American Indian burials on their land.

The old law resulted in the loss of American Indian burials, but it also allowed for the destruction of significant archaeological evidence that could reveal valuable information about the people who first lived in Alabama.

The new law still allows for professional archeological research to be conducted on grounds that contain (or may contain) any type of burials. However, those doing the research must first obtain a permit from the Alabama Historical Commission.

According to AHC executive director Frank White, the new law is an important achievement that



credit: University of Alabama Museums

Moundville near Tuscaloosa contains numerous American Indian burial mounds. The newly amended burial law protects similar mounds throughout Alabama.

could not have been accomplished without multiple groups in the state working together.

"We started with the formation of the Alabama Historic Cemetery Study Commission in 2006, and today we are celebrating these significant changes to the state's burial law," said Ted Urquhart, first vice-president of the Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance.

The passage of this bill was a result of the efforts of Senator Wendell Mitchell, the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission, Alabama Historical Commission, the Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance, the Alabama Department of Transportation, the Montgomery Genealogical Society, and the Office of Archeological Research at the University of Alabama.

text of the bill: [preserveala.org/currentissues.aspx](http://preserveala.org/currentissues.aspx)  
cemetery permits: [preserveala.org/cemeteryprograms.aspx](http://preserveala.org/cemeteryprograms.aspx)

## PRESERVING ALABAMA'S HOMETOWNS *Embracing Historic Places, Making Life Better*

2010 Conference • October 7-9



Downtown Montgomery offers a lively night-time scene, with restaurants, event spaces, and loft apartments in historic buildings.

Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery, AHC, Black Heritage Council, and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation invite you to visit Montgomery for the annual conference, October 7-9.

This year's conference offers educational tracks in economic development, civil rights historic sites, historic neighborhoods, and decorative arts.

At the *Making Downtown Come Alive* track, participants will learn how cities can use their historic resources as essential assets for community revitalization. *The Alley*, a mixed-use downtown revitalization project,

will be the setting for a panel discussion and tours of commercial and residential spaces to illustrate how historic preservation is being used a significant economic development tool.

The *Civil Rights and Beyond* track will explore Montgomery's African-American places. This tour showcases the historic homes and community institutions that gave birth to our nation's greatest social movement. This track lets you stand in the pulpits of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Ralph Abernathy. You can also see the homes of Civil Rights icons Rosa Parks, E. D. Nixon and Johnnie Carr.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES



## Merrimack Village Historic District, Huntsville

April 16, 2010

The Merrimack Mill Village Historic District is comprised of a collection of 278 buildings dating from c. 1900 to 1955. The historic district contains various types of mill housing that was constructed to house the Merrimack Mill workers and their families. The district also includes two churches and three commercial buildings. The layout of the mill village is virtually a copy of Kirk Boott's 1820 design of the Merrimack Mill Village in Massachusetts.



## Warden's Residence, Madison County

May 17, 2010

This modest, stone building and its stone garage were constructed in the early 1940s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge. Located in the Triana community, the Residence was home to the warden responsible for this area of the refuge. The home and its garage represent the "rustic park architecture" that is reflected in other CCC projects, including Alabama's Cheaha State Park, Monte Sano State Park and Wheeler Dam State Park.

Beginning in 1950, it became the only public health clinic for blacks living in the rural areas of Madison County during the post-WWII period of segregation. This clinic served the public until it closed in 1990.

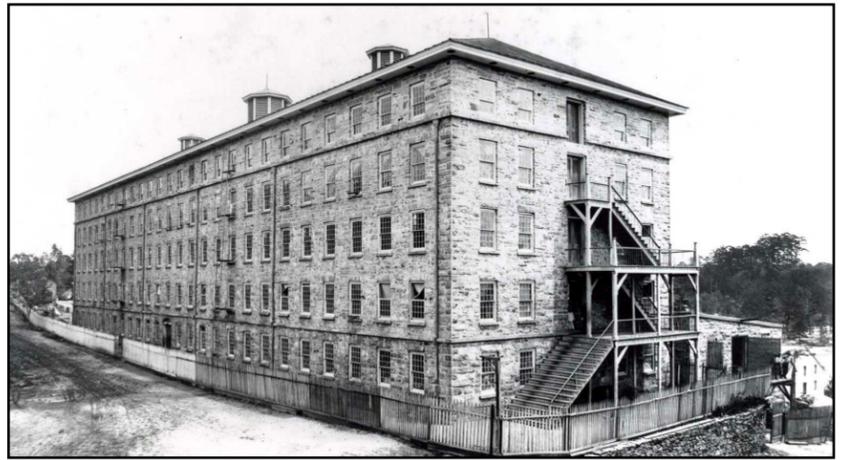


## Sheffield Downtown Historic District, Colbert Co.

May 24, 2010

Most of the buildings in this district were constructed from c. 1888 through 1959, although Sheffield's downtown remains a viable commercial area down to today. The district's collection of historic resources includes commercial, industrial and governmental buildings. The most visually prominent of Sheffield's commercial buildings—the Sheffield Hardware Company, the Blake Building and the Montgomery Block—are located on Montgomery Avenue, downtown Sheffield's main thoroughfare.

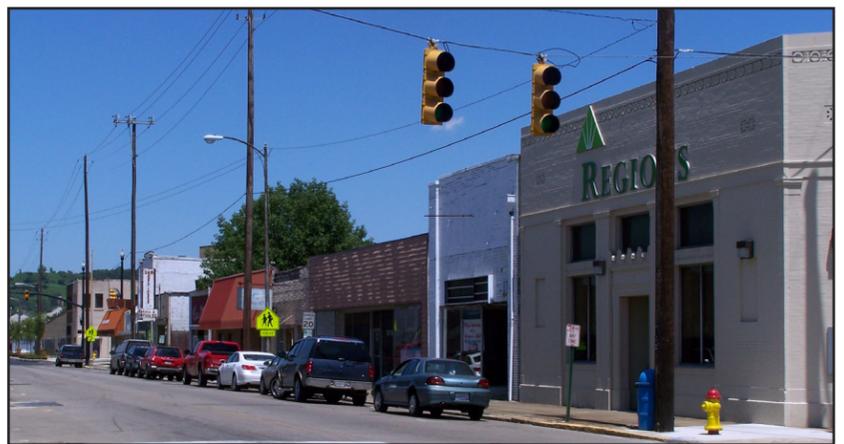
The district's architectural styles include Renaissance Revival (Chamber of Commerce Building and US Post Office), High Victorian Gothic (First Presbyterian Church) and Moderne (VFW and 301 Second Street East).



## Tallassee Mills, Elmore County

April 26, 2010

The Tallassee Mills was one of 159 cotton mill complexes constructed in the Southeast by 1860. It was one of the great 19th century textile complexes of the South. The Tallassee Mills Manufacturing Company was first chartered in 1841. The buildings standing today date from 1844 to 1888. Remnants of the original 1844 water raceway that extended from the Duck Mill to the river also survive. The site of Warehouse No. 2, constructed c. 1886, and the site of the Wheel House/Machine Shop, constructed 1884-88, are located within property's boundaries. The site covers 4.9 acres and is owned by the Historic Talisi Preservation Society.



## Tarrant Downtown Historic District, Jefferson Co.

April 26, 2010

The Tarrant Downtown Historic District illustrates the commercial development of Tarrant City from 1913 to c. 1955. The commercial core of the town began to develop in the 1910s. The first brick building, the Tarrant Drug Store, was constructed in 1913. The extension of Birmingham's trolley line and the founding of the Tarrant Land Company in 1914 also contributed to development. The construction of several buildings along Pinson Street c. 1955 completed Tarrant's downtown core. Today, the commercial and residential architecture in this historic district represents life in a thriving, industrial town in the first half of the 20th century.



## Lincoln Mill and Mill Village District, Huntsville

April 26, 2010

The Lincoln Mill Village Historic District encompasses a planned textile mill village that was constructed in a tight grid pattern. The mill village was constructed in three phases: c. 1918 when the company was owned by Abingdon Mills; c. 1919-1924 when the Lincoln Company built most of the housing north of Oakwood Avenue along with a community center; and 1924-1928 when the Lincoln Company built worker housing south of Oakwood Avenue as well as mill facilities, a school and a commissary. The district contains 139 buildings.

# Places in Peril



credit: David Schneider

## Auburn Train Depot

120 Mitcham Avenue, Auburn

A central hub of life at Auburn University for more than one hundred years, the Auburn Train Depot welcomed most students as they first arrived at the university. The building and its surroundings were often the first glimpse new students had of "The Loveliest Village on The Plains."

The station was built around 1904, and was the third depot in Auburn since the rails arrived in 1847 (the other two burned). Designed by Auburn architecture student Ralph Dudley, the building is typical of Victorian railroad architecture of its time. The depot's design is best described as Richardsonian Romanesque. After more than 60 years of use, the station sold its last passenger ticket in 1970.

Vacant since 2003, the building has suffered from deferred maintenance, a leaking roof, and possible environmental problems from an adjacent gasoline station. These and other issues have coupled with the economic downturn to thwart a successful sale by the owner to one of several potential purchasers. In the meantime, the depot sits vacant, susceptible to the elements and vandals.



credit: David Schneider

## Bankhead-Shackelford House

2825 Jefferson Street, Courtland

An architectural landmark in the Courtland National Register District, this house was the most significant residence in this planter community during the post-Reconstruction era. The home was built between the prosperous antebellum years and the renewal of cotton prosperity that occurred between 1900 and the beginning of the First World War.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bankhead built the home to resemble her 1830s plantation home, Bonnie Doone. The home is Victorian in its trim and woodwork, with pocket doors, golden oak mantelpieces, and a handsome stairway. The house has older forms and layouts that linger underneath decorative detail that changed with the tide of fashion. Today, the house speaks to the architectural conservatism of Alabama's nineteenth century agrarian gentry.

The house has been unoccupied for years and its condition has reached a critical stage. The present owner, who grew up in the house, hopes to see it restored one day. Meanwhile, a thoughtful restoration of the house would not only preserve this important piece of Alabama's architecture, but it could also serve as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.



credit: David Schneider

## Bankhead House

Bankhead Street, Sulligent

The Bankhead House is the only structure in Lamar County listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and was the home of one of Alabama's most prominent families, the Bankheads. Sometimes known as Forest Home, the house was built by John Greer Bankhead in the 1850s. The two-story, wood framed house was the birthplace of John Hollis Bankhead, one of Alabama's most influential U.S. representatives.

Also born in the home were his sons, John Hollis Bankhead II, and William B. Bankhead. Like their father, both sons were elected to the U.S. Congress. John Hollis Bankhead II served in the Senate, and William B. Bankhead served in the House and was elected Speaker of the House in 1936. The Bankheads worked to expand the federal government's power and supported President Roosevelt's New Deal Legislation.

The home is threatened by deferred maintenance and vandalism. The property owners desire to retain the land that has been in their family, yet have no use for the house. A creative solution undoubtedly exists that would resolve the dilemma, but to date no plan has been developed.



credit: David Schneider

## Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association

East Washington Street, Rockford

Built in 1940, the Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association building is the only structure in Alabama built to house a Black County Extension Agent and the Black Home Demonstration Agent. Created by the 1914 Smith-Lever Act, the Agricultural Extension Service fostered partnerships between universities and county agents to teach new agricultural methods to rural farmers. The service helped farmers use their land more productively, increase yields and improve their standard of living. Supported by Tuskegee Institute, Alabama had a more developed black extension system than most southern states. In the segregated South, the Extension Service required separate facilities where African-American farmers could attend educational demonstrations given by agents.

The Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association building was also the center of community, civic, and social gatherings for African Americans in Rockford prior to integration. Used by various organizations for forty years, it is an important cultural landmark in the Rockford community.

This building is endangered by deterioration and a lack of an effective plan for its rehabilitation and future use



credit: David Schneider

## Cricket Theatre

113 W. Main Street, Collinsville

“It’s a Wonderful Life,” “The Big Sleep,” and “The Best Years of Our Life” were among the top movies of 1946, the same year the Cricket Theatre opened. In 1946 more than 80 million people attended the movies every week – almost 60 percent of the total population. The \$60,000, 800-seat theatre was built just as television was emerging in the decade following World War II.

Boasting the largest chairs, modern rest rooms, and air conditioning, the building is typical of the streamlined designs of the movie palace era. Throughout its heyday, the Cricket welcomed crowds who often considered the air conditioning as much of an attraction as the western that was playing. Local theatres were central to the social and entertainment life of most small towns during this time. It was also a time when African-Americans had to use side entrances to segregated balcony seats, or attend a separate theatre altogether.

The Cricket eventually succumbed to the competition from television and closed its doors in October, 1964. The Collinsville Historical Association recently purchased the building, and they are trying to raise \$90,000 to repair the collapsed roof. Only time will tell if the old Cricket marquee will once again blaze with lights and bring back some of its former excitement to Collinsville’s main street.



credit: David Schneider

## Kelly-Stone-Hill House

201 Phoenix Avenue, Carrollton

The Kelly-Stone-Hill House is one of the few pre-Civil War structures remaining in Pickens County and one of the first dwellings built in Carrollton. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the house is a good example of a vernacular Greek Revival cottage, a style once prevalent in the Deep South during the 19th century.

Built for Isham and Elizabeth Kelly during the late 1830s or 1840s, the house was the childhood home of John Herbert Kelly, a Confederate General who died at the Battle of Franklin in 1864. General Kelly’s daughter, Eliza, and her husband, Lewis Stone, then became owners. Lewis Stone was a Harvard Law School graduate who served in the Alabama Legislature during the 1850s and at the state’s constitutional conventions in 1861 and 1875. He was elected to his final term in 1888.

Eliza Kelly Stone lived in the house until her death in 1909. The Hill family then purchased it and has owned it for almost a century. Today, the house is threatened by deterioration, including major problems with the roof. Although funds are limited to make the repairs, the current owners are determined to preserve their local landmark.



credit: Henry Darnell

## Magee Farm

6222 Highway 45, Mobile County

A journey that began for many Alabamians on January 11, 1861 concluded at Magee Farm on April 29, 1865. At this farm, Confederate General Richard Taylor and Union General Edward Canby agreed to a cease fire and negotiated the terms of surrender for 47,000 Confederate troops serving in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Located north of Mobile in the community of Kushla, this 1848 Creole cottage type farmhouse built by Jacob Magee is one of three major sites associated with the surrender of the Confederate army. Listed in the National Register, the farm is the only surrender site that retains its original building, in unreconstructed form with many of the original furnishings.

Despite the efforts of the Civil War Preservation Trust in 2004, operation of the site as a museum was discontinued in 2010 due to a lack of public support and declining revenues. The property was then listed for sale. It is unlikely that Magee Farm will reopen to the public, or that the significant collection of furnishings will remain with the property.

Magee Farm illustrates the difficulties faced by many historic house museums around the country in the wake of the economic downturn. However, the Kushla community still has a rare opportunity to keep this nationally significant piece of Alabama history in the public realm.



credit: Pam Smith, Alabama Tourism Department

### Old Federal Road

Russell, Macon, Montgomery, Lowndes, Butler, Monroe, Conecuh, Escambia, Baldwin, and Mobile counties

Believing a road between Washington, D.C. and New Orleans to be an “indispensable necessity,” President Thomas Jefferson secured transportation rights to a horse path from the Creek Nation in 1805. What began as a narrow horse path in 1806 soon became the transportation route for thousands of settlers moving to the Mississippi and Louisiana territories.

The 1783 Treaty of Paris and the 1803 Louisiana Purchase expanded the road’s reach. After these agreements, the federal government moved quickly to create a viable transportation network. In 1807 the government extended the road from St. Stephens to the territorial capital at Natchez. The road reduced travel time from Washington, D.C. to New Orleans by

almost ten days—a significant improvement.

Major historic elements of the road, often along with their associated settings, survive in varying states of preservation. These resources are threatened by a general lack of public awareness and appreciation. Incomplete documentation also makes it difficult for the road to be adequately recognized, protected, or included in community and infrastructure planning efforts.

In 2007, the Legislature formed the Old Federal Road Task Force to raise awareness of the road through the development of a web site, a visitors brochure, and historic signs to mark the road’s path.



credit: David Schneider

### Shorter Cemetery

Riverside Drive, Eufaula

On a high bluff overlooking Lake Eufaula, the Shorter Cemetery is the burial place of the prominent Shorter family of Barbour County. The cemetery, situated on five acres in the middle of downtown Eufaula, is sheltered by moss-draped limbs of tall oak trees and is partially enclosed by a brick wall and wrought iron fence. Burial sites are marked by soaring obelisks and graceful statuary, making it a romantic and lovely spot in the city.

John Gill Shorter was the state’s first Civil War governor. He rose to political prominence during the 1850s, when he emerged as a fierce defender of slavery and an advocate of economic development and diversification. He and his family are buried in the Shorter cemetery, which also includes a separate slave/servant cemetery nearby.

Located near the Shorter home (which burned circa 1885), the cemetery is threatened by both vandals and deterioration. There is an urgent need to repair tombstones, statuary, brick walls, and wrought iron fencing. An active cemetery group is working to preserve this important local landmark and make the necessary repairs. Additionally, the AHC is currently reviewing a nomination for the cemetery to be listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.



Tremont School, Selma. © 2010 Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation

### Historic Wood Windows

statewide

The windows of an old building often reflect the heart of its historic character. One of the core tenets of historic preservation is that windows are essential features that must be retained and repaired. Unfortunately, historic windows are under attack. Marketing by window manufacturers, the home remodeling industry, home improvement retailers and popular magazines have convinced many that historic wood windows are obsolete and must be replaced for energy conservation. Nothing could be further from the truth. Studies show that retaining and repairing historic wood windows is not only more cost-effective, but is also the greenest approach.

An analysis in *Old House Journal* (October 2007) noted that a properly repaired historic window that can last for more than a century. Despite evidence that supports repairing historic wood windows, recently enacted federal tax incentives for energy efficiency largely favor replacement over repair.

According to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, “Historic windows are disappearing at an alarming rate, and we in the preservation movement have had enough with the onslaught of misinformation about window replacement!” Those of us in Alabama who care about our historic places need to raise our voices in unison.



The 1852 duck cotton mill in Tallassee is part of the Tallassee Mills complex that was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 26, 2010.

## Cotton Mills statewide

These multi-storied brick buildings are a reminder of a time when Alabama's fortunes were tied to cotton. Although a few cotton mills operated in the state before the Civil War, the industry boomed in the 1880s when northern dollars capitalized cotton mills in northern Alabama. In southern Alabama, local investors funded the mills. By 1929, Alabama's 83 textile mills employed 28,000 people. Following World War II, the textile industry provided jobs for one in five Alabamians. Alabama's textile industry ended during the 1990s, when a combination of cheap overseas labor and obsolete machinery shifted mill operations outside of the U.S.

The jobs may have left, but the cotton mills remain. Utilitarian structures that can be used once again, cotton mills are well built, with open interior spaces, high ceilings and tall windows. While there are good examples of creative adaptations of cotton mills in our state, too many of these buildings are under utilized or deteriorating from neglect. As small towns across the state try to attract investment to their downtowns by creating mixed-use developments, we urge city and business leaders to consider the potential of cotton mills. These buildings can be converted into housing, office space, laboratory space, retail shops, arts centers, performance venues and restaurants.

# PLACES IN PERIL SAVED

One of the impacts of the Places in Peril program is an increased awareness of historic places. With this increased awareness, people begin to view these places as assets in their communities. As awareness yields commitment, and commitment yields action, these endangered properties can be saved and returned to their place as treasured landmarks. The program has helped to save many important landmarks that may otherwise have been lost.

This year we highlight the GM & O Station in Mobile and the Drish House in Tuscaloosa.



credit: City of Mobile

## GM & O Station (listed 1996) 110 Beauregard Street, Mobile

A magnificent building in its day, the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad Terminal was built as a gateway to Mobile. Later, it fell into disrepair and was abandoned. But thanks to a partnership between the City of Mobile and Carbone properties, the GM & O building is once again a magnificent structure that houses the city's Wave Transit System and other offices.

Architect P. Thorton Mayre designed this Mission Revival-style station in 1907, which was used for passenger service until the late 1950s. In 1975 it was listed in the National Register, but by that time damaging alterations had compromised the once spectacular interior spaces. The monumental domed waiting area was filled in with steel and concrete partitions, and the dome was concealed when the ceilings were lowered. Changes also included the removal of a portion of the train shed. The building was soon abandoned in the mid 1980s.

In 2001 the City of Mobile and Carbone Properties invested more than \$18 million to restore this significant landmark. Also, the developer received federal historic preservation tax credits which made it possible to restore the building to its former grandeur. The domed space can be appreciated once again.



## Drish House (listed 2006) 2300 17th Street, Tuscaloosa

Constructed in the 1830s, the Drish House was transformed in 1862 into an architectural landmark that embodies both the Greek Revival and Italianate Villa styles.

Once part of a 450-acre plantation, the house has been used in various ways by several owners. The Drish family sold the property in the late 19th century and the house became the focal point of Tuscaloosa's first suburban expansion. The house later took on a new life as the Jemison School in 1906 until it was leased to the Tuscaloosa Wrecking Company. In 1940, the city school board sold the building to the Southside Baptist Church. When the church considered demolishing the house in 1994, the Heritage Commission of Tuscaloosa County convinced the congregation to save the structure, which had fallen into disrepair. The commission and the Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society helped to re-roof, paint and mothball the building in order to give it another chance.

The Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society now owns the house and has stabilized it and removed the latter additions. The group is raising money for restoration and wants to eventually use the house for private events to support the house and society.

# FROM THE COMMISSION

## Dr. John Schmidt joins the Commission

Governor Riley appointed Dr. John Schmidt to the AHC in March. Troy University nominated Dr. Schmidt to replace Janice Hawkins. Dr. Schmidt currently serves as the Senior Vice Chancellor at Troy University. In this role he is engaged in teaching leadership courses and developing academic programs at the main campus in Troy. In addition, he leads university efforts for fundraising, marketing, alumni growth, radio and television outreach, and external programs.

Schmidt has served in the U.S. Marine Corp as a Colonel, commanding at all levels from Vietnam, Desert Shield/Storm, Bosnia, and Haiti. He graduated from the Air War College and is an honor graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

He also holds a M.A. degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. In 2004, he completed his doctorate of



Schmidt (left) enjoys talking with reenactors at Fort Toulouse.

education from Nova Southeastern University.

Active in the Troy community, Schmidt is involved with the Troy Rotary Club, the Pike County Chamber of Commerce, and the Pike County Economic Development Board. He is also past chairman of the USS Alabama Battleship Commission.

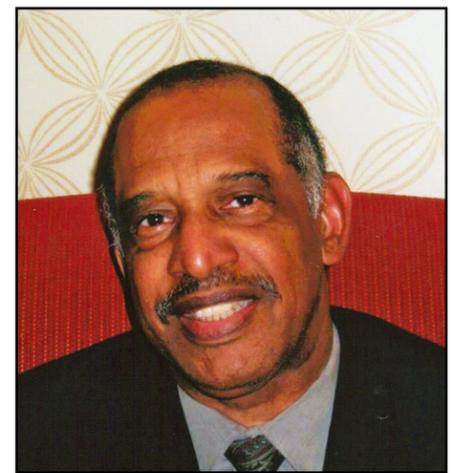
## Elvin D. Lang joins BHC

The Black Heritage Council recently named Elvin D. Lang to the council. Lang is president of the Black Belt African American Genealogical and Historical Society and President-Elect of the Central Montgomery Optimist Club. He retired from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management in 2009.

He also worked for the Alabama Dept. of Public Health as an environmentalist with the Alabama Water Well Standards Board. Lang has a B.A. and M.S. from Alabama State University in biology and served in the U.S. Army from 1972 until 2003, twenty of which were in the U.S. Army Reserves.

He is a member of many civic and professional organizations including the Mobile Genealogical Society, Clarke County Genealogical and Historical Society and Friends of Magnolia Cemetery.

Lang states that he is interested in serving on the Black Heritage Council "to help in the preservation and restoration of historic structures and provide historical documentation for future generations." He will serve a three year term that expires in 2013.



## AHC welcomes intern Sarahgrace Godwin

Sarahgrace Godwin is working as an intern this summer documenting the Dowe Complex in downtown Montgomery. Godwin is from Montgomery and is currently a fourth year architecture student at Auburn University. She plans on graduating in May of 2012 with an architecture degree. After graduation, she is going to pursue a graduate degree in architectural history.

Godwin is working under the direction of senior architectural historian Robert Gamble. She hopes to one day work for an architecture firm that focuses on historic preservation.

"I have enjoyed working for the commission, and I know that my experience here will compliment my education at Auburn," said Godwin.



Wilcox County students sift through soil using screens to find artifacts during *Wilcox County Field Days*. AHC archaeologists Amanda Hill and Stacye Hathorn shared their expertise with students and teachers as part of this week-long educational workshop. Students said that the pottery and excavation learning modules were their favorite activities. This annual workshop is sponsored by the Auburn University Environmental Institute.

## OIL SPILL IMPACT TOUCHES AHC

When President Obama visited Alabama on June 14, he traveled past one of the AHC's contributions to mitigating the spill disaster. The old runway at Fort Morgan is the setting for cleanup equipment and staging efforts by state and federal agencies working to lessen the oil damage to Alabama. Less visible is the effort underway to protect more than 200 archaeological sites threatened by oil contamination. Fort Morgan is owned and operated by the AHC.

The commission has contracted with the University of South Alabama to conduct pre-spill assessments of known sites and identify any previously unknown sites. University archaeologists will sample intact sites to get carbon-14 dates and other data that oil contamination will destroy. AHC staff archaeologist Amanda Hill is working with federal agencies to help coordinate the four-state response to oil damage to cultural resources. The AHC will continue to provide updates on this response.



AP Photo/Charles Dharapak  
President Obama and Governor Riley talk with patrons at an Orange Beach, Ala. restaurant on June 14.

Earlier in the month, commission member Ann Bedsole met with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke in Mobile to express the Commission's concerns about the cultural and economic impact of the spill. In addition to the archaeological sites and reduced revenues at the fort, the AHC is concerned that oil in the bay may delay the proposed restoration of the 1885 Middle Bay Light house, a Mobile Bay icon.

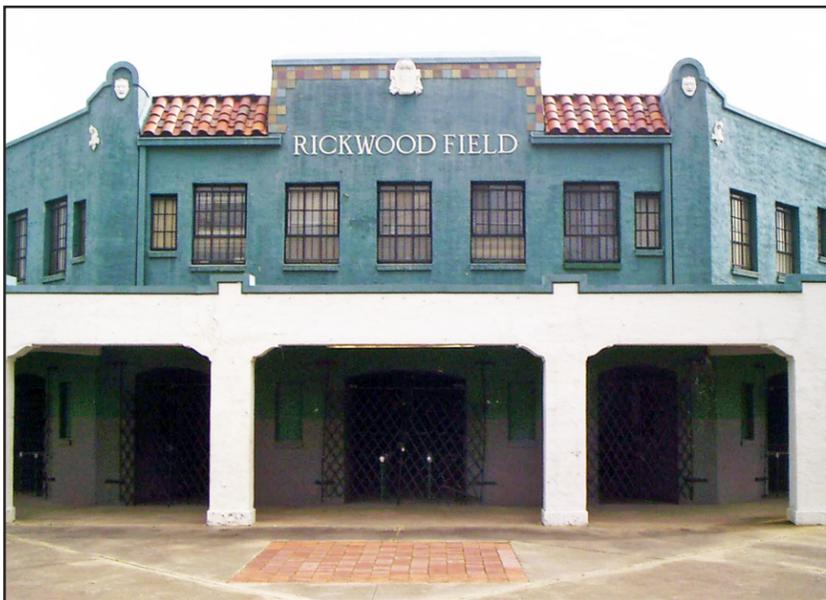
# STATEWIDE REPORT

## Rickwood Field celebrates 100 years

Birmingham's historic Rickwood Field marks its centennial with many events this year. Located in the West End area of the city, the stadium was the minor league's first concrete and steel stadium. Baseball legends Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron, and Willie Mays played at the stadium, as well as former Birmingham Baron Michael Jordan.

Friends of Rickwood, a non-profit organization formed in 1993, is raising funds to restore Rickwood Field to its former glory.

For information, call 205.458.8161, or visit: [www.rickwood.com](http://www.rickwood.com).



### RICKWOOD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

#### **From Factory to Field: The Dream of Baseball in Birmingham**

- . through October 1
  - . Vulcan Park and Museum Linn-Henley Gallery
  - . This exhibit takes visitors through baseball's rise in the city.
- [www.visitvulcan.com](http://www.visitvulcan.com)

#### **Rickwood: The Magic Ballpark**

- . July 1-August 31
  - . Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
  - . Photography exhibit by Bill Chapman
- [www.bcri.org](http://www.bcri.org)

#### **Centennial Birthday Celebration**

- . August 18
- . Rickwood Field
- . 1137 Second Avenue West, Birmingham, 35204

## Remodeled Jones Museum at Moundville opens

Jones Museum at Moundville Archaeological Park is now open. In May, the University of Alabama completed a \$5 million renovation of the museum. The new space will hold about three times the number of artifacts that the old museum held.

### Indian Summer Day Camp at Moundville

- . July 26 - 30
- . ages 9 through 13
- . Native American arts and life ways
- . transportation provided from the UA campus

phone: 205.371.2234  
web: [moundville.ua.edu](http://moundville.ua.edu)

**PRESERVATION REPORT**  
*Alabama Historical Commission*  
 468 South Perry Street  
 P. O. Box 300900  
 Montgomery AL 36130-0900

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

# PRESERVATION REPORT

Alabama Historical Commission

**Preservation Report** is a bimonthly publication of the  
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
468 South Perry Street / P. O. Box 300900  
Montgomery, AL 36130-0900 / (334) 242-3184

- Daniel D. Bennett** *Chair*
- Frank W. White** *Executive Director*
- Ellen Mertins** *Executive Editor*
- John Greene** *Managing Editor*

**The AHC apologizes for any address errors. Please e-mail corrections to: [jgreene@preserveala.org](mailto:jgreene@preserveala.org)**

*Funded in part with funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, but does not necessarily reflect its views. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibit unlawful discrimination in federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, handicap, and/or national origin.*

*Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to:*

Director, Equal Opportunity Program / U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service / P. O. Box 37127 / Washington, D.C. 20013-7127



[www.preserveala.org](http://www.preserveala.org)

*Preserve, Protect, and Interpret Alabama's Historic Places*

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 109  
Montgomery, AL