

Media Release
January 21, 2014

SULLIVAN & RICHIE JEAN JACKSON HOUSE ADDED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Park Service announces that the Sullivan and Richie Jean Jackson House in Selma, Dallas County was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 8, 2014.

The Jacksons had family and professional ties to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Ralph Abernathy and other African-American Baptist ministers active in the civil rights movement. Once the Southern Christian Leadership Conference launched its voting rights campaign in Selma in the winter of 1965, the Jackson House became “a hub of activity. There were always reporters, movement staff, and others who wanted to meet or just see the icon staying at the house,” Mrs. Jackson wrote in her book, *The House by the Side of the Road: The Selma Civil Rights Movement*, published in 2011.

In February of that year the Jackson House served as a meeting place for strategy sessions between Dr. King, SCLC staff and visiting US Congressmen. After Bloody Sunday on March 7, 1965, Assistant Attorney General John Doar and Florida Governor LeRoy Collins, who was there as a representative of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, met with Dr. King and others at the Jackson House. The result was “Turnaround Tuesday” and, eventually, the march from Selma to Montgomery. The march led directly to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation’s official list of historic places worthy of preservation—www.preserveala.org/nationalregister.aspx. The Alabama Historical Commission administers the program in Alabama.

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*The Alabama Historical Commission **protects, preserves, and interprets Alabama’s historic places** and is the State Historic Preservation Office.*

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