

# Places in Peril

## Alabama's Most Endangered Sites for 2010

**Alabama Historical Commission  
Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation**

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### **Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association named as a *Place in Peril***

In observance of National Historic Preservation Month, the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation (ATHP) announce Alabama's most endangered places for 2010.

Since 1994, the AHC and the ATHP have joined forces to sponsor *Places in Peril*, a program designed to highlight some of Alabama's most significant endangered historic sites.

"Places in Peril is a valuable tool in directing public attention to the many historic places in Alabama that are under threat from neglect or demolition," said Frank White, executive director of the AHC.

David Schneider, executive director of the ATHP states, "This list reminds us that much remains to be done to help Alabamians recognize that our historic places are essential community assets. These places represent one of the greenest approaches to providing places in which to live and work."

#### **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 specifically to house the Black County Extension Agent and the Black Home Demonstration Agent. Created by the Smith-Lever Act in 1914, the Agricultural Extension Service created partnerships between universities and county agents to teach new agricultural methods to rural farmers. The Extension Service helped farmers use their land more productively, increase crop 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 accommodations and facilities where African American farmers and families could gather to attend the educational demonstrations provided 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 has been an important cultural landmark in the Rockford community.

This building is currently threatened by poor deterioration and lack of an effective plan for its rehabilitation and future use.

## 2010 Places in Peril

- . **Auburn Train Depot**, Auburn, Lee County
- . **Bankhead House**, Sulligent, Lamar County
- . **Bankhead-Shackelford House**, Courtland, Lauderdale County
- . **Coosa County Farmer's and Civic Association Building**, Rockford, Coosa County
- . **Cricket Theatre**, Collinsville, DeKalb County
- . **Kelly-Stone-Hill House**, Carrollton, Pickens County
- . **Magee Farm**, Kushla, Mobile County
- . **Old Federal Road**, multiple counties
- . **Shorter Cemetery**, Eufaula, Barbour County
- . **Cotton Mills**, statewide
- . **Historic Wood Windows**, statewide

*The Places in Peril list carries no formal protection, but it does build awareness in local communities about endangered sites, and can help generate support to preserve these places.*

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