

**For Immediate Release
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CARROLLTON ACADEMY NAMED TO ALABAMA'S 2013 PLACES IN PERIL

The Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation announce the 2013 "Places in Peril" list. Released each year during National Historic Preservation Month, the listing calls attention to some of Alabama's most significant endangered landmarks.

"These are places that make our communities distinctive and tell us who we are as a people," said Frank W. White, the Commission's executive director.

David Schneider, Senior Director of Preservation Services at the Alabama Trust, states "Each year people are energized to take action. And this helps places survive to serve as essential assets for community revitalization."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the "Places in Peril" program. Since 1994 these preservation advocacy groups have highlighted 216 imperiled historic sites throughout Alabama. Three quarters of the places on the list are still standing, with one quarter having a secure future.

Carrollton Male and Female Academy, Carrollton, Pickens County

Private "academies" were among the earliest schools in Alabama. By the mid-19th century, these institutions appear in small towns and large cities. In Pickens County, alone, there were 11 private academies in 1855. The Male and Female Academy in Carrollton was one of them. Today it is one of only 15 surviving antebellum school buildings in the state.

According to an early publication, Jeremiah Marston founded the old Carrollton Academy around 1850. An 1876 advertisement from the "West Alabamian" listed courses offered at the school. This included Latin and Greek taught by a Professor Bell. The academy also served as a boarding house for students and teachers.

The school became a private home when it closed in the early 20th century. Many mid-19th century features are intact, including an old chalkboard discovered behind a wall. The building should be preserved for future generations as a reminder that early Alabamians valued education.

For more information about the academy or Places In Peril program, telephone Melanie Betz at 334.230.2645 or go to www.preserveala.org/placesinperil.com.

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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ALABAMA'S MOST ENDANGERED SITES FOR 2013

- Greensboro Hotel, Hale County
- Urquhart House, Huntsville vicinity, Madison County
- Painted Bluff, Marshall County
- Thomas Jefferson Hotel, Birmingham, Jefferson County
- Old Grace Episcopal Church, Sheffield, Colbert County
- Searcy House, Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County
- Troy Masonic Lodge, Pike County
- Chappell House, Montgomery, Montgomery County
- Carrollton Male and Female Academy, Pickens County
- Rosa A. Lott School, Citronelle, Mobile County

ALABAMA TRUST for HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Alabama's
Places
In
Peril
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
20 years of preserving our past.

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