

**For Immediate Release
May 30, 2013**

ROSA LOTT SCHOOL 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 important imperiled historic sites throughout Alabama. Three quarters of the places on the list are still standing, with one quarter having a secure future.

Rosa Lott School, Citronelle, Mobile County

From 1949 to 1968, the Rosa A. Lott School in Citronelle was the only African American High School in northern Mobile County.

Under the leadership of local educator Rosa Amelia Lott (1903-1952), the Citronelle Consolidated School provided grades 1-12 for local students and at least 18 communities in Mobile and Washington Counties.

Prior to its construction, parents had to send their children away to attend high school. Some traveled over 30 miles to get an education. Children lived away from home, boarding or staying with family in these distant black communities.

The building's distinctive design and large banks of original wooden windows are noteworthy. The U-shaped plan and lack of an interior hall allowed students to walk directly into classrooms from the outside. This plan is rarely seen in mid-century wooden school buildings.

The Lott School closed in 1968 when integrated with other schools. Currently empty, it suffers from little maintenance and continued deterioration. The Rosa A. Lott Historical Preservation Society is working to save the building and return it to the community use.

Your local contact is Roslyn Carter at 251.866.5581. For more information about the 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.

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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