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November 12, 2008

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## **AUTAUGA COUNTY'S OLD KINGSTON HISTORICAL CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Old Kingston Historical Cemetery to the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

“The cemetery register is a prestigious listing of historic cemeteries in Alabama,” said Lee Anne Wofford, cemetery program coordinator. “The AHC considers the notable historic cemeteries in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition.”

There are now nine cemeteries in Autauga County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 252 cemeteries statewide.

Old Kingston Historical Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Autauga County. This area was the center point of trading in the 1800s and was the county seat from the early 1830s until 1868 when it moved to Prattville. The earliest documented burial is that of a child who died in 1811. This cemetery contains a diverse population: slaves, soldiers, Native Americans, whites, and African Americans. The communities of Old Kingston, Browntown, and Rutherford have joined together to keep this cemetery beautiful and make it a landmark in the community.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Historic Cemetery Program that gives aid to the general public, government officials, civic groups, and others in identifying, documenting, registering, and conserving Alabama's historic cemeteries.

The Alabama Historic Cemetery Register officially recognizes and honors family and community cemeteries that were established at least 40 years ago.

Listing in the state cemetery register is an honorary designation imposing no restrictions on property owners. State law protects all cemeteries from willful desecration and destruction.

*To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places is the mission of the Alabama Historical Commission, Alabama's state agency for historic preservation.*

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