



HISTORY HAPPENS

Official Newsletter of the Alabama Historical Commission

JANUARY 2023

A Letter from the Director

Greetings all,

Happy New Year to you! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with friends and family. The year 2023 is finally here and I am looking forward to working with some new faces we have added to our staff. The agency has grown with new staff members at both our sites and the main office.

As the new year begins, I want to encourage you to participate and join us at our various sites across the state for some exciting and enriching history events including a speaker series at Pond Springs in January, Road to Freedom Wagon Tour at Old Cahawba and Winter Quarters at Confederate Memorial Park in February, and more!

I am also excited to announce that our first-ever AHC 2023 calendar is now available. This calendar was designed after our photo contest last year and we are happy to have these available to you. Calendars will be available at our historic sites and the main office. For more details, please contact our main office.

Wishing all of you a prosperous and historical new year!

Lisa D. Jones
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

National Park Service awards over \$134,000 to two Alabama CLG programs

The National Park Service (NPS) announced \$1.2 million in Underrepresented Community Grants for 21 projects across the United States including two in Alabama. The city of Decatur received \$62,000 for the National Register Historic Context Statement for African Americans and Women and the city of Prattville received \$72,541 for the African American Historic Resources Survey of Prattville and Auburn project.

These funds will support the identification, planning, and development of nominations or amendments to the National Register of Historic Places for diverse communities.

The National Park Service Underrepresented Communities grant program began in 2014 and has provided \$5.75 million to State, Tribal and Certified Local Governments (CLG) to diversify the National Register of Historic Places through surveys and nominations.

For more information on the CLGs, visit our [page](#).

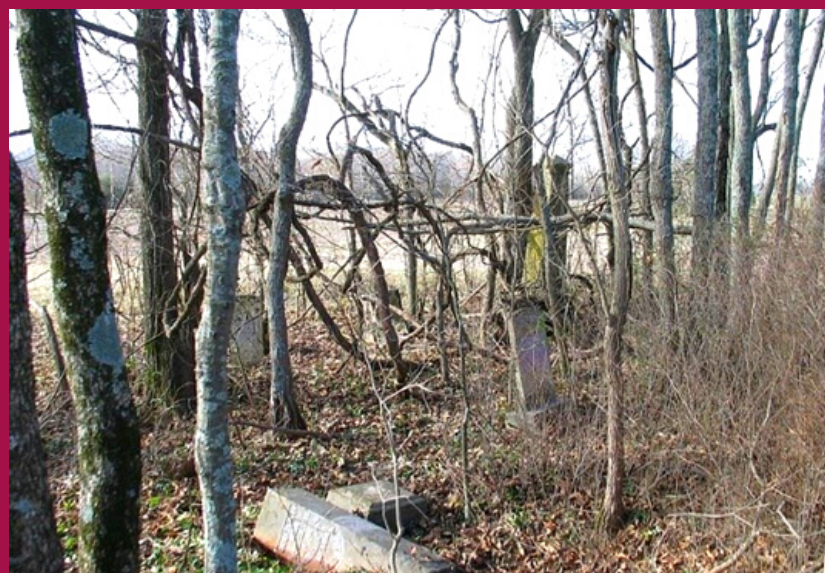
Alabama Historic Cemetery Register hits 1K for registered historic cemeteries

We hit 1,000! One thousand cemeteries are now listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

The Alabama Historic Cemetery Register is the state's official list of historic cemeteries in Alabama. The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) considers historic cemeteries particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition.

Nominations may be submitted by the public and will follow with a staff review to determine if the nominated cemetery meets the established criteria. AHC retains all submitted documentation in its permanent records and the information is available to researchers. This honorary designation serves to increase awareness of the site in hopes that it will be preserved, and neither restricts the current or future property owner, nor does it require that a landowner maintain the cemetery. However, state law protects all cemeteries from willful destruction, regardless of age or historic designation. State law also provides a legal process for all cemetery relocations.

For more information, please contact Leanne Waller-Trupp at 334-230-2653 or by email at Leanne.Trupp@ahc.alabama.gov or visit our [page](#).



Newby Cemetery, Madison County, Alabama

Road to Freedom Wagon Tour Old Cahawba Archaeological Park

Saturday, February 4 | 10 am

Come experience the Road to Freedom Wagon Tour with stories of the African American majority who reshaped Cahawba and paved their way from slavery to freedom and gained political power. Many sites along the tour include church ruins, Crocheron Columns, Barker's slave quarters, and more!

ONLY 28 spots available! Call 334-875-2529 for tickets!

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Check out the new faces at AHC!



Kathryn Shoupe

Public Relations Manager



Michelle Deberry

Freedom Rides Museum



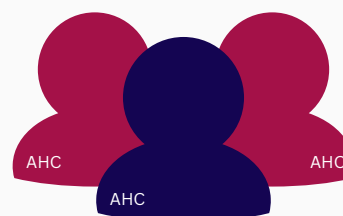
Genesis Leonard

Freedom Rides Museum



Christy Anderson

National Register
Coordinator



Preserving Selma's Heritage - Black Heritage Council Hosts 2022 Community Preservation Forum in Selma

In September 2022, the Black Heritage Council (BHC) of the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) hosted its annual community preservation forum in Selma. The theme, "Building a Black Heritage Legacy: Preserving Our Churches, Schools, Communities, and Cemeteries," focused on educating local stakeholders on implementable preservation resources and techniques.

Personnel from various state agencies lead sessions ranging from how to procure federal funding for preservation initiatives to the importance of community partnerships in the preservation space. The forum drew the attention of local leaders as well as preservation enthusiasts from across Alabama.

For more information on the work of the BHC or how to get involved, contact Theo Moore at 334-230-2691 or by email at Theo.Moore@ahc.alabama.gov.



Save the DATE!

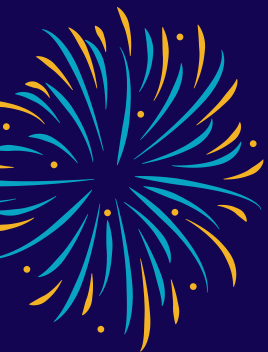
January 16
Speaker Series - Brian Murphy
Pond Springs

February 4
Road to Freedom Wagon Tour
Old Cahawba

February 11
Winter Quarters
Confederate Memorial Park

February 18
Living History
Fort Toulouse-Fort Jackson

**DETAILS COMING SOON FOR THE
2023 PHOTO CONTEST CALENDAR!**



HAPPY
2023
new year!

