



**For Immediate Release
September 13, 2016**

BLACK HERITAGE COUNCIL TO HOST COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FORUM

The Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission will host a FREE Community Preservation Forum in Hayneville, Alabama, on October 1, 2016 from 9:30am – 3:00pm at Hayneville Middle School. This program is sponsored by the Town of Hayneville, Town of Mosses, Town of Fort Deposit, and the Town of Gordonville.

The Black Heritage Council will shine a spotlight on Lowndes County's history, heritage, and historic places at this year's Forum. The theme for the program is ***Preserving and Promoting Community History in Lowndes County***. The Forum will focus on assisting individuals and groups in the area with documenting, preserving and promoting historic places that reflect the community's history and heritage.

The Forum will feature information on the following topics:

- State and Federal programs to assist towns and communities with development
- Promoting historic communities/sites/festivals through tourism
- Proper ways to care for and clean church, family cemeteries/grave stones
- Saving old family, church, school records/photographs/newspapers/books
- How to get a historical marker for a site
- Ways to participate in Alabama's Bicentennial celebration
- Registering and Restoring historic sites
- and more...

On Friday, September 30 the public is invited to attend FREE events at Lily Missionary Baptist Church in Letohatchee, Alabama. At 5:00pm, the public can talk one-on-one with Black Heritage Council members about projects in their own community. Immediately following at 7:00pm there will be a county-wide reception welcoming attendees to the Forum in Lowndes County.

Registration is required for all events (click [here](#) to download flyer). Registration ends September 26.

For more information and to register contact:

Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission at 334-230-2678 or blackheritagecouncil@ahc.alabama.gov.

Find the event on [Facebook](#)!

The Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical commission is the only statewide organization whose primary mission is the preservation of African American historic places. The Council was founded in 1984 as an advisory and advocacy group to the Alabama Historical Commission and was the first of its kind developed in the nation. Since 1999, the Black Heritage Council has held Community Preservation Forums in cities and towns across Alabama. The purpose of the Forums is to provide information to communities on the resources available to assist them with community and economic development.

The [Alabama Historical Commission](#) **protects, preserves, and interprets Alabama's historic places** and is the State Historic Preservation Office.

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