

Announcing...Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation partners with Alumni Association to honor former site of the historic Athens High and Industrial School

The Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation (ACHF) has partnered with the Alumni Association of the former Athens High and Industrial School to raise funds for a Georgia Historical Marker to recognize the site of the educational landmark. Athens High and Industrial was established in 1916 as the first accredited public high school for African Americans in Georgia. Founded in what is now the Mason's building on the northeast corner of Reese and Church streets, it eventually moved to the intersection of Pope and Reese and incorporated several buildings that were originally part of the Knox Institute, a school for African Americans begun by the Federal Freedmen's Bureau shortly after the Civil War. Additional buildings were later added but none remain.

Believing that it is important that the now empty land along Reese Street speak to those in search of this history, the school's Alumni Association enlisted the help of ACHF to obtain the recognition entailed by a Georgia Historical Marker. ACHF has agreed to sponsor the application and is currently seeking donations to help pay for the cost of the marker. The Alumni Association is paying a professional to research and prepare the application. Hill First Baptist Church is providing the marker site. But, the cost of the cast-bronze marker itself is a minimum of \$1,500—for applications deemed to be of the highest merit in the competitive system—and \$5,000 at full price.

For more information or to make a donation, contact ACHF at 706-353-1801 or mail a check to: Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, 489 Prince Avenue, Athens, GA 30601. ACHF is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax-deductible.

The Georgia Historic Marker program is administered by the Georgia Historical Society and the application process follows rigorous standards. For more information, visit: http://www.georgiahistory.com/files/0000/0027/Marker_Application_Materials.pdf.