

# Georgia Department of Natural Resources

## Historic Preservation Division

Noel Holcomb, Commissioner

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Bond Family House Listed in National Register**

ATLANTA (October 7, 2008) –The Bond Family House, located on Rock Chapel Road in Lithonia, DeKalb County, was listed in the National Register on September 17, 2008. The property owner sponsored the nomination and prepared the nomination materials.

The Bond House was constructed circa 1872 as the home of one of DeKalb County's leading citizens, Eason Jackson Bond (1834-1893), and remained in his family until 1985. The house is significant in social history for its associations with the Bond family. Eason Bond was the son of an early DeKalb County pioneer who moved to the area circa 1834. Eason served as Chairman of the DeKalb County Commission, was a Justice of the Peace, and was very involved with Rock Chapel Methodist Church. The family founded several local enterprises in the Lithonia area including a photography business, the W. A. and J. B. Bond Sawmill, and the Bond Brothers Store, which was once a popular stop across the road from the Bond House.

The house is also significant in architecture as a good example of a Plantation Plain house type. According to [Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings](#), the Plantation Plain house has a two-story block at the front and a one-story range of rooms at the rear, and typically has a full-width one-story front porch. This type was mostly a rural

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phenomenon, and most surviving examples date from circa 1820 to 1850. This portion of DeKalb County was a rural farming community in the 1870s, and a house of this size would have stood apart from many of the rest. It is believed that the wood used in the house was milled at the Bond family lumber mill.

The main façade of this clapboard house features a central door with narrow transom and sidelights, a wide hip-roofed porch that was rebuilt in 1998, and double-hung sash windows. The original floor plan is intact with a central hallway separating the four main rooms on the first floor. The balustrade on the central staircase exhibits elaborate sawn woodwork. Four original fireplace mantels remain. The upstairs hallway and front bedrooms retain flush plank walls and ceilings. Other significant features throughout the house include wood floors, wood paneled doors, and simple wood trim.

The National Register is the federal government's official list of historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts worthy of preservation. According to Richard Cloues, deputy state historic preservation officer, listing in the National Register recognizes a property's significance and ensures that the property will be taken into account in the planning of federally funded or licensed projects. In addition, owners of National Register properties may be eligible for rehabilitation tax incentives.

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources serves as Georgia's state historic preservation office. Their mission is to promote the preservation and use of historic places for a better Georgia. HPD's programs include archaeology protection and education, environmental review, grants, historic resource surveys, tax incentives, the National Register of Historic Places, community planning and technical assistance. For more information, call 404-656-2840 or visit their Web site at [www.gashpo.org](http://www.gashpo.org).