

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1. This act shall be known as and may be cited "Resources Act."

Section 2. The purpose of this act is to encourage preservation. The Alabama Historical Commission shall oversee and work recovering or researching underwater cultural resources. history, the Historical Commission will endeavor to encourage individuals or interested parties to promote sharing of knowledge. create an atmosphere of fear among divers, relic hunters others that would cause historical knowledge not to be shared with the Historical Commission of Alabama.

Section 3. As used in this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) COMMISSION. The Alabama Historical Commission, acting as the custodian of cultural resources for the State of Alabama.

(2) CONTRACTOR. Any individual, company, corporation, private or public institution determined by the commission to be appropriately qualified, that has applied for and received a permit from the commission to begin major excavation activities in state-owned waters.

(3) CULTURAL RESOURCES. All abandoned shipwrecks or remains of those ships unclaimed for more than 50 years and all underwater archaeological treasures, artifacts, treasure troves, or other cultural articles and materials, whether or not associated with any shipwreck, that are contained in or on submerged lands belonging to the State of Alabama and the sea within the jurisdiction of the state, and that have remained unclaimed for more than 500 years, and are listed in the National Register of Historic Places or the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. (Randomly distributed arrow heads or artifacts not associated with any archaeological site are not subject to the act.)

(4) EXCAVATION. The study and intentional removal from submerged land belonging to the state of any objects recognized as cultural resources.

(5) EXPLORATION. The systematic examination by actual survey of an area of submerged land belonging to the state for the purpose of locating and recovering cultural resources.

(6) TREASURE TROVE. Any gold bullion, gold ingots, silver bars, and other precious metals or stones.

Section 4. (a) All cultural resources as defined herein are declared to be state cultural resources subject to the exclusive dominion and control of the State of Alabama.

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Diver friendly  
version  
we wrote*