



The Rambler

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"The Rambler" is the newsletter of The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation.

Searching for Endangered Schools

Segregation-era schools built with funds from Sears CEO almost extinct

For the past year, Jeanne Cyriaque has been on a treasure hunt, searching for clues all over the state through her work as the African American programs coordinator for the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Her treasures, however, may not look like much to most people. In fact, some of them look downright dilapidated.

But to Ms. Cyriaque, just to find another Rosenwald school still standing is a miracle. Of the 242 schools built in Georgia in the first half of the 20th century, she has located only 22 still in existence.

The schools were built through the Rosenwald Fund, an initiative set up in 1917 by Julius Rosenwald, CEO of Sears,

Roebuck & Co., that provided matching grants to rural communities offering educational opportunities for African American children during segregation.

"The buildings are tangible evidence of a real social movement," said John Hildreth, executive director of the Southern Regional Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Charleston, S.C. "These schools made a great difference in the quality of education African American children were able to receive at that time."

There were more than 5,300 Rosenwald schools built in 15 Southern states from 1918 to 1938, providing education for thousands of children. Many of the schools were abandoned in the 1960s after integration, and over the years a large number have been demolished by development or through neglect. The disappearance of the buildings fueled enough interest to merit a coveted listing in 2002 on the National Trust's 11 Most Endangered list, announced last summer. While the listing has helped raise awareness for the schools, it is also somewhat of a dubious honor since it includes only the most critically endan-

Continued on page 6



Above: This Rosenwald School in Louisville was identified by concerned residents. Right: The Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center, a Rosenwald School in Cassville, was restored as a museum and community center.



Guest Editorial



Jeanne Cyriaque

African American Programs Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

"The Rambler" is the newsletter of The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, the country's largest statewide preservation organization. With the support of more than 8,000 members, the Trust works to protect and preserve Georgia's historic resources and diverse cultural heritage.

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Discover Georgia's African American Past

Following passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966, Georgia's initial listings in the National Register of Historic Places associated with African American heritage were made in the 1970s. Places such as the Camilla-Zach Community Center historic district, the Atlanta University Center, Laurel Grove-South Cemetery, the Morton Building and Theatre, and Nicholsonville Baptist Church were included in these listings. During the next decade, interest in African American preservation increased as volunteers around the state began to cultivate partnerships with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division (HPD) and the corporate and

nonprofit communities. In 1982, the partnership hosted a national conference on minority preservation, and with the support of then State Historic Preservation Officer Elizabeth A. Lyon, the nucleus of a statewide movement evolved.

Today this volunteer organization is known as the Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network (GAAHPN).

With the support of HPD, Georgia Power and the Georgia Humanities Council, GAAHPN developed a poster series, two publications, a videotape and a heritage tourism brochure highlighting African American resources in Georgia. The Georgia Trust awarded preservation scholarships to minority students and HPD implemented internship programs. With these additional resources, African American heritage was recognized during Black History Month at the State Capitol. In 1994, GAAHPN received an Honor Award from the National Trust.

In 2000, a milestone was achieved when a full-time position for African American programs was approved by the Georgia legislature. With staff support, the GAAHPN Steering Committee developed

a strategy to encourage African American preservation initiatives, provide technical assistance, and increase membership in GAAHPN. They developed the concept for "Reflections," a quarterly publication celebrating African American contributions to Georgia's heritage. The publication provides historic preservation information and technical services available through HPD and other organizations. Each issue features built resources listed in the Georgia and National Registers of Historic Places and significant cultural resources associated with African American heritage. Online versions of "Reflections" are available at www.gashpo.org in the publications section on the HPD website.

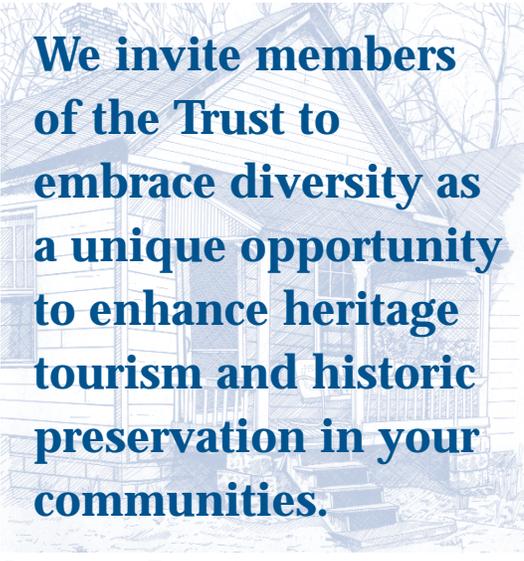
Through "Reflections," GAAHPN highlights collaborations with local, state, regional and national partners, critical components in successful preservation initiatives.

GAAHPN is an advocate for partnerships that incorporate diversity. GAAHPN members recruited participants for *Your Town*, a design workshop for rural preservationists held in Plains and co-sponsored by the National Trust for Preservation and the University of Georgia School of

Environmental Design. GAAHPN is supporting the National Park Service special resource study of the Gullah/Geechee culture in southeastern coastal regions.

GAAHPN collaborates with a number of regional initiatives to provide technical assistance to African American preservationists. The network is a member of the Southeast Regional African American Preservation Alliance, a consortium of southern organizations, and hosted the regional conference in 2001 in Augusta.

As GAAHPN continues our celebration of African American heritage in Georgia, we invite members of the Trust to embrace diversity as a unique opportunity to enhance heritage tourism and historic preservation in your communities.



We invite members of the Trust to embrace diversity as a unique opportunity to enhance heritage tourism and historic preservation in your communities.

Background: This shotgun house is the logo for the Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network.

A Ball Had By All!

The historic Biltmore Ballrooms in Midtown Atlanta were once again filled with live music, scrumptious food and people dressed in their finest eveningwear. Atlanta party-planning firm Tony Brewer & Company created an elegant setting in the ballrooms of the former Biltmore Hotel as some of Atlanta's finest caterers served their favorite dishes. The silent auction raised \$10,000 and included luxurious weekend accommodations to Savannah and Macon, passes to Georgia State Parks, and an autographed CD from the band R.E.M.

Special thanks goes to our dedicated special events board chair, Marcy McTier, as well as to Jean and Jack Ward of the Russell Corporation for serving as honorary chairs. We also thank our special events coordinator, Jennifer Hendrickson, and our volunteers and participants who made the Ball a great success.



Jean and Jack Ward of the Russell Corporation served as honorary chairs for the Preservation Ball. Please see more photos on page 9.

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REVOLVING FUND PROPERTIES

Please see more on page 3.



HISTORIC FIRE STATION, Louisville, c. 1900. Historic firehouse for sale in Louisville, the 3rd permanent capital of Georgia from 1796-1806. Brick building w/3,740 sq. ft. has new windows and roof. Orig. constructed w/city hall upstairs and fire station downstairs. Perfect for retail, office or restaurant/coffee shop w/pot. for apts. on 2nd level. Price: \$79,500. Contact Frank White at 404-885-7807.



ROSSITER-LITTLE HOUSE, Sparta, c. 1800. One of the oldest houses in Sparta, the house was built by Dr. Timothy Rossiter. Contains many original features, incl. doors, mantels and hand-planed board walls and ceilings. Two front wings were added before the Civil War. More information at www.georgiatrust.org. Price: \$89,500. Contact Frank White at 404-885-7807.

Calendar

January 25

Landmark Dinner

Old Decatur Courthouse, Decatur
Landmark Associate donors and above are invited to attend this elegant dinner in historic downtown Decatur. Call 404-885-7805 for more information.

February 14

Celebrate Valentine's Day in Style

McDaniel-Tichenor House, Monroe
This intimate evening will offer elegant dining and live entertainment. For details, call 770-267-5602.

March 1-2 & 8-9, April 5-6 & 26-27

Behind the Scenes Tours

Hay House, Macon
This special in-depth tour allows visitors to experience all seven levels of Hay House, including the cupola and its catwalk. Tours are limited to 20 persons. \$20 per person. Reservations required. Call Hay House at 478-742-8155.

March 14

Salute to American Craft

Please see back page. Call 404-881-9980, ext. 3273 for details.

March 28-30

Annual Meeting

Milledgeville
Please see story on page 4. Call 404-881-9980 for more information.

April 12

Hay Day Family Festival

Hay House, Macon
Free festival for the entire family featuring children's activities, music, light refreshments, self guided tour of historic Hay House. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 478-742-8155 for more information.

April 24-27

Study Tour

Charleston, SC
Please see story on page 5. Contact Ken Ward Travel at 404-261-1688.

October 15-19

Study Tour

Hudson Valley, New York
Details coming soon! Contact Ken Ward Travel at 404-261-1688.

Annual Meeting in the Old Capital City



Downtown Milledgeville

Take a stroll in downtown Milledgeville and you'll be stepping back to simpler times. Restaurants and shops in the historic buildings are bustling with patrons—from Georgia College & State University students to tourists dropping in to sample the local culture. Treat yourself to a weekend of getting to know this town, the former capital of Georgia, during the Trust's Annual Meeting weekend, March 28–30. The year 2003 marks Milledgeville's bicentennial, as well as the Trust's 30-year anniversary, so there will be much cause for celebration during the weekend, during which Trust members will be shown private sites and homes not usually open to the public.

A Weekend Preview

Friday

Downtown sites will be open all afternoon, after check-in at the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Tour the Old Governor's Mansion, home to nine governors from 1839 to 1868, which is currently undergoing a major restoration, and the Old Georgia State Capitol. The Old Statehouse, where Georgia leaders made the decision to secede from the Union, just completed a beautiful refurbishing that

received an Excellence in Rehabilitation Award from The Georgia Trust at the 2002 Annual Meeting.

The Trust is particularly excited to offer members tours of Flannery O'Connor's home, Andalusia, the newly opened site dedicated to preserving the memory and achievements of the Southern author. Special bus tours will offer members a glimpse of the farm where Miss O'Connor lived from 1951 until her death in 1964.

First-time Ramblers and new members are invited to get to know the Trust and its staff at a reception at the Bearden-Montgomery-Gormly House, a private Victorian-era home featuring a wrap-around porch and beautiful gardens. Enjoy dinner and beautiful Empire and Victorian-era furnishings at the Willis House, built in 1828 by Milledgeville architect John Marlor.

Saturday

All members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and breakfast, held at the Georgia College & State University Arts & Sciences Auditorium. Watch highlights from the past year, and be the first to view the winning projects of the 2003 Preservation Awards. Scholarship winners will be announced, as well as the winner of the J. Neel Reid Prize, a study travel scholarship commemorating the legacy of the talented young architect. During the meeting, children will have an opportunity to participate in special history-themed activities at the Governor's Mansion and Memory Hill Cemetery.



Photo by Jonathan Hillyer

Milledgeville was Georgia's first state capital city. The rehabilitated **Old Capitol Building** will be on the Annual Meeting Tour.

National Ad Brings Preservation Message to Millions

For the next three years, the rest of the country will have a chance to learn what we as preservationists already know: "History is in our Hands."

That's the title of a groundbreaking, three-year public service campaign the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Ad Council are launching this month with a series of radio, television and newspaper ads focusing on the historic places in our communities that have been lost with generic structures replacing them.

The ads feature slice-of-life stories told by the people who lived them and conclude by asking the audience, "What will we leave the next generation to remember us by?"

Selection by the Ad Council for a public service campaign is a rare honor: the Council selects just three campaigns a year for promotion. Famous Ad Council campaigns include "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires" for the U. S. Forest Service and "Buckle Up for

Safety" for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The Georgia Trust is a partner in this preservation campaign, and needs your help in encouraging Georgia's newspapers and radio and TV stations to run these announcements, which are reliant on both the free air time the Federal Communications Commission requires of each broadcast station and the spirit of community service embraced by print and broadcast outlets.

This national campaign affords preservationists one of our most exciting opportunities in years: increasing public awareness of the economic and social benefits of preservation and the enhanced quality of

life it brings about. To find out more about the campaign or how you can help, please call Communications Director Alison Tyrer at 404-881-9980, ext. 3220.



After a picnic lunch on the campus, ramble through sites including the nationally important c. 1825 Brown-Stetson-Sanford House, Memory Hill Cemetery and the Coleman-Hogg-Pogue House.

Two receptions will be held prior to dinner Saturday night, one open to all members at the Homestead, which was the largest private residence in Milledgeville when it was built in 1818; and one open to Heritage level members and above, at the Sanford-Binion-Hogg House, a c. 1824 house with Greek Revival portico. Both are private homes. Everyone is invited to the Saturday evening dinner at Woodville Plantation, an 1819 Plantation Plain house built by John Scott, builder of the Old Statehouse.

Sunday

Don't oversleep and miss the traditional Sunday brunch, held at Lockerly Hall and Arboretum. Similar in structural and

architectural elements to the old Governor's Mansion, Lockerly has not been significantly altered since its completion in 1839. Formerly known as Rose Hill, Lockerly was built for entertaining, and the elegant details, from triple-hung sash floor-to-ceiling windows doubling as doors to elegant black Italian marble fireplaces, support this. The arboretum consists of about 50 acres of rolling hills, with trees, shrubs and plants from all over the world. Members will have ample



Trust members will enjoy brunch on the grounds of Lockerly Hall and Arboretum.

time to explore the lush landscape and interior of Lockerly Hall before heading home.

Join us for this exciting weekend in Milledgeville! Invitations will arrive approximately four weeks before the event and remember to book your hotel early!

Please note that the next Ramble will be held October 18-19 in Monticello (there will be no Spring Ramble this year).

Annual Meeting Hotels

Hampton Inn

2461 N. Columbia Street
478-451-0050
1-800-HAMPTON

Best Western Inn

2621 N. Columbia Street
478-453-2212
1-800-WESTERN

Holiday Inn Express

1839 N. Columbia Street
478-454-9000
1-800-HOLIDAY

Schools

(continued from page 1)

gered properties in the country.

“Over the years we had heard from people in the region who were trying to save the schools,” Mr. Hildreth said. “The frequency increased and gradually built momentum. We realized it was a resource all across our region that is being threatened.”

Mr. Hildreth’s office has formed the Rosenwald Schools Initiative to serve as a resource for communities researching their schools and to encourage people to identify schools around them. Ms. Cyriaque, who has spearheaded Georgia’s involvement in the initiative, and Georgia Trust advisor Eugene Surber, of Surber Barber Choate and Hertlein Architects, serve as Georgia’s representatives. The group plans to seek dedicated rehabilitation funding targeted to Rosenwald schools and develop a website with historical and National Register information, message board resource identification and case studies.

With the funding in place for the website, Tracy Hayes, Rosenwald Ini-

tiative program assistant for the National Trust, said she is hoping it will be completed by late spring or early summer. “The website will be such an incredible resource for people working on Rosenwald school research,” Ms. Hayes said. “It will greatly assist non-profit organizations, individuals, and SHPOs in their attempts to survey the location and condition of existing schools.”

“Getting on the 11 Most Endangered was a real plus,” Ms. Cyriaque said. “We have found at least two more schools in Georgia since the listing.” With the subsequent media attention generated by the listing, Ms. Cyriaque said she has received calls from everyone from Rosenwald school alumni to a farmer in Summitt, who was using an old school on his land as storage for his equipment.

Ms. Cyriaque also located a possible Rosenwald school through Georgia Trust board member Mary Beverly of Thomasville, who called in a likely prospect in Louisville after reading about the schools in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Although architectural plans ranged from small one- or two-teacher wooden clapboard buildings to large brick buildings, Rosenwald schools shared similar characteristics that help identify them today: they were built facing east-west to allow maximum light through their large blocks of windows and they adhered to the program’s acreage requirements, depending on the size of the school. Following Booker T. Washington’s Tuskegee Institute philosophy, some of the larger schools also featured an industrial training room to teach students practical skills.

“The characteristics of the buildings were very thoughtful and were



The Eleanor Roosevelt School in Warm Springs was the last school built through the Rosenwald Fund.

designed to improve the education of the children,” Mr. Hildreth said.

Often built in rural areas, many are “off the beaten path” and Ms. Cyriaque said she hopes the attention from the National Trust listing will increase awareness in communities who may have a school but not realize its history or have a plan for its preservation. Communities have found a variety of uses for the rehabilitated buildings, from daycare centers to church classrooms to community centers. The latter are the most popular adaptive reuse in Georgia. Georgia Trust members visited the Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center in Bartow County, a former Rosenwald school, during the spring 2000 Ramble. The school has been restored as a museum and community center through funds raised by alumni including State Supreme Court Justice Robert Benham, a Georgia Trust trustee, and Dr. Susie Wheeler. Alumni also played a big role in rehabilitating a school that is now the T.J. Elder Community Center in Washington County. The project won a Preservation Service award from The Georgia Trust in 2001. It was one of the larger schools and included 10 classrooms and an industrial training center.

Despite the odds, Ms. Cyriaque said she is encouraged by the resources identified in Georgia so far and hopes to talk to more alumni of the schools. “The puzzle has gotten a little more defined,” she said. “I hope we find at least 50 schools when we finish the inventory and actually save some of them.”

If you are an alumnus of a Rosenwald school or have information about a school in your community, contact Ms. Cyriaque at 404-656-4768 or jeanne_cyriaque@dnr.state.ga.us.

Existing Rosenwald Schools in Georgia

County	Location/School
Appling	Selma
Bartow	Cassville/Noble Hill
Ben Hill	Fitzgerald/County Training
Camden	Kinlaw
Chattahoochee	Cusseta
Coweta	Turin
Dooly	Vienna/County Training
Emanuel	Summitt
Emanuel	Summertown
Hancock	Sparta/Agricultural and Industrial Institute
Hancock	Sparta East End
Henry	Mc Donough/County Training
Jefferson	Louisville
Lamar	Sugar Hill
Lowndes	Valdosta/Dasher High School
McIntosh	Sapelo Island/ Hog Hammock Historic District
Meriwether	Warm Springs/ Eleanor Roosevelt School
Mitchell	Camilla
Montgomery	Ailey
Paulding	Hiram Colored School
Randolph	Cuthbert/Howard Normal and Industrial School
Washington	T. J. Elder High & Industrial School

Tour Charleston with Historians

For preservationists in the South, there are few cities more thrilling to visit than Charleston. With a history spanning several centuries and major wars, the picturesque city with its cobblestone streets and numerous preserved historic houses and buildings continues to thrive as a heritage tourism mecca and a place of natural and manmade beauty.

You may have visited Charleston before, but April 24-27 you will have the opportunity for an inside tour designed exclusively for Georgia Trust members by Ken Ward Travel.

A local historian will greet you and take you to several of the city's best sites, including the Old Exchange House, one of the three most historically significant buildings of colonial America; the Edmondston-Alston House, one of the first homes built on the High Battery; and the Citadel, where a cadet will meet with the group to discuss the military college's history. During the trip members will also visit the Ashley River Plantation, Drayton Hall, enjoy lunch at Middleton Place, and tour Magnolia Plantation, where the owner's grandson will give you a tour of the 17th-century plantation and the c. 1680 gardens. You'll also have plenty of time to tour on your own and enjoy the Low Country cuisine in this historic city.

For details, contact Ken Ward Travel at 404-261-1688 or 800-843-9839.

IN MEMORIAM

Anderson Displayed Love of Life and Preservation

We are saddened to report the passing of Vivian Hay Anderson. Affectionately called "Bib," Mrs. Anderson was well-respected in her community of Macon. She and her family and the P.L. Hay Foundation donated their family home, Hay House, to the Trust 25 years ago.



Vivian Hay Anderson

Mrs. Anderson and her sister, Betty Hay Curtis, moved into Hay House with their father and stepmother as teenagers and lived there until they each married. Mrs. Anderson was a founding trustee of The Georgia Trust and also served on the board of advisors. Mrs. Anderson also remained active on the Hay House board until her death.

"Bib had a love of life that was apparent to all who knew her," said Tom Wight, chairman of The Georgia Trust and past chairman of the Hay House board of trustees. "And she had a love of Hay House that she continued to express throughout the years."

A dedicated preservationist, Mrs. Anderson was a founding member of the Middle Georgia Historical Society. She was also involved in community volunteer organizations including Junior League of Macon and the Nathaniel Macon Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Allen Nelson Joins Board



Allen and Amy Nelson

The Trust welcomes to the board of trustees **Allen W. Nelson**, senior compliance counsel for BellSouth Corporation. Mr. Nelson is a graduate of Duke University and Duke University School of Law. He is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta Bar Association, American Corporate Counsel Association, and the Defense Research Institute. He is chairperson of the board of directors of the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church Preschool and a member of the advisory board for Southern Flair magazine.

Mr. Nelson and his wife Amy co-chaired the 1997 Preservation Ball and the 2002 *Salute to American Craft* Premiere Party, for which he also chaired the Sponsorship Committee.

The Trust would also like to thank retiring trustee **Dan McBride** for his faithful service as a trustee since 1999, and as a wonderful volunteer since 1993.

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AROUND THE HOUSES



HAY HOUSE NPR Personality Speaks on African American History

Lorraine Johnson-Coleman, a regular contributor to National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and the best-selling author of two books on Southern culture, will be the keynote speaker at a day-long seminar on preservation of African-American history presented by Hay House Saturday, March 8 in Macon.

Known for her "down-home wisdom," Johnson-Coleman is a nationally respected consultant in the areas of cultural preservation and community programming, who counts among her clients the Kellogg Foundation, the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Her first book, "Just Plain Folks," was the basis of an award-winning nationally aired public radio series of storytelling and blues. Ms. Johnson-Coleman is presently documenting the groundbreaking renovation of a slave gallery in a historic church in New York City.



Ms. Johnson-Coleman

The seminar is the prelude to a new tour Hay House is developing about the slaves and servants who worked at the National Historic Landmark mansion, titled "Invisible Hands: In-Service at Hay House."

"Artifacts have become available that provide new light about the people who worked for the families living in Hay House," said Hay House Education Coordinator Susan Mays. The tour will provide information about the slaves and servants and the work required to run a household in the 18,000-square-foot Hay House mansion during the 100 years it served as a private residence.

The tour will begin March 15 and will continue the third weekend of each month on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The seminar will introduce some of the tour research and each attendee will receive a complimentary pass for the tour.

Call Hay House at 478-742-8155 or visit www.hayhouse.org for more details.



RHODES HALL Different Yet Similar Lives Highlighted on Tour

Rhodes Hall and The Herndon Home, a house museum honoring the achievements of Alonzo Herndon, a former slave turned entrepreneur, have experienced much success with their "mansion to mansion" passport, which began last fall.

With the passport, visitors can tour Rhodes Hall on Peachtree Street and The Herndon Home in the West End area of Atlanta for a discounted rate and learn about the parallel achievements of Alonzo F. Herndon and Amos Rhodes. Mr. Herndon was a slave-born sharecropper who amassed a great fortune—first as a barber shop owner and real estate investor and later as founder of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company in 1905. Mr. Rhodes was raised in poverty with no more than a fifth-grade education, yet later founded the Rhodes Furniture Company.

Now you can learn more about Alonzo Herndon and his family in "The Herndons: an Atlanta Family," a new book by Carole Merritt, director of The Herndon Home since 1983. Using extensive research, Ms. Merritt explores the Herndons' world of the educational and business elite in Atlanta by telling the story of Alonzo Herndon's business ventures and his family life with his first and second wives, and son Norris.

You may purchase the book or passport by contacting Rhodes Hall at 404-885-7800.



MCDANIEL-TICHENOR HOUSE A Romantic Evening Awaits

Sure, you could make reservations at the same restaurants as the rest of the city, but isn't Valentine's Day a time to impress your sweetheart? The McDaniel-Tichenor House invites you to enjoy a romantic evening in the beautiful Victorian-era home of former Governor Henry Dickerson McDaniel.

The evening will feature an elegant catered dinner by candlelight and the soft sounds of your favorite love songs. Arrive early to relax and enjoy the cocktail hour before dinner. Make your reservation now by calling the McDaniel-Tichenor House at 770-267-5602.



Enjoy a romantic dinner at the McDaniel-Tichenor House.

THE GEORGIA TRUST PHOTO GALLERY

A Vintage Season: (L-R) **Eugene Lee McCord**, owner of Wines of Moldova, Hay House Board Chair **Molly Muse** and **Josh Carter**, grandson of former President Jimmy Carter, participated in a recent wine tasting and live auction to benefit repair and restoration of the cupola at the National Historic Landmark Hay House. Work is expected to begin after the first of the year.



Dance the Night Away: The 2002 Preservation Ball at The Biltmore Ballrooms in Midtown Atlanta was a great success. Attendees danced in the formal ballroom (right), and enjoyed the elegant atmosphere of the historic former hotel. Pictured left: (L-R) **Scott and Cynthia Vitters**, **Barrett Coker** and **Marco Fedeli**. Please see the event recap on page 3.



Home for the Holidays: The Hay family gathered at the patron holiday party Dec. 5 at Hay House to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the P.L. Hay Family's gift of the Johnston-Felton-Hay House to The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. The historic mansion was formally conveyed to The Georgia Trust in December 1977.



Santa Came to Town: Elizabeth and Margaret Maxwell of Atlanta pose for a photo with Santa at Rhodes Hall. Rhodes Hall hosted three evenings of holiday events for families with crafts, storytelling and refreshments...and Santa, of course!

AROUND THE STATE

PLAINS

President Carter Rehabs Building in Hometown

The small town of Plains has long been known for two things: peanuts and a president. Thousands of tourists visit the town each year to see the boyhood home of former President Jimmy Carter and other related sites, but a lack of accommodations

has driven overnight visitors to the nearby city of Americus. With the opening of a new mixed-use project in downtown Plains, the Better Hometown city hopes tourists will stay in town longer by spending the night at Mr. Carter's bed-and-breakfast inn.

This summer marked the grand opening of the Plains Inn & Antiques Mall, a labor of love for Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter and the town of Plains, and a new life for several historic downtown buildings. The complex features special event facilities, an antiques mall, a cafe and a seven-room inn with each room decorated to represent a different decade from the 1920s through the 1980s. Mr. and Mrs. Carter were personally involved in the rehabilitation and decorating of the inn, working within the guidelines for the town's historic district. Plains received funding for the project through the OneGeorgia Authority, which has aided other economic development projects including the Bon Air Hotel in Bainbridge, a former Trust Revolving Fund property.

For more information on the Plains Inn & Antiques Mall, call 229-824-4517.



Above: The Plains Inn and Antiques Mall is adding excitement to downtown Plains.



Left: Former President Jimmy Carter at the dedication of the inn.

Photos courtesy of the City of Plains.

AMERICUS

Maintaining a Historically Correct Habitat

Habitat for Humanity, the international nonprofit dedicated to helping low-income people own homes, has built and rehabilitated more than 125,000 houses around the world. With its worldwide headquarters in Americus, Habitat has also completed many projects in its founding city, including the Americus Historic District. While Habitat and the Americus Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) have worked together to comply with preservation guidelines for projects within the district, the HPC recently denied Habitat the use of vinyl siding to cover historic wood siding on a rehabilitation project.

Habitat, which has previously used vinyl siding on projects in the historic district, appealed the denial to the mayor and city council, who upheld the HPC's decision.

Habitat Executive Vice President David Williams stated, "We were obviously very disappointed by their decision. Vinyl siding is commonly used in historic districts throughout the country."

Kent Sole, chairman of the HPC, said while the HPC had allowed the occasional use of vinyl siding on non-street façade sides or noncontributing houses, the group decided to stop the practice because it does not conform to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and the city's own preservation guidelines. In addition, Mr. Sole said other homeowners had begun asking the HPC for permission to use siding on their homes as well.

"We had to take a stand," Mr. Sole said. "We have always tried to work with Habitat and other homeowners, but our mission is to preserve the integrity of the historic district."

Despite the recent legal conflicts, Mr. Sole said Habitat has been very cooperative over the years and has not tried to "throw its weight around."

"We've worked with Habitat for a long time," Mr. Sole said. "They have worked to preserve many houses in the district."

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DECATUR

Former Hospital Aids in Rebirth of Community

The signs of revitalization are abundant in the Oakhurst neighborhood of Decatur. The area bustles with patrons of its eclectic mix of restaurants, coffee shops and retail, and many of the surrounding homes have been spruced up with a fresh coat of paint or a trimmed yard. A stone's throw from the center of Oakhurst sits one of the community's proudest symbols of rebirth, the newly rehabilitated Historic Scottish Rite Hospital. After decades of isolation locked behind a chain-link fence, the hospital and grounds now reflect the spirit of the up-and-coming neighborhood.

Progressive Redevelopment, Inc. (PRI) and the Housing Resource Center (HRC) have rehabilitated the main hospital building into office space for PRI and the YWCA. Designed in 1919 by Neel Reid and Hal Hentz, the building also features wings on the east and west sides of the building, which have been converted to space for offices, events and an art gallery. In keeping with community needs, PRI and HRC partnered with the Shepherd Center of Atlanta to build affordable, accessible apartment homes on the surrounding grounds for recovering catastrophic injury patients. In addition, the Decatur Housing Authority has built 10 single-family affordable homes, also on the surrounding

grounds.

The Scottish Rite Hospital staff moved to Sandy Springs in 1976, and since then the building had been primarily empty. The City of Decatur acquired the property in the early 1990s and, working with the Community Center of South Decatur, selected PRI and the HRC as the developer from the Request for Proposals. Using creative financing, historic tax credits and a few grants, PRI, a nonprofit developer for affordable housing, was able to rehabilitate the building for \$4 million and in the process find a new home for its offices.

After years of non-use, PRI Vice-President Lorri Mills said neighbors are glad to see the building back as part of the community. "The biggest psychological moment was taking down the fence," Ms. Mills said. "The neighbors were calling and thanking us. We've gotten a lot of nice, positive responses."



After years behind a chain-link fence, the former Scottish Rite Hospital is again an active part of the Oakhurst community.

ATLANTA

AUDC Asks for Help with Survey

The Atlanta Urban Design Commission (AUDC) is seeking historic neighborhoods, buildings, sites and structures for its survey of historic resources.

The last survey completed was in 1987, and the information was used to publish "Atlanta's Lasting Landmarks," which served as the official inventory of potential, listed or designated historic resources in Atlanta. Since much has changed since 1987, the Commission is appealing to the population to help in its research.

The AUDC is especially interested in sites associated with Atlanta's and the United States' Civil Rights Movement, industrial and rural past, pre-history, archaeological and Civil War sites and Atlanta's development following World War II.

Call 404-330-6200 or visit www.ci.atlanta.ga.us/citydir/urban-design_info.html for details about the survey and how you can get involved.

ATTENTION ARCHITECTS OR ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS!

Would you like to travel and study historic architecture anywhere in the world? Apply now for The Georgia Trust's **J. Neel Reid Prize**, a \$5,000 award for study travel that honors the legacy of architect Neel Reid. For more info and criteria, visit www.georgiitrust.org or call 404-881-9980 for a brochure. Application deadline is February 28, 2003.

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS



ATHENS, 1855. Victorian charm renovated to perfection. Located on one of Athens' most historic streets. Swing on the veranda, entertain in the country kitchen, 4BR/3BA, office with built-ins, formal LR, DR. Beautiful heart-pine floors, numerous fireplaces and a new double garage. \$519,000. Diane Adams, Prudential Blanton Properties, 706-613-6040 ext. 234, 706-543-0846. dianea@prudentialblanton.com



ATHENS, 1906. This charming home is surrounded by 3+ ac. of trees, arbor and gardens of orig. farm. Located in the heart of historic "Five Points" near UGA. This rambling home features heart pine floors, marble fireplaces, master on main level, remodeled baths and kitchen and a separate carriage house apt. \$915,000. Diane Adams, Prudential Blanton Properties, 706-613-6040, ext. 234 or 706-543-0846, dianea@prudentialblanton.com.



AUGUSTA, c. 1799. Goodale/Fitzsimmons-Hampton House. Former home of Charleston ship merchant and later Wade Hampton Jr. Listed on National Register. 2 1/2-story brick with raised basement. Sidehall plan. Contains Federal wainscoting, mantels and baseboards. 2-level porch. Great commercial or residential opportunity. 1.98 acres. 5,000 sq. ft. (includes basement). \$195,000. Contact Gwen Fulcher Young at 706-737-9115.



AUGUSTA, c.1884. 305-309 Ninth Street. Second Empire commercial townhouse in historic downtown (4,900 sq. ft.). Former Chinese laundry. Upper floors residential. Original mill-work, baseboards, mantels and pocket doors. Mansard roof intact. Three commercial spaces. Includes a current income-producing tenant. \$85,000. Tax incentives for rehabilitation available. Contact Historic Augusta at 706-724-0436.



AUSTELL, 1860. Remodeled treasure blends the old with the new. 5BR/5BA, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets, exquisite mill-work, spacious rooms, new plumbing, wiring, systems, roof and deck. This National Register home has a fascinating history. Jim Glover, Harry Norman Realtors, 770-428-2525. \$579,000



CEDARTOWN, 1842. Beautifully maintained historic home. Incomparable views across the mature, landscaped 4.3 acres with luxurious pool plus a shared 25-acre lake. 5BR/4BA, gracious formal rooms and a heart-pine paneled family room. \$449,000. Jim Warwick, Harry Norman, Realtors, 404-240-2716. www.har-rynorman.com/property_details.asp?Action=View&ID=651798&cursor=4.



GRIFFIN, c.1905. Crouch House. 5BR/3BA home, expansive foyer, living room, large dining room, music room, kitchen, family room with working fireplace, walk-up attic, 3-car carport, elevator, stained & leaded glass windows, period lighting fixtures. First time ever offered for sale. \$495,000. Paul Ragan, Southern Realty Group, 770-227-1211. www.southernrealtygroup.com



JONESBORO, c. 1840. Originally built as an antebellum farm house. During the "Battle of Jonesboro," the Warren House served as a field hospital for both sides. Signatures of convalescing Union soldiers still appear on the walls of the downstairs parlor. Renovated in 1992, the building has 16 rooms with a total of 5,012 sq. ft. The property has an annex building with 1,600 sq. ft. on 2 acres. Offered for \$600,000. Call Ed Turner, Metro Brokers, 404-843-2500.



LAGRANGE, 1840. The Culberson-Gamble home was moved in 1963 from downtown to its current location on Country Club Road. This well-known four-up, four-down with central hall home features 5BR, 5 fireplaces, beautiful Doric columns, cantilevered balcony and a 2-acre lot. Included in the Historic American Building Survey of 1936. For further details, please contact Cathy Schirra at 706-333-9494 or J. Copeland Realty at 706-884-2824.

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS



LAGRANGE, 1901. This lovely Neoclassic home is within walking distance of LaGrange College. It features beautiful stained glass windows, pine floors, high ceilings, spacious rooms for entertaining and 5BR including master on the main level. \$295,000. For more information call Jenny Copeland, J. Copeland Realty, 706-884-2824.



MILLEDGEVILLE, c. 1825. Beautiful restoration in historic district described as having “powerful but simple lines”—change “simple” to “simply” and add “magnificent”! Twin parlors, dining room, butler’s pantry, kitchen, den, 5BR/5.5BA, sunroom, gorgeous terrace, incredible gardens, reflection pool. Call Wright Banks Realty, Lynda S. Banks, Broker 478-452-7427.



OXFORD, c. 1820. Historic Orna Villa. This fabulously restored Federal Greek Revival mansion was built by the fourth president of Emory. 5BR/3BA, 8 fireplaces, pool, 15+ acres, 3 blocks from Emory at Oxford, great B&B potential, spacious rooms. Jim Glover, Harry Norman Realtors, 770-428-2525.



WASHINGTON, c.1790. The Cedars. Dramatic Victorian on 6 beautiful acres, partially restored, 5 BR/3.5 BA, library, formal DR and LR with stunning chandelier, expansive foyer with stained glass window, 8 fireplaces, 14-foot-ceilings, extensive moulding, wraparound porch. Featured in “The Most Beautiful Villages and Towns of the South.” \$685,000 or best offer. Ken Parris, Parris Properties, 404-790-1986 or e-mail ken@parris.us.



WASHINGTON, 1838. Barksdale-Thomas home, one of Washington’s most important homes. Lovingly restored Greek Revival on beaut. 1.9 acres. 5000+ sq. ft., 11-ft.-wide entry hall, 2 parlors, huge dining room and master BR w/BA, nifty kitchen, family room, 1/2BA down; 4BR/1BA up. 3-stall garage, playhouse, utility bldg., 18’x36’ swim pool w/pl house, solar panels. See www.pascorealty.8k.com, Marilyn Pasco, 706-678-7778.



REVOLVING FUND PROPERTIES
Please see more on page 3.

ROBERTS-PORTER HOUSE, Sandersville, c. 1878. Sitting on about 1/2 acre, house is approx. 2600 sq. ft. w/2 BR/2 BA, dining room, living room, den, kitchen and 10-ft-wide porch. Details include 2 sets of French doors, 4 fireplaces, transoms and baseboards. Retains original fabric including doors, windows, fireplace mantels and floors. Basement rooms could be converted to additional living space. Contact Frank White at 404-885-7807.



WAYCROSS, c. 1885. Victorian mansion, 5000 sq.ft. on National Register. Beautiful total restoration w/the finest; on many tours. Wrap-around porch, exquisite staircase w/matching lady newel post lamps, ornate ceiling, fretwork, lots of stained glass, period lighting, 4/5 BR, 3 full BA, 3-car carriage house, fence w/ electric gates, koi pond, 9 fireplaces restored. C/A, swim pool, 60 miles from coast. \$495,000.00. Owner, 912-283-7444.



WEST POINT, 1908. The Mobley House, 314 East 10th Street. Two stories (total 2905 sq. ft.). Lower level has living and dining rooms, 2BR, BA, den, kitchen/dining area, porch. Upstairs has 2BR, BA, kitchen/dining, separate entrance. Potential bed & breakfast or residential. Garage apartment, large yard, new roof, new insulated windows, white vinyl siding. Call Althea Head (owner/seller) at 706-643-7661 (day) or 706-645-2435 (evening).



DAVIS HOUSE, Demorest, c. 1891. The Davis House sits on a half-acre corner lot in Demorest, a charming town in Northeast Georgia. The Queen Anne house has a side hall plan. Original materials include mantels, colored glass windows, doors and hardwood floors. The house has 3BR and 2.5BA and is approximately 2000 square feet. The lot is adjacent to Piedmont College. Price: \$198,500. Contact Frank White at 404-885-7807.

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Join us for the Trust's largest annual fundraising event, the *Salute to American Craft* Premiere Party—your chance to view the finest craft art from more than 200 talented artists around the country before the American Craft Council Show Atlanta opens to the public.



Photos by Jim Fitts

Did You Miss the Trust's Biggest Party Last Year?

Don't Make that Mistake Again!

2003 Salute to American Craft

Friday, March 14, 2003
6:30-10:30 p.m.
Georgia Dome, Atlanta

Honorary Chairs:
Camille & Lawson Yow

Co-Chairs:
Marianne McConnel & Bonnie Burnette

Tickets:
\$80 & \$50 (ages 35 and under)

Purchase your tickets now! Call 404-881-9980, ext. 3273 or visit www.georgiitrust.org for details.



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