



# The Rambler

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

## HARDMAN FARM AT NACOOCHEE VALLEY

### Where Georgia's History Comes Alive

It's a place that most people who pass by never forget. There is something about the red-roofed gazebo perched atop the Indian Mound that captures your attention and won't let go. Across the road, a magnificent house appears between the trees, complimentary to the gazebo in color and style. The outbuildings and farmland give way to acres of mountains and fields seemingly untouched by time. The scene stays in your mind long after that last look out the car window.

**If you've driven State Road 75 in White County on your way to Helen, Lake Burton or some other North Georgia attraction, chances are this place has caught your eye.**

Welcome to Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley, one of the most intact historic properties in Georgia. This amazing place has a story to tell, and The Georgia Trust, along with The Trust for Public Land (TPL), Georgia Power Company and Georgia's Department of Natural Resources (DNR), are working together to give Hardman Farm an opportunity to share its story with you.

Thanks to donations of land from the Hardman family to TPL, the farm and surrounding property may become a museum and interpretive center owned by DNR and operated by The Georgia Trust for the community and the hundreds of thousands of curious passers-by who have wondered about this place. The dream for Hardman Farm is that it will offer an interactive experience that will tell the story of the people who have lived on and loved the land, from Native Americans to the Hardman family.



*Continued on page 10*



**Greg Paxton**  
President and CEO,  
The Georgia Trust

# The Power of Partnerships

*Excerpts from the President's Report to the Membership, Annual Meeting, April 7, 2001*

The Georgia Trust has always believed in the power of partnerships. Along with our chief partner, the Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources, the Trust works with local preservation organizations throughout the state; statewide environmental, land-use and other organizations; and with eleven additional state agencies including the Secretary of State, the Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Transportation.

Our range of partnerships is more valuable than ever in promoting the cause of preservation. The Trust continues to be one of Georgia's most statewide-oriented organizations. We receive requests for help from all over Georgia, and this year our preservation department offered assistance to 112 Georgia communities.

The Main Street Design Assistance Program continues to provide technical and design help to Georgia's 43 Main Street cities. The Revolving Fund program, which buys and sells historic properties throughout the state, has worked this year with preservation alliances in Franklin, Washington, Coweta, Polk, Cobb, Decatur and Clarke counties.

"Talking Walls," our heritage education program, conducted 12 workshops across the state, training approximately 180 teachers during the summer of 2000. "Talking Walls" uses not only sites of national significance, but sites of state and local significance to teach children that history has occurred on their own doorsteps. This past year's program alone will benefit about 4,600 students.

The success of our fundraising events such as the American Craft Council Show's premiere party, the Preservation Golf Classic and the Preservation Ball depends largely on our partnerships with the volunteers, individuals and corporations who so generously support them. Likewise, this past year's Rambles to Cartersville and Stewart County were the result of many long hours of work by members of the Etowah Valley

Historical Society, the Stewart County Historical Commission, and Westville, working in partnership with Trust staff. We were excited to see a number of children join us for these Rambles and the Annual Meeting.

In addition to our work with Hay House, the McDaniel-Tichenor House and Rhodes Hall, we are moving forward with plans for Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley (*see cover story*). Working in partnership with The Trust for Public Land and the Department of Natural Resources, we've created the Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley Advisory Council. Georgia Power CEO David Ratcliffe has agreed to chair a \$5 million fundraising campaign. Thanks to Gov. Barnes and the legislative leadership, an additional \$2 million was appropriated

for the Hardman Farm project in this year's state budget.

Part of our challenge at The Georgia Trust is to communicate

the benefits of downtown revitalization and neighborhood rehabilitation. These concepts, which The Georgia Trust and other preservationists have learned and preached over the last 28 years, have been recently repackaged as "smart growth:" the development of communities with compact commercial areas, mixed-use development, sidewalks and community parks. Preservation is the ultimate recycling, the most sustainable development and most efficient re-use of our historic buildings, downtowns and neighborhoods. A number of groups are now formulating "smart growth" agendas for Georgia. We think our experience is invaluable, and our goal is for preservation's insights and contributions to be well-represented in these agendas through active partnerships.

There is strength in numbers, and power in partnership. We are very fortunate at The Georgia Trust for the partnerships we have built, and continue to build. We are proud to have more members – our most valuable partners in preservation – than any other statewide preservation organization in the country. It is the historic resources of Georgia that benefit from these partnerships.

**Our range of partnerships is more valuable than ever in promoting the cause of preservation.**

*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 9,000 members, the Trust works to protect and preserve Georgia's historic resources and diverse cultural heritage.

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Alison Tyrer  
*Communications Director*

Lisa Strickland  
*Communications Coordinator*



# Ramble Through Berry College and Rome

Ramblers of every age will enjoy our fall Ramble through Berry College and Rome. Berry College, located northeast of Atlanta, was founded in 1902 by Martha Berry in a one-room log cabin. Today, the campus covers 28,000 acres of forests, lakes, and historic treasures, including the The Martha Berry Museum, Oak Hill plantation home, and "House o' Dreams," the former retreat home of Martha Berry built in 1927. Other highlights on the campus include:

- Possum Trot Church, constructed between 1850 and 1860, was appropriated by Martha Berry for her first Sunday school in 1900. Rooms were added later and the building served as a schoolhouse until 1954.
- The Old Mill, constructed in 1930, features one of the largest overshot waterwheels in the world (42 feet in diameter). Staff and student volunteers have restored the Old Mill's mechanism and cornmeal is still ground at the mill and sold at the gift shop.
- The historic Hoge Building, which houses a handicrafts and gift shop featuring items handmade by students using looms.



Oak Hill

On Saturday, Ramblers will explore Berry College, ending with cocktails at the Martha Berry Museum and dinner at Oak Hill. Sunday morning we will venture into Rome, visiting several private residences and other historic sites in the city. Sunday afternoon Ramblers are invited back to Berry College for more rambling fun around the campus. Special family activities are planned for Ramblers of all ages; look for more information in your invitation, which will be mailed approximately four weeks prior to the Ramble. The Ramble is co-sponsored by Berry College and the Greater Rome Heritage Foundation.

## Reserve Your Hotel Early!

The hotels listed below are all located on Highway 411 in Rome. For more information on Rome, visit [www.romegeorgia.org](http://www.romegeorgia.org) or call 1-800-444-1834.

Holiday Inn  
706-295-1100  
  
Country Inn & Suites  
706-232-3380

Jameson Inn  
1-800-JAMESON  
  
Please mention The Georgia Trust when reserving rooms.

## 2001 PRESERVATION NEWS FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- The Statewide Heritage 2000 grants for historic preservation projects were increased by more than \$150,000 to \$500,000.
- A strong state tax income credit for historic preservation passed the House unanimously and will be taken up in the Senate during next year's legislature.
- \$2 million dollars was appropriated for the Hardman Farm project (*see cover story*).
- \$100,000 was appropriated for the T. R.R. Cobb House.
- Hay House received a \$50,000 operating grant for next year.
- The state's budget included the second of three installments – \$250,000 – for Rhodes Hall to complete its restoration.

*The Georgia Trust wishes to thank Gov. Roy Barnes, Sen. George Hooks, Rep. Terry Coleman, Rep. Bob Hanner and other appropriators for their support of preservation in this year's General Assembly.*

## The Georgia Trust Presents the Seventh Annual Preservation Classic

### September 17, 2001

Peachtree Golf Club, Atlanta

*Presenting Sponsor:*  
Universal Solutions  
of North America

*Event Co-Chairs:*  
Milton Williams  
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**Call 404-881-9980  
for sponsorship opportunities.**

# The Georgia Trust Welcomes New Trustees

The following trustees were elected at The Georgia Trust's Annual Meeting in April.

## **Mr. Antonin Aeck, FAIA, Atlanta**

Tony Aeck, a founding principal of Atlanta-based architecture firm Lord, Aeck & Sargent, has been involved with major projects preserving some of Georgia's most significant structures, including the Old Governor's Mansion and the Old State Capitol in Milledgeville, and Ebenezer Baptist Church and the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta. Lord, Aeck & Sargent's Urban Design Commission Award-winning work at the Georgia State Capitol has been described by the Georgia General Assembly's Joint Study Committee on Historic



*Mr. Aeck*

Preservation as "the state's most visible and important stewardship project." Mr. Aeck, who was recently elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects, currently serves as that organization's liaison in the rewriting of Georgia's design and construction procedures. He is also active in the Atlanta community, serving as a trustee of the Atlanta Preservation Center and the Atlanta Speech School, where he was recently elected vice chair.

## **W. Frank Barron, Jr., Rome**

Frank Barron, a native of Rome, Ga., has enjoyed a long and distinguished career with the Coca-Cola Bottling Company. He first began working for the company in Rome in 1956, after four years of service in the United States Navy. He went on to become an officer and director of seven Coca-Cola companies in Georgia. Today he is vice-president of the Rome Coca-Cola Bottling Company. Mr. Barron also is involved in numerous organizations and serves on the board of directors for AGL Resources, Inc., the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and Century Bank of Bartow County. He is also on the board of advisors for The Georgia Conservancy and The Trust for Public Land, and is a trustee of the Georgia Public Policy Foundation and the Darlington School. Mr. Barron is a graduate of Washington and Lee University and serves on the board of Berry College.



*Mr. Barron*

## **Mr. Willem-Jan O. Hattink, Atlanta**

Willem Hattink is the senior vice president of Personal Client Services for SunTrust in Atlanta, where he has worked since 1983. Mr. Hattink grew up in The Hague, Netherlands, and moved to the United States in 1981 to study at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where he received his MBA. He is the vice-chairman of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and vice-chairman of the Executives for Children Fundraising Campaign. He is also a member of the Leadership Georgia Class of 1999.

## **Mark C. McDonald, Savannah**

Mark McDonald is executive director of the Historic Savannah Foundation, where he has worked since 1998. Previously, he served as executive director of the Mobile Historic Development Commission in Mobile, Ala., from 1990 to 1998. Mr. McDonald serves on the board of advisors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Savannah Development and Renewal Authority and the Savannah State University School of Arts and Sciences. He is also on the visitors committee for the University of Georgia School of Environmental Design's historic preservation program. He received the Clement Cup for Historic Preservation in Salisbury, N.C., in 1990 and the Alabama Preservation Alliance Merit Award in 1997.

## **Mr. David L. Perdue, Atlanta**

David Perdue is a principal of Seed Partners, LLC, formed with his brother, Rhodes, in 1993 to purchase and rehabilitate historic buildings. Their adaptive use projects have resulted in the rehabilitation of several unusual properties, transforming functionally obsolete institutional and manufacturing structures into award-winning loft apartments and unique office space. Through their company, the brothers are committed to urban revitalization, especially in their hometown of Atlanta. Several of Mr. Perdue's rehabilitation projects have won Preservation Awards from The Georgia Trust. He is a past president of the Board of Trustees of the Atlanta Preservation Center and the Atlanta Chapter of the Washington & Lee Alumni Association, and serves on the Board of The A.G. Rhodes Homes. Mr. Perdue is married and has two young sons.

## **Mrs. Margaret M. Robinson, Winder**

Margaret Robinson is involved in several organizations, including the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, for which she is a former chairman of the board, and the board of Mercer University Press. Her love of gardening also led to her involvement in the Planters Garden Club of Atlanta and the Three Seasons Garden Club of Winder. She is also very involved in the First Baptist Church of Winder, for which she served as past chairman of the board of trustees. Mrs. Robin-

son attended Randolph-Macon Women's College, graduated from Emory University and received an L.L.B. with distinction from Emory Law School. She was an associate with the law firm of Hansell, Post, Brandon and Dorsey.

#### **H. Elliott Savage, Atlanta**

Elliott Savage, president of Georgia-Pacific's Industrial Wood Products division (IWP), has more than 27 years' experience in the industrial panels and lumber industry. As president of IWP, Savage has responsibility for all functional areas of his business unit – sales, manufacturing, accounting, human resources, information resources, and planning and analysis – for 19 facilities located across North America with annual sales of \$800 million. Along with his duties at Georgia-Pacific, Savage is active in the Composite Panel Association (CPA) and the Composite Wood Council (CWC). He has served as a member of the executive committee for the CPA, on the board of directors for both organizations, and as chairman of the CWC. He is currently vice-chairman of the CPA and will be chairman in 2002. He is a member of the Atlanta's United Way Alexis De Toqueville Society. Mr. Savage is a graduate of The Citadel.



*Mr. Savage*

#### **Edward J. Tarver, Augusta**

Ed Tarver is a partner in the law firm of Hull, Towill, Norman, Barrett & Salley in Augusta. His areas of practice include employment discrimination law, housing discrimination law and public finance law. After graduating from Augusta College with a B.A. in political science, Mr. Tarver served seven years in the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer before receiving his J.D. degree in 1991 from the University of Georgia. He is chairman of the Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce; a director on the boards of the Georgia Bank & Trust Company, the United Way, the University of Georgia National Alumni Association and the Augusta chapter of the American Red Cross; and past president, legal counsel and a current member of the board of directors of the East Georgia Easter Seal Society. He graduated from Leadership Georgia in 1994 and served on the board of trustees before being elected Leadership Georgia's 1999 president.



*Mr. Tarver*

### **The following trustees have retired from The Georgia Trust Board:**

Mr. Pratt Cassity, former co-chair, Georgians for Preservation Action  
Mr. W. Lane Greene, Atlanta  
Mrs. Dale Jaeger, Gainesville  
Dr. Otis Johnson, Savannah  
Mr. Mark B. Riley, Atlanta  
Mrs. Kim Taylor Schnell, former chair, Hay House Board  
Ms. Shelley D. Smith, former chair of the Rhodes Hall Board  
Mrs. Vickie Hearn Williamson, former chair, McDaniel-Tichenor House Board

## **THE GEORGIA TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Mr. Gregory B. Paxton, *President & CEO*

# Atlanta Family Purchases Revolving Fund Property

As director of the Revolving Fund, Frank White has the challenging task of matching endangered historic properties with buyers who can lovingly and accurately restore a house and make it a home. In the case of his most recently sold property, he says he couldn't have found a better match.

Drs. Anne Haddix and David Addiss of Atlanta purchased the Strange-Duncan-Pruitt House from the Revolving Fund in March. However, when Dr. Haddix first called Mr. White back in December 2000, she was calling about a different house.

"There was a great old house for sale in my neighborhood that was about to be sold to a developer," Dr. Haddix said. "I called Frank to find out what we could do about it and then next thing I knew he was asking me if I was interested in buying a house from him!"

The Revolving Fund property in Franklin County intrigued Dr. Haddix, who says she has always wanted to restore an old house. She and her husband had also been thinking about buying a weekend home outside the city. After visiting the house several times with her husband and their 11-year-old daughter Laura, the family decided to purchase the house.

"My daughter was excited because it

has a barn for horses," Dr. Haddix said. "And my husband just loved the house."

The same day they closed on the house, they also purchased 10 additional acres of the original property from a Pruitt family member. The land includes a small cemetery with family gravestones dating back to the 1700s. They also have a verbal agreement to purchase the four acres next to the house, which currently are occupied by trailers. "From a historic preservation standpoint, buying these other two pieces of original land will enhance the significance of the property," Dr. Haddix said.

Dr. Haddix says she plans to take meticulous care in restoring the house, and she is researching contractors who are experienced with the house's c. 1820 Plantation Plain construction. Several Pruitt family members still live nearby, and she says they have shown great interest in her plans for the house, sharing with her old photos of the house and the people who lived in it.



*Dr. Anne Haddix (left) and her daughter Laura, bundled up on a cold day in December when they visited the house.*

"A lot of people in the area feel a sense of ownership of the house, and we want to make sure that the house still feels like a part of the community," she said. "I see the house as a resource for people in the area and for the historic preservation community."

Mr. White says he is pleased with the match he has made. "Anne and David really are the epitome of people who have the passion, understanding and commitment to historic preservation," Mr. White said. "I couldn't be happier that they seized this opportunity to preserve such a great house."

## Current Revolving Fund Properties For Sale



**BRANTLEY-HAYGOOD HOUSE**, Sandersville, 1850s. This house, listed on the National Register, is located at 217 North Harris Street in a historic district. Dr. Solomon Brantley built the Plantation Plain house. In 1899, architect Charles E. Choate was hired to remodel the house into the Victorian-era style. The house is now being used as apartments and has been divided into four units. It is about 5400 sq. ft. and sits on a .97-acre lot. Price: \$97,000.



**CASWELL-FAULKNER HOUSE**, Moreland, c. 1910. This New South Cottage has a central hallway plan with two rooms on each side with several additions at the rear. The interior contains delicate spindlework and door moldings with sunburst corner blocks. The house has original mantels, pocket doors, a built-in cabinet and original floors. It is approximately 2000 square feet and sits on two acres. Price: \$78,000.



**RICE-GEORGE HOUSE**, Eatonton, c. 1815. Located just outside of downtown Eatonton, this Plantation Plain-style house has six fireplaces, interior wood paneling and original floors. The original part of the house is one room deep and two stories tall. Several rooms, along with a Victorian-era porch, have been added to the house. The house is approximately 2500 square feet and sits on 1.3 acres. Price: \$39,500.

**Contact: Frank White, Revolving Fund director, 404-885-7807**

# THE GEORGIA TRUST PHOTO GALLERY



**Volunteer Picnic** (left) : Georgia Trust volunteers (l-r) **Allison and Mark Gould** and **Kay Redmond** enjoy a picnic dinner on the grounds of Rhodes Hall for the Trust's first Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. Georgia Trust staff donned aprons and waited on volunteers to show appreciation for the countless hours of volunteer assistance they provide.



**Presidential Dinner** (right): Presidential members (l-r) **Teri and Mose Bond** chat with **Nancy Carter Bland**, owner of Carter's Quarter (also known as Rock Spring Farm), the early 19th-century home where the Presidential Dinner was held.



**New Face on Main Street** (left): The Georgia Trust welcomes **Ms. Brenda Branch Hayes** (second from the left) as director of the new Office of Downtown Development at the Department of Community Affairs. This office will merge and facilitate both the Georgia Main Street program and the Better Hometown programs. The Trust is looking forward to many strong new partnerships with Ms. Branch Hayes' office at DCA through our Main Street Design Assistance program! Pictured (l-r) are: **Jo Childers**, assistant coordinator for Georgia Main Street; **Brenda Branch Hayes**; **Cindy Thilenius**, state coordinator for the Better Hometown Program; and **Mary Anne Thomas**, state coordinator for Georgia Main Street.



**Ramble Through Eatonton** (above): Children and adults alike enjoy the entertaining and interactive storytelling of **Baba Rah** and **Ahma Bey**, whose repertoire included "Uncle Remus" tales made famous by Eatonton native Joel Chandler Harris, at the Taliaferro House.

(Left) **Marsha Sichveland** welcomes Ramblers to her 1855 home, the Alexander Sydney Reid-Sichveland House, where cocktails and dinner were held on Saturday evening. The Trust extends its gratitude to all of those who opened their homes and buildings to Ramblers and to **Jim Marshall**, who worked tirelessly as the Trust's local chair to execute an incredible Ramble. This first Saturday-Sunday Ramble was attended by almost 350 people. Ramble photos courtesy of Heather Brown, Envision.



# AROUND THE STATE

## BAINBRIDGE

### Bainbridge Receives Grant for Bon Air Balcony

You could say that the city of Bainbridge fully “supports” Bon Air Hotel owner Hal Carter’s latest plans for the renovation of the 1902 building. Recently the city applied for and received a grant to reinstall a replica of the original grand balcony, complete with 11 support columns.

Mr. Carter, who bought the former hotel almost two years ago from The Georgia Trust’s Revolving Fund, has made great strides in renovating the 39,000-square-foot building into a mixed-use mecca for downtown shopping and living. By looking at historic photos, he recognized the appeal and beauty that the long-lost balcony and portico added to the hotel. However, he also realized that reconstructing and attaching a balcony to the building would be a costly endeavor. The city of Bainbridge, which has shown great interest in the restoration project since it began, also understood the importance of bringing the balcony back.

“We’re very interested in seeing this happen,” said Charles Tyson, Bainbridge city manager. “The balcony is what is going to set off the Bon Air architecturally and set our city apart.”

Because the support columns would be erected on city property and the balcony would hang over the public sidewalk, The Georgia Trust recommended the city seek funding for the project. The city applied for grants, but the project was deemed ineligible for several historic preservation grants because the balcony would be completely reconstructed.

Undaunted, the city applied for a grant of \$80,000 from the OneGeorgia Authority, a foundation created by Gov. Roy Barnes to assist the state’s most economically challenged areas by utilizing funds from Georgia’s tobacco settlement.

“We just decided to give it a shot,” said Mr. Tyson. “As it turns out, the shot hit the mark.” Once construction is complete, the balcony will belong to the city and Mr. Carter will lease it, maintain it and utilize it as part of his building.

The Georgia Trust’s Main Street Design Assistance Manager, Paul Simo, is working closely with Mr. Carter and his

architect to ensure that the appropriate design, materials, colors and textures are chosen to achieve accurate reconstruction measures, according to the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

“We’re trying to put back something that will last

another 100 years,” Mr. Carter said. He estimates that construction will be completed by September.

The balcony will be the crowning touch in the transformation of a long-vacant building that was once slated for demolition to make way for a parking lot.

“This project has meant so much to the community,” said Main Street Manager Amanda Coker. “That side of the square in downtown used to be so empty, and now you see people going in and out of the businesses. To bring the

Bon Air back to what it once was will attract more people and bring foot traffic downtown.”

Mr. Tyson agrees. “It is really amazing what Mr. Carter has done to that old building. He has taken a sow’s ear and turned it into a silk purse.”



A historic photo of the Bon Air Hotel with its original balcony.

## Keep Us Informed!

As a statewide organization, The Georgia Trust tries to stay informed of preservation happenings around the state. We need your help to continue to bring you news stories from around Georgia. Share news with us from your local preservation organization, tell us a preservation story you’ve heard about, or send us newspaper clippings about preservation in your community. You can e-mail to [news@georgiatrust.org](mailto:news@georgiatrust.org) or write to News, The Georgia Trust, 1516 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30309-2916.

# AROUND THE STATE

## REX

### Rex Village Applies for National Register

As you exit Interstate 675 in Clayton County, the scene looks like many metro Atlanta areas – gas stations, grocery stores, fast-food chain restaurants. However, just a few turns off the interstate, the atmosphere changes. Even without a traffic light to guide cars over the one-lane bridge, the scene at the “entrance” to Rex Village is enough to stop traffic.

A picturesque wooden mill next to a stream of water flowing over a dam beckons visitors into the tiny village of Rex. While the odometer says Rex is only 14 miles from Atlanta, it feels like another world. Rex Village is a tiny town big on charm, from its 19<sup>th</sup>-century mill and bridge to the energetic residents who say it’s about time other people knew about the historic treasures Rex has to offer.



Above: The 1836 Rex Mill welcomes you to Rex Village. Right: Ms. Mee raises awareness through signs outside of her downtown shop.

At the forefront of the movement to bring the village recognition is local business owner Maggie Mee, a woman whose infectious energy and love for the village led her to form the Historic Rex Village Preservation Association in January. “None of us have ever been involved in something like this before,” said Ms. Mee, who chairs the organization.

Ms. Mee and her fellow Rex preservationists have sought assistance from The Georgia Trust and the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and are currently applying for grants. Their next goal is to gain National Register status for Rex Village.

“I’m a firm believer that we need to preserve as much for our future as we can,” she said. “To know



*Continued on page 15*

## MABLETON

### Gov. Barnes Reopens Mable House

The historic Mable House, which had been closed for renovation, officially reopened its doors in May with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by Gov. Roy Barnes.

Gov. Barnes, who grew up across the street from the Mable House, has been a strong supporter of the house and its restoration efforts.

“The Mable House restoration brings a piece of history back to Mableton,” Gov. Barnes said. “It is an important part of the community, as it will host events that bring our families and neighbors together.”

Gov. Barnes has shown his support for the Mable House and historic preservation by supporting key preservation legislation and by providing funding for projects such as the Mable House that encourage the use of historic resources in communities. In last year’s budget, he set aside \$5 million for reno-

vation of the Mable House.

The Mable House had been closed to the public since November 2000. In addition to necessary structural repairs, workers replaced the slate material of the roof with a lighter, high-quality replica and replaced the covered porch on the back of the house with an open porch truer to the original look of the house. The pine walls were repainted, although several areas were left natural to display the original appearance of the wood. Several closets, a kitchen and a bathroom, which had been added over the years, were removed to restore the house’s 1840-1860 appearance. Replicas of the house’s original double doors, which were removed when the bathroom was added, were reinstated to open onto the back porch.

The 1843 Plantation Plain house is the former home of Robert Mable, one of the earliest settlers in the area.

“It’s a very historically significant area,” said Elizabeth Whitlock, cultural affairs manager for Cobb County Parks and Recreation. “It’s really fabulous to see how Mableton began.”

Although the Mable House property is still owned by Mable family descendants, the land is on long-term lease to the Cobb County Board of Commissioners and is operated by the Cobb Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department. The Mable House Cultural Center, a facility for visual arts, performing arts and other cultural events, is located next to the Mable House. Construction is expected to begin this summer on a 1,250-seat amphitheatre on the land behind the house, which will provide a concert venue for the area.

The Mable House is open for tours by appointment only. Please call 770-819-3285 for more information.

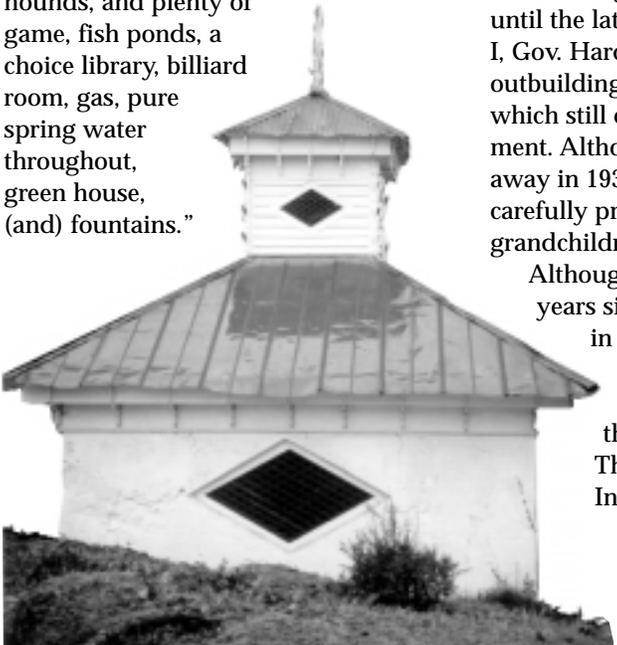
# "This is like walking into the real context

(Continued from page 1)

## A Property with a Past

The Hardman Farm property offers a unique blend of historic preservation, Native American history and natural conservation. This amazing place has a story to tell – a completely intact example of a working farm including a beautiful Italianate farmhouse and 19 historic outbuildings; a Native American past clearly marked by the Indian Mound; and 170 acres of land in the area known as the Sautee-Nacoochee Valley, unspoiled by the development that is sweeping through this area of Georgia.

Hardman Farm is regarded as the most complete example of a North Georgia working farm in existence. The Italianate farmhouse still contains furnishings from the home's three owners, including many that date back to Civil War Colonel James H. Nichols, the home's first owner (despite his attained rank, he was known as "Captain Nichols"). Capt. Nichols and his wife built the house in 1869 and named it "West End," since it sits in the western part of Nacoochee Valley. They moved to the area for health reasons, and the house became their permanent home. In an 1892 book titled *Health Resorts of the South*, George Chapin wrote, "Captain Nichols has gathered around him everything that makes life pleasant, a large farm, well stocked rich fields, trained hounds, and plenty of game, fish ponds, a choice library, billiard room, gas, pure spring water throughout, green house, (and) fountains."



The property contains 19 outbuildings, all of which are historic and standing in their original locations. Fourteen of the outbuildings were built by Capt. Nichols from 1869-1890.

Calvin Hunnicutt, a businessman from Atlanta, purchased the home in 1893 from Capt. Nichols and used it as a summer retreat for the 10 years that he and his family owned the property.

In 1903, Dr. Lamartine G. Hardman purchased the property and it has remained in his family ever since. Dr. Hardman, who served as governor of Georgia for two terms (1927 – 1931), greatly expanded the acreage of the property and developed a year-round, working farm that was part of a network of farms he

owned around the state. At Nacoochee, Gov. Hardman experimented with tile drainage, soil testing and crop rotation, all of which were innovative ideas in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1907 he established a large dairy, which he operated until the late 1920s. Prior to World War I, Gov. Hardman built five additional outbuildings on the property, some of which still contain his farming equipment. Although Gov. Hardman passed away in 1937, the property has been carefully preserved by his children and grandchildren.

Although it has been more than 170 years since Native Americans lived in the area, there are still gentle reminders of the people who inhabited this land for thousands of years. The most visible sign is the Indian Mound across the road

*The spring house, like many outbuildings at Hardman Farm, complements the style of the main house.*

from the house, which rises almost 20 feet from the valley floor. It is believed that the mound was a prehistoric Woodland site (1000 BC – 800 AD) with Mississippian period components (800 – 1450 AD). Capt. Nichols built the gazebo atop the Indian Mound in 1869, the same year the house was built. To protect the mound from damage, the Hardmans fenced the property and treat the land as a pasture.



*Hardman Farm includes the main house and 19 outbuildings.*

Although some have questioned the construction of a gazebo on top of an Indian Mound, the gazebo's presence actually may have helped to preserve the mound from demolition or similar destruction that has befallen other mounds in Georgia. The gazebo and Indian Mound is now one of the most recognized landmarks in the state.

In addition to the manmade features on the site, the natural resources of this land are also a treasure. The Chattahoochee River, which provides the drinking water for half of the state, flows through the property. A creek creates a natural border on the eastern edge of the house and a separate spring emerges in the 1869 springhouse. This area also contains a rich variety of wildlife and vegetation, including hundreds of species of trees, shrubs and wildflowers. The farm, located on the valley floor, is surrounded by some of the oldest mountains in the world, including Yonah, Lynch, Salls and Tray.

"There is no way to over-emphasize

# of history and putting your hands on it."

the importance of protecting this piece of land and its historical and natural resource significance along the Chattahoochee River," said Lonice C. Barrett, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

## Making the Dream a Reality: A Public-Private Effort

After Hardman family members approached The Georgia Trust and TPL with the proposal to donate the property in the mid-1990s, The Georgia Trust conducted a feasibility study and formulated a business plan to determine the potential for the property and to identify necessary funding. The study, completed in 1999, outlines the existing condition of the property, market research with Helen-area visitors, appropriate interpretive programming for the farm, and estimated operational needs. The study was funded through a grant to DNR.

The study indicated that with the investment of substantial funds the property has the opportunity to become one of the stronger heritage tourism venues in Georgia. More than 1.5 million tourists pass by Hardman Farm each year. Three-quarters of Helen visitors surveyed indicated that they would "probably" or "definitely" visit a museum at Hardman Farm. Based on numbers from the study, annual visitation at Hardman Farm could grow to 100,000 visitors or more. The study also indicates that the project could be self-supporting after the initial start-up costs.

Plans for the site include extensive interactive interpretation and exhibits. The farm offers a variety of interpretive opportunities, including Gov. Hardman's farming techniques and experiments, live dairy demonstrations at the creamery, and farmyard animals that would have lived on the farm during Gov. Hardman's time. The house and supporting buildings could be interpreted to the 1910 era and furnished and decorated appropriately. An interactive Native American exhibit, which few other house museum sites in Georgia can offer, would provide interpretation of Native American history, artifacts and the Indian Mound. The mound and the land surrounding it would be available for viewing only.

*Frank Barron, Jr., Retired Coca-Cola Bottler, Rome, Georgia*

"My father loved this place," said Emma Hardman Thomson, daughter of Gov. Hardman. "Anything that has to do with caring for the land, he would have been most in favor of. He and my mother also cared a lot about other people and education. They would be very proud of turning this property into a learning center."

To determine the best way to ensure the permanent protection of the property and to help raise funds, the Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley Advisory Council was created by The Georgia Trust, TPL and DNR. The Council, chaired by Ben Harris, a Georgia Trust Board member and vice-president of Georgia Power's land department, has reviewed and critiqued the recommendations made in the feasibility study and set a budget of \$12.57 million to implement the plans.

The multi-faceted nature of the project, from historic preservation to land conservation, has attracted support from a variety of funding sources. Public funds, including \$2 million approved by the General Assembly in Gov. Barnes' 2001 budget, total \$3.32 million, and we are hopeful for another \$2 million in next year's budget. In private funds, the Hardman family's generous contribution of the property totals \$2.25 million. The Georgia Power Foundation has led the way in the corporate community with a \$500,000 gift, and the advisory council members have donated \$85,500. The North Georgia community has shown great interest in the project, with individuals already donating \$6,000. Other private foundation and corporate gifts total \$55,000 to date.

Implementation of the full vision of the property is dependent upon successful completion of a \$5 million private capital campaign, chaired by David Ratcliffe, president and CEO of the Georgia Power Company. Prominent statewide leaders, including U.S. Senator Zell Miller, James H. Blanchard (CEO, Synovus Financial Corporation), Otis A. Brumby, Jr. (chair, *Marietta Daily Journal*), and Roy Richards, Jr. (CEO, Southwire Company), have joined together to help ensure that the dream for Hardman Farm becomes a reality.

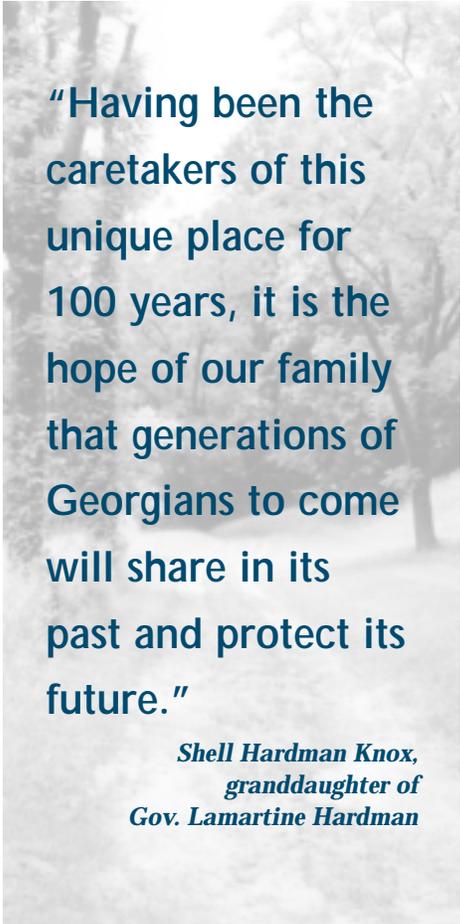
## Your Help Is Needed

Land in North Georgia is undergoing development at a rapid rate. Preserving Hardman Farm and sharing its story with the public offers a chance for visitors to connect with Georgia's history in a way few other sites can offer.

"Unless we preserve it, I don't think there is any doubt that the economic pressure would be to develop the property," Mr. Ratcliffe said.

Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley offers visitors a chance to see the land as Native Americans might have seen it, and experience the effect that the rolling hills and quiet setting had on the owners who passed along their pride in the land to their ancestors.

Please join The Georgia Trust in making this dream a reality. For more information about the Hardman Farm project, please contact Lary Hesdorffer at 404-881-9980. To find out how you can make a gift toward this project, please contact Jean Druckenmiller at 404-881-9980.



"Having been the caretakers of this unique place for 100 years, it is the hope of our family that generations of Georgians to come will share in its past and protect its future."

*Shell Hardman Knox,  
granddaughter of  
Gov. Lamartine Hardman*

# Calendar

September 8 - 19

**Study Tour to Normandy, Brittany and the Channel Isles**  
Please call Ken Ward Travel at 800-843-9839 for details.

September 9

**Collectors' Day**  
McDaniel-Tichenor-House, Monroe  
Bring your old and rare books, glass, china, maps, photographs and autographs to the follow-up of the McDaniel-Tichenor House's first successful Collectors' Day. Call 770-267-5602 for more information.

September 17

**Preservation Classic**  
Peachtree Golf Club, Atlanta  
Play a round at one of the country's most exclusive golf courses to benefit The Georgia Trust. Call 404-881-9980.

September 22 - 23

**Fall Ramble Through Berry College and Rome**  
Explore the historic campus of beautiful Berry College and visit private homes in Rome at this Ramble for *all* ages. Call 404-881-9980 with questions.

October 5

**Roaring Rhodes Party**  
7 - 11 p.m.  
Enjoy cocktails and a wine tasting party at Rhodes Hall. Semi-formal attire. Call 404-885-7800 for details.

## Save the Date!

November 16, 2001  
**Preservation Ball**

Biltmore Ballrooms,  
Midtown Atlanta  
Call 404-881-9980 for  
more information.

## STAFF NEWS

# Greg Paxton, Gloria Tinsley Celebrate 20 Years with The Georgia Trust

At the Trust's Annual Meeting in April, **Greg Paxton**, president and CEO, and **Gloria Tinsley**, executive secretary, celebrated their 20th anniversaries with The Georgia Trust! Chairman **Sheffield Hale** presented Greg with a beautiful framed antique map of Georgia to commemorate his years of service as executive director and later president and CEO. Gloria received a silver tray in honor of her services. She has served in numerous capacities at the Trust, including several years as membership director. Congratulations Greg and Gloria!

**Moving on to motherhood ...** Change is in the air at The Georgia Trust's statewide office in Atlanta. **Greta Terrell Covington**, the Trust's senior director of communications and development, will leave in July as she and her husband Stephen prepare for the arrival of their first child in August. Greta has worked for the Trust since 1995, when she was hired as preservation associate. She quickly advanced to become the first manager of the preservation department. In that role, she instigated planning for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Initiative, and has been involved in numerous preservation activities across the state, including the revitalization of Montezuma following the flood of 1994.

Greta became senior director of communications and development in March of 1999. In this capacity, she worked to coordinate and promote the message of the Trust and historic preservation to our members, decision makers, funders and general public. She has lobbied tirelessly at the State Capitol for legislation encouraging historic preservation and her enthusiasm for preservation has been contagious to all who come into contact with her. Recently, she oversaw the creation of The Georgia Trust's new graphic identity and has been actively involved in plans for Hardman Farm at Nacoochee Valley (*see cover story*). "Greta is enthusiastic and energetic and has a vast network of friends throughout the state of Georgia," said Greg Paxton, president & CEO of The Georgia Trust. "We will greatly miss her."

Another member of the Trust's staff,

**Laura Gaines**, left her position as member events coordinator in June to spend more time with her daughter Chloe and husband Tony. Laura began working at the Trust in 1998 as preservation assistant and took over member events coordination in February 2000. Laura was responsible for planning and executing Annual Meetings, Rambles, study tours and conferences. Laura's attention to detail and positive attitude has made these events enjoyable and fun for members and local committees.

The Trust is also sad to report the June departure of **Rebecca Rice**, who had coordinated special events for the Trust since April 1999. Rebecca was responsible for planning and coordinating the Preservation Classic, the Preservation Ball and Salute to American Craft. Under her guidance, the Trust has seen these events reach record-breaking numbers. Rebecca has moved back to her hometown of Augusta, where her husband accepted a new job. Rebecca is also expecting their first child in November.

We wish our former colleagues the best of luck with their future endeavors and we will miss their smiling faces at the Trust!

Please visit [www.georgiitrust.org](http://www.georgiitrust.org) for information about available positions at The Georgia Trust or call 404-881-9980.

## Do You Like Historic Houses?

Then volunteer for The Georgia Trust! Join the dedicated team of Rhodes Hall docents who lead individual visitors and group tours through the 1904 granite mansion of furniture magnate Amos G. Rhodes. Volunteers are needed for three-hour shifts on weekdays or Sunday afternoons. Please contact Martha Rau at 404-885-7800.



**ATLANTA, c. 1920.** Historic Grant Park. 3 BR, 2.5 BA home restored with extraordinary craftsmanship and attention to detail. Formal dining rm, living rm, renovated kit. Special touches incl. orig. stained glass windows & transoms, restored antique lighting, orig. Victorian door-knobs, refinished pine floors, period crown molding, 3 fireplaces w/antique mantles. \$579,000. Andrea Finn, Finn & Co. Real Estate, (404) 371-4575 [www.livingintownatlanta.com](http://www.livingintownatlanta.com).



**ATLANTA, c.1920.** 1876 Wycliff Road. Located in beautiful Ardmore Park, this Tudor beauty has large updated living spaces, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and a legal rental or au-pair\in-law suite on terrace level. All new systems, new kitchen, new baths. Walk to Piedmont Hospital, shops, restaurants. \$650,000. Beth Kempe, Classic Atlanta Properties, 404-233-9191.



**ATLANTA, 1925.** A fine example of architectural style from the Eclectic Period; this two story granite stone home has 4BR, 3.5BA. \$739,900. Visit this home at [michaelnorship.com](http://michaelnorship.com). RE/MAX Around Atlanta 404-367-6310.



**ATLANTA, 1935.** 2195 Bolton Road. All brick Tudor cottage ready for renovation, across from historic Collins Memorial Methodist Church. Built in 1935 with superb exterior detailing. Central heat & air, new roof, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, screen porch, arches, built-ins, 9ft ceilings in emerging Northwest Atlanta. \$139,900. Frank Wynne, Classic Atlanta Properties, 404-233-9191.



**DECATUR, 1938.** 410 Glenn Circle. Updated home in Decatur's historic Glendale Estates. Walk to village, shops, restaurants and old Courthouse Square. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 fireplaces, office and large family room. 9 ft ceilings on main. \$409,900. Frank Wynne, Classic Atlanta Properties, 404-233-9191.



**GOOD HOPE, c. 1824.** Casulon Plantation. Antebellum estate 6BR/3BA. Superbly restored. 10 outbuildings on 15 pristine secluded acres. Numbered structural beams. Kit garden w/original rock wall. 150-yr-old boxwood parterre garden. National Register. Home of former governor. Truly significant historic treasure. Northside Realty 404-252-7600. Barbara Matton 404-351-8368. (p) 404-672-8987. New Price: \$1.5 million.



**GREENSBORO, c. 1850s.** Higdon House B&B, minutes from Lake Oconee. 6 BR/6 bath Victorian home on 2.3 acre lot with patio, gazebo, barn & porches. Interior features living & dining rooms, private quarters, hardwood floors & stained glass windows. \$399,000. Terri @ Coldwell Banker, LOR (800) 432-0858. [www.cblakeoconee.com](http://www.cblakeoconee.com).



**MADISON, c. 1800.** The "Stagecoach Inn," on .9 acre. One of the oldest homes in Madison, this property was originally an inn for travelers on the stagecoach route between Charleston and New Orleans. A smaller cottage on the property was a wing of the inn. Both structures are in need of restoration. \$595,000. Dinny Addison, Coldwell Banker Buckhead Brokers. 404-504-0860.



**UNION POINT, c. 1860.** Hawthorne Heights. Minutes from Lake Oconee. This 5 BR/3.5 bath home boasts 3 acres, old world landscaping & porches. Interior features formal living & dining rooms, parlor, exquisite wood moldings. Priced to Sell: \$345,000. Dawn or Terri, Coldwell Banker, LOR (800) 432-0858. [www.cblakeoconee.com](http://www.cblakeoconee.com).

# Welcome New Members

(List period: April 1 - May 15, 2001)

## Acworth

Mr. John Peter Wisniewski

## Albany

Mr. Paul DeLoach  
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Willson

## Alpharetta

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Ashley  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Beecy

## Americus

Dr. T. Schley Gatewood

## Atlanta

Ms. Virginia Adair  
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Amos, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Astrop  
Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Beard  
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Boice  
Brock Green Architects & Planners  
Rev. Samuel G. Candler  
Mr. Andrew D. Cantor  
Mr. and Mrs. A. Stephens Clay  
Cooper Carry & Associates  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse C. Crawford  
Mr. John F. Hallman III  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hassett  
Mr. and Mrs. Willem-Jan Hattink  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Hills  
Mr. Spencer Holder

Mr. and Mrs. Bahman M. Irvani  
Mr. and Mrs. John R. McDonald  
Ms. Jacqueline Naylor  
Rice Design Studio, Inc.  
Ms. Maria Saporta  
Mr. Thomas C. Shelton  
Thompson Hancock Witte &  
Associates

Mr. Jennings Jed Thompson IV  
Ms. Louise P. Vagle  
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Walden  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Wamsley, Jr.  
Nita and Jim Williams

## Colbert

Ms. Joanne Maki

## Columbus

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Black  
Mr. James H. Blanchard  
Mrs. William Hardegreer  
Mr. Walter Miller  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Olnick  
Mr. D. Neal Wickham

## Cusseta

Ms. LaVerne Wright

## Cuthbert

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Burgin III  
Ms. Mary Kearney

## Decatur

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ozio

## Duluth

Ms. Tara Cooner

## Gainesville

Ms. Jeane M. Parker

## Hamilton

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Moye

## Lumpkin

Ms. Pauline D. Hudson

## Macon

Brittain Thompson & Bray, Inc.

## Madison

Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. MacMillan

## Marietta

Mr. Charles Bruce  
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Howard  
Ms. Jenny Lee-Trask  
Mr. Bob Trask

## McRae

Mrs. Ruby K. White

## Midland

Mr. Woodland Marshall

## Milledgeville

Drs. Anne and Robert Culberson

## Newnan

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Scott

## Pelham

Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Humphries

## Rex

Historical Rex Village Preservation  
Association

## Richland

Mrs. Frank Murrah

## Rome

Ms. Laura Lampron

## Savannah

Pinch of the Past

## Sharpsburg

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wyrick

## Social Circle

Mr. Paul B. Posner

## Sparta

Ms. Helen H. Martin

## Thomasville

Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. McCollum

## Tucker

Ms. Kathy Powell

## Valdosta

McCall & Associates, Inc.

## Warthen

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Bateman

## Winder

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Robinson, Jr.

## Out of State

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ray, Mobile, AL

## Upgrades

### Sustaining

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Baker  
City of Dalton  
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Dollar  
Dr. and Mrs. Sam Dudley  
Ms. Gogo Ferguson  
Mr. Robert F. Fowler III  
Historic District Development  
Center  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Maher  
Southern Architecture  
Foundation, Inc.  
Mr. W. Thomas Wilfong  
Ms. Virginia Wohlford

### Heritage Contributor

John G. Kennedy Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O.  
Marshall, Jr.  
Mr. James H. Webb

### Landmark Associate

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery W. Bell  
Mrs. John G. Burney, Jr.  
Mrs. Frances Hoyt Shropshire

### Landmark Donor

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Perdue  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Underwood

### Presidential Trust

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Phillips

## FOUND:

White cardigan sweater  
(size small), left at the  
Trust's Annual Meeting in  
Americus on Sunday morn-  
ing at the breakfast site.  
Owner, please call Johnette  
at 404-881-9980.

NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE 2001  
October 16 - 21, 2001 • Providence, Rhode Island

*preserving  
the spirit  
of place*



Join the National Trust to explore how preservationists can preserve the spirit of place by fostering urban revitalization, encouraging tax credits, promoting smart growth initiatives, and by conserving open space. This year's program will include:

- More than 50 educational sessions!
- More than 30 field sessions!
- Lectures, house tours and other special events!

This program meets AIA/CEC criteria for Quality Levels I and II and is eligible for AICP/CFDP credit.

*Plan to attend!*  
Request registration information today from the  
National Trust for Historic Preservation:  
Call: 800.944.6847  
Web: [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)  
Email: [conference@nthp.org](mailto:conference@nthp.org)

## Join The Georgia Trust Online!

We've made it easy for new members to join The Georgia Trust! Tell your friends or colleagues to visit our website at [www.georgiitrust.org](http://www.georgiitrust.org), click on the Membership link, and fill out the secure online form using a credit card. New members will receive an instant confirmation e-mail and a welcome packet will arrive by mail shortly after joining. If you have questions, please contact Renee Dooley, membership manager, at 404-885-7805 or e-mail [rdooley@georgiitrust.org](mailto:rdooley@georgiitrust.org).



## Chairman's Circle

Mr. William N. Banks  
Doris R. Chambers  
Mrs. Julius B. Dodd  
Ms. Louise Gunn  
Mr. Robert H. Gunn, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hale  
Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield Hale  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Hoyt, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Magruder  
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Montgomery  
Mrs. O. Ray Moore  
Mrs. D. Williams Parker  
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton E. Rich  
Mrs. Deen Day Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. Marion L. Talmadge

## Grants

### Hay House

James H. Porter Foundation

### Heritage Education Program

#### (Talking Walls) Grants:

Jane Smith Turner Foundation  
Williams Family Foundation of  
Georgia, Inc.

### Unrestricted Grant to Annual Fund

Gertrude & William C. Wardlaw  
Fund

## Memorials/Tributes

The Georgia Trust received donations  
in memory of:

### Mr. John H. Cheatham, Jr.

Mr. John N. Peebles

### Mr. John B. Ellis

Dr. and Mrs. James H. Dew, Jr.

### Ms. Evelyn T. Thrasher

Mr. Ken Ward

Hay House received donations in  
memory of:

### Mr. Flew Durkee

### Mrs. Martha Hudspeth

### Dorothy V. Leggett

### Mr. Thomas E. Roberts

Virginia and King Solomon

Hay House received donations in  
honor of:

### Mrs. Vivian Anderson

Virginia and King Solomon

## Rex Village

(continued from page 9)

our future, we have to know our past."

For years, Rex residents and the Clayton County Convention & Visitors Bureau (CCCVB) have expressed interest in nominating the village to the National Register of Historic Places.

"The CCCVB has really opened their doors for us," Ms. Mee said. "It's wonderful the way they are supporting our efforts."

The Association hopes to attract visitors and business owners to the 90-acre village, which contains the 1837 Rex Mill and several historic houses and late 19th-century mercantile buildings. There are also plans to open new restaurants, a bed and breakfast, an antique mall, and an interactive botanical garden designed for young children. "I really feel that this will be the most beautiful place this side of Atlanta," Ms. Mee said.

Shop owners and residents were thrown a curve late last summer when the DOT announced plans to realign Rex Road, which brings around 6,000 cars through the village each day. In the plan, a new two-lane bridge will be constructed just outside the village to bypass busy railroad tracks on the other side of the village and alleviate traffic on the historic one-lane bridge.

"We understand the necessity of the new bridge and we need to find a way to work with it," said Ms. Mee. However, Mee and others say they hope to establish Rex Village as a historic travel and shopping destination before traffic is rerouted away from the village.

"(Before the new bridge) we really had not considered the economic

development benefits that we now know we need to pursue," she said.

The Historic Rex Village Preservation Association is looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of its efforts in this venture. To find out how you can get involved, call Maggie Mee at 770-507-3283 or e-mail [maggieandmee@aol.com](mailto:maggieandmee@aol.com).



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*Newton County Historical Society*  
**11th ANNUAL**  
**HISTORIC TOUR OF HOMES**  
Saturday, October 6th  
10am- 5pm

<b>Individual Tickets:</b> \$18 until Oct. 5th	<b>Groups of Six or More:</b> \$15 until Sept. 15th	<b>Day of Event:</b> \$20
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**Please forward ticket requests to:**  
Newton County Historical Society  
PO Box 2415  
Covington, GA 30015

**For additional information:**  
[www.newtonchamber.com/historicalsociety](http://www.newtonchamber.com/historicalsociety)  
770-787-3868

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**Rhodes Hall**

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Treehouse Restaurant & Pub  
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Webb-Marsteller  
Williams Family Foundation of Georgia, Inc.  
WSB Radio Group  
Yipes That's Fast

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

# 2002 Preservation Awards

Do you know of a recent preservation project worthy of recognition? How about that old bank building on Main Street that is now a restaurant? Or that dedicated preservationist who has made a difference in your community? The Georgia Trust's 2002 Preservation Awards are designed to honor preservation projects and people who have contributed to the preservation of Georgia's historic resources.

The Georgia Trust is accepting nominations for exemplary examples of:

### RESTORATION

A restoration project returns a building to an earlier condition and appearance for its original purpose.

### REHABILITATION

A rehabilitation project makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving significant portions and features of the building.

### STEWARDSHIP

Stewards who ensure the preservation of historic properties through long-term care and maintenance, stabilization, protection, or continuous family ownership.

### PRESERVATION SERVICE

These are awarded to persons, groups, publications, businesses and/or government entities who demonstrate exemplary activities and promotion of awareness in the field of historic preservation.

Visit [www.georgiitrust.org](http://www.georgiitrust.org) for more information and to download a nomination form or call 404-881-9980 to receive information by mail.

Nominations must be received by  
**November 20, 2001.**



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