

10 PLACES in PERIL

TEN HISTORIC PLACES THAT NEED YOUR HELP



FORTY-FIVE AND COUNTING

2018 marks the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Georgia Trust. This year the Georgia Trust Board of Trustees adopted a three-year strategic plan to cover the 2018-2020 period. This document made plans for the celebration of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's 50th Anniversary in 2023. Included in these plans was the publication of a book on Georgia architecture and preservation.

45 years is a relatively brief period in the trajectory of time; however, the leadership of The Georgia Trust will attest that each fiscal year can seem daunting. The challenges brought by our mainstream disposable culture that sees virtually everything from a plastic drinking straw to entire streetscapes as fodder for a landfill makes the work of historic preservation difficult at best.

The leadership of the Georgia Trust has never let that stop them in their quest to continue to make the heritage of Georgia relevant to its present and future. Despite the fact that the Georgia Trust has been the beneficiary of some very dedicated and talented employees, the success of the organization is attributable to strong citizen led leadership. From its beginnings in 1973 when the Trust was founded and operated by volunteers, throughout its history the Board of Trustees have provided the continuity, vision and financial support and management that has ensured the faithful execution of its mission. That value system states that our built environment is vital and necessary to the improvement, edification and preservation of our culture.

Much & marel

C ON THE COVER

The Huston House, located on Butler Island, was constructed in 1927 by Colonel T.L. Huston, a former coowner of the New York Yankees. Guests of the home included several famous baseball players, including Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb.

COVER: Image by Halston Pitman | Nick Woolever | MotorSportMedia





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The Rambler is a quarterly publication of The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, one of the country's largest statewide preservation organizations. The Trust works to protect and preserve Georgia's historic resources and diverse cultural heritage.

The Rambler seeks to increase public awareness and understanding of preservation's economic impact on community revitalization and quality of life by highlighting current challenges, recent success stories and how the Trust is active in Georgia's preservation efforts statewide.

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Printing of the Rambler is made possible by the Georgia Power Company.

Moving? Contact membership@georgiatrust.org or 404-885-7805 with your new address.

TOURS & EVENTS

Thomasville Spring Ramble set for April 12-14

Join The Georgia Trust this spring for the highly anticipated return to Thomasville. Travel to southwest Georgia and discover the southern hospitality of this breathtaking historic city on April 12-14, 2019.

Once known as the "Winter Resort of the South," Thomasville boasts ornate turnof-the-century Victorian mansions, remote plantations and restored "winter cottages" built in the 1880s by some of America's wealthiest families.

Enjoy a weekend of touring the exquisite historic homes in the city's eight National Register districts, dining at privately owned hunting plantations, and discovering the



ABOVE: The quintessential southern estate, **Pebble Hill Plantation** is listed in the National **Register of Historic** Places and is furnished with fine antiques and Audubon lithographs.

charm and hospitality of downtown Thomasville's awardwinning historic district.

Thomasville is always worth the journey!

Learn more and purchase tickets at GeorgiaTrust.org.

Book your hotel accommodations early!

Spring is a busy time of year for the "City of Roses," so book your hotel rooms early, even if you haven't purchased tickets, yet! We want to make sure you have somewhere to stay during this exciting event!





Theatre Macon Performances and Self-Guided Tours

CHILDREN'S TEA December 16, 4 - 6 p.m. \$25 per child (12 and under) with 1 accompanying adult

And Introducing the New Year's Eve FORMAL MASKED BALL December 31, 9 p.m. – 1 a.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION • HAYHOUSEMACON.ORG OR (478) 742-8155

CELEBRATE the SEASON at our HOUSES!

SANTA AT RHODES HALL December 1-16, 2018 **Rhodes Hall, Atlanta** Skip the malls, avoid the long lines and come to Rhodes Hall for an enjoyable Santa experience.

HAY HOUSE CHRISTMAS GALA

December 12, 2018 Hay House, Macon Come delight in the season at Hay House's 7th annual Christmas Gala, featuring performances by Theatre Macon and its Christmas Cabaret.

HAY HOUSE CHILDREN'S TEA December 16, 2018 Hay House, Macon

Little ones will enjoy holiday readings by some of Macon's best storytellers, holiday drinks and treats, Christmas crafts, and a visit with Santa.

HAY HOUSE NEW YEAR'S EVE FORMAL MASKED BALL December 31, 2018

Hay House, Macon Relish and recapture the grandeur of the 19th century and celebrate New Year's Eve in high style at the "Palace of the South."

For more info and to purchase tickets, visit www.GeorgiaTrust.org.



HAY HOUSE

Second Floor Hall Restoration Nearly Complete

Chief conservator Christopher Mills and his crew of paint conservator Andrew Compton and decorative painter Staszek Kotowski have nearly completed the restoration of the Second Floor (Bedroom) Hall of Hay House. Following the plan to return this space to the 1860s, the project has proceeded as directed by the Georgia Trust Master Plan Amendments of 2016 with the removal of the early 20th century wall and ceiling canvas, the bank of closets under the staircase, and the oak strip flooring, as well as the careful removal of overpaint on the various wood and plaster details. The new discoveries about the original wall treatment of painted panels (intended to be marbleized with mahogany wainscot), the bright shades of the original painted floor (intended to appear as Minton tiles), and the complex, refined treatment of the trompe l'oeil mahogany and oak wainscot on the staircase to the third floor found under a later version, were all part of the stunning restoration of all of the elements of the Hall. Some late discoveries on the stair itself and its steps, as well as the upper wainscot, will await final completion in April 2019. Adding to the beauty of the restored Hall are the replacement of the early 20th century lighting fixtures with 1850s rococo revival gas chandeliers from a Philadelphia firm that the Johnstons patronized and the furnishings, including an original Johnston sofa of c. 1866, a newly restored painting they bought in Paris on the Grand Tour, an 1840s desk and bookcase, and a period pier mirror. 📠

HISTORIC GEM IN THE HEART OF SANDERSVILLE, GEORGIA



210 S. SMITH STREET Circa 1840-1850: Classic four-over-four Greek **Revival home. Front** rooms, up and down are 19' square. 31 inch hand-planed, paneled wainscoting and large six over six original windows. The pine mantels, made with two panels each are hand-planed and pegged. This home was at one time the center of a plantation. Still existing: two-room dwelling/ cook's quarter, dove cote/ pigeon house, large barn. \$215,000



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PROGRESS

Lyon Farm, 2017 Place in Peril Lithonia, DeKalb County

Lyon Farmhouse, one of the oldest houses in DeKalb County, has received funding from the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners to stabilize the historic house. In 2016, the site's historic farm structures were placed on the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's "Places in Peril" list due to excessive damage to the roof and other structural elements. The project, budgeted at \$225,000, will restore the structural integrity of the farmhouse and smokehouse, repair the roof, and provide much needed weather proofing. "So many people have done so much to be sentinels for this place," said Arabia Alliance Executive Director Mera Cardenas.

Calvary Episcopal Church & Lee Street Bridge, 2017 Place in Peril Americus, Sumter County

The Georgia Department of Transportation has decided to replace the Lee Street Bridge at its current elevation and scale, so as not to adversely affect the neighboring historic Calvary Episcopal Church in Americus.

Trinity CME Church, 2008 Place in Peril Augusta, Richmond County

Augusta's Trinity C.M.E. Church, considered the "Mother" church of the C.M.E. denomination, was moved to a new location across the street. Located at the northeast corner of 8th and Taylor Streets, the ground underneath was contaminated by a gas manufacturing plant that was established across the street in 1852. The building will be preserved while allowing the contaminated soil in its former location to be remediated.



Learn more about our *Places in Peril* program! Visit www.GeorgiaTrust.org Representatives from the Arabia Alliance, DeKalb County, City of Stonecrest, F. H. Paschen, Flat Rock Archives and others celebrate the beginning of Lyon Farmhouse renovations. *Image courtesy Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance*

TRUST TRANSITIONS

Ben Sutton has been promoted to Director of Preservation. He replaces Neale Nickels, who recently accepted a position at Oakland Cemetery. Ben previously oversaw the Revolving Fund and Endangered Properties as the Trust's historic properties coordinator. Before that, he was an intern in the Preservation Department while a graduate student in the heritage education program at Georgia State University.

The Trust welcomes back another former intern, **Dennis J. Lovello**, who will become the new historic properties coordinator, effective November 26, 2018. Dennis previously worked at

Cobb Landmarks as a program coordinator and executive assistant. 🞰





INTRODUCING OUR NEW TRUSTEE

At our board meeting in October, the Trust elected **William (Bill) W. Douglas III** to The Georgia Trust Board of Trustees. Douglas is a retired executive vice president of Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc. A 30-year veteran of the Coca-Cola system, Douglas has held various positions within the company since 1985. He currently



serves as chairman of the University of Georgia Foundation and also serves on the Board of Directors for Coca-Cola Hellenic, SiteOne Landscape Supply, and North Highland. He and his wife, Lisa, live on a farm in Bishop, Georgia, where they are active in the Athens/Oconee County communities.

Douglas replaces Jay Gould of Atlanta, whom the Trust wants to thank for all his efforts while serving on the Board of Trustees. \hat{m}



Once it's gone, it's gone forever.

Historic hotels. Theaters. Old school buildings. Places we pass by so often we no longer notice the ornately carved wood, the 100-year-old brickwork, the grand old edifices. But these places face threats everyday–perhaps more so because we've grown accustomed to seeing them.

That's why The Georgia Trust is bringing attention to ten Places in Peril across the state and providing ways you can help in your community. Each site represents many similar places throughout our state that are just as endangered and in need of community help as the ten we have identified. So take a look at this year's list, learn more about the program, and visit our website at georgiatrust.org to find out how you can help protect these properties and others in your community.

THE STORY

Designed in 1928 by Atlanta architect William J.J. Chase, this building originally served as the old Moultrie High School. After being vacated by the Colquitt County Board of Education in the 1970s, the building was rehabilitated into an arts center, which has become a hub for cultural opportunities with outreach programs in the six municipalities that make up the county.

THE THREAT

The Arts Center is threatened by its current state of disrepair and ongoing maintenance needs. While many campaigns have been orchestrated to raise funding, there is still a significant need to prevent further damages and deterioration. Support for building repair and maintenance is critical for the Arts Center to continue to reach the entire county with affordable and engaging arts experiences.



Photo by Halston Pitman | Nick Woolever | MotorSportMedia

Glennwanis Hotel GLENNVILLE, TATTNALL COUNTY



THE STORY

Dating to 1926, the Glennwanis Hotel was once one of the grandest hotels in rural Southeast Georgia. Notable for the time, each guest room had electric lights, steam heat, and running hot and cold water. The hotel served travelers but also became Glennville's premier social venue and a hub for community life during the Great Depression, World War II, and into the second half of the 20th century.

THE THREAT

The Glennwanis Hotel suffers from deterioration and neglect. A previous private owner converted large parts of the building into efficiency apartments, but the building requires significant rehabilitation. Unfortunately, exposure to the elements has led to significant damage on the interior. The Friends of Glennwanis have worked to raise funds toward rehabilitation, but the hotel's future remains uncertain.



//// Huston House at Butler Plantation

DARIEN, MCINTOSH COUNTY



THE STORY

The Huston House, located on Butler Island, was constructed in 1927 by Colonel T.L. Huston, a former co-owner of the New York Yankees. Butler Island, originally a rice plantation dating to the late 1700s, was converted to a dairy and lettuce farm by Col. Huston in the 20th century. After his death in 1938, the property was purchased by tobacco heir R.J. Reynolds, Jr. The parcel is currently owned by the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division.

THE THREAT

The Huston House is currently unoccupied with no long-term plan for use or maintenance. Changing climate and the severity of recent hurricanes have exposed the house to the elements. Without a plan in place, these threats will lead to continued deterioration of the building.

Photo by Halston Pitman | Nick Woolever | MotorSportMedia

SAVANNAH, CHATHAM COUNTY



THE STORY

In the mid-1950s, Clermont Lee, Georgia's first registered female landscape architect, was commissioned to design a garden for the birthplace and girlhood home of Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of the Girl Scouts. Renowned for consulting on historic landscapes throughout the state, Lee designed a historically appropriate garden that included plantings that were popular during Low's childhood.

THE THREAT

The garden and Lee's design are under threat of being significantly altered or potentially demolished. In 2016, the garden was added to The Cultural Landscape Foundation's Landslide program, which highlights and monitors at-risk landscapes, after a proposal was announced to demolish Lee's parterre design. Recently, the Birthplace unveiled a new site plan that includes changes to the garden, but the garden's fate remains unclear.

ATLANTA, DEKALB COUNTY

THE STORY

Opened in 1927, the Madison Theatre was designed by local architects Daniell and Beutell in the popular Moorish Revival style. With over 600 seats, lavish furnishings and air conditioning, the theater ranked as one of the finest and most expensive neighborhood theaters in the South at the time. As with many neighborhood theaters, the Madison helped to bridge the gap between the silent and "talkie" movie eras, serving as a community cultural resource and operating as a theater until the 1960s before later being used as a church.

THE THREAT

Since the 1980s, only smaller portions of the building have been used for commercial purposes while the larger theater space has been used for storage. Although many of the interior features have been removed, the stage, auditorium, engaged columns and other interior ornamentation remain intact. There is significant potential for rehabilitation, but there are no plans to bring the theater back to its original glory.



Photo by Robin Benson

Needwood Baptist Church and School ///////



THE STORY

Founded in 1866 by freed people raised in the Gullah Geechee tradition, Needwood Baptist Church is one of the oldest African-American churches in the state. The church building dates to the 1870s and likely sits on land that was once part of Needwood Plantation. The adjacent school, built in 1907, remained in use for the children of the congregation until the 1950s, when Georgia created Equalization Schools. The congregation also used the building as a fellowship hall until it became structurally compromised.

THE THREAT

The Needwood Baptist Church and School are threatened by their current state of disrepair, including failing roofs and increased water damage after recent storms. Despite many families, descendants and former church members working to save them, the structures, as well as original furnishings in both buildings, will deteriorate further without intervention.



Rhodes Center South ATLANTA, FULTON COUNTY



THE STORY

Designed in 1937 by noted Georgia architects Ivey and Crook, Rhodes Center was Atlanta's first strip shopping center and one of the largest real estate developments in Atlanta during the Great Depression. Rhodes Center was originally made up of three one-story buildings that ran along the north, south and west sides of Rhodes Hall and were faced with white Georgia marble. Only the South building, which was home to the noteworthy Rhodes Theatre, remains.

THE THREAT

The building is threatened by its current state of disrepair after being vacant and suffering neglect for many years. Despite a thriving market for commercial real estate in Midtown Atlanta, there are no plans for its rehabilitation.

Photo by Halston Pitman | Nick Woolever | MotorSportMedia



THE STORY

The Springfield Log Cabin School was built in 1935 for the African American students in the community. African American property owners cut logs from their properties to build the school, and the finished product resembles the plan of some Rosenwald Schools. Following consolidation in 1955, the building became a community center and served as the only known Freedom School in the state of Georgia. The school provided a center for African-American cultural and educational activities in Taliaferro County from its inception through the Civil Rights era.

THE THREAT

The Springfield School is in immediate danger of collapse due to water beneath the building. The resulting erosion has contributed to a damaged and destabilized foundation causing substantial sagging. There are also significant roof issues subjecting the building to further damage.

Stark Mill Community Building ////////

HOGANSVILLE, TROUP COUNTY

THE STORY

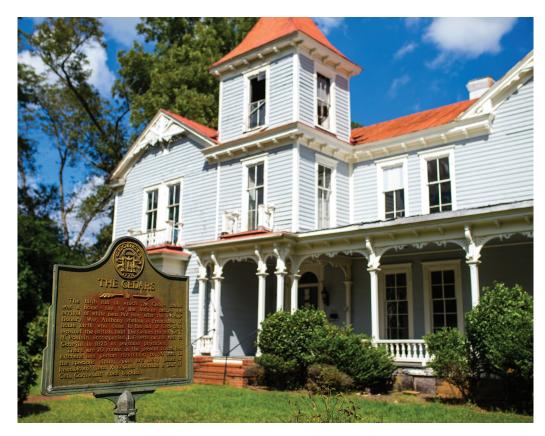
Constructed in 1917 to serve as a hub for the residents of the Stark Textile Mill community, the Stark Mill Community Building provided a variety of social and recreational outlets popular during its period of construction, including a gymnasium and auditorium, an indoor swimming pool, a bowling alley and rooms for social gatherings. The building was designed by noted textile mill architectural firm Lockwood Greene and is a unique example of the Tudor Revival style used in a textile community building.

THE THREAT

Although the building remains largely intact with no alterations to the original design, it has been abandoned for many years and is currently suffering vandalism and deterioration. The building has been threatened with demolition due to its neglect.

The Cedars ///

WASHINGTON, WILKES COUNTY



THE STORY

Just north of downtown Washington, this rambling 18-room house is an excellent example of Victorian architecture, although portions of the house date to earlier periods of construction. The land on which the house sits was first owned by George Walton, a Georgia Signer of the Declaration of Independence. The property later served as a retreat for Savannah merchant John Bolton in the early 19th century. It became known as "The Cedars" during the Victorian era, when many significant additions and alterations took place, and has been home to several significant Washingtonians throughout its history.

THE THREAT

The building has fallen into disrepair with no discernible improvements made since the early 2000s. Windows and architecturally significant details are failing, and the property is in significant danger of demolition by neglect.





REVOLVING FUND PROPERTIES *for* SALE

Own a piece of Georgia history!

For more information and photos of the Trust's Revolving Fund properties, visit Georgia Trust.org or contact Ben Sutton, bsutton@ georgiatrust.org, 404-885-7819.



CASON-VEAL HOUSE, c. 1830 Jewell, GA. Located between Augusta and Milledgeville, the Cason-Veal House in Jewell, Georgia, is an early Plantation Plain house on 2.5 acres of land. Many of the original features of the home are still intact, including wide plank paneling on several interior walls and front porch, hand-cut dentil moldings and scored plaster detailing on the exterior of the chimneys. The Cason-Veal House has been stabilized and is in the beginning stages of rehabilitation. Recent updates include custom nine-over-six wood windows, custom interior doors, removal of some modern materials on the interior, updated electrical service, and a new well. \$30,000.



CHERRY COTTAGE, c. 1818Washington, GA This home was built by Constantine Church who bought the lot in 1784. One of the oldest buildings in Washington, Cherry Cottage is a one-and-a-half story wood-sided home containing 3,408 square feet, consisting of four bedrooms, two baths, large sitting room, parlor, formal dining room, kitchen, and library. Brand new roof, still requires a lot of work. Its lot is 1.10 acres and cannot be subdivided. Located in a beautiful historic neighborhood. \$130,000. Now \$99,000.



LITTLE HOUSE, c. 1876Louisville, GA. Rare grand example of residential Gothic Revival construction in Georgia. 5,200 square feet situated on .66 acres. First floor features a dramatic central stair with original curved handrail, 15 foot ceilings, etched glass transoms over interior doors, and full height windows that open onto a full wrap-around porch. Original mantels and hardware throughout. Located one block from the historic commercial district, the house would lend itself to use as a bed-and-breakfast or professional office space, as well as a private residence. Rehabilitation will require significant investment of time and capital. \$15,000.



SPARTA FEED AND SEED, c. 1890: Sparta, GA. This wood frame commercial building dates to the late nineteenth century and originally served as Sparta's Feed and Seed. The main building is two stories with a hipped roof of corrugated metal. A later one-story addition was built on the east side of the building, and a metal pent roof serves as a cover for the building's front entrance. The historic Sparta Feed and Seed building is located one block north of Broad Street, Sparta's main commercial street. Needs substantial rehabilitation. \$17,500.



A.J. GILLEN DEPARTMENT STORE, c.

1907 Maxeys, GA. 9,600 sq. ft. on 0.9 acres. Originally a department store during the early 20th century, the two-story brick building has also been used for storage and small-scale manufacturing of wood stoves. Currently unoccupied, the interior features an elegant central staircase made of cast iron, highlighted by a large skylight. The exterior features cast iron columns, window pediments, and cornice details, as well as a secondstory bay window. Requires significant investment and rehabilitation. Located outside of Athens, near proposed Firefly Trail. 565,000.



HAISTENS HOSPITAL BUILDING, c. 1910 Griffin, GA. Originally built as a hospital, this building has approximately 10,000 square feet and sits on .8 acres. Zoned for commercial development, this property has potential for multi-family, arts or event space. The exterior is stable and the interior has been gutted, offering the flexibility required for future use. An existing conditions report is available. All interested buyers must provide a viable development plan. \$50,000.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION INSTITUTE **Preservation Leadership Course** Wednesdays, January 16–February 6, 6:30 p.m.

The Georgia Trust has developed a course to educate architects and real estate professionals on the history of Atlanta's architecture, the legal foundations of historic preservation, and the

economic incentives that are available to many restoration, and the economic incentives that are available to many restoration and rehabilitation projects. The course will be presented over four sessions, with three two-hour lectures, and a completion reception and networking opportunity. Lecture topics include: a history of Georgia and metropolitan Atlanta; Georgia architectural styles; prominent historic architects of Atlanta; historic preservation law; and economic incentives for historic preservation. Space is limited.

Continuing Education Credits: The course is certified for 6 hours of Real Estate Continuing Education through the Georgia Institute of Real Estate. Participants must attend all of the first three sessions to receive the credits. The course is also certified for 6 AIA Continuing Education Learning Units.

For more information or to register, visit GeorgiaTrust.org or contact Ben Sutton at bsutton@georgiatrust.org.

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To advertise your historic property to a statewide audience, visit GeorgiaTrust.org or contact Traci Clark at 404-885-7802, tclark@ georgiatrust.org.



BROOKS, c. 1870 Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 3 bath (master on the main) Rustic Farmhouse. Built in 1870 then renovated and enlarged to its current stateliness. This home boasts antique heart pine floors throughout, central HVAC, huge country kitchen, upstairs den, original hardwood ceilings, a beautiful pool and outdoor kitchen, barn, greenhouse, tool shed, detached garage and a guesthouse overlooking a landscaped courtyard. All on 11.5 acres 45 minutes south of Atlanta Airport in Fayette County. \$609,900. Contact Rachel Alberts, Keller Williams Realty Atlanta Partners, 770-362-4294 or Rachelalberts@ kw.com.



MADISON, c. 1840 Own a rare piece of Madison, GA's history...where living is EASY! Barrow Academy, c. 1840 is one of the most famous homes in Madison. Its unique New Orleans style is not often seen in this part of GA & was formerly a school in the 1850s. This home has been completely restored while carefully retaining original woodwork, fireplaces, windows, hardwood floors & adding custom features. Boasting of 13 ft ceilings, beautiful open kitchen w/ brick, remolded BA & 6 fireplaces. Sitting on the beautiful manicured lawn is a guest house/office w/ a full bath. Offered at \$725,000. 420 Porter Street. Contact Rhonda Smith, Algin Realty, 706-319-7980 or rsmithspa@ yahoo.com.

OPEN HOUSE DEC 1, 10-5



RUTLEDGE, c. 1848 Small town EASY living in Rutledge, GA! Welcome to the historic Morris-Burns House. Many original fixtures of this home remain preserving its authenticity & charm of the once local boarding house. Enter into a wide center hallway, heart pine floors, original moldings & pocket doors throughout. 9 fireplaces, 2 w/ original English tile. Addition to the home is plumbed for BA & mini kitchen/laundry perfect for in-law suite. Main floor includes Master Suite, office/study, formal dining & new HVAC. Large porches overlooking beautiful landscape full of various fruit trees, irrigation & storage barn. Listed on National Register of Historic Places & potential B&B. \$298,000. 143 E Main St. Contact Rhonda Smith, Algin Realty, 706-319-7980 or rsmithspa@yahoo.com.



MADISON, c. 1883 Foster-Thomason-Miller House. Available through the Madison-Morgany Conservancy. Built in 1883 as "the most elegant country home in Middle Georgia," the 5,000 square foot home includes five bedrooms, two bathrooms, parlor, library, dining room and a central hall. This extraordinary home of national significance is an excellent example of the American Aesthetic Movement. The ideal location of the house makes for a short walk to the Cultural Center and Madison's Downtown shops and restaurants. Buyer must agree to rehabilitate the building to certain standards. \$449,000. Contact Michael Redwine or Jeffrey Hagy at mredwine@lewisandredwine.com or 404-394-4071.

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families in the late 19th century.



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