



**Vol. 2, Issue 1**  
**January 2012**

## **ALERTS**

***ATHP Winter Preservation Lyceum – Register Now*** Enjoy a weekend in Mobile touring the Bay City's historic African-American Heritage Trail, touring its oldest churches, dining in its quaint restaurants and strolling in its scenic parks. The 2012 Winter Lyceum will kick-off on Friday evening at the Dunlap-Dendy House (circa 1904) located in Mobile's historic Oakleigh Garden District and end Saturday with cocktails at Creole Fire House #1 (circa 1872). For program and registration information, visit [www.alabamatrust.info/](http://www.alabamatrust.info/).

### ***Call for ATHP Preservation Awards Nominations***

Deadline for nominations for the 2012 Preservation Awards from the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) and the Black Heritage Council of Alabama (BHC) is February 15. For ATHP Preservation Award nomination forms, visit [www.alabamatrust.info/](http://www.alabamatrust.info/). For AHC and BHC nomination information and forms, call 334-230-2680.

### ***Legislative News – Act Now***

Nearly identical to last year's HB 104, **Alabama Senate Bill 81** alters the current Alabama Underwater Cultural Resources Act by changing the definition of "cultural resources" to only items related to shipwrecks. The bill removes protection from all other sites in Alabama waters, including Native American sites, human burials, forts, and historic sites. In summary, if it isn't a shipwreck, it isn't protected under the proposed law.

Make a stand to protect thousands of artifacts and remnants of sites and other cultural resources that currently belong to the people of Alabama. The new legislative session begins in early February. Call your senator and urge him

or her to vote "No" on Senate Bill 81.

### ***National Register Staff To Hold One-Day Workshop – Mobile***

Join staff of the National Park Service, National Register Program (NR), and the Alabama Historical Commission on January 24 to learn how to prepare a National Register nomination with an emphasis on Historic Archaeology. Local preservation commission staff and members, cultural resource consultants and the public are invited to attend. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.mobilehd.org/news.html>. To read more, see **EVENTS, Mobile**, below.

### ***Prattville Cotton Gin Factory Slated for Demolition***

The Daniel Pratt Cotton Gin Factory historic 32-acre building complex may be sold to a Texas salvage company as early as this month, January 2012. The facility is one of the most significant historic industrial resources in the Southeast. Local preservationists are seeking developers or investors, either as individuals or as a group, to save these buildings from demolition and preserve them for adaptive reuse. For more information, contact Ann C. Boutwell at 334-312-6122 or Joel Duke, Prattville City Planner, at 334-361-3614. For property description, visit Aronov Realty, Commercial Listing, Mixed-Use Site at [www.aronovcommercial.com/listings.cfm](http://www.aronovcommercial.com/listings.cfm). To read more, see **NEWS** below.

## **EVENTS**

### ***BIRMINGHAM***

#### ***Sunday, January 1 – Friday, February 17 - Mapping Birmingham***

Chart the aspirations and growth of Birmingham from its founding to present day. The exhibition's artifacts and maps of the city offer glimpses into Birmingham's past and its vision for the future. See Frederick Law Olmsted's vision of a unified park system for Birmingham and glimpses of yet-to-be-realized plans for Birmingham's system of parks and revitalized historic districts. Location: Vulcan Park and Museum, 1701 Valley View Drive. Admission: Adults \$6; Seniors \$5; Youth \$4; Free under 4 yrs. For more information, call 205-933-1776 or email [info@visitvulcan.com](mailto:info@visitvulcan.com).

## **HUNTSVILLE**

### **Sunday, January 1 – Thursday, May 31, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. – 100 Years of Von Braun: His American Journey Exhibition**

Visit this exhibition commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Wernher von Braun's birth in March 1912. Artifacts in the exhibit include not only items from his career as a rocket scientist, but also those that show a more personal side of the family man, musician, and pilot. Location: U.S. Space and Rocket Center, 1 Tranquility Base. Admission: Adult, \$20; Youth \$15; Children 3 and under, Free. For more information, call 1-800-63-SPACE or visit [www.ussrc.com](http://www.ussrc.com). (Note: Also in commemoration, "Missile To Moon", an APT-produced documentary about von Braun's and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's role in U.S.'s race into space, will air in March.)

## **MOBILE**

### **Tuesday, January 24, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Structures and Historic Archaeology: What's On and In the Ground**

Join staff of the National Park Service, National Register Program (NR), and the Alabama Historical Commission to learn how to prepare a National Register nomination with an emphasis on Historic Archaeology. Local preservation commission staff and members, cultural resource consultants and the public are invited to attend. Location: Multipurpose Room, First Floor, Government Plaza, 205 Government Street. Host: Mobile Historic Development Commission. Fee: Free. For program and registration information, visit [www.mobilehd.org/news.html](http://www.mobilehd.org/news.html).

### **Thursday, January 19, 5:45 p.m. –An Evening In History**

David Anderson of the Phantom Exploration will speak about his discovery of the British shipwreck Amstel, found off the coast of Alabama. Refreshments will be served at 5:45 p.m. and the lecture begins at 6:00 p.m. Location: Oakleigh Historic Complex, 300 Oakleigh Place. Admission: Free to MHPS members; Non-Members \$10. Sponsored by the Mobile Historic Preservation Society (MHPS). For more information, call 251-622-7110.

### **Friday, January 20 – Saturday, January 21 - Winter Preservation Lyceum**

Enjoy a weekend in Mobile touring the Bay City's historic African-American Heritage Trail, visiting its oldest churches, dining in its quaint restaurants and strolling in its scenic parks. The 2012 Winter Lyceum kicks-off on Friday evening at the Dunlap-Dendy House (circa 1904) located in Mobile's historic Oakleigh Garden District and ends Saturday with cocktails at Creole Fire House #1 (circa 1872). Sponsored by the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, Mobile Historic Development Commission, and Mobile Historic Preservation Society. For program, schedule, and registration information, visit [www.alabamatrust.info/](http://www.alabamatrust.info/) .

## **MONTGOMERY**

### **Saturday, January 14, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – *History Symposium: Steps to Becoming Alabama***

Focusing on new exhibitions in the Museum of Alabama, presenters Dr. John Hall (The Land), Dr. Craig Sheldon (The First People), Dr. Kathryn Braund, (The Creeks), Bob Bradley, (Road to War and the next STEPS) and Debbie Pendleton (The Gold Star Collection) will give contextual remarks about the exhibitions. Karren Pell, the Alabama Troubadour, will entertain with some old and new Alabama songs. Sponsored by the Alabama Department of Archives and History; Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities, Auburn University; Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts; and the Alabama Humanities Foundation. Location: Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue. For information and registration, call Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery at 240-2500 or 888-240-1850.

### **Thursday, January 19, noon – 1:00 p.m. – *ArchiTreats Lecture - The Gathering Storm: The Alabama Civil Rights Scene, 1962***

Dr. Glenn T. Eskew will speak about the year of 1962 when white Alabamians watched with apprehension as their world changed – the race rebellion underfoot would not go away and total integration loomed. Location: Farley Auditorium, Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue. Sponsored by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Free to the Public. For more information, call 334-353-4726 or visit

<http://archives.alabama.gov/whatsnew/architreats.html>.

## **Thursday, January 26 – *Puttin' on the Ritz and Dinner for the Mansion***

Enjoy an elegant evening at the Governor's Mansion. The first in a series to benefit the historic Governor's Mansion, the event will showcase the new comprehensive acquisition plan for the Mansion's collection of furnishings and decorative arts. Governor and Mrs. Robert Bentley will preside as the dinner unfolds, while the *Puttin' on the Ritz* cocktail party continues next door at the Farley-Hill House. Location: 1142 South Perry Street. Sponsored by the Friends of the Governor's Mansion. Tickets: Dinner at the Mansion, \$150 per reservation; Puttin' On the Ritz, \$60 per reservation. For more information, contact event chair Rennie Vainstein, [rennievmiles@yahoo.com](mailto:rennievmiles@yahoo.com) or Dianne Teague, 334-315-5421.

## **NEWS**

### ***Prattville Cotton Gin Factory Slated for Demolition***

Continental Eagle Corp., owners of the original Daniel Pratt Cotton Gin Factory in Prattville, announced the historic building complex could be sold to a Texas salvage company as early as January 2012. The Pratt facility is one of the greater significantly historic industrial resources in the Southeast. The property is currently valued at \$2 million. Daniel Pratt came to Alabama in 1833 to build and sell cotton gins. He became one of the most influential persons in southern history, helping to change the economic landscape of Alabama from a purely agriculture economy to an industrial one. Because of his leadership, by 1850 Prattville was cited as the most industrialized town of its size in America by the *Debows Review*, a national business journal. A leader, with his son-in-law Henry Fairchild DeBardelaben, in Alabama's coal and iron industries, Pratt's industrial vision continued following his death.

The Pratt Cotton Gin Factory complex is considered by preservationists to be a desirable property for preservation, development and repurpose. Sitting on the banks of Autauga Creek and Dam in the Daniel Pratt Historic District, the vision and opportunities for the future of these historic structures are unlimited! Envision conference center and hotel or loft apartments with shops and restaurants or offices and a fabulous museum; the possibilities are endless.

## NOTATIONS

### ***Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation (ATHP) Board Meeting***

The first meeting for the ATHP Board of Directors in 2012 will be held on Friday, January 20 at 2:00 p.m. at the Minnie Mitchell Archives Building, Oakleigh Historic Complex, 300 Oakleigh Place. Board meetings are held quarterly and open to the public.

### ***Share Preservation Statewide – Send Event Information and News Stories to the ATHP***

For the e-Newsletter, send submissions by the third of Friday of each month for publication in the next month's issue. For the spring issue of *The Alabama Trustee* submit news and jpeg images by March 1st. Send submissions for both publications to [alabamatrust@uwa.edu](mailto:alabamatrust@uwa.edu)

### ***Support Preservation In Alabama***

Share the spirit of giving. Make a beginning-of-the-year gift to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. To make a contribution in support of preservation, call **205-652-3497** or donate online at **[www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info)**.